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WEEK 07

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7-10	2021 RECORD	13-4
10	LAST MATCHUP: OCT. 24, 2021	24

MEMORABLE GAME

Sep 23, 2018: Green Bay 17, Washington 31

After dropping a Week 2 matchup against the Tennessee Titans, Washington got back on track with a convincing 31-17 win over the NFC North foe. Running back Adrian Peterson singlehandedly outgained the Packers with 120 yards on 19 carries and two touchdowns, while Alex Smith completed 12 of his 20 passes for 220 yards with two touchdowns and an interception. Aaron Rodgers was sacked four times, two of which came from Jonathan Allen. W A S H I N G T O N



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WASHINGTON COMMANDERS



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

WK7



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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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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JASONNRGHT 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, corporationspecific 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 cofounding 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 DCbased 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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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 playoffs 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

WK7

15



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' topranked 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 franchiserecord 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 defensed. 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

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 secondmost 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



DREW TERRELL WIDE RECEIVERS NFL EXPERIENCE: 5 YEARS



KEN ZAMPESE QUARTERBACKS NFL EXPERIENCE: 24 YEARS



TODD STORM ASST. TIGHT ENDS NFL EXPERIENCE: 5 YEARS



JUAN CASTILLO TIGHT ENDS NFL EXPERIENCE: 26 YEARS



LUKE DEL RIO ASST. QUARTERBACKS/ OFFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL NFL EXPERIENCE: 3 YEARS

18



JOHN MATSKO OFFENSIVE LINE NFL EXPERIENCE: 31 YEARS



JENNIFER KING ASST. RUNNING BACKS NFL EXPERIENCE: 5 YEARS



TRAVELLE WHARTON ASST. OFFENSIVE LINE NFL EXPERIENCE: 15 YEARS



TYRAE REID JR. OFFENSIVE ASST. NFL EXPERIENCE: 1 YEAR

SCOTT TURNER / OFFENSIVE STAFF



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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 careerhighs 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 NEL 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 leaguebest 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 runnerup 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 guarterbacks coach.



JEFF ZGONINA DEFENSIVE LINE NFL EXPERIENCE: 24 YEARS



RYAN KERRIGAN ASST. DEFENSIVE LINE NFL EXPERIENCE: 12 YEARS



CHRIS HARRIS DEFENSIVE BACKS NFL EXPERIENCE: 17 YEARS



BRENT VIESELMEYER ASST. DEFENSIVE BACKS NFL EXPERIENCE: **5 YEARS**



STEVE RUSS LINEBACKERS NFL EXPERIENCE: 11 YEARS



VINCENT RIVERA DEFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL NFL EXPERIENCE: 6 YEARS



RICHARD ROGERS ASST. DEFENSIVE BACKS NFL EXPERIENCE: 10 YEARS



CRISTIAN GARCIA ASSISTANT LINEBACKERS/ DEFENSIVE QUALITY CONTROL NFL EXPERIENCE: 2 YEARS

21



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 eighthlowest 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 cooffensive 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 WILLAMS 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 (oppletion (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 afterschool 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, Carmeleta, Doug, Jr., Jasmine, Laura, Lee and Temessia.



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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 liaison's 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 selfscouting 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.





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.

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 drafteligible 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

PETER PICERELLI

COLLEGE SCOUT

PAUL SKANSI

COLLEGE SCOU

CONNOR BARRINGER

PRO SCOUT

CHUCK COOK

COLLEGE SCOUT

DAVID WHITTINGTON

HARRISON RITCHER COLLEGE SCOUT

TYLER CLAYTOR BLESTO SCOUT

JEFF BEATHARD

NATIONAL SCOUT

RONALD ROSE

ASHLEY COHRS PLAYER PERSONNEL ASSISTANT





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DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE PERSONNEL 23RD NFL SEASON / 21ST 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.



CHRS POLLAN 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).



ATHLETIC TRA 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 NFL EXPERIENCE: 10 YEARS

MARK MCCRACKEN DIR. PLAYER PERFORMANCE 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

ANDREW PARKER. MD TEAM PHYSICIAN AND ORTHOPEDICS

MICHAEL ANTONIS, MD TEAM PHYSICIAN PRIMARY SPORT CARE MEDICINE

KEITH SMITHSON. 00 TEAM OPTOMETRIST



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

DR. HIRAD NAJAFBAGY

TEAM CHIROPRACTOR

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SID CHANDELA, MD
  TEAM NEUROLOGIST
     CONSULTANT
```

TONY CASOLARO, MD

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER INTERNAL MEDICINE

DAVID NOVAK, MD TEAM PHYSICIAN AND ORTHOPEDICS



TEAM PHYSICIAN PRIMARY SPORT CARE MEDICINE

CHAD KASPEROWKSI. DMD TEAM DENTIST



MIKE BRACKEN

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 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

A LOOK BACK AT WEEK 5

PASSING									
NAME	COMP	ATT	COMP%	YARDS	TD				
Carson Wentz	25	38	65.7	359	2				
RUSHING									
NAME	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD				
Brian Robinson	9	22	2.4	6	0				
Carson Wentz	5	15	3	8	0				
Antonio Gibson	3	6	2	3	0				

RECEIVING								
NAME	REC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD			
Dyami Brown	2	105	52.5	75	2			
Terry McLaurin	5	76	15.2	34	0			
Curtis Samuel	6	62	10.3	32	0			
John Bates	3	39	13	20	0			
J.D. McKissic	5	37	7.4	14	0			
Antonio Gibson	3	33	11	15	0			
Cam Sims	1	7	7	7	0			

PUNTING				KICKING					
NAME	PNT	AVG	IN 20	LONG	NAME	FGA	FGM	LONG	FG%
Tress Way	6	41.2	2	48	Joey Slye	1	1	50	100%
A LOOK BACK AT WEEK 5 DEFENSIVE STATS

DEFENSE								
NAME	SOLO	AST	TOT	SACK	TFL	PD	QB HTS	TD
Cole Holcomb	11	4	15	0	1	0	0	0
Montez Sweat	5	1	6	2	3	0	4	0
Bobby McCain	4	2	6	0	0	0	0	0
Jamin Davis	3	2	5	0	0	0	0	0
James Smith-Williams	3	1	4	1	1	0	4	0
Kendall Fuller	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Efe Obada	2	1	3	1	1	0	1	0
Daron Payne	1	2	3	0.5	0	0	1	0
Kamren Curl	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Benjamin St-Juste	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Jonathan Allen	1	1	2	0.5	0	0	2	0
Casey Toohill	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	0
Darrick Forrest	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Jon Bostic	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Rachad Wildgoose	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0
J.D. McKissic	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
William Jackson III	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Christian Holmes	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0







WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

53 MAROSTER

*AS OF 10/17



WK7

JONATHAN ALLEN 93 | DEFENSIVE TACKLE



JOHN BATES 87 | TIGHT END



JON BOSTIC



2 | WIDE RECEIVER



PERCY BUTLER 35 | SAFETY



TARIQ CASTRO-FIELDS 40 | CORNERBACK



SAAHDIQ CHARLES 77 | TACKLE



CAMARON CHEESEMAN 54 | LONG SNAPPER



5AM COSMI 76 | TACKLE



KAMREN CURL 31 | SAFETY



JAMIN DAVIS 52 | LINEBACKER



JAHAN DOTSON



DARRICK FORREST 22 | SAFETY



29 | CORNERBACK



ANTONIO GIBSON 24 | RUNNING BACK



4 | QUARTERBACK



COLE HOLCOMB 55 | LINEBACKER



CHRISTIAN HOLMES 34 | CORNERBACK



SAM HOWELL 14 | QUARTERBACK



WILLIAM JACKSON III 3 | CORNERBACK



69 | CENTER



CHARLES LENO JR. 72 | TACKLE



CORNELIUS LUCAS 78 | TACKLE



NICK MARTIN 60 | CENTER

WK7



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



JEREMY REAVES 39 | SAFETY





JOHN RIDGEWAY 91 | DEFENSIVE TACKLE



ARMANI ROGERS 88 | TIGHT END



CURTIS SAMUEL 10 | WIDE RECEIVER



CAM SIMS 89 | WIDE RECEIVER



JOEY SLYE 6 | KICKER





BENJAMIN ST-JUSTE 25 | CORNERBACK



MONTEZ SWEAT 90 | DEFENSIVE END



LOGAN THOMAS 82 | TIGHT END



SHAKA TONEY 58 | DEFENSIVE END



CASEY TOOHILL 95 | DEFENSIVE END



JAMES SMITH-WILLIAMS

96 | DEFENSIVE END

COLE TURNER 85 | TIGHT END



TRAI TURNER 53 | GUARD



5 | PUNTER



CARSON WENTZ 11 | QUARTERBACK



RACHAD WILDGOOSE 37 | CORNERBACK



JONATHAN WILLIAMS 41 | RUNNING BACK



92 | DEFENSIVE END



DANIEL WISE







WR

TERRY McLAURIN DYAMI BROWN

LT

CHARLES LENO JR. CORNELIUS LUCAS

LG ANDREW NORWELL CHRIS PAUL

G NICK MARTIN TYLER LARSEN

RG

SAAHDIQ CHARLES TRAI TURNER

RT SAM COSMI CORNELIUS LUCAS

LOGAN THOMAS JOHN BATES COLE TURNER

ARMANI RODGERS

WR CURTIS SAMUEL DAX MILNE

WR JAHAN DOTSON CAM SIMS

OB TAYLOR HEINICKE SAM HOWELL

RB

ANTONIO GIBSON BRIAN ROBINSON J.D. MCKISSIC JONATHAN WILLIAMS

D

MONTEZ SWEAT CASEY TOOHILL

DT DARON PAYNE DANIEL WISE JOHN RIDGEWAY

DT JONATHAN ALLEN EFE OBADA DE JAMES SMITH-WILLIAMS SHAKA TONEY

OLB

JAMIN DAVIS JON BOSTIC

MLB

COLE HOLCOMB DAVID MAYO

GB KENDALL FULLER RACHAD WILDGOOSE

GB WILLIAM JACKSON III CHRISTIAN HOLMES

GB BENJAMIN ST-JUSTE TARIQ CASTRO-FIELDS

SS KAMREN CURL DARRICK FORREST FS

BOBBY MCCAIN PERCY BUTLER JEREMY REAVES



















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PLAYERSTOWATCH



WK7

AARON RODGERS



AARON JONES 33 | RUNNING BACK



ALLEN LAZARD



RANDALL COBB



MARCEDES LEWIS 89 | TIGHT END



ROMEO DOUBS 87 | WIDE RECEIVER



JOSH MYERS 71 | CENTER



JON RUNYAN 76 | GUARD



ROYCE NEWMAN 70 | GUARD



ELGTON JENKINS 74 | TACKLE



DAVID BAKHTIARI 69 | TACKLE



QUAY WALKER 7 | LINEBACKER



21 | CORNERBACK



JAIRE ALEXANDER 23 | CORNERBACK



DARNELL SAVAGE 26 | SAFETY



ADRIAN AMOS 31 | SAFETY



52 | LINEBACKER



JARRAN REED 90 | DEFENSIVE END



91 | LINEBACKER



DEAN LOWRY



DE'VONDRE CAMPBELL 59 | LINEBACKER



97 | NOSE TACKLE





WR

ALLEN LAZARD CHRISTIAN WATSON DAVID BAKHTIARI YOSH NIJMAN

LG JON RUNYAN ZACH TOM

H JOSH MYERS JAKE HANSON

RG ROYCE NEWMAN

SEAN RHYAN

ELGTON JENKINS RASHEED WALKER

RT

TE

MARCEDES LEWIS ROBERT TONYAN JOSIAH DEGUARA TYLER DAVIS

WR RANDALL COBB AMARI RODGERS WR ROMEO DOUBS SAMORI TOURE

RB AARON JONES AJ DILLON PATRICK TAYLOR OB

AARON RODGERS JORDAN LOVE

DE

DEAN LOWRY DEVONTE WYATT NT

KENNY CLARK T.J. SLATON JONATHAN FORD

JARRAN REED DEVONTE WYATT

OLB PRESTON SMITH JONATHAN GARVIN TIPA GALEAI ILB

DE'VONDRE CAMPBELL ISAIAH MCDUFFIE

QUAY WALKER ERIC WILSON

ILB

OLB

RASHAN GARY KINGSLEY ENAGBARE GB

JAIRE ALEXANDER RASUL DOUGLAS SHEMAR JEAN-CHARLES

GB ERIC STOKES KEISEAN NIXON

ADRIAN AMOS DALLIN LEAVITT TARIQ CARPENTER

S

DARNELL SAVAGE RUDY FORD

D 5







PAT O'DONNELL

ł





AMARI RODGERS RANDALL COBB ROMEO DOUBS



AMARI RODGERS KEISEAN NIXON

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COMMAND LEGACY

WASHINGTON COMMANDERS COMMEMORATE 90TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

This 2022 season is set to be a special one for our franchise. Not only will it be our inaugural season under our new name and brand identity, but it also marks our 90th anniversary.

The origins of the Washington football story can be traced back to 1932. It was on July 9 of that year that a new team headed by coach Lud Wray emerged on the NFL scene.

Since that time, our franchise has enjoyed a rich history including the relocation to Washington, D.C. in 1937, the same year we won the first of our five championships. In addition to the NFL World Championship Game victories in 1937 and 1942, we have won three Super Bowls, capping off the 1982, 1987 and 1991 NFL seasons. Most recently, we carried out an 18-month rebrand process and on February 2, 2022, revealed our new name and brand identity as the Washington Commanders. Throughout the upcoming season, we will be celebrating our 90-year journey with a series of celebrations and commemorations. On July 9, 2022, we unveiled a 90th anniversary patch, which will be worn on the front chest of the team jerseys for the 2022 season. To honor the past and pay tribute to the new era as the Commanders, the patch combines elements reflective of our organization's 90-year history while incorporating the new Commanders brand identity. 90th anniversary commemorative merchandise, including products featuring the 90th anniversary celebratory patch design, will be available at the Washington Commanders Team Store, in select styles, throughout the season.

Also, in recognition of this milestone, we launched a "Command Legacy" website on July 9, which welcomed fans to join in the process of selecting members to be added to our "90 Greatest" list. Throughout the season, Washington Legends will be featured in content, including a "Chalk Talk with Legends" where two Washington Legends discuss the highs and lows from their playing days and everything in between.

Burgundy & Gold-themed festivities will be accented at all home games, and each of these games will feature a Washington Legend as an honorary captain. In-game tributes will include commemorations of all five championship winning teams, iconic Washington Legends from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s rosters, the reveal of the permanent installation at FedExField for Sean Taylor and a celebration of the legendary "The Hogs" offensive line.

We hope you enjoy what we have planned. Here's to what's sure to be an unforgettable season!





TAKEAWAYS FROM THE COMMANDERS VS. THE BEARS

The Washington Commanders ended their four-game losing streak with a 12-7 win over the Chicago Bears on Thursday Night Football. Here are five takeaways from the victory, presented by the Inaugural Washington Commanders Fan Cruise.

By Zach Selby

1. THE FRONT CONTINUES TO DOMINATE.

Justin Fields was one of the most sacked quarterbacks in the league heading into the Thursday Night matchup, and the Commanders, whose pass rush seems to have found its stride, took advantage of the Bears' offensive line and harassed the young signal-caller.

The Commanders slung down Fields five times, tying last week's mark against the Tennessee Titans. Washington knew it needed to contain the former Ohio State Buckeye if it hoped to secure a win on the road, and it did so by ensuring that Fields rarely had a clean pocket.

The number would have been higher had Fields not managed to slip away from the Commanders' consistent rush and throw the ball away, and even then, he was punished for his athleticism. But it was clear that the pass-rush had Fields addled, and it helped keep the Commanders in the game. Washington set the tone on the Bears' first possession, when sacks from Efe Obada and Daron Payne ended a drive that ended up getting just six yards.

The Commanders now have 19 sacks this season, which ties them for third most in the league. After being steady to start the season, the team's talented pass-rushers are starting to flex their first-round talent.





2. THE DEFENSE DID NOT BREAK IN THE RED ZONE.

Technically, the Bears' offense was more productive than that of the Commanders with 392 yards of offense, most of which was spearheaded by 238 yards on the ground. They marched down the field into the red zone three times, getting as close as the 1-yard line twice. All three drives ended in disappointment for the Bears.

After allowing the Bears to get down to their own 5-yard line in the first quarter, the Commanders were gifted with something they have been searching for since Week 1: a turnover. A pass from Fields bounced off Obada's helmet and popped up in the air. Jonathan Allen was there to catch the deflection, marking his first career interception.

Washington's offense failed to capitalize and punted the ball away five plays later. That led the Bears driving down to the Commanders' 1-yard line, and with one of the best rushing attacks in the league, it was clear that they would try to run in for the score. Cole Holcomb, however, had other plans, and he stood up Khalil Herbert at the goal line for no gain on fourth down. The final red zone stop ended up being the one that saved the game. Fields had set up the Bears at the Washington 6-yard line with a 39-yard run, and despite four attempts, Chicago failed to retake the lead. The highlight came from Benjamin St-Juste, who wrapped up Darnell Mooney and recorded a tackle at the 1-yard line. It was not always pretty, but Washington got the job done. In the end, that is all that really matters.



4. BIG PLAYS ALMOST COST THE GAME.

The Commanders were not perfect during the game. Big plays continue to be an issue for the team, and it nearly resulted in a fifth straight defeat.

The first error came in the third quarter on the Bears' opening drive of the second half. Facing a second-and-9 at the Commanders' 40-yard line, Fields aired out a pass to Dante Pettis, resulting in a touchdown that gave the Bears a 7-3 lead.

Washington was able to recover from the miscue with nine points -- a field goal from Joey Slye and Robinson's touchdown -- but it almost gave the game away with Fields' 39-yard run that may have been a touchdown had it not been for Rachad Wildgoose getting Fields out of bounds. Once again, Washington managed to escape disaster, but it did not need to come down to a goal line stand with a win in the balance.

The Green Bay Packers may not have Devante Adams, but Aaron Rodgers is still capable of delivering explosive plays. The Commanders will need to shore up their issues in order to string together another win.

3. BRIAN ROBINSON REACHED ANOTHER MILESTONE.

Brian Robinson was at what he called the lowest point in his life two months ago after being shot twice in Washington, D.C. Flash forward to Thursday night, and he is now leading the Commanders' ground attack with his physical style.

The Commanders rushed for 128 yards against the Bears, and Robinson accounted for nearly half of that with 60 yards on 17 carries. Robinson was touted by coaches for being a downhill runner who knew how to find space in short yardage situations. That was clear on several runs against the Bears, including a two-yard run on a third-and-1 that gave the offense a fresh set of downs.

But it was most apparent when the Commanders were down 7-6 at the Bears' 1-yard line in need of points. Robinson plowed forward for the score, the first of his career, that ended up giving his team the lead for good.

Robinson looked more comfortable than in his debut against the Titans, and his production when the team needed it most is a good sign for what he can add for the rest of the season.





5. BACK ON TRACK.

It has been a rough month for the Commanders. One frustrating loss after the next left several questions about the team's capabilities in a season that was expected to see it take a step forward.

It would not be completely honest to say that all those questions were answered after Thursday's performance. There is still much to be desired from the Commanders, who do have talent but were unable to secure wins for four weeks.

However, the Commanders did prove that their season is not over yet. They fought from start to finish, and they were rewarded with a victory to inch closer to .500.

The team still has plenty of growing to do on both sides of the ball, but Thursday night served as an opportunity to pivot back in the right direction.







CACHE'S THE BEST COACH I'VE EVER SEEN DD (BRIAN MITCHELL ON JOE GIBBS)

30 YEARS LATER, JOE GIBBS' ATTENTION TO DETAIL IS STILL ONE-OF-A-KIND

By Zach Selby

Brad Edwards had heard the stories. He knew that if you needed to find Joe Gibbs or his coaches at 2 a.m. for some reason, all you would need to do was head to Washington's facility. They would be there, hard at work, preparing for the upcoming game.

Edwards, one of Washington's defensive backs from 1990-93, often wondered, fairly, "What could they be meeting about?" Most of their conversations, it turned out, were focused on one question, "What if?" For a coach like Gibbs, the unknown factors carried as much weight as the known ones, if not more so.

"They would come in and have these overly simplistic adjustments, almost like they're drawing in the sand," Edwards said. "And it would be the exact thing that needed to happen."

It's a taste of what it was like to play under Gibbs, and the three Super Bowls he won using that coaching style sweep the legs out from under any argument against it. The attention to detail, his philosophies and the care put into the team all came with the Gibbs package, and it earned his players' respect. Thirty years later, his approach is still one-of-a-kind to them.

"There is not a coach in the NFL that does what he did," former running back Brian Mitchell told Julie Donaldson on the 30-year anniversary of Washington's 1991 Super Bowl victory.

It's a universally recognized fact that Gibbs was an offensive guru. In the 1991 season, Washington ranked in the Top 10 in total offense (4th), passing offense (5th) and rushing offense (7th). It had 16 touchdowns of 25 or more yards, and it outscored its first three home opponents by a combined score of 102-0.

It's only a sample of an even longer list of accomplishments that required countless 2 a.m. meetings to get just right. He and the offensive coaches spent hours combing through plays to make adjustments that may have seemed simple at times but ended up being critical to Gibbs' overall game plan.

Those changes mattered because Gibbs was always thinking four steps ahead. There were times in practice when Gibbs would call out exactly how opposing defenses would respond to their offense and explain how the team would alter its plan to attack to counter it.

It was an advanced level of strategy that astounded his players.

"I always talk about how coaches need to adjust," Mitchell said. "This man had a plan for the adjustment. These coaches today...they don't adjust for years, weeks, months. He practiced the adjustment in practice."

Gibbs expected a lot from his players with the standard being for everyone to do the right thing all the time. He was a strategist, said former wide receiver Gary Clark, but he also had enough trust in his players to give them the reins and even allow them to tweak his plans. That, as Clark said, made things "football ready," and it allowed them to become great football players.

"The nice thing about that, too, is that [opponents] can't measure that," Clark said. "They can't



54



measure that on film because they don't know what you're thinking. They know what Joe's thinking maybe, but they don't know what you're thinking."

Offense was Gibbs' specialty, so he didn't spend too much time on the defensive side of the field, but he didn't need to for his message of emphasizing the details to carry over to that side of the ball. When he was there, though, it was to give his players a reminder of how important that message was. Just ask Edwards.

Washington's defensive players knew the rules in practice; they had to go full speed until they wrapped up the offensive players just so they could get a little contact. It was something Edwards had done right "a thousand" times before...until late in the 1991 season when he decided to run by the 6-foot-1, 230-pound Gerald Riggs after a 40-yard run.

As Edwards was heading back to the huddle, he saw Gibbs walking down the field. That's odd, Edwards thought to himself. What's he doing? It became more and more clear to Edwards that Gibbs was heading in his direction. When he finally gets to Edwards, Gibbs said, "Listen Brad, we do this for a reason. I want you to wrap up the running backs and the receivers. So, this will help you in a game."

"The guy walks off and I'm like, 'This guy doesn't miss anything,'" Edwards said. "It's like he's got eyes in the back of his head."

And while it's certainly a high standard, it's one his players were willing to strive for because

they knew it meant that much to Gibbs. He didn't go home, Clark said; he had a cot in his office that he slept on during the week and went home on Saturdays and Sundays. It was a level of dedication that Clark "had mad respect" for.

"He's the only coach that you truly wanted to win for," Clark said.

Gibbs made sure that his players went through every scenario in practice, and when the games actually came, it was fun. Judging by the numbers that Washington put up in that 1991 season, there was a lot of fun to be had. The team started 11-0, which still stands as a franchise record (that's even more impressive considering eight of its 16 opponents finished with at least 10 wins). Among the numerous offensive achievements, Washington was the only team in the NFC that season to have two receivers with at least 70 catches (Clark and Art Monk).

All those late nights spent at the facility poring over the smallest of details were worth it, and it's one of the reasons why Washington went 154-94 in two stints under Gibbs, who finished his career with two Coach of the Year honors. It's also why Gibbs was voted to the Hall of Fame in 1996. And of course, it's one of the many reasons he's regarded as one of the best coaches in NFL history.

In the eyes of his players, there are none better.

"When I say he's the best coach I've ever seen in my life, I'm not saying it [just] because," Mitchell said. "I'm saying it because he's the best coach I've ever seen."





BRAR ROBINSON

RELIVES EMOTIONS OF MAKING NFL DEBUT

BY ZACH SELBY

Brian Robinson experienced the first test of his durability during the Washington Commanders' Week 5 matchup against the Tennessee Titans. At one point in the game, a Titans player delivered a direct hit on one of the sections of his right leg where he was shot in late August.

It was a hard hit that stung "a little bit," Robinson told Senior Vice President of Media and Content Julie Donaldson, but it did not bother him too much. For Robinson, the fact that he was not physically affected by the hit was a positive sign.

"That was the test that I needed. I was like, 'Okay, I'm glad that's over,'" Robinson said. "The fact that I can walk off the field healthy and come back... and get ready to do it all over again is pretty good."

Robinson feels like he just played a football game in his return to action, which is an experience he is grateful for after weeks of recovery. It was another step in a remarkable comeback story for Robinson, who led the team in carries (9) and yards (22) on Sunday. And while the game ended in a loss, making his return was a personal victory.

"I really can't really explain the feeling," Robinson said. "It's just being back out on the field. I mean, the ups and downs, but today everything finally came into the light. I'm just so blessed to be back out there with all the fans, the team, everybody involved."

Robinson's return to the field has been anticipated since it was announced that he did not suffer any significant damage to his leg after being shot twice. That energy was heightened even more when he was designated to return to practice by the team, and he showed throughout the week that he still possessed the talent he had in training camp.

"He had a good week," Ron Rivera said of Robinson Friday afternoon. "This morning, he was there and he was in good shape. So, we're pretty fired up." The following day, Robinson was officially placed on the active roster.

"It's been a long five weeks, but it's a lot of work," Robinson said Wednesday. "We put in a lot of work over that time, and I could say I did everything I needed to do over that time period to make sure I was here today."

Robinson was not labeled as the starting running back, as the coaching staff wanted to ease him back into the system. However, the team did have a treat for him: he was the final player to run out of the tunnel, which earned a hefty amount of praise from the crowd.

Robinson considers himself to be "a tough guy," but he admitted to Donaldson that he was emotional as he ran out of the tunnel. The moment went viral on social media.

"That was great," Robinson said. "Feeling all of the energy from the fans, obviously everyone who missed the time I was gone. My teammates waiting on me at the end of the tunnel, that was one of those remarkable feelings. I can't even really explain it."

Robinson's teammates have given him their unwavering support throughout his recovery, and he could feel their love from the moment he first arrived at the hospital to the time he joined them near the middle of the field on Sunday.

"Honestly, they've been bringing all the energy that I've needed ever since the accident," Robinson said. "Since my first time coming back to see those guys at the building, they've just welcomed me with open arms and showed me nothing but love. They've just shown me how much they've appreciated my presence on this team, and I felt that today."

And his teammates were thrilled to have him back on the sidelines with them.

"He was ready," said wide receiver Dyami Brown. "He was ready to get back out there even like two weeks ago. Just having him out there, it's love."

Quarterback Carson Wentz said he got "goosebumps" seeing Robinson run out of the tunnel and hearing the fans' reaction.

"I think we're all excited to have him out there," Wentz said. "I know emotionally guys were happy to see him in the huddle."

Robinson said the support he received from his teammates and the fans meant "everything" to him.

"As soon as I started to feel the love from everybody, I started to believe I would be okay," Robinson said. "I had the ambition to fight back from it, but the love and support just kind of kept me motivated."

Robinson played 18 snaps against the Titans. He has always held a deep love for the game, but now that he is back, he has even more appreciation for anytime he is on the field.

"I've been playing the game for almost 18 years of my life," Robinson said. "It's just always been football to me. But now it's my life, and I realize how much that I put into this game and bonding through this game. It just means so much to me."

Robinson wants to put the past behind him and focus on what is coming next for him. Now that he is back on the field, he intends to keep making progress in his NFL career.

"I just wanna keep making progress, keep making strides in the right direction," Robinson said. "Coming in here, finding ways to get better, get my body feeling better, get more involved into the game plan week in and week out and just help my team win."

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SHINES ON 'SAMMY BAUGH DAY'

Legendary Washington quarterback Sammy Baugh had some great games in his 16-year career in Washington. But maybe none was better than on Nov. 23, 1947.

The Touchdown Club of Washington honored the quarterback with "Sammy Baugh Day," which wasn't common in football, especially for someone still playing in the autumn of his career.

The Club presented him with a brand new Packard station wagon with the words "Slingin' Sam" on the driver's door and "33" on the passenger side in front of 35,361 faithful at Griffith Stadium.

Baugh, who was admittedly nervous to not let the fans down before the game, managed to expel his worries. He threw for 355 yards and six touchdowns in a 45-21 rout of the Chicago Cardinals, who at that time boasted the best defense in the league.

The six touchdowns in one game remains a franchise record.

The team finished 4-8 that season ,but Baugh would go on to finish with career highs in completions (210), yards (2,938) and touchdowns (25), leading the league in all three of those categories.

But just a couple days after getting his keys for his new car, Baugh was hurrying back from Philadelphia to take part in the Thanksgiving Day high school game in Alexandria, Virginia., in which he was to crown the queen. While driving in Maryland, a car swerved into his lane, forcing Baugh to turn into a ditch on the side of the road.

Baugh only suffered minor injuries and was able to play the next weekend, but the car's passenger doors and rear fender took a beating.

Hours after the event, a fan offered to pay for the expenses, because Washington fans know how to treat a legend.

Of course, what Baugh had done that previous Sunday was setting an unheralded precedent for the future of sports stars, specifically the ones that hoped to make good on a "day" named after them in front of the home fans.



SIPER BOWL MI

CANNING SUPER BOWL FORMATION ON TWO

(JOE THEISMANN)

JOHN RIGGINS RUNS WASHINGTON TO FIRST SUPER BOWL

Quarterback Joe Theismann stood in the huddle with his teammates. Super Bowl XVII was basically decided, as Washington led the Miami Dolphins, 27-17, in the final moments.

All that was left to do was run out the remaining seconds.

"I looked at every guy in the huddle, I went right around and looked at every one of those faces and said, 'Winning Super Bowl formation on two,'" Theismann recalled from Radio Row at Super Bowl LIV. "I get goosebumps just telling you the story now."

The franchise's first Super Bowl championship came during the strike-shortened 1982 season. Washington finished the regular season 8-1, while the Dolphins were 7-2. A pair of future Hall of Famers -- Job Gibbs for Washington, Don Shula for the Dolphins -- roamed the sidelines. The game was played on Jan. 30, 1983, at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

Miami opened the scoring with a touchdown in the first quarter and increased its lead to 10-3 early in the second. Washington then tied the game in the second frame behind a 11-play, 80-yard drive that ended with a four-yard reception from wide receiver Alvin Garrett.

Trailing, 17-10, to begin the second half, Washington added a field goal in the third quarter and then took their first lead on an iconic run from John Riggins with about 10 minutes left in the game. Riggins took a handoff to the left, bounced off a tackler and was off to the races down the sidelines for a 43-yard score. Riggins had 38 rush attempts for 166 yards and a touchdown for the game.

With less than two minutes to play, Washington sealed the victory with a six-yard pass from Theismann to Charlie Brown, increasing their lead to 27-17.

For the first time, the Lombardi Trophy was coming to the nation's capital.

"I remember Terry Bradshaw holding up the football when he won the Super Bowl, and I remember Joe Namath waving the finger No. 1," Theismann said. "In sort of a tribute to both of them, I held the football up, I waved the finger ... and now I was part of that fraternity. It was just exciting."

SUPER BOWL XXII

WASHINGTON DOMINATES DENVER

WILLIAMS LEADS THE WAY TO VICTORY IN SUPER BOWL XXII

Excellent preparation helped Washington to victory in Super Bowl XXII and much of it came well before that clash with the Denver Broncos in San Diego on Jan. 31, 1988.

The 1987 NFL season was interrupted by a 15-day strike by the players. The NFL cancelled one game and then played the next three with what it termed "replacement" players.

Most had some experience, either in training camps or with other teams, and some would manage to stick around the NFL when the regulars returned to work.

While some clubs chose not to assemble decent rosters of fill-ins, Washington carefully put together a solid group. Washington went 3-0 with the subs and scrubs and it made a difference, as they won the NFC East with an 11-4 record.

Not accepting this untoward system hurt the New York Giants, who were the defending Super Bowl champions. They got off to an 0-2 start and then their replacement squad lost all three games. They never recovered from 0-5, finishing 6-9 and last in the division. Washington won two close decisions in the playoffs, defeating the Chicago Bears 21-17 and the Minnesota Vikings 17-10. That sent them to the Super Bowl against a Denver team that appeared their equal.

During the season Washington and the Broncos each scored 379 points. Washington allowed 285, the Broncos 288. An even match? It did not turn out that way. Nor did it start out that way.

Denver scored on its first play from scrimmage on a 56-yard pass from John Elway to Ricky Nattiel. Rich Karlis kicked a short field goal on Denver's next possession for a 10-0 lead as the first quarter ended.

The Broncos would not score again. Washington would. Repeatedly and rapidly.

Washington scored touchdowns on their next five possessions, blowing out to a 35-10 halftime lead. They would win 42-10, setting a bunch of records along the way.

Their 602 yards of total offense was one such mark, as were the six touchdowns. Rookie running

back Timmy Smith set another with 202 rushing yards, with the Hogs up front creating huge holes in Denver's undersized defense. Ricky Sanders' 193 yards on six receptions set yet another.

Doug Williams, who briefly left the game with a sprained knee, was named the MVP. He too set a record, passing for 340 yards and tied another with four throws for touchdowns.

Washington rushed for 280 yards and averaged 8.4 yards per play. They made three interceptions and sacked Elway five times, their pass rush never relenting and never laying off the blitz despite the lopsided score.

The loss was the second in two years in the Super Bowl for the Broncos, who were beaten 39-20 by the New York Giants in Pasadena following the 1986 season. They failed to hold a lead in that one as well.

Washington missed the playoffs the next two years but would again reach the summit following the 1991 season.



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SUPER BOWL XXVI

A COACHING A TEAM MORE

(JOE GIBBS)

WASHINGTON WINS SUPER BOWL XXVI

In 1991, Washington fielded one of the most dominant teams ever in the NFL -- and perhaps the greatest all-around season in franchise history. Washington was a hard-nosed, determined group that year, starting the season with an 11-0 record. They finished 14-2 and then devoured Atlanta and Detroit by a combined score of 65-17 in their first two postseason contests.

Going into Super Bowl XXVI, Washington was well-prepared for the Buffalo Bills; the team had an intense, hard-hitting week of practice leading up to the game. The Bills were 13-3 in the regular season and had the NFL's most explosive offense, a group that featured running back Thurman Thomas.

Even though the first quarter of Super Bowl XXVI was scoreless, Washington's offense had two scoring opportunities deep in Buffalo 's territory. Holder Jeff Rutledge botched the snap on a Chip Lohmiller field goal and quarterback Mark Rypien threw a rare interception, ending two drives.

The offense started clicking on full cylinders in the second quarter, roaring out to a 17-0 lead on a Lohmiller 34-yard field goal, a 10-yard touchdown pass from Rypien to Earnest Byner and a 1-yard TD plunge by Earnest Byner.

Just 16 seconds into the third quarter, the lead was 24-0. On Buffalo 's first offensive play of

the second half, Washington sent linebacker Andre Collins on a disguised blitz, confusing Bills quarterback Jim Kelly. He floated a pass right to linebacker Kurt Gouveia, who returned it 23 yards to the Buffalo 2. One play later, Riggs crossed the goal line to increase Washington's lead.

The Bills closed the gap to 24-10 later in the third quarter, but Rypien struck again with a 30-yard touchdown pass to Gary Clark, the ball landing softly in his outstretched hands, giving Washington an insurmountable 31-10 advantage heading into the final quarter. Rypien finished the game 18-of-33 for 292 yards, two touchdowns and a Super Bowl MVP award.

Both Clark and Art Monk proved too much for the Bills' secondary, as both put up nearly identical numbers. (Clark had seven catches for 114 yards, Monk had seven catches for 113 yards.)

Offensive fireworks aside, Washington's aggressive defense was simply magnificent, limiting the prolific Thomas to just 13 yards on 10 carries and pressuring Kelly into mistake after mistake.

Kelly was unable to adjust to Washington's seemingly endless blitzes, which were designed to help counter the Bills' no-huddle offense. Kelly was sacked five times. Washington had feasted all season on opponents' mistakes and turned Kelly's four interceptions and fumble into 20 points. Free safety Brad Edwards had two of the four picks, while Darrell Green and Gouveia had the others.

Linebacker Wilber Marshall led the way, tallying a game-high 11 tackles, one sack and two forced fumbles. Defensive end Fred Stokes had six tackles, a sack and a forced fumble. Backup defensive lineman Jumpy Geathers added three tackles and a sack.

For head coach Joe Gibbs, it was his third NFL championship in 10 seasons as Redskins head coach.

"I've never enjoyed coaching a team more," Gibbs said. "It's been a fun ride for me since training camp. They all like each other, and the chemistry has been terrific. I've kind of gone along for the trip with them. We know we aren't a great team and that we have to play hard and together to win. And that's what we did."



FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND PANEL, THINK PINK®GAME HIGHLIGHT COMMANDERS' HISTORIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH KICKOFF

COMMANDTECURE

By Hannah Lichtenstein

Breast Cancer Awareness Month has long stood as a significant and emotional time for the Washington franchise. Co-Owner and Co-CEO Tanya Snyder, a survivor herself, was a catalyst in turning BCA initiatives like Think Pink within the Burgundy & Gold family into leaguewide actions.

Every October, the franchise puts a distinct care and focus into spreading awareness about the importance of early detection, paying tribute to those affected by the disease and more. And while this October is rooted in those same values, it is different and historic as the first BCA Month under the Washington Commanders brand identity, which is guided by the tagline and rallying cry "Command the Cure."

"One in 8 women will hear the words 'you have cancer,'" Snyder said. "Until we have a cure, we know that our best defense is early detection. That's why we are so passionate about this cause. Everyone knows someone who has been affected by this disease.It's critical that we spread the message about the importance of regular checkups and screenings because early detection saves lives. We are so grateful to have this platform and partnership with the League to amplify this message."

For the first time, on Friday, Oct. 7, the Washington Commanders Charitable Foundation hosted a BCA panel at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. After being treated to music and a cocktail hour, guests listened to a panel featuring Mrs. Snyder, FOX5 DC's Ayesha Khan, GWU Medical Center's Dr. Rachel Brem, President & CEO of Black Women's Health Imperative Linda Goler Bount and Inove Health cancer genetic counselor Elizebeth Stark.

The conversation was filled with expert insights and personal stories, and topics addressed included issues surrounding health equity, progress towards a breast cancer cure, harmful myths and more.

"I learned so much information from this panel...I love that someone like Mrs. Snyder, who is well known and is also a survivor, shared her story and encouraged women to advocate for their health," Ayesha Khan said. "I really enjoyed talking to people in the audience after...[they] were coming up to us to thank us for having this very important conversation."

That theme of community connection around this crucial cause continued into Sunday as the Commanders hosted their Think Pink game against the Tennessee Titans. The color pink popped everywhere around FedExField as employees, fans, coaches and players all paid tribute to the day's theme. Several chapters of Zeta Tau Alpha that has established a nationally-recognized reputation for its commitment to breast cancer awareness philanthropy and education, came together to distribute 30,000 pink ribbons as a gesture of service and solidarity.

"It meant the world to me to be able to be there for a cause so close to my heart with my closest friends," said Huy To, a senior ZTA at Old Dominion. "Being able to see the survivors smile and enjoy life gives hope to millions of women."

Among those who Huy and her ZTA sisters interacted with on Sunday were the 500 All-Star Survivors. Invited as guests of the team, the group sat throughout the lower bowl, and 30 of them were hosted at a pre-game tailgate and in a suite.

In one of the most exciting experiences of the BCA game, a group of the survivors and loved ones were brought down to the field for a dedicated halftime show. One by one, the women ran out of the stadium tunnel, and were announced as though they were star players. They were given a moment to shine while the announcers gave some quick facts about their breast cancer story.

"I am still basking in the glow of running out on the field to be recognized when the announcer called my name and having the world hear that I am a survivor and that I kicked cancer's butt," All-Star Survivor Wanda Gardiner said. "After going through treatment and completing chemo I never rang the bell...this was my bell ringing ceremony. "

Afterwards, the survivors stood on the field with their loved ones and all came together to lift a pink ribbon that stretched from sideline to sideline.

"I found it very special that we were able to include a guest in the event. It meant the world that I could experience this with my husband, specifically holding the ribbon with him on the field and watching the pink fireworks together," All-Star Survivor Liane Lewis said. "This was not just my battle, but his as well! I was honored to attend such an inclusive celebration of strength."

The spirit from a memorable BCA kickoff weekend will carry into the rest of the month. On Monday, Oct. 17, the Commanders, in collaboration with Breast Care for Washington, will station a mammogram van outside of FedExField. As part of the team's continued commitment to equity and service, the van will offer free state-of-the-art 3D mammography to women in the DMV community, regardless of insurance status.

To put a ribbon on the end of the month, the Commanders, in partnership with the American Cancer Society, will host the 14th annual All-Star Survivors Celebration at Firefly Cellar Vineyards where attendees will be treated to lunch, makeup consultations, massages, facials, and more.



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CHARLIE JUSTICE RUNNING BACK, 1950, 1952-54

DEXTER MANLEY DEFENSIVE END, 1981-89

BRIAN MITCHELL RUNNING BACK, 1990-99

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

> CHRIS SAMUELS TACKLE, 2000-09

> **JOE THEISMANN** QUARTERBACK, 1974-85

CLIFF BATTLES RUNNING BACK, 1932-37

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BILL DUDLEY RUNNING BACK, 1950-51, 1953

DARRELL GREEN CORNERBACK, 1983-2002

> LEN HAUSS CENTER, 1964-77

JOE JACOBY TACKLE/GUARD, 1981-1993

BILLY KILMER QUARTERBACK, 1971-78

CHARLES MANN DEFENSIVE END, 1983-93

ART MONK WIDE RECEIVER, 1980-1993

GUARD, 1960-70

JERRY SMITH TIGHT END, 1965-77

LAMAR "BUBBA" TYER HEAD ATHLETIC TRAINER, 1971-2002, 2004-08 **SAMMY BAUGH** QUARTERBACK, 1937-52

GENE BRITO DEFENSIVE END, 1951-53, 1955-58

> MONTE COLEMAN LINEBACKER, 1979-94

PAT FISCHER CORNERBACK, 1968-77

RUSS GRIMM GUARD, 1981-91

PHIL HOCHBERG P.A. ANNOUNCER, 1963-2000

DICK JAMES RUNNING BACK, 1956-63

EDDIE LEBARON QUARTERBACK, 1952-53, 1955-59

END, 1936-41, 1945

KICKER, 1974-86

JOHN RIGGINS RUNNING BACK, 1976-79, 1981-85

> CHARLEY TAYLOR WIDE RECEIVER. 1964-77

DOUG WILLIAMS OUARTERBACK, 1986-89 MIKE BASS CORNERBACK, 1969-75

LARRY BROWN RUNNING BACK, 1969-76

JACK KENT COOKE OWNER, 1961-97

LINEBACKER, 2007-13

CHRIS HANBURGER LINEBACKER, 1965-78

> KEN HOUSTON SAFETY, 1973-80

SONNY JURGENSEN QUARTERBACK, 1964-74

HEAD COACH, 1969

BOBBY MITCHELL FLANKER, 1962-68

BRIG OWENS DEFENSIVE BACK, 1966-77

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	2 3	Sonny Jurgensen Sammy Baugh	3,155	1,831	58.0	22,585 21,886	179
	3	Sammy Baugh Kirk Cousins	2,995	1,693	56.5 65.5	,	187 99
	4 5	Mark Rypien	2,096	1,372	56.4	16,206 15,928	99 101
	5	Mark Rypien	2,207	1,244	50.4	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	F	G/FGA	XPAT/XPA
	1	Mark Moseley	1,206	0		63/397	417/441
	2	Chip Lohmiller	787	0	1	75/245	262/267
	3	Dustin Hopkins	668	0	1	63/194	179/190
	4	Charley Taylor	540	90		0	0
	5	John Riggins	510	85		0	0
CAREER PUNT RETURN	#	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	
LEADERS	4	Rickie Harris	119	1,005		8.4	
	5	Brandon Banks	100	937		9.4	
	#	NAME	RET.	YARDS		AVG.	
	1	Brian Mitchell	421	9,586		22.8	
CAREER KICKOFF	2	Rock Cartwright	222	5,332		24.0	
RETURN							
	3	Mike Nelms	175	4,128		23.6	
LEADERS	3 4	Mike Nelms Dick James	175 155	4,128 3,949		23.6 25.5	
LEADERS							
LEADERS	4	Dick James	155	3,949		25.5	
	4 5	Dick James Brandon Banks	155 119	3,949 2,856		25.5 24.0	
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"I GOT ANOTHER DAY TO IMPACT SOMEONE'S LIFE"

COMMANDERS HIGH SCHOOL COACH OF THE WEEK HONOREE JAMES FORD IS A ROLE MODEL, FIGHTER.

By Hannah Lichtenstein

In honor of "Rivera Strong" and the NFL's Crucial Catch initiative, a story on the Commanders' Week 3 High School Coach of the Week

In the fall of 2019, James Ford, the head coach of the Culpeper County High School's varsity football team, was supposed to be leading the Blue Devils from the sideline. He was supposed to be dressing for the crisp air of high school football gamedays, supposed to be delivering rousing halftime speeches in a locker room.

Instead, that first football season, Ford found himself much farther from school grounds than he could have ever imagined as he fought leukemia.

"I was basically coaching from the hospital room. I had my iPad and my computer with me. Coaches would call me all the time," Ford recalled. "Up until a certain point midseason where my doctors told me I had to shut it down. That's when my treatment became more intense, and I couldn't keep up the schedule of a coach – even though I wasn't there – and go through treatment at the same time."

After seeing positive effects from the treatment, Ford started to slowly work his way back into coaching Culpeper County in 2020. The COVIDshortened seven game season that year provided an opportunity for him to ease back into his role, and from there, "it's been full go ever since." Now in remission and receiving chemotherapy every day, Ford continues to conquer challenges and be an exemplar for his team and community.

For his efforts as a Culpeper County High School role model, the Washington Commanders Charitable Foundation has named Coach James Ford its High School Coach of the Week. As part of the Coach of the Week honor, the Commanders hosted Ford at their October 9th game at the Tennessee Titans and surprised him with his Super Bowl LVII. Additionally, the Culpeper County HS football program will receive a \$1,000 grant.

When Ford was delivered his diagnosis in 2019, he vowed to approach the disease with a fighter mentality as best as he could.

"I didn't want to let [cancer] take me away from the things that are important: family and football," Ford said. "I wanted to see my girls grow up. I really wasn't going to be defeated by this at all."

In that commitment to battling, Ford's support systems became crucial. When describing his journey with cancer, he is quick to credit the "great family unit at home and great family unit at school" that have helped assist, comfort and empower him in innumerable ways.

"My coaching staff, Coach Nobbs [Culpeper County HS activities director] and the administration here do really good job of picking me up. They know when I'm struggling," Ford said. "They do a great job of helping me figure out how to get through practice and keep my energy level where it needs be until I get home."

The everyday chemotherapy is draining. After mustering the energy for a practice or game, Ford said, a lot of times "it's just take a shower and go to sleep." Once a month, he has to go into the hospital to receive treatment and steps back for a few days after to let his body recuperate. Even in those moments, when the biggest priority should be his own healing, Ford finds himself missing his home away from home at Culpeper. "I just love being around the people. They make it fun every day," Ford said. "On days that I get treatment, I kind of get sad because I'm like, 'Dang, I'm not going to be around the people I want to be around."

That love for the Culpeper County High School family informs one of his big passions: community service. He is enthusiastic about instilling the importance of giving back in his team. He has taken a lead on organizing community clean ups, youth football camps and trips to the local food bank.

"Coach Ford has done a tremendous job for not only us, but for the community. It goes beyond the X's and O's" AD David Nobbs said. "He's everything you want in a coach."

In the community he is known for his positive demeanor and as someone who "is always smiling," according to Nobbs. Gratitude is easy for Ford to feel, particularly after his hospital stay.

"I just look at it like, I'm around something that I love. I love the game of football. It's my passion. I love teaching young people," Ford said. "There are always good and bad days, but sitting in the hospital and looking at people around me, I know there's always gonna be worse...I look at it four years ago, I might not have been here."

Ford considers every day to be a blessing.

"Seeing these guys every day on the football field, seeing my students every day in the classroom, there's no need to be down about it when I know that, when I wake up, I got another day to impact someone's life in a positive way," he said.

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FIGHT ON, FIGHT ON 'TIL YOU HAVE WON ALL OF WASH-ING-TON. RAH!, RAH!, RAH!

HAIL TO THE COMMANDERS! HAIL VICTORY! FIGHT FOR OUR COMMANDERS! FIGHT FOR OLD D.C.!

BE

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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