



CINCINNATI BENGALS

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WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

JAN. 4, 2022

CINCINNATI BENGALS (10-6) AT CLEVELAND BROWNS (7-9)

WEEK 18, GAME 17
SUNDAY, JAN. 9
AT FIRSTENERGY STADIUM

UP NEXT:
NFL WILD CARD PLAYOFFS

GAME NOTES

Kickoff: 1 p.m. Eastern.

Television: The game will air on FOX-TV. In the Bengals' home region, it will be carried by WXIX-TV (Ch. 19) in Cincinnati, WGRT-TV (Ch. 45) in Dayton, WDKY-TV (Ch. 56) in Lexington, and WTTE-TV (Ch. 28) in Columbus. Broadcasters are Kenny Albert (play-by-play), Jonathan Vilma (analyst) and Lindsay Czarniak (reporter).

Radio: The game will air on the Bengals Radio Network, led by Cincinnati flagship stations WLW-AM (700), WCKY-AM (ESPN 1530; all sports) and WEBN-FM (102.7). Broadcasters are Dan Hoard (play-by-play) and Dave Lapham (analyst).

Setting the scene: The Bengals this Sunday close out their 2021 regular season on the road against the division-rival Cleveland Browns. Cincinnati is coming off of a thrilling 34-31 win over Kansas City last Sunday that clinched the Bengals' first AFC North title since 2015, and also snapped an eight-game winning streak by the two-time defending AFC Champion Chiefs.

After the game, Bengals head coach Zac Taylor fought back tears at his news conference.

"Really proud," he said. "You guys (the media) have sat in here and seen what we've been through.

"You don't want a playoff berth or a division championship to be handed to you — that's something you go take yourself. So we wanted to go do it with a victory. And our guys did that in unbelievable fashion today. It took everybody — some guys just got here, and some guys have been here two, three, five, 10 years. There's a lot of earned emotion in that locker room."

But while the ultimate result of last Sunday's game was a Bengals win, Cincinnati's outlook was far from rosy early in the contest. The Chiefs jumped out to a 14-0 lead in the first quarter, thanks to TD drives of 72 and 63 yards, and looked to be on their way to a runaway win.

Cincinnati responded, though, with a 72-yard TD pass from QB Joe Burrow to rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase, who weaved through and eventually outran numerous Chiefs defenders on his way to the end zone. According to the NFL's Next Gen Stats service, which tracks players' speed using GPS technology, Chase reached a top speed of 21.75 MPH during his run, good for the fastest by a Bengals ball-carrier this season.

"It was 'cloud' (coverage) to the field, and Ja'Marr had the out route," Burrow said. "He felt the cloud corner out there who was going to be able to intercept the ball, so he settled right in the zone. I was able to stop him with the ball, and he did the rest."

An 18-yard Burrow-to-Chase connection and a 46-yard Evan McPherson FG helped Cincinnati remain within shouting distance in the second quarter, but an impressive showing by Kansas City's offense sent the Bengals to the locker room with a 28-17 halftime deficit.

"They present a lot of challenges that you don't usually face and can't replicate in practice and don't face with any other teams," said DE Sam Hubbard. "But we all just settled in at halftime and wanted to come out in the second half and do our thing."

The Bengals wasted little time getting on the scoreboard after the break, as Burrow and Chase connected on their third TD of the game — a 69-yarder — on just the third play of the half.

"He knows exactly where the ball is going to be, depending on the look the corner is presenting," Burrow said. "He made a bunch of great plays today. If

you're one-on-one with Ja'Marr, more power to you and good luck."

Chase racked up 266 receiving yards on the day — a Bengals record, the most-ever by a rookie, and the most in the NFL this season. Chase now has two of the NFL's three highest receiving yardage outputs in 2021, and three of the four highest ever by a Bengals rookie (see "Three big days for 'Uno' on page 8). He is the first rookie and the fifth player ever with multiple 200-yard receiving games in a single season (see "The rundown on Chase" on page 7).

"Everything is overwhelming right now," Chase said. "I'm excited, but overwhelmed.

"It's all about being consistent with your quarterback and making sure you have the right timing. It's on me to get open, get separation and catch the ball."

Added Burrow: "If you're going to play him one-on-one, a lot of times it's going to be a long day for you. He's a great player, and he's going to be a great player for a long time. Great person, too. He doesn't care if he gets 260 yards and three touchdowns, or if he gets zero yards and everyone else makes all the yards. Great guy to have on your team."

The unsung hero of the day, though, was Cincinnati's defense, which allowed just three points in the second half after surrendering four consecutive TD drives in the first half.

"We weathered the storm," Taylor said. "We didn't think this was going to be easy. You probably don't think you're going to shut out the Chiefs — they're going to make plays, and they've got some of the premier guys at their positions.

"With a lot of the plays they made in the first half, (Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes) created some time and made the plays downfield. That was kind of our message at halftime — 'They've made some great plays but we've been in pretty good position, so our time's going to come.' We just had to calm down, keep putting the pressure on them on offense by scoring points, and then let our defense kind of get settled down."

The defense's second-half performance was capped by a third-down stop in the fourth quarter that held the Chiefs to a FG with 6:01 remaining. But Kansas City's offense never saw the ball again, thanks to an ensuing 15-play, 74-yard drive by Cincinnati that featured a 30-yard completion to convert a third-and-27 with 3:19 to play.

Cincinnati's rookie K Evan McPherson eventually capped the drive with his third "walk-off" FG — a 20-yarder — of the year as time expired, and the Bengals were officially AFC North champions.

"It feels amazing," said Hubbard, a Cincinnati native. "I was just sitting in the locker room with guys like Joe Mixon and Tyler Boyd who have been here a long time with me. It means a lot to us, and it's a special feeling. It signifies what we've been talking about for awhile, and how things are changing."

Of note late in the game was the absence of Burrow for a final kneel-down and spike to stop the clock. Burrow, who was seen limping to the sideline in the game's final moments, said he re-aggravated an injury to his right knee from earlier this season. It should be noted, though, that his left knee was the one that was injured and surgically repaired late last season.

Asked after the game how his right knee felt, Burrow didn't seem worried. "Good enough. I would have come back in (for an overtime period). I just knew we were going to kneel it in the pocket, so I figured to take myself out of the risk and let Brandon (QB Brandon Allen) go in there and do that."

Burrow won AFC Offensive Player of the Week for his Week 16 performance against Baltimore, which included a team-record 525 passing yards and four TDs. He followed that with 446 yards against the Chiefs — fourth-most in team history — giving him the second-highest two-week passing yardage total (971) in NFL history (Dak Prescott, 974 in 2020).

Whether or not Burrow will play this Sunday remains unclear. As it stands now, Cincinnati is the No. 3 seed in the AFC, however there is a possible scenario — albeit somewhat unlikely — in which Cincinnati could obtain the No. 1 seed and a first-round bye. The Browns have been mathematically eliminated from the playoff race.

On Monday, Taylor declined to say whether or not Burrow or other starters would play on Sunday at Cleveland.

"I don't know if I'd be able to answer that about any player at this point," Taylor said. "Those are things we'll have to talk through. It's still early in the week, so we haven't had those conversations yet. But certainly if guys have some bumps and bruises, it's better off making sure that we get healthy."

Cleveland enters Sunday's matchup 7-9, after losing 26-14 at Pittsburgh on Monday Night Football.

The series: The Bengals lead 51-45 in the "Battle of Ohio" series, but the Browns have won six of the last seven. Home field has been a factor over the series, as the Bengals lead 31-18 at home, but trail 20-27 as the road club.

Cincinnati has played more games against Cleveland (96) than any foe except Pittsburgh. The Bengals have 103 all-time games against the Steelers (regular season).

The Browns swept Cincinnati in 2020, and they won the first meeting this season, 41-16 on Nov. 7 at Paul Brown Stadium. The Bengals' last win over the Browns was the second meeting of 2019 at Cincinnati. That was the Bengals' only win in the past four seasons.

More series notes:

- When Cleveland swept Cincinnati in 2018, it was the Browns' first season sweep over the Bengals since 2002.
- Cleveland's win in Game 11 of 2018 snapped a seven-game Bengals winning streak against the Browns. That streak, the Bengals' longest in the series, began with the second meeting of 2014. The Bengals' previous longest streak had been a five-game run from Game 2 of 2004 through Game 2 of '06.
- The Browns' longest win streak over Cincinnati also has been seven games, extending from Game 2 of the 1992 season through Game 2 of '95.
- Since the Browns' rebirth in 1999, the Bengals lead 27-18, including 15-8 as the home team and 12-10 as the visiting team.

Complete Bengals-Browns series results entering this season are on page 194 of the Bengals' 2021 Media Guide.

Team bests from the series:

Bengals — MOST POINTS: 58, in a 58-48 victory at Paul Brown Stadium in 2004. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 34, in a 37-3 win at Cleveland in 2015. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 0 (four times), most recently in a 30-0 win in 2014 at Cleveland.

Browns — MOST POINTS: 51, in a 51-45 win at Cleveland in 2007. **LARGEST VICTORY MARGIN:** 34, in a 34-0 victory at Cincinnati in 1987. **FEWEST POINTS ALLOWED:** 0 (twice), most recently in an 18-0 win at Cleveland in 2001.

The last meetings: A summary of the most recent Bengals-Browns meeting — on Nov. 7 in Cincinnati — is on page 23 of this news release.

Bengals seek to regain biggest 'Battle' margin: With its six victories in the last seven meetings with Cincinnati, Cleveland has whittled the Bengals' largest lead of 11 games in the team's all-time series down to six games. The Bengals' 11-game lead after the 2017 season set the benchmark for the biggest lead held by either side in the "Battle of Ohio" series.

The series began in 1970 with the Browns winning six of the first seven, and their five-game margin at 6-1, after the first meeting of 1973, stands as their largest lead. The Bengals lead 50-39 since that Cleveland high-water mark. The Browns have not led the series since the end of 2005, when they were 33-32.

Since surrendering that 33-32 lead by giving up a sweep in the 2006 meetings, the Browns have twice pulled into ties — at 34-34 after the first meeting of '07 and at 35-35 after the first meeting of '08. But the Browns have now endured a 14-year stretch without a lead in the series. Barring possible additions to the series in postseason play, the Bengals cannot surrender their series lead until after the first game of 2024, at the earliest. The Browns could not lead again until after the second game of '24.

More Bengals-Browns facts: The first-ever Bengals-Browns meeting of any kind was Aug. 29, 1970. On that Saturday, the Browns were visitors for the second preseason game of Riverfront Stadium's debut year. The

Bengals won 31-24, moving to 2-0 in preseason in their new home.

Also:

- The Bengals were 17-10 against the Browns at Riverfront Stadium/Cinergy Field.
- The Browns were 17-8 against the Bengals at the old Cleveland Stadium, but the Bengals lead 12-10 at FirstEnergy Stadium (formerly Cleveland Browns Stadium).
- The Bengals and Browns never played at Nippert Stadium, as Nippert was the Bengals' American Football League home.
- The Bengals have posted 13 season sweeps, and the Browns have posted 10. The teams have split 23 times. In 1982, they played only once, with the scheduled contest at Cleveland cancelled due to a players' strike.
- The first Bengals-Browns regular-season game at Cincinnati on Nov. 15, 1970 drew the first home crowd of 60,000 in Bengals history (60,007 at Riverfront Stadium). The Bengals won 14-10 behind a 110-yard rushing effort from QB Virgil Carter, the only 100-yarder by a QB in Bengals history.
- The largest Bengals home crowd for a Browns game has been 66,072, on Sept. 17, 2006 at Paul Brown Stadium. That ranks as the fifth-largest crowd in Bengals history.
- The Browns drew the largest Bengals crowd in the Riverfront Stadium/Cinergy Field era — 60,284 for a 27-24 Browns win on Oct. 17, 1971.
- The Bengals and Browns met three times in preseason at Ohio Stadium in Columbus, from 1972-74. All were Sunday afternoon games, and the Browns won two of the three.

Coaches in 'Battle of Ohio' Here are some notes about "Battle of Ohio" coaches:

- When Cincinnati's Zac Taylor and Cleveland's Freddie Kitchens met in the first Battle of Ohio of 2019, it was just the second time in series history that a Bengals-Browns meeting featured two rookie head coaches who faced both each other and their Ohio rival for the first time in the same game. The Browns won that contest at FirstEnergy Stadium, 27-19. The first such instance occurred on Oct. 21, 1984, when Bengals first-year head coach Sam Wyche met Browns first-year head coach Marty Schottenheimer in Cincinnati at Riverfront Stadium. The Bengals won that meeting, 12-9. The Bengals' Homer Rice and the Browns' Sam Rutigliano also were rookie head coaches when they met for the first time on Dec. 17, 1978 at Riverfront Stadium. However, that was Rutigliano's second "Battle of Ohio" as Cleveland's head coach. The two teams met in Game 2 that year, before Rice took the reins in Cincinnati (Rice was named Bengals head coach after Game 5).
- Former Bengals head coach Marvin Lewis, who was 22-10 overall against Cleveland, has the most total wins and best winning percentage (.688) of any Bengals head coach in the series. Lewis also has coached the most games (32) against Cleveland. Sam Wyche is second in all three categories, with 10 wins, a .625 winning percentage (10-6) and 16 games.
- Bill Belichick has been the top Browns coach in the series, having posted an 8-2 mark against the Bengals during his 1991-95 tenure.
- Lewis is the only Bengals head coach whose first Cincinnati victory came against Cleveland. Lewis took over as head coach in 2003, and his first win was a 21-14 decision at Cleveland on Sept. 28 of that year. The Bengals entered that game at 0-3, but went on to finish 8-8. The six-game improvement, after a 2-14 season in 2002, was the largest in the NFL for '03.
- Forrest Gregg is the only head coach to pilot both teams in the "Battle of Ohio." Gregg was 1-5 as Browns coach against the Bengals from 1975-77, and he was 3-4 as Bengals coach against the Browns from '80-83.
- Here's a full roundup of Bengals' head coaches, in chronological order, and their records in the "Battle of Ohio:" Paul Brown (5-7), Bill "Tiger" Johnson (3-2), Homer Rice (2-1), Forrest Gregg (3-4), Sam Wyche (10-6), Dave Shula (1-7), Bruce Coslet (2-1), Dick LeBeau (2-3), Marvin Lewis (22-10) and Zac Taylor (1-3).
- The Bengals are 11-8 against Browns head coaches directing their first game in the series. Browns head coaches who won their first game have been Blanton Collier (1970), Nick Skorich ('71), Sam Rutigliano ('78), Bill Belichick ('91), Rob Chudzinski (2013), Mike Pettine ('14), Freddie Kitchens ('19) and Kevin Stefanski ('20). On the losing end for Cleveland have been Forrest Gregg (1975), Marty Schottenheimer ('84), Bud Carson ('89), Jim Shofner ('90), Chris Palmer ('99), Butch Davis (2001), Romeo Crennel ('05), Eric Mangini ('09), Pat Shurmur ('11), Hue Jackson ('16) and Gregg Williams ('18).
- Bengals coaches show a 7-3 record the first time out against Cleveland. The seven winners have been Bill Johnson (1976), Homer Rice ('78), Sam Wyche ('84), Dave Shula ('92), Bruce Coslet ('99), Dick LeBeau (2000) and Marvin Lewis ('03). Losing in the first try vs. Cleveland were Paul Brown (1970), Forrest Gregg ('80) and Zac Taylor (2019).

BENGALS-BROWNS NFL RANKINGS

	BENGALS	BROWNS
SCORING (AVERAGE POINTS):		
Points scored	5th (27.8)	20th (20.5)
Points allowed	T-17th (21.2)	T-17th (22.2)
NET OFFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	9th (372.7)	18th (338.4)
Rushing	22nd (103.9)	4th (141.6)
Passing	7th (268.8)	26th (196.8)
NET DEFENSE (AVERAGE YARDS):		
Total	18th (349.3)	6th (319.6)
Rushing	5th (96.1)	16th (111.1)
Passing	27th (253.2)	6th (208.5)
TURNOVERS:		
Differential	19th (minus-2)	18th (minus-1)

BENGALS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 50	Inside-20 possessions: 49
Total scores: 43 (86.0%)	Total scores: 43 (87.8%)
TDs: 30 (60.0%)	TDs: 30 (61.2%)
FGs: 13 (26.0%)	FGs: 13 (26.5%)
TD% rank: T-16th	TD% rank: 22nd
No scores: 7 (14.0%)	No scores: 6 (12.2%)

BROWNS RED-ZONE REPORT

OFFENSE	DEFENSE
Inside-20 possessions: 46	Inside-20 possessions: 50
Total scores: 38 (82.6%)	Total scores: 46 (92.0%)
TDs: 29 (63.0%)	TDs: 33 (66.0%)
FGs: 9 (19.6%)	FGs: 13 (26.0%)
TD% rank: 7th	TD% rank: 27th
No scores: 8 (17.0%)	No scores: 8 (8.0%)

Records vs. Browns: The two highest-scoring games in Bengals history have each been against the Browns. On Nov. 28, 2004 at Paul Brown Stadium, the Bengals won 58-48, and the 106 total points is not only a Bengals record, it is the second-most in NFL history, behind only 113 from Washington's 72-41 win over the N.Y. Giants in 1966. And on Sept. 16, 2007, the Bengals and Browns combined for 96 points at Cleveland in a 51-45 Browns win.

More on Bengals records against the Browns:

- On Dec. 21, 1980 vs. Cleveland, DE Eddie Edwards set the Bengals record for sacks in a game with five. The mark stood unchallenged for 19 years, until DE Antwan Odom tied it on Sept. 20, 2009 at Green Bay.
- In the final Bengals game at Cinergy Field, on Dec. 12, 1999, Cincinnati limited the Browns to the fewest rushing yards ever by an opponent. Cleveland had only 11 net yards on 11 attempts.
- On Sept. 10, 2000, WR Craig Yeast tied a Bengals record for most punt returns in a game with seven. The record was set by RB Tony Davis in 1977, and in addition to Yeast, has since been tied by WR Brandon Tate in 2011.
- On Nov. 25, 2001 at Cleveland, T.J. Houshmandzadeh set the Bengals record for punt return yards in a game with 126. His 86-yarder in that game ranks tied for third-longest in club history.
- The 58-48 Bengals win on Nov. 28, 2004 is the only game in club history in which Cincinnati scored double figures in all four quarters (14-13-14-17 — 58).
- In the Sept. 16, 2007 shootout with the Browns noted above, QB Carson Palmer threw six TD passes, the most ever by a Bengals QB in a single game. That mark also stands tied for the team mark for most TD passes in a game.
- On Dec. 21, 2008, at Cleveland, Bengals CB Leon Hall tied the team record for most interceptions in a game with three. He was the seventh Bengal to reach that mark in a contest, though no one has done it since.
- On Nov. 17, 2013, the Bengals scored 31 points in the second quarter, a team record for most points in a quarter, en route to a 41-20 Cincinnati victory.
- In their 30-0 win at Cleveland on Dec. 14, 2014, the Bengals allowed only five first downs, fewest by an opponent in Bengals history.
- On Oct 23, 2016 against Cleveland, HB Jeremy Hill had the most rushing yards in club history without hitting double digits in carries, breaking a mark that had stood for 45 years. Hill went nine-for-168, averaging 18.7 yards per carry.
- The Bengals' 23-20 overtime victory at Cleveland on Oct. 4, 2009 stands as the longest Bengals game not to end in a tie. Only four seconds remained in

the overtime period when K Shayne Graham booted a 31-yard field goal to break a 20-all deadlock. Elapsed scoreboard clock time for the game was 74:56. The only 75-minute games in Bengals history have been three ties, in 2008 vs. Philadelphia, in '14 vs. Carolina and '16 vs. Washington in London. The Bengals lost as overtime expired at Miami on Dec. 22, 2019 when K Jason Sanders kicked a 37-yard field goal, but that game was a 70-minute contest (the NFL shortened overtime from a 15-minute period to a 10-minute period in 2017).

Individually vs. Browns: Here is a look at the stats for current Bengals offensive players against Cleveland (ordered by total games played):

- WR Tyler Boyd: 10 games; 47 receptions for 487 yards (10.4) and four TDs; Three rushes for 47 yards (15.7).
- TE C.J. Uzomah: 10 games; 26 receptions for 198 yards (7.6) and three TDs.
- HB Joe Mixon: Eight games; 149 rushes for 718 yards (4.8) and six TDs; 29 receptions for 286 yards (10.0).
- WR Auden Tate: Four games; Three receptions for 31 yards (10.3).
- QB Joe Burrow: Three games; (0-3 W-L record); 148 attempts and 100 completions (67.6 percent) for 1004 yards, six TDs and three INT (91.7 passer rating); 15 rushes for 57 yards (3.8).
- WR Tee Higgins: Three games; 14 receptions for 184 yards (13.1), one rush for seven yards.
- HB Samaje Perine: Three games; Six rushes for 23 yards (3.8); Three receptions for 20 yards.
- TE Drew Sample: Three games; 15 receptions for 133 yards (8.7).
- WR Mike Thomas: Three games; Seven receptions for 101 yards (14.4) and one TD.
- QB Brandon Allen: One game; Two attempts and one completion (50.0 percent) for six yards (56.3 passer rating); One rush for zero yards.
- WR Ja'Marr Chase: One game; Six receptions for 49 yards (8.2); Two rushes for zero yards (0.0).
- HB Chris Evans: One game; One reception for 11 yards.

Bengals career records watch: Here's a look at potential upcoming movement in the team's career records book (regular-season):

- Bengals P Kevin Huber has played in 206 career Bengals games, tied LB Reggie Williams (206) for second place all-time and one shy of CB Ken Riley (207) for the most in Bengals history. Huber passed QB Ken Anderson (192) for third place all-time in Game 3 at Pittsburgh.
- Bengals LS Clark Harris has played in 200 career Bengals games, six shy of Huber and Williams (206) for second place all-time. Harris passed OT Anthony Munoz (185) for sixth place all-time in Game 2 at Chicago, and then he passed DT Tim Krumrie (188) for fifth in Game 4 vs. Jacksonville and QB Ken Anderson (192) for fourth in Game 9 vs. Cleveland.

Bengals single-season records watch: Here's a look at the team records (and rookie records) that could fall this season. Full detail on team individual records through the 2020 season can be found on page 160 of the 2021 Bengals Media Guide.

- QB Joe Burrow has 366 completions, seven shy of Carson Palmer's team record of 373 (set in 2007).
- Burrow has a 108.3 passer rating, two points ahead of Andy Dalton's team record of 106.3 (set in 2015).
- Burrow has a 70.38 completion percentage, just shy of Ken Anderson's team record of 70.55 (set in 1982).
- WR Ja'Marr Chase has 1429 receiving yards, 11 shy of Chad Johnson's team record of 1440 (set in 2007).
- Chase has 13 receiving TDs, four shy of Carl Pickens' team-record of 17 (set in 1995).
- HB Joe Mixon has 16 total TDs, one shy of Pickens' team record of 17 (set in 1995).
- Mixon has 13 rushing TDs, two shy of Ickey Woods' team record of 15 (set in 1988).
- Mixon has 1205 rushing yards, 253 shy of Rudi Johnson's team record of 1458 (set in 2005).
- K Evan McPherson has scored 130 points, two shy of Mike Nugent's team record of 132 (set in 2011).
- McPherson has made 28 FGs, five shy of Nugent's team record of 33 (set in 2011).
- WRs Ja'Marr Chase has five 100-yard receiving games, one shy of A.J. Green's team record of six (set in 2013).
- The Bengals have scored 444 points, four shy of the team record of 448 (set in 1988).

- The Bengals have 41 sacks, 10 shy of the team record of 51 (set in 2012).
- DE Trey Hendrickson has 14 sacks, second-most in team history. Sacks became an official statistic in 1982, however the Bengals tracked that stat back to 1976, therefore the team recognizes DE Coy Bacon's 22 sacks in '76 as the team record. Hendrickson, though, has the most sacks by a Bengal since 1982, and thus the NFL notes him as the record-holder for their information.

Single-season records already broken: Here's a look at the single-season Bengals records that have already fallen this season.

- QB Joe Burrow has passed for 4611 yards, the most in team history. Andy Dalton's 4293 (set in 2013) are now second.
- Burrow has 34 passing TDs, the most in team history. Dalton's 33 (set in 2013) are now second.
- Burrow has six 300-yard passing games, the most in team history. The previous team record of five was shared by Burrow (2020), Carson Palmer ('07) and Dalton ('13).
- WR Ja'Marr Chase has 13 receiving TDs this season, the most by a rookie in team history. WR Isaac Curtis (nine) had the previous rookie record.
- Chase has 79 receptions this season, most-ever by a Bengals rookie. Cris Collinsworth (1981) and Tee Higgins (2020) are now in second, with 67.
- Chase has 1429 receiving yards, most-ever by a Bengals rookie. A.J. Green's 1057 receiving yards (set in 2011) are now second.
- Chase has five 100-yard receiving games this season, the most-ever by a Bengals rookie. Green's four (set in 2011) are now second.
- K Evan McPherson has made nine FGs of 50 or more yards, the most in team history. Horst Muhlmann (four in 1970) now has the second-most.

Bengals-Browns connections: Browns offensive line coach Bill Callahan is the father of Bengals offensive coordinator Brian Callahan. Bill Callahan was also head coach at the University of Nebraska when Bengals head coach Zac Taylor played quarterback there ... Bengals DT Larry Ogunjobi originally was a third-round draft pick of the Browns in 2017, and was with Cleveland through the '20 season ... Bengals DE Wyatt Ray originally was a college free agent signee of the Browns in 2019 ... Browns CB Troy Hill originally was a college free agent signee of the Bengals in 2015, and was on Cincinnati's practice squad during the '15 season ... Browns T James Hudson III played at the University of Cincinnati and is from Toledo, Ohio (Central Catholic High School) ... Bengals QB Joe Burrow is from Athens, Ohio (Athens High School), and also played at Ohio State University from 2015-17 ... Browns T Jedrick Willis is from Lexington, Ky. (Lafayette High School) ... Browns DE Ifeadi Odenigbo is from Centerville, Ohio (Centerville High School) ... Browns RB Kareem Hunt played at the University of Toledo ... Bengals CB Eli Apple, S Vonn Bell, DE Sam Hubbard, and OT Isaiah Prince also played at Ohio State University, as did Browns CB Denzel Ward and DT Tommy Togiai ... Bengals LB Markus Bailey is from Columbus, Ohio (Hilliard Davidson High School) ... Bengals LB Joe Bachie (Reserve/Injured) is from Brook Park, Ohio (Berea High School) ... Bengals TE Mason Schreck (practice squad) is from Medina, Ohio (Medina High School) ... Browns T Elijah Nkansah (practice squad) played at the University of Toledo ... Browns offensive coordinator Alex Van Pelt was on the Bengals' coaching staff

from 2018-19 ... Bengals defensive quality control coach Louie Cioffi was on the Browns' coaching staff in 2013 and '16 ... Bengals defensive quality control coach Jordan Kovacs is from Curtice, Ohio (Clay High School) ... Browns strength and conditioning coach Evan Marcus coached at the University of Louisville from 1998-99 ... Bengals senior defensive assistant Mark Duffner coached at Ohio State University from 1975-76.

Uniform watch: The Bengals are scheduled to wear white jerseys, black pants (orange stripes) and white socks this week at Cleveland. The team over the offseason unveiled new uniforms, marking Cincinnati's first significant uniform redesign since 2004.

There are three different color options for the new jerseys — black, white and orange. The pants also feature three different options — black with orange stripes, white with orange stripes, and white with black stripes. And there are three options for sock color — black, white and orange. The team's iconic striped helmet was unchanged.

Here are the possible combinations for the Bengals' new uniforms:

JERSEY	PANTS (STRIPES)	SOCKS	W-L-T	PCT.
Black	Black (Orange)	Black.....	0-1-0	.000
Black	Black (Orange)	Orange.....	1-0-0	1.000
Black	Black (Orange)	White.....	0-0-0	—
Black	White (Black)	Black.....	0-1-0	.000
Black	White (Black)	Orange.....	0-0-0	—
Black	White (Black)	White.....	0-0-0	—
Black	White (Orange)	Black.....	0-1-0	.000
Black	White (Orange)	Orange.....	0-1-0	.000
Black	White (Orange)	White.....	0-0-0	—
White	Black (Orange)	Black.....	0-0-0	—
White	Black (Orange)	Orange.....	0-0-0	—
White	Black (Orange)	White.....	3-1-0	.750
White	White (Black)	Black.....	2-1-0	.667
White	White (Black)	Orange.....	0-0-0	—
White	White (Black)	White.....	1-0-0	1.000
White	White (Orange)	Black.....	0-0-0	—
White	White (Orange)	Orange.....	0-0-0	—
White	White (Orange)	White.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	Black (Orange)	Black.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	Black (Orange)	Orange.....	2-0-0	1.000
Orange*	Black (Orange)	White.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	White (Black)	Black.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	White (Black)	Orange.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	White (Black)	White.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	White (Orange)	Black.....	0-0-0	—
Orange*	White (Orange)	Orange.....	1-0-0	1.000
Orange*	White (Orange)	White.....	0-0-0	—

* — NFL rules allow teams to wear designated alternate jerseys and/or color rush (CR) uniforms and/or throwback uniforms for a combined total of three regular-season games. As in years past, orange will serve as the Bengals' designated alternate jersey. The Bengals no longer has a CR uniform, and the team does not have a throwback uniform.

THE HEAD COACHES

Zac Taylor was named the 10th head coach in Cincinnati Bengals history on Feb. 4, 2019.

In 2019, his first season as head coach, Taylor headed off a wave of early season injuries to lead Cincinnati to second-half turnarounds on both offense and defense. Offensively, the Bengals' per-game rushing average jumped 70.6 yards from the first half of the season (59.5) to the second (130.1), while their per-attempt average jumped 1.26 yards (3.17 to 4.43) and they allowed 10 fewer sacks (29 to 19). The team's top four WRs — Tyler Boyd, Alex Erickson, Auden Tate and John Ross III — all posted career-highs in both receptions and receiving yards. Defensively, Cincinnati notched 11 more sacks in the second half of the season compared to the first, and allowed 84.1 fewer yards per game. The team finished 2-14 that season.

In 2020, Taylor helped transition QB Joe Burrow, the No. 1 overall pick in the draft, to the pro level despite the absence of an in-person offseason program due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Taylor helped Burrow to one of the most productive starts to a career by a QB in NFL history, before a knee injury ended the rookie's season after 10 games. Still, Burrow's 264 completions were the most ever by an NFL QB through their first 10 career games, while his 404 pass attempts were second and his 2688 passing yards were fifth. Defensively, Taylor oversaw the onboarding of seven new starters, and helped Cincinnati hold opposing passers

to just a 62.8 completion percentage (sixth-lowest in the NFL).

Taylor came to Cincinnati after two seasons (2017-18) with the L.A. Rams, where he served as assistant wide receivers coach in 2017 and quarterbacks coach in '18. In 2018, he helped guide Rams QB Jared Goff to career highs in every major passing category. Goff ranked fourth in the NFL in passing yards and eighth in passer rating. The Rams' QB play was a key component to their offense, which finished the regular season ranked second in the NFL in total net yards (421.1 per game), fifth in net passing yards (281.7), second in scoring (32.9), first in first downs (401) and fifth in third-down percentage (45.0). Los Angeles won the NFC West with a 13-3 regular-season record and advanced to Super Bowl LIII against the New England Patriots.

In 2017, Taylor helped oversee an emerging Rams passing offense that ranked 10th in the NFL in passing yards per game (239.4). Taylor directed a young Rams receiving corps headed by rookie Cooper Kupp, who finished the season with 62 catches, a team-high 869 receiving yards and five TDs.

Prior to his time with the Rams, Taylor had a one-year stint in the college ranks, serving as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at the University of Cincinnati in 2016. Taylor served under head coach Tommy Tuberville at UC.

Taylor broke into NFL coaching in 2012 with the Miami Dolphins as assistant quarterbacks coach. He was elevated to quarterbacks coach from 2013-15, and

spent the final five games of '15 as the Dolphins' interim offensive coordinator and primary play-caller, after the team made coaching staff changes.

During his time in Miami, Taylor was instrumental in the development of QB Ryan Tannehill, the team's first-round draft pick in 2012.

Taylor's coaching career began at Texas A&M University, where he served as offensive graduate assistant and tight ends coach under head coach Mike Sherman from 2008-11. The Aggies shared the Big 12 South Championship in 2010 and played in three bowl games during Taylor's time in College Station.

As a player, Taylor began his college career at Wake Forest (2002-03), before transferring to Butler County Community College in Kansas ('04) and then playing his final two seasons ('05-06) at the University of Nebraska. Taylor had a decorated career with the Cornhuskers, setting numerous school records and passing for a combined 5850 yards and 45 touchdowns. In his senior season of 2006, Taylor was named Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year after passing for 3197 total yards and leading the Cornhuskers to a 9-3 record, an appearance in the Big 12 Championship Game and a berth in the Cotton Bowl. He was inducted into the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame in 2017.

Taylor joined the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as a college free agent in 2007, but he was waived prior to the start of training camp and never saw NFL action. Later that year, he joined the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League, where he spent one season (did not play).

His father, Sherwood, was a defensive back and captain at the University of Oklahoma, playing under Sooners head coach Barry Switzer from 1976-79. Sherwood Taylor later served as an assistant coach at Oklahoma and Kansas State University. Taylor's brother, Press, played quarterback at Marshall University and is currently senior offensive assistant for the Indianapolis Colts.

Taylor was born in Norman, Okla., on May 10, 1983. After attending Norman High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in communication studies from the University of Nebraska in 2006. He and his wife, Sarah, have four children —

Brooks, Luke, Emma Claire and Milly. Sarah Taylor is the daughter of former Green Bay Packers and Texas A&M head coach Mike Sherman.

Kevin Stefanski, who was named the 2020 NFL Coach of the Year by Associated Press, is in his second season as the Cleveland Browns head coach after being named the 18th full-time head coach in franchise history on Jan. 13, 2020. Stefanski spent 14 seasons (2006-19) with the Minnesota Vikings and moved up the coaching ladder from assistant to the head coach to offensive coordinator.

In his first season with the Browns, Stefanski led the team to its first playoff appearance since 2002 and first playoff victory in 26 years. He notched the most wins (11) by a first-year Browns head coach since Hall of Famer Paul Brown had 12 in the team's inaugural season in 1946. The 11 wins also were the most by any first-year head coach in 2020 and marked just the 11th time since 1970 a first-year coach has won 11-or-more games. Stefanski's winning percentage (.688) was the best since Blanton Collier (.714) in 1963, and the third-best overall in franchise history.

Stefanski originally joined the Vikings in 2006 as an assistant to the head coach before serving as assistant quarterbacks coach from '09-13, tight ends coach from '14-15, running backs coach in '16 and quarterbacks coach from '17-18. He added the role of interim offensive coordinator for the final three games of the 2018 season prior to being named the team's offensive coordinator in '19.

Stefanski played defensive back at University of Pennsylvania (2000-04) and earned a bachelor's degree in communications. He was born on April 8, 1982, and is a native of Philadelphia, Pa.. He and his wife, Michelle, have two sons, Will and Gabe, and one daughter, Juliet.

Taylor vs. Browns: The Browns lead, 4-1.

Taylor vs. Stefanski: Stefanski leads, 3-0.

Stefanski vs. Bengals: Stefanski leads, 3-0.

BENGALS NOTES

At the top of the list: Here's a look at where the Bengals rank — both individually and in team categories — among the top 10 in the NFL.

TEAM

- First in fewest penalties incurred (68).
- First in fewest penalty yardage incurred (588).

BENGALS OFFENSE

- Second in yards per pass play (8.9).
- Fifth in points per game (27.8).
- Fifth in yards per play (6.0).
- Fifth in fourth-down efficiency (63.2 percent; 12/19).
- Seventh in passing yards per game (268.8).
- Ninth in total yards per game (372.7).

JOE BURROW

- First in completion percentage (70.4).
- First in yards per passing attempt (8.87).
- Second in passer rating (108.3).
- Second in passing plays of 40 or more yards (15).
- Fourth in passing plays of 20 or more yards (60).
- Fourth in third-down passer rating (109.3).
- Fifth in passing yards (4611).
- Tied for sixth in TD passes (34).
- Eighth in completions (366).
- Eighth in fourth-quarter passer rating (101.0).

JOE MIXON

- Second in rushing yardage (1205).
- Third in rushing attempts (292).
- Tied for third in scoring — non-kickers (96).
- Fourth in rushing TDs (13).
- Tied for fifth in yards from scrimmage (1519).

JA'MARR CHASE

- Tied for first in receptions of 40 or more yards (eight).
- Second in receiving TDs (13).
- Tied for third in receptions of 20 or more yards (21).
- Fourth in receiving yards (1429).
- Tied for seventh in scoring — non-kickers (78).
- Ninth in yards from scrimmage (1450).
- Tied for 10th in receptions on third down (24).

TEE HIGGINS

- Tenth in receptions of 20 or more yards (17).

BENGALS DEFENSE

- Fourth in fourth-down efficiency (41.2 percent; seven for 17).
- Fifth in rushing yards allowed per game (96.1).
- Tied for ninth in sacks (41).
- Tied for 10th in fewest first downs allowed per game (19.7).

TREY HENDRICKSON

- Fifth in sacks (14.0).

EVAN McPHERSON

- First in FGs of 50 or more yards (nine).
- Tied for fourth in points among kickers (130).
- Tenth in touchbacks on kickoffs (55).

Bengals go 'worst to first': Cincinnati's 2021 AFC North division title is the fifth instance in Bengals history that the team won a division title after finishing last in their division the previous season. The 2021 team now joins the 1970, '81, '88 and '90 Bengals as division champions who finished last in their division the season before.

Cincinnati finished 4-11-1 in 2020, and was fourth in the AFC North behind Cleveland (11-5), Baltimore (11-5) and division-champion Pittsburgh (12-4).

Three Bengals make Pro Bowl: WR Ja'Marr Chase, DE Trey Hendrickson and HB Joe Mixon all were voted to the AFC team for this season's Pro Bowl game. It was the first Pro Bowl nod for all three.

Chase, a rookie out of Louisiana State University, was the lone Bengal voted as a starter. He currently leads the team in receptions (79), receiving yards (1429) and receiving TDs (13). All three of those totals are Bengals rookie records, and his receiving yardage total is the most by any NFL rookie in the Super Bowl era (began in 1966 season). Chase also leads all NFL rookies in both receiving yards and receiving TDs.

Chase is the sixth Bengals rookie ever to be voted to the Pro Bowl at any position. The others were QB Andy Dalton (2011), WR A.J. Green ('11), WR Cris Collinsworth (1981), WR Isaac Curtis ('73) and CB Lemar Parrish ('70). Additionally, four Bengals rookies were in the American Football League All-Star Game — LB Bill Bergey in 1969, and C Bob Johnson, RB Paul Robinson and TE Bob Trumpy in '68.

Hendrickson, a fifth-year pro out of Florida Atlantic University, is in his first Bengals season after joining the team in March as an unrestricted free agent. He leads the team and ranks fifth leaguewide with 14 sacks, second-most in team history. Hendrickson recorded at least a half-sack in 11 straight games this season (Games 5-15) — the longest streak in the NFL in 2021, the longest streak in team history, and tied for the second-longest streak in NFL history (one

shy of the league record).

Mixon, a fifth-year player out of the University of Oklahoma, originally was a second-round pick of the Bengals in 2017. He currently ranks second in the NFL in rushing yards (1205), third in rushing attempts (292) and fourth in rushing TDs (13). Mixon has 16 TDs on the season and stands just one shy of WR Carl Pickens' team record of 17 (set in 1995). He also has 13 rushing TDs, just two shy of tying RB Ickey Woods' single-season team record of 15 (set in 1988).

Additionally, five Bengals have been voted as alternates for the AFC squad. QB Joe Burrow and LS Clark Harris are both second alternates, DE Sam Hubbard and DT Larry Ogunjobi are fourth alternates, and CB Mike Hilton is a fifth alternate. Alternates are added to the game if voted player(s) in their position group are unable to participate. Selections from the two teams reaching the Super Bowl will be among those unable to play, as will players who are not cleared due to injury.

Huber, Harris chasing down Riley: One of the most prestigious Bengals records in existence, and one that has stood for 38 years, could be matched this Sunday. Longtime CB Ken Riley's Bengals record 207 games played is currently just one clear of current P Kevin Huber (206), meaning that Huber this Sunday can tie The Rattler's historic mark, which has stood since his retirement in 1983.

In Game 3 vs. Pittsburgh, Huber passed QB Ken Anderson (192) for third place all-time in career games played as a Bengal. He currently is tied with LB Reggie Williams (206) for second place.

Not far behind that group is current LS Clark Harris (200 games played), who has snapped to Huber since joining Cincinnati midway through the 2009 season. Harris now stands fourth in career games as a Bengal, and this season has passed Pro Football Hall of Famer Anthony Munoz (185), DT Tim Krumrie (188) and Anderson (192).

Here's a look at the players with the most career games played as a Bengal:

PLAYER	GAMES AS A BENGAL	YEARS
CB Ken Riley	207	1969-83
LB Reggie Williams	206	1976-85
P Kevin Huber	206	2009-present
LS Clark Harris	200	2009-present
QB Ken Anderson	192	1971-86
DT Tim Krumrie	188	1983-94
OT Anthony Munoz	185	1980-92

Bengals great in "middle eight": Much has been made this season of the importance of the "middle eight," a stretch of a game that spans the last four minutes of the first half and first four minutes of the second half. Among the people who have touted the importance of the "middle eight" have been former NFL GM Michael Lombardi and current Buccaneers QB Tom Brady.

"The 'middle eight' minutes of the game are so important to the overall outcome," Brady said earlier this year on ESPN's Monday Night Football broadcast with Peyton and Eli Manning. "Who wins the end of the first half and then the start of the third quarter? A lot of times when you defer and you get the ball on offense (to start the second half), you can create a 14-point swing without them ever touching the ball if you score before the half and then you score coming out in the third quarter. You definitely don't want to give the ball back to your opponents (at the end of the half). We always call it "the last shot" in basketball — you don't want to come down and throw up a three-pointer with 18 seconds left on the shot clock."

So how do the Bengals stack up during the "middle eight?" They're among the best in the NFL this season, and their plus-49 point differential equates to a 3.1-point per game edge in that time period.

Here's a look at the teams this season with the largest point differential in the time period spanning the last four minutes of the first half and first four minutes of the second half.

TEAM	POINT DIFFERENTIAL
Indianapolis Colts	+56
Dallas Cowboys	+50
L.A. Rams	+50
Cincinnati Bengals	+49

Bengals carry "Mo" into halftime ... : The Bengals this season have scored a combined 63 points in the last two minutes of the first half. That total is third among all NFL teams. When divided out among Cincinnati's 16

games, that's an average of 3.9 points per game in the last two minutes. The Bengals have gotten points (six TDs, seven FGs) in the last two minutes of the first half in 12 of their 16 games this season.

Here's a look at the NFL teams this season with the most points in the last two minutes before halftime:

TEAM	MOST POINTS IN TWO MINUTES BEFORE HALF
Green Bay Packers	69
San Francisco 49ers	67
Cincinnati Bengals	63
Indianapolis Colts	59
Cleveland Browns	58

... And come out firing after the break: Not only are the Bengals one of the NFL's top teams at scoring before halftime, they're also among the leaders in points scored (53) on the first possession of the second half. Cincinnati has come away with points on its first offensive possession of the second half in 11 of its 16 games this season (five TDs, six FGs).

It should be noted that the Bengals have received the opening kickoff of the second half in 10 of their 16 games this year, thanks in part to a streak of luck that saw them win the opening coin toss in each of their first six games (see "Coin-toss roller coaster" on page 14). The Bengals deferred to the second half in each of those six games.

Here's a look at the teams this season with the most points scored on the first offensive possession of the second half:

TEAM	POINTS
Green Bay Packers	72
L.A. Rams	54
Cincinnati Bengals	53
Tennessee Titans	51
Las Vegas Raiders	48

Bengals' O boasts young nucleus: The Bengals this season became the first team in NFL history with a 4000-yard passer, 1000-yard rusher and two 1000-yard receivers who are all under 26 years old. QB Joe Burrow (25 years old) has 4611 passing yards, HB Joe Mixon (25) has 1205 rushing yards, and Ja'Marr Chase (21) and Tee Higgins (22) have 1429 and 1091 receiving yards, respectively.

The 2006 Bengals are the only other squad in team history with a 4000-yard passer (Carson Palmer), 1000-yard rusher (Rudi Johnson), and two 1000-yard receivers (Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh).

Recapping Burrow's NFL journey: Bengals QB Joe Burrow returned healthy this year after his rookie campaign last season ended due to a left knee injury suffered early in the third quarter of Cincinnati's game at Washington (Nov. 22, 2020). Burrow had surgery on Dec. 2, 2020, then embarked on a long rehab process and was medically cleared in time to take the first snap of training camp on July 28, 2020. He participated fully in every practice of training camp (save for one scheduled rest day) and took just three snaps in preseason — all came in the finale vs. Miami.

Shortly after his injury last season, Burrow had vowed publicly that he would start Cincinnati's 2021 season opener. On Sept. 12 vs. Minnesota, a little more than nine months after his injury, he not only made good on that promise, he posted then-career highs in passer rating (128.8), completion percentage (74.1) and yards per attempt (9.67) in a dramatic Bengals OT win.

Burrow this season has completed 366 of 520 passes (70.4 percent) for 4611 yards, 34 TDs and 14 INTs (108.3 rating).

Burrow masters the deep ball: An NFL-best 15 of QB Joe Burrow's team-record 34 TD passes this season have been from 30 yards or longer. The next-closest players in that category this season are Buccaneers QB Tom Brady (eight) and Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes (seven). The NFL record is 19, by Giants QB Fran Tarkenton in 1967.

Burrow's 15 TDs of 30-plus also count as the most in Bengals history. The previous team record was nine, and was shared by Ken Anderson (1973), Boomer Esiason ('89) and Carson Palmer ('06).

Burrow's big days vs. Ravens: On Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore, Bengals QB Joe Burrow passed for a Bengals-record 525 yards, the fourth-highest single-game total in NFL history. He also posted career-highs in passer rating (143.2), TD passes (four) and yards per pass attempt (11.4), and tied a career-high with 37 completions. He became the first Bengals QB ever to

complete 80 percent of his passes (80.4) while throwing at least 40 times (46).

Burrow's 525 yards and four TDs came on the heels of 416 yards and three TDs earlier this season at Baltimore. That made him the only QB ever to pass for 400 yards and three TDs more than once in an entire career against the Ravens.

Burrow also became the first QB in NFL history to top 400 passing yards against the same opponent twice in one regular season, and his 941 combined passing yards against Baltimore were the most-ever against the same opponent in one regular season (tops 49ers QB Joe Montana's 874 against the Falcons in 1990, and Dolphins QB Dan Marino's 874 against the Jets in '88).

In the Dec. 26 matchup, Burrow became just the eighth QB since 2000 to have three completions of at least 52 yards in a game. On the receiving end of those passes were WR Tyler Boyd (68-yard TD), WR Tee Higgins (52) and HB Joe Mixon (52), who became the first trio of Bengals to catch passes of at least 50 yards in a single game since Nov. 17, 1968 at Miami.

Here's a look at the NFL's single-game passing yardage leaders.

PLAYER	TEAM	YEAR	OPPONENT	YARDS
Norm Van Brocklin	L.A. Rams	1951	N.Y. Yanks	554
Matt Schaub	Houston Texans	2012	Jacksonville	527
Warren Moon	Houston Oilers	1990	Kansas City	527
Joe Burrow	Cincinnati Bengals	2021	Baltimore	525

Burrow surpasses 7K: Bengals QB Joe Burrow surpassed 7000 passing yards in Game 16 vs. Kansas City this season, in what was just his 26th career game. That made him the fastest Bengal ever to 7000 passing yards — ahead of Carson Palmer (31), Andy Dalton (32) and Jeff Blake (32) — and the fourth-fastest QB in NFL history.

Burrow was also the fastest Bengal to 6000 passing yards (23 games) and 5000 passing yards (19) and 4000 passing yards (16).

Here's a look at the fastest QBs in NFL history — in terms of games played — to reach 7000 passing yards.

PLAYER	TEAM	GAMES TO REACH 7K
Patrick Mahomes	Kansas City Chiefs	22
Justin Herbert	L.A. Chargers	25
Kurt Warner	St. Louis Rams	25
Joe Burrow	Cincinnati Bengals	26
Marc Bulger	St. Louis Rams	27
Dan Marino	Miami Dolphins	27

Burrow's college connections: Bengals QB Joe Burrow may only be in his second NFL season, but he has plenty familiar faces around him in Cincinnati. There are seven current Bengals who played with Burrow in college at either Ohio State or LSU, meaning 13.7 percent of Burrow's 51 Bengals teammates suited up with him for at least one season in college.

The Bengals also have two practice squad players who played with Burrow, along with one assistant coach — assistant WRs coach Brad Kragthorpe — who was on LSU's staff in 2018, Burrow's first season with the Tigers.

Here's a look at the current Bengals who played with Burrow in college, along with the years they played together. Burrow played at Ohio State from 2015-17, and at Louisiana State from '18-19:

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	SEASONS WITH BURROW
Eli Apple	CB	Ohio State	2015
Vonn Bell	S	Ohio State	2015
Ja'Marr Chase	WR	Louisiana State	2018-19
Sam Hubbard	DE	Ohio State	2015-17
Keandre Jones	LB	Ohio State	2016-17
Isaiah Prince	OT	Ohio State	2015-17
Tyler Shelvin	DT	Louisiana State	2018-19
Drue Chrisman*	P	Ohio State	2016-17
Thaddeus Moss*	TE	Louisiana State	2018-19

* — Asterisk denotes practice squad player.

Bengals WR trio nears rare feat: Cincinnati's WRs Tyler Boyd, Ja'Marr Chase and Tee Higgins still have a chance to become the only Bengals trio ever to top 1000 receiving yards. Chase (1429) and Higgins (1091) have already hit the mark, and stand as the first duo in NFL history to post 1000 receiving yards in the same season before the age of 23. Looking to join them is the 27-year old Boyd, who at 828 yards stands just 172 shy of his third career 1000-yard season (also in 2018 and '19).

This is just the third season in Bengals history in which the team has had multiple 1000-yard receivers — WRs Chad Johnson and T.J. Houshmandzadeh did it twice, in 2006 and '07.

Bengals receivers have combined for 10 individual 100-yard receiving performances this season, the most in team history (previous record was nine, in 2006). Chase has five 100-yard games, while Higgins has four and Boyd has one.

The last NFL team with three 1000-yard receivers was the 2008 Arizona Cardinals, who had Hall of Fame QB Kurt Warner throwing to Larry Fitzgerald (1431), Anquan Boldin (1038) and Steve Breaston (1006). The only other team to do it since the turn of the century was the 2004 Indianapolis Colts, who had Hall of Fame QB Peyton Manning throwing to HOF WR Marvin Harrison (1113), Reggie Wayne (1210) and Brandon Stokley (1077).

Here's a look at the only teams in NFL history with three 1000-yard receivers.

YEAR	TEAM
2008	Arizona Cardinals
2004	Indianapolis Colts
1995	Atlanta Falcons
1989	Washington Redskins
1980	San Diego Chargers

Chase, Burrow reunite in Cincinnati: One of the most statistically accomplished QB-WR duos in college football history has reunited this season in Cincinnati. Bengals QB Joe Burrow, the No. 1 overall pick in the 2020 draft, and WR Ja'Marr Chase, the No. 5 overall pick in the '21 draft, are teammates again after helping power the Louisiana State Tigers to a college football national championship in 2019.

With Burrow as his QB in 2019, Chase set single-season SEC records for receiving yards (1780) and TDs (20), en route to winning the Biletnikoff Award as college football's top receiver. Burrow, of course, went on to win the Heisman Trophy as college football's top player that year, after setting numerous NCAA and SEC passing records.

Burrow and Chase this season have connected on 79 passes for 1429 yards (18.1 average) and 13 TDs.

Chase gathers Bengals rookie records: Bengals WR Ja'Marr Chase this season has had what already could be considered one the top rookie seasons in team history. Chase in recent weeks has cemented that claim by setting new team rookie records, and he could take down one more by the end of the season.

Chase this season has 79 receptions, the most-ever by a Bengals rookie. WRs Cris Collinsworth and Tee Higgins (67) previously shared the team's rookie record, followed by WR A.J. Green (65), HB Giovani Bernard (56), WR Tyler Boyd (54) and WR Eddie Brown (53).

Chase has 1429 receiving yards, also the most-ever by a Bengals rookie. Green (1057) held the previous team record, followed by Collinsworth (1009), Brown (942), Higgins (908) and WR Darnay Scott (896).

Chase has 13 receiving TDs, the most ever by a Bengals rookie. He surpassed Curtis' previous team record of nine in just his 13th game — Curtis' record was set in a 14-game season in 1973.

Chase has five 100-yard receiving games, the most-ever by a Bengals rookie. Green (four) held the previous team record, followed by Brown and WR Isaac Curtis (three).

The rundown on Chase: Bengals rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase has lit up the record books so far in his young career. Here's a rundown of some of his accomplishments to this point in the season.

- Chase leads all rookies in receiving yardage (1429) and receiving TDs (13). Among all players, he is fourth in receiving yards and second in receiving TDs.

- He is tied for the NFL lead in receptions of 40 yards or longer (eight), and is tied for third in receptions of 20 yards or longer (21).

- He became just the fifth rookie ever with at least 1000 receiving yards and 10 TDs. He joins John Jefferson (1978), Randy Moss ('98), Mike Evans (2014) and Odell Beckham Jr. ('14). It should be noted that Chase hit the 1000 yard/10 TD mark in just 13 games.

- He is the second rookie in NFL history to record at least 50 receiving yards in each of his first seven games. Detroit WR Earl McCullouch, who at one time was the world-record holder in the 110-meter hurdles, also did it in 1968. Chase's streak ended in Game 8 at the N.Y. Jets.

- He is one of two players in NFL history with a reception of at least 30

yards in each of their first seven career games. McCullough is the other. Chase's streak ended in Game 8 at the N.Y. Jets.

• He has two of the three highest single-game receiving yardage outputs in the NFL this season. His Bengals-record 266 on Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City are the most by any player this season, and his 201 receiving yards on Oct. 24 at Baltimore are third. Packers WR Davante Adams' 206 are second-most.

• Chase became the first rookie and fifth player ever with multiple 200-yard receiving games in a single season. The others are Hall of Famers Calvin Johnson (2011 and '12) and Don Maynard (1968), along with Josh Gordon ('13) and Alshon Jeffrey ('13).

• In Game 7 at Baltimore, Chase (21 years, 237 days) became the second-youngest player ever to record at least 200 receiving yards in a single game (Mike Evans; 21 years, 87 days).

• In Game 1 vs. Minnesota, his NFL debut, he became the youngest (21 years, 195 days) Bengal ever to top 100 receiving yards.

Three big days for "Uno": WR Ja'Marr Chase, who is the first player in Bengals history to wear uniform No. 1 and has thus earned the nickname "Uno" among fans, has two of the NFL's three highest single-game receiving yardage outputs this season, and three of the four highest ever by a Bengals rookie.

His first entry came on Oct. 10 vs. Green Bay, when he recorded 159 yards on nine catches, including a 70-yard TD just before halftime. It should be noted that the Packers game went into overtime, and that Chase had one catch for 21 yards in the extra period.

Then, on Oct. 24 at Baltimore, he exploded for a Bengals rookie record 201 receiving yards on eight catches, including an 82-yard bomb in the third quarter that widened Cincinnati's lead to 10 points. At the time he was 21 years and 237 days old, making him the second-youngest player in NFL history to record at least 200 receiving yards in a single game.

Later in the season, on Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City, Chase posted a team-record 266 receiving yards and three TDs (72, 18 and 69 yards). His 266 receiving yards were the most-ever by a rookie in NFL history, and the most by any player in the NFL this season.

Here's a look at the best single-game receiving yardage totals by Bengals rookies.

BENGALS ROOKIE	DATE/OPPONENT	REC. YARDS
WR Ja'Marr Chase	1-2-22 vs. Kansas City.....	266*
WR Ja'Marr Chase	10-24-21 at Baltimore	201
WR Speedy Thomas	12-14-69 at Denver	177
WR Ja'Marr Chase	10-11-21 vs. Green Bay (OT)	159
WR Darnay Scott	11-6-94 at Seattle (OT).....	157

* — Asterisk denotes team record.

Uno shatters records vs. Chiefs: Bengals rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase's 266 receiving yards on Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City were not only a Bengals record, they were the most in any game by a rookie in NFL history. Chase scored three TDs on the day — catches of 72, 18 and 69 yards — in what was the 34th time in league history that a rookie scored at least three TDs. Five of those came from Bengals — RB Paul Robinson (1968), WR Isaac Curtis ('73), RB Ickey Woods ('88), RB Corey Dillon ('97) and Chase.

Chase's performance helped Cincinnati to a 34-31 win over Kansas City that officially secured the 2021 AFC North title.

Here's a look at the rookies with the most receiving yards in a single game in NFL history.

ROOKIE	TEAM	DATE/OPP.	REC. YARDS
Ja'Marr Chase	Cincinnati Bengals	1-2-2022 vs. K.C.	266
Jerry Butler	Buffalo Bills	9-23-1979 vs. NYJ.....	255
Jerry Rice	San Francisco 49ers	12-9-1985 vs. LARams	241
Justin Blackmon	Jacksonville Jaguars	11-18-2012 at Hou.	236
Eddie Kennison	St. Louis Rams	12-15-1996 at Atl.....	226

Chase tops LSU teammate Jefferson: Bengals WR Ja'Marr Chase this season has 1429 receiving yards, second-most in NFL history behind the Houston Oilers' Bill Groman in 1960. But in the Super Bowl era (since 1966), Chase's 1429 are the most ahead of his friend and former LSU teammate Justin Jefferson, who had 1400 with the Minnesota Vikings in 2020.

Chase, Jefferson and Bengals QB Joe Burrow played together at Louisiana State University, where in 2019 they shattered numerous offensive records and

led the Tigers to an undefeated season and national championship.

It should be noted that, despite the NFL expanding its schedule to 17 games in 2021, Chase hit 1429 and thus topped Jefferson in just 16 games. Groman, a native of Tiffin, Ohio who attended Heidelberg University, set his record in just 14 games in 1960.

Here's a look at the players with the most receiving yards as a rookie in NFL history.

ROOKIE	TEAM	YEAR	REC. YARDS
Bill Groman	Houston Oilers	1960.....	1473
Ja'Marr Chase	Cincinnati Bengals	2021.....	1429
Justin Jefferson	Minnesota Vikings	2020.....	1400
Anquan Boldin	Arizona Cardinals	2003.....	1377
Randy Moss	Minnesota Vikings	1998.....	1313

* — The NFL expanded its schedule from 14 to 16 games in 1978, and then expanded from 16 to 17 games in 2021.

Chase heats up before halftime: Bengals WR Ja'Marr Chase this season has arguably been the most productive WR in the NFL during the last two minutes of the first half. During that time period this year, Chase ranks first in the NFL receiving yards (248) and catches of at least 20 yards (five), and tied for second in receiving TDs (three).

In a season already full of highlights, Chase's fireworks before halftime have helped Cincinnati seize momentum going into the locker room. Here's a look at Chase's game-changing plays just before halftime:

• In Game 1 vs. Minnesota, Chase hauled in a 50-yard bomb from Burrow with 42 seconds left in the half to score his first career TD and give the Bengals a 14-7 lead heading into the locker room.

• In Game 3 at Pittsburgh, Chase got behind the defense again and made a fingertip grab for a 34-yard TD with 43 seconds left, helping Cincinnati to a 14-7 halftime lead.

• In Game 5 vs. Green Bay, QB Joe Burrow extended the play and rolled right to find Chase streaking across the field for a 70-yard TD with 50 seconds remaining, cutting the Packers' lead to two at halftime.

• In Game 6 at Detroit, Chase caught a 34-yard pass down the sideline with 23 seconds remaining, and while he didn't find the end zone, the play got the Bengals into Lions territory and set up a FG three plays later that gave the Bengals a 10-point lead at halftime.

• In Game 7 at Baltimore, Chase caught three passes for 45 yards on Cincinnati's final drive of the first half, which ended with a FG. Those three catches included a 26-yarder to the Baltimore 19-yard line.

Tee continues rookie momentum: Bengals WR Tee Higgins this season has continued the momentum he built during his rookie campaign in 2020. Higgins, a second-round pick of the Bengals in 2020, has 74 catches for 1091 yards and six TDs this season, despite missing two games earlier this year due to a shoulder injury. He has four 100-yard receiving games this year, including on Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore, when he posted career-highs in catches (12) and receiving yards (194) and scored two TDs.

Last year, Higgins' 67 catches tied with former WR Cris Collinsworth for the most by a rookie in team history, while his team-high 908 receiving yards were at the time the fourth-most ever by a Bengals rookie (both topped this year by rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase). He also hauled in six TD catches, which at the time was tied for fifth-most ever by a Bengals rookie (also topped this year by Chase).

Higgins this year has drawn praise from numerous Bengals coaches and teammates for transforming his body over the offseason. "My biggest thing was to get stronger," Higgins said over the summer. "I didn't do any routes, I didn't run. I was just really in the weight room for the most part. Then, once I was able to actually get on the field and do like a workout or something, I just went out there and it felt good. I just felt like I had to get stronger, so I focused a little bit more on the weight room. Now I'm weighing like 220 (pounds), and it feels good. Last year I came in at like 220, but it was too heavy for me, so I had to lose a few pounds. Now it feels really good and I feel even faster."

Tee's streak ends at three: Earlier this season, Bengals second-year WR Tee Higgins topped 100 receiving yards in three consecutive games, which tied the third-longest streak in team history. He had 114 yards on Nov. 28 vs. Pittsburgh, 138 yards on Dec. 5 vs. the L.A. Chargers, and 114 yards on Dec. 12 vs. San Francisco.

The last Bengal with 100 receiving yards in three straight games was WR A.J. Green, who eventually ran his streak to a team-record five games in 2013.

Higgins has four total 100-yard games this season.

Here's a look at the longest streaks in Bengals history for consecutive games with at least 100 receiving yards.

PLAYER	YEAR	CONS. GAMES WITH 100+ REC. YDS.
WR A.J. Green	2013	5
WR Carl Pickens	1994	4
WR Isaac Curtis	1973	3
WR Chad Johnson	2002	3
WR Chad Johnson	2006	3
WR T.J. Houshmandzadeh	2007	3
WR Tee Higgins	2021	3

Mixon's TD streak ends at nine: Bengals HB Joe Mixon this season put together a streak of nine consecutive games with at least one TD, which tied WR A.J. Green (nine in 2012) for the second-longest such streak in team history. Mixon's streak was broken when he was held out of the end zone on Dec. 12 vs. San Francisco, and he fell one short of the team record of 10, set between the 1994 and '95 seasons by WR Carl Pickens.

Mixon scored 13 total TDs (11 rushing, two receiving) in his nine-game streak, which lasted between Game 4 vs. Jacksonville and Game 12 vs. the L.A. Chargers.

Within his nine-game streak were two other streaks that tied or set team records. He scored a rushing TD in six straight contests (Games 7-12), tied for the longest such streak in team history (RB Rudi Johnson/2006, and RB Stan Fritts/1975). And he scored multiple TDs in four straight games (Games 8-11), the longest such streak in team history.

The longest previous streak of consecutive games with multiple TDs was three, accomplished by Pete Johnson in 1981 and Rudi Johnson in 2005. The last NFL player with multiple TDs in at least four games was Saints RB Alvin Kamara, who had five straight between the 2019 and '20 seasons. Seahawks WR Doug Baldwin in 2015 was the last player with multiple TDs in four straight games within one season.

For the season, Mixon has 13 rushing TDs and three receiving TDs. He stands one TD shy of WR Carl Pickens' total TD record (17 in '95), and two rushing TDs shy of tying RB Ickey Woods' team record for rushing TDs in a season (15 in 1988).

Mixon nearing Bengals TD record: HB Joe Mixon this season has scored 16 touchdowns, tied for the second-most ever in a season by a Bengal. He has 13 rushing TDs and three receiving TDs.

With one game remaining, Mixon needs just one TD to tie WR Carl Pickens' single-season TD record of 17, set in 1995.

Mixon has multiple TDs in five games this season, which is tied for the most in Bengals history with Pete Johnson (1979, '81 and '83), James Brooks ('88) and Ickey Woods ('88).

Here's a look at the Bengals with the most TDs in a season.

PLAYER	SEASON	TDs
WR Carl Pickens	1995	17
RB Pete Johnson	1981	16
RB Joe Mixon	2021	16
RB Pete Johnson	1979	15
RB Ickey Woods	1988	15

Mixon shuffling toward Ickey's record: Bengals HB Joe Mixon this season has 13 rushing TDs, fourth-most in team history and just two shy of RB Ickey Woods' team-record 15 in 1988.

Here's a look at the most rushing TDs in a season in Bengals history.

PLAYER	SEASON	RUSHING TDs
FB Ickey Woods	1988	15
FB Pete Johnson	1979	14
FB Pete Johnson	1983	14
HB Joe Mixon	2021	13

Bengals tough when Mixon hits 20 carries: The Bengals hold an 11-7 record when HB Joe Mixon reaches the 20-carry mark. And in those 18 games, Mixon has topped 100 rushing yards 12 times. Eleven of his last 14 games with 20 carries have resulted in 100 or more rushing yards.

The Bengals are 3-1 this year when Mixon hits the mark. Last year, despite being limited by a foot injury to just six games, Mixon hit the 20-carry mark twice,

and the Bengals were 1-1 in those contests.

Mixon tops 4K: Bengals HB Joe Mixon now stands as one of only six Bengals ever to rush for 4000 yards in a career. He achieved the feat this season on Nov. 21 at Las Vegas, in what was his 60th career game.

Mixon has 4564 career rushing yards, fifth-most in Bengals history. He passed Harold Green (3727) and Cedric Benson (4176) this year, but he's unlikely to catch Pete Johnson (5421) for fourth place until at least next season. Corey Dillon (8061) is the Bengals' all-time leading rusher, followed by James Brooks (6447), Rudi Johnson (5472) and Pete Johnson (5421).

Mixon fastest to 4K/1K: Bengals HB Joe Mixon now stands as one of just four Bengals ever to surpass 4000 career rushing yards and 1000 career receiving yards. He joins Corey Dillon, James Brooks and Pete Johnson in that category.

Reaching the 4k/1k mark took Mixon just 60 career games, 11 faster than the next-quickest Bengal (Dillon, 71 games). He topped 1000 career receiving yards earlier this season in Game 1 vs. Minnesota, and then surpassed 4000 rushing yards in Game 10 at Las Vegas.

Mixon currently has 4564 career rushing yards and 1322 receiving yards.

It took Mixon just 50 games to reach 3000 rushing and 1000 receiving yards, which also was 11 games quicker than the next-fastest Bengal (Brooks, 61).

Here's a look at the fastest players ever to top 4000 career rushing yards and 1000 career receiving yards in a Bengals uniform (it should be noted that Brooks began his career with the San Diego Chargers from 1981-83; however, the data counts only rushing/receiving yardage and games played as a Bengal):

NAME	BENGALS GAMES TO REACH 4K/1K
Joe Mixon	60
Corey Dillon	71
James Brooks	76
Pete Johnson	77

Mixon secures the rock: Not only is Bengals HB Joe Mixon considered one of the top rushers in the NFL, he's also proven effective at protecting the football. Mixon has fumbled just six times (three lost) since entering the league in 2017, a span that covers 1275 combined touches on offense (1104 rushes, 171 catches). That includes just three fumbles (two lost) since the start of 2018.

Mixon owns two of the three longest streaks of rushing attempts without a fumble by a Bengal since at least 1990 (when the Elias Sports Bureau began tracking the stat). From 2017-20, he went 541 rushing attempts without a fumble, good for the second-longest by a Bengal over that time period. That streak was halted by a fumble in the 2020 season opener. He then rattled off 327 carries without a fumble, the third-longest such streak in team history, before fumbling on a carry in Game 12 this season.

Here's a look at the longest streaks of rushing attempts by a Bengal without a fumble since 1990:

NFL PLAYER	CARRIES WITHOUT A FUMBLE	SEASONS SPANNED
Giovani Bernard	829	2013-20
Joe Mixon	541	2017-20
Joe Mixon	327	2020-21
Harold Green	298	1991-93
Jeremy Hill	282	2015-17

'Fire department' tough after turnovers: The Bengals' offense and special teams units this season have committed 21 turnovers, including three that were returned for TDs, which means opposing offenses have taken over possession 18 times after Bengals turnovers. In those 18 instances, the Bengals' defense has allowed just three TDs and eight FGs (46 points). That means opponents failed to produce points on seven of those possessions — two punts, one missed FG, a turnover on downs and three INTs (one pick-six).

Opposing offenses have taken over in plus territory after Bengals turnovers on 12 occasions this year. Those have resulted in two TDs, seven FGs, a punt, a missed FG and an INT (26 points).

When opposing offenses take over inside the Bengals' 20-yard line, they have one TD, three FGs and a missed FG (17 points).

Bengals defenders and coaches say that they have embraced these kinds of back-to-the-wall situations. Defensive coordinator Lou Anarumo has even coined a name for them. "I tell our guys all the time that we're like the fire department," he said. "We're here to put the fire out. We don't ask how or why. We just go out there and we put it out."

Trey's 14 sacks second-most by a Bengal: DE Trey Hendrickson, one of the headliners of Cincinnati's free agency haul in March, has a team-high 14.0 sacks (fifth in NFL) this season. Those 14 sacks are the second-most in team history, between DE Carlos Dunlap's 13 in 2015 and DE Coy Bacon's team-record 22 in 1976. (Sacks became an official NFL statistic in 1982, however the Bengals tracked the stat back to '76 and thus recognize Bacon as the record-holder).

Hendrickson's sack total this season has more than doubled the team lead for all of last season (former DE Carl Lawson, 5.5). He also is the first Bengal with double-digit sacks since former DT Geno Atkins' 10 in 2018.

Last season with New Orleans, Hendrickson had 13.5 sacks, tied for the NFC lead and tied for second-most leaguewide. And since the beginning of the 2020 season, Hendrickson's 27.5 sacks are second-most in the NFL, behind only Pittsburgh's T.J. Watt (36.5). Cleveland's Myles Garrett (27.0) is third.

Trey's sack streak ends at 11: Bengals DE Trey Hendrickson recorded at least a half sack in 11 straight games this season (Games 5-15) — the longest such streak in Bengals history, the longest streak in the NFL in 2021, and tied for the second-longest in NFL history. The previous Bengals record was six straight games, by Eddie Edwards (1984), Reggie Williams (1984), Carlos Dunlap (2010-11) and Geno Atkins (2016-17).

Hendrickson fell just one game shy of former Titans DE Jevon Kearse's NFL-record of 12. It should be noted, though, that Hendrickson's 11-game streak tied for the longest within one season in league history.

Within his 11-game streak, Hendrickson recorded a full sack in nine consecutive games (Games 5-13), which tied for the fourth-longest such streak in NFL history and just two games shy of Chiefs DT Chris Jones' 11 straight in 2018. It was also the longest such streak in Bengals history, topping the previous record of six straight by Williams (1984) and Edwards ('83).

Hendrickson has 14 sacks this season, fifth in the NFL and second-most in team history. He has recorded at least a half sack in 13 of Cincinnati's 16 contests.

Here's a look at the longest streaks of games with at least a half sack in NFL history.

PLAYER	TEAM(S)	YEAR(S)	CONS. GAMES
Jevon Kearse	Tenn.	1999-2000	12
Trey Hendrickson	Cin.	2021	11
Chris Jones	K.C.	2018	11
Shaun Ellis	NYJ	2002-03	11
Jared Allen	Minn.	2010-11	11

Bengals improve 2020 pass rush: Over the offseason, one of the primary areas of focus for the Bengals was to improve a pass-rush that last year totaled a league-low 17 sacks. Injuries were a key factor a year ago, especially toward the end of the season, but Cincinnati still approached free agency and the draft intent on boosting the defensive line.

Those efforts worked. Through 17 weeks, Cincinnati ranks tied for ninth leaguewide with 41 sacks, more than double last season's 17. DE Trey Hendrickson, one of the team's key acquisitions in free agency last March, leads the team and ranks fifth leaguewide with 14 sacks. That's more than double last season's team high (5.5, DE Carl Lawson). Ten Bengals have gotten into the sack column this season, including DT Larry Ogunjobi (7.0), another 2021 free agent acquisition, DT B.J. Hill (5.5), who was acquired in a trade just before the regular season, and DE Cam Sample (1.5), who was one of four defensive linemen Cincinnati selected in April's draft. The revamped defensive line has accounted for all but 2.5 of Cincinnati's 40 sacks this year, and DE Sam Hubbard (7.5) is the only defender in the sack column who was with Cincinnati prior to the 2020 season.

Four players — Hendrickson, Hubbard, Ogunjobi and Hill — have matched or surpassed last season's team lead of 5.5 sacks.

Hubbard a Day 2 draft steal: DE Sam Hubbard, a third-round pick (77th overall) of the Bengals in 2018, ranks second in sacks (24.0) among all players from the '18 rookie class (draft picks and college free agents).

Players' listed positions vary by media outlet (e.g. whether a player is classified as a LB or DE), but according to NFL.com's draft record, Hubbard was the 13th defensive lineman selected in 2018 — five DEs and seven DTs came off the board before him. According to NFL.com, there were a total of 40 defensive linemen (20 DEs, 20 DTs) selected in the 2018 draft, along with 32

linebackers and one player classified as "EDGE." There were also, of course, numerous undrafted rookies in 2018.

Hubbard has been the Bengals' starting RDE since 2019, and signed a contract extension with the Bengals in July that keeps him in Cincinnati through the end of the 2025 season.

Here's a look at the career sack leaders from the rookie class of 2018:

PLAYER/POSITION	TEAM	PICK (ROUND)	SACKS
Harold Landry/EDGE	Tennessee	No. 41 (2nd)	31.0
Sam Hubbard/DE	Cincinnati	No. 77 (3rd)	24.0
Bradley Chubb/DE	Denver	No. 5 (1st)	20.5
Marcus Davenport/DE	New Orleans	No. 14 (1st)	19.5
Josh Sweat/DE	Philadelphia	No. 130 (4th)	17.5

Logan's four INTs tied for LB lead: Bengals second-year LB Logan Wilson has a team-high four INTs this season — tied for the most among all LBs, and the most by a Bengal since 2005 (Odell Thurman, five). Consider also that Wilson missed three games (Games 13-15) with a right shoulder injury.

Wilson has also been strong against the run. The 2020 third-round pick of the Bengals has a team-high 98 tackles, despite his missed time, and he has led the Bengals in tackles in six of the 12 full games in which he has been healthy (was injured in the first half of Game 12 vs. the L.A. Chargers).

As a rookie last season, Wilson was eased into the regular defensive rotation and then battled injuries late in the year. This season, he was assigned the green dot on his helmet as the team's designated communicator, and has been credited by teammates for being a vocal leader.

"He has a huge responsibility on his shoulders this year," DE Trey Hendrickson said of Wilson. "He's taken in a lot in just two years, and you wouldn't know that he's a second-year guy. He's our play-caller out there, and he's getting the calls out quickly. That's what we need from a guy inside like that. And he's got hands too."

Healthy Reader leads stout D-line: During the 2020 offseason, the Bengals made one of the most significant free agency splashes in team history when they signed DT D.J. Reader to a lucrative four-year contract that lasts through the 2023 season. Big things were expected of Reader, but his impact in 2020 was short-lived after he suffered a season-ending left quad injury in the fifth game.

This year, the 6-3, 347-pound Reader returned healthy and has proven his value as a leader and physical presence in the middle of the defensive line. And while the impact of interior defensive linemen is often difficult to quantify with statistics, consider that Cincinnati's run defense ranks fifth in the NFL (96.1 yards/game allowed) this season compared to 29th a year ago (148.0) and 32nd the year before (148.9).

Another measure of the impact of an interior defensive lineman — particularly a nose tackle — is the play of the linebackers behind them. This season, Cincinnati's linebacker play has been among the brightest and most-improved spots on the defense. Leading the way has been second-year pro Logan Wilson, who leads the team in tackles (98) and whose four INTs are tied for the most among all LBs leaguewide.

But perhaps the most impressive part of Reader's 2021 season thus far has been his actual recovery from the aforementioned quad injury. He talked about the severity of it on the Bengals Booth Podcast with Bengals play-by-play radio announcer Dan Hoard.

"I ruptured the tendon, so it was pretty severe," Reader said. "The first six weeks after surgery, you can't move. You have to keep it straight because the tendon has to repair. And then it was a nine-month rehab. They say it only has about a 50 percent 'return' rate — not very high — but it's gotten better with modern medicine and the surgeries.

"Sleeping was probably the hardest thing, because you can't move at all — you have to sleep on your back, you have to keep it straight, and you're in a brace."

Reader has started 15 of 16 games at NT this season, and has 43 tackles and two sacks. He missed Game 15 vs. Baltimore while on Reserve/COVID-19.

Mr. Reliable wears No. 30: Jessie Bates earned a starting S spot midway through his first preseason in Cincinnati, and he hasn't looked back since. The 2018 second-round pick started 51 straight games to begin his Bengals career — that's three full seasons plus three games — until a neck injury ended his streak in the fourth game of 2021 (Sept. 30 vs. Jacksonville). He missed just that one game before returning to the starting lineup the next week, and he has started every game since.

Still, Bates' streak of 51 is tied for the sixth-most consecutive starts by a player to begin their career as a Bengal, and the second-most by a defender. Had he started the Jacksonville game, he would have tied former LB Takeo Spikes (52) for most starts to begin a career by a Bengals defender.

Here's a look at the players with the most consecutive starts to begin a Bengals career:

PLAYER	CONSECUTIVE STARTS TO BEGIN CAREER
C Bob Johnson	94
QB Andy Dalton	77
TE Dan Ross	65
C Russell Bodine	64
LB Takeo Spikes	52
S Jessie Bates	51
LB Bill Bergey	51

Bell rings of reliability: One of Cincinnati's most trusted leaders and consistent players on the field over the last two seasons has been S Vonn Bell. The sixth-year pro joined the Bengals as an unrestricted free agent prior to the 2020 season, and then proceeded to play in every snap of his first 20 games with the team. His streak of consecutive snaps was broken in Cincinnati's 34-11 win at Detroit on Oct. 17, when the starters were rested late in the fourth quarter.

And although he has missed a few more snaps since that game in Detroit, Bell still leads defense in snaps played (1004 of 1058) this season. In his now 32 career Bengals games, he has seen action on 2063 of 2117 possible defensive snaps (97.4 percent).

Bell has been a captain in both of his Bengals seasons. He ranks second on the team in tackles (97) this year, after also leading the team in that category (114) last season.

Huber among NFL's best at pinning 'em: As the evidence shows, no Bengals punter has ever been nearly as successful as Kevin Huber at pinning opponents inside the 20-yard line. The 2009 fifth-round draft choice currently has 336 career inside-20 punts, more than double the next-best in team history (Lee Johnson, 186).

But the numbers also show that Huber is among the best active punters in the NFL at pinning opponents deep.

Here's a look at the five active punters with the most career inside-20 punts:

PUNTER	TEAM	NFL EXP.	CAREER INSIDE-20s
Dustin Colquitt	Atlanta	17	481
Andy Lee	Arizona	18	458
Sam Koch	Baltimore	16	450
Brett Kern	Tennessee	14	394
Kevin Huber	Cincinnati	13	336

The Huber roundup: Bengals P Kevin Huber, a 2009 Bengals fifth-round pick who is now in his 13th season, has long been considered the top punter in team history. He has cemented that legacy in recent years by taking over the top spot in the few remaining career punting categories he did not already own.

Huber now stands first in team history in the following categories:

- Punts (973)
- Punting yards (44,115)
- Gross average (45.34)
- Net average (40.28)
- Inside-20 punts (336)

Huber has also taken over many of the Bengals' single-season and single-game records. Among them are:

- He holds the top five Bengals season averages in both gross and net punting yardage, and in 2020, his 12th NFL season, he re-set his own single-season team records in both categories (47.18 gross, 42.82 net).
- He shares the team record for longest punt (75 yards) with Kyle Larson.
- His 33 inside-20 punts in 2012 is a single-season franchise record.
- His six inside-20 punts on Sept. 14, 2017 vs. Houston are tied with Lee Johnson (Nov. 2, 1997) for the most in a game in Bengals history.

McPherson from deep: Bengals rookie K Evan McPherson has made an NFL-best nine FGs of 50 or more yards this season, and stands just one shy of tying the NFL record for most 50-plus yarders in a season. Former Vikings K Blair Walsh (10) holds the rookie record and is tied for the NFL record.

McPherson's nine FGs from 50-plus are more than double the previous team record for a single season (four, by K Horst Muhlmann in 1970). Even more impressive is that it took McPherson just 14 games to reach nine 50-plus yard FGs and become the Bengals' career leader that category.

In a sign of things to come, McPherson's first-ever NFL FG was a 53-yarder in Cincinnati's season-opener vs. Minnesota. Then, on Nov. 21 at Las Vegas, he tied a single-game NFL record with three FGs of at least 50 yards (54, 53 and 51). For perspective, there were only four instances (including Muhlmann in 1970) prior to this year where a Bengals kicker had as many as three 50-plus yarders in a full season.

On Dec. 19 at Denver, McPherson booted a Bengals-record 58-yard FG as time expired in the first half. It was his second 50-plus yarder of the day.

Here's a look at the NFL players with the most made FGs of 50 or more yards in a single season.

YEAR	ROOKIE	TEAM	50+ YARD FGs
2012	Blair Walsh*	Minnesota Vikings	10
2016	Justin Tucker	Baltimore Ravens	10
2020	Brandon McManus	Denver Broncos	10
2021	Evan McPherson*	Cincinnati Bengals	9

* — Asterisk denotes rookie.

McPherson the youngest with OT winner: Bengals rookie K Evan McPherson made his NFL debut in style on Sept. 12 vs. Minnesota, booting a game-winning 33-yard FG as time expired in OT.

McPherson, a fifth-round pick of the Bengals in April's draft, chose to forgo his final year of college eligibility to enter the NFL draft, and thus is among the youngest Bengals on the roster. At the time of his game-winner against Minnesota, which he says was the first "walk-off" kick of his career on any level, he was 22 years and 53 days old (born 7-21-99), making him the youngest player in NFL history to kick a game-winning FG in overtime. It also made him just the second rookie kicker in NFL history to kick a game-winning FG with no time remaining in OT (the other was Miami K Jason Sanders in 2018). Earlier in the game, McPherson became the youngest Bengal ever to kick a FG or PAT.

McPherson this season has made 46 of 48 PATs and 28 of his 33 FGs, including a team-record nine 50-plus yarders and three game-winners as time expired (33, 35 and 20 yards).

Here's a look at the youngest players in NFL history to kick a game-winning FG in OT:

PLAYER	TEAM	DATE/OPPONENT	AGE
Evan McPherson	Cincinnati	9-12-2021 vs. Minn.	22 years, 53 days
Pete Stoyanovich	Miami	10-8-1989 vs. Cle.	22 years, 163 days
Wade Richey	San Francisco	12-6-1998 at Car.	22 years, 201 days
Ali Haji-Sheikh	N.Y. Giants	9-11-1983 at Atl.	22 years, 243 days
Blair Walsh	Minnesota	9-9-2012 vs. Jax.	22 years, 245 days

... Make that three walk-offs: Bengals rookie K Evan McPherson said before the season that he had never, at any level of football, even been in a position to kick a game-winning FG or PAT as time expired — a "walk-off," if you will. That changed in a hurry in the NFL, as the rookie now has three game-winning FGs as time expired in regulation or OT.

His first came in the season-opener — his NFL debut — when he nailed a 33-yarder as time expired in OT to give Cincinnati a dramatic 27-24 win. He did it again three weeks later, in Cincinnati's Sept. 30 Thursday Night Football matchup vs. Jacksonville, this time converting a 35-yarder as time expired in regulation to give the Bengals a 24-21 win. And he did it for a third time on Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City, when his 20-yard FG as time expired in regulation won the game and clinched the AFC North division title.

For what it's worth, McPherson has a long way to go to catch former Bengals K Jim Breech, whose 10 "walk-off" kicks — FG or PAT with no time remaining — stand as the most in team history.

But at 22 years old, McPherson does stand as the youngest player in NFL history — by a more than two years — with three "walk-off" kicks.

Here's a look at the youngest kickers in NFL history at the time of their third game-winning FG with no time remaining:

PLAYER	TEAM	AGE
Evan McPherson	Cincinnati Bengals	22 years, 165 days
Blair Walsh	Minnesota Vikings	24 years, 291 days
Justin Tucker	Baltimore Ravens	24 years, 304 days
Dan Bailey	Dallas Cowboys	24 years, 318 days
Harrison Butker	Kansas City Chiefs	25 years, 68 days

Special teams soar under Simmons: Over the 19-year tenure of Darrin Simmons, the Bengals have consistently boasted one of the top special teams units in the NFL. Simmons in 2020 added the title of assistant head coach to his usual role as special teams coordinator, a nod to a successful run that has seen 17 of his pupils appear in the team's record book.

Here's an overview of Simmons' players' dominance in the records (for more info, see the Bengals' records section on page 168 in the 2020 media guide):

- The three most accurate FG kickers (by career percentage) in team history — Shayne Graham, Randy Bullock, and Mike Nugent — were all coached by Simmons for their entire Bengals careers. Simmons has also been at the helm for each of the six most accurate single seasons by Bengals kickers.
- The five longest consecutive FG streaks in team history have all come under Simmons' watch, as have three of the five longest PAT streaks.
- Simmons, who punted at the University of Kansas, has had particular success coaching his former position. Current P Kevin Huber holds the top spot in every Bengals career punting category, along with the top five single seasons for gross average, net average and inside-20s. Former P Kyle Larson, who spent his entire Bengals term (2004-08) under Simmons, ranks within the top four in every career punting category, and shares with Huber the record for longest punt in team history (75 yards).
- Simmons has coached three of the Bengals' top four leaders in career punt return average — Adam Jones, Quan Cosby and Peter Warrick.
- Simmons has coached four of the team's top six leaders in career kickoff return average — Jones, Alex Erickson, Bernard Scott, Glenn Holt — along with five of the six best single seasons by a kickoff returner (based on yards per kickoff return).

And although the category is not kept as an official team record, it should be noted that LS Clark Harris has executed 1839 deep snaps without a single unplayable delivery since joining the Bengals in mid-2009.

Simmons has also coached four players who have made the Pro Bowl as special teamers — Huber, Jones, Harris and HB Cedric Peerman.

Roster flip noticeable in Year 3: Zac Taylor took over as Bengals head coach in 2019, and throughout his now three-year tenure there has been a steady but noticeable churn of the roster. Of the 52 players on the current roster (as of Tuesday, Jan. 4), only nine suited up as Bengals prior to Taylor's arrival. That means 43 current Bengals — or 82.7 percent of the roster — have joined Cincinnati since 2019.

Cincinnati's roster overhaul has hit overdrive since the end of last season. Twenty-two current Bengals — that's 42.3 percent of the 50-player roster — had never suited up in a game for Cincinnati prior to the 2021 regular season. (It should be noted that figure includes OT Isaiah Prince, CB Trae Waynes and TE Mitchell Wilcox, who were with Cincinnati previously but never played).

Recent acquisitions boost Bengals: Cincinnati's player personnel department has struck gold in acquiring new top talent in each of the last two years. On top of solid drafts (see the next item titled "2020 rookies continue to deliver"), the team has unearthed a bounty of player production in free agency, as well as a trade.

Here's a look at how some of the team's 2020 and '21 additions are faring this season (all are unrestricted free agent additions, unless otherwise noted):

ACQUIRED, PLAYER	'21 G/S	NOTES
2020, S Vonn Bell	16/16	Starting S and team captain
2020, DT D.J. Reader	15/15	Starting NT
2020, G Quinton Spain (waivers)	16/16	Starting G (re-signed as UFA in March)
2020, G Xavier Su'a-Filo	2/2	Starting G (though currently on R/I)
2020, WR Mike D. Thomas	11/1	Reserve WR; special teamer
2020, CB Trae Waynes	4/3	Contributing CB (currently on Reserve/COVID)
2021, S Ricardo Allen (free agent)	13/0	Key reserve; veteran leader
2021, CB Eli Apple (free agent)	16/15	Key reserve turned starter
2021, CB Chidobe Awuzie	14/14	Starting CB
2021, DE Trey Hendrickson	16/14	Starting DE; leads team in sacks (14.0)
2021, DT B.J. Hill (trade)	16/2	Key reserve with 5.5 sacks
2021, CB Mike Hilton	16/9	Starting nickel CB
2021, DT Larry Ogunjobi	16/16	Starting DT (three-technique); 7.0 sacks
2021, OT Riley Reiff	12/12	Starting ROT (though currently on R/I)

2020 rookies continue to deliver: Cincinnati's 2020 draft class combined to play in 96 games (33 starts) as rookies, just three games shy of the most by a Bengals draft class (99 in 2017) since the draft went to seven

rounds in 1994. Consider also that the 2020 class was just seven players, while the 2017 class was 11 players.

After being leaned upon heavily as rookies, Cincinnati's 2020 draft class has continued to deliver, combining to play in 81 games (53 starts) this season. It should be noted that 2020 draft picks have dealt with more injuries this season, and have spent a combined 22 games on reserve lists. LB Akeem Davis-Gaither (left foot), a 2020 fourth-rounder, is on Reserve/Injured and is not expected return this season.

Here is the 2020 Bengals draft class: QB Joe Burrow (first round), WR Tee Higgins (second), LB Logan Wilson (third), Davis-Gaither (fourth), DE Khalid Kareem (fifth), G Hakeem Adeniji (sixth), LB Markus Bailey (seventh). Burrow, Higgins, Wilson and Adeniji are regular starters when healthy.

Flipping the script on the road: The Bengals this season have won five road games, which stands as their most wins away from home since 2015 (six). A win in their last remaining road game — Week 18 at Cleveland — would give them six for the year and tie the single-season team record, accomplished in 1981, 2005, '12, and '15.

Dating back to 2020, Cincinnati has won six of its last eight road games.

It wasn't long ago, though, that the shoe was on the other foot. The Bengals lost 13 straight road games between 2018 and early '20, and that bleeding was stopped only by a tie at Philadelphia. Head coach Zac Taylor did not pick up his first road win until his 16th game away from Paul Brown Stadium (includes a 2019 neutral site loss to the Rams in London), a fact the third-year Bengals head coach has not forgotten.

"We've really matured," Taylor told the media after his team's 31-13 win at Las Vegas on Nov. 21. "We lost 15 games in a row on the road at one point — I don't know if you all remember that, but I do (laughs).

"This team has really turned their mentality. When we get on a plane, get on a bus and go to a hotel, we come out there really focused. They've handled it really well. I have no concerns taking this team on the road and wondering how they're going to handle it. I'm proud of them."

Bengals tap Senior Bowl pipeline: One of the key factors in Cincinnati's success in the draft the last two years has been the team's ability to identify prospects at the Senior Bowl, a college all-star game held each January that serves as the unofficial start to the pre-draft process.

The Bengals have drafted seven players over the last two years who participated in the Senior Bowl, and all seven are still with the team. Five are on the active roster — OT Hakeem Adeniji (2020, sixth round), HB Chris Evans ('21 sixth round), DE Cam Sample ('21, fourth round), G D'Ante Smith ('21, fourth round) and LB Logan Wilson ('20, third round) — while the other two are on reserve lists — LB Akeem Davis-Gaither ('20, fourth round; Reserve/Injured) and DE Wyatt Hubert ('21, seventh round; Reserve/Non-Football Injury).

Zac Taylor and the rest of the Bengals staff coached the South team at the 2020 Senior Bowl, and Davis-Gaither was on their roster. Wilson and Adeniji were on the North team that year, however coaches cite their close exposure to both during that experience as a major reason they ended up in Cincinnati.

Taylor and his staff have attended each of the last two Senior Bowls (2020-21). He was on the Rams' staff in 2018 and was hired by Cincinnati after L.A.'s run to the Super Bowl that year, therefore neither he nor his full coaching staff attended the 2019 Senior Bowl.

25 points does the trick: Since 2011, the Bengals own a 58-6-2 record when scoring 25 or more points. That's good for the second-best winning percentage (.879) in the NFL when topping the 25-point mark over that span.

The Bengals are 12-5 under head coach Zac Taylor (7-1 this season) when reaching the 25-point plateau.

Here are the top five teams in the NFL since 2011, in terms of winning percentage, when hitting the 25-point plateau:

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	TIES	WINNING PCT.
New England Patriots	99	10	0	.908
Cincinnati Bengals	58	6	2	.894
Denver Broncos	61	8	0	.884
Miami Dolphins	44	6	0	.880
Arizona Cardinals	56	8	1	.869

Tracking weekly/monthly awards: Four different Bengals this season have won a total of eight weekly and/or monthly awards given out by the NFL. This year also marks the first time in team history that two Bengals rookies (McPherson and WR Ja'Marr Chase) have won a player of the week award in the same season. Here's a rundown of all the winners:

- K Evan McPherson, Week 1, AFC Special Teams Player of the Week: In what was his NFL debut, the Bengals' rookie fifth-round pick kicked a game-winning 33-yard FG as time expired in OT to give Cincinnati a 27-24 win over Minnesota. At the time, he was 22 years and 53 days old, making him the youngest kicker in NFL history to kick a game-winner in OT. He also was just the second rookie kicker ever to convert a FG as time expired in OT. Earlier in the game, McPherson made his first career NFL field goal, a 53-yarder that counted as the second-longest in the AFC in Week 1.

- QB Joe Burrow, Week 4, AFC Offensive Player of the Week: Burrow threw for 348 yards and two TDs in Cincinnati's Week 4 Thursday Night matchup vs. Jacksonville, while also posting then-career highs in both completion percentage (78.1) and passer rating (132.8) as he helped lead the Bengals to a comeback win. Burrow led Cincinnati to scores on all four of its second-half possessions (TD, TD, TD, FG), and his 10-play, 73-yard drive late in the fourth quarter bled 5:33 off the clock and set up a game-winning FG as time expired. In the second half alone, Burrow completed 17 of 20 passes (85 percent) for 253 yards and two TDs (152.1 rating).

- WR Ja'Marr Chase, September, NFL Offensive Rookie of the Month: The fifth overall pick in the 2021 draft led all rookies in receiving yardage (220) and TDs (four) in September. He was one of just nine rookies ever to catch at least one TD in each of his first three career games, and was one of just three players ever to catch TDs of at least 25 yards in each of his first three career games. He also was the youngest player (21 years old) with four receiving TDs through his first three career games, edging out Pro Football Hall of Famer Randy Moss' three in three games in 1998. Chase joined QB Andy Dalton (offense, Oct. 2011), LB Odell Thurman (defense, Sept. 2005) and HB Corey Dillon (offense, Dec. 1997) as the only Bengals ever to win NFL rookie of the month (award issued since 1996).

- WR Ja'Marr Chase, Week 7, AFC Offensive Player of the Week: Chase caught eight passes for a Bengals rookie-record 201 receiving yards and a TD in Cincinnati's 41-17 win in Week 7 at Baltimore. His receiving yardage total was the highest in the AFC through seven weeks, and his 82-yard TD in the third quarter was the longest pass play in the AFC through seven weeks. Chase's 754 receiving yards through Week 7 led the AFC and ranked as the most ever by an NFL player through his first seven career games. Chase is the first Bengals rookie WR ever to win AFC Offensive Player of the Week, and the first Bengals rookie (at any position) to win the award since HB Jeremy Hill in 2014. AFC player of the week awards have been issued since 1984.

- K Evan McPherson, Week 11, AFC Special Teams Player of the Week: McPherson made all four of his FG attempts in the Cincinnati's Week 11 win at Las Vegas, and accounted for 14 of the team's 32 points on the day. Three of his FGs were from 50-plus yards (54, 53, 51), which tied a single-game NFL record.

- HB Joe Mixon, Week 12, AFC Offensive Player of the Week: Mixon helped Cincinnati to a 41-10 win over division-rival Pittsburgh by rushing for a career-high 165 yards, the most-ever by a Bengal against the Steelers. He also scored two TDs, and ran his tally of consecutive games with multiple TDs to four, the longest such streak in team history and the longest active streak in the NFL at the time. It was also his eighth straight game with a TD, which tied the third-longest streak in team history (streak ultimately stretched to nine games, tied for second in team history).

- QB Joe Burrow, Week 16, AFC Offensive Player of the Week: In the Bengals' 41-21 win over Baltimore on Dec. 26, Burrow posted career-highs in passing yardage (525), passing TDs (four), passer rating (143.2) and completions (37; tied career-high). Each of those totals led the AFC in Week 16, and his passing yardage total was a team record and the fourth-highest in NFL history. Burrow's 941 combined passing yards against the Ravens in 2021 are the most in NFL history by a single player against an opponent in one regular season. The previous record was 874 yards, held by both San Francisco 49ers QB Joe Montana (1990 vs. the Atlanta Falcons) and Miami Dolphins QB Dan Marino (1988 vs. the N.Y. Jets).

- K Evan McPherson, December, AFC Special Teams Player of the Month: McPherson made nine of his 11 FGs and eight of his nine PATs in December. Two of his December FGs were from 50-plus, including a Bengals-record 58-yarder on Dec. 19 at Denver. McPherson scored 35 points in December — more than one-third of Cincinnati's 101 total points for the month. McPherson is the first rookie kicker to win a Special Teams Player of the Month award since the Chiefs' Harrison Butker (Oct. and Dec. 2017). He's also the fourth Bengal ever to win the award, joining K Josh Brown (Dec. 2012), K Mike Nugent (Sept. 2010), and KR Brandon Bennett (Nov. 2002). AFC Player of the Month Awards have been issued since 1986.

2021 Bengals captains: Prior to start of the regular season, the Bengals named team captains for 2021 on offense, defense and special teams.

On offense, the captains are second-year QB Joe Burrow, fifth-year HB Joe Mixon and sixth-year WR Tyler Boyd. This is Burrow's second season as a captain, while Mixon and Boyd are first-time captains.

On defense, the captains are fourth-year S Jessie Bates, fourth-year DE Sam Hubbard and sixth-year S Vonn Bell. It's the first captain nod for both Bates and Hubbard, and the second for Bell, who joined the Bengals last season.

The lone captain on special teams is P Kevin Huber, who is the longest-tenured Bengal on the roster at 13 seasons. Huber is 36 years old, while Boyd (27), Bell (27) and Hubbard (26) are the next-oldest captains.

Bengals' Nebraska connections: The Bengals have of course drawn attention this season for their many connections to the LSU Tigers, but look closer and you'll find several significant links to another school — the University of Nebraska.

Bengals QB Joe Burrow's father, Jimmy, was a starting safety at Nebraska under Tom Osborne in the mid-1970s, and then later served as an assistant under Huskers head coach Frank Solich from 2000-02. While on Nebraska's staff, Jimmy coached Joe's older brothers, Jamie (MLB) and Dan (S), who helped Nebraska to a berth in the BCS National Championship Game (Rose Bowl) in the 2001 season. Joe was five at the time.

Solich was fired by Nebraska after the 2003 season, but then caught on in '05 as head coach at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. He promptly hired Jimmy Burrow as defensive coordinator, and the Burrow family moved to Athens, where Joe went on to play in high school and win Ohio's Mr. Football award in 2014.

Solich was replaced at Nebraska by Bill Callahan, who served as Huskers head coach from 2004-07. Bill Callahan is the father of Bengals offensive coordinator Brian Callahan, who at the time of his dad's Nebraska hiring was already a walk-on QB at UCLA. In 2005, Bill Callahan's Huskers got a transfer QB from Butler County (Kan.) Community College by the name of Zac Taylor, who went on to play two seasons with the Huskers and win Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year in his senior season of 2006. Taylor was inducted into the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame in 2017.

Joe Burrow grew up a Nebraska football fan, but says he was not offered a scholarship by the Huskers out of high school or after his transfer from Ohio State in 2018.

Examining Week 1 Bengals since '02: Here's a look at how Cincinnati's opening-week roster this year stacked up with the Bengals' Week 1 rosters of the last 20 seasons (since 2002). All info is according to the NFL's annual kickoff weekend roster info press release, which compares the height, weight, age and experience of all 32 teams in Week 1.

The 2021 Bengals' average height was 6.18 feet, which tied for the fourth-shortest Week 1 roster Cincinnati has had over the last 20 years. The 2002 team (6.11 feet) was the shortest, while the '16 squad (6.22 feet) was the tallest.

This year's Bengals averaged 248.83 pounds, good for the sixth-heaviest opening-week squad Cincinnati has had over the last 20 years. The 2010 team (251.53) was the heaviest, while the '02 squad (244.6) was the lightest.

The players on the Bengals' 2021 opening-week roster averaged 25.68 years old, good for the third-youngest Week 1 roster Cincinnati has had over the last 20 years. The 2018 squad (25.38) was the youngest, while the '06 team (26.57) was the oldest.

This year's Bengals players averaged 3.81 years of NFL experience, the eighth-fewest by a Cincinnati squad over the last 20 years. The 2004 team (3.57) was the least-experienced, while the '15 squad (4.49) was the most-experienced.

The 2021 Bengals had 11 rookie and first-year players on the roster, tied for sixth-most over the last 20 years. The 2017 Bengals (14) had the most rookies and first-year players, while the '13 team (seven) had the fewest.

This year's Bengals had just five players age 30 or older, the second-fewest by a Cincinnati team over the last 20 years. The 2011 Bengals (two) had the fewest players 30 or older, while the '15 team (11) had the most.

The 2021 Bengals had just eight players 200 pounds or lighter, which tied for the third-fewest over the last 17 years (the league's info in this category goes back only to 2005). The 2017 and '19 Bengals (seven) had the fewest, while the '09 team (13) had the most.

This year's Bengals had nine players listed shorter than six feet, which tied for the fifth-fewest in that category over the last 17 years (the league's info in this category goes back only to 2005). The 2008 Bengals (five) had the fewest players under six feet, while the 2004, '10 and '15 teams (all 11) had the most.

Finally, the 2021 Bengals had 14 players who weighed 300 or more pounds, tied with the '08 team for the most in the last 19 years (league info goes back only to 2003). The 2003, '04 and '17 Bengals (all eight) tied for the fewest.

Willie Anderson a HOF finalist: The Pro Football Hall of Fame announced on Dec. 30 that former Bengals OT Willie Anderson was among 15 Modern Era finalists for the class of 2022. Anderson, the 10th overall pick of the Bengals in 1996, was widely considered to be among the top right tackles in football throughout his 12 seasons (1996-2007) in Cincinnati.

"I consider him to be right there as the best right tackle of his generation," Giants Hall-of-Fame pass rusher Michael Strahan told Bengals.com. "When I found out Willie wasn't in the Hall of Fame, I was surprised. Unbeatable."

This is the first appearance on the Hall of Fame ballot for Anderson, who is in his ninth year of eligibility after retiring from football after the 2009 season. Anderson earned three AP All-Pro nods (2004-06), and joined Hall of Famers Dan Dierdorf, Ron Yary and Rayfield Wright as the only right tackles to previously be selected in three straight seasons.

Anderson was dominant as both a run blocker and pass blocker. On the ground, he blocked for HB Corey Dillon's team-record 8061 yards and 28 100-yard games between 1997-2003. He was also a key figure in both of Dillon's record-setting performances — 246 yards for the NFL rookie record in 1997, and 278 yards for the all-time record in 2000. Each of the five best rushing seasons by a Bengal — in terms of yardage — were accomplished with Anderson at RT.

As a pass blocker, he was equally dominant. It's believed that he allowed just one sack in the 15 career games in which he lined up against Hall-of-Fame pass-rushers (and that was to Bruce Smith in the final seconds of a rout in his rookie year in 1996).

"(Anderson) should absolutely be in the discussion," said former Buccaneers and Colts head coach Tony Dungy in an interview with Bengals.com. "Did he dominate his era? Was he one of the guys that you game-planned for? He was a guy who was tough to beat. He was as good as any right tackle in his era. To me, that says he should be in the (finals) discussion."

The Hall of Fame's 49-member selection committee votes for the 2022 class in a Zoom meeting set for mid-January. Up to five finalists can be elected, and all must receive 80 percent of the votes to make the August induction.

Kickoff weekend roster comparisons: Early this season, the NFL released its annual comparison of rosters throughout the league on kickoff weekend. The data includes comparisons of height, weight, experience and age across all 32 NFL rosters on the Week 1 of the season.

Here's a look at the Bengals' opening-week roster data from each of the last five seasons (all info is according to the NFL's annual kickoff weekend roster comparison press release):

CATEGORY	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Avg. height.....	6.18	6.16	6.19	6.19	6.20
Avg. weight.....	248.83	245.29	249.47*	246.96	246.30
Avg. age.....	25.68	25.76	25.94	25.38	25.45
Avg. experience.....	3.81	4.25	4.28	3.70	3.75
Rookie/1st yr. players.....	11	9	9	11	14
Players 30 or older.....	5	8	8	7	7
Players <200 pounds.....	8	8	7	9	7
Players <6 feet tall.....	9	10	10	9	6
Players >300 pounds.....	14	11	12	11	8

* — Asterisk denotes AFC high that year.

Coin-toss roller coaster: The Bengals have been on both ends of rather improbable coin-toss streaks dating back to late last season.

On the good-luck side, the Bengals won 11 straight coin tosses between Game 14 vs. Pittsburgh last season and Game 6 at Detroit this season. That's a span of nine games, but it included two OT contests, and the Bengals won the toss prior to the extra period in both of those. Winning 11 straight coin tosses equates to one in 2048 odds.

Now for the other side of the coin. The Bengals lost five straight coin tosses between Game 7 and Game 11 this season (no OT games), which equates to one in 32 odds. That streak, though, was broken with a coin-toss win in Game 12 vs. the L.A. Chargers.

Three Bengals hail from Queen City: The Bengals have three players — DE Sam Hubbard, P Kevin Huber and G Jackson Carman — who grew up in Greater Cincinnati.

Hubbard, a Moeller High School alum and former Ohio State standout, played his third Bengals season, after joining the team as a third-round draft pick (77th overall) in 2018. He is in his third season as a full-time starting DE, and in July signed a contract extension that keeps him in Cincinnati through 2025.

Huber, an Anderson Township native and alum of McNicholas High School and the University of Cincinnati, was a fifth-round draft choice of the Bengals in 2009. He is the longest-tenured player on the roster and has played in all but two games throughout his career in Cincinnati. He currently stands as the Bengals' career leader in both gross (45.34) and net (40.28) punting average.

Carman, a rookie, is a native of Fairfield, Ohio, a Cincinnati suburb about 35 minutes north of the city. He attended Fairfield High School before playing at Clemson University for three seasons, and then the Bengals selected him in the second round of the 2021 draft.

And although he doesn't count toward the active roster, practice squad P Drue Chrisman is also a native a Greater Cincinnati. Chrisman grew up in Lawrenceburg, Ind. (35 minutes from Paul Brown Stadium) and attended La Salle High School in Cincinnati.

Bengal bites: WR Tyler Boyd's 56-yard TD catch from QB Joe Burrow on Dec. 19 at Denver was the 2000th TD in Bengals history ... Rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase, Cincinnati's first-round pick in April's draft, is the first player in Bengals history to wear uniform No. 1 ... According to the NFL's Next Gen Stats service, which tracks players' speed by using GPS, S Brandon Wilson's kickoff return for a TD at Baltimore in 2019 (22.03 MPH) stands as the fastest speed by a Bengal ball-carrier since NGS' launch in '16; The fastest speed by a Bengals ball-carrier in 2021 came from WR Ja'Marr Chase, who reached 21.74 MPH on a 72-yard TD reception on Jan. 2, 2022 vs. Kansas City ... The longest-tenured player on the roster in 2021 is P Kevin Huber, a 13th-year pro who joined the Bengals as a fifth-round pick in 2009 ... The oldest Bengal on the roster is LS Clark Harris, who is 37 (born July 10, 1984) ... The youngest Bengal is WR Ja'Marr Chase, who is 21 (born March 1, 2000) ... The lightest Bengal on the roster is CB Mike Hilton, who is 184 pounds ... The heaviest Bengal is DT Tyler Shelvin, who is 350 pounds ... The tallest Bengal is OT Isaiah Prince, who is 6-7 ... The shortest Bengal on the roster is CB Mike Hilton, who is 5-9 ... The Bengals have two persons with the name of Michael Thomas on the active roster — No. 80 WR Mike D. Thomas (goes by "Mike"; middle name is Davonta), and No. 31 S Michael J. Thomas (goes by "Michael"; has two middle names, "Jacob James").

POSITION BY POSITION

Quarterbacks: Second-year pro **Joe Burrow** has returned to action this season, after his rookie campaign was limited to just 10 games due to a left knee injury. Burrow this season has completed 366 of 520 pass attempts for 4611 yards (fifth in the NFL), 34 TDs (tied for sixth in the NFL) and 14 INTs. Burrow currently leads the NFL in completion percentage (70.4) and yards per attempt (8.87), and ranks second in passer rating (108.3). In Cincinnati's Game 1 overtime win vs. Minnesota, his first game back since the injury, he posted then-career highs in passer rating (128.8), completion percentage (74.1) and yards per attempt (9.6) — he has since topped all of those numbers. In Game 15 vs. Baltimore, Burrow passed for a Bengals-record 525 yards (fourth-most in NFL history) while setting new career-highs in passer rating (143.2) and TD passes (four). Burrow's combined 941 passing yards against the Ravens this season are the most-ever by a QB against a single opponent during the regular season (see "Burrow's big days vs. Ravens" on page 6). Burrow followed his performance against Baltimore with 426 passing yards and another four TDs in Cincinnati's division-clinching win over Kansas City in Week 17. Burrow's 971 combined passing yards in Weeks 16-17 are the second-most ever by a QB in a two-game span (Dak Prescott, 974 yards in 2020). Burrow has passed for 300 or more

yards in six games this season, and 11 for his career. Burrow has three 400-plus games this season, and four for his career. Burrow has a passer rating of 100 or better in 10 games this season, and 13 for his career. Burrow was medically cleared in time to take the first snap of training camp on July 28, and in Game 1 this season he followed through on a vow he made shortly after his injury that he would start the 2021 regular-season opener. Listed second on the depth chart is veteran **Brandon Allen**, who started in Burrow's absence late last season. Allen has played in five games this season, after starting six late last year following Burrow's injury. Allen joined the Bengals in August of 2020, and began that season on the practice squad as the team's "quarantine QB" that was kept away from the rest of the QBs at practice/meetings in case they could not play due to COVID-19.

Running backs: Leading the Bengals' running back room is fifth-year pro **Joe Mixon**, who has returned to action this season after his 2020 campaign was limited to just six games due to a right foot injury. Mixon is in the midst of his best pro season yet, and has rushed for 1205 yards (second in NFL) and 13 TDs (fourth in NFL) on 292 carries (third in NFL). Mixon also has caught 42 passes for 314 yards and three TDs. Mixon ended a nine-game TD streak (see "Mixon's

TD streak ends at nine" on page 9) in Game 13 vs San Francisco, just one game short of tying the franchise record of 10 (WR Carl Pickens, 1994-95). Mixon's 16 total TDs this season are tied for second-most ever by a Bengal, and stand just one shy of Pickens' team-record 17, set in 1995 (see "Mixon nearing Bengals TD record" on page 9). Mixon's 13 rushing TDs are also just two shy of Ickey Woods' team-record 15, set in 1988 (see "Mixon shuffling toward Ickey's record" on page 9). Mixon has three 100-yard rushing games this season and 13 for his career. Mixon also has six games with at least 100 yards from scrimmage this season, and 22 for his career. Mixon has eclipsed 1000 rushing yards this season for the third time in his career; he also hit the mark in both 2018 and '19, before his foot injury last season prevented him from making it three seasons in a row. Mixon signed a contract extension in 2020 that keeps him in Cincinnati through the '24 season. Fifth-year pro **Samaje Perine**, who also shared a backfield with Mixon in college at Oklahoma, is in his third Bengals season after beginning his career with Washington. This season, Perine has 55 carries for 246 yards and one TD, and 27 catches for 196 yards and one TD. At 5-11, 240 pounds, Perine brings size and a physical rushing style, and he's also used extensively on special teams. The third running back on Cincinnati's active roster is **Chris Evans**, a rookie sixth-round pick out of the University of Michigan. Evans is known for his receiving ability out of the backfield, and this season he has 11 catches for 127 yards and a TD, along with 10 carries for 42 yards. Bengals coaches say they first took notice of Evans' route-running and hands during receiving drills at 2021 Senior Bowl practices. **Trayveon Williams**, a sixth-round pick by Cincinnati in the 2019 draft, was singled from the practice squad to the active roster on Dec. 4. Williams has played in four games this season, including two earlier in the year as a standard elevation from the practice squad.

Wide receivers: The newest addition to the Bengals' offense this season is first-round draft pick **Ja'Marr Chase**, who brings previous experience with Joe Burrow from their time together in college at LSU. Chase has been one of Cincinnati's top performers so far this season, he has team-highs with 79 catches for 1429 receiving yards and 13 receiving TDs. All three of those totals are Bengals rookie records (see "Chase gathers Bengals rookie records" on page 7), and his receiving yardage total is the second-most ever by a rookie (see "Chase tops LSU teammate Jefferson" on page 8) and second-most in team history behind Chad Johnson (1440). Chase leads all NFL rookies this season in receiving yards (fourth leaguewide) and receiving TDs (second leaguewide). Chase has provided Cincinnati's offense with a downfield threat and is fourth leaguewide in catches of 40 or more yards (eight). In Game 1 vs. Minnesota, his NFL debut, Chase became the youngest Bengal (21 years, 195 days) ever to post 100 receiving yards, the third-youngest Bengal ever to score a TD, and his 50-yard TD catch at the end of the first half was the longest TD of any kind by a Bengals rookie in their NFL debut. In Game 7 at Baltimore, Chase posted what at the time was a Bengals rookie-record 201 receiving yards and became the second-youngest player in NFL history to record at least 200 receiving yards in a single game. Chase then topped that performance in Game 16 vs. Kansas City, with 266 receiving yards—the most in team history and most-ever by a rookie (see "Uno shatters records vs. Chiefs" on page 8). With Burrow as his QB in 2019 at LSU, Chase set single-season SEC records for receiving yards (1780) and TDs (20), and won the prestigious Biletnikoff Award as college football's top receiver. Chase was assigned uniform No. 1, and is the first player in Bengals history to wear that number. Considered one of the top slot receivers in football, 27-year-old **Tyler Boyd** is the veteran among a young group of Bengals receivers. So far this season, Boyd has 67 catches for 828 yards and five TDs. Boyd led the team in catches the last three seasons (2018-20), and stands as one of six Bengals ever to top 1000 receiving yards in consecutive seasons ('18-19). Boyd has one 100-yard game this season (Sept. 30 vs. Jacksonville) and 10 for his career. Boyd also has five career games with at least 10 catches. Boyd, a 2016 second-round pick, signed a contract extension in 2019 that keeps him in Cincinnati through the '23 season. Returning this season after a terrific rookie year is second-year pro **Tee Higgins**, a second-round pick of the Bengals in 2020. Higgins this season has 74 catches for 1091 yards and six TDs, despite missing Games 3-4 (shoulder). Higgins has four 100-yard receiving games this season, and six for his career. In Game 15 vs Baltimore, Higgins' posted career bests in receptions (12) and receiving yards (194). Higgins brings considerable size (6-4, 216) to the receiving corps, and coaches have credited him for transforming his body over the offseason to get stronger. Sixth-year pro **Mike D. Thomas** (not to be confused with Bengals S Michael J. Thomas) adds value as a speedy rotational receiver, as well as on special teams. Thomas joined the Bengals in 2020 but spent his first four NFL seasons with the L.A. Rams, where in '17 his assistant WRs coach was Zac Taylor. Third-year pro **Stanley Morgan**,

a 2019 college free agent signee of the Bengals, also adds depth at receiver and excels particularly as a blocker. Morgan also serves as one of Cincinnati's primary gunners on special teams, and has even seen action at KOR. Rounding out the receivers room is first-year pro Trenton Irwin, who was placed on Reserve/COVID-19 on Dec. 31 ahead of Game 17 vs. Kansas City.

Tight ends: **C.J. Uzomah**, a 2015 fifth-round pick of the Bengals, has returned to action this year after suffering a season-ending right Achilles injury in the second game of 2020. Uzomah this season is in the midst of a career year, setting new highs in catches (49), receiving yards (493) and TDs (five) and also has been a key figure in some of Cincinnati's most important non-scoring plays of the year. In Cincinnati's win over Minnesota in the season-opener, his first game back since the injury, Uzomah caught a 32-yard pass on fourth-and-inches in OT to help set up a game-winning FG as time expired three plays later. And in Game 4 vs. Jacksonville, Uzomah caught a career-high two TDs (since matched), and then with the game tied late, he took a jailbreak screen 25 yards deep into Jaguars territory to help set up the game-winning FG. In Game 7 at Baltimore, Uzomah had 91 yards receiving and caught TDs of 55 and 32 yards. **Drew Sample**, a 2019 second-round pick of the Bengals, is known as complete tight end with both receiving and blocking ability. Bengals coaches have called him one of the best blocking TEs in the league. After Uzomah's injury last season, Sample shouldered a heavier work load that saw him start 13 games, play more than 80 percent of the team's offensive snaps, and catch 40 passes and a TD. Also considered a complete TE prospect is **Mitchell Wilcox**, a 2020 college free agent signee of the Bengals. Wilcox left college at USF in 2019 with every single-season and career receiving record for a TE, and also helped block for three different 1000-yard rushers.

Offensive linemen: Now in his second season as Cincinnati's starting LOT is 2019 first-round pick **Jonah Williams**, who has started every game this season. Williams missed his entire rookie season due to a shoulder injury, and then was limited by a right knee injury to 10 games in 2020. Cincinnati's starting C since 2019 has been **Trey Hopkins**, who originally was a college free agent signee of the Bengals in '14. Hopkins battled injuries and bounced between the practice squad and roster for his first three seasons, before settling into a regular role and gaining starting experience at all three interior OL spots. Hopkins suffered a torn left ACL in last season's finale, but he was medically cleared in time to participate in the first practice of training camp on July 28. Hopkins has started all but one game this year (Game 12 vs. L.A. Chargers; ankle). Cincinnati's starter at LG is seventh-year pro **Quinton Spain**, who stands at a massive 6-4, 330 pounds. Undrafted out of college in 2015, Spain began his career with the Titans and Bills before joining the Bengals on waivers mid-season in 2020. Spain has remained at LG this year, but last season after joining Cincinnati he played in nine games (eight starts) and made starts at RG, LG and even ROT when the line was dealing with injuries and COVID-19 issues. Spain left Game 16 vs Kansas City with an ankle injury, and Zac Taylor said he is doubtful to play this Sunday at Cleveland. **Hakeem Adeniji**, a sixth-round pick of the Bengals in 2020, took over mid-season as the starter at RG and has earned praise from coaches for his consistent play. Adeniji spent the first eight games of the season on Reserve/Non-Football Injury (pectoral), but jumped into the starting lineup immediately upon returning in Game 9 vs. Cleveland. Adeniji was drafted as an OT, and played OT in college and as a rookie, so this season has been his first-ever at G. At ROT is **Isaiah Prince**, the tallest Bengal on the roster (6-7). Prince, who returned to action this season after opting out of the '20 season due to COVID-19, began the season as a reserve before taking over the starting ROT position after Riley Reiff suffered an ankle injury (which Zac Taylor says will likely end his season). Prince originally was a sixth-round draft pick of the Dolphins in 2019, and then joined the Bengals on waivers later that year. Rookie G **Jackson Carman**, Cincinnati's second-round pick in April's draft, started five games (Games 3-5, 7-8) at RG earlier this season, but has since moved to a reserve role. Jackson has since seen action as an injury replacement, and took over for the injured Spain in Game 16 vs. Kansas City. Another key reserve along the interior of the line is rookie C **Trey Hill**, who is touted as a stout blocker with good movement skills. Hill has two starts this season as an injury replacement — at RG in Game 6 at Detroit and at C in Game 12 vs. L.A. Chargers. Adding depth at OT is third-year pro **Fred Johnson**, who stands at an imposing 6-6, 325 pounds. Johnson has starts at both OT and G during his now three-year career in Cincinnati, but he has worked mostly at OT this season and has filled in at ROT as an injury replacement. Johnson primarily has been a reserve at OT to this point in his career, but the Bengals are a combined 5-1 throughout his career when he has filled in as a starter at either OT spot.

Defensive linemen: Cincinnati native and Archbishop Moeller graduate **Sam Hubbard** is in his fourth Bengals season, including his third as a full-time starter, and is considered the leader of the defensive line. A third-round

draft pick of the Bengals in 2018, Hubbard has 7.5 sacks (second on team) this season, and his 24 career sacks are second-most among players from his draft class (including college free agents). Hubbard is also considered among the best DEs in the NFL against the run. Hubbard signed a contract extension in July that keeps him in Cincinnati through the 2025 season. At the LDE is **Trey Hendrickson**, one of Cincinnati's most high-profile additions from free agency in March. Hendrickson this season has a team-high 14 sacks, fifth in the NFL and second-most in team history. Hendrickson's 14 sacks also are more than double last season's team lead of 5.5. Hendrickson recorded at least a half sack in 11 straight games this season (Games 5-15), the longest such streak in Bengals history, the longest streak in the NFL in 2021, and tied for the second-longest in NFL history (see "Trey's sack streak ends at 11" on page 10). Hendrickson spent 2017-20 with New Orleans, and last year his 13.5 sacks tied for the NFC lead and tied for second in the NFL. Hendrickson's 27.5 sacks since the beginning of 2020 are second-most leaguewide. Last year's high-profile addition in free agency was DT **D.J. Reader**, a 6-3, 347-pound nose tackle who excels against the run. Reader was limited to just five games last season due to a left quad injury, but he returned healthy this year and has two sacks. Reader's only missed action this year came in Game 15 vs. Baltimore, when he was on Reserve/COVID-19. Lining up next to Reader is DT **Larry Ogunjobi**, who signed a one-year deal with Cincinnati in March. Ogunjobi has impressed this season, with seven sacks and five additional tackles for losses. Ogunjobi spent his first four NFL seasons with Cleveland, where he played NT, however in Cincinnati he is playing three-technique DT, which he has called his "natural position." Also seeing regular action at three-technique DT is **B.J. Hill**, who was acquired in an Aug. 30 trade with the N.Y. Giants. Hill has 5.5 sacks this season, which includes a two-sack performance in the season-opener less than two weeks after joining the Bengals. Hill stands 6-3, 311 pounds, and has played in every possible game over his now four-year career. Back in the lineup this season is 6-3, 345-pound DT **Josh Tupou**, who opted out of last season due to COVID-19. Tupou was a college free agent signee of the Bengals in 2017, and has worked his way into the regular defensive rotation as a reliable run-stuffer. DE **Khalid Kareem**, a Bengals fifth-round pick in 2020, spent the first seven games this season on Reserve/Injured (shoulder) before returning to action and sliding into a rotational DE role. Kareem made one of the top defensive plays of the year in Game 14 at Denver, when he crashed into the backfield and wrestled the ball away from Broncos QB Drew Lock at the Bengals' nine-yard line, as the Broncos were nearing what would've been a go-ahead TD in the fourth quarter. In the fourth round of April's draft, the Bengals selected Tulane DE **Cam Sample**, who has seen rotational action so far and has 1.5 sacks. Sample was rated the most valuable defensive lineman in college football last season by Pro Football Focus, and Bengals coaches say that he caught their eye during the 2021 Senior Bowl, where he earned Defensive MVP honors. Sample, though, has battled a hamstring injury in recent weeks, and his status for this Sunday's game at Cleveland is unknown. Later in the fourth round, the Bengals selected 6-2, 350-pound DT **Tyler Shelvin**, a space-eater with a rare blend of strength and athleticism. Shelvin was a key player on LSU's defense during their national championship run in 2019, but he opted out of the '20 college season due to COVID-19. With veterans Reader and Tupou in the top two NT spots on the depth chart, Shelvin has played in just two games this season. Adding depth at DE is second-year pro **Wyatt Ray**, who was acquired on waivers from Tennessee on Sept. 1. Ray originally was a college free agent signee of the Cleveland Browns in 2019, and has also spent time with Houston, Buffalo, the N.Y. Jets and Tennessee.

Linebackers: Among Cincinnati's most promising young defenders is second-year pro **Logan Wilson**, who is wearing the green dot this year as the defense's communicator. Wilson, who missed Games 12-15 with a right shoulder injury (suffered Dec. 5 vs. the L.A. Chargers) has a team-high four INTs this season, which is tied for the most among all NFL linebackers. Wilson also has been strong against the run, and despite his missed time still leads the team in tackles (98). The last Bengals LB with three or more INTs in a season was Odell Thurman (five) in 2005. Wilson was Cincinnati's third-round draft pick in 2020. **Germaine Pratt**, Cincinnati's third-round pick in 2019, has grown into a key contributor on defense after being considered a raw prospect early in his pro career. Pratt switched from S to LB late in his college career, but earned a starting LB spot with the Bengals midway through his rookie season in 2019. Pratt this season has 82 tackles, including five for losses and a half sack, along with an INT, two PDs, two FFs and two FRs. Pratt, though, missed Game 16 vs. Kansas City while on Reserve/COVID-19. In Cincinnati's season-opening win vs. Minnesota, Pratt made the defensive play of the game late in overtime when he forced and recovered a fumble by Vikings RB Dalvin Cook; the play thwarted

Minnesota's potential game-winning drive, which had reached the Bengals' 38-yard line, and set up a Cincinnati drive that ended with a game-winning FG as time expired in OT. Pratt, who has drawn particular praise from coaches this season for his grasp of the defense, took over the "green dot" on defense while Wilson has been out injured. Pratt had the most productive game of his career in Game 14 at Denver, when he recorded a career-high 15 tackles (most by a Bengal since 2018) and a half sack. Second-year pro **Markus Bailey**, a 2020 seventh-round pick of the Bengals, was a rotational player when healthy earlier in the season, but he recently has taken on an increased role due to injury issues at LB. Bailey, who has earned the nickname "The Waterboy" from teammates for his all-out playing style, has seen more time on defense this year after gradually working his way back from a serious college knee injury during his rookie season. To help with their injury and COVID-19 issues, the Bengals added to their LB room over their bye (Week 10) by acquiring second-year pro **Clay Johnston** on waivers from Carolina. The 6-1, 232-pound Johnston was a seventh-round pick of the Rams in 2020, and has been used mainly on special teams by the Bengals. Another addition due to injuries at LB is first-year pro **Keandre Jones**, who was signed to the roster on Dec. 21. Jones opened the season on Cincinnati's practice squad, played in two games as a standard elevation, and then was signed to the active roster prior to Cincinnati's Week 16 game vs. Baltimore. Another recent addition to the LB room is **Austin Calitro**, who was signed from the practice squad to the active roster on Dec. 27. Calitro, a fourth-year player out of Villanova, played in three games for the Bengals this season as a practice squad elevation before being signed to the roster.

Defensive backs: S **Jessie Bates III**, a fourth-year pro and 2018 Bengals second-round pick, is a team captain and is considered one of the core leaders of the team. Bates this season has 88 tackles (tied for third on team), an INT (65-yard return) and a FR (46-yard return). Bates earned a starting S spot in training camp as a rookie and started the first 51 games of his career — that's three seasons plus three games — until a neck injury broke the streak and held him out of Cincinnati's Sept. 30 matchup vs. Jacksonville. Bates, though, returned to the lineup the following week and hasn't missed a game since. Bates topped 100 tackles in each of his first three seasons (2018-20). Next to Bates at S is sixth-year pro **Vonn Bell**, who joined the Bengals in 2020 after spending his first four years with New Orleans. Bell, a team captain, ranks second on the team with 97 tackles, including five for losses and a half sack. Bell also has an INT, seven PDs, three FFs and a FR. Bell has played a combined 97.4 percent of the team's defensive snaps in his two years in Cincinnati, and in 2020 he led the team in both tackles (114) and FFs (three). Depth at CB was a primary focus for the Bengals in 2020 free agency, as the team brought in an influx of reinforcements at the position. The most high-profile of those additions is **Chidobe Awuzie**, a former second-round pick of the Cowboys who spent his first four seasons in Dallas. Awuzie, who signed as an unrestricted free agent and is under contract through the 2023 season, has impressed with his coverage and tackling ability this season, and has 64 tackles, 14 PDs and two INTs. Awuzie missed Game 4 vs. Jacksonville due to a groin injury, battled a foot injury midway through the season (though it did not cause him to miss a start), and was on Reserve/COVID-19 for Game 14 at Denver. The second free agency addition was **Mike Hilton**, who is widely considered among the top slot CBs in the NFL. Hilton, who is under contract through the 2024 season, is among the smallest players on the roster at 5-9, 184 pounds, but he is known as a sure tackler and outstanding blitzier. Hilton had a 24-yard pick-six in Game 11 vs. Pittsburgh, his former team, and he said it was first-career pick-six at any level dating back to pee-wee football. Another veteran CB addition is **Eli Apple**, a former first-round pick of the Giants. Apple brings familiarity with Bell, whom he played alongside in college at Ohio State, as well as with defensive coordinator Lou Anarumo, who was his position coach with the Giants in 2018. Injuries in the Bengals' defensive backfield have thrust Apple into a starting role, so he has started all but one game this season and has two INTs. One of the headliners of the 2020 free agency class was CB **Trae Waynes**, who has struggled with injuries throughout his two Bengals seasons. Waynes missed the entire 2020 season with a pectoral injury suffered early in training camp, and this season spent eight games on Reserve/Injured with a hamstring injury before returning in Game 14 at Denver. Waynes missed Game 16 vs. Kansas City while on Reserve/COVID-19, and his status for this Sunday's game at Cleveland is unknown. The most physically imposing member of the secondary is 6-3, 203-pound CB **Tre Flowers**, who joined Cincinnati on waivers from Seattle in October. Flowers has filled a rotational role for the Bengals, and mostly has been used to cover TEs in passing situations. Another mid-season addition in the mix is CB **Vernon Hargreaves III**, whom the Bengals acquired on waivers from Houston on Nov. 4. Hargreaves was a first-round pick of the Buccaneers in 2016, and adds depth and experience in the secondary. Another mid-season

acquisition is veteran S **Michael J. Thomas** (not to be confused with WR Mike D. Thomas), who originally was a college free agent signee of the 49ers back in 2012, and has 104 games of NFL experience with five teams (including Cincinnati). Thomas is known for his impact on special teams, and has either led or finished second on his team in special teams tackles in six of the last seven seasons (outlier was in injury shortened 2020 season). CB **Jalen Davis** also fills a rotational role on defense this season, and has been a valuable special teams contributor. The 5-10, 185-pound Davis joined the Bengals in mid-2020 and was thrust into action quickly while the team dealt with a wave of injuries and COVID-19 issues.

Special teams: Cincinnati native and the longest-tenured player on the roster **Kevin Huber** is handling the Bengals' punting duties for the 13th consecutive season. Huber, a graduate of Archbishop McNicholas High School and the University of Cincinnati, originally was a fifth-round pick of his hometown Bengals in 2009. So far this season, Huber is averaging 46.3 gross yards on punts, and 41.3 net yards. Huber is considered the top punter in team history, and stands as the Bengals' career leader in every significant punting category, including punts (973), punting yards (44,115), gross average (45.34), net average (40.28) and inside-20 punts (336). Huber was a Pro Bowl selection in 2014, but he has maintained a high level of play and last season posted career-highs in both gross (47.2) and net (42.8) average. Huber has played in 206 career games, tied for second-most in team history, along with Reggie Williams. If he plays this Sunday at Cleveland, Huber will tie the team's record-holder, Ken Riley (207). The oldest Bengal on the roster is LS **Clark Harris** (37 years old), who joined the Bengals early in 2009 and has snapped to Huber nearly his entire career. Harris has been a paragon of reliability for Cincinnati, and has never had

an unplayable snap in 1839 career attempts (970 punts, 867 placekicks) as a Bengal. Harris, a Pro Bowler in 2017, has played in 200 career games as a Bengal, third most in franchise history. Among the youngest players on the roster is 21-year-old rookie K **Evan McPherson**, whom the Bengals selected in the fifth round of April's draft. McPherson has already made a significant impact, and has three game-winning "walk-off" FGs with no time remaining. The first came in overtime of Game 1 vs. Minnesota — his NFL debut — when he nailed a 33-yarder; the second was in Game 4 vs. Jacksonville on Thursday Night Football, and came from 35 yards out as time expired in regulation. And then in Game 16 vs Kansas City, McPherson nailed a 20-yard field goal as time expired in regulation to win the game, clinch the AFC North division title and secure a playoff berth for the first time since 2015. McPherson said that entering this season, he had never kicked a game-winning FG at any level of football. McPherson has been particularly effective from long range, netting nine field goals of at least 50 yards, the most-ever by a Bengal in a season, the most in the NFL this season and one shy of the NFL's single-season record (see "McPherson from deep" on page 11). In Cincinnati's Game 10 win at Las Vegas, McPherson made four FGs, including an NFL-record tying three from 50-plus yards (54, 53, 51). And then in Game 14 at Denver, he made a 58 yard field goal — the longest in Bengals history. So far, McPherson has made 46 of 48 PATs and 28 of 33 FGs this season. The Bengals used a rotation of players at punt returner for much of the season, but in recent weeks WR Trent Taylor (practice squad) has taken over full-time duties. The Bengals also used a rotation of players at KOR after S Brandon Wilson suffered a season-ending injury in November, however Taylor has settled into the primary role there as well. The Bengals also feature a number of experienced players in kick and punt coverage, including HB **Samaje Perine**, S **Michael J. Thomas**, WR **Stanley Morgan** and WR **Mike D. Thomas**.

IMPORTANT DATES

2022	
Jan. 8	— A claiming period of 24 hours shall be in effect for any waivers requested during the period from the Saturday of the final regular season weekend through the conclusion of the final postseason game, except for waiver requests on Friday and Saturday of each week, which shall expire at 4 p.m. Eastern, on the following Monday. Assignment of player contracts will be deferred until the first business day after the Pro Bowl or the Super Bowl, whichever occurs later. Terminations of player contracts will occur at the expiration of the claiming period. A club that is participating in the playoffs may sign players whose contracts have been terminated to its Active/Inactive List, Practice Squad, or Reserve/Future List. A club whose playing season has concluded may sign such players to its Reserve/Future List only.
Jan. 8-12	— College Gridiron Showcase (Farrington Field, Fort Worth, Texas).
Jan. 10	— Clubs may begin signing free agent players for the 2022 season.
Jan. 10	— NCAA National Championship Game, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Ind.
Jan. 10	— Earliest permissible date for clubs to renegotiate or extend the Rookie Contract of a Drafted Rookie who was selected in any round of the 2019 College Draft or any Undrafted Rookie who signed in 2020. Any permissible renegotiated or extended Player Contract will not be considered a Rookie Contract, and will not be subject to the rules that limit Rookie Contracts.
Jan. 10	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, clubs must provide the Management Council with written notice, signed by the individual club's owner, indicating the amount, if any, of the club's 2021 League Year Salary Cap Room to be credited to the club's 2022 Team Salary.
Jan. 10-15	— Hula Bowl (Bounce House, Orlando, Fla.).
Jan. 15-17	— Wild Card Playoff Games.
Jan. 17	— Deadline for college players who are underclassmen to apply for Special Eligibility. A list of underclassmen who have been approved for entry into the 2022 College Draft will be sent to clubs on Jan. 21.
Jan. 22-23	— Divisional Playoff Games.
Jan. 24-29	— NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif.
Jan. 28-29	— HBCU Combine, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Ala.
Jan. 28-Feb. 3	— East-West Shrine Bowl, Allegiant Stadium, Las Vegas, Nev.
Jan. 30	— AFC and NFC Championship Games.
Jan. 31	— Deadline for any player claiming the Extended Injury Protection Benefit for the 2022 season to notify his former Club in writing.
Jan. 31-Feb. 5	— Senior Bowl, Hancock Whitney Stadium, Mobile, Ala.
Feb. 3	— Deadline for non-playoff Clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified 2022 Basic Injury Protection Benefit Candidates to the Management Council.
Feb. 6	— NFL Pro Bowl, Allegiant Stadium, Las Vegas, Nev.
Feb. 8	— Beginning at 12:01 p.m. Eastern, NFL clubs may begin to sign players whose 2021 CFL contracts have expired. Players under contract to a CFL club for the 2022 season or who have an option for the 2022 season are not eligible to be signed.
Feb. 9-12	— Cajun All-Star Game (Provost Umphrey Stadium, Beaumont, Texas).
Feb. 13	— Super Bowl LVI, SoFi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif.
Feb. 14	— Waiver system begins for 2022. A 24-hour claiming period will be in effect through the Friday prior to the last regular season game (waiver requests made on Friday and Saturday of each week will expire at 4 p.m. Eastern, on the following Monday.) Players with at least four previous pension-credited seasons whom a club desires to terminate are not subject to the waiver system until after the trading deadline.
Feb. 14	— Beginning the first business day after the Super Bowl through the opening of the first training camp for Rookies in 2022, clubs must report all tryouts and visits to the League office; however, such transactions will not be reported to other clubs.
Feb. 17	— Deadline for playoff Clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician-Certified 2022 Basic Injury Protection Benefit Candidates to the Management Council.
Feb. 19	— HBCU Legacy Bowl, Yulman Stadium, New Orleans, La.
Feb. 22	— Beginning this date through 4 p.m. Eastern on March 8 clubs may designate Franchise or Transition Players.
March 1-7	— NFL Scouting Combine, Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, Ind.
March 8	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, deadline for clubs to designate Franchise or Transition Players.
March 8	— College Pro Days Begin. Workouts of a school's Pro Day-eligible players with players outside of the scheduled Pro

(Important dates, continued)

	Day activities are prohibited. Private dinners, meetings, interviews are permitted.			the further requirements of CBA Article 13, Section 6(b)(ii)(1).
March 8- April 20	— Draft-Eligible Facility Visits Begin. Clubs permitted 30 non-local players for physical exams/visits; no on-field workouts.	March 24	—	Deadline for all Clubs to submit their individual lists of Physician- Certified Candidates for the 2022 Extended Injury Protection Benefit.
March 8- April 20	— Video or telephone interviews with draft-eligible players begin. Three video or telephone interviews per player; no longer than one hour in length.	(Late March) March 27-30	—	International Player Pathway Pro Day (TBD).
March 10	— Deadline for all clubs to conduct physical examinations pursuant to CBA Article 45, Section 7(a) for players claiming the Extended Injury Protection Benefit for the 2022 season.	March 31	—	Annual League Meeting, The Breakers, Palm Beach, Fla.
March 14-16	— During the period beginning at noon Eastern, on March 14 and ending at 3:59:59 p.m. Eastern, on March 16, clubs are permitted to contact, and enter into contract negotiations with, the certified agents of players who will become Unrestricted Free Agents upon the expiration of their 2021 Player Contracts at 4 p.m. Eastern, on March 16. During the above two-day negotiating period, a prospective UFA who is not represented by an NFLPA Certified Contract Advisor is permitted to communicate directly with a new club's front office officials (excluding the Head Coach and other members of the club's coaching staff) regarding contract negotiations. No prospective Unrestricted Free Agent is permitted to execute a contract with a new club until 4 p.m. Eastern, on March 16.	April 4	—	Deadline for clubs to meet 2022 funding requirements for guaranteed or deferred compensation in NFL Player Contracts and contracts for non-player Club employees.
March 16	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, clubs must exercise options for 2022 on all players who have option clauses in their 2021 contracts.	April 18	—	Clubs that hired a new Head Coach after the end of the 2021 regular season may begin offseason workout programs.
March 16	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, clubs must submit Qualifying Offers to their Restricted Free Agents with expiring contracts to retain a Right of First Refusal/Compensation.	April 20	—	Clubs with returning Head Coaches may begin offseason workout programs.
March 16	— Prior to 4 p.m. Eastern, clubs must submit a Minimum Salary Tender to retain exclusive negotiating rights to their players with expiring 2021 contracts who have fewer than three Accrued Seasons of free agency credit.	April 22	—	Deadline to bring draft-eligible players to their facilities for a physical examination.
March 16	— Top 51 Rule is in effect. All clubs must be under the 2022 Salary Cap prior to 4 p.m. Eastern.	April 27	—	Deadline for Restricted Free Agents to sign Offer Sheets.
March 16	— All 2021 player contracts will expire at 4 p.m. Eastern.	April 27	—	Deadline for Prior Club to exercise Right of First Refusal to Restricted Free Agents.
March 16	— The 2022 League Year and Free Agency period begin at 4 p.m. Eastern. The first day of the 2022 League Year will end at 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern, on March 16. Clubs will receive a Personnel Notice that will include all transactions submitted to the League office during the period between 4 p.m. Eastern, and 11:59:59 p.m. Eastern, on March 16.	April 27	—	Deadline to time, test, and interview draft-eligible players.
March 16	— Trading period for 2022 begins at 4 p.m. Eastern, after expiration of all 2021 contracts.	April 28-30	—	Annual Player Selection Meeting, Las Vegas, Nev..
March 16	— Commencing at 4 p.m. Eastern, Clubs may designate up to two Player Contracts that, if terminated on or prior to June 1, 2022 and if not renegotiated after Jan. 9, 2022, shall be treated as if terminated on June 2, subject to	May 2	—	Deadline for Prior Club to send "UFA Tender" to its unsigned Unrestricted Free Agents. If the player has not signed a Player Contract with a Club by July 22 or the first scheduled day of the first NFL training camp, whichever is later, he may negotiate or sign a Player Contract from that date until the Tuesday following the 10th weekend of the regular season, at 4 p.m. Eastern, only with his Prior Club.
		May 2	—	Deadline for Clubs to exercise Fifth-Year Option for players selected in the first round of the 2019 Draft.
		May 6-9 or May 13-16	—	Clubs may elect to hold their one three-day post-Draft rookie mini-camp from Friday-Sunday or Saturday-Monday.
		May 16	—	Rookie Football Development Programs begin.
		May 19-22 (Tentative)	—	NFLPA Rookie Premiere. Invited Rookies (typically, first and/or second-round selections) must be permitted by their clubs to attend. Such players are unavailable for offseason workouts, OTA days, and minicamps during this period.
		May 23-25	—	Spring League Meeting, TBD.
		June 1	—	Deadline for Prior Club to send "June 1 Tender" to its unsigned Restricted Free Agents who received a Qualifying Offer for a Right of First Refusal Only in order for such player to be subject to the CBA's "June 15 Tender" provision.
		June 2	—	For any player removed from the Club's roster or whose contract is assigned via waivers or trade on or after June 2, any unamortized Signing Bonus amounts for future years will be included fully in Team Salary at the start of the 2022 League Year.
		June 15	—	Deadline for club to withdraw Qualifying Offer to Restricted Free Agents and still retain exclusive negotiating rights by substituting "June 15 Tender" of one-year contract at 110 percent of the player's prior-year Paragraph 5 Salary (with all other terms of his prior-year contract carried forward unchanged).
		Late June	—	Rookie Readiness Program to be held at individual clubs.

2021 GAME SUMMARIES

WEEK 1, GAME 1

Cincinnati Bengals 27, Minnesota Vikings 24 (OT) Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

Bengals QB Joe Burrow, who was less than 10 months removed from a left knee injury that ended his rookie season, showed few signs of rust, posting career-highs in passer rating (128.8), completion percentage (74.1) and yards per attempt (9.67). HB Joe Mixon, whose 2020 season also ended early due to injury, rushed for 127 yards and a TD on 29 carries. Rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase impressed in his NFL debut with five catches for 101 yards, including a 50-yard TD. Minnesota closed a 14-point second-half deficit and sent the game to OT with a 53-yard FG at the end of regulation. Late in OT, LB Germaine Pratt forced and recovered a fumble by Vikings RB Dalvin Cook, setting up a seven-play, 46-yard drive that was highlighted by a 32-yard pass from Burrow to TE C.J. Uzomah on fourth-and-inches. Rookie K Evan McPherson, making his NFL debut, then nailed a 33-yard FG as time expired to give Cincinnati the win. The game was the first in NFL history with a game-tying FG with no time left in regulation, and a game-winning FG with no time left in OT. Cincinnati moved to 1-0, and Minnesota dropped to 0-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Minnesota.....	0	7	7	10	0	24
Cincinnati.....	0	14	7	3	3	27

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Minn. — A.Thielen 5 pass from K.Cousins (G.Joseph kick).....	2-6:39
Cin. — T.Higgins 2 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick).....	2-1:47
Cin. — J.Chase 50 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick).....	2-0:35
Cin. — J.Mixon 2 run (E.McPherson kick).....	3-9:15
Minn. — A.Thielen 24 pass from K.Cousins (G.Joseph kick).....	3-2:24
Cin. — E.McPherson 53 field goal.....	4-14:13
Minn. — D.Cook 1 run (G.Joseph kick).....	4-9:23
Minn. — G.Joseph 53 field goal.....	4-0:00
Cin. — E.McPherson 33 field goal.....	5-0:00

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 56,525. **Time:** 3:38.

TEAM STATISTICS	MINN.	CIN.
First downs.....	24	20
Third down conversions-attempts.....	6-16	3-14
Total net yards.....	403	366
Net yards rushing.....	67	149
Net yards passing.....	336	217
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	50-37-0	27-20-0
Sacks against-yards lost.....	3-26	5-44
Punts-average.....	8-50.3	7-47.4
Punt returns-yards.....	1-12	5-53
Kickoff returns-yards.....	1-21	1-11
Penalties-yards.....	12-116	3-15
Fumbles-lost.....	1-1	0-0
Time of possession.....	35:09	34:51

RUSHING

MINN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
D.Cook	20	61	17	1	J.Mixon	29	127	19	1
A.Abdullah	1	4	4	0	S.Perine	5	22	13	0
A.Mattison	1	2	2	0	J.Burrow	1	2	2	0
					J.Chase	1	-2	-2	0
TOTALS	22	67	17	1	TOTALS	36	149	19	1

PASSING

MINN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
K.Cousins	49	36	351	2-0	J.Burrow	27	20	261	2-0
J.Jefferson	1	1	11	0-0					
TOTALS	50	37	362	2-0	TOTALS	27	20	261	2-0

RECEIVING

MINN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
A.Thielen	9	92	24t	2	J.Chase	5	101	50t	1
K.Osborn	7	76	25	0	T.Higgins	4	58	28	1
D.Cook	6	43	9	0	J.Mixon	4	23	12	0
J.Jefferson	5	71	34	0	T.Boyd	3	32	18	0
T.Conklin	4	41	27	0	C.Uzomah	2	35	32	0
A.Abdullah	2	15	10	0	S.Perine	1	7	7	0
C.Ham	2	9	6	0	M.D.Thomas	1	5	5	0
D.Westbrook	1	11	11	0					
A.Mattison	1	4	4	0					
TOTALS	37	362	34	2	TOTALS	20	261	50t	2

DEFENSE

Minnesota (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** E.Kendricks 6-9-15, N.Vigil 8-2-10, B.Breeland 5-2-7, M.Pierce 3-4-7, H.Smith 5-1-6, D.Hunter 3-3-6, X.Woods 4-1-5, D.Tomlinson 2-2-4, S.Weatherly 2-1-3, K.Boyd 2-0-2, D.Wonnum 1-1-2, B.Lynch 0-2-2, M.Alexander 1-0-1, P.Peterson 1-0-1, A.Watts 1-0-1, S.Richardson 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** M.Pierce 2-14, N.Vigil 1-12, H.Smith 1-10, D.Hunter 1-8. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** M.Alexander 1, X.Woods 1. **FF:** None. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** J.Bates 6-3-9, G.Pratt 6-2-8, V.Bell 4-3-7, L.Wilson 4-3-7, E.Apple 6-0-6, C.Awuzie 4-2-6, M.Hilton 4-2-6, L.Ogunjobi 4-2-6, R.Allen 2-3-5, B.Hill 3-0-3, S.Hubbard 1-2-3, D.Reader 0-3-3, J.Evans 1-0-1, D.Phillips 1-0-1. **SKS-YDS.:** B.Hill 2-17, L.Ogunjobi 1-9. **INT.-YDS.:** None. **PD:** C.Awuzie 2. **FF:** G.Pratt 1. **FR-YDS.:** G.Pratt 1-0.

WEEK 2, GAME 2

Chicago Bears 20, Cincinnati Bengals 17 Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021 at Soldier Field

The visiting Bengals allowed the fewest total yards (206) by a Cincinnati defense in seven years, but the offense struggled to protect the football and find the scoreboard. Bengals QB Joe Burrow threw three INTs — including a pick-six — on consecutive attempts in the fourth quarter, helping the Bears to a comfortable 17-point margin late. But Burrow connected with rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase for a 42-yard score with 4:39 remaining, and then an INT by Bengals LB Logan Wilson on the ensuing possession set up a seven-yard TD from Burrow to WR Tee Higgins on the next play to cut the margin to just three. Burrow was the first NFL player in 20 years with INTs on three consecutive plays and TD passes on two consecutive plays in the same game (Steelers QB Kordell Stewart on Dec. 30, 2001 at Cincinnati). The Bengals' comeback bid fell short though, as Bears rookie QB Justin Fields, who was filling in for injured starter Andy Dalton, led Chicago to two first downs as the Bears ran out the clock and hung on for a 20-17 win. Cincinnati dropped to 1-1, while Chicago improved to 1-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	PTS.
Cincinnati.....	0	0	3	14	—	17
Chicago.....	7	0	0	13	—	20

TEAM — SCORING PLAY	QTR.-LEFT
Chi. — A.Robinson 11 pass from A.Dalton (C.Santos kick).....	1-9:58
Cin. — E.McPherson 53 field goal.....	3-8:22
Chi. — C.Santos 28 field goal.....	4-14:52
Chi. — R.Smith 53 interception return (C.Santos kick).....	4-10:55
Chi. — C.Santos 22 field goal.....	4-6:40
Cin. — J.Chase 42 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick).....	4-4:39
Cin. — T.Higgins 7 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick).....	4-3:39

Missed FGs: None. **Attendance:** 60,840. **Time:** 2:55.

TEAM STATISTICS	CIN.	CHI.
First downs.....	14	16
Third down conversions-attempts.....	6-13	6-15
Total net yards.....	248	206
Net yards rushing.....	69	123
Net yards passing.....	179	83
Pass attempts-completions-interceptions.....	30-19-3	24-15-1
Sacks against-yards lost.....	4-28	3-33
Punts-average.....	2-37.5	4-42.3
Punt returns-yards.....	1-15	0-0
Kickoff returns-yards.....	3-54	1-10
Penalties-yards.....	4-57	8-70
Fumbles-lost.....	1-1	1-0
Time of possession.....	28:39	31:21

RUSHING

CIN.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD	CHI.	ATT	YDS	LG	TD
J.Mixon	20	69	10	0	D.Montgomery	20	61	11	0
					J.Fields	10	31	10	0
					A.Dalton	2	25	14	0
					D.Williams	2	6	6	0
TOTALS	20	69	10	0	TOTALS	34	123	14	0

PASSING

CIN.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I	CHI.	ATT	CMP	YDS	TD-I
J.Burrow	30	19	207	2-3	J.Fields	13	6	60	0-1
					A.Dalton	11	9	56	1-0
TOTALS	30	19	207	2-3	TOTALS	24	15	116	1-1

RECEIVING

CIN.	NO	YDS	LG	TD	CHI.	NO	YDS	LG	TD
T.Boyd	7	73	22	0	D.Mooney	6	66	21	0
T.Higgins	6	60	14	1	D.Montgomery	3	18	10	0
J.Chase	2	54	42t	1	A.Robinson	2	24	13	1
C.Uzomah	2	4	3	0	D.Williams	2	-2	3	0
C.Evans	1	14	14	0	M.Goodwin	1	10	10	0
J.Mixon	1	2	2	0	C.Kmet	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	19	207	42	2	TOTALS	15	116	21	1

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** L.Wilson 2-7-9, S.Hubbard 6-2-8, V.Bell 5-1-6, J.Bates 4-1-5, L.Ogunjobi 1-3-4, E.Apple 2-1-3, B.Hill 2-1-3, M.Hilton 2-1-3, C.Sample 2-1-3, T.Hendrickson 1-2-3, D.Reader 1-2-3, C.Awuzie 2-0-2, A.Davis-Gaither 2-0-2, J.Evans 1-1-2, W.Ray 1-1-2, G.Pratt 1-0-1, J.Tupou 0-1-1. **SKS-YDS.:** T.Hendrickson 1.5-20.5, D.Reader 1-8, S.Hubbard 0.5-4.5. **INT.-YDS.:** L.Wilson 1-18. **PD:** E.Apple 1, C.Awuzie 1, V.Bell 1, L.Wilson 1. **FF:** T.Hendrickson 1. **FR-YDS.:** None.

Chicago (press box stats) — **ST-AT-TT:** R.Smith 5-4-9, D.Shelley 5-1-6, A.Hicks 3-1-4, E.Jackson 3-1-4, B.Nichols 3-1-4, K.Vildor 3-1-4, R.Quinn 3-0-3, A.Blackson 2-1-3, Ta.Gipson 2-1-3, A.Ogletree 1-2-3, J.Johnson 2-0-2, D.Houston-Carson 1-1-2, K.Mack 1-1-2. **SKS-YDS.:** R.Quinn 2-8, R.Smith 1-8, K.Mack 1-6, B.Nichols 1-6. **INT.-YDS.:** R.Smith 1-53, A.Blackson 1-6, J.Johnson 1-3. **PD:** J.Johnson 4, A.Blackson 1, A.Ogletree 1, R.Smith 1, K.Vildor 1. **FF:** E.Jackson 1. **FR-YDS.:** Ta.Gipson 1-13.

WEEK 3, GAME 3

Cincinnati Bengals 24, Pittsburgh Steelers 10
Sunday, Sept. 26, 2021 at Heinz Field

The Steelers were without numerous starters due to injury, including All-Pro OLB T.J. Watt, and the Bengals took full advantage. Bengals QB Joe Burrow completed 77.8 percent of his passes, tossed three TDs to just one INT, and posted a 122.9 passer rating. He averaged 9.6 yards per attempt through the air, while HB Joe Mixon averaged 5.0 yards per carry on the ground. Rookie Ja'Marr Chase scored two TDs, including a 34-yarder down the sideline before the half to give Cincinnati the lead for good. The Bengals also held the Steelers without a sack, breaking Pittsburgh's NFL-record streak of 75 straight games with a sack. Defensively, the Bengals applied constant pressure to Steelers QB Ben Roethlisberger, sacking him four times and hitting him three more. LB Logan Wilson picked off Roethlisberger twice, and both instances led to Burrow TD passes. Cincinnati cruised to a 24-10 win and improved to 2-1, while Pittsburgh dropped to 1-2.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns for periods 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS and rows for Cincinnati and Pittsburgh.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY table with columns for QTR.-LEFT and rows listing plays and scores for Cincinnati.

Missed FGs: C.Boswell (42W). Attendance: 58,076. Time: 3:02.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns for CIN. and PITT. and rows for various stats like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns for CIN. and PITT. and rows for player stats like J.Mixon, J.Burrow, etc.

PASSING table with columns for CIN. and PITT. and rows for player stats like J.Burrow, etc.

RECEIVING table with columns for CIN. and PITT. and rows for player stats like J.Chase, T.Boyd, etc.

DEFENSE

Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: L.Wilson 6-8-14, J.Bates 6-3-9, E.Apple 4-4-8, A.Davis-Gaither 5-2-7, S.Hubbard 3-3-6, G.Pratt 2-4-6, M.Hilton 3-2-5, D.Phillips 3-2-5, V.Bell 3-1-4, L.Ogunjobi 2-1-3, B.Hill 2-0-2, C.Sample 2-0-2, T.Hendrickson 1-1-2, D.Reader 1-1-2, C.Awuzie 1-0-1, J.Tupou 1-0-1, J.Evans 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: S.Hubbard 1-8, B.Hill 1-5, C.Sample 1-5, T.Hendrickson 1-3. INT.-YDS.: L.Wilson 2-13. PD: L.Wilson 2, E.Apple 1, V.Bell 1. FF: V.Bell 1. FR-YDS.: None.

Pittsburgh (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: J.Schobert 4-1-5, T.Edmunds 2-3-5, C.Heyward 1-4-5, M.Fitzpatrick 3-1-4, C.Wormley 2-2-4, T.Norwood 3-0-3, M.Ingram 2-1-3, I.Buggs 1-2-3, A.Maulet 2-0-2, C.Sutton 2-0-2, J.Haden 1-1-2, D.Tuszka 1-1-2, D.Bush 0-2-2, I.Loudermilk 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: None. INT.-YDS.: T.Edmunds 1-15. PD: T.Edmunds 1, J.Pierre 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 4, GAME 4

Cincinnati Bengals 24, Jacksonville Jaguars 21
Thursday night, Sept. 30, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The game featured the previous two No. 1 overall picks in Cincinnati second-year QB Joe Burrow and Jacksonville rookie QB Trevor Lawrence. The Jaguars owned the first half, racking up 15 first downs and 240 total yards en route to a 14-0 halftime lead. The turning point for Cincinnati came with a minute left in the first half, when LB Logan Wilson tackled Lawrence at the one-yard line on a fourth down to prevent a halftime deficit of 21. In the second half, Burrow led a comeback that saw Cincinnati score on all four possessions (TD, TD, TD, FG). Burrow completed 17 of his 20 second-half attempts (85 percent) for 253 yards and two TDs (152.1 rating). With just over a minute left and the score tied 21-21, Burrow made what was perhaps the play of the game when he audibled into a jailbreak screen that went to TE C.J. Uzomah, who ran it for 25 yards to the Jacksonville 21-yard line. That play set up a 35-yard, game-winning FG by K Evan McPherson two plays later. At halftime of the game, the Bengals inducted four people as part of their inaugural Ring of Honor class - founder/GM/head coach Paul Brown, OT Anthony Munoz, QB Ken Anderson and CB Ben Riley. Cincinnati improved to 3-1, while Jacksonville fell to 0-4.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns for periods 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS and rows for Jacksonville and Cincinnati.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY table with columns for QTR.-LEFT and rows listing plays and scores for Jacksonville.

Missed FGs: E.McPherson (43WL). Attendance: 63,198. Time: 2:59.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns for JAX. and CIN. and rows for various stats like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns for JAX. and CIN. and rows for player stats like J.Robinson, T.Lawrence, etc.

PASSING table with columns for JAX. and CIN. and rows for player stats like T.Lawrence, etc.

RECEIVING table with columns for JAX. and CIN. and rows for player stats like L.Shenault, M.Jones, etc.

DEFENSE

Jacksonville (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: T.Campbell 4-5-9, R.Jenkins 3-4-7, M.Jack 2-5-7, A.Wingard 4-2-6, D.Wilson 3-3-6, T.Herndon 5-0-5, S.Griffin 4-0-4, M.Brown 1-3-4, A.Gotsis 2-1-3, D.Hamilton 2-1-3, J.Allen 1-1-2, K.Chaisson 1-0-1, R.Ford 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: A.Gotsis 1-6. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: J.Allen 1, S.Griffin 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: L.Wilson 4-6-10, G.Pratt 5-4-9, S.Hubbard 4-2-6, D.Reader 1-5-6, V.Bell 3-2-5, T.Waynes 4-0-4, E.Apple 3-0-3, M.Hilton 2-1-3, L.Ogunjobi 2-1-3, A.Davis-Gaither 2-0-2, B.Wilson 1-1-2, B.Hill 0-2-2, W.Ray 0-2-2, T.Hendrickson 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: L.Wilson 1-2. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: E.Apple 1, A.Davis-Gaither 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 5, GAME 5

Green Bay Packers 25, Cincinnati Bengals 22 (OT) Sunday, Oct. 10, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The host Bengals and visiting Packers combined to miss six placekicks, including five FGs, but Packers K Mason Crosby broke the run of misses and nailed a 49-yarder late in OT to secure a Green Bay win. The Packers racked up 466 total yards, including 206 receiving yards from WR Davante Adams, but the Bengals' defense held them to just two TDs on five total trips to the red zone. Bengals WR Ja'Marr Chase had a big day of his own, posting the second-most receiving yards (159) ever by a Cincinnati rookie. The highlight of the day came just before halftime, when Bengals QB Joe Burrow connected with Chase on a 70-yard TD that drew the Bengals within two points. Cincinnati tied the game with 3:27 left in the fourth quarter, but McPherson missed a potential go-ahead 57-yard FG with 26 seconds left, and then Crosby missed from 51 yards as time expired. In OT, Crosby missed from 40 yards and McPherson from 49, before Crosby finally converted with 1:55 remaining. Green Bay improved to 4-1, while Cincinnati fell to 3-2.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Green Bay: 0, 16, 3, 3, 3, 25. Cincinnati: 7, 7, 0, 8, 0, 22.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY QTR.-LEFT table listing plays like S.Perine 4 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick) 1-1:25, G.B. - A.Dillon 12 pass from Aa.Rodgers (kick failed, HLU) 2-11:45, etc.

Missed FGs: M.Crosby (36WL, 51WL, 40WL), E.McPherson (57RU, 49WL). Attendance: 64,195. Time: 3:22.

TEAM STATISTICS G.B. CIN. table with rows for First downs, Third down conversions-attempts, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING G.B. CIN. table with columns ATT, YDS, LG, TD. A.Jones 14, 103, 57, 0; A.Dillon 8, 30, 17, 0.

PASSING G.B. CIN. table with columns ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I. Aa.Rodgers 39, 27, 344, 2-1; TOTALS 39, 27, 344, 2-1.

RECEIVING G.B. CIN. table with columns NO, YDS, LG, TD. D.Adams 11, 206, 59, 1; A.Dillon 4, 49, 24, 1; A.Jones 4, 6, 5, 0.

DEFENSE Green Bay (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: A.Amos 6-3-9, D.Campbell 5-4-9, D.Savage 5-1-6, K.Barnes 3-3-6, K.Clark 3-3-6, K.King 4-1-5, R.Gary 1-4-5, E.Stokes 3-1-4, P.Smith 1-3-4, C.Sullivan 2-0-2, O.Burks 1-1-2, K.Keke 0-2-2, T.Lancaster 0-2-2, D.Lowry 0-2-2, T.Slaton 0-2-2, I.Yiandom 1-0-1, H.Black 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: K.Barnes 1-8, P.Smith 1-7, D.Lowry 0.5-1, T.Slaton 0.5-1. INT.-YDS.: D.Campbell 1-13, A.Amos 1-0. PD: D.Lowry 2, A.Amos 1, D.Campbell 1, E.Stokes 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None. Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: J.Bates 8-1-9, V.Bell 8-1-9, C.Awuzie 5-1-6, L.Wilson 3-3-6, G.Pratt 4-1-5, D.Reader 2-3-5, M.Hilton 3-1-4, T.Hendrickson 2-2-4, B.Hill 1-3-4, J.Tupou 0-3-3, A.Davis-Gaither 1-1-2, E.Apple 1-0-1, T.Waynes 1-0-1, S.Hubbard 0-1-1, W.Ray 0-1-1, C.Sample 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: T.Hendrickson 2-11. INT.-YDS.: C.Awuzie 1-42. PD: C.Awuzie 2, M.Hilton 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 6, GAME 6

Cincinnati Bengals 34, Detroit Lions 11 Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021 at Ford Field

The visiting Bengals cruised to a 23-point win, good for their largest margin of victory in four seasons. Rookie HB Chris Evans caught a 24-yard TD on Cincinnati's first offensive possession, but the offense struggled for much of the rest of the first half. Cincinnati's defense picked up the slack though, holding the Lions scoreless in the first two quarters while allowing just 51 total yards. Cincinnati led just 10-0 at halftime, but in the second half the offense came away with points on all four of its full possessions (three TDs and a FG). Cincinnati was effective in the air and on the ground. QB Joe Burrow tossed three TDs on the afternoon and posted a 115.7 passer rating, while HB Joe Mixon racked up 153 total yards, including a 40-yard receiving TD that featured a massive downfield block from rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase to lead him into the end zone. Cincinnati improved to 4-2, while Detroit fell to 0-6.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Cincinnati: 7, 3, 10, 14, -, 34. Detroit: 0, 0, 0, 11, -, 11.

TEAM - SCORING PLAY QTR.-LEFT table listing plays like C.Evans 24 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick) 1-8:26, Cin. - E.McPherson 38 field goal 2-0:00, Cin. - J.Mixon 40 pass from J.Burrow (E.McPherson kick) 3-10:40, etc.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 50,831. Time: 2:57.

TEAM STATISTICS CIN. DET. table with rows for First downs, Third down conversions-attempts, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING CIN. DET. table with columns ATT, YDS, LG, TD. J.Mixon 18, 94, 18, 0; J.Burrow 5, 20, 6, 0; C.Evans 4, 18, 6, 0.

PASSING CIN. DET. table with columns ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I. J.Burrow 29, 19, 271, 3-1; B.Allen 1, 1, 7, 1-0; TOTALS 30, 20, 278, 4-1.

RECEIVING CIN. DET. table with columns NO, YDS, LG, TD. J.Mixon 5, 59, 40t, 1; J.Chase 4, 97, 53, 0; C.Evans 3, 49, 24t, 1.

DEFENSE Cincinnati (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: V.Bell 5-2-7, L.Wilson 5-1-6, C.Awuzie 5-0-5, A.Davis-Gaither 5-0-5, J.Bachie 2-2-4, J.Bates 3-0-3, M.Hilton 3-0-3, D.Reader 3-0-3, L.Ogunjobi 2-1-3, W.Ray 1-2-3, T.Hendrickson 2-0-2, J.Davis 0-2-2, R.Allen 1-0-1, E.Apple 1-0-1, M.Bailey 1-0-1, B.Hill 1-0-1, S.Hubbard 1-0-1, J.Tupou 1-0-1, B.Wilson 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: T.Hendrickson 1-10. INT.-YDS.: L.Wilson 1-0. PD: C.Awuzie 1, J.Bachie 1, V.Bell 1, A.Davis-Gaither 1, L.Wilson 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None. Detroit (press box stats) - ST-AT-TT: D.Barnes 6-2-8, J.Reeves-Maybin 6-1-7, A.Anzalone 3-4-7, J.Jacobs 5-1-6, C.Harris 4-1-5, A.Parker 3-2-5, T.Walker 3-1-4, M.Brockers 2-2-4, J.Okwara 3-0-3, T.Flowers 2-1-3, A.Bryant 2-0-2, N.Williams 2-0-2, A.McNeill 1-1-2, A.Oruwariye 1-1-2, J.Penisis 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: A.Bryant 1-12, J.Okwara 1-10. INT.-YDS.: A.Oruwariye 1-18. PD: D.Barnes 1, J.Jacobs 1, L.Onwuzurike 1, A.Oruwariye 1, T.Walker 1. FF: J.Jacobs 1. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 7, GAME 7

Cincinnati Bengals 41, Baltimore Ravens 17
Sunday, Oct. 24, 2021 at M&T Bank Stadium

The visiting Bengals broke a five-game Ravens winning streak in dominating fashion, posting their largest-ever margin of victory (24) over Baltimore and scoring their most points against the Ravens in 16 years. Offensively, Bengals QB Joe Burrow passed for a career-high 416 yards and three TDs, including 55- and 32-yarders to TE C.J. Uzomah, but the star of the game was rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase, whose 201 receiving yards were a Bengals rookie record.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Cincinnati: 3, 10, 14, 14, —, 41. Baltimore: 0, 10, 7, 0, —, 17.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR-LEFT, CIN., BALT. listing plays like E.McPherson 52 field goal, J.Tucker 45 field goal, etc.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 70,659. Time: 3:15.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CIN., BALT. listing First downs, Third down conversions, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN., BALT. listing J.Mixon, S.Perine, J.Burrow, etc.

PASSING table with columns CIN., BALT. listing J.Burrow, T.Huntley, etc.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN., BALT. listing J.Chase, T.Higgins, T.Boyd, etc.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: J.Bates 4-3-7, L.Ogunjobi 5-1-6, L.Wilson 4-2-6, V.Bell 5-0-5, C.Awuzie 4-1-5, S.Hubbard 3-2-5, A.Davis-Gaither 2-3-5, G.Pratt 3-0-3, J.Bachie 0-3-3, M.Hilton 2-0-2, C.Sample 2-0-2, M.Bailey 1-1-2, D.Reader 1-1-2, J.Davis 0-2-2, R.Allen 1-0-1, E.Apple 1-0-1, T.Flowers 1-0-1, T.Hendrickson 1-0-1, B.Hill 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: S.Hubbard 2.5-5.5, L.Ogunjobi 1.5-5.5, T.Hendrickson 1-7. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: C.Awuzie 1, J.Davis 1, A.Davis-Gaither 1, S.Hubbard 1, D.Phillips 1. FF: A.Davis-Gaither. FR-YDS.: None.

Baltimore (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: A.Averett 7-0-7, M.Humphrey 4-3-7, J.Bynes 5-1-6, T.Bowser 2-4-6, C.Campbell 2-3-5, J.Madubuike 1-3-4, T.Young 2-0-2, C.Clark 1-1-2, D.Elliott 1-1-2, J.Houston 1-1-2, P.McPhee 1-1-2, P.Queen 1-1-2, J.Ellis 0-2-2, M.Harrison 1-0-1, O.Oweh 1-0-1, J.Smith 1-0-1, B.Stephens 1-0-1, C.Board 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: T.Bowser 0.5-3.5, C.Campbell 0.5-3.5. INT.-YDS.: M.Humphrey 1-0. PD: A.Averett 3, M.Humphrey 1, B.Williams 1, T.Young 1. FF: M.Humphrey 1. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 8, GAME 8

N.Y. Jets 34, Cincinnati Bengals 31
Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021 at MetLife Stadium

Jets QB Mike White, an injury replacement, completed 82 percent of his passes for the second-most yards (405) ever by a QB in his first career start to lead the upset over the Bengals, who entered as double-digit favorites. Cincinnati's top-10 defense had three first-half turnovers, but struggled to slow down New York's 31st-ranked offense. Bengals QB Joe Burrow tossed three TDs on the day, including a 10-yarder to WR Tyler Boyd midway through the fourth quarter that gave Cincinnati a seemingly decisive 11-point lead.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Cincinnati: 0, 17, 7, 7, —, 31. N.Y. Jets: 7, 7, 3, 17, —, 34.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR-LEFT, NYJ, CIN. listing plays like Mi.Carter 8 run, J.Mixon 1 run, etc.

Missed FGs: M.Ammendola (54WL). Attendance: 67,503. Time: 3:18.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CIN., NYJ. listing First downs, Third down conversions, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN., NYJ. listing J.Mixon, J.Chase, J.Burrow, etc.

PASSING table with columns CIN., NYJ. listing J.Burrow, T.Boyd, etc.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN., NYJ. listing T.Boyd, T.Higgins, J.Mixon, etc.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: L.Wilson 10-2-12, V.Bell 5-4-9, J.Bates 6-2-8, C.Awuzie 7-0-7, G.Pratt 5-1-6, T.Hendrickson 3-3-6, S.Hubbard 3-3-6, L.Ogunjobi 3-2-5, E.Apple 3-1-4, D.Reader 3-0-3, A.Davis-Gaither 2-1-3, M.Hilton 2-1-3, B.Hill 2-0-2, R.Allen 1-0-1, J.Tupou 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: L.Ogunjobi 1-5, T.Hendrickson 1-3. INT.-YDS.: J.Bates 1-65, G.Pratt 1-4. PD: S.Hubbard 2, C.Awuzie 1, J.Bates 1, G.Pratt 1. FF: V.Bell 1. FR-YDS.: V.Bell 1-0.

N.Y. Jets (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: C.Mosley 8-2-10, M.Maye 5-0-5, M.Carter II 2-2-4, B.Hall 2-2-4, S.Rankins 2-2-4, J.Davis 3-0-3, A.Davis 2-1-3, J.Zuniga 1-2-3, Q.Williams 2-0-2, B.Echols 1-1-2, F.Fatukasi 1-1-2, J.Guidry 1-1-2, Quincy.Williams 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: Quinnen.Williams 1-12, S.Rankins 1-8, J.Zuniga 1-8. INT.-YDS.: S.Lawson 1-1. PD: S.Lawson 2, M.Carter II 1, B.Echols 1, B.Hall 1, Quinnen.Williams 1, Quincy.Williams 1. FF: J.Zuniga 1. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 9, GAME 9

Cleveland Browns 41, Cincinnati Bengals 16
Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals committed three turnovers, forced none, and had several key drops in the passing game as Cleveland cruised to a comfortable win at Paul Brown Stadium. The first Bengals turnover was a 99-yard pick-six by Browns CB Denzel Ward on the game's opening possession, while the other two — an INT and a fumble — happened deep in their own end and led to Browns points. The Bengals' defense, which had excelled all season at preventing long plays, gave up a 60-yard TD catch and 70-yard TD run to Cleveland. Cincinnati also entered the game ranked seventh in rush defense, but allowed 9.8 yards per carry to Browns RB Nick Chubb. Forced to play from behind most of the game, Cincinnati went pass-heavy but never could find its footing. Bengals QB Joe Burrow was sacked five times, and his longest completion was just 20 yards. Cincinnati fell to 5-4, while Cleveland improved to 5-4.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Rows for Cleveland and Cincinnati.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR.-LEFT and PTS. Lists plays like D.Ward 99 interception return and J.Mixon 11 run.

Missed FGs: C.McLaughlin (45WL). Attendance: 65,451. Time: 3:07.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CLE. and CIN. Rows include First downs, Total net yards, Net yards rushing, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CLE. and CIN. Rows include N.Chubb, D.Johnson, J.Landry, J.Mixon, S.Perine, J.Burrow, J.Chase, B.Allen.

PASSING table with columns CLE. and CIN. Rows include B.Mayfield, J.Burrow, B.Allen.

RECEIVING table with columns CLE. and CIN. Rows include J.Landry, D.Peoples-Jones, N.Chubb, H.Bryant, A.Hooper, D.Felton, D.Njoku, A.Schwartz, T.Higgins, J.Chase, J.Mixon, C.Uzomah, D.Sample, S.Perine, M.D.Thomas, T.Boyd, C.Evans.

DEFENSE table with columns CLE. and CIN. Rows include A.Walker, T.Hill, G.Newsome, S.Takitaki, M.McDowell, G.Delpit, J.Johnson, E.Lee, J.Elliott, I.Odenigbo, D.Ward, M.Garrett, S.Day, R.Harrison, J.Clowney, A.Green, T.Hill, M.Garrett, A.Walker, S.Day, D.Ward, J.Johnson, G.Newsome, A.Walker, G.Delpit, A.Green, J.Johnson, M.Smith.

WEEK 11, GAME 10

Cincinnati Bengals 32, Las Vegas Raiders 13
Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021 at Allegiant Stadium

The Bengals started slow in their first-ever game in Las Vegas, but they scored 19 points in the final quarter to widen what for most of the game was a narrow lead. Cincinnati's defense forced two turnovers and held Las Vegas to just one-of-seven on third downs, while HB Joe Mixon scored two TDs — his third straight multi-TD game — and rushed for 97 yards in the second half as the Bengals wore out the Raiders late. The Raiders trimmed the Bengals' lead to three points early in the fourth quarter, but QB Joe Burrow led a 12-play, 62-yard TD drive that ate 6:39 of clock and re-extended Cincinnati's lead. Rookie K Evan McPherson made all four of his FG attempts, and tied an NFL record with three 50-plus yarders in a game (54, 53, 51). Cincinnati improved to 6-4, while Las Vegas dropped to 5-5.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Rows for Cincinnati and Las Vegas.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR.-LEFT and PTS. Lists plays like D.Carlson 26 field goal and E.McPherson 54 field goal.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 61,712. Time: 2:51.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns CIN. and L.V. Rows include First downs, Total net yards, Net yards rushing, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN. and L.V. Rows include J.Mixon, T.Boyd, J.Burrow, J.Chase, S.Perine, J.Jacobs, K.Drake, H.Renfrow, D.Jackson, P.Barber, B.Edwards.

PASSING table with columns CIN. and L.V. Rows include J.Burrow, D.Carr.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN. and L.V. Rows include T.Boyd, J.Chase, S.Perine, T.Higgins, C.Uzomah, M.D.Thomas, C.Evans, D.Sample, S.Morgan.

DEFENSE table with columns CIN. and L.V. Rows include V.Bell, S.Hubbard, L.Wilson, C.Awuzie, J.Bates, G.Pratt, E.Apple, D.Reader, T.Hendrickson, M.Hilton, L.Ogunjobi, M.Bailey, B.Hill, K.Kareem, W.Ray, T.Hendrickson, S.Hubbard, T.Hendrickson, S.Hubbard, D.Perryman, J.Abram, C.Littleton, B.Facynson, C.Nassib, C.Hayward, N.Hobbs, D.Leavitt, Y.Ngakoue, M.Crosby, Q.Jefferson, S.Thomas, K.Wright, J.Hankins, D.Square, C.Ferrell, T.Moehrig, S.Thomas, Q.Jefferson, Y.Ngakoue, D.Perryman, T.Moehrig.

WEEK 12, GAME 11

Cincinnati Bengals 41, Pittsburgh Steelers 10 Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The 31-point victory margin was the Bengals' largest over the Steelers in 32 years. Bengals HB Joe Mixon rushed for a career-high 165 yards and two TDs, while QB Joe Burrow had a career-high 83.5 completion percentage. Mixon ran his streak of consecutive games with a TD to eight, including four straight with multiple TDs. Cincinnati scored on its first four possessions (three TDs, one FG), and when an INT ended that streak on the fifth drive, Bengals CB Mike Hilton — a former Steeler — returned an INT 24 yards for a TD on the first play of the following Steelers drive. Cincinnati's defense had three sacks and two INTs while holding Pittsburgh to 51 rushing yards. Bengals DE Trey Hendrickson ran his streak of consecutive games with a sack to seven, the longest in Bengals history. Cincinnati improved to 7-4, while Pittsburgh fell to 5-1-1.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. for Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY QTR-LEFT table listing plays like J.Burrow 8 run, E.McPherson 31 field goal, etc.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 63,238. Time: 3:02.

TEAM STATISTICS table comparing Pittsburgh and Cincinnati across categories like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING

Rushing stats table with columns for player, ATT, YDS, LG, TD for both teams.

PASSING

Passing stats table with columns for player, ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I for both teams.

RECEIVING

Receiving stats table with columns for player, NO, YDS, LG, TD for both teams.

DEFENSE

Pittsburgh (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: J.Schobert 8-2-10, M.Fitzpatrick 5-4-9, C.Heyward 3-5-8, T.Edmunds 5-1-6, A.Maullet 3-3-6, A.Highsmith 3-2-5, D.Bush 2-3-5, J.Pierre 3-1-4, C.Sutton 3-1-4, C.Wormley 2-2-4, T.Charlton 1-1-2, T.Watt 1-1-2, H.Mondeaux 0-2-2, D.Tuszka 0-2-2, T.Norwood 1-0-1, R.Spillane 1-0-1, A.Witherspoon 1-0-1, I.Loudermilk 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: C.Wormley 1-12, C.Heyward 1-6. INT.-YDS.: M.Fitzpatrick 1-18. PD: M.Fitzpatrick 1, I.Loudermilk 1, A.Witherspoon 1. FF: None. FR.-YDS.: None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: L.Wilson 6-0-6, M.Bailey 3-2-5, B.Hill 3-1-4, T.Flowers 2-2-4, M.Hilton 2-2-4, V.Bell 3-0-3, D.Reader 2-1-3, E.Apple 2-0-2, T.Hendrickson 2-0-2, S.Hubbard 2-0-2, M.J.Thomas 2-0-2, J.Bachie 1-1-2, G.Pratt 1-1-2, W.Ray 0-2-2, R.Allen 1-0-1, C.Awuzie 1-0-1, L.Ogunjobi 1-0-1, D.Phillips 1-0-1, C.Sample 1-0-1, J.Davis 0-1-1, K.Kareem 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: B.Hill 1-9, S.Hubbard 1-4, T.Hendrickson 1-0. INT.-YDS.: E.Apple 1-50, M.Hilton 1-24. PD: E.Apple 1, J.Bates 1, M.Hilton 1, D.Phillips 1, M.J.Thomas 1. FF: T.Hendrickson 1. FR.-YDS.: S.Hubbard 1-0.

WEEK 13, GAME 12

Los Angeles Chargers 41, Cincinnati Bengals 22 Sunday, Dec. 5, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The visiting Chargers raced to a 24-0 lead early in the second quarter and looked to be on their way to an easy win, but Cincinnati scored twice before halftime to trim the lead to 24-13, and then got to within 24-22 midway through the third quarter. The comeback was led by Bengals QB Joe Burrow, who did not miss a play despite dislocating the pinky finger on his throwing hand in the first half. Cincinnati was down two points early in the fourth quarter and driving to take the lead when HB Joe Mixon fumbled for the first time in 328 rush attempts, resulting in a 61-yard scoop-and-score by Chargers CB Tevaughn Campbell. L.A. tacked on another TD, and then thwarted another Bengals comeback attempt by intercepting Burrow in the end zone — Cincinnati's fourth turnover of the day. Mixon ran his streak of consecutive games with a TD to nine, and DE Trey Hendrickson ran his streak of consecutive games with a sack to eight. The Chargers improved to 7-5, while the Bengals fell to 7-5.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. for L.A. Chargers and Cincinnati.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY QTR-LEFT table listing plays like K.Allen 4 pass, D.Hopkins 43 field goal, etc.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 51,414. Time: 3:20.

TEAM STATISTICS table comparing Los Angeles Chargers and Cincinnati across categories like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING

Rushing stats table with columns for player, ATT, YDS, LG, TD for both teams.

PASSING

Passing stats table with columns for player, ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I for both teams.

RECEIVING

Receiving stats table with columns for player, NO, YDS, LG, TD for both teams.

DEFENSE

L.A. Chargers (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: K.White 7-3-10, D.Tranquill 6-4-10, D.James 3-4-7, N.Adderley 2-5-7, T.Campbell 4-2-6, C.Harris 4-0-4, C.Rumph 2-1-3, J.Jones 2-1-3, C.Covington 2-0-2, M.Davis 2-0-2, B.Fehoko 1-1-2, U.Nwosu 2-0-2, J.Bosa 1-0-1, N.Niemann 1-0-1, J.Tillery 1-0-1, K.Fackrell 0-1-1, J.Gaziano 0-1-1, T.Marshall 0-1-1, A.Ogbongbemiga 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: U.Nwosu 2-11, D.Tranquill 1-10, J.Jones 1-7, C.Rumph 1-5, N.Adderley 0.5-3.5, D.James 0.5-3.5. INT.-YDS.: M.Davis 1-0, C.Harris 1-0. PD: M.Davis 3, C.Harris 1, D.Tranquill 1. FF: C.Covington 1, U.Nwosu 1. FR.-YDS.: T.Campbell 1-61, U.Nwosu 1-0.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: J.Bachie 6-3-9, M.Hilton 6-3-9, G.Pratt 3-6-9, J.Bates 4-2-6, V.Bell 2-4-6, B.Hill 1-4-5, S.Hubbard 1-4-5, T.Hendrickson 1-3-4, C.Awuzie 3-0-3, L.Wilson 1-2-3, E.Apple 1-1-2, L.Ogunjobi 1-1-2, V.Hargreaves 0-2-2, C.Sample 0-2-2, J.Tupou 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: L.Ogunjobi 1-9, T.Hendrickson 1-6, V.Bell 0.5-6, C. Sample 0.5-6, B.Hill 0.5-3, S.Hubbard 0.5-3. INT.-YDS.: C.Awuzie 1-0. PD: C.Awuzie 2, E.Apple 1, M.Hilton 1. FF: M.Hilton 1, G.Pratt 1. FR.-YDS.: J.Bates 1-46, G.Pratt 1-0.

WEEK 14, GAME 13

San Francisco 49ers 26, Cincinnati Bengals 23 (OT) Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals fell behind 17-6 at halftime due to costly mistakes — two turnovers on muffed punts (49ers turned them into 10 points), a Ja'Marr Chase TD catch that was ruled a drop by replay review, and a taunting penalty after a third-down stop on defense that resulted in a 49ers TD on the next play. Cincinnati entered the fourth quarter trailing 20-6, but staged a dramatic comeback to tie at 20 and force OT. Burrow posted a 151.0 passer rating in the final period and tossed two TDs to Chase, and then San Francisco K Robbie Gould missed a potential game-winning FG from 47 yards at the end of regulation. In OT, Cincinnati's offense moved downfield quickly for a FG. On the next drive, the 49ers drove 75 yards on seven plays for a game-winning TD. Bengals DE Trey Hendrickson recorded a sack in his ninth straight game — tied for fourth-longest streak in NFL history — before leaving with a back injury. Chase's two receiving TDs gave him 10 for the season, the most-ever by a Bengals rookie. The Bengals fell to 7-6, while the 49ers improved to 7-6.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. and rows for San Francisco and Cincinnati.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY QTR.-LEFT table listing plays such as R.Gould 33 field goal, E.McPherson 37 field goal, etc.

Missed FGs: R.Gould (47WR), E.McPherson (46WL). Attendance: 50,481. Time: 3:24.

TEAM STATISTICS S.F. CIN. table with categories like First downs, Third down conversions, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns S.F., ATT, YDS, LG, TD, CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD.

PASSING table with columns S.F., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I, CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I.

RECEIVING table with columns S.F., NO, YDS, LG, TD, CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD.

DEFENSE table with columns S.F., NO, YDS, LG, TD, CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD.

San Francisco (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: A.Al-Shaair 8-3-11, K.Williams 5-2-7, J.Tartt 3-4-7, F.Warner 1-6-7, A.Thomas 2-4-6, T.Hufanga 4-1-5, J.Ward 3-2-5, D.Jones 2-3-5, A.Armstead 2-2-4, N.Bosa 2-1-3, J.Norman 2-1-3, S.Ebukam 0-3-3, J.Willis 0-3-3, M.Harris 1-1-2, K.Givens 1-0-1, D.Lenoir 1-0-1, C.Omenihu 1-0-1, A.Key 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: N.Bosa 2-12, K.Williams 1-14, A.Al-Shaair 1-2, S.Ebukam 0.5-4.5, A.Key 0.5-4.5. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: A.Al-Shaair 1, J.Norman 1, C.Omenihu 1, J.Ward 1. FF: S.Ebukam 1. FR-YDS.: None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: V.Bell 5-5-10, J.Bates 8-1-9, G.Pratt 4-5-9, C.Awuzie 4-2-6, J.Bachie 3-1-4, B.Hill 3-1-4, L.Ogunjobi 3-1-4, D.Reader 3-0-3, E.Apple 2-1-3, M.Hilton 2-1-3, C.Sample 2-1-3, S.Hubbard 0-2-2, R.Allen 1-0-1, T.Flowers 1-0-1, T.Hendrickson 1-0-1, J.Tupou 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: T.Hendrickson 1-10, B.Hill 1-9, L.Ogunjobi 1-9, D.Reader 1-2, (team) 1-11. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: C.Awuzie 2, V.Bell 2, E.Apple 1, J.Bates 1, G.Pratt 1. FF: V.Bell 1. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 15, GAME 14

Cincinnati Bengals 15, Denver Broncos 10 Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021 at Empower Field at Mile High

The visiting Bengals started slow before rookie K Evan McPherson booted a team-record 58-yard FG as time expired in the first half to give Cincinnati a 6-3 lead at the break. The Broncos jumped ahead 10-9 with a 25-yard TD pass late in the third quarter, but it took just two plays for the Bengals to re-take the lead with a 56-yard TD pass of their own from QB Joe Burrow to WR Tyler Boyd. Denver responded by driving to Cincinnati's nine-yard line, but reserve DE Khalid Kareem stifled the Broncos' scoring opportunity by crashing into the backfield and wrestling the ball away from Denver QB Drew Lock. Cincinnati began to burn late clock time, and a 15-yard Burrow-to-Boyd completion on a third-and-10 forced Denver to spend its remaining time outs. The Broncos finally got the ball back with 1:04 to play, but the Bengals' defense capped a stellar performance by forcing a sack and three incompletions to seal the game. Cincinnati improved to 8-6 and took over sole possession of first place in the AFC North, while Denver dropped to 7-7.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. and rows for Cincinnati and Denver.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY QTR.-LEFT table listing plays such as E.McPherson 53 field goal, B.McManus 54 field goal, etc.

Missed FGs: B.McManus (51WR). Attendance: 76,134. Time: 3:11.

TEAM STATISTICS CIN. DEN. table with categories like First downs, Third down conversions, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD, DEN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD.

PASSING table with columns CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I, DEN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I.

RECEIVING table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, DEN., NO, YDS, LG, TD.

DEFENSE table with columns CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD, DEN., NO, YDS, LG, TD.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: G.Pratt 9-6-15, V.Bell 6-0-6, J.Bachie 5-1-6, J.Bates 4-1-5, D.Reader 4-1-5, B.Hill 2-3-5, M.Bailey 1-4-5, M.Hilton 4-0-4, L.Ogunjobi 1-3-4, T.Hendrickson 1-2-3, K.Kareem 2-0-2, T.Waynes 2-0-2, J.Tupou 0-2-2, E.Apple 1-0-1, T.Flowers 0-1-1, S.Hubbard 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: L.Ogunjobi 1.5-14, T.Hendrickson 0.5-5, M.Bailey 0.5-4, G.Pratt 0.5-4. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: E.Apple 2, M.Bailey 1. FF: K.Kareem 1. FR-YDS.: K.Kareem 1-4.

Denver (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: B.Browning 6-4-10, J.Griffith 7-1-8, J.Cooper 4-1-5, P.Surtain 3-2-5, J.Simmons 3-1-4, B.Chubb 1-3-4, M.Purcell 2-1-3, B.Callahan 2-0-2, R.Darby 2-0-2, S.Harris 2-0-2, K.Jackson 1-1-2, N.Hairston 1-0-1, S.Weatherly 1-0-1, D.Williams 1-0-1. SKS.-YDS.: J.Simmons 1.5-13, S.Harris 1-6, J.Cooper 0.5-2. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: B.Chubb 1, R.Darby 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 16, GAME 15

Cincinnati Bengals 41, Baltimore Ravens 21 Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals scored on each of their first seven drives (five TDs, two FGs) and QB Joe Burrow passed for a team-record 525 yards (fourth-most in NFL history), as the Bengals' dominated a Ravens team without double-digit players due to injuries and COVID-19.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Baltimore 7, 7, 0, 7, —, 21. Cincinnati 10, 21, 3, 7, —, 41.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR.-LEFT, CIN., and Yards. Includes plays like E. McPherson 30 field goal, R. Bateman 4 pass from J. Johnson, etc.

Missed FGs: E. McPherson (50WR). Attendance: 63,922. Time: 3:02.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns BALT., CIN., and various stats like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns BALT., CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD. Includes players like D. Freeman, L. Murray, J. Johnson.

PASSING table with columns BALT., CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I. Includes players like J. Johnson, J. Burrow.

RECEIVING table with columns BALT., CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD. Includes players like M. Andrews, J. Proche, M. Brown.

DEFENSE Baltimore (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: T. Jefferson 5-4-9, P. Queen 4-5-9, K. Seymour 3-4-7, J. Bynes 4-2-6, C. Clark 4-2-6, D. Worley 5-0-5, B. Stephens 3-2-5, T. Bowser 2-2-4, T. Young 3-0-3, B. Washington 2-1-3, I. Mack 1-2-3, A. Averett 2-0-2, A. Levine 1-1-2, J. Ellis 1-0-1, R. McKenzie 1-0-1, J. Ferguson 0-1-1, R. Jackson 0-1-1, O. Oweh 0-1-1, J. Thomas 0-1-1, B. Williams 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: B. Washington 1-10, T. Jefferson 1-9, I. Mack 1-8. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: J. Bynes 1, T. Jefferson 1, A. Levine 1, P. Queen 1, K. Seymour 1, B. Williams 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: M. Bailey 4-4-8, C. Awuzie 2-5-7, M. Hilton 5-1-6, G. Pratt 5-1-6, J. Bates 4-1-5, E. Apple 2-3-5, V. Bell 2-3-5, B. Hill 4-0-4, T. Hendrickson 2-0-2, S. Hubbard 1-1-2, N. Spence 1-0-1, T. Wayne 1-0-1, T. Flowers 0-1-1, M. J. Thomas 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: T. Hendrickson 1-9. INT.-YDS.: V. Bell 1-15. PD: C. Awuzie 2, V. Bell 2. FF: S. Hubbard 1. FR-YDS.: None.

WEEK 17, GAME 16

Cincinnati Bengals 34, Kansas City Chiefs 31 Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022 at Paul Brown Stadium

The Bengals overcame three 14-point deficits (14-0, 21-7 and 28-14) and allowed just three second-half points to clinch the AFC North and snap the two-time defending AFC Champion's eight-game winning streak.

SCORE BY PERIODS table with columns 1, 2, 3, 4, OT, PTS. Kansas City 14, 14, 0, 3, —, 31. Cincinnati 7, 10, 7, 10, —, 34.

TEAM — SCORING PLAY table with columns QTR.-LEFT, K.C., CIN., and Yards. Includes plays like D. Robinson 29 pass from P. Mahomes, T. Kelce 3 pass from P. Mahomes, etc.

Missed FGs: None. Attendance: 64,505. Time: 3:08.

TEAM STATISTICS table with columns K.C., CIN., and various stats like First downs, Total net yards, etc.

RUSHING table with columns K.C., CIN., ATT, YDS, LG, TD. Includes players like D. Williams, D. Gore, P. Mahomes.

PASSING table with columns K.C., CIN., ATT, CMP, YDS, TD-I. Includes players like P. Mahomes, J. Burrow, B. Allen.

RECEIVING table with columns K.C., CIN., NO, YDS, LG, TD. Includes players like T. Hill, T. Kelce, B. Pringle, B. Bell.

DEFENSE Kansas City (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: A. Hitchens 4-5-9, C. Ward 6-2-8, R. Fenton 7-0-7, T. Mathieu 4-2-6, C. Jones 4-0-4, N. Bolton 2-2-4, D. Sorensen 3-0-3, J. Thornhill 2-1-3, J. Reed 1-2-3, W. Gay 2-0-2, F. Clark 1-1-2, D. Nnadi 1-1-2, L. Sneed 1-1-2, M. Ingram 1-0-1, B. Niemann 1-0-1, T. Wharton 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: C. Jones 2-17, J. Reed 1-8, F. Clark 1-6. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: R. Fenton 1, L. Sneed 1, C. Ward 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

Cincinnati (press box stats) — ST-AT-TT: C. Awuzie 10-0-10, L. Wilson 5-3-8, V. Bell 2-3-5, M. Hilton 2-3-5, S. Hubbard 2-3-5, L. Ogunjobi 3-1-4, M. Bailey 2-2-4, J. Bates 2-2-4, B. Hill 2-2-4, E. Apple 3-0-3, T. Flowers 1-1-2, M. J. Thomas 1-0-1, D. Reader 0-1-1. SKS.-YDS.: None. INT.-YDS.: None. PD: E. Apple 1, J. Bates 1, V. Bell 1, T. Flowers 1, M. Hilton 1. FF: None. FR-YDS.: None.

THE BENGALS ARE:

2021 REGULAR SEASON

5-4 at home (or as designated home team at neutral site)
5-2 on the road (or as designated visitor at neutral site)
6-1 when scoring first
4-5 when opponent scores first
3-4 in games decided by three points or fewer
4-4 in games decided by seven points or fewer
6-1 when leading after one quarter
2-2 when tied after one quarter
2-3 when trailing after one quarter
8-1 when leading at halftime
0-0 when tied at halftime
2-5 when trailing at halftime
8-1 when leading after three quarters
1-0 when tied after three quarters
1-5 when trailing after three quarters
9-4 when scoring 20 or more points
4-6 when opponent scores 20 or more points

8-6 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
2-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
4-1 on natural grass
6-5 on synthetic surface
4-0 when rushing for 125 or more net yards
3-2 when opponent rushes for 125 or more net yards
6-6 when rushing for less than 125 net yards
7-5 when opponent rushes for less than 125 net yards
5-5 when passing for 250 or more net yards
6-4 when opponent passes for 250 or more net yards
5-1 when passing for less than 250 net yards
4-2 when opponent passes for less than 250 net yards
6-1 with plus turnover differential
3-0 with even turnover differential
1-5 with minus turnover differential
7-4 with fewer penalties than opponent
7-3 with fewer penalty yards than opponent

UNDER ZAC TAYLOR (2019-PRESENT)

10-15-0 at home (or as designated home team at neutral site)
6-16-1 on the road (or as designated visitor at neutral site)
10-12-0 when scoring first
6-19-1 when opponent scores first
3-10-1 in games decided by three points or fewer
5-16-1 in games decided by seven points or fewer
11-9-0 when leading after one quarter
2-5-1 when tied after one quarter
3-17-0 when trailing after one quarter
12-9-0 when leading at halftime
1-1-0 when tied at halftime
3-21-1 when trailing at halftime
13-6-1 when leading after three quarters
2-1-0 when tied after three quarters
1-24-0 when trailing after three quarters
15-10-1 when scoring 20 or more points
8-26-1 when opponent scores 20 or more points

14-31-1 when game is outdoors (open-air/open retractable roof)
2-0-0 when game is inside (dome/closed retractable roof)
4-12-1 on natural grass
12-19-0 on synthetic surface
7-6-0 when rushing for 125 or more net yards
5-17-1 when opponent rushes for 125 or more net yards
8-25-1 when rushing for less than 125 net yards
11-14-0 when opponent rushes for less than 125 net yards
7-15-1 when passing for 250 or more net yards
8-13-0 when opponent passes for 250 or more net yards
9-16-0 when passing for less than 250 net yards
8-18-1 when opponent passes for less than 250 net yards
10-3-1 with plus turnover differential
5-7-0 with even turnover differential
1-21-0 with minus turnover differential
11-19-1 with fewer penalties than opponent
12-18-1 with fewer penalty yards than opponent

BEST PERFORMANCES

REGULAR SEASON

RUSHING YARDS

165 — Joe Mixon, Nov. 28 vs. Pittsburgh
 127 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 12 vs. Minnesota
 123 — Joe Mixon, Nov. 21 at Las Vegas

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

30 — Joe Mixon, Nov. 21 at Las Vegas
 29 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 12 vs. Minnesota
 28 — Joe Mixon, Nov. 28 vs. Pittsburgh

LONGEST RUSHES

46 — Samaje Perine, Oct. 24 at Baltimore (TD)
 32 — Joe Mixon, Nov. 28 vs. Pittsburgh
 27 — Joe Mixon, Sept. 26 at Pittsburgh

RECEPTIONS

12 — Tee Higgins, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore
 11 — Ja'Marr Chase, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 9 — (two times)

RECEIVING YARDS

266 — Ja'Marr Chase, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 201 — Ja'Marr Chase, Oct. 24 at Baltimore
 194 — Tee Higgins, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore

PASSING YARDS

525 — Joe Burrow, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore
 446 — Joe Burrow, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 416 — Joe Burrow, Oct. 24 at Baltimore

PASS ATTEMPTS

46 — Joe Burrow, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore
 40 — Joe Burrow, Nov. 7 vs. Cleveland
 40 — Joe Burrow, Dec. 5 vs. L.A. Chargers

PASS COMPLETIONS

37 — Joe Burrow, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore
 30 — Joe Burrow, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 28 — Joe Burrow, Nov. 7 vs. Cleveland

LONGEST PASSES

82 — Joe Burrow to Ja'Marr Chase, Oct. 24 at Baltimore (TD)
 72 — Joe Burrow to Ja'Marr Chase, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City (TD)
 70 — Joe Burrow to Ja'Marr Chase, Oct. 10 vs. Green Bay (TD)

YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

266 — Ja'Marr Chase, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 201 — Ja'Marr Chase, Oct. 24 at Baltimore
 194 — Tee Higgins, Dec. 26 vs. Baltimore

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

44 — Brandon Wilson, Oct. 10 vs. Green Bay
 32 — Darius Phillips, Nov. 21 at Las Vegas
 30 — Brandon Wilson, Sept. 26 at Pittsburgh

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

17 — Darius Phillips, Nov. 28 vs. Pittsburgh
 16 — Darius Phillips, Sept. 26 at Pittsburgh
 15 — (four times)

TOTAL TACKLES*

15 — Germaine Pratt, Dec. 19 at Denver
 14 — Logan Wilson, Sept. 26 at Pittsburgh
 12 — Logan Wilson, Oct. 31 at N.Y. Jets

SOLO TACKLES*

10 — Logan Wilson, Oct. 31 at N.Y. Jets
 10 — Chidobe Awuzie, Jan. 2 vs. Kansas City
 9 — Germaine Pratt, Dec. 19 at Denver

*NOTE: The defensive statistics above are press box statistics produced at the games.

2021 GAME-BY-GAME TEAM STATISTICS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 12	MINNESOTA	366	36-149	217	20-27	2/0	5-44	20	3-14	0-0	34:51
Sept. 19	at Chicago	248	20-69	179	19-30	2/3	5-28	14	6-13	1-1	28:39
Sept. 26	at Pittsburgh	268	24-96	172	14-18	3/1	0-0	12	3-9	0-0	24:38
Sept. 30	JACKSONVILLE	420	22-78	342	25-32	2/0	1-6	21	5-9	0-0	31:15
Oct. 10	GREEN BAY	367	24-103	264	26-38	2/2	3-17	18	5-14	0-0	34:06
Oct. 17	at Detroit	398	36-142	256	20-30	4/1	2-22	20	8-15	1-0	35:52
Oct. 24	at Baltimore	520	24-111	409	23-38	3/1	1-7	19	4-13	1-0	28:11
Oct. 31	at N.Y. Jets	318	16-41	277	22-35	3/1	3-28	18	4-10	1-0	23:40
Nov. 7	CLEVELAND	348	23-85	263	29-42	0/2	5-25	25	3-11	4-1	35:22
Nov. 14	—BYE—										
Nov. 21	at Las Vegas	288	38-159	129	20-29	1/0	3-19	23	8-16	3-1	37:20
Nov. 28	PITTSBURGH	370	38-198	172	20-25	1/1	2-18	25	5-11	0-0	35:20
Dec. 5	L.A. CHARGERS	356	25-96	260	24-40	1/2	6-40	21	6-12	2-2	31:14
Dec. 12	SAN FRANCISCO	397	26-86	311	25-34	2/0	5-37	22	4-13	4-2	34:17
Dec. 19	at Denver	249	26-113	136	15-22	1/0	3-21	12	4-13	0-0	27:19
Dec. 26	BALTIMORE	575	21-77	498	37-46	4/0	3-27	33	5-10	0-0	37:03
Jan. 2	KANSAS CITY	475	19-60	415	30-40	4/0	4-31	23	4-10	0-0	29:06
Jan. 9	at Cleveland										
TOTALS		5963	418-1663	4300	369-526	35-14	51-370	326	77-193	17-7	30:55

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	YDS	RUSH-YDS	PASS YDS	COMP-ATT	TD-P/INT	SKD-YDS	1D	3D-CONV	F-FL	POSS
Sept. 12	MINNESOTA	403	22-67	336	37-50	2/0	3-26	24	6-16	1-1	35:09
Sept. 19	at Chicago	206	34-123	83	15-24	1/1	3-33	16	6-15	1-0	31:21
Sept. 26	at Pittsburgh	342	15-45	297	38-58	1/2	4-21	21	9-19	1-0	35:22
Sept. 30	JACKSONVILLE	341	30-139	202	17-24	0/0	1-2	21	6-12	1-0	28:45
Oct. 10	GREEN BAY	466	22-133	333	27-39	2/1	2-11	21	4-11	0-0	33:59
Oct. 17	at Detroit	228	18-36	192	28-42	0/1	1-10	15	5-14	0-0	24:08
Oct. 24	at Baltimore	393	24-115	278	20-42	1/0	5-18	20	5-16	1-0	31:49
Oct. 31	at N.Y. Jets	511	27-97	414	39-49	3/2	2-8	32	6-11	1-1	36:20
Nov. 7	CLEVELAND	361	23-153	208	14-21	2/0	2-10	14	3-9	2-0	24:38
Nov. 14	—BYE—										
Nov. 21	at Las Vegas	278	18-72	206	19-27	1/1	2-9	13	1-7	2-1	22:40
Nov. 28	PITTSBURGH	301	15-51	250	24-41	1/2	3-13	16	7-13	2-1	24:40
Dec. 5	L.A. CHARGERS	363	22-79	284	26-35	3/1	4-33	18	4-13	2-2	28:46
Dec. 12	SAN FRANCISCO	355	23-100	255	27-41	2/0	5-41	21	5-15	2-0	33:50
Dec. 19	at Denver	292	34-133	159	18-34	1/0	3-27	19	7-16	1-1	32:41
Dec. 26	BALTIMORE	334	16-39	295	28-40	2/1	1-9	21	6-11	2-0	22:57
Jan. 2	KANSAS CITY	414	23-155	259	26-35	2/0	0-0	23	6-11	0-0	30:54
Jan. 9	at Cleveland										
TOTALS		5588	366-1537	4051	403-602	24/12	41-271	315	86-209	19-7	29:05

TRANSACTIONS

(TRANSACTIONS FROM 7-21-20 THROUGH 6-2-21 ARE IN BENGALS' 2021 MEDIA GUIDE.)

- Aug. 2, 2021 — Signed WR **Ja'Marr Chase** (D1) and DE **Joseph Ossai** (D3); Placed LS **Dan Godsil** on the Reserve/Retired list.
- July 22, 2021 — Acquired C **Lamont Gaillard** on waivers from Arizona.
- July 26, 2021 — Signed DE **Sam Hubbard*** to a contract extension; Signed WR **Reece Horn** (FA).
- July 27, 2021 — Signed OT **Gunnar Vogel** (FA).
- Aug. 16, 2021 — Waived WR **Reece Horn**, WR **Riley Lees** and TE **Pro Wells**.
- Aug. 22, 2021 — Signed DE **Noah Spence** (FA); Terminated the contract of S **Kavon Frazier**; Waived DE **Freedom Akinmoladun**, QB **Eric Dungey**, C **Lamont Gaillard** and TE **Cheyenne O'Grady**.
- Aug. 23, 2021 — Waived (injured) CB **Donnie Lewis Jr.**
- Aug. 24, 2021 — CB **Donnie Lewis Jr.** cleared waivers and reverted to Reserve/Injured list.
- Aug. 30, 2021 — Acquired DT **B.J. Hill** in a trade with the N.Y. Giants for C **Billy Price**.
- Aug. 31, 2021 — Placed the following two players on the Reserve/Non-Football Injury list: OT **Hakeem Adeniji** and DE **Wyatt Hubert**; Placed DE **Joseph Ossai** on the Reserve/Injured list; Terminated the contracts of the following four vested veterans: DT **Mike Daniels**, TE **Mason Schreck**, DE **Noah Spence** and WR **Trent Taylor**; Waived the following 20 players: LB **Joe Bachie**, DE **Amani Bledsoe**, CB **Tony Brown**, P **Drue Chrisman**, S **Trayvon Henderson**, LB **Keandre Jones**, G **Michael Jordan**, DT **Kahlil McKenzie**, TE **Thaddeus Moss**, HB **Jacques Patrick**, CB **Antonio Phillips**, CB **Winston Rose**, K **Austin Seibert**, QB **Kyle Shurmur**, G **Keaton Sutherland**, OT **Gunnar Vogel**, WR **Scotty Washington**, HB **Pooka Williams Jr.**, HB **Trayveon Williams** and DT **Renell Wren**.
- Sept. 1, 2021 — Acquired the following two players on waivers: DE **Wyatt Ray** (from Tennessee) and CB **Nick McCloud** (from Buffalo); Terminated the contract of WR **Mike Thomas**; Waived WR **Trenton Irwin**; Signed the following 15 players to the Practice Squad: LB **Joe Bachie**, P **Drue Chrisman**, S **Trayvon Henderson**, LB **Keandre Jones**, TE **Thaddeus Moss**, HB **Jacques Patrick**, CB **Tony Brown**, CB **Winston Rose**, TE **Mason Schreck**, DE **Noah Spence**, G **Keaton Sutherland**, WR **Trent Taylor**, HB **Pooka Williams Jr.**, HB **Trayveon Williams** and DT **Renell Wren**.
- Sept. 2, 2021 — Re-signed WR **Mike Thomas**; Placed DE **Khalid Kareem** on the Reserve/Injured list.
- Sept. 3, 2021 — Signed WR **Trenton Irwin** to the Practice Squad.
- Sept. 6, 2021 — Signed DT **Mike Daniels** to the Practice Squad; Released CB **Winston Rose** from the Practice Squad.
- Sept. 7, 2021 — Signed QB **Jake Browning** (FA) to the Practice Squad; Released P **Drue Chrisman** from the Practice Squad.
- Sept. 14, 2021 — Waived CB **Donnie Lewis** from the Reserve/Injured list.
- Sept. 15, 2021 — Signed WR **Trenton Irwin** off the Practice Squad; Placed S **Ricardo Allen** on the Reserve/Injured list; Signed S **Sean Davis** (FA) to the Practice Squad.
- Sept. 18, 2021 — Elevated S **Sean Davis** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Sept. 20, 2021 — S **Sean Davis** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster; Placed G **Keaton Sutherland** (practice squad) on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Sept. 21, 2021 — Signed C **Lamont Gaillard** to the practice squad; HB **Jacques Patrick** signed off practice squad by San Francisco.
- Sept. 25, 2021 — Elevated S **Sean Davis** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Sept. 27, 2021 — S **Sean Davis** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Sept. 30, 2021 — Elevated S **Trayvon Henderson** to the active roster from the Practice Squad (standard elevation); Placed TE **Thaddeus Moss** on the Practice Squad/Injured list.
- Oct. 1, 2021 — Returned G **Keaton Sutherland** to the Practice Squad from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; S **Trayvon Henderson** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Oct. 5, 2021 — Signed P **Drue Chrisman** (FA) and S **Michael Thomas** (FA) to the Practice Squad; Released CB **Tony Brown** and S **Sean Davis** from the Practice Squad.
- Oct. 6, 2021 — Announced that S **Ricardo Allen** was designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list and eligible to practice.
- Oct. 9, 2021 — Returned S **Ricardo Allen** (designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list) to the active roster; Placed G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** on the Reserve/Injured list.
- Oct. 11, 2021 — Placed LB **Jordan Evans** on the Reserve/Injured list; Placed G **Jackson Carman** and HB **Samaje Perine** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Oct. 12, 2021 — Placed CB **Trae Waynes** on the Reserve/Injured list; Signed CB **Holton Hill** (FA) and HB **Elijah Holyfield** (FA) to the Practice Squad; Released P **Drue Chrisman** from the Practice Squad.
- Oct. 13, 2021 — Announced that DE **Khalid Kareem** was designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list and eligible to practice.
- Oct. 14, 2021 — Acquired CB **Tre Flowers** on waivers from Seattle.
- Oct. 15, 2021 — Returned G **Jackson Carman** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Oct. 16, 2021 — Placed G **D'Ante Smith** on the Reserve/Injured list; Elevated LB **Joe Bachie** to the active roster from the Practice Squad (COVID-19 elevation); Elevated HB **Trayveon Williams** to the active roster from the Practice Squad (standard elevation).
- Oct. 18, 2021 — LB **Joe Bachie** and HB **Trayveon Williams** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Oct. 20, 2021 — Announced that OT **Hakeem Adeniji** (Reserve/Non-Football Injury list) was eligible to practice.
- Oct. 21, 2021 — Returned HB **Samaje Perine** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Oct. 23, 2021 — Elevated LB **Joe Bachie** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Oct. 25, 2021 — LB **Joe Bachie** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Oct. 26, 2021 — Signed LB **Joe Bachie** off the Practice Squad; Returned TE **Thaddeus Moss** (Practice Squad/Injured) to the Practice Squad.
- Oct. 30, 2021 — Returned DE **Khalid Kareem** (designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list) to the active roster; Elevated HB **Trayveon Williams** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Nov. 1, 2021 — HB **Trayveon Williams** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Nov. 4, 2021 — Returned OT **Hakeem Adeniji** from the Reserve/non-Football Injury list) to the active roster; Acquired CB **Vernon Hargreaves III** on waivers from Houston; Waived DE **Darius Hodge** and CB **Nick McCloud**.
- Nov. 9, 2021 — Acquired LB **Clay Johnston** on waivers from Carolina; Placed LB **Markus Bailey** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Placed LB **Akeem Davis-Gaither** and S **Brandon Wilson** on the Reserve/Injured list.
- Nov. 10, 2021 — Placed CB **Chidobe Awuzie** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Nov. 13, 2021 — Returned CB **Chidobe Awuzie** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Nov. 15, 2021 — Signed S **Michael J. Thomas** off the Practice Squad; Placed TE **Mitchell Wilcox** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Signed LB **Austin Calitro** (FA) to the Practice Squad.
- Nov. 18, 2021 — Returned LB **Markus Bailey** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Nov. 20, 2021 — Elevated TE **Mason Schreck** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (COVID-19 replacement).
- Nov. 22, 2021 — TE **Mason Schreck** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Nov. 25, 2021 — Returned TE **Mitchell Wilcox** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Nov. 27, 2021 — Elevated TE **Thaddeus Moss** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).

- Nov. 29, 2021 — TE **Thaddeus Moss** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Dec. 4, 2021 — Signed HB **Trayveon Williams** from the Practice Squad; Placed WR **Auden Tate** on the Reserve/Injured list; Elevated G **Keaton Sutherland** and WR **Pooka Williams** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (both standard elevations).
- Dec. 6, 2021 — G **Keaton Sutherland** and WR **Pooka Williams** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Dec. 8, 2021 — Announced that G **D'Ante Smith** and CB **Trae Waynes** were designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list and eligible to practice.
- Dec. 11, 2021 — Elevated LB **Austin Calitro** and LB **Keandre Jones** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (both standard elevations).
- Dec. 13, 2021 — Placed LB **Clay Johnston** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; LB **Austin Calitro** and LB **Keandre Jones** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Dec. 14, 2021 — Placed CB **Darius Phillips** on the Reserve/Injured list; Signed P **Drue Chrisman** to the Practice Squad.
- Dec. 16, 2021 — Placed OT **Riley Reiff** on the Reserve/Injured list; Placed CB **Chidobe Awuzie** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Dec. 17, 2021 — Signed CB **John Brannon** to the Practice Squad; Released P **Drue Chrisman** from the Practice Squad.
- Dec. 18, 2021 — Returned G **D'Ante Smith** and CB **Trae Waynes** (both were designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list) to the active roster; Elevated LB **Austin Calitro** and WR **Trent Taylor** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (both COVID-19 replacements); Elevated LB **Keandre Jones** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Dec. 20, 2021 — Re-signed P **Drue Chrisman** to the Practice Squad; Released CB **Holton Hill** from the Practice Squad; LB **Austin Calitro**, LB **Keandre Jones** and WR **Trent Taylor** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster.
- Dec. 21, 2021 — Returned LB **Clay Johnston** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Signed LB **Keandre Jones** off the Practice Squad; Moved LB **Joe Bachie** to the Reserve/Injured list; Signed LB **Tegray Scales** to the practice squad.
- Dec. 22, 2021 — Announced by NFL that HB **Pooka Williams Jr.** had been placed on the Practice Squad/Suspended by Commissioner list.
- Dec. 24, 2021 — Placed WR **Mike D. Thomas** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Dec. 25, 2021 — Returned CB **Chidobe Awuzie** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Placed DE **Wyatt Ray** and DT **D.J. Reader** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Elevated LB **Austin Calitro**, DT **Mike Daniels** and WR **Trent Taylor** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (all COVID-19 replacements); Elevated DE **Noah Spence** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (standard elevation).
- Dec. 27, 2021 — LB **Austin Calitro**, DT **Mike Daniels**, DE **Noah Spence** and WR **Trent Taylor** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster; Signed LB **Austin Calitro** off the Practice Squad; Placed QB **Brandon Allen** and CB **Darius Phillips** (Reserve/Injured) on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Dec. 28, 2021 — Signed TE **Scotty Washington** to the Practice Squad; Placed WR **Auden Tate** (Reserve/Injured) on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Dec. 29, 2021 — Returned WR **Mike D. Thomas** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Placed LB **Germaine Pratt** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Announced that G **Xavier Su'a-Filo** was designated for return from the Reserve/Injured list and eligible to practice.
- Dec. 30, 2021 — Returned DE **Wyatt Ray** and DT **D.J. Reader** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Signed LS **Colin Holba** to the Practice Squad.
- Dec. 31, 2021 — Placed WR **Trenton Irwin** and CB **Trae Waynes** on the Reserve/COVID-19 list.
- Jan. 1, 2022 — Returned QB **Brandon Allen** and LB **Germaine Pratt** to the active roster from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Placed TE **Scotty Washington** (Practice Squad) on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Elevated CB **John Brannon** and QB **Jake Browning** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (both standard elevations); Elevated WR **Trent Taylor** from the Practice Squad to the active roster (COVID-19 replacement).
- Jan. 1, 2022 — LB **Tegray Scales** signed off the Practice Squad by Pittsburgh.
- Jan. 3, 2022 — Returned CB **Darius Phillips** and WR **Auden Tate** to the Reserve/Injured list from the Reserve/COVID-19 list; Placed LB **Jordan Evans** (Reserve/Injured) on the Reserve/COVID-19 list; CB **John Brannon**, QB **Jake Browning** and WR **Trent Taylor** reverted to the Practice Squad from the active roster; The suspension for HB **Pooka Williams Jr.** (Practice Squad/Suspended by Commissioner list) was lifted.

* NOTE: Signed a new contract before pre-existing contract expired.

STARTING LINEUPS

OFFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	WR	LOT	LG	C	RG	ROT	TE	WR	WR	QB	HB
Sept. 12	MINNESOTA	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Su'a-Filo	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Sept. 19	at Chicago	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Su'a-Filo	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Sept. 26	at Pittsburgh	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Carman	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Burrow	Mixon
Sept. 30	JACKSONVILLE	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Carman	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	Thomas	Burrow	Mixon
Oct. 10	GREEN BAY	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Carman	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Oct. 17	at Detroit	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	T.Hill	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Oct. 24	at Baltimore	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Carman	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Oct. 31	at N.Y. Jets	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Carman	Reiff	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Nov. 7	CLEVELAND	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Nov. 14	—BYE—											
Nov. 21	at Las Vegas	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Nov. 28	PITTSBURGH	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Dec. 5	L.A. CHARGERS	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	T.Hill	Adeniji	Prince	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Dec. 12	SAN FRANCISCO	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Reiff	Uzomah	D.Sample(2ndTE)	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Dec. 19	at Denver	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Johnson	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Dec. 26	BALTIMORE	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Prince	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Jan. 2	KANSAS CITY	Chase	J.Williams	Spain	Hopkins	Adeniji	Prince	Uzomah	Boyd	Higgins	Burrow	Mixon
Jan. 9	at Cleveland											

DEFENSE

DATE	OPPONENT	LDE	NT	DT	RDE	LB	LB	NCB	CB	CB	S	S
Sept. 12	MINNESOTA	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Sept. 19	at Chicago	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Tupou(2ndDT)	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Sept. 26	at Pittsburgh	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Sept. 30	JACKSONVILLE	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Waynes	Apple	Bell	Wilson
Oct. 10	GREEN BAY	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Waynes	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Oct. 17	at Detroit	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Oct. 24	at Baltimore	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Oct. 31	at N.Y. Jets	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Nov. 7	CLEVELAND	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Tupou(2ndDT)	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Nov. 14	—BYE—											
Nov. 21	at Las Vegas	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Nov. 28	PITTSBURGH	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	B.Hill(2nd DT)	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Dec. 5	L.A. CHARGERS	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Dec. 12	SAN FRANCISCO	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Bachie	Pratt	B.Hill(2ndDT)	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Dec. 19	at Denver	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Bachie	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Waynes	Bell	Bates
Dec. 26	BALTIMORE	Hubbard	Tupou	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Bailey	Pratt	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Jan. 2	KANSAS CITY	Hubbard	Reader	Ogunjobi	Hendrickson	Wilson	Bailey	Hilton	Apple	Awuzie	Bell	Bates
Jan. 9	at Cleveland											

DEPTH CHART

JAN. 4, 2022

OFFENSE

WR	1	<u>Ja'Marr Chase</u>	80	Mike D. Thomas	
LOT	73	Jonah Williams	74	Fred Johnson	
LG	67	Quinton Spain	<u>70</u>	<u>D'Ante Smith</u>	
C	66	Trey Hopkins	<u>63</u>	<u>Trey Hill</u>	
RG	77	Hakeem Adeniji	<u>79</u>	<u>Jackson Carman</u>	
ROT	75	Isaiah Prince	74	Fred Johnson	
TE	87	C.J. Uzomah	89	Drew Sample	84 Mitchell Wilcox
WR	83	Tyler Boyd	17	Stanley Morgan	
WR	85	Tee Higgins	80	Mike D. Thomas	
QB	9	Joe Burrow	8	Brandon Allen	
HB	28	Joe Mixon	34	Samaje Perine	<u>25</u> Chris Evans
					<u>32</u> Trayveon Williams

DEFENSE

LDE	94	Sam Hubbard	<u>96</u>	<u>Cam Sample</u>	93 Wyatt Ray
NT	98	D.J. Reader	68	Josh Tupou	<u>99</u> Tyler Shelvin
DT	65	Larry Ogunjobi	92	B.J. Hill	
RDE	91	Trey Hendrickson	90	Khalid Kareem	
LB	55	Logan Wilson	44	Clay Johnston	47 Keandre Jones
LB	57	Germaine Pratt	51	Markus Bailey	48 Austin Calitro
NCB	21	Mike Hilton	35	Jalen Davis	
CB	20	Eli Apple	33	Tre Flowers	
CB	22	Chidobe Awuzie	29	Vernon Hargreaves III	
S	24	Vonn Bell	31	Michael J. Thomas	
S	30	Jessie Bates III	37	Ricardo Allen	

SPECIAL TEAMS

P	10	Kevin Huber			
K	<u>2</u>	<u>Evan McPherson</u>			
LS	46	Clark Harris			
H	10	Kevin Huber			
PR	83	Tyler Boyd	16	Trenton Irwin	
KOR	25	Chris Evans	32	Trayveon Williams	

NOTE: Rookies are underlined.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

<p>Hakeem Adeniji hah-KEEM uh-DENN-ih-gee</p> <p>Lou Anarumo (Defensive Coordinator)..... ann-ah-ROO-mo</p> <p>Chidobe Awuzie CHIH-doe-bay ah-WOOZ-yay</p> <p>Joe Bachie (Reserve/Injured) BAH-chee</p> <p>Joey Boese (Strength and Conditioning Coach)..... bo-ZAY</p> <p>Louie Cioffi (Defensive Quality Control Coach)..... CHO-fee</p> <p>Akeem Davis-Gaither (Reserve/Injured)..... AH-keem DAY-viss-GAY-thur</p> <p>Vernon Hargreaves III HAR-graves</p> <p>Trayvon Henderson (Practice Squad) TRAY-vahn</p> <p>Keandre Jones kee-AHN-dray</p> <p>Khalid Kareem..... KAH-lid kuh-REEM</p> <p>Evan McPherson mick-FEAR-son</p> <p>Thaddeus Moss (Practice Squad) THA-dee-us</p>	<p>Larry Ogunjobi O-gunn-JO-bee</p> <p>Joseph Ossai (Reserve/Injured)..... o-SIGH</p> <p>Samaje Perine suh-MAH-jay PEE-rhine</p> <p>Riley Reiff (Reserve/Injured) REEF</p> <p>D'Ante Smith dee-AHN-tay</p> <p>Xavier Su'a-Filo (Reserve/Injured) ZAY-vyer SOO-uh-FEE-lo</p> <p>Josh Tupou TEW-po</p> <p>C.J. Uzomah..... yew-ZAH-mah</p> <p>Trae Waynes (Reserve/COVID-19)..... TRAY</p> <p>Pooka Williams Jr. (Practice Squad)..... POO-kah</p> <p>Trayveon Williams TRAY-vee-ahn</p> <p>Renell Wren (Practice Squad) reh-NELL RENN</p>
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ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

JAN. 4, 2022

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
77	Adeniji, Hakeem.....	G	6-4	302	12-8-97	2	Kansas	Garland, Texas.....	D6'20
8	Allen, Brandon.....	QB	6-2	209	9-5-92	5	Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark.....	FA'20
37	Allen, Ricardo.....	S	5-9	186	12-18-91	7	Purdue	Daytona Beach, Fla.....	FA'21
20	Apple, Eli.....	CB	6-1	203	8-9-95	6	Ohio State	Voorhees, N.J.....	FA'21
22	Awuzie, Chidobe.....	CB	6-0	202	5-24-95	5	Colorado	San Jose, Calif.....	UFA(Dall.)'21
51	Bailey, Markus.....	LB	6-0	235	3-7-97	2	Purdue	Columbus, Ohio.....	D7'20
30	Bates, Jessie, III.....	S	6-1	200	2-26-97	4	Wake Forest	Fort Wayne, Ind.....	D2'18
24	Bell, Vonn.....	S	5-11	205	12-12-94	6	Ohio State	Rossville, Ga.....	UFA(N.O.)'20
83	Boyd, Tyler.....	WR	6-2	203	11-15-94	6	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.....	D2'16
9	Burrow, Joe.....	QB	6-4	221	12-10-96	2	Louisiana State	Athens, Ohio.....	D1'20
48	Calitro, Austin.....	LB	6-0	240	1-10-94	4	Villanova	Oriando, Fla.....	FA'21
79	Carman, Jackson.....	G	6-5	322	1-22-00	R	Clemson	Fairfield, Ohio.....	D2'21
1	Chase, Ja'Marr.....	WR	6-0	201	3-1-00	R	Louisiana State	Metairie, La.....	D1'21
35	Davis, Jalen.....	CB	5-10	185	2-2-96	2	Utah State	La Mesa, Calif.....	FA'20
25	Evans, Chris.....	HB	5-11	211	10-5-97	R	Michigan	Indianapolis, Ind.....	D6b'21
33	Flowers, Tre.....	CB	6-3	203	6-2-95	4	Oklahoma State	Converse, Texas.....	W(Sea.)'21
29	Hargreaves, Vernon, III.....	CB	5-10	204	6-3-95	6	Florida	Tampa, Fla.....	W(Hou.)'21
46	Harris, Clark.....	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	13	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.....	FA'09
91	Hendrickson, Trey.....	DE	6-4	270	12-5-94	5	Florida Atlantic	Apopka, Fla.....	UFA(N.O.)'21
85	Higgins, Tee.....	WR	6-4	216	1-18-99	2	Clemson	Oak Ridge, Tenn.....	D2'20
92	Hill, B.J.....	DT	6-3	311	4-20-95	4	North Carolina State	Oakboro, N.C.....	T(NYG)'21
63	Hill, Trey.....	C	6-4	319	1-23-00	R	Georgia	Warner Robins, Ga.....	D6a'21
21	Hilton, Mike.....	CB	5-9	184	3-9-94	5	Mississippi	Fayetteville, Ga.....	UFA(Pitt.)'21
66	Hopkins, Trey.....	C	6-3	316	7-6-92	6	Texas	Houston, Texas.....	CFA'14
94	Hubbard, Sam.....	DE	6-5	265	6-29-95	4	Ohio State	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	D3a'18
10	Huber, Kevin.....	P	6-1	210	7-16-85	13	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio.....	D5'09
74	Johnson, Fred.....	OT	6-6	325	6-5-97	3	Florida	West Palm Beach, Fla.....	W(Pitt.)'19
44	Johnston, Clay.....	LB	6-1	232	8-8-96	2	Baylor	Abilene, Texas.....	W(Car.)'21
47	Jones, Keandre.....	LB	6-3	220	9-24-97	1	Maryland	Olney, Md.....	FA'20
90	Kareem, Khalid.....	DE	6-4	268	4-28-98	2	Notre Dame	Detroit, Mich.....	D5'20
2	McPherson, Evan.....	K	5-11	185	7-21-99	R	Florida	Fort Payne, Ala.....	D5'21
28	Mixon, Joe.....	HB	6-1	220	7-24-96	5	Oklahoma	Oakley, Calif.....	D2'17
17	Morgan, Stanley.....	WR	6-0	205	9-7-96	3	Nebraska	New Orleans, La.....	CFA'19
65	Ogunjobi, Larry.....	DT	6-3	305	6-3-94	5	North Carolina-Charlotte	Greensboro, N.C.....	UFA(Cle.)'21
34	Perine, Samaje.....	HB	5-11	240	9-16-95	5	Oklahoma	Pflugerville, Texas.....	W(Mia.)'20
57	Pratt, Germaine.....	LB	6-3	245	5-21-96	3	North Carolina State	High Point, N.C.....	D3'19
75	Prince, Isaiah.....	OT	6-7	305	7-29-97	2	Ohio State	Greenbelt, Md.....	W(Mia.)'19
93	Ray, Wyatt.....	DE	6-3	255	10-24-96	2	Boston College	Boca Raton, Fla.....	W(Tenn.)'21
98	Reader, D.J.....	DT	6-3	347	7-1-94	6	Clemson	Greensboro, N.C.....	UFA(Hou.)'20
96	Sample, Cam.....	DE	6-3	267	9-20-99	R	Tulane	Snellville, Ga.....	D4a'21
89	Sample, Drew.....	TE	6-5	258	4-16-96	3	Washington	Bellevue, Wash.....	D2'19
99	Shelvin, Tyler.....	DT	6-2	350	7-22-98	R	Louisiana State	Lafayette, La.....	D4b'21
70	Smith, D'Ante.....	G	6-5	305	6-9-98	R	East Carolina	Augusta, Ga.....	D4c'21
67	Spain, Quinton.....	G	6-4	330	8-7-91	7	West Virginia	Petersburg, Va.....	FA'20
31	Thomas, Michael J.....	S	5-11	195	3-17-90	8	Stanford	Houston, Texas.....	FA'21
80	Thomas, Mike D.....	WR	6-1	189	8-16-94	6	Southern Mississippi	Chicago, Ill.....	UFA(LARams)'20
68	Tupou, Josh.....	DT	6-3	345	5-2-94	4	Colorado	Long Beach, Calif.....	CFA'17
87	Uzomah, C.J.....	TE	6-6	260	1-14-93	7	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.....	D5'15
84	Wilcox, Mitchell.....	TE	6-4	247	11-7-96	1	South Florida	Tarpon Springs, Fla.....	CFA'20
73	Williams, Jonah.....	OT	6-5	305	11-17-97	3	Alabama	Folsom, Calif.....	D1'19
32	Williams, Trayveon.....	HB	5-8	206	10-18-97	3	Texas A&M	Houston, Texas.....	D6a'19
55	Wilson, Logan.....	LB	6-2	241	7-8-96	2	Wyoming	Casper, Wyoming.....	D3'20

PRACTICE SQUAD (date signed to PS)

39	Brannon, John (12-17-21).....	CB	6-2	195	3-10-98	2	Western Carolina	Charlotte, N.C.....	FA'21
6	Browning, Jake (9-7-21).....	QB	6-2	209	4-11-96	1	Washington	Folsom, Calif.....	FA'21
4	Chrisman, Drue (12-20-21).....	P	6-3	209	6-30-97	R	Ohio State	Lawrenceburg, Ind.....	FA'21
76	Daniels, Mike (9-6-21).....	DT	6-0	310	5-5-89	10	Iowa	Stratford, N.J.....	FA'20
61	Gaillard, Lamont (9-21-21).....	C	6-3	305	2-8-96	3	Georgia	Fayetteville, N.C.....	FA'21
41	Hendersson, Trayvon (9-1-21).....	S	6-0	205	8-15-95	2	Hawaii	Sacramento, Calif.....	CFA'18
88	Holba, Colin (12-30-21).....	LS	6-4	248	7-8-94	3	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.....	FA'21
36	Holyfield, Elijah (10-12-21).....	HB	5-10	215	11-30-97	2	Georgia	College Park, Ga.....	FA'21
81	Moss, Thaddeus (10-26-21).....	TE	6-3	249	5-14-98	2	Louisiana State	Charlotte, N.C.....	W(Wash.)'21
86	Schreck, Mason (9-1-21).....	TE	6-5	252	11-4-93	4	Buffalo	Medina, Ohio.....	D7'17
52	Spence, Noah (9-1-21).....	DE	6-2	251	1-8-94	5	Eastern Kentucky	Harrisburg, Pa.....	FA'21
64	Sutherland, Keaton (9-2-21).....	G	6-5	315	2-12-97	3	Texas A&M	Flower Mound, Texas.....	FA'20
11	Taylor, Trent (9-1-21).....	WR	5-8	181	4-30-94	5	Louisiana Tech	Shreveport, La.....	FA'21
12	Williams, Pooka, Jr. (9-1-21).....	WR	5-9	175	6-19-99	R	Kansas	New Orleans, La.....	CFA'21
95	Wren, Renell (9-1-21).....	DT	6-5	318	10-23-95	3	Arizona State	St. Louis, Mo.....	D4b'19

RESERVE/COVID-19 (date assigned to RC19)

50	Evans, Jordan (1-3-22; Reserve/Injured).....	LB	6-3	242	1-27-95	5	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.....	D6a'17
16	Irwin, Trenton (12-31-21).....	WR	6-2	207	12-10-95	1	Stanford	Valencia, Calif.....	FA'19
82	Washington, Scotty (1-1-22; Practice Squad).....	TE	6-5	247	7-26-97	1	Wake Forest	Washington, D.C.....	FA'21
26	Waynes, Trae (12-31-21).....	CB	6-0	190	7-25-92	7	Michigan State	Kenosha, Wis.....	UFA(Minn.)'20

RESERVE/NON-FOOTBALL INJURY (date assigned to RNFI; injury)

56	Hubert, Wyatt (8-31-21; pectoral).....	DE	6-3	258	6-13-98	R	Kansas State	Topeka, Kan.....	D7'21
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned to RI; injury)

49	Bachie, Joe (12-21-21; knee).....	LB	6-2	235	2-26-98	2	Michigan State	Brook Park, Ohio.....	W(Phil.)'21
59	Davis-Gaither, Akeem (11-9-21; foot).....	LB	6-2	224	9-21-97	2	Appalachian State	Thomasville, N.C.....	D4'20
58	Ossai, Joseph (8-31-21; knee).....	DE	6-4	256	4-12-00	R	Texas	Ketu Ijanikin, Lagos (Nigeria).....	D3'21
23	Phillips, Darius (12-14-21; shoulder).....	CB	5-10	190	6-26-95	4	Western Michigan	Detroit, Mich.....	D5c'18
71	Reiff, Riley (12-16-21; ankle).....	OT	6-6	305	12-1-88	10	Iowa	Parkston, S.D.....	FA'21
72 =	Su'a-Filo, Xavier (10-9-21; knee).....	G	6-4	310	1-1-91	8	UCLA	American Fork, Utah.....	UFA(Dall.)'20
19	Tate, Auden (12-4-21; calf).....	WR	6-5	228	2-3-97	4	Florida State	Irmo, S.C.....	D7c'18
40	Wilson, Brandon (11-9-21; knee).....	S	5-10	200	7-27-94	5	Houston	Shreveport, La.....	D6b'17

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NOTE: An equals sign (=) indicates a player on a reserve list who is eligible to practice and return to the active roster.

NUMERICAL ROSTER

JAN. 4, 2022

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BORN	EXP.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	HOW ACQ.
1	Ja Marr Chase	WR	6-0	201	3-1-00	R	Louisiana State	Metairie, La.	D1'21
2	Evan McPherson	K	5-11	185	7-21-99	R	Florida	Fort Payne, Ala.	D5'21
8	Brandon Allen	QB	6-2	209	9-5-92	5	Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark.	FA'20
9	Joe Burrow	QB	6-4	221	12-10-96	2	Louisiana State	Athens, Ohio	D1'20
10	Kevin Huber	P	6-1	210	7-16-85	13	Cincinnati	Cincinnati, Ohio	D5'09
17	Stanley Morgan	WR	6-0	205	9-7-96	3	Nebraska	New Orleans, La.	CFA'19
20	Eli Apple	CB	6-1	203	8-9-95	6	Ohio State	Voorhees, N.J.	FA'21
21	Mike Hilton	CB	5-9	184	3-9-94	5	Mississippi	Fayetteville, Ga.	UFA(Pitt.)'21
22	Chidobe Awuzie	CB	6-0	202	5-24-95	5	Colorado	San Jose, Calif.	UFA(Dall.)'21
24	Vonn Bell	S	5-11	205	12-12-94	6	Ohio State	Rossville, Ga.	UFA(N.O.)'20
25	Chris Evans	HB	5-11	211	10-5-97	R	Michigan	Indianapolis, Ind.	D6b'21
28	Joe Mixon	HB	6-1	220	7-24-96	5	Oklahoma	Oakley, Calif.	D2'17
29	Vernon Hargreaves III	CB	5-10	204	6-3-95	6	Florida	Tampa, Fla.	W(Hou.)'21
30	Jessie Bates III	S	6-1	200	2-26-97	4	Wake Forest	Fort Wayne, Ind.	D2'18
31	Michael J. Thomas	S	5-11	195	3-17-90	8	Stanford	Houston, Texas	FA'21
32	Trayveon Williams	HB	5-8	206	10-18-97	3	Texas A&M	Houston, Texas	D6a'19
33	Tre Flowers	CB	6-3	203	6-2-95	4	Oklahoma State	Converse, Texas	W(Sea.)'21
34	Samaje Perine	HB	5-11	240	9-16-95	5	Oklahoma	Pflugerville, Texas	W(Mia.)'20
35	Jalen Davis	CB	5-10	185	2-2-96	2	Utah State	La Mesa, Calif.	FA'20
37	Ricardo Allen	S	5-9	186	12-18-91	7	Purdue	Daytona Beach, Fla.	FA'21
44	Clay Johnston	LB	6-1	232	8-8-96	2	Baylor	Abilene, Texas	W(Car.)'21
46	Clark Harris	LS	6-5	250	7-10-84	13	Rutgers	Manahawkin, N.J.	FA'09
47	Keandre Jones	LB	6-3	220	9-24-97	1	Maryland	Olney, Md.	FA'20
48	Austin Calitro	LB	6-0	240	1-10-94	4	Villanova	Orlando, Fla.	FA'21
51	Markus Bailey	LB	6-0	235	3-7-97	2	Purdue	Columbus, Ohio	D7'20
55	Logan Wilson	LB	6-2	241	7-8-96	2	Wyoming	Casper, Wyoming	D3'20
57	Germaine Pratt	LB	6-3	245	5-21-96	3	North Carolina State	High Point, N.C.	D3'19
63	Trey Hill	C	6-4	319	1-23-00	R	Georgia	Warner Robins, Ga.	D6a'21
65	Larry Ogunjobi	DT	6-3	305	6-3-94	5	North Carolina-Charlotte	Greensboro, N.C.	UFA(Cle.)'21
66	Trey Hopkins	C	6-3	316	7-6-92	6	Texas	Houston, Texas	CFA'14
67	Quinton Spain	G	6-4	330	8-7-91	7	West Virginia	Petersburg, Va.	FA'20
68	Josh Tupou	DT	6-3	345	5-2-94	4	Colorado	Long Beach, Calif.	CFA'17
70	D'Ante Smith	G	6-5	305	6-9-98	R	East Carolina	Augusta, Ga.	D4c'21
73	Jonah Williams	OT	6-5	305	11-17-97	3	Alabama	Folsom, Calif.	D1'19
74	Fred Johnson	OT	6-6	325	6-5-97	3	Florida	West Palm Beach, Fla.	W(Pitt.)'19
75	Isaiah Prince	OT	6-7	305	7-29-97	2	Ohio State	Greenbelt, Md.	W(Mia.)'19
77	Hakeem Adeniji	G	6-4	302	12-8-97	2	Kansas	Garland, Texas	D6'20
79	Jackson Carman	G	6-5	322	1-22-00	R	Clemson	Fairfield, Ohio	D2'21
80	Mike D. Thomas	WR	6-1	189	8-16-94	6	Southern Mississippi	Chicago, Ill.	UFA(LARams)'20
83	Tyler Boyd	WR	6-2	203	11-15-94	6	Pittsburgh	Clairton, Pa.	D2'16
84	Mitchell Wilcox	TE	6-4	247	11-7-96	1	South Florida	Tarpon Springs, Fla.	CFA'20
85	Tee Higgins	WR	6-4	216	1-18-99	2	Clemson	Oak Ridge, Tenn.	D2'20
87	C.J. Uzomah	TE	6-6	260	1-14-93	7	Auburn	Suwanee, Ga.	D5'15
89	Drew Sample	TE	6-5	258	4-16-96	3	Washington	Belleuve, Wash.	D2'19
90	Khalid Kareem	DE	6-4	268	4-28-98	2	Notre Dame	Detroit, Mich.	D5'20
91	Trey Hendrickson	DE	6-4	270	12-5-94	5	Florida Atlantic	Apopka, Fla.	UFA(N.O.)'21
92	B.J. Hill	DT	6-3	311	4-20-95	4	North Carolina State	Oakboro, N.C.	T(NYG)'21
93	Wyatt Ray	DE	6-3	255	10-24-96	2	Boston College	Boca Raton, Fla.	W(Tenn.)'21
94	Sam Hubbard	DE	6-5	265	6-29-95	4	Ohio State	Cincinnati, Ohio	D3a'18
96	Cam Sample	DE	6-3	267	9-20-99	R	Tulane	Snellville, Ga.	D4a'21
98	D.J. Reader	DT	6-3	347	7-1-94	6	Clemson	Greensboro, N.C.	UFA(Hou.)'20
99	Tyler Shelvin	DT	6-2	350	7-22-98	R	Louisiana State	Lafayette, La.	D4b'21

PRACTICE SQUAD (date signed to PS)

4	Drue Chrisman (12-20-21)	P	6-3	209	6-30-97	R	Ohio State	Lawrenceburg, Ind.	FA'21
6	Jake Browning (9-7-21)	QB	6-2	209	4-11-96	1	Washington	Folsom, Calif.	FA'21
11	Trent Taylor (9-1-21)	WR	5-8	181	4-30-94	5	Louisiana Tech	Shreveport, La.	FA'21
12	Pooka Williams Jr. (9-1-21)	WR	5-9	175	6-19-99	R	Kansas	New Orleans, La.	CFA'21
36	Elijah Holyfield (10-12-21)	HB	5-10	215	11-30-97	2	Georgia	College Park, Ga.	FA'21
39	John Brannon (12-17-21)	CB	6-2	195	3-10-98	2	Western Carolina	Charlotte, N.C.	FA'21
41	Trayvon Henderson (9-1-21)	S	6-0	205	8-15-95	2	Hawaii	Sacramento, Calif.	CFA'18
52	Noah Spence (9-1-21)	DE	6-2	251	1-8-94	5	Eastern Kentucky	Harrisburg, Pa.	FA'21
61	Lamont Gaillard (9-21-21)	C	6-3	305	2-8-96	3	Georgia	Fayetteville, N.C.	FA'21
64	Keaton Sutherland (9-1-21)	G	6-5	315	2-12-97	3	Texas A&M	Flower Mound, Texas	FA'20
76	Mike Daniels (9-6-21)	DT	6-0	310	5-5-89	10	Iowa	Stratford, N.J.	FA'20
81	Thaddeus Moss (10-26-21)	TE	6-3	249	5-14-98	2	Louisiana State	Charlotte, N.C.	W(Wash.)'21
86	Mason Schreck (9-1-21)	TE	6-5	252	11-4-93	4	Buffalo	Medina, Ohio	D7'17
88	Holba, Colin (12-30-21)	LS	6-4	248	7-8-94	3	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.	FA'21
95	Renell Wren (9-1-21)	DT	6-5	318	10-23-95	3	Arizona State	St. Louis, Mo.	D4b'19

RESERVE/COVID-19 (date assigned to RC19)

16	Trenton Irwin (12-31-21)	WR	6-2	207	12-10-95	1	Stanford	Valencia, Calif.	FA'19
26	Trae Waynes (12-31-21)	CB	6-0	190	7-25-92	7	Michigan State	Kenosha, Wis.	UFA(Minn.)'20
50	Jordan Evans (1-3-22; Reserve/Injured)	LB	6-3	242	1-27-95	5	Oklahoma	Norman, Okla.	D6a'17
82	Scotty Washington (1-1-22; Practice Squad)	TE	6-5	247	7-26-97	1	Wake Forest	Washington, D.C.	FA'21

RESERVE/NON-FOOTBALL INJURY (date assigned to RNFI; injury)

56	Wyatt Hubert (8-31-21; pectoral)	DE	6-3	258	6-13-98	R	Kansas State	Topeka, Kan.	D7'21
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RESERVE/INJURED (date assigned to RI; injury)

19	Auden Tate (12-4-21; calf)	WR	6-5	228	2-3-97	4	Florida State	Irmo, S.C.	D7c'18
23	Darius Phillips (12-14-21; shoulder)	CB	5-10	190	6-26-95	4	Western Michigan	Detroit, Mich.	D5c'18
40	Brandon Wilson (11-9-21; knee)	S	5-10	200	7-27-94	5	Houston	Shreveport, La.	D6b'17
49	Joe Bachie (12-21-21; knee)	LB	6-2	235	2-26-98	2	Michigan State	Brook Park, Ohio	W(Phil.)'21
58	Joseph Ossai (8-31-21; knee)	DE	6-4	256	4-12-00	R	Texas	Ketu Ijanikin, Lagos (Nigeria)	D3'21
59	Akeem Davis-Gaither (11-9-21; foot)	LB	6-2	224	9-21-97	2	Appalachian State	Thomasville, N.C.	D4'20
71	Riley Reiff (12-16-21; ankle)	OT	6-6	305	12-1-88	10	Iowa	Parkston, S.D.	FA'21
72	Xavier Su'a-Filo (10-9-21; knee)	G	6-4	310	1-1-91	8	UCLA	American Fork, Utah	UFA(Dall.)'20

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