

WASHINGTON  COMMANDERS

# GAMEDAY MAGAZINE



CARSON WENTZ: THE  
FUTURE BEGAN IN  
FARGO

MEET YOUR  
2022 DRAFT  
CLASS

PRESENTED BY  
BANK OF AMERICA 

JAHAN DOTSON:  
A LETTER TO  
THE FANS

TERRY McLAURIN:  
HUMBLED, READY TO  
WORK



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# FOOTBALL WATCHING: BETTER WITH PEPSI



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Scan for Full Player Roster



# GAMEDAY PLAYBOOK

## WEEK 01

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS AT  
WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

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## GAME THEME

COMMANDERS KICKOFF

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

COMMANDERS MARCHING BAND

## HONOR GUARD

JOINT SERVICE HONOR GUARD

## PREGAME ENTERTAINMENT

COMMAND FORCE AND  
COMMANDERS MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE

## HALF-TIME

MIKE BASS - RING OF FAME INDUCTION

## KICKOFF

KICKOFF IS SCHEDULED FOR 1 P.M. ON FOX





# TODAY'S MATCHUP

**WAS**

**JAX**

**6**

**WINS VS  
EACH OTHER**

**1**

**W4**

**LONGEST  
STREAK VS  
EACH OTHER**

**W1**

**7-10**

**2021  
RECORD**

**3-14**

**16**

**LAST MATCHUP:  
DEC. 16, 2018**

**13**

## MEMORABLE GAME

Sept. 14, 2014: Washington 41 Jacksonville 10

With the interconference foes facing off in Week 2 of the 2014 season, Washington jumped out to a 21-0 lead in the first half en route to one of the strongest offensive performances of the year. Kirk Cousins threw for 250 yards and two touchdowns, while Alfred Morris scored two touchdowns, highlighting an 85-yard day for the running back.

# 2022 SCHEDULE

PRESEASON



SEPT  
**11**



WK 1  
1PM

SEPT  
**18**



WK 2  
1PM

SEPT  
**25**



WK 3  
1PM

OCT  
**2**



WK 4  
1PM

OCT  
**9**



WK 5  
1PM

OCT  
**13**



WK 6  
8:15PM

OCT  
**23**



WK 7  
1PM

OCT  
**30**



WK 8  
4:25PM

NOV  
**6**



WK 9  
1PM

NOV  
**14**



WK 10  
8:15PM

NOV  
**20**



WK 11  
1PM

NOV  
**27**



WK 12  
1PM

DEC  
**4**



WK 13  
1PM

DEC  
**17/18**



WK 15  
TBD

DEC  
**24**



WK 16  
4:05PM

JAN  
**1**



WK 17  
1PM

JAN  
**7/8**



WK 18  
TBD



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BYE WEEK 14



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# DANIEL SNYDER

## CO-OWNER AND CO-CEO

Dan Snyder is Co-Owner and Co-CEO of the Washington Commanders. A self-made man and an entrepreneur at heart, Dan Snyder's life is marked by an enduring passion for the people, the team and the community he loves. He has been a key member of the leadership team since he and his wife Tanya Snyder acquired the team in 1999. A D.C.-area native, Dan Snyder is a lifelong Washington fan who grew up attending Washington Commanders – then Redskins – games with his father Gerald. His childhood and adolescence were shaped and inspired by his devotion to the team. To Snyder, football is family. He has put his passion into action since purchasing the team 23 years ago, consistently leading the franchise to new prominence in the community, in business and across the National Football League.

Dan Snyder continues to be one of Washington's most engaged and impactful community leaders and philanthropists. Shortly after purchasing the franchise, one of Dan and Tanya Snyder's first actions was to create the Washington Commanders Charitable Foundation, which

launched in 2000, to bring together the team and its corporate and community partners to make a positive and measurable impact on area youth across the Washington, D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area. Under Dan and Tanya Snyder's leadership, the Washington Commanders Charitable Foundation has contributed more than \$31 million to the local community and grown to impact more than 178,000 area youth each year.

Beyond the team's expansive Charitable Foundation efforts, Dan and Tanya Snyder have identified numerous ways to support and contribute to communities in-need around the world, primarily through contributions to disaster relief, COVID-19-related relief, social justice, Children's National Hospital and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). Dan and Tanya Snyder have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and mobilized widespread resources to support Ukrainian response efforts, hurricane relief efforts across the U.S. and internationally in the Caribbean, Haiti, Indonesia and Thailand. As a longtime supporter of the Children's National Hospital Foundation,

Dan Snyder's support enabled construction of the Snyder Family Emergency Medicine and Trauma Center. He also funded construction of the Daniel M. Snyder and Family Communication Center at the NCMEC. Each day, the Center fields hundreds of calls from around the nation from law enforcement organizations, parents of missing children, runaways seeking help and people responding to the Center's well-known awareness campaigns on behalf of missing children. Dan and Tanya Snyder were honored with the Charles B. Wang International Children's Award in 2014. Dan Snyder's support has also extended to the military community. Under his leadership, the organization created Salute, the team's official military appreciation club which coordinates the team's decades-long military appreciation initiatives into one comprehensive, year-round platform. This first-of-its-kind program in the NFL serves, supports and thanks the military community by hosting a variety of events, including pre game parties for military members, re-enlistment ceremonies at both team headquarters and FedExField, military appreciation events and more. Snyder also contributed to the construction of the



USO Warrior and Family Center at Fort Belvoir.

Under his leadership, the Washington Commanders remain at the forefront of marketing and business operations in the NFL. The organization has evolved to be innovative with an entirely new, best-in-class leadership team at the Senior Vice President level and above, including Tanya Snyder as Co-CEO and Jason Wright as Team President, making the Commanders leadership team the most diverse in the National Football League. As part of this cultural and business transformation, Dan and Tanya Snyder led the organizational rebrand. The pair also hired a first-of-its-kind Chief Creative & Digital Officer to oversee the organization's storytelling and brand marketing strategies while also developing engaging new content to drive even greater value for fans and team sponsors. In addition to their collaborative work around the team's rebrand, Dan and Tanya Snyder worked closely with senior leadership to launch an in-house content studio. Dan Snyder also leads the team's active stadium search.

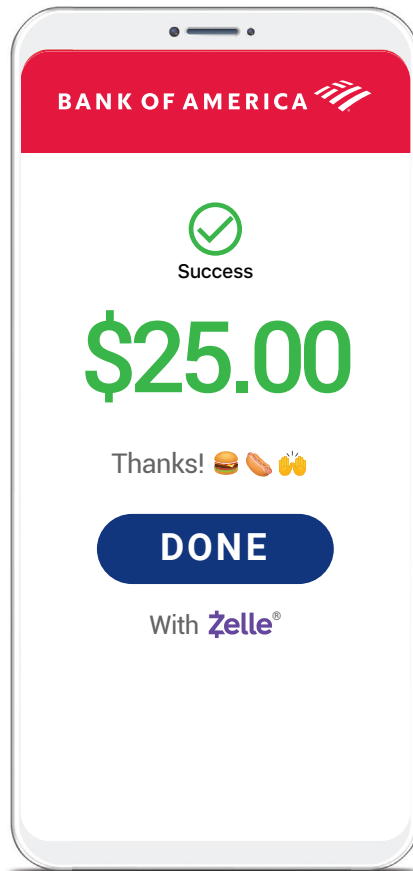
During the Snyder's 23 season tenure, 30 different Washington players have earned a total of 62 Pro Bowl appearances, 14 have been named All-Pro per the Elias Sports Bureau and 20 draft picks have been selected to the PFWA All-Rookie Team. In addition, five players – Darrell Green, Bruce Smith, Deion Sanders, Champ Bailey and Jason Taylor – have been inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Prior to acquiring the Washington Commanders, Dan Snyder founded and acted as Chairman and CEO of Snyder Communications, Inc., making him the youngest CEO of a New York Stock Exchange company at the time. From its launch in 1985, Snyder Communications, Inc. grew to a global organization of 12,000 employees with 77 offices across 17 countries and more than \$1 billion in annual revenue. The company's client base included 200 of the Fortune 500, to which it provided targeted marketing solutions, including advertising and marketing services. It was acquired by Havas in 2000 for more than \$2.3 billion, at the time the largest such merger in the history of the advertising and marketing industry. Snyder is

also Founder and Chairman Emeritus of inVentiv Health and Founder and Managing Member of the Board of Red Zebra Broadcasting, LLC, which operates radio stations across the Washington, D.C.-Maryland-Virginia area. Snyder is active in a variety of other private business ventures, both as an investor and as an advisor to management. He is a frequent invitee to share his experiences and views with business organizations nationwide, and he is enshrined in the Greater Washington Jewish Sports Hall of Fame.

Dan Snyder is the proud father of three children and a beloved dog, Tackle. Dan and Tanya Snyder reside in Virginia.

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# TANYA SNYDER

## CO-OWNER AND CO-CEO

Tanya Snyder is Co-Owner and Co-CEO of the Washington Commanders. She has been an integral part of the executive team since Dan and Tanya Snyder acquired the team in 1999, spearheading the launch and continued commitment of the Washington Commanders Charitable Foundation and expanding her role over the years into various aspects of the organization. Since 2000, Tanya has led “the team behind the team” and guided social and community efforts across the organization. Under her stewardship, the Charitable Foundation has contributed more than \$31 million to the local community and grown to impact more than 178,000 area youth each year.

In 2021, Tanya Snyder was named Co-CEO, becoming a catalyst for the evolution of the Washington Commanders into a franchise of the future. Under her leadership, the Commanders have undergone a cultural and business transformation that includes a new, innovative leadership team at the Senior Vice President level and above, as well as an organizational rebrand. The Commanders have assembled a best-in-class leadership team – the most diverse in the National Football League – with Tanya at the helm.

A breast cancer survivor and longtime advocate for cancer awareness and research, Tanya Snyder and Zeta Tau Alpha co-founded the THINK PINK® campaign for breast cancer awareness within the NFL in 1999 by passing out 8,000 handmade pink ribbons at FedExField to remind fans that early detection saves lives. This gesture launched a pink movement each October throughout the league and across the nation, and what started at FedExField has resulted in nearly 10 million pink ribbons pinned leaguewide and millions of lives touched around the world to date. Tanya's community impact, especially her breast cancer awareness and advocacy efforts, has been recognized by a number of organizations including the American Cancer Society with “Mother of the Year” honors (2013), Men Against Breast Cancer with the Gloria Heyison Inspiration Award (2012), and Zeta Tau Alpha Foundation with the ZTA THINK-PINK!® Ambassador Award (2008).

An Atlanta native, Tanya Snyder is the proud mother of three children and a beloved dog, Tackle. Dan and Tanya Snyder reside in Virginia.



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# JASON WRIGHT

## PRESIDENT

10TH NFL SEASON (7 PLAYING/3 EXECUTIVE) / 3RD WITH COMMANDERS



As President of the Washington Commanders, Jason Wright is responsible for leading the organization's business divisions, including operations, finance, sales, and marketing. In addition to leading a historic transformation of a sports franchise, he is the first Black team president in the history of the NFL and currently is the youngest team president in the League. He is the fourth former NFL player to become president of a team.

Prior to joining the Washington Commanders, Jason was a partner in McKinsey & Company's Washington, D.C. office. His work focused on expanding the value of large, complex organizations through operations and culture transformations. Jason specialized in steering companies through their toughest moments - in crisis and turnaround scenarios. From systemic personnel misconduct to financial distress to COVID-19 response, Jason's tenure at McKinsey supported a range of multi-national, corporation-specific challenges, while also leading the company's global inclusion and anti-racism strategies.

His deep passion for intentional change that profoundly expands opportunities for historically marginalized populations resulted in his work co-founding McKinsey's Black Economic Institute. A research entity that analyzes the racial wealth gap, the Institute today serves as a prominent voice in public discussions regarding racial equity in corporate America. This advocacy, combined with his data- and results-oriented approaches, have been sought out by leading organizations, such as The Greater Washington Partnership, where Jason helps lead its Inclusive Growth Strategy Council as co-chair. The Inclusive Growth Strategy Council is a regional collaborative that dissects and identifies a blueprint for the region to address long-standing gaps in income, services, employment, and access to capital for lower-income populations.

Jason's commitment to faith, family, and community is marked by his service on the Board of Trustees at Union Theological Seminary, where he is helping the institution better equip a changing student body focused on community organizing and social entrepreneurship.

His leadership, passion for community change, and business acumen have been noted nationally and regionally, with Jason being awarded as a "Top 40 under 40" by Black Enterprise magazine, Sports Business Journal's "Best Hire of 2020," and standing as a member of The Economic Club of Washington D.C., where he serves alongside DC-based executives supporting a range of initiatives in the DMV.

Jason spent seven years as a running back in the NFL and was team captain and NFLPA player representative for the Arizona Cardinals during the 2011 NFL lockout. He has a B.A. in psychology from Northwestern University, where he was an Academic All-American student athlete, a two-time All-Big Ten football selection, and the president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He received his M.B.A. in Operations and Finance with honors, from the University of Chicago-Booth School of Business.

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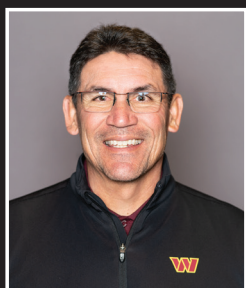
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*Ron Rivera, Head Coach  
Washington Commanders*



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# RON RIVERA

## HEAD COACH

35TH NFL SEASON (9 PLAYING/26 COACHING) / 3RD WITH COMMANDERS



Ron Rivera enters his 26th season coaching in the NFL and his third as Washington's head coach in 2022.

He was named the 30th head coach in franchise history on Jan. 1, 2020 and led Washington to its first division title since 2015. During the 2020 season Rivera was diagnosed with Squamous Cell Carcinoma (SCC) located in a lymph node and detected from a self-care check. Rivera continued to coach through his treatments and on January 28, 2021, he was declared cancer free. Rivera was selected as the NFC Coach of the Year by the Committee of 101 following the 2020 season.

A friend of legendary head coach Joe Gibbs, Rivera is a passionate and skilled leader who has earned the respect of his players, coaching staff and the community. He most recently served as the head coach of the Carolina Panthers for nine seasons, where he led the team to three straight divisional titles and an appearance in Super Bowl 50. Rivera was also recognized twice as the NFL Coach of the Year by the Associated Press in 2013 and in 2015.

Rivera inherited a 2-14 Carolina Panthers team as

a rookie head coach in 2011 and guided it back to an NFC force with four playoff appearances since 2013, tied for the second-most playoff berths in the NFC over that six-year period. In that span, the Panthers recorded 58 wins, tied for the most in any six-year period in their franchise history and fifth-most in the NFL. In 2015, Carolina won its second NFC Championship in franchise history, third consecutive NFC South division title and appeared in Super Bowl 50. Carolina finished the season with a franchise-best 17-2 record, including home playoff victories over Seattle in the divisional round and Arizona in the NFC Championship game.

Hired by the Panthers for his defensive expertise, Rivera did not disappoint as the Panthers put together five top-10 finishes in total defense in seven seasons from 2012-18. Like Rivera, the Panthers' rebound has been steady and solid, starting with six wins in his first season in 2011 and seven victories in 2012 before registering three consecutive division championships starting in 2013 when he earned his first Associated Press NFL Coach of the Year award. Laying a foundation that included back-to-back Rookie of the Year

award winners in quarterback Cam Newton and linebacker Luke Kuechly, Rivera blended veteran and young talent into productive units on both sides of the ball.

Rivera helped lead a Panthers team that finished among the league's top 10 rushing offenses, including top-five finishes in 2011, 2015, 2017 and 2018. The Panthers recorded 30 consecutive regular season games with at least 100 rushing yards from Week 6 of 2014 to Week 3 of 2016, the longest streak in the NFL since Pittsburgh tallied 43 from 1974-77.

Carolina's run defense ranked in the top 10 of the NFL in 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Starting in Week 14 of 2016 through Week 1 of 2018, the Panthers went 21 consecutive games without allowing a 100-yard individual rusher, setting a franchise record. In 2018, Rivera coached two players to All-Pro selections. Panthers running back Christian McCaffrey earned AP All-Pro second-team honors as he helped the Panthers lead the NFL in rushing yards per carry (5.1). McCaffrey also recorded 107 receptions, the most by any running back in



a season in NFL history and broke Steve Smith's franchise record for single-season receptions by any player. He ran for 1,098 rushing yards, becoming the third player in NFL history with over 100 receptions and 1,000 rushing yards in the same season. McCaffrey accumulated a franchise-record 1,965 scrimmage yards, ranking third in the NFL.

Linebacker Luke Kuechly earned his sixth-straight Pro Bowl selection and fifth AP All-Pro first-team honor, tied for the most among active players. Kuechly tied for third in the NFL with 20 tackles for loss. In 2017, the rushing attack helped propel the team to an 11-5 record and a Wild Card berth by averaging 131.4 yards on the ground, good for fourth in the league.

In 2015, Rivera was named NFL Coach of the Year for the second time in three seasons as his team earned its third consecutive NFC South title and claimed the top seed in the NFC for the first time in Panthers franchise history. The Panthers became just the seventh team in the Super Bowl era to post a 15-1 or better record in the regular season. Carolina started 2015 with 14 consecutive victories, which, combined with four wins to close the 2014 regular season, gave the Panthers an NFC-record 18-game winning streak.

Rivera's Panthers went 12-4 and won the NFC South in 2013, Carolina's first division title since 2008. The Panthers then recovered from a 3-8-1 start in 2014 to win four in a row and capture a second consecutive NFC South crown. Prior to Rivera's arrival, Carolina had never reached the postseason in consecutive years, and no team had captured the NFC South twice in a row.

Rivera arrived in Carolina with a reputation for hard work, attention to detail and preparation. Those were also the qualities he exhibited in his first campaign as the Panthers tripled their win total from the previous season. Rivera did not even meet his team until they reported to training camp and, despite a slow start, held it together to finish with four wins in the final six games. Rivera has shined as a coach and player during his 30-plus years in the NFL, serving as defensive coordinator for the San Diego Chargers' top-ranked defense in 2010 and playing linebacker for the Chicago Bears' top-ranked defense and Super Bowl XX championship team in 1985. In 23 seasons as a coach and nine as a player, he has been with teams that have reached the playoffs 19 times, including nine conference championships and three Super Bowls. The mentality of the Chargers defense that Rivera coached and the Bears defense on which he played has stuck with the head coach, and he has transferred it to his teams.

Rivera's character has been influenced by two innovative defensive coordinators. As a player, Rivera was coached by the late Buddy Ryan, the architect of the "46 Defense," which involved blitzing on nearly every down. As a coach, Rivera toiled under the late Jim Johnson, a highly regarded defensive coordinator renowned for his aggressive approach.

Rivera's identity also has been shaped by his family. The son of a U.S. Army officer and the second youngest of four boys, Rivera learned from a young age about chain of command and many of the principles he teaches and expects from his players. "I come from a military family where discipline isn't taught, it's lived. It's expected from day one. I have a philosophy that every

player, every coach, everyone who works for this organization, they'll know it day one," Rivera said in his introductory press conference with Washington on Jan. 2.

Rivera worked with the Chargers from 2007-10. He coached inside linebackers before taking over as the team's defensive coordinator midway through the 2008 season. Under Rivera's guidance, the pass defense steadied itself – intercepting nine passes and yielding 229.6 passing yards per game and 11 touchdown passes over the final eight games. Those numbers contrasted to the first half of the season when San Diego notched just seven picks and was victimized for 265.1 yards per game and 14 touchdowns through the air. In Rivera's first full season leading the defense in 2009, the Chargers ranked 16th in total defense and 11th against the pass. Those rankings improved in 2010 as San Diego led the NFL with an average of 271.6 total yards allowed per game and gave up a league low 177.8 passing yards per game. From 2004-06, Rivera oversaw the Chicago Bears defense, engineering the unit to two top-five finishes in the league. Under Rivera's direction, five different defensive players went to the Pro Bowl: linebacker Lance Briggs, safety Mike Brown, defensive tackle Tommie Harris, linebacker Brian Urlacher and cornerback Nathan Vasher.

In his first season as a defensive coordinator in 2004, Rivera presided over a defense that produced nine more takeaways and 17 more sacks than the previous year and scored a franchise-record and NFC-high six defensive touchdowns. The Bears also thrived on third down and buckled down inside their own 20-yard line, ranking first in the NFL in third-down efficiency (30.5 percent) and topping the NFC in red zone defense (42.6



percent). The following year, Chicago continued to build on the foundation Rivera laid in 2004. The Bears won their first of two consecutive NFC North titles and stood second in the NFL in total defense. In surrendering the fewest points in the league, Rivera's defense went 43 consecutive quarters without allowing more than seven points – the longest streak in the NFL since 1969. During Rivera's last season with the Bears in 2006, the defense paced the NFL with 44 takeaways and finished fifth in the league in total defense and third in scoring defense, helping propel Chicago to the NFC Championship and an appearance in Super Bowl XLI.

Prior to becoming a defensive coordinator, Rivera spent five seasons from 1999-2003 as the linebackers coach for the Philadelphia Eagles, who advanced to the NFC Championship game in each of his final three seasons. Twice during Rivera's tenure with the Eagles, the team finished second in the NFL in scoring defense and in 2001 held all 16 of its opponents to fewer than 21 points – making them just the fourth team in NFL history to do so.

Rivera gained his first coaching experience with the Bears as a defensive quality control coach from 1997-98. He is just the third Latino head coach in NFL history, joining Tom Flores with the Oakland Raiders from 1979-87 and Seattle Seahawks from 1992-94 and Tom Fears with the New Orleans Saints from 1967-70.

Following retirement from his playing career, Rivera went into broadcasting. He covered the Bears and college football as a television analyst for WGN and SportsChannel Chicago for four years from 1993-96.

Selected in the second round of the 1984 NFL Draft by Chicago, Rivera played all nine of his pro seasons with the Bears. Primarily an outside linebacker, he appeared in 149 games with 62 starts (including 12 postseason contests with six starts) and posted 392 tackles, 7.5 sacks, five forced fumbles, four fumble recoveries, nine interceptions and 15 passes defended. Rivera was a member of six NFC Central division title teams and a Super Bowl XX championship team in 1985.

As a player, Rivera was known for both his skill and determination on the field and his dedication of time and energy to the community. As a result, he was named the Bears' Man of the Year in 1988 and earned the club's Ed Block Courage Award in 1989. He has carried that same community commitment to coaching, sponsoring a bowling tournament to benefit the Ronald McDonald House, USO and Humane Society. He was a finalist for the 2017 Salute to Service Award, an annual award presented to NFL players, coaches, personnel and alumni who demonstrate an exemplary commitment to honoring and supporting the military community.

Rivera, who lost his brother Mickey to pancreatic cancer in 2015, also serves as a spokesman for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. He has twice been the honorary starter for the organization's PurpleStride 5K in Charlotte. An All-American at the University of California, Rivera finished his career as the school's all-time leader in sacks with 22 and tackles with 336. As a senior in 1983, he set the Bears' single-season record for sacks with 13 and tackles for loss with 26.5.

Born Jan. 7, 1962, in Fort Ord, Calif., Rivera lived in Germany, Panama, Washington and Maryland before his family settled in Marina, Calif. He

attended Seaside High School in Seaside, Calif., and was a three-sport star in football, basketball and baseball. Rivera and his wife, Stephanie, have two children, Christopher and Courtney. Stephanie is a former assistant coach for the WNBA's Washington Mystics.



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# SCOTT TURNER

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

11TH NFL SEASON / 3RD WITH WASHINGTON

Scott Turner is entering his third season as the offensive coordinator of the Commanders after being hired on Jan. 8, 2020. He will be entering his 11th NFL season and has held positions with the Carolina Panthers, Cleveland Browns and Minnesota Vikings during his NFL career.

In 2021, Turner aided several players in reaching significant milestones, including wide receiver Terry McLaurin and running back Antonio Gibson, both of whom reached the 1,000 receiving and rushing yard plateau respectively. Washington had a 1,000-yard rusher and receiver in the same season for the first time since 2014.

McLaurin has recorded 1,000 yards in each of his first two seasons under Turner, becoming the first receiver to record two straight 1,000-yard seasons in Washington since Henry Ellard did so in 1994-96.

Turner led an offense that recorded the sixth-most rushing yards and the sixth-most rushing yards per game in the NFC. Washington averaged 30:44 minutes of offensive possession, the 10th-most in the NFL.

In Turner's offense, running back J.D. McKissic recorded the second-most receptions [80] and fifth-most receiving yards [589] for a running back in a season in franchise history.

Washington started four different quarterbacks during the 2020 season, combining for the second-most completions in a single season in franchise history [389].

Under Turner's tutelage, two players amassed 1,000 yards in 2020. Running back Antonio Gibson became the first Washington rookie to gain 1,000 scrimmage yards since Alfred Morris in 2012, as Terry McLaurin became the first Washington wide receiver with 1,000 yards in a season since 2016.

The offense in Washington took leaps in the second half of last season, registering 2,916 second-half scrimmage yards. It marks the seventh-most in a single season in club history and most since 2016 [3,635], since the stat was officially recorded in 1991.

Turner came to Washington from Carolina, where he served as quarterbacks coach as well as interim offensive coordinator in 2019.

In 2018, Turner helped quarterback Cam Newton post a franchise-record 67.9 completion percentage, despite playing through injury. The Panthers finished 10th in the league in net yards [373.3], the second-highest season average in club history.

Turner served as quarterbacks coach with the Minnesota Vikings from 2014-16, helping quarterback Sam Bradford to set a then-NFL record in completion percentage [71.6].

In 2014, he assisted Teddy Bridgewater in setting virtually every franchise rookie passing record, and producing the third-best completion percentage [64.6] and seventh-highest passer rating [85.2] in NFL history for a rookie.

In 2013, Turner coached wide receivers for the Cleveland Browns, helping Josh Gordon to the best receiving season in Browns history. Despite appearing in just 14 games, he became the first player in Browns history to lead the NFL in receiving yards (1,646).

Turner entered NFL coaching with two seasons as offensive quality control coach for the Panthers in 2011 and 2012. The Panthers recorded two of the top four seasons in franchise history in terms of net yards, setting the all-time mark with 389.8 yards per game in 2011 and 360.7 in 2012. Newton was named NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year in 2011. His 14 rushing touchdowns broke the NFL record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback and were just one shy of the NFL record of rushing touchdowns by a rookie.



**JIM HOSTLER**

SENIOR OFFENSIVE ASSISTANT

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
23 YEARS



**RANDY JORDAN**

RUNNING BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
19 YEARS



**KEN ZAMPESE**

QUARTERBACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
24 YEARS



**JUAN CASTILLO**

TIGHT ENDS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
26 YEARS



**JOHN MATSKO**

OFFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
31 YEARS



**TRAVELLE WHARTON**

ASST. OFFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
15 YEARS



**DREW TERRELL**

WIDE RECEIVERS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
5 YEARS



**TODD STORM**

ASST. TIGHT ENDS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
5 YEARS



**LUKE DEL RIO**

ASST. QUARTERBACKS/  
OFFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
3 YEARS



**JENNIFER KING**

ASST. RUNNING BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
5 YEARS



**TYRAE REID JR.**

OFFENSIVE ASST.

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
1 YEAR



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# JACK DEL RIO

**DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR**

35TH NFL SEASON (24 COACHING/11 PLAYING) / 3RD WITH WASHINGTON

Jack Del Rio enters his 24th season coaching in the NFL and his third as the Commanders defensive coordinator in 2022 after being named to the position on Jan. 2, 2020.

In 2021, Del Rio oversaw a defense that featured defensive tackle Jonathan Allen, who set career-highs in sacks (9.0) and quarterback hits (30). Washington's defense allowed the eighth-fewest rushing yards per game and recorded the best defensive tackle team grade in the NFL according to Pro Football Focus.

In 2020, Del Rio helped lead a defense that ranked in the top 10 in total yards per game (6th), passing yards per game (5th), interception rate (8th), red zone percentage (3rd) and total points per game (7th).

Del Rio has accumulated 35 combined seasons of NFL experience, including 24 as a coach and 11 as a player. He has held head coaching roles with the Oakland Raiders, Denver Broncos (interim) and Jacksonville Jaguars. He has also coached 29 players to a total of 57 Pro Bowl selections.

From 2015-17, Del Rio was the head coach of the Oakland Raiders. In 2016, he guided the Raiders to a 12-4 record, marking the franchise's first 12-win season since 2000. The Raiders earned a postseason berth for the first time since 2002 and landed an NFL-high seven players on the AFC Pro Bowl squad. Del Rio was selected as the recipient of the Maxwell Club's Greasy Neale Professional Coach of the Year Award, becoming the sixth Raiders coach to earn NFL Coach of the Year honors. In addition, he was named the AFC Coach of the Year by Kansas City's Committee of 101.

As defensive coordinator with the Denver Broncos from 2012-14, Del Rio was part of three-straight AFC West titles and helped lead Denver to an AFC Championship and appearance in Super Bowl XLVIII following the 2013 campaign. It marked his second stint under Head Coach John Fox, as the two also spent the 2002 season together in Carolina.

Prior to joining the Broncos in 2012, Del Rio spent nine seasons at the helm in Jacksonville. During his head coaching tenure (2003-11) with the Jaguars, the club ranked sixth in the NFL in yards per game allowed (317.3) and eighth in points per game allowed (20.3).

Under Del Rio, the Jaguars made two playoff appearances in 2005 and 2007, highlighted by the club's first postseason win in eight seasons with a 31-29 road victory against the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 2007 AFC Wild Card Game.

During his lone season as a defensive coordinator with Carolina in 2002, he inherited the NFL's worst defense statistically (371.4 yards per game allowed) and turned it into the league's second-ranked unit (290.4 yards per game allowed). Additionally, the 2002 Panthers squad led the NFL in rushing average against (3.7 avg.) and ranked second in third down efficiency (32.9 percent) and sacks (52).

As linebackers coach for the Baltimore Ravens from 1999-2001, Del Rio tutored a talented group that included Peter Boulware, Ray Lewis and Jamie Sharper. Baltimore's 2000 team set the NFL 16-game record by allowing only 165 points while recording four shutouts and forcing a league-best 49 turnovers. Lewis was named the NFL's

Defensive Player of the Year and the MVP of Super Bowl XXXV that season after a playoff run in which the defense surrendered just one touchdown in four games.

Del Rio began his coaching career with the New Orleans Saints under Head Coach Mike Ditka, serving as an assistant strength coach in 1997 before moving on to coach the linebackers in 1998.

A veteran of 11 seasons as an NFL linebacker, he was selected in the third round (68th overall) of the 1985 NFL Draft by New Orleans and went on to make the NFL's All-Rookie Team and earn the Saints' Rookie of the Year award.

Del Rio was a four-year starter at the University of Southern California, where he earned consensus All-American honors as a senior and was runner-up for the Lombardi Award, given to the nation's best lineman or linebacker. Named co-MVP of the 1985 Rose Bowl, Del Rio recorded 340 career defensive stops, including 58 tackles for a loss. A standout catcher on the USC baseball team, Del Rio was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in 1981. He was inducted into the USC Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2015.

Del Rio was a three-sport star in football, baseball and basketball at Hayward (Calif.) High School. He earned a degree in political science from the University of Kansas while playing for the Chiefs.

Del Rio and his wife, Linda, have three daughters, Lauren, Hope and Aubrey, and a son, Luke, who also works for Washington as an offensive quality control coach and assistant quarterbacks coach.



**JEFF ZGONINA**

DEFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
24 YEARS



**CHRIS HARRIS**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
17 YEARS



**STEVE RUSS**

LINEBACKERS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
11 YEARS



**RICHARD ROGERS**

ASST. DEFENSIVE BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
10 YEARS



**RYAN KERRIGAN**

ASST. DEFENSIVE LINE

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
12 YEARS



**BRENT VIESELMAYER**

ASST. DEFENSIVE BACKS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
5 YEARS



**VINCENT RIVERA**

ASSISTANT LINEBACKERS/  
DEFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
6 YEARS



**CRISTIAN GARCIA**

DEFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
2 YEARS



# NATE KACZOR

**SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR**

15TH NFL SEASON / 4TH WITH WASHINGTON

Nate Kaczor (pronounced Kat-sir) enters his fourth season as special teams coordinator with Washington in 2022. He will be entering his 15th NFL season and has held positions with the Jacksonville Jaguars, Tennessee Titans and Tampa Bay Buccaneers during his NFL career.

In 2021, Kaczor led a special teams unit that finished with the sixth-most total return yards in the NFL which was the most by the organization since 2015. The unit also allowed 643 kickoff return yards, the seventh fewest in the NFL. Washington punted for an average of 47.4 yards, the seventh-most in the league.

In 2020, Kaczor helped standout punter Tress Way record the highest single season net punting average [44.3] in franchise history. Way broke his own record from 2019 [44.1], also under the direction of Kaczor. Way also set a franchise record for most punting yards in a single game, punting 10 times for 511 yards against the Rams in Week 5. Washington led the league in net punting yards in 2020 with 3,325.

In 2019, Kaczor helped guide punter Tress Way to his first Pro Bowl selection. Way was also named to the Associated Press All-Pro Second Team. Way finished the season No. 2 in net average (44.1) and No. 2 in punt yardage (3,919) and No. 7 in punts inside the 20 yard line (30). Under Kaczor's guidance, Washington ranked No. 4 in the league in kickoff return average (25.2) and No. 5 in kickoff return yardage (833) despite fielding one of the league's youngest rosters.

Under Kaczor's guidance, Tress Way became the first Washington punter since Matt Turk in 1997 to

be named to the Pro Bowl. Steven Sims Jr. (NFC Special Teams Player of the Week in Week 12) and Tress Way (NFC Special Teams Player of the Week in Week 13) were also the first players in the history of the franchise to receive the honor of NFC Special Teams Player of the Week in consecutive weeks.

During Kaczor's three seasons with Tampa Bay, the Buccaneers were one of the top punt coverage units in the NFL, allowing only 6.6 yards per return, the fourth-lowest mark in the league during that span.

Punter Bryan Anger was a standout during Kaczor's tenure with the Buccaneers. In his first year with the team, Anger set Buccaneers records for both punts inside the 20 (37) and net punting average (42.7), with both of those ranking in the top five in the NFL in 2016. In the three seasons that Anger spent under Kaczor's tutelage, Anger ranked top 15 in the league in punts inside the 20 and net average while only recording 14 touchbacks.

Kaczor came to Tampa Bay having spent the previous four seasons with the Tennessee Titans, the final three as the teams' special teams coordinator (2013-15) after being hired as the assistant offensive line coach in his first season (2012). In 2015, the Titans tied for the NFL lead in special teams takeaways, while in 2013 Kaczor's unit ranked third in the league in opponent punt return average and eighth in kickoff return average.

Kaczor entered the NFL as an assistant special teams coach with the Jacksonville Jaguars, working there from 2008-11. During those four years, Jacksonville had one of the league's top special

teams coverage units, allowing the lowest punt return average in the NFL (6.5 avg.) and the eighth-lowest kickoff return average (21.8 avg.). In each of Kaczor's final two seasons, Montell Owens earned Pro Bowl recognition as a special teams player.

Prior to joining the NFL, Kaczor spent 17 years coaching in college, the final two working as co-offensive coordinator (2007) and tight ends coach (2006) at Louisiana-Monroe. In his only season as co-offensive coordinator, the team ranked second in the Sun Belt Conference in rushing offense and averaged its most points scored since 1993.

Before his time at Louisiana-Monroe, Kaczor spent two seasons (2004-05) as the co-offensive coordinator/tight ends coach at Idaho and four seasons as offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach at Nebraska-Kearney (2000-03). Kaczor began his coaching career as an offensive assistant at his alma mater, Utah State, working as an offensive assistant for nine seasons (1991-99), helping the team win three conference championships.

A center at Utah State, Kaczor was a team captain, who earned all-conference honors in 1989. A native of Scott City, Kansas, he and his wife, Angie, have two children, Kaylee and Micah, who is currently a pitcher in the Colorado Rockies organization.



**BEN JACOBS**

ASST. SPECIAL TEAMS

NFL EXPERIENCE:  
12 YEARS





# DOUG WILLIAMS

SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT

26TH NFL SEASON

Doug Williams is Senior Advisor to Washington Commanders President Jason Wright. In his role, Doug leverages his vast experience with the team as a player, ambassador, and executive to provide counsel on all matters pertaining to the establishment of a new, modern identity for the team.

Previously, Doug served as Washington's senior vice president of player development. In that role, one of the most celebrated athletes in franchise history helped lead and guide the efforts of the team's player development department.

Doug, a member of the "Inaugural 70 Greatest Washington Players" and franchise's Ring of Fame, played with the team from 1986-89 and led Washington to a Super Bowl XXII title, which was a 42-10 rout of the Denver Broncos. The first African-American quarterback to play in a Super Bowl, he completed 18-of-29 passes for 340 yards with four touchdown passes to earn Super Bowl XXII MVP honors.

Doug is a veteran of 21 NFL seasons, including nine as a player and 12 in scouting/personnel roles. He spent five seasons as Personnel Executive with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers from 2004-08 before being named the team's Director of Pro Personnel for the 2009 season.

Doug joined the Buccaneers' front office in 2004 following a successful tenure as head coach at his alma mater, Grambling State, and one of the most storied playing careers in league and team history. His responsibilities in Tampa included coordinating the scouting and recruiting of all NFL players, while also monitoring NFL transactions and overseeing player tryouts. In addition, he was in charge of Tampa Bay's evaluating efforts of all other professional football leagues, including the Canadian Football League.

A first-round pick by Tampa Bay in the 1978 NFL Draft (17th overall), he led the Buccaneers to the

first three playoff appearances in team history. He propelled the team to three winning seasons (10-6 in 1979, 9-7 in 1981 and 5-4 in 1982). They were the only campaigns in franchise history with a winning record until more than 15 years later, in the 1997 season. He started 67 career games for the Buccaneers and was a two-time team MVP in 1980 and 1981. He ended his Tampa Bay career in 1982 as the all-time franchise leader in touchdown passes, passing yards, attempts and completions.

In 1986, Washington traded for Williams' rights following two seasons with the USFL's Oklahoma Outlaws. In his Super Bowl XXII MVP performance following the 1987 season, he set or tied several Super Bowl passing records, including most TD passes (four), most yards passing (340), longest pass completion (80 yards) and longest TD pass (80 yards).

In six seasons during his first tenure (1998-2003) at Grambling State, Doug brought one of the most storied programs in college football history back to prominence, compiling a 52-18 record as head coach after succeeding the legendary Eddie Robinson, who was at the helm for 57 years from 1941-97 and re-wrote the record books as the winningest coach in the history of college football with 408 career wins.

Williams led the Tigers to three consecutive Southwestern Athletic Conference titles from 2000-02, as they were named National Black College Champions during the same three-year span. He was also named SWAC Coach of the Year in each of those three seasons. Williams was a two-time finalist for The Sports Network Eddie Robinson (Division I-AA) National Coach of the Year. He rejoined the program for three seasons from 2011-13, including earning the SWAC title in his first season back in 2011.

Doug started his college head coaching career at Morehouse College in 1997. He also has previous NFL experience as a scout for the Jacksonville

Jaguars in 1995 and as offensive coordinator for the Scottish Claymores of the World League in 1995 and tutoring running backs for Navy in 1994. He also excelled on the high school level as head coach and athletic director at Point Coupee H.S. in New Roads, La., in 1991. In 1993, he was head coach at Northeast H.S. in his hometown of Zachary, La., where he guided the team to a 13-1 record and the state semifinals, including a win over Peyton Manning's Isidore Newman squad in the 1993 state quarterfinals.

As Grambling's quarterback from 1974-77, he had a spectacular college career as he passed for more than 8,000 yards and 93 touchdowns, leading the Tigers to three Black College National Championships and two SWAC titles. He posted a 35-5 record as a starter and finished fourth in voting for the 1977 Heisman Trophy.

In 2005, Doug and Shack Harris established The Shack Harris & Doug Williams Foundation with the function of providing grants for after-school initiatives, leadership development, mentoring programs and minority higher education assistance for economically disadvantaged youth. In March of 2009, the foundation put on its first annual Washington Football Legends for Charity in Washington, D.C. In 2010, the foundation established the Black College Football Hall of Fame, which will move to its new home in Canton, Ohio in 2018.

After Super Bowl XLII, the NFL honored the 20th anniversary of his Super Bowl XXII victory as Williams was chosen to present the Lombardi Trophy to the New York Giants following their victory over the New England Patriots.

Doug and his wife, Raunda, have eight children: Ashley, Adrian, Carmelela, Doug, Jr., Jasmine, Laura, Lee and Temessia.



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# MARTIN MAYHEW

GENERAL MANAGER

33RD NFL SEASON (24 FRONT OFFICE/9 PLAYING) / 6TH WITH WASHINGTON

Martin Mayhew enters his second season as General Manager of the Washington Commanders after being hired by the organization on January 22, 2021.

Mayhew joined Washington with 22 seasons of NFL experience as an executive, including eight seasons as the general manager of the Detroit Lions. He returns to the franchise that he played for from 1989-92 and was a member of the Super Bowl XXVI team.

"Martin is a proven general manager who will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the organization," said head coach Ron Rivera. "He will be an integral part of running the daily football operations and will allow me the opportunity to focus more on coaching. He impressed both myself and Mr. Snyder during the interview process and we both believe he will be a tremendous fit here. He is a man of high character and integrity and was part of the rich history and tradition of this great franchise as a member of the Super Bowl championship team in 1991."

Mayhew spent the previous four season with the San Francisco 49ers, most recently as the club's vice president of player personnel. He held the position of senior personnel executive for the franchise from 2017-18. Mayhew assisted first-time

general manager John Lynch and was a major contributor to a personnel department that was vital in the team's Super Bowl appearance in 2019.

Prior to joining San Francisco, Mayhew spent the 2016 season as the director of football operations/special projects with the New York Giants. In his role with the Giants, he worked on all aspects of the salary cap, CBA compliance and player contract negotiations.

Prior to his time in New York, Mayhew spent 15 years (2001-15) in the Detroit Lions organization, including the final seven as the team's general manager. He took over as the general manager following Detroit's winless season and oversaw the building of a roster that resulted in a 10-win season in 2011 and an 11-win season in 2014.

During Mayhew's tenure as Lions general manager, he was responsible for the draft selections of Pro Bowlers QB Matthew Stafford, DE Ezekiel Ansah and DT Ndamukong Suh. Suh was a four-time Pro Bowler and three-time First Team All-Pro selection with Detroit and was the 2010 NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year. Mayhew was also responsible for signing WR Golden Tate and S Glover Quin in free agency, both of whom went on to earn Pro Bowl honors in Detroit. Mayhew first joined the Lions organization in 2001 as the senior director

of football administration/staff counsel and was promoted to senior vice president of football administration/staff counsel in 2003. Mayhew was appointed senior vice president and assistant general manager in 2004. In 2008, Mayhew was promoted to general manager.

Mayhew played nine seasons in the NFL and was originally selected by the Buffalo Bills in the 10th round (262nd overall) in the 1988 NFL Draft. During Mayhew's nine-year career, he appeared in 118 games (107 starts) for Buffalo (1988), Washington (1989-92) and Tampa Bay (1993-96) and notched 473 tackles, 21 interceptions, 1.0 sack and four forced fumbles. He started at cornerback for the Super Bowl XXVI champion Washington Redskins.

Mayhew is a native of Tallahassee, Fla. and graduated from Florida State University with a degree in business management and also holds a law degree from Georgetown University. At Florida State, he lettered in both football and track. Mayhew interned for Washington's personnel department in 1999 while in law school at Georgetown. He also held labor and legal department internships with the NFL League Office before joining the Detroit Lions.



# ROB ROGERS

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF FOOTBALL ADMINISTRATION

28TH NFL SEASON / 3RD WITH WASHINGTON

Rob Rogers enters his 28th season in the NFL and third with the Washington Commanders in the role of Senior Vice President of Football Administration. In this role, Rogers works for the football senior leadership team on the development of player budget parameters, roster management, contract proposals, negotiation strategies and salary cap management. Rogers also oversees the club's football analytics department along with being one of the main liaisons between the football and business operations.

Prior to coming to Washington, Rogers held the title of executive director of player finance and football research. In this role, he worked closely with the Panthers general manager on the development of player budget parameters, roster management, contract proposals, negotiation strategies and salary cap management. He also oversaw the Panthers football analytics department and worked on research and analysis of player contracts and statistics. He directly conducted the majority of contract negotiations

with player representatives during his time in this role.

Before gaining the title of executive director of player finance and football research, Rogers was the director of football administration for 11 years (2008-18). He negotiated contracts for all of the Panthers first round and other draft selections during a 16-year span (2003-19) along with numerous free agents. He also worked with the front office on issues dealing with the NFL Collective Bargaining agreement and as the club's liaison to the NFL Management Council, he kept the Panthers in compliance with all NFL personnel, contract and labor-related issues.

Starting in 2013, Rogers worked on developing efforts in analytics, football research in personnel, opponent analysis and self-scouting along with sports science and next gen statistics. He developed the in-house salary cap management database and also designed the current pro scouting system in Carolina and in the mid 90s

worked with in-house developers to design and implement the initial opponent analysis and self-scouting system. Rogers worked extensively with Coach Rivera in Carolina on on-going efforts to develop game management analysis and practices.

Rogers is also a member of the NFL Club Services Committee, which is a group made of various front office executives from around the league, tasked with providing guidance and feedback on technology integration initiatives to the development staff of the NFL Management Council. He has served on the committee since 2002.

Rogers joined the Carolina Panthers in 1995 and worked as a quality control assistant along with helping out on the in-house business analytics team. He is a 1993 graduate of Harvard University and holds a degree in government.

Rogers and his wife Clair have two children: daughter Emma and son Brady.



# MARTY HURNEY

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF FOOTBALL/PLAYER PERSONNEL

31ST NFL SEASON / 2ND WITH WASHINGTON

Marty Hurney enters his second season as Executive Vice President of Football/Player Personnel of the Washington Commanders after being hired by the organization on January 22, 2021.

Hurney joined Washington with 29 seasons of NFL experience as an executive and will rejoin the franchise where he started his NFL career as a member of the team's public relations department.

"Marty Hurney is an excellent evaluator of talent and someone whom I trust and have worked with in the past," said head coach Ron Rivera. "He knows the amount of hard work it takes to operate a successful personnel department. Marty has a proven track record as a successful scout and general manager and will be a vital part of shaping our roster. Both myself and Mr. Snyder agreed that he would bring an enormous amount of experience to our operation. It is also fitting that Marty started his career here working for the legendary Bobby Beathard. I look forward to collaborating with both Marty and Martin in the years to come."

Hurney was named the Carolina Panthers General Manager in 2002 and held the position until 2012. He was then brought back as the club's interim general manager in 2017 and maintained the official role from 2018-2020. During Hurney's tenure as general manager, the Panthers appeared in the postseason four times, with two NFC South titles, two trips to the NFC Championship game and an appearance in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

Hurney has had a strong number of draft selections in the first round. Most notably, he selected both QB Cam Newton and LB Luke Kuechly in the first round of consecutive drafts in 2011 and 2012. Newton went on to win NFL Rookie

of the Year in 2011, NFL MVP in 2015 along with setting nearly every passing and rushing record in franchise history. Kuechly won NFL Rookie of the Year in 2012 and NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 2013 and was a seven-time Pro Bowl selection. Carolina was just the fourth team in NFL history to have consecutive players win rookie of the year honors since the awards inception in 1967.

Hurney's other notable first round selections include DE Julius Pepper (2002), T Jordan Gross (2003), CB Chris Gamble (2004), LB Thomas Davis Sr. (2005), RB DeAngelo Williams (2006), RB Jonathan Stewart (2008), WR DJ Moore (2018) and DE Brian Burns (2019). Peppers was selected to the Pro Bowl nine times, was the NFL Rookie of the Year in 2002 and is the Panthers' all-time leader in sacks. Gross started at tackle for the Panthers for 11 consecutive seasons, made three Pro Bowls and is the Panthers' all-time leader in games started. Gamble started at cornerback for the Panthers for nine seasons and is the all-time franchise leader in interceptions. Davis Sr. was selected to three Pro Bowls along with gaining First Team All-Pro honors in 2015 and is the Panthers all time leader in tackles. Stewart and Williams went on to compile 7,318 rushing yards and 6,846 rushing yards, which is No. 1 and No. 2 in Panthers' history, respectively. Moore has led Carolina in receiving and posted 1,000-plus receiving yards in consecutive seasons and was selected to the PFWA All-Rookie Team in 2018. Burns ranked No. 4 among rookies in sacks in 2019 and led the Panthers with 9.0 sacks in 2020.

During Hurney's tenure as Panthers GM, he also had considerable success in free agency and through trades. Hurney executed trades for TE Greg Olsen and long snapper J.J. Jansen who

were both Pro Bowlers. Olsen holds the franchise record for receiving yards among tight ends and ranks No. 3 overall in receiving yards in franchise history. He also acquired RB Stephen Davis, QB Jake Delhomme, LB Mark Fields and G Mike Wahle via free agency. All four players were named to Pro Bowls during their time with Carolina. Delhomme ranks second behind only Cam Newton as the franchise's leader in passing yards and passing touchdowns.

Prior to being named general manager of the Panthers in 2002, Hurney held the position of coordinator of player operations from 1999-2001 and director of football administration in 1998.

Before joining the Carolina Panthers organization, Hurney held the role of coordinator of football operations with the San Diego Chargers under Pro Football Hall of Fame and Washington Ring of Fame executive Bobby Beathard. Hurney began his career as a reporter covering Washington in the 1980s. After developing relationships with Owner Jack Kent Cooke, General Manager Bobby Beathard and Head Coach Joe Gibbs, Hurney joined Washington's public relations department in 1988.

Hurney is a native of Wheaton, Md. and attended Catholic University in Washington D.C. Before joining Washington's public relations department, he worked for the Montgomery Journal, Washington Star and Washington Times.





# MALCOLM BLACKEN

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

28TH NFL SEASON / 16TH WITH WASHINGTON

Malcolm Blacken is entering his third season as Senior Director of Player Development after serving seven seasons as Director of Player Development for Washington. Blacken was named to the elevated position on Jan. 9, 2020.

Blacken's hiring served to start his third stint with Washington after having previously served as a strength and conditioning coach for Washington on two occasions (1996-2000 and 2010). In his last season in Washington in 2010, Blacken was responsible for assisting with all aspects of the Redskins' strength and conditioning program.

In his current role, Blacken guides the development and education of Washington players as it pertains to both their personal and professional lives. His guidance covers topics including but not limited to: financial education; healthy and unhealthy relationships; total wellness and mental health; league policies on substance abuse, performance enhancing drugs and personal conduct; social responsibility; social media; decision making; stress and time management; team history and tradition; and the expectations of being a player in the National Football League.

In addition, Blacken works hand-in-hand with Washington's Charitable Foundation and was a principal figure in instituting the team's Rookie Community Club, which annually takes the team's

rookies and immediately integrates them into the Washington, D.C. area community through a series of service efforts. He also provides assistance with continuing education and offers guidance for players' academic pursuits.

From 2011-12, Blacken served as Director of Speed, Strength & Conditioning for the University of Colorado. He worked directly with the football program on a day-to-day basis while overseeing the speed, strength and conditioning needs of all 16 of Colorado's varsity programs.

In between his first two stops in Washington, Blacken spent nine years as the Detroit Lions' strength and conditioning coach from 2001-09. Blacken was an assistant strength coach for the University of Virginia's football program in 1995 and worked with all other sports in the Cavaliers' athletic department as well. For three years (1992-94), Blacken served as the head strength and conditioning coach for George Mason University, where he oversaw the program for all of the university's varsity sports.

Blacken began his coaching career at the University of South Carolina in 1990-91 as the football program's assistant strength and conditioning coach.

Blacken graduated from Virginia Tech in 1989 with bachelor's degrees in art and physical education.

He was a Hokies running back from 1984-88 and was a four-time letter winner. While at Virginia Tech, Blacken was a two-time winner of the Super Iron Hokie Award (1987-88), which is given yearly to the football program's strongest player at each position.

Off the field, Blacken is an accomplished artist whose paintings have been displayed across the country. Recently, he participated in the 2016 NFLPA Smocks and Jocks art auction in Houston for Super Bowl LI and the 2019 NFLPA Smocks and Jocks art auction in Atlanta for Super Bowl LIII, with proceeds donated to the retired players fund. More about Blacken's art can be accessed by visiting [BlackXGallery.com](https://BlackXGallery.com).

Blacken currently resides in Ashburn, Virginia, with his wife, Marcy. The couple has two children, Maya and Bo.



**ALEXIS DOTSON**

SEASONAL PLAYER  
DEVELOPMENT HBCU INTERN  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
1 YEAR





# ERIC STOKES

**SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL**

25TH NFL SEASON (21 FRONT OFFICE/2 PLAYING) / 3RD WITH WASHINGTON

Eric Stokes is entering his third season with Washington and his second as Washington's senior director of player personnel after serving as the director of pro personnel in 2021. In this role, he oversees the day-to-day operations of the personnel department.

Stokes brings 25 combined years of NFL experience to the role. He joined Washington after spending five seasons with the Carolina Panthers in a variety of roles, including director of college scouting, regional director of college scouting and southwest area scout.

As the director of college scouting for the Panthers, Stokes oversaw a college scouting staff that was tasked with targeting and tracking draft-eligible prospects, as he worked with area scouts.

He was responsible for the pre-draft evaluation process at the NFL Combine, pro days and visits by draft-eligible players.

Prior to joining Carolina, Stokes spent two seasons (2014-15) as the assistant general manager of the Miami Dolphins. In his role, Stokes assisted in all aspects of player evaluation and acquisitions at the professional and collegiate levels, including the daily management and makeup of the Dolphins roster as well as guiding the team's preparation for the annual NFL Draft.

From 2012-13, Stokes was the director of college scouting for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Prior to joining the Buccaneers, Stokes spent 12 seasons as a member of the Seattle Seahawks scouting staff, working as an area scout (2000-01, 2005-09)

and pro personnel assistant (2002-04) before serving as assistant director of college scouting from 2010-11. In that role, Stokes was instrumental in bringing in defensive standouts safeties Earl Thomas and Kam Chancellor, linebacker Bobby Wagner and cornerback Richard Sherman.

Stokes played two seasons as a safety for the Seahawks after being selected in the fifth round of the 1997 NFL Draft. He was selected by the Cleveland Browns in the 1999 expansion draft before an injury cut his career short.

Stokes graduated from the University of Nebraska with a degree in sociology. He and his wife, Tisa, have three daughters, Erisa, Payton and Madison.

## PLAYER PERSONNEL STAFF

### BRENT CAPRIO

PRO SCOUT

### CONNOR BARRINGER

PRO SCOUT

### DAVID WHITTINGTON

NATIONAL SCOUT

### JEFF BEATHARD

NATIONAL SCOUT

### PETER PICERELLI

COLLEGE SCOUT

### CHUCK COOK

COLLEGE SCOUT

### HARRISON RITCHER

COLLEGE SCOUT

### RONALD ROSE

COLLEGE SCOUT

### PAUL SKANSI

COLLEGE SCOUT

### ROGER TERRY

COLLEGE SCOUT

### TYLER CLAYTOR

BLESTO SCOUT

### ASHLEY COHRS

PLAYER PERSONNEL ASSISTANT





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# TIM GRIBBLE

**DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE PERSONNEL**

23RD NFL SEASON / 6TH WITH WASHINGTON

Tim Gribble is entering his 23rd season in the NFL (21st with Washington) and his second as the Director of College Personnel. He was promoted to his current role on Jan. 14, 2020.

Gribble oversees the organization's evaluation of collegiate talent and manage scouting efforts at both the area and national levels.

Gribble previously assisted Kyle Smith and Washington's personnel staff by providing evaluations of collegiate talent at the national level.

Prior to his promotion to assistant director of college scouting in 2017, Gribble spent the previous 11 seasons as an area scout for Washington. He originally joined Washington in 2002 and served as a pro personnel assistant, later adding responsibility as the team's Northeast scout in 2003. He also covered the South and Midwest regions at various points during his first 16 years with the organization.

Before coming to Washington, Gribble spent two seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers as an assistant in the scouting department. Prior to

joining the NFL, he was an assistant coach for his alma mater, Duquesne University. He served as the Dukes' special teams coordinator (1996-2000), defensive line coach (1996-98) and running backs coach (1998-2000).

Gribble was a four-year starter (1992-96) at fullback and team captain at Duquesne. He also played baseball for the Dukes and earned dual degrees in psychology and sociology. He is married to his wife, Jennifer.



# CHRIS POLIAN

**DIRECTOR OF PRO PERSONNEL**

26TH NFL SEASON / 2ND WITH WASHINGTON

Chris Polian enters his 26th season in the NFL and second as Washington's director of pro personnel in 2022. He joined Washington with 24 seasons of NFL experience as an executive and scout, including three seasons as vice president and general manager of the Indianapolis Colts.

Polian was most recently the director of pro personnel with the Jacksonville Jaguars from 2013-2019. He played a major factor in the team's free agency signings in 2017 of DE Calais Campbell, DT Malik Jackson and CB A.J. Bouye who were all Pro Bowl selections during their tenures in Jacksonville. In that offseason, he also helped target S Barry Church who along with Campbell, Jackson and Bouye helped anchor a defense that was ranked No. 2 in the NFL in 2017 and helped Jacksonville capture an AFC South title and

appearance in the AFC Championship game.

Prior to his seven seasons with the Jaguars, Polian was an executive scout with the Atlanta Falcons in 2012 and also spent three seasons as vice president and general manager of the Indianapolis Colts from 2009-11. He started his career with Indianapolis in 1998 as the director of pro scouting from 1998-2000. Polian then held the position of assistant director of football operations from 2001-03 and was promoted to assistant general manager/football operations in 2004 and spent five seasons as the vice president of football operations from 2005-09. Prior to joining the Colts, Polian worked with the Carolina Panthers for four years (1994-97) as a personnel assistant.

During Polian's tenure in Indianapolis from 1998-

2011, the Colts had a regular season record of 143-81 with playoff appearances in 10 of 14 seasons including seven division titles and a Super Bowl championship in 2006. The franchise also became the only team to win 12-plus games in seven consecutive seasons during that timeframe.

Polian is a native of New York, N.Y. and earned a bachelor's degree in communications from John Carroll University in 1993. His father, Bill, a 2016 Pro Football Hall of Fame Inductee was a general manager of the Buffalo Bills, Indianapolis Colts and Carolina Panthers. His brother, Brian, is the special teams coordinator at Notre Dame and his brother, Dennis, was the associate athletic director, football at the University of Arizona. He and his wife, Debbie, have three children, Jack (18), Caroline (16) and Kate (13).



# AL BELLAMY

HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER

26TH NFL SEASON / 14TH WITH WASHINGTON

Al Bellamy enters his second stint in Washington after spending the last nine seasons as the director of athletic training for Temple University. While working directly with the football team, he also oversaw all 19 of Temple's intercollegiate sports and also managed the sports medicine staff.

Prior to arriving at Temple, Bellamy spent 25 years in the NFL, including 12 seasons with the Detroit Lions and 13 seasons in Washington. With Detroit, Bellamy helped manage the team's athletic training staff and worked closely with the team's physicians.

Bellamy started his NFL career as an assistant trainer in Washington in 1988. He was a member of Washington's medical staff when the team won

Super Bowl XXVI at the end of the 1991 season. Bellamy worked with 21 members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame including Morten Anderson, Champ Bailey, Bobby Beathard, Fred Dean, Edward DeBartolo, Joe Gibbs, Darrell Green, Russ Grimm, Charles Haley, Michael Irvin, Ronnie Lott, Bobby Mitchell, Art Monk, Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, Charley Sanders, Deion Sanders, Bruce Smith, Charley Taylor, Emmitt Thomas and Bill Walsh.

Prior to joining Washington for his first stint, he served as an assistant athletic trainer with the University of Miami (FL) football team from 1986-87. He was a member of the 1987 National Championship medical team.

Bellamy earned his master's degree in health

education in 1984 from Syracuse University. As an undergrad, he attended Michigan State and received his bachelor's degree in health education in 1984. While at MSU, he began working in the NFL when he served training camp internships with both the St. Louis Cardinals and San Francisco 49ers.

Prior to attending Michigan State, Bellamy attended Archbishop John Carroll High School in Washington, D.C.

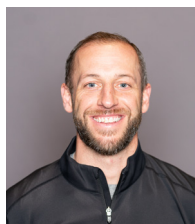
Bellamy and his wife, Sharon, have two children -- son Chase, and daughter Ashley.



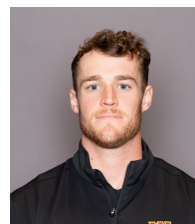
**CHAD ENGLEHART**  
HEAD OF STRENGTH  
& CONDITIONING  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
13 YEARS



**KAVAN LATHAM**  
ASST. STRENGTH  
& CONDITIONING  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
10 YEARS



**JAKE SANKAL**  
ASST. STRENGTH  
& CONDITIONING/NUTRITION  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
7 YEARS



**RYAN VERMILLION JR.**  
ASST. STRENGTH  
& CONDITIONING  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
2 YEARS



**BRETT NENABER**  
DIR. PLAYER PERFORMANCE  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
10 YEARS



**MARK MCCracken**  
ASST. HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
7 YEARS



**MASAHIRO TAKAHAGI**  
ASST. ATHLETIC TRAINER  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
5 YEARS



**JEFF RUIZ**  
DIR. OF REHABILITATION  
& PHYSICAL THERAPIST  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
2 YEARS



**DR. BARBARA ROBERTS**  
DIR. WELLNESS & CLINICAL  
SERVICES  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
25 YEARS

## TONY CASOLARO, MD

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER  
INTERNAL MEDICINE

## CHRIS ANNUNZIATA, MD

HEAD TEAM PHYSICIAN AND  
ORTHOPEDICS

## ANDREW PARKER, MD

TEAM PHYSICIAN AND  
ORTHOPEDICS

## DAVID NOVAK, MD

TEAM PHYSICIAN AND  
ORTHOPEDICS

## DR. JESSALYNN ADAM

TEAM PHYSICIAN  
PRIMARY SPORT CARE MEDICINE

## MICHAEL ANTONIS, MD

TEAM PHYSICIAN  
PRIMARY SPORT CARE MEDICINE

## KEITH SMITHSON, OD

TEAM OPTOMETRIST

## CHAD KASPEROWSKI, DMD

TEAM DENTIST

## SID CHANDELA, MD

TEAM NEUROLOGIST  
CONSULTANT



# MIKE BRACKEN

VIDEO DIRECTOR

24TH NFL SEASON / 24TH WITH WASHINGTON

Mike Bracken is entering his 24th season with Washington and his 20th as the head of the video department in 2022. His responsibilities include overseeing the daily operations, including assisting the coaching and scouting staffs with game tape and player highlights. Bracken conducts the editing of video from all practices and games, produces "cut-ups" of upcoming opponents, and creates highlight tapes for use in meetings throughout the season. He is also in charge of

purchasing and maintaining video and digital equipment.

Bracken joined Washington after serving as video coordinator for the University of South Carolina men's basketball team for the 1999-2000 season and the University of Southern California men's basketball and football teams in 1998. He originally entered the National Football League as a video intern with the Philadelphia Eagles (1997-98).

Bracken graduated from Lycoming College where he played defensive back and helped his team to two conference titles. A native of Clifton Heights, Pennsylvania, Bracken and his wife, Dawn Marie, have three children: daughter, Erin Marie, and sons, Tripp and Aidan. The family resides in Leesburg, Virginia.



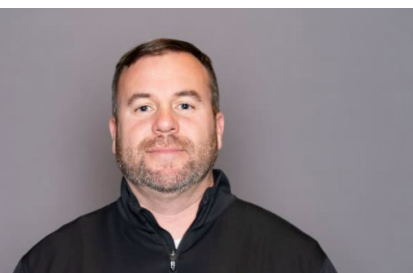
**MIKE ADAMS**  
ASST. VIDEO DIRECTOR  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
13 YEARS



**WILL KROM**  
VIDEO ASSISTANT  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
8 YEARS



**AARON CLEM**  
VIDEO ASSISTANT  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
1 YEAR



# BRYAN PORTER

DIRECTOR OF FOOTBALL OPERATIONS

20TH NFL SEASON / 2ND WITH WASHINGTON

Bryan Porter is in his 20th season in the NFL and second in Washington as director of football operations after being hired by the team in 2021. In his role, Porter directs the football operations team travel, budget, and supports the day-to-day logistics in the department.

Porter was the football operations manager from 2011-17, where he planned and executed all travel, including bus and hotel contracts, while also managing training camp operations.

Prior to his promotion to manager, Porter was the Panthers' football operations coordinator from 2006-11 and operations assistant from 2003-06. He worked as a team equipment intern in 2001 and 2002 after starting as an intern with the public relations department in the spring of 2001.

Porter played football at Guilford College from 1996-99. He earned his undergraduate degree from N.C. State in business management in 2001.

Porter and his wife, Nicki, have two children, Davis and Henry.



**MATT PETERSON**  
FOOTBALL OPERATIONS  
ASSISTANT  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
3 YEARS



**DREW CURLS**  
ASST. EQUIPMENT MANAGER  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
7 YEARS



**JUSTIN BROOKS**  
EQUIPMENT ASSISTANT  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
6 YEARS



**JERELLE LEVERITTE**  
EQUIPMENT ASSISTANT  
NFL EXPERIENCE:  
1 YEAR

# 2021/STSTATS

## PASSING

NAME	COMP	ATT	COMP%	YARDS	TD
Taylor Heinicke	321	494	65	3,419	20
Garrett Gilbert	20	31	64.5	194	0
Kyle Allen	12	19	63.2	120	1
Ryan Fitzpatrick	3	6	50	13	0

## RUSHING

NAME	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Antonio Gibson	258	1,037	4	27	7
Taylor Heinicke	60	313	5.2	38	1
Jaret Patterson	68	266	3.9	13	2
J.D. McKissic	48	212	4.4	15	2
DeAndre Carter	10	89	8.9	27	0
Jonathan Williams	17	79	4.6	23	1
Wendell Smallwood	5	25	5	13	0
Terry McLaurin	1	12	12	12	0
Kyle Allen	2	11	5.5	11	0
Curtis Samuel	4	11	2.8	8	0
Cam Sims	1	7	7	7	0
Ryan Fitzpatrick	1	2	2	2	0
Dax Milne	1	1	1	1	0
Dyami Brown	1	-4	-4	0	0

## RECEIVING

NAME	REC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Terry McLaurin	77	1,053	13.7	46	5
J.D. McKissic	43	397	9.2	56	2
Adam Humphries	41	383	9.3	27	0
DeAndre Carter	24	296	12.3	26	3
Antonio Gibson	42	294	7	73	3
Ricky Seals-Jones	30	271	9	39	2
John Bates	20	249	12.4	32	1
Cam Sims	15	211	14.1	43	2
Logan Thomas	18	196	10.9	35	3
Dyami Brown	12	165	13.8	48	0
Dax Milne	9	83	9.2	22	0
Jaret Patterson	10	73	7.3	12	0
Jonathan Williams	4	28	7	19	0
Curtis Samuel	6	27	4.5	10	0
Wendell Smallwood	4	22	5.5	7	0
Taylor Heinicke	1	-2	-2	0	0

## PUNTING

NAME	PNT	AVG	IN 20	LONG
Tress Way	60	48.4		66
Ryan Winslow	2	42.0		46

## KICKING

NAME	FGA	FGM	LONG	FG%
Dustin Hopkins	14	12	50	85.7%
Joey Slye	12	12	55	100%
Chris Blewitt	5	2	52	40%
Brian Johnson	2	2	48	100%

# 2021 DEFENSIVE STATS

DEFENSE								
NAME	SOLO	AST	TOT	SACK	FF	FR	INT	TD
Cole Holcomb	83	59	142	1	2	1	2	1
Kamren Curl	62	37	99	1	0	1	0	0
Landon Collins	51	30	81	3	1	2	2	0
Kendall Fuller	64	13	77	1	0	0	1	0
Jamin Davis	48	28	76	1	0	0	0	0
Bobby McCain	47	16	63	0	0	0	4	1
Jonathan Allen	31	31	62	9	0	0	0	0
Daron Payne	35	26	61	4.5	0	1	0	0
William Jackson III	36	3	39	0	0	0	2	0
Matt Ioannidis	16	22	38	2.5	0	0	0	0
James Smith-Williams	11	19	30	2.5	0	0	0	0
Jeremy Reaves	20	9	29	0	0	0	0	0
David Mayo	20	8	28	0	0	1	0	0
Casey Toohill	16	11	27	1	0	0	0	0
Chase Young	15	11	26	1.5	2	0	0	0
Benjamin St-Juste	20	6	26	0	0	0	0	0
Montez Sweat	13	11	24	5	3	0	0	0
Jon Bostic	12	10	22	0	0	0	0	0
Danny Johnson	15	6	21	0	1	0	0	0
Tim Settle	7	6	13	0	0	1	0	0
Darryl Roberts	6	6	12	0	0	0	0	0
Daniel Wise	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	0
Bunmi Rotimi	5	5	10	1	0	0	0	0
Deshazor Everett	5	5	10	0	0	0	0	0
Khaleke Hudson	4	5	9	0	0	0	0	0
Shaka Toney	2	6	8	1.5	0	0	0	0
Darrick Forrest	4	3	7	0	0	0	0	0
Cam Sims	4	2	6	0	0	0	0	0
Troy Apke	5	1	6	0	0	0	0	0
Corn Elder	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Will Bradley-King	0	5	5	0.5	0	0	0	0
Terry McLaurin	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Jordan Kunaszyk	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
De'Jon Harris	4	0	4	1	0	0	0	0
Jared Norris	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Tress Way	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Dyami Brown	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Sammis Reyes	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Jonathan Williams	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Adam Humphries	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Alex Armah	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
John Bates	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
DeAndre Carter	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
J.D. McKissic	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Antonio Gibson	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

HW



WTS



# 53 MAN ROSTER



**JONATHAN ALLEN**  
93 | DEFENSIVE TACKLE



**JOHN BATES**  
87 | TIGHT END



**JON BOSTIC**  
53 | LINEBACKER



**DYAMI BROWN**  
2 | WIDE RECEIVER



**PERCY BUTLER**  
35 | SAFETY



**TARIQ CASTRO-FIELDS**  
40 | CORNERBACK



**SAAHQDIQ CHARLES**  
77 | TACKLE



**CAMARON CHEESEMAN**  
54 | LONG SNAPPER



**SAM COSMI**  
76 | TACKLE



**KAMREN CURL**  
31 | SAFETY



**JAMIN DAVIS**  
52 | LINEBACKER



**JAHAN DOTSON**  
1 | WIDE RECEIVER



**MILO EIFLER**  
46 | LINEBACKER



**DARRICK FORREST**  
22 | SAFETY



**KENDALL FULLER**  
29 | CORNERBACK



**ANTONIO GIBSON**  
24 | RUNNING BACK



**TAYLOR HEINICKE**  
4 | QUARTERBACK



**COLE HOLCOMB**  
55 | LINEBACKER



**CHRISTIAN HOLMES**  
34 | CORNERBACK



**SAM HOWELL**  
14 | QUARTERBACK



**WILLIAM JACKSON III**  
3 | CORNERBACK



**CHARLES LENO JR.**  
72 | TACKLE



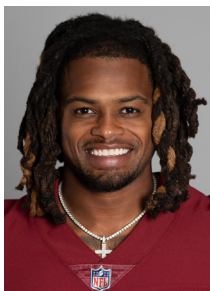
**CORNELIUS LUCAS**  
78 | TACKLE



**PHIDARIAN MATHIS**  
98 | DEFENSIVE TACKLE



**DAVID MAYO**  
51 | LINEBACKER



**BOBBY MCCAIN**  
20 | SAFETY



**J.D. MCKISSIC**  
23 | RUNNING BACK



**TERRY MCLAURIN**  
17 | WIDE RECEIVER



**DAX MILNE**  
15 | WIDE RECEIVER



**ANDREW NORWELL**  
68 | GUARD



**EFE OBADA**  
97 | DEFENSIVE END



**CHRIS PAUL**  
75 | GUARD



**DARON PAYNE**  
94 | DEFENSIVE TACKLE



**JEREMY REAVES**  
39 | SAFETY



**ARMANI ROGERS**  
88 | TIGHT END



**CHASE ROULLIER**  
73 | CENTER



**CURTIS SAMUEL**  
10 | WIDE RECEIVER



**WES SCHWEITZER**  
71 | GUARD



**CAM SIMS**  
89 | WIDE RECEIVER



**JOEY SLYE**  
6 | KICKER



**JAMES SMITH-WILLIAMS**  
96 | DEFENSIVE END



**BENJAMIN ST-JUSTE**  
25 | CORNERBACK



**MONTEZ SWEAT**  
90 | DEFENSIVE END



**LOGAN THOMAS**  
82 | TIGHT END



**SHAKA TONEY**  
58 | DEFENSIVE END



**CASEY TOOILL**  
95 | DEFENSIVE END



**COLE TURNER**  
85 | TIGHT END



**TRAI TURNER**  
53 | GUARD



**TRESS WAY**  
5 | PUNTER



**CARSON WENTZ**  
11 | QUARTERBACK



**RACHAD WILDGOOSE**  
37 | CORNERBACK



**JONATHAN WILLIAMS**  
41 | RUNNING BACK



**DANIEL WISE**  
92 | DEFENSIVE END

# OFFENSIVE DEPTHCHART



## WR

TERRY McLAURIN  
DYAMI BROWN

## LT

CHARLES LENO JR.  
CORNELIUS LUCAS

## LG

ANDREW NORWELL  
CHRIS PAUL

## C

CHASE ROULLIER

## RG

TRAI TURNER  
WES SCHWEITZER

## RT

SAM COSMI  
SAAHDIQ CHARLES

## TE

LOGAN THOMAS  
JOHN BATES  
COLE TURNER  
ARMANI RODGERS

## WR

CURTIS SAMUEL  
DAX MILNE

## WR

JAHAN DOTSON  
CAM SIMS

## QB

CARSON WENTZ  
TAYLOR HEINICKE  
SAM HOWELL

## RB

ANTONIO GIBSON  
J.D. MCKISSIC  
JONATHAN WILLIAMS

# DEFENSIVE DEPTHCHART

## DE

MONTEZ SWEAT  
CASEY TOOILL  
EFE OBADA

## DT

DARON PAYNE  
PHIDARIAN MATHIS

## DT

JONATHAN ALLEN  
DANIEL WISE

## DE

JAMES SMITH-WILLIAMS  
SHAKA TONEY

## OLB

JAMIN DAVIS  
MILO EIFLER  
JON BOSTIC

## MLB

COLE HOLCOMB  
DAVID MAYO

## CB

KENDALL FULLER  
RACHAD WILDGOOSE

## CB

WILLIAM JACKSON III  
CHRISTIAN HOLMES

## CB

BENJAMIN ST-JUSTE  
TARIQ CASTRO-FIELDS

## SS

KAMREN CURL  
DARRICK FORREST

## FS

BOBBY MCCAIN  
PERCY BUTLER  
JEREMY REAVES

# SPECIAL TEAMS DEPTHCHART

## P

TRESS WAY

## K

JOEY SLYE

## H

TRESS WAY

## LS

CAMARON CHEESEMAN

## PR

DAX MILNE

## KR

DAX MILNE



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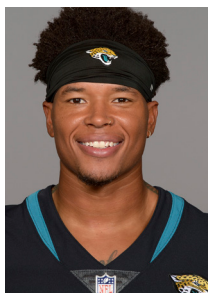
# PLAYERS TO WATCH



**TREVOR LAWRENCE**  
16 | QUARTERBACK



**CHRISTIAN KIRK**  
13 | WIDE RECEIVER



**MARVIN JONES JR**  
11 | WIDE RECEIVER



**EVAN ENGRAM**  
17 | TIGHT END



**JAMES ROBINSON**  
25 | RUNNING BACK



**BRANDON SCHERFF**  
68 | GUARD



**TYLER SHATLEY**  
69 | GUARD



**LUKE FORTNER**  
79 | CENTER



**JAWAAN TAYLOR**  
75 | TACKLE



**RAYSHAWN JENKINS**  
2 | SAFETY



**TRAVON WALKER**  
44 | LINEBACKER



**JOSH ALLEN**  
41 | LINEBACKER



**FOYESADE OLUOKUN**  
54 | LINEBACKER



**DEVIN LLOYD**  
33 | LINEBACKER



**DAVON HAMILTON**  
52 | NOSE TACKLE



**ROY ROBERTSON-HARRIS**  
95 | DEFENSIVE END



**FOLORUNSO FATUKASI**  
94 | DEFENSIVE END



**TYSON CAMPBELL**  
32 | CORNERBACK



**SHAQUILL GRIFFIN**  
26 | CORNERBACK



**DARIUS WILLIAMS**  
21 | CORNERBACK

# OFFENSIVE DEPTHCHART



## WR

MARVIN JONES JR.

## LT

CAM ROBINSON  
WILL RICHARDSON JR

## LG

TYLER SHATLEY  
BEN BARTCH

## C

LUKE FORTNER

## RG

BRANDON SCHERFF

## RT

JAWAAN TAYLOR  
WALKER LITTLE

## TE

CHRIS MANGERTZ  
LUKE FARRELL

## TE

EVAN ENGRAM  
DAN ARNOLD

## WR

CHRISTIAN KIRK  
JAMAL AGNEW

## WR

ZAY JONES  
TIM JONES

## QB

TREVOR LAWRENCE  
C.J. BEATHARD

## RB

JAMES ROBINSON  
TRAVIS ETIENNE JR  
SNOOP CONNER

# DEFENSIVE DEPTHCHART

## NT

DAVON HAMILTON

## DE

ROY ROBERTSON-HARRIS  
DAWUANE SMOOT  
ARDEN KEY

## DE

FOLORUNSO FATUKASI  
ADAM GOTSIS

## WILL

JOSH ALLEN  
JAMIR JONES

## SAM

TRAVON WALKER  
K'LAVON CHAISSON

## LB

FOYESADE OLUOKUN  
CHAD MUMA

## LB

DEVIN LLOYD  
SHAQUILLE QUARTERMAN

## CB

DARIOUS WILLIAMS  
TRE HERNDON

## CB

TYSON CAMPBELL  
MONTARIC BROWN

## CB

SHAQUILL GRIFFIN  
CHRIS CLAYBROOKS

## SS

RAYSHAWN JENKINS  
ANDREW WINGARD

## FS

ANDRE CISCO  
DANIEL THOMAS  
JOSH THOMPSON

# SPECIAL TEAMS DEPTHCHART

## P

LOGAN COOKE

## K

JAMES McCOURT

## H

LOGAN COOKE

## LS

ROSS MATISCIK

## PR

JAMAL AGNEW  
CHRISTIAN KIRK

## KR

JAMAL AGNEW  
CHRIS CLAYBROOKS  
SNOOP CONNER



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# “IT WAS A PINCH-ME MOMENT”

(JEFFREY DOKKEN, COMMANDERS' MUSIC DIRECTOR)

## COMMANDERS MARCHING BAND MAKES DEBUT AT TEAM'S PRESEASON OPENER

BY HANNAH LICHTENSTEIN

After a two-year hiatus, the NFL's oldest marching band made its triumphant return on August 13th for the Washington Commanders preseason opener against the Carolina Panthers at FedExField.

"Honestly it was a pinch-me moment. Even just for a preseason game, walking out into the stadium filled with fans for the first time, with the musicians that I was so proud of and so honored to lead, representing one of the oldest franchises in a sport I love, was a moment I'll never forget," the Commanders' Marching Band's music director Jeffrey Dokken said. "Quickly, it was 'let's get down to business' time, but throughout the game I took many moments to just reflect on how awesome it all was."

The revival of the Marching Band has been a meticulous, thoughtful process, consisting of a lot of research, collaboration and creativity. Over the last several months, the Commanders have worked to bring together an array of diverse musical talent from the DMV area. In addition to music director Jeffrey Dokken and band director Brittney Lynn, the Commanders Marching Band consists of a 60-person ensemble, which features woodwind, brass and percussion instruments. Debuting during the 2022 season, the group is inspired to carry forward the traditions of the last 85 years while creating its own, fresh sound and experience for fans.

Little time passed in between when the original Marching Band played its last tune in the winter of 2019 and the formation of plans to bring it back. As the franchise underwent the 18-month rebrand process, it established a commitment to incorporating some of the fan-favorite, unique elements from its storied past. The return of the Marching Band was a top priority, and its revamped sound and feel became illustrative of what the team has worked to achieve in this next chapter as the Commanders.

"The Marching Band has iconic status among our Burgundy & Gold family. Knowing that it's a tradition held so dearly by generations of fans, we wanted to make sure it was pulled into the Commanders era," Joey Colby-Begovich, Commanders vice president of guest services said.

In a shift from the Marching Band of the previous era, the smaller 60-person Marching Band that will perform at Commanders home games is made up of all paid, part-time employees. That employee status comes with a lot of pride for the Band Members.

"I want to enjoy every moment of being a part of a professional marching band," Leah Williams, who plays Baritone, said. "I'm grateful for the opportunity and look forward to creating memories with my fellow bandmates."

Continuing the lineage with a modern twist, Williams and the rest of the Commanders Marching Band performed in front of fans for the first time during the team's preseason opener on August 13.

"It was a surreal experience," Jyrah Scatliffe, the band's tenor saxophone section leader said.

As the band re-introduced itself, it also re-introduced the team's fight song, "Hail to the Commanders." Just like the players on the field, the Panthers game was a dress rehearsal for the real deal ahead for the Marching Band. This season, and for the many beyond, the goal will be to continue pushing the standard of performance excellence that has always been associated with this group.

"I'm looking forward to continuing to build the music program, creating even more high quality, innovative entertainment experiences for our amazing fans," Dokken said.









## THE FUTURE BEGAN IN FARGO

# CARSON WENTZ

BY ZACH SELBY

For the first time in more than two years, the auditorium at the Washington Commanders' home facility was packed with reporters and employees anxious to get the first look at the organization's future.

The last time there were that many people in the room was 2020 -- a few months before working from home was a foreign concept to most and the word "zoom" hadn't yet entered our cultural lexicon -- when Ron Rivera first laid out his plan to turn Washington, which hasn't had a winning record since 2016, back into a playoff contender.

It seemed fitting that the next time reporters were in the room was to unveil the next, and probably most important, part of that plan.

Carson Wentz, freshly traded from the Indianapolis Colts, had an ear-to-ear smile on his face as he was introduced by Ron Rivera. As he walked up to the podium, the quarterback wearing a burgundy shirt and a yellow jacket, he at least looked the part of being the Commanders' next signal-caller.

"Well, I had the jacket," Wentz said. "I didn't know it would come in handy here. It was NDSU [North Dakota State University] colors and my wife did a good job of finding me this shirt that matched. So yeah, that's what went into it. Feel good in it, too."

It's fortuitous that Wentz dug out that jacket for the next phase of his career, but it's one corner of his past that many Burgundy & Gold fans aren't as well-versed. Washington fans have certainly witnessed plenty of Wentz over the years. They've seen the highs he had with the Philadelphia Eagles; they've also seen the rougher patches.

But before he was holding up a midnight green jersey in Chicago as the No. 2 overall pick, he was the face of NDSU football.

Wentz, who first picked up a football in Bismark, North Dakota, was only the starter for two seasons with the Bison, but he did plenty to leave his mark on the program: two national championships; All-America honors from several outlets; single-season records in passing attempts, completions, yards and total offense per game; and not to mention multiple academic accolades.

Wentz plans to bring that talent with him to Washington, which is banking on him being the right quarterback to help it reach the postseason for the second time in three seasons. But Wentz is coming with more than a bunch of old records and a flashy gold jacket; he's bringing steadfast leadership, a gritty desire to win and to help his teammates, whether they're catching passes or navigating through life.

Wentz is known for those traits as well, and they were first developed as a kid trying to make a name for himself at NDSU.

"I put my best foot forward and let the chips fall where they may," Wentz said. "That's the mindset I've had ever since I was in college playing ball and got to the league, so that's what I'm gonna do. I'm gonna put my head down, work, build relationships and hopefully look up at the end of the year and be happy with the result."

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Wentz wasn't the only member of his family to get NDSU's attention, and he wasn't the first, either.

Back when Wentz was playing for Bismark Century High School -- about three hours from NDSU's campus -- it was his older brother, Zach, that first enticed the Bison.

Zach was an all-around athlete for the Governors, playing quarterback and linebacker. He appeared in the Montana/North Dakota all-star game during his senior year after passing for 2,226 yards and accounting for 21 touchdowns.

Zach's heart was more set on baseball, though, and despite some efforts by the football staff to make him a two-sport athlete, he went on to be a pitcher/infielder for the Bison.

Brent Vigen, then offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach for NDSU, was aware that Zach had a brother, Carson, but he didn't know much about him. In fact, they didn't do much recruiting at all on Carson. They didn't even push him to attend their summer camp, which, as Vigen said, "sounds crazy" considering the state of how recruiting is done today.

The first time Vigen spoke to Wentz was when he was invited to an NDSU game during his senior year.

"It was unorthodox recruiting, needless to say, where you don't meet a kid until he comes to a game in the fall," Vigen said.

Once Vigen started paying more attention to Wentz, he noticed there was a lot to like about him. He clearly had the right tools; he was an all-state quarterback who led his team to an 8-3 record and a trip to the semifinals.

But there were other parts of Wentz that stuck out to Vigen even more. "He believed in himself more than anyone believed in him," Vigen said, and Wentz's willingness to fill whatever role required of him on his high school basketball team also impressed him.

That, along with his high level of intelligence, convinced NDSU to pursue him further even though they already had a commitment at quarterback. They officially gave Wentz an offer in December of his senior year.

"I think we knew we had something," Vigen said. "It was raw, but we really had something with just this combination of his physical skills and then kind of who he was as a person."

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There were a few things that were in the way of Wentz putting himself in the starting lineup for the Bison.

For one, Wentz simply wasn't ready. Given how unusual Wentz's recruitment was, Vigen didn't see him throw in person until his first day of practice. The talent was there, but so were the limitations. His fundamentals needed a tune up in order to get him on the field.

Second, NDSU already had a starting quarterback, Brock Jensen, who happened to be the best the program ever had from a statistical standpoint. Name a record, and Jensen's name was likely etched next to it. He finished his career with more wins than any quarterback in FCS history, and that included three straight national championships along with NDSU career records for passing attempts, completions, yards, touchdown passes, total offense, attempts and yards.

So, Wentz had some time to develop before getting his chance. The big question Wentz had to answer was whether he could hone the rest of his skill set to do all the things a quarterback needs to do. Fortunately, there were some foundational pieces for him to build on.

Let's start with the obvious: his arm strength. It's a trait that Wentz has been known for throughout his professional career, but Vigen said that, even as a freshman, Wentz was able to make throws that were out of the ordinary that "the next kid probably couldn't make." It led to what Vigen called "competitive risk-taking," which could be a blessing and a curse.

It also led to Wentz leaning on that arm strength, so Vigen challenged him to round out the rest of his game while working on the scout team.

"He had to rely on a more consistent lower body to be able to improve his accuracy," Vigen said. "It was about just being more consistent and really working on his lower body mechanics."

Wentz had a knack for understanding the game, too. He always seemed to be one step ahead of

where a normal underclassman was supposed to be, not just in the meeting room, but also on the field.

"He's a very quick learner and a smart guy," said former Bison wide receiver Zach Vraa. "He took from the other quarterbacks [and] learned a lot from them. I think once he just studied more and more that's when his game kind of progressed from just being an athlete into a really good football player."

Vraa was a sophomore when Wentz first joined NDSU and was on the scout team with the quarterback. Vraa dealt with injuries early in his career, so their time together early on was brief, but the chemistry they built proved to be invaluable once they both became starters.

Vraa learned quickly that Wentz could sling the ball downfield with ease, but what impressed him more was how Wentz worked in the pocket. He described Wentz's operation with one word: "smooth."

"The way he ran, his stride was so long. His arms were so long. It's not like he had a bunch of zip on the ball. Yeah. But since he was so long and lanky and broad, he was just very smooth with the way that he threw the ball and moved around the field."

By the time he was a sophomore, Wentz had undergone a significant change, developing from an intriguing prospect to a rare talent. He learned how to throw different passes and how to work with his receivers to thrive within the offense.

That led to him getting snaps as the backup quarterback, although he still had to wait another year before he would be considered as the starter. NDSU went on to win its third national championship, and Jensen set school records for passing yards (2,793), passing touchdowns (34) and total offense yards (3,272).

Jensen never allowed the possibility of Wentz taking over as the starter to creep into anyone's mind while he was there, although it could be argued that Wentz was ready to be the primary

"It's so unique," Vigen said. "Just his mindset of understanding that, 'Hey, I love being part of this team. My time will come, but if it comes sooner than it might because of graduation, I'm gonna be as ready as I possibly can.' I think that's a pretty rare quality. I don't think it hardly would exist in today's world."

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It was a frigid Sunday in January of 2014 in Fargo, North Dakota, and Randy Hedberg was patiently waiting to meet his new starting quarterback.

The Bison had just wrapped up a convincing national championship game against Towson. It was a time of monumental change for the program. Jensen was graduating and would eventually pursue a professional career, and defensive coordinator Chris Klieman was named the head coach in place of Craig Bohl, who had departed for Wyoming.

Vigen joined Bohl at Wyoming, and Hedberg was slated to take his place. It wasn't his first time interacting with Wentz; the two had spoken while Hedberg was coaching at Southern Illinois, which offered Wentz a scholarship that he ultimately turned down.

This was the first time they had met in person, though, and since Wentz was going to be the starting quarterback going forward, he wanted to get started on their relationship early.

"It was pretty impressive," Hedberg said of their first conversation. "He was one of those guys that had a personality. It was pretty apparent that he was a pretty good leader. That's the impression I got. Guys responded to him, and they reacted in a very favorable way with him."

Hedberg could tell that Wentz was ready to be the starter. Wentz had already done most of the preparation in his years as a backup. His deep ball accuracy needed some work, but they smoothed that out by watching film on Tom Brady, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees so Wentz could get a firmer grasp on when to release his passes so they

that sort of thing right away."

Wentz learned much of that by working and getting to know his receivers. It was something Vraa got to experience firsthand from their days on the scout team. There were times during seven-on-seven drills when Wentz delivered the ball on target right as Vraa was turning his head at the top of a route.

Now, as the starter, Wentz had to build that bond with more people. He wasn't best friends with everyone on the team, Vraa said, but he had no problem going out of his way to improve relationships.

"We were able to give him our preferences and he was able to just kind of play along with that and help us win at the end of the day, which was really nice instead of just him throwing it and we have to kind of guess where it's going," Vraa said.

Wentz took that knowledge into the meeting rooms, and it helped set the standard for how NDSU quarterbacks ran the offense after him. He had input on what the offense did on third downs and in the red zone during practice, and that carried over to game day.

That's not to say that Wentz was giving out 25 play calls per game and superseding the coaching staff. He was respectful of what offensive coordinator Tim Polasek was calling and would run it without hesitation, but he would offer suggestions on how they could attack defenses.

"That's where I started gaining such a trust [in him] because of his preparation," Polasek said. "I think young players...don't necessarily know how to devise a plan, but to be able to talk about formations, whether you want to be in open or want to be in tight formations he just always had a really good feel for that based on the looks that he was looking at."

Wentz paired that knowledge with his natural athleticism, and that mixture showed often on the field. He completed 228-of-358 passes for 3,111 yards -- all single-season school records -- with 25 touchdowns and led the Bison to another national championship. It was one of the best seasons a Bison quarterback has ever had, but there were moments where his mixture of savvy and athleticism stood out among the rest.

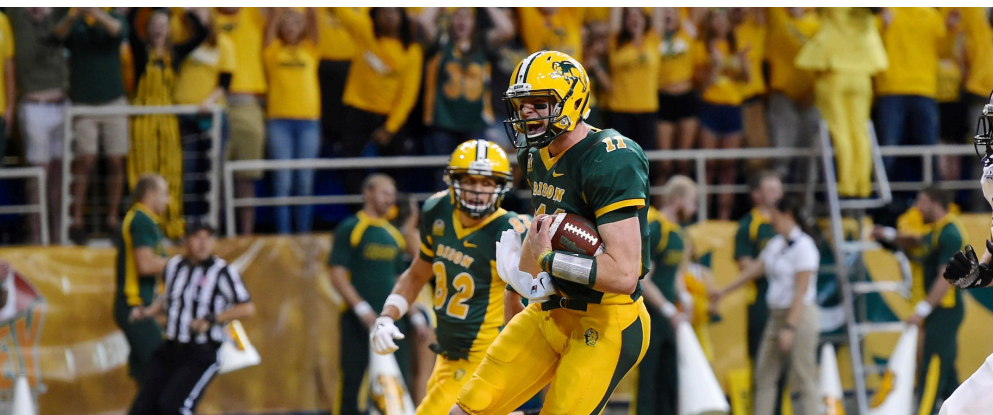
There was a particular play where the Bison would run a route combination that forced the safety to choose between the slot receiver, who would run a go route, or Vraa, the outside receiver, who would run across the field.

As it became clear that Vraa would be Wentz's top option on the play, he turned and saw three defenders between him and Wentz. Vraa immediately thought there was no way the pass would be complete, but Wentz scrambled, zipped the ball between all three players and hit Vraa for a gain.

"After that play, I'm thinking to myself, 'if this guy can scramble, throw a ball between three defenders and somehow hit a receiver dead on, he's got a future,'" Vraa said.

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NDSU's quarterbacks aren't likely to lead college football in passing yards. That simply isn't the way the Bison run their offense. It's a more balanced attack that doesn't put everything on the quarterback's shoulders.



(NDSU Athletics)

signal-caller. Vigen said Wentz pushed Jensen, and he credits Wentz for a lot of the success Jensen had in their time together.

Despite being confident in his own ability, Wentz chose to be patient and continue to work on his skill set. He knew he would get his chance eventually.

were more catchable for college receivers.

Wentz had the intelligence needed to handle Hedberg's plans, though, and that was what mattered most.

"He really knew football," Hedberg said. "He was very fluent to getting protection checks seeing coverages and where to go with the football and all

When it comes to quarterback play, the most important thing to NDSU's coaches is whether they won the game. If so, then they had good quarterback play.

Wentz was exceptional at that, particularly when it came to winning games in the final two minutes.

"I think confidence plays a big role," Polasek said. "I always felt good about his knowledge, his understanding of that situation. And then ultimately that comes down to really believing in your teammates and the work that you put in at that time."

Confidence has never been in short supply with Wentz. He believes he's going to make every play, Hedberg said, and he did for the most part. One play that stuck in Polasek's mind came during the season opener against Montana, when Wentz checked out of one personnel grouping and into another before running for a touchdown.

"I remember saying to the head coach [Klieman] over the headset, 'We're gonna be in good shape,'" Polasek said.

Two-minute drills were when Wentz had more freedom to call plays himself. Polasek said Wentz had a firm grasp of knowing what he liked in their inventory of plays and was comfortable in orchestrating them.

That comfortability gave his teammates confidence that he could get them in the end zone when it mattered most.

"We knew that he was such a smart guy, and he could call plays on the fly," Vraa said. "He was at the point [in] his senior year where he didn't really have to rely on our offensive coordinator or head coach to call a play. We had faith in him."

Most of NDSU's games during Wentz's college career ended with the Bison winning handily, but there were some moments where Wentz had to pull out wins in the final moments. One of the most memorable came in the second round of the 2014 FCS playoffs against South Dakota State, when he led NDSU on an eight-play, 76-yard drive and threw a game-winning touchdown that Hedberg describes as the best play he's seen in his 40 years of coaching.

"It was so slow motion-like," Hedberg said. "But the precision and execution was so great on it."

There was another -- this time against Northern Iowa in NDSU's homecoming the following season -- that was just as memorable. It wasn't just because of the throw, which was an 18-yard touchdown to redshirt freshman Darrius Shepherd with 35 seconds left; it was also special because of the reaction it received in the booth.

"I remember an NFL scout...turned to us when the touchdown was thrown and caught, raised his arms up in the air like, 'what a play,'" Hedberg said.

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There was a grin on Wentz's face as he held the matte burgundy helmet and posed for photos after his press conference at the Commanders' facility. There was a lot to smile about, despite the whirlwind that occurred from the moment he received the news that he was on the move again to addressing the Washington media.

The thing that made him the happiest: it was clear from the moment he arrived that he was wanted.

"Feeling that support from everybody in the organization means a lot," Wentz said. "It allows you to go play confidently freely, which I think ultimately will allow me to play my best ball and try and elevate everybody around me to the full extent that I can. And I look forward to doing that."

What should we expect from Wentz as he joins a team that is craving to be back in the playoff discussion? A lot of people have made the decision already, and they've loudly proclaimed it to the football masses, for better or worse.

There are several factors that point to the 2022 season being a great chapter for the team and Wentz himself. He has a young, talented group of receivers, the best of which just signed an extension, a running back that finished with the second-most rushing yards in the NFC, a solid offensive line and a defense that is brimming with first-round talent up front.

Whether Wentz can rise to that occasion is up to him, but the people who have coached and played alongside him have no doubts about what he can do.

"He's gonna do anything it takes to win," Vraa said.

"He's gonna bring the team together. Even if he's not having success on the field, he's definitely

He's also going to work with offensive coordinator Scott Turner and the rest of the Commanders' coaches on a game plan that helps Washington win games. He'll use his own experience to provide input on how they can put up points and move downfield, but he'll rely on the coaches to craft a plan that works for everyone.

And when Washington needs someone to make a play, he won't shy away from calling his own number. He will be confident in his skill set, which will spread to the rest of the team.

The Commanders believe they can take a step forward this season. They're going to need all those qualities from Wentz to do it.

"You're gonna get a guy that's committed to the Commanders," Hedberg said. "Every game that he is out there, he's gonna give you everything he has. There's no question about that."



(NDSU Athletics)

gonna be able to bring the team together, build relationships and have people trust him. And I feel like at a quarterback position, that's really what you need."

For all we don't know about what Washington's offense will look like with Wentz under center, there are some certainties. He's going to establish bonds with his receivers to help them succeed. His NDSU coaches and teammates described him as having a "serving mentality," so he's going to do whatever he can to put them in the best position.

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# MEET YOUR 2022 DRAFT CLASS

The Washington Commanders have eight new players on their roster, and many of them are slated to be key contributors in 2022.

It was the third draft under head coach Ron Rivera, who worked closely with general manager Martin Mayhew and executive vice president of football/player personnel Marty Hurney to ensure Washington makes the most of the three-day event.

Below is a list of every Washington pick in the 2022 NFL Draft.

BY ZACH SELBY



## JAHAN DOTSON, WR, PENN STATE

PICK NO. 16

With the 16th pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders added another weapon to the offense by taking Penn State wide receiver Jahan Dotson.

As evidenced by his Pro Football Focus grade, which climbed from a 60.2 to an 87.5 by the time he graduated, Dotson (5-foot-11, 178 pounds) steadily improved and impressed during his time in State College. He showed glimpses of his talent as a true freshman, playing in eight games and starting in four

contests in 2018. He built on that momentum his sophomore season, starting in 13 contests and amassing 27 receptions, 488 yards (18.1 yards per catch) and five touchdowns. He also made an impact as a punt returner that season, averaging 19.5 yards on his two returns.

In nine starts as a junior, the wide receiver garnered third-time all-conference honors as a receiver for his team-leading 884 yards, eight TDs and 17 yards/catch rate and an honorable mention nod as a punt

returner. He broke the internet with an outstanding one-handed catch against Ohio State that season.

Dotson capped off his career at Penn State with a flurry of honors and status as one of the best receivers in the country. He was named a third team Associated Press All-American and second-team All-Big Ten selection as a receiver as he led Penn State with 91 receptions and 1,182 receiving yards and rose to eighth in the country with 12 receiving touchdowns in 12 starts.



## PHIDARIAN MATHIS, DT, ALABAMA

PICK NO. 47

With the No. 47 overall pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders added to their defensive line by taking Alabama's Phidarian Mathis.

Mathis (6-foot-4, 310 pounds) was part of a Crimson Tide defense that allowed just 304.1 yards per game (seventh best in college football). Mathis earned second team All-SEC honors in 2021 for a career-high 53 tackles, 12 for loss and nine sacks, and two pass breakups in 15 games (12 starts).

"Scheme-versatile wide body with long arms and solid technique at the point of attack," wrote NFL.com's Lance Zierlein. "Mathis is a Nick Saban-style run-plugger with powerful hands and a dense anchor. He comes into the league ready for two-gapping duties."

Mathis is known for his size and length -- his arm length measured at nearly 36 inches -- paired with his ability to crash the middle of the pocket. A four-year contributor

for the Crimson Tide, he recorded 129 tackles (16 for loss). He brings position versatility on the inside of the defensive line with his ability to play at three-technique in different fronts.

"He can push the pocket on early down passing plays but is likely to come off the field on passing downs," Zierlein said. "Mathis should compete for early playing time as a 4-3/3-4 nose or as a five-technique."



## BRIAN ROBINSON, RB, ALABAMA

PICK NO. 98

With the No. 98 overall pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders fortified their running back unit by taking Alabama's Brian Robinson Jr.

Robinson (6-foot-2, 225 pounds) had a breakout year for the juggernaut Crimson Tide in 2021, carrying the ball 271 times, covering 1,343 yards (5.0 per carry) and notching 14 touchdowns as Alabama made a run

to the national championship. He capped off his career by etching his name in the Alabama record books, tying for 10th in career rushing touchdowns with 29 and 11th all-time in total rushing yards with 2,704.

Considered perhaps the top short-yardage running back in this year's draft class, Robinson possesses a potent mix of strength and

quickness. He's got a linebacker-like physique that allows him to penetrate through defenses and the fitness to take on a heavy workload. His impressive build up speed and deceptively fast feet make his size advantage even more influential. Robinson's brand of "bruiser" rushing is well-suited for the next level.



## PERCY BUTLER, S, LOUISIANA

PICK NO. 113

With the No. 113 overall pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders bolstered their secondary by taking Louisiana safety Percy Butler.

Butler (6-foot, 190 pounds) was a standout for the Ragin' Cajuns with an All-Sun Belt Honorable Mention as a junior and second team honors

as a senior. He recorded 61 tackles, six for loss, four pass breakups, one blocked kick in 12 games, nine starts last season.

"Upside free safety with feast-or-famine tackle approach that creates inconsistencies teams will need to have corrected," wrote NFL.com's

Lance Zierlein. "Butler vacillates between punishing hitting and taking arm-tackling angles in the open field. He's average in man coverage but plays with instincts and catch disruption from zone. He might see an uptick in his future value if he can get his run tackling solidified."



## SAM HOWELL, QB, NORTH CAROLINA

PICK NO. 144

With the No. 144 overall pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders added to their offense by taking North Carolina quarterback Sam Howell.

Howell (6-foot-1, 218 pounds) was highly-touted prospect coming out of high school as he set the North Carolina state record for total

offensive yards with 17,036. The signal called lived up to the hype and then some once he stepped foot in Chapel Hill, becoming an immediate starter for the Tar Heels.

He collected a bevy of accolades throughout college career, including all-ACC honors and a Manning Award finalist nod. In his senior season,

he had three games of 300 yards passing and 100 yards rushing, behind only Lamar Jackson's four such contests over the past 25 seasons.

Howell left UNC as the all-time leader in passing yards, passing touchdowns and total offense.



## COLE TURNER, TE, NEVADA

PICK NO. 149

The Commanders selected tight end Cole Turner in the fifth round (No. 149 overall) of the 2022 NFL Draft.

Turner is the 34th tight end selected by Washington in franchise history. It is the second-consecutive season Washington has selected a tight end in the draft.

Turner, (6-6, 240) is the 508th selection made by Washington in

the Common Draft era (since 1967) and the 80th fifth-round selection in franchise history.

Turner played in 45 games at the University of Nevada from 2018-21 and had 117 receptions for 1,370 yards and 20 touchdowns.

As a senior in 2021, Turner had 62 receptions for 677 yards and 10 touchdowns, the most in the

Mountain West Conference and tied for second amongst tight ends in the nation. He was selected to the All-Mountain West Second Team.

As a junior, Turner had 49 receptions for 605 yards and nine touchdowns. He was selected to the All-Mountain West First Team.



## CHRIS PAUL, T, TULSA

PICK NO. 230

With the No. 230 overall pick in the 2022 NFL Draft, the Commanders selected Tulsa tackle Chris Paul to shore up the offensive line.

Paul (6-foot-4, 323 pounds) put together a strong end to his college career, as he earned all-conference honors on 10 starts. He played at

both left and right tackle for Tulsa, offering the position versatility that Washington desires for its front.

"He's highly intelligent on and off the field. Picking up technique and scheme will not be a problem for him," wrote NFL.com's Lance Zierlein.

Paul is known for his strong ability as a blocker in both the run and passing game. He's a four-year starter and also has experience at guard. He should provide valuable depth for the Commanders in his first season.



## CHRISTIAN HOLMES, CB, OKLAHOMA STATE

PICK NO. 240

The Commanders selected cornerback Christian Holmes in the seventh round (No. 240 overall) of the 2022 NFL Draft.

Holmes is the ninth player drafted out of Oklahoma State in franchise history and the first since defensive end Jordan Brailford was selected in the seventh round in 2019.

Holmes (6-1) is the 510th selection made by Washington in the Common Draft era (since 1967) and the 103rd seventh-round selection in franchise history.

A graduate transfer from Missouri who played his final two seasons at Oklahoma State, Holmes used an extra year of eligibility in 2021

after the NCAA ruling on COVID-19 and had a breakout year in his first season at OSU as a full-time starter. Finished his career with 60 total games played, 27 total starts, 30 passes defended and three interceptions between his time at OSU and Missouri.



**JAHAN DOTSON:**

# A LETTER TO

Originally, the plan for my draft party was just immediate family with my mom, dad, brothers, grandparents and close cousins. But my dad is very open, so it ended up being way bigger than we had imagined.

I feel like it was better that way, because that's kind of how I grew up, with just a big support system. I've always had people supporting me. When I moved to Nazareth, they really brought me in and supported me in my whole journey all the way to Penn State.

It didn't feel like draft night. It really felt like a regular Thursday night. I was chilling in my room an hour before the draft, just playing video games. But when the draft started and receivers started being taken, it began to feel more real. I remember sitting in my basement with my best friend

watching the Suns-Pelicans game when he said to me, "Bro, I got a feeling you might get called a little earlier."

I didn't think anything of it. But then I went outside and saw Garrett Wilson, Chris Olave and Jameson Williams get picked back-to-back. And I thought to myself, "I'm the next receiver that's really supposed to come off the board."

I got the call four picks later from Coach Rivera. I felt all the hard work flash back in my mind. It all just happened so fast. I was just really excited for the moment.

I would honestly say it's everything I imagined it would be. Ever since I was a little kid, my dream was to play in the NFL. I wanted no other job. When I was a little kid, my parents would buy me toy trucks and action figures, but I wouldn't even

touch the boxes. Back then, a lot of people didn't believe in me. They would say, "You're too small," and things like that.

That's why it was good that everyone was there when I got drafted. Those people that were there believed in me and were always in my corner.

I feel like I do a good job of not looking in the past at things you could have done, because there's a rhyme or reason to why you didn't do it. You can't change the past. You can only change what's in front of you. My motto has always been to focus on the next play. If you mess up on one play, you can make up for it on the next one.

I've strived to be better every single day, not only on the football field, but also in life. I'm always looking forward to the future, not dwelling on the past or making the same mistake twice.



# TO THE FANS

It took a while for it to hit me that I had just fulfilled a lifelong dream. From the time I flew out on a private jet to the team facility, I was trying to be thankful for every moment. It finally happened when they gave me the playbook and I had to start learning all this new terminology. I say it every day, but it feels like I'm a freshman in college again, getting familiar with a completely new system and then trying to play fast.

It's tough, but this is what I was made for, honestly. I'm just having fun doing it.

I'm always looking forward to the next thing. That's always been part of my character. I'm not too big on self-accomplishments. I'm always trying to be better. If I score a touchdown on one play, I'm trying to score three tomorrow. It's just how I'm wired. I'm super competitive, and it's weird

because my dad is really outgoing, and he gets excited about this stuff. But I'm always looking ahead.

I know I'm fulfilling my dream. I'm doing everything I said I would do at a young age. But I try not to listen too much because you can become complacent. That's my biggest fear. I feel like that makes me work even harder, because I want to be better every single day.

I have bigger accomplishments and goals in mind, but you can't really focus on things that are going to be at the end of the season. You have to take care of what's coming tomorrow.

It sounds cliché, but I want to be the best teammate possible. Any way I can help this team win, I'm willing to do it. I want to be there for my guys, and in my case, that's me being a sponge and

learning what I can so I can help someone out. If someone's at the X position, I can be like, "I got you for a couple plays."

I want you to know that I plan on being the best player on the field each and every day. I'm going to put my all on the line for the Commanders every single day. I love the game of football so much. It's my sanctuary, so I feel like every time I'm out there, I'm leaving it all on the line because of my passion for the game and how much I love it.

I can't wait for the season to start so I can show you exactly what this game means to me.

See you soon,

Jahan



# NIKE KICKOFF CLASSIC

**TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL OF GIRLS' FLAG FOOTBALL ON DISPLAY AT COMMANDERS' NIKE KICKOFF CLASSIC INITIATIVE IN RICHMOND**

Morgan was nervous as the Nike Girls Kickoff Classic scrimmage got ready to start on Friday.

"She was visibly shaking before getting on the field," said Morgan's coach for the day, Lois Cook. "She had her hands up to her face and she told me, like 'Oh my god, I'm so scared.'"

Not long after the Richmond, Virginia high schooler got the ball though, her whole demeanor changed.

"She was the first one to score a touchdown, and you could see the difference," Cook said. "Just this the progression from where she started to the end of the game where she was full of energy. You could tell her confidence was up. It was amazing to see."

The moment offered a window into the power of girl's and women's sport, a cause at the heart of Nike's "Play Football" initiative and one that is close to the Commanders. In collaboration with Nike and the NFL, the Commanders hosted a flag football practice and scrimmage for middle school and high school girls from Richmond Public Schools (RPS) to celebrate the kickoff of the high school season and showcase the life-changing values that football can instill.

Anyone involved in football knows that looking the part is key. Understanding that, Nike, with the helping hand of Commanders players, gifted the participating girls with custom-made jerseys.

"That was such a moment of excitement," Cook said. "And it was mutual. It wasn't just the girls who were getting the swag. It was the guys

[Commanders players] that that were able to present it to them."

The enthusiasm from Carson Wentz, Terry McLaurin, Logan Thomas and the other players in attendance carried over from the jersey reveal into the practice and scrimmage.

"I loved the players getting hype and the investment from the Commanders that were there. They were all in," Cook said. "Every moment, there was someone jumping in whether it was at center and how to snap a ball or lining up as a receiver."

As the time for the scrimmage approached, the emotion coming from the players didn't look that far off from the ones you'd see on their own gameday. They fervently disagreed if a call didn't go a certain way and celebrated raucously after a nice play. Head Coach Ron Rivera, a girl dad who noted how "very important" it was for the team to put on the activation, was also right there in the mix.

"I just really appreciated him being present and kind of engaging with the girls as well," Cook said. "That spoke volumes...just letting them know that they're important. I think that's really a statement that was made."

It's that kind of care and investment that not only helps flag football grow as a sport, but also helps girls see that they belong in this game. With the opportunity to play and that feeling of meaningful inclusion, girls are able to benefit from the transformative experience playing football can be.

"The biggest thing for me I see is the confidence factor. You think about everything young kids have to go through as far as their self-esteem," Cook said. "When girls are able to step out on the field and do something that's a little bit different that they maybe thought was something they couldn't do, it definitely boosts their self-esteem, and develops their confidence which they can then of course use throughout their entire lives."

For Dr. Stephanie Ramsey, the Director of Athletics for Richmond Public Schools, the word "gratitude" kept coming to her mind throughout Friday's event as she watched the RPS girls running around with the players, looked on as one of her student broadcasters got to ask a question to Co-Owner and Co-CEO Tanya Snyder about what it was like to be one of only female Co-Owners in the NFL and, at the end of the event, when she was gifted a \$10,000 check to be put towards the RPS programming.

"There was just this good aura around the whole day," Dr. Ramsey said. "It just felt amazing coming together and seeing the difference that it makes for our kids and community."





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# RING FAME

**GEORGE ALLEN**

HEAD COACH, 1971-77

**CLIFF BATTLES**

RUNNING BACK, 1932-37

**SAMMY BAUGH**

QUARTERBACK, 1937-52

**MIKE BASS**

CORNERBACK, 1969-75

**BOBBY BEATHARD**

GENERAL MANAGER, 1978-88

**JEFF BOSTIC**

CENTER, 1980-1993

**GENE BRITO**

DEFENSIVE END, 1951-53, 1955-58

**LARRY BROWN**

RUNNING BACK, 1969-76

**DAVE BUTZ**

DEFENSIVE TACKLE, 1975-88

**GARY CLARK**

WIDE RECEIVER, 1985-92

**MONTÉ COLEMAN**

LINEBACKER, 1979-94

**JACK KENT COOKE**

OWNER, 1961-97

**WAYNE CURRY**

P.G. COUNTY EXECUTIVE, 1994-2002

**BILL DUDLEY**

RUNNING BACK, 1950-51, 1953

**PAT FISCHER**

CORNERBACK, 1968-77

**LONDON FLETCHER**

LINEBACKER, 2007-13

**JOE GIBBS**

HEAD COACH, 1981-92, 2004-07

**DARRELL GREEN**

CORNERBACK, 1983-2002

**RUSS GRIMM**

GUARD, 1981-91

**CHRIS HANBURGER**

LINEBACKER, 1965-78

**KEN HARVEY**

LINEBACKER, 1994-98

**LEN HAUSS**

CENTER, 1964-77

**PHIL HOCHBERG**

P.A. ANNOUNCER, 1963-2000

**KEN HOUSTON**

SAFETY, 1973-80

**SAM HUFF**

LINEBACKER, 1964-67, 1969

**JOE JACOBY**

TACKLE/GUARD, 1981-1993

**DICK JAMES**

RUNNING BACK, 1956-63

**SONNY JURGENSEN**

QUARTERBACK, 1964-74

**CHARLIE JUSTICE**

RUNNING BACK, 1950, 1952-54

**BILLY KILMER**

QUARTERBACK, 1971-78

**EDDIE LEBARON**

QUARTERBACK, 1952-53, 1955-59

**VINCE LOMBARDI**

HEAD COACH, 1969

**DEXTER MANLEY**

DEFENSIVE END, 1981-89

**CHARLES MANN**

DEFENSIVE END, 1983-93

**WAYNE MILLNER**

END, 1936-41, 1945

**BOBBY MITCHELL**

FLANKER, 1962-68

**BRIAN MITCHELL**

RUNNING BACK, 1990-99

**ART MONK**

WIDE RECEIVER, 1980-1993

**MARK MOSELEY**

KICKER, 1974-86

**BRIG OWENS**

DEFENSIVE BACK, 1966-77

**RICHIE PETITBON**SAFETY, 1971-72,  
DEF. COORD., 1978-92 / HEAD COACH, 1993**VINCE PROMUTO**

GUARD, 1960-70

**JOHN RIGGINS**

RUNNING BACK, 1976-79, 1981-85

**MARK RYPIEN**

QUARTERBACK, 1986-1993

**CHRIS SAMUELS**

TACKLE, 2000-09

**JERRY SMITH**

TIGHT END, 1965-77

**CHARLEY TAYLOR**

WIDE RECEIVER, 1964-77

**SEAN TAYLOR**

SAFETY, 2004-07

**JOE THEISMANN**

QUARTERBACK, 1974-85

**LAMAR “BUBBA” TYER**

HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER, 1971-2002, 2004-08

**DOUG WILLIAMS**

QUARTERBACK, 1986-89



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#	NAME	ATT.	COMP.	PCT.	YARDS	TD
1	Joe Theismann	3,602	2,044	56.7	25,206	160
2	Sonny Jurgensen	3,155	1,831	58.0	22,585	179
3	Sammy Baugh	2,995	1,693	56.5	21,886	187
4	Kirk Cousins	2,096	1,372	65.5	16,206	99
5	Mark Rypien	2,207	1,244	56.4	15,928	101

CAREER RUSHING  
LEADERS

#	NAME	ATT.	YARDS	AVG.	TD
1	John Riggins	1,988	7,472	3.8	79
2	Clinton Portis	1,667	6,824	4.1	46
3	Larry Brown	1,530	5,875	3.8	35
4	Stephen Davis	1,383	5,790	4.2	45
5	Alfred Morris	1,078	4,713	4.4	29

CAREER RECEIVING  
LEADERS

#	NAME	REC	YARDS	AVG.	TD
1	Art Monk	888	12,026	13.5	65
2	Charley Taylor	649	9,110	14.0	79
3	Gary Clark	549	8,742	15.9	58
4	Santana Moss	581	7,867	13.5	47
5	Bobby Mitchell	393	6,492	16.5	49

CAREER SCORING  
LEADERS

#	NAME	POINTS	TD	FG/FGA	XPAT/XPA
1	Mark Moseley	1,206	0	263/397	417/441
2	Chip Lohmiller	787	0	175/245	262/267
3	Dustin Hopkins	668	0	163/194	179/190
4	Charley Taylor	540	90	0	0
5	John Riggins	510	85	0	0

CAREER PUNT  
RETURN  
LEADERS

#	NAME	RET.	YARDS	AVG.
1	Brian Mitchell	317	3,476	11.0
2	Mike Nelms	212	1,948	9.2
3	Eddie Brown	111	1,150	10.4
4	Rickie Harris	119	1,005	8.4
5	Brandon Banks	100	937	9.4

CAREER KICKOFF  
RETURN  
LEADERS

#	NAME	RET.	YARDS	AVG.
1	Brian Mitchell	421	9,586	22.8
2	Rock Cartwright	222	5,332	24.0
3	Mike Nelms	175	4,128	23.6
4	Dick James	155	3,949	25.5
5	Brandon Banks	119	2,856	24.0

CAREER INT.  
LEADERS

#	NAME	INT.	YARDS	TD
1	Darrell Green	54	621	6
2	Brig Owens	36	686	3
3	Sammy Baugh	31	491	0
4	Mike Bass	30	478	3
5	Joe Lavender	29	338	1

CAREER OFFICIAL SACK  
LEADERS

#	NAME	GAMES	SACKS
1	Ryan Kerrigan	140	95.5
2	Dexter Manley	125	91.0
3	Charles Mann	163	82.0
4	Monte Coleman	215	43.5
5	Ken Harvey	74	41.5



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**AFTER SIGNING EXTENSION TERRY MCLAURIN IS HUMBLED AND**

# READY TO

BY ZACH SELBY

Terry McLaurin was training in Florida when he got the news that he and the entire Washington Commanders community had been waiting for: after weeks of negotiations, he was staying in the DMV.

And of course, as one does when a life-altering contract becomes a reality, McLaurin shed a few tears as he reflected on reaching one of the biggest milestones in his career.

"I just had that moment to myself where I was like, 'I'm really here,'" McLaurin said. "Like I really got to this moment, because it's just so hard to get to this moment."

The extension ensures that McLaurin, who has amassed 3,090 receiving yards heading into his fourth season, will remain with the Commanders for the foreseeable future. It's a testament to everything that McLaurin has aspired to be, both

professionally and competitively, as well as a representation of how Washington views him as a pillar to the franchise's future.

It hasn't blinded him to one critical fact, though: he's only just getting started.

"It reinvigorates me even more," he said. "I'm excited to get back to work."

McLaurin was all smiles as he walked around the team facility after signing his extension. He should be happy, because he's earned it. He's one of 35 players in NFL history to record 3,000-plus receiving yards in his first three seasons, and his 222 career receptions are the most through three seasons in franchise history.

He's also one of 10 NFL receivers to have at least 220 receptions, 3,000 receiving yards and 15 receiving touchdowns since 2019.

Still, it's an "extremely humbling" moment for McLaurin, because the deal is about more than what he's done on the field.

"It says a lot about not only this organization and their belief in me, but I think...it says a lot about the person that I've tried to be since day one being here, handling myself professionally and being a competitor and a leader and just being everything they want in a player," McLaurin said. "The more people you can have that are leaders, competitive, unselfish, great players, you're gonna have a really strong culture and a really strong team."

McLaurin is aware of how the deal affects the people around him. His family, which he called "my backbone" in a letter posted on Twitter, has seen their future change forever because of the deal. They have supported him since his days at Cathedral High School, and he knows his



# WORK

extension is just as much a product of what they have provided him with as what he's done on the field.

"A lot comes with that," McLaurin said of the deal. "You just want to continue to make those people who believe in you proud, both personally and professionally. That's my biggest mindset. I just want to continue to make those people proud and make myself proud."

McLaurin has held himself to a high standard for his entire playing career. That bar has now been raised even higher because of the extension. McLaurin isn't shying away from the added expectations. In fact, it sounds like he's looking forward to meeting them.

McLaurin views the extension as an opportunity to improve, not just as a receiver, but also as a leader to help the Commanders reach a Super

Bowl. He knows there is a long road ahead of the team to make that happen, but he wants to make sure they're on the right path towards making that happen.

As for the on-field work, McLaurin already has plans for that. He began building chemistry with Carson Wentz after his press conference so he could come into training camp ready to contribute. He wanted to start those preparations as soon as possible because of how excited he is for this iteration of the team.

"I just think the camaraderie is...one of the best things I love about football," McLaurin said. "We have such a great group of guys in that locker room, from vets to young guys. And I'm really excited to see how we gel and mesh together and put our imprint on this year's Washington team, the first Commanders team. It's really history and

we have a chance to do some great things, but we know the work that's gonna take for that as well."

McLaurin believes the Commanders have the personnel and depth to win games, make a run for the NFC East and make the playoffs. That alone is enough to get him psyched for the 2022 season. All he wants to do is be part of it, and for him, that means being the Commanders' top receiver.

And if there's anything McLaurin has proven over the years, it's that he has no problem putting in the work.

"I'm gonna continue to give my all like I have and try to up my leadership and my ability to another level."



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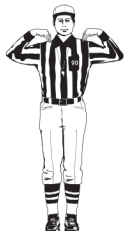
Personal Foul



Reset Play  
Clock-25 Seconds



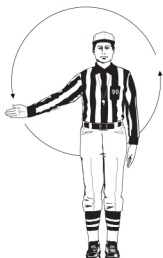
Reset Play  
Clock-40 Seconds



Ball Illegally Touched,  
Kicked, or Batted



Delay of Game  
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No Time Out or  
Time In With Whistle



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Neutral Zone Infraction



Holding



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Extra Point



Facemask



Ineligible Receiver or  
Ineligible Member of  
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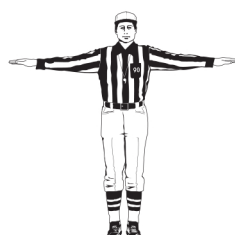
Illegal Motion  
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Illegal Shift



Interlocking Interference,  
Pushing, or Helping Runner



Unsportsmanlike Conduct



Tripping



Illegal Crackback



Illegal Cut, Illegal Block  
Below the Waist, Chop  
Block, or Clipping



Intentional  
Grounding of Pass



Touching a Forward Pass  
or Scrimmage Kick



Player Disqualified



Illegal Contact



False Start,  
Illegal Formation, or Kickoff,  
or Safety Kick Out of Bounds



Twelve Men in Offensive  
Huddle, or Too Many  
Men on the Field



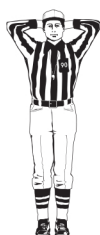
Illegal Use of Hands,  
Arms, or Body



Pass Juggled,  
Inbounds and Caught  
Out of Bounds



Illegal  
Forward Pass



Loss of Down



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# 5

# TAKEAWAYS FROM THE COMMANDERS' INITIAL 53-MAN ROSTER

The Washington Commanders released their initial 53-man roster on Aug. 30. Here are five takeaways from the announcement.

By Zach Selby

## 1. ARMANI ROGERS IMPRESSED PLAYING A NEW POSITION

Washington has its top options in Logan Thomas, John Bates and Cole Turner. While all three did make a return to practice by the end of August, their lack of snaps allowed players like Armani Rogers to step up. The undrafted free agent did not disappoint.

"I can't say enough about this kid," said general manager Martin Mayhew.

Rogers, a former quarterback out of UNLV, is still new to being a tight end. He first made the switch during the East-West Shrine game at the beginning of the year, and he said it has been a daily grind learning the new position. For what it's worth, though, he made noticeable strides every day, particularly as a run-blocker, and his ability to dissect coverages helped him as a pass-catcher. He developed a solid connection with Carson Wentz, as he finished the preseason with five catches for 33 yards.

The trio of Thomas, Bates and Turner makes the tight end position one of the strongest on the Commanders' roster. However, if one of them were to miss time, Rogers has proven he can be a reliable backup.



## 2. MILO EIFLER WAS A CLEAR STANDOUT

Milo Eifler was a late addition to Washington's roster in 2021, and the team liked him so much that it brought him back for training camp. As the Commanders went through the month, it became clear that Eifler was one of the best linebackers on the team.

"Milo had a really, really strong camp," Rivera said. "He showed great progress and development. His speed really stood out amongst the linebackers."

In Eifler, Rivera saw a mix of several skill sets. He sees a little bit of Jamin Davis and Cole Holcomb in the former undrafted free agent, and he noticed Eifler take strides on film. Holcomb also said that Eifler is incredibly strong and can do things athletically that not many are able to accomplish.

Eifler also excels at special teams, and that experience will be an asset for him as he prepares for his second NFL season.

WK3

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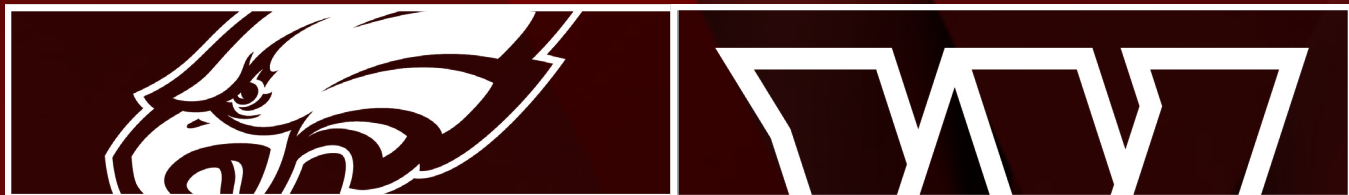


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## WK3 SEPT. 25

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### 3. JEREMY REAVES MAKES THE INITIAL ROSTER FOR THE FIRST TIME

Jeremy Reaves has been part of the team in some capacity since 2018. He has mostly been a practice squad player who was elevated out of necessity, but he had never made an initial 53-man roster. That changed in 2022.

Reaves, who was called one of the smartest players in the secondary by Bobby McCain, impressed coaches with his instincts and was named as one of five safeties on the roster. Reaves has had his most productive seasons with Rivera, and since 2020 he has recorded 54 tackles and an interception. Reaves earned it, Rivera said, and he is proud of the young player.

"We were sitting down and all of these coaches felt that this guy came, played, did the things that he needed to do, showed us what he is capable of. He is a guy that earned his spot. I'm very proud of him."

Reaves led the team in tackles during the preseason, including an impressive tackle for a loss against the Baltimore Ravens. Reaves still has a lot to learn, but it is a monumental moment for the fifth-year pro.

### 4. JONATHAN WILLIAMS EARNS A SPOT AS THE FOURTH RB

Brian Robinson's injury did have an impact on why the Commanders kept four running backs on the roster, but Jonathan Williams had a strong enough camp to earn a spot outright, according to Rivera.

"He is another guy that you sit there and say, wow this guy has progressed, learned and gotten better," Rivera said.

Williams has burst in his running style, but that is not what enticed Washington to keep him around. Rather, it was his downhill, physical approach to the position that Washington is looking for. Rivera said that Williams and Robinson are similar in that regard, meaning that they are both patient, powerful runner who know how to read their blocks.

Robinson will be back at some point during the season, but until then, Williams has the traits to hold his own in the Commanders' backfield.

"He has gotten better and better with his opportunities," Rivera said. "Keeping him was really something that turned out to be a plus for us."



### 5. MORE CLARITY AT PUNT AND KICKOFF RETURNS

Punt and kickoff returns have been a question since camp began, and it looks like the Commanders finally have an answer in Dax Milne.

Aside from the fact that Washington liked Milne's route running, which helped him perform well in every preseason game, Rivera confirmed that Milne will return punts for the Commanders this season. He had to share the duty with other receivers during the preseason, but he displayed excellent instincts and had a knack for giving the offense better field position.

Rivera added that Milne will be considered for kickoff return duties as well, but he is not the only possibility. Antonio Gibson, who returned kicks during the preseason, is being considered as well. Gibson is at his best when he has the ball in space, and letting him loose during kickoff returns is one of the best opportunities for him to do what he does best.





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# COMMANDFORCE

The revamped entertainment team, renamed the Command Force, is a 44-person team that includes dancers, gymnasts, breakers, b-boys and b-girls and Beat Ya Feet dancers. The Command Force is one of the league's most diverse groups. Performances aim to bring to life the rich culture of D.C.'s world-renowned and iconic dance scene through high-energy, hip hop-based choreography incorporating tricks, stunts, visuals, Beat Ya Feet and elements of street funk.



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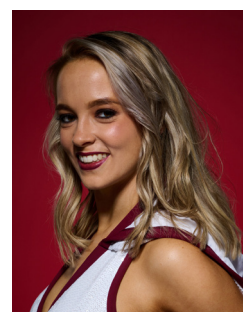
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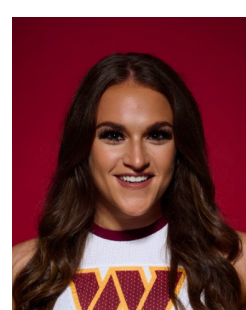
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A woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a black cardigan over a grey and white striped shirt, is opening a FedEx cardboard box. She is holding a large, orange terracotta pot with both hands. The box is filled with brown packing paper. In the background, there is a kitchen setting with a wooden shelf holding various items, a red patterned lamp, and a green chalkboard. A purple and orange diagonal graphic element is in the top right corner.

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