



# AL HOLCOMB

## LINEBACKERS

### FIRST-AND-10

**AL HOLCOMB** was named the linebackers coach of the Bills on February 2, 2024. Holcomb joined the Bills in 2023 serving as the senior defensive assistant after he spent the 2022 season as the Carolina Panthers defensive coordinator and assistant head coach. Holcomb has spent 15 seasons in the NFL and aided the play of Luke Kuechly (2013 DPOY) and Thomas Davis (first team All-Pro in 2015).

### COACHING SHOUTOUTS

#### 2023-present: (Buffalo Bills)

- In his first season with the Bills, Holcomb served as the senior defensive assistant and helped CB Taron Johnson earn second team All-Pro honors for the first time in his career. Johnson played in all 17 games in 2023, accumulating 98 tackles (72 solo), one sack, two QB hits, eighth passes defended, three TFLs, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery.

#### 2020-22: (Carolina Panthers)

- Holcomb was promoted to Defensive Coordinator on October 10, 2022 after serving as the assistant head coach, defense for the first five games of the season. Holcomb previously served as the defensive run game coordinator 2020-21.

- DE Brian Burns was named a Pro Bowl starter for the second season in a row in 2022 and garnered PFWA All-NFC honors after finishing tied for eighth in the NFL with a career-high 12.5 sacks and tying for seventh with 17 tackles for loss. Burns earned NFC Defensive Player of the Week in Week 12 against the Broncos, after recording two sacks, a forced fumble and a pass defended in a 23-10 victory.

- In 2021, the Panthers recorded 84 tackles for loss which ranked 6th in the NFL. Holcomb worked with Haason Reddick and Brian Burns, helping Burns to his first Pro-Bowl selection.

- Holcomb worked closely with standout rookie Jeremy Chinn in 2020 where Chinn garnered votes for the NFL Rookie of the Year award and earned PFWA All-Rookie honors as he led the NFL with the most tackles (116) by a rookie.

#### 2019: (Cleveland Browns)

- In 2019, the Browns tied for eighth in the NFL with 14 interceptions, while the 2018 Cardinals tied for fifth in the NFL with 49 sacks and were second with 982 tackles.

### COACHING SHOUTOUTS (CONT.)

#### 2018: (Arizona Cardinals)

- Holcomb served as the Cardinals defensive coordinator in 2018 and helped CB Patrick Peterson to his eighth consecutive Pro Bowl (7th as a CB), joining Hall of Famers Jim Brown and Barry Sanders as the only players in NFL history to be chosen to eight Pro Bowls before their 29th birthday.

- DE Chandler Jones recorded 13.0 sacks in 2018 and Holcomb's defense tied for fifth in the NFL with 49 sacks in 2018. Since team sacks became an official stat in 1963, Arizona's 49 sacks this season represent the fourth best season total in team history - and the highest total since 1984 (55). The Cardinals had an NFL-high 11 players record multiple sacks (1.5 or more) in 2018.

- He designed a defense for safety duo of Antione Bethea and Budda Baker to thrive in. Baker appeared in 14 games and totaled 107 tackles, eight tackles for loss, 2.0 sacks, three QB pressures, four QB hits, two passes defended, a forced fumble and two fumble recoveries (one returned 36 yards for his first career TD). One of just three NFL safeties with 100+ tackles, 2.0+ sacks and 8+ tackles for loss.

- During Bethea's 13th NFL season, he recorded a team-high 133 tackles. It marked his 10th season with 100+ tackles and his 133 stops represent the third-highest single-season total of his career (139 in 2011; 135 in 2016).

#### 2013-17: (Carolina Panthers)

- Holcomb coached the Panthers linebackers during a five-year stretch that saw Carolina advance to the playoffs four times, win three division titles and the 2015 NFC Championship.

- The Panthers linebackers led the NFL with 24 interceptions while making 35 total takeaways. The defense as a whole led the NFL with 241 sacks and allowed just 93.4 rush yards per game, fewest in the league.

- Linebacker Luke Kuechly was named NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 2013, was chosen to five consecutive Pro Bowls and named first team All-Pro four times. He also led the NFL with 153 tackles in 2014. Teammate Thomas Davis made three consecutive Pro Bowls and was named first team All-Pro in 2015. He reached the 100-tackle plateau in four of five seasons under Holcomb.



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### COACHING SHOUTOUTS (CONT.)

#### 2009-12: (New York Giants)

• Holcomb worked as a defensive quality control coach (2009-10) and a defensive assistant (2011-12), helping the Giants win Super Bowl XLVI.

### PERSONAL/OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Prior to working in the NFL, Holcomb spent 14 seasons as an assistant coach on the college level. He was the defensive line coach at Lafayette for three seasons (2006-08), helping five different defensive linemen to All-Patriot League honors. He worked as the defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at Kutztown University (2004-05) in addition to being the interim head coach in the winter of 2005 after spending six years (1998-03) at Bloomsburg University as the linebackers coach and special teams coordinator.
- He began his coaching career at Temple as a graduate assistant in 1995 working with the linebackers before serving as linebackers coach, assistant track coach and physical education instructor at Colby College in 1997.
- A native of Queens, N.Y., Holcomb graduated from West Virginia with a degree in sport management and earned a master's degree in athletic coaching in 1996. He and his wife, Toni, have a son, Alex.

### HOLCOMB'S COACHING HISTORY

#### NFL

Buffalo Bills	2024-present	Linebackers Coach
Buffalo Bills	2023	Senior Defensive Assistant
Carolina Panthers	2022	Interim Defensive Coordinator/Assistant Head Coach
Carolina Panthers	2020-21	Defensive Run Game Coordinator
Cleveland Browns	2019	Linebackers Coach/Run Game Coordinator
Arizona Cardinals	2018	Defensive Coordinator/Assistant Head Coach
Carolina Panthers	2013-17	Linebackers Coach
New York Giants	2011-12	Defensive Assistant
New York Giants	2009-10	Defensive Quality Control

#### COLLEGE

Lafayette	2006-08	Defensive Line Coach
Kutztown	2004-05	Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Backs Coach
Bloomsburg	1998-03	Linebackers Coach and Special Teams Coordinator
Colby	1997	Linebackers Coach
Temple	1995-96	Graduate Assistant