AT&T

ATLANTA FALCONS

TRAINING CAMP

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AT&T

Proud Sponsor of
the Atlanta Falcons

ATLANTA
GET READY

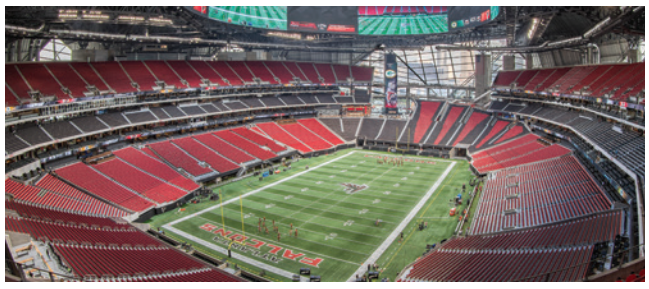
DUE TO ONGOING CONSTRUCTION AT IBM PERFORMANCE FIELD, THE ATLANTA FALCONS ARE UNABLE TO HOST FANS ONSITE THROUGHOUT THE 2024 AT&T ATLANTA FALCONS TRAINING CAMP, AND WILL INSTEAD HOST FANS AT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM FOR AN OPEN PRACTICE.

FRIDAY

8/2 MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM
GATES OPEN 5 PM

TICKETS FOR THIS PRACTICE WILL BE $5 WITH PROCEEDS BENEFITING SUPPORT OF MEDICAL PROGRAMS AND TREATMENT SERVICES AT EMORY HEALTHCARE, THE OFFICIAL TEAM HEALTHCARE PROVIDER OF THE ATLANTA FALCONS.

CLICK HERE
TO PURCHASE TICKETS



PRESEASON SCHEDULE

8/9	@ DOLPHINS	7 PM EDT
8/17	@ RAVENS	12 PM EDT
8/23	JAGUARS	7 PM EDT

@AtlantaFalcons

AT&T ATLANTA FALCONS TRAINING CAMP

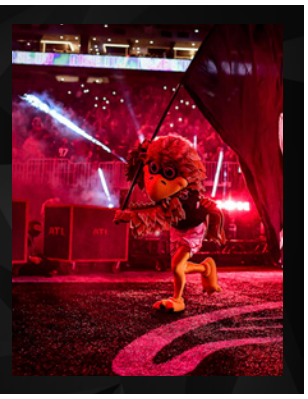
TRAINING CAMP FAQS
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

AT&T helps millions around the globe connect with leading entertainment, business, mobile and high speed internet services. We're proud to help keep Atlanta Falcons fans connected at the 2024 Training Camp.

The Atlanta Falcons are preparing for the upcoming NFL season starting with the 2024 AT&T Atlanta Falcons Training Camp. This year, due to improvements being made to IBM Performance Field, fans will be able to attend one open practice held at Mercedes-Benz Stadium on Friday, August 2 from 6 - 8 p.m.

Tickets are $5 for the open practice at MBS with all proceeds going towards benefitting programs and services at Emory Healthcare, which is the official healthcare provider of the Atlanta Falcons. While attending the open practice, Falcons fans will have the opportunity to receive autographs from your favorite Atlanta Falcons and team personnel. Fans will be permitted to ask for autographs at Mercedes-Benz Stadium during a post-practice autograph session.

The Falcon-faithful will be welcomed back to the prestigious Mercedes-Benz Stadium for the final preseason game against the Jacksonville Jaguars on August 23 at 7 p.m. Atlanta will open up its regular season on September 8 at 1 p.m. as the Falcons host the Pittsburgh Steelers.



DO YOU HAVE AN UPDATED ROSTER SO I KNOW WHO ALL THE PLAYERS ARE WHEN WATCHING TRAINING CAMP?
The current Atlanta Falcons roster can be found at www.atlantafalcons.com/team/players-roster/ or by downloading the Atlanta Falcons mobile app and clicking Team in the navigation panel.

WHERE CAN I FIND A LIST OF DAILY ACTIVITIES RELATED TO TRAINING CAMP?
Check the lists of daily activities related to the 2024 AT&T Atlanta Falcons Training Camp at AtlantaFalcons.com.

WHERE WILL FANS PARK DURING TRAINING CAMP?
Parking for the open practice at Mercedes-Benz Stadium may be purchased online. Please purchase prior to arrival by CLICKING HERE.

IS PARKING AVAILABLE FOR FANS WITH DISABILITIES?
Yes. To view ADA parking availability during the open practice at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, please CLICK HERE.

PROHIBITED ITEMS INCLUDE

- Weapons of any kind
- Any outside food or beverage
- Lawn chairs
- Pets (only service animals are allowed)
- Camcorders, professional cameras/tripods
- Large backpacks and bags
- Anything deemed inappropriate by security
- Footballs

MAY I BRING MY CAMERA TO TRAINING CAMP?
Handheld digital or film cameras, including Go Pro cameras, with a lens less than 6" in length (detachable or non-detachable) are permitted into Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Tripods, monopods, "selfie sticks" and cameras with a lens longer than 6" (detachable or non-detachable) will not be permitted into the stadium. Additionally, camera cases that do not meet the Clear Bag Policy will not be permitted. **Videotaping during practice is strictly prohibited.**

ARE BACKPACKS AND BAGS ALLOWED AT PRACTICE?
Mercedes-Benz Stadium has a Clear Bag Only policy. Bags must be CLEAR plastic, vinyl or PVC and not exceed 12" x 6" x 12". Bags cannot be tinted with color or include oversized content that prevents visibility into the clear bag.

WHERE CAN I BUY CONCESSIONS?
Concessions will be available to purchase inside the Mercedes-Benz Club, Delta Sky360 Club, as well as the 100-level concourse.

IS THERE AN ATM ON SITE?
Sponsored by Truist, ATMs are located in the following sections: Field Level, Outside of Delta Sky360 Club and 100 Concourse: Sec 101 (Outside of Team Store). Please note that Mercedes-Benz Stadium accepts card and mobile payment ONLY. All mobile vendors, concession stands, bars, and retail locations require the use of card or mobile payment.

The stadium is equipped with several ReadySTATION kiosks to convert cash to a prepaid debit card that can be used anywhere VISA is accepted (inside or outside the stadium). The ReadySTATION kiosks are located and available for use on each of the main concourse levels inside the stadium.

WHERE ARE FIRST-AID SERVICES LOCATED?
Guests that require medical assistance are encouraged to contact any nearby stadium Team Member or Security Personnel. Guests who begin to feel ill, or who need assistance, may also call the Stadium Operations Center at (470) 341-5020 or text (470) 444-0234. There is also a First-Aid station location at the stadium: 100 Concourse – Section 133.

WHAT IS THE SMOKING POLICY?
Mercedes-Benz Stadium is a non-smoking, non-vaping and tobacco free campus. The use of any tobacco based products, e-cigarettes and vaporizers, inside of the stadium or within the immediate gate plazas, is strictly prohibited. Violators of this policy may be ejected from the stadium.

WHAT SAFETY MEASURES ARE IN PLACE?
For your safety, Atlanta Falcons security and local law enforcement officials will be present. We will conduct bag inspections at the gate prior to entry.

ATLANTA'S TRAINING CAMP TRADITION REVISITED

BY CRAIG SAGER II

When rookies, new arrivals in the form of free agents and veterans with years of experience check in for this year's AT&T Atlanta Falcons Training Camp, they will be experiencing an offseason tradition that has predated each Atlanta Falcons season since the city was awarded an NFL franchise by the National Football League on June 30, 1965. The team has grown over the decades and the league has doubled since Atlanta became its 15th team. During this growth, technology, drills, equipment and film have all changed, however, training camp remains a critical period to prepare for the upcoming slate.

The first-ever Atlanta Falcons training camp took place on July 2, 1966 nearly a year to the date after Atlanta was awarded a franchise. The expectations regarding facilities and overall experience has drastically changed since that first offseason. Now, new state of the art facilities are underway at Atlanta's headquarters in Flowery Branch.

LOOKING BACK

The newly-formed Atlanta Falcons checked in on July 2 at the Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain, NC for the first-ever training camp. According to the coverage at the time, 130 players showed up, including a whopping 42 players that Atlanta used in the 1966 NFL Supplemental Draft. Team founder and then-owner Rankin Smith had hired Vince Lombardi's defensive backs coach Norb Hecker to oversee the team.

"No, the facilities certainly aren't ideal. The boys have been very good about adjusting to the situation, though," Hecker told the Charlotte News according to excerpts from Matt Winkeljohn's book 'Tales from the Atlanta Falcons Sideline'. "There are no gripes, and the spirit has been very good."

The local news covered the first offseason and stressed the need for better facilities moving forward. This reality ultimately led the Falcons to move their camp to East Tennessee State University the following year for the next four offseasons. That same Black Mountain facility used to host Atlanta's original training camp is still around today and serves as a YMCA and training facility.

Atlanta trekked to Furman University starting in 1971-78 for training camp before holding camp in-state for the first time. In 1978, the Falcons opened a state-of-the-art training camp site in Suwanee—becoming one of the first teams in the NFL to have a year-round practice facility. The franchise trained at this facility from 1979-1998. This was ground zero for names like Steve Bartkowski, William Andrews, Jeff Van Note and Tommy Nobis. Miami Dolphins head coach Don Shula stayed at the Falcon Inn with his team when they came up for a scrimmage and the Chicago Bears even came to the site during the winter for playoff preparations when the Midwest winter temperatures dropped too low.

The features included a 100-room hotel that was referred to as 'the Falcon Inn' and also had a restaurant, office building that operated as team headquarters and a health club.

In 1998, Atlanta moved back to Furman University and would stay there until 2005. Meanwhile, in 2000 a brand new facility was built in Flowery Branch to house the headquarters. The training camp stayed in South Carolina until the 2005 season when they moved to Flowery Branch.

This move was the culmination of a two-year quest to lure the Falcons to the Hall County site and was finalized late in 1999.

"We heard 'no' probably about 10 times on why we wouldn't be suitable," said Dennis Bergin, who served as Flowery Branch City Manager at the time. "There were better than 40 locations the Falcons were considering and initially we were perceived to be one of the least likely places as the team's headquarters," said Bergin, now Lula's City Manager. "It was monumental that we were able to bring the Falcons here because there were so many other communities that were out there fighting just like we were to come to that point."

MOVING OUT

The move to Flowery Branch has also been more convenient for Falcons fans to turn out and witness the team up-close each year at Training Camp.

"This decision [to locate to Flowery Branch] was driven by our desire to bring Falcons training camp closer to our fans and families and to allow more of them to participate in this exciting event," said Arthur M. Blank following the final year at Furman. "We will make it more convenient for our players' families to visit and watch practice and for our support staff to do their jobs. It will also allow our coaches and staff to go home at night to be with their families."

Flowery Branch gave Atlanta the preeminent facilities to host its training camp and set the standard. Atlanta became the only team in the league to have its own (on-site) dormitories for training camp.

The early days are ancient history now, as the Falcons organization has made home of its well-groomed landscape and first class headquarters off Falcon Parkway and Hog Mountain Road.

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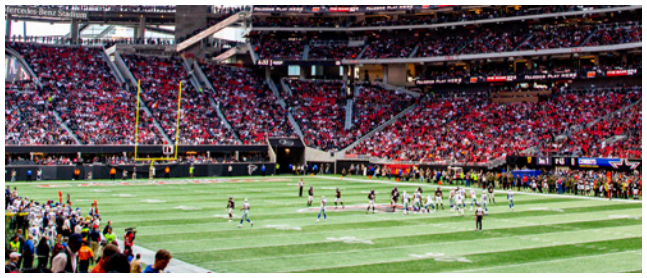
2024 CLE 300 4MATIC® Coupe shown in MANUFAKTUR Patagonia Red metallic paint with optional equipment. ©2024 Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

For more information, call 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES, or visit MBUSA.com.

2024 ATLANTA FALCONS SCHEDULE



8.9 @ DOLPHINS
FOX5 ATLANTA

7 PM EDT HARD ROCK STADIUM

The Falcons begin the preseason with a game against the Dolphins, who made the playoffs for the second-straight year last season. Miami finished last year with an 11-6 record, tied atop the AFC East, however a Week 18 loss to its division rival Bills saw the Dolphins fall to a Wild Card spot. The Dolphins have one of the top wide receiver rooms in the league with Tyreek Hill who finished last season with 1,799 yards and Jaylen Waddle who signed a 3-year $84.8 million contract this offseason. Quarterback Tua Tagovailoa is coming off a Pro Bowl season where he threw for over 4,600 yards.

8.17 @ RAVENS
FOX5 ATLANTA

12 PM EDT M&T BANK STADIUM

Baltimore finished last season with the best record in the NFL before it fell to the eventual Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC Championship. Quarterback Lamar Jackson is fresh off his second NFL MVP season and is looking to continue his success. The Ravens added another weapon to the backfield by signing Derrick Henry in the offseason who rushed for 1,167 yards and 12 touchdowns last season for the Titans. Defensive tackle Justin Madubuike looks to pick up where he left off after playing in all 17 games last season, leading the team in sacks with 13.

8.23 JAGUARS
FOX5 ATLANTA NFL NETWORK

7 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

After advancing to an 8-3 record to start last season the Jaguars lost five of their last six games, ultimately missing the playoffs. Jacksonville's backfield is composed of two Clemson greats in Travis Etienne, who rushed for 1,008 yards and 11 touchdowns, and Trevor Lawrence who took a step back last season by throwing 21 touchdowns and 14 interceptions after a great 2022 season. The defense will be led by linebackers Josh Allen and former first-overall pick Travon Walker. The pair combined for 27.5 sacks last season, accounting for over half of the team's total in the category.

9.8 STEELERS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

The Falcons will begin the regular season against the Steelers, who achieved their 20th-straight winning-season last year before losing in the Wild Card round to the Bills. Pittsburgh will have a new face at quarterback with Russell Wilson signing in the offseason after parting ways with the Broncos. The receiving corps is led by former Georgia wide receiver George Pickens who improved in his second season, totalling 1,140 receiving yards and five touchdowns. On the defensive side of the ball, T.J. Watt looks to continue his dominance after leading the league in sacks last year with 19.

9.16 @ EAGLES
ESPN

8:15 PM EDT LINCOLN FINANCIAL FIELD

Philadelphia started last season 10-1 before losing five of its last six games, and went on to lose the division, failing to make it out of the Wild Card round. Future Hall of Fame center Jason Kelce retired in the offseason, a huge blow to the offensive line. However, things are still looking bright for the Eagles with the signing of former division-rival Saquon Barkley to be their running back for the future, and the three-year extension of DeVonta Smith through 2028. A.J. Brown returns after a 1,456 yard, seven touchdown 2023 season as the focal point of the offense.

9.22 CHIEFS
NBC

8:20 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

Fresh off back-to-back Super Bowl victories, the first team to do so since the 2004-05 Patriots, the Chiefs look just as strong as ever. Tight end Travis Kelce signed a two-year extension worth $34.3 million after a season where he led the team in receiving yards with 984. Quarterback Patrick Mahomes will look to rebound after he had his worst season as a starter, throwing 14 interceptions with a QBR of 63.1. Kansas City re-signed All-Pro defensive tackle Chris Jones to a five-year deal and drafted Xavier Worthy with the 28th pick who ran the fastest-ever 40-yard dash at the NFL Combine at 4.21 seconds.

9.29 SAINTS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

The Saints finished 9-8 last season and missed the playoffs for the third-straight year. Quarterback Derek Carr will be leading the offense this season after passing for 3,878 yards with 25 touchdowns and only eight interceptions in 2023. The Saints will be relying more on third-year receiver Chris Olave who had over 1,000 receiving yards last season after the team cut veteran Michael Thomas in the offseason after another injury-ridden season. The New Orleans defense will rely heavily on its secondary which recorded 18 interceptions last season, tied for third-most in the league.

10.3 BUCCANEERS
prime video

8:15 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

For the second-year in a row, the Buccaneers made the playoffs having the worst record among playoff teams. However, last year they walked through their Wild Card game against the Eagles, winning 32-9 before falling to the Lions. Baker Mayfield led the offense last season, and had the best season of his career in which he passed for over 4,000 yards with 28 touchdowns. Mayfield will have one of the top pass catching targets in the league with Tampa re-signing receiver Mike Evans. The veteran is entering his 11th year and has yet to have a season where he had less than 1,000 receiving yards.

10.13 @ PANTHERS
FOX5 ATLANTA

4:25 PM EDT BANK OF AMERICA STADIUM

Despite finishing with a 2-15 record last season, the worst in the league, the Panthers did not have the first-overall pick after trading it away to the Bears to draft Bryce Young last year. Young had a rough rookie season where he threw for less than 3,000 yards with 11 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. In this year's draft, Carolina took Xavier Legette with the last pick of the first round and Jonathon Brooks with the 46th-overall pick to help out Young. The team brought in Dave Canales to be its head coach with hopes of turning around an offense that finished last in ppg last season.

10.20 SEAHAWKS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

Seattle is looking for a bounce back season this year after just missing out on the playoffs last season. The receiving corps looks strong with Pro Bowler D.K. Metcalf who finished with 1,114 receiving yards last season, and former first-round pick Jaxon Smith-Njigba who had just over 600 yards in his rookie campaign leading the way. Quarterback Geno Smith is in the midst of a career resurgence, and has made the Pro Bowl the last two seasons. He has had more passing yards in the previous two seasons than his previous eight combined.

10.27 @ BUCCANEERS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT RAYMOND JAMES STADIUM

Rachaad White will be leading the running game again this year after he had a successful first season as the Buccaneers starting running back, finishing with 990 yards and six touchdowns. Tampa Bay also made safety Antoine Winfield Jr. the highest-paid defensive back in the league when they gave him a four-year $84.1 million contract. Winfield Jr. was an All-Pro last season and had three interceptions, six forced fumbles, and six sacks which was second on the team. However, the Bucs lost linebacker Shaquil Barrett in free agency who started 16 games last season with three forced fumbles.

11.3 COWBOYS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

The Cowboys finished the season atop the NFC East with a 12-5 record after the collapse of the Eagles. However, they failed to make it out of the Wild Card round after the Packers beat them 48-32. Dallas had a high-powered offense last season that was led by All-Pro wide receiver CeeDee Lamb, who led the league in receiving yards with 1,749 along with 12 touchdowns. The defense has threats at both levels with DaRon Bland leading the secondary with a league-high nine interceptions last year alongside Micah Parsons at linebacker who finished last season with 14 sacks.

11.10 @ SAINTS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT CAESARS SUPERDOME

The Saints defense allowed only 19.2 ppg last season, finishing ninth in the league and third in total interceptions with 18. The secondary is led by three-time All-Pro safety Tyrann Mathieu and cornerback Paulson Adebo who both led the team with four interceptions last season. New Orleans picked up defensive end Chase Young who spent last season on the Commanders and 49ers, totalling 7.5 sacks. The Saints also signed linebacker Willie Gay who had 58 total tackles last season with the Chiefs where he had spent his whole career as a dominant defensive force.

11.17 @ BRONCOS
FOX5 ATLANTA

4:05 PM EDT EMPOWER FIELD AT MILE HIGH

Despite cutting Russell Wilson in the offseason, the Broncos will still be paying him $53 million to play in Pittsburgh this year. Denver drafted quarterback Bo Nix in the first round of this year's draft to battle for the starting role against Jarrett Stidham and Zach Wilson. A constant on this year's offense will be veteran receiver Courtland Sutton, who led the team last year in touchdowns with 10, and Marvin Mims who made the Pro Bowl in his rookie season. Patrick Surtain II returns to anchor the defense after making his second-straight Pro Bowl in 2023.

12.1 CHARGERS

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

The Chargers' 2023 season was one to forget as the team finished 5-12. Quarterback Justin Herbert had a season-ending injury after fracturing his finger in Week 14, and head coach Brandon Staley was fired mid-season to make way for Jim Harbaugh. Prior to his injury, Herbert had over 3,000 yards and 20 touchdowns in only 13 games. Khalil Mack led the way for the defense last year, finishing with 17 sacks and making the Pro Bowl. Harbaugh comes in to take over as head coach after leading the University of Michigan to an undefeated record and a National Championship last season.

12.8 @ VIKINGS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT U.S. BANK STADIUM

It will be a homecoming game for new Falcons quarterback Kirk Cousins who had spent the previous six seasons with the Vikings before signing with Atlanta this offseason. Minnesota selected quarterback J.J. McCarthy in the first round of this year's draft to replace Cousins. McCarthy and the Vikings will be excited to have a full season of Justin Jefferson after he missed much of last season with a hamstring injury, but still led the team in receiving yards with 1,074. Minnesota added Aaron Jones to the backfield who has been a pivotal member of the Packers offense for the past five seasons.

12.16 @ RAIDERS
ESPN

8:30 PM EDT ALLEGIANT STADIUM

Gardner Minshew signed with the Raiders this offseason and joined a quarterback room that saw Aiden O'Connell, Jimmy Garoppolo, and Brian Hoyer all start at least one game last season. Las Vegas finished below .500 for the second-straight season and missed the playoffs. The Raiders took Georgia tight end Brock Bowers with the 13th pick in this years' draft to pair with three-time All-Pro receiver Davante Adams, who led the team in receiving yards with 1,144 last year. Maxx Crosby is looking to continue his dominance after a Pro Bowl season where he finished with 14.5 sacks and two forced fumbles.

12.22 GIANTS
FOX5 ATLANTA

1 PM EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

The Giants finished last season with a 6-11 record, and placed third in the NFC East. New York took wide receiver Malik Nabers out of LSU with the sixth-overall pick in this year's draft to give quarterback Daniel Jones a new target. Jones tore his ACL and missed much of last season but struggled even when he was healthy, throwing for two touchdowns with six interceptions in six games. The Giants also lost running back Saquon Barkley to their division-rival Eagles during free agency this offseason. New York will look to offseason signee Devin Singletary to replace Barkley in the backfield this season.

TBD @ COMMANDERS

TBD EDT COMMANDERS FIELD

The Commanders finished last season with a 4-13 record which set them up to get the second-overall pick of this year's draft. Washington took Heisman-winner Jayden Daniels out of LSU to replace Sam Howell who was traded to the Seahawks prior to the draft. Daniels' will be passing to the reliable Terry McLaurin, who led the team in receiving yards last year with 1,002. Daron Payne started all 17 games last season and had four sacks, however, Washington will be without defensive end Montez Sweat who was traded away midseason to Chicago but still led the team in sacks with 6.5.

TBD PANTHERS

TBD EDT MERCEDES-BENZ STADIUM

It was a busy offseason in Carolina with the team having extra salary cap space to start the offseason. The Panthers signed Jadeveon Clowney, who played for the Ravens last season, to a two-year deal after racking up 9.5 sacks and two forced fumbles in 2023. To help Bryce Young and a struggling receiving corps, the team traded for wide receiver Dionte Johnson from the Steelers, who had over 700 receiving yards last season. Defensive tackle Derrick Brown looks to replicate the success he had last season when he made the Pro Bowl after registering 103 tackles.

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2021 NFL SCHEDULE

ARIZONA CARDINALS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: New Orleans Saints
Week 2 8/17: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 3 8/25: at Denver Broncos

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at Buffalo Bills
Week 2 9/15: Los Angeles Rams
Week 3 9/22: Detroit Lions
Week 4 9/29: Washington Commanders
Week 5 10/6: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 6 10/13: at Green Bay Packers
Week 7 10/21: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 8 10/27: at Miami Dolphins
Week 9 11/3: Chicago Bears
Week 10 11/10: New York Jets
Week 11 BYE
Week 12 11/24: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 13 12/1: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 14 12/8: Seattle Seahawks
Week 15 12/15: New England Patriots
Week 16 12/22: at Carolina Panthers
Week 17 12/29: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 18 1/5: San Francisco 49ers

BALTIMORE RAVENS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/9: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 2 8/17: Atlanta Falcons
Week 3 8/24: at Green Bay Packers

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/5: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 2 9/15: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 3 9/22: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 4 9/29: Buffalo Bills
Week 5 10/6: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 6 10/13: Washington Commanders
Week 7 10/21: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 8 10/27: at Cleveland Browns
Week 9 11/3: Denver Broncos
Week 10 11/7: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 11 11/17: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 12 11/25: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 13 12/1: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/15: at New York Giants
Week 16 12/21: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 17: 12/25 at Houston Texans
Week 18 1/5: Cincinnati Bengals

BUFFALO BILLS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: Chicago Bears
Week 2 8/17: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 3 8/24: Carolina Panthers

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: Arizona Cardinals
Week 2 9/12: at Miami Dolphins
Week 3 9/23: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 4 9/29: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 5 10/6: at Houston Texans
Week 6 10/14: at New York Jets
Week 7 10/20: Tennessee Titans
Week 8 10/27: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 9 11/3: Miami Dolphins
Week 10 11/10: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 11 11/17: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 12 BYE
Week 13 12/1: San Francisco 49ers
Week 14 12/8: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 15 12/15: at Detroit Lions
Week 16 12/22: New England Patriots
Week 17 12/29: New York Jets
Week 18 1/5: at New England Patriots

CAROLINA PANTHERS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/8: at New England Patriots
Week 2 8/17: New York Jets
Week 3 8/24: at Buffalo Bills

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at New Orleans Saints
Week 2 9/15: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 3 9/22: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 4 9/29: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 5 10/6: at Chicago Bears
Week 6 10/13: Atlanta Falcons
Week 7 10/20: at Washington Commanders
Week 8 10/27: at Denver Broncos
Week 9 11/3: New Orleans Saints
Week 10 11/10: New York Giants (Germany)
Week 11 BYE
Week 12 11/24: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 13 12/1: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 14 12/8: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 15 12/15: Dallas Cowboys
Week 16 12/22: Arizona Cardinals
Week 17 12/29: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 18 1/5: at Atlanta Falcons

CHICAGO BEARS

PRESEASON:

HOF GAME 8/1: vs Houston Texans
Week 1 8/10: at Buffalo Bills
Week 2 8/17: vs Cincinnati Bengals
Week 3 8/22: at Kansas City Chiefs

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: Tennessee Titans
Week 2 9/15: at Houston Texans
Week 3 9/22: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 4 9/29: Los Angeles Rams
Week 5 10/6: Carolina Panthers
Week 6 10/13: Jacksonville Jaguars (London)
Week 7 BYE
Week 8 10/27: at Washington Commanders
Week 9 11/3: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 10 11/10: New England Patriots
Week 11 11/17: Green Bay Packers
Week 12 11/24: Minnesota Vikings
Week 13 11/28: at Detroit Lions
Week 14 12/8: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 15 12/16: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 16 12/22: Detroit Lions
Week 17 12/26: Seattle Seahawks
Week 18 1/5: at Green Bay

CINCINNATI BENGALS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 2 8/17: at Chicago Bears
Week 3 8/22: Indianapolis Colts

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: New England Patriots
Week 2 9/15: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 3 9/23: Washington Commanders
Week 4 9/29: at Carolina Panthers
Week 5 10/6: Baltimore Ravens
Week 6 10/13: at New York Giants
Week 7 10/20: at Cleveland Browns
Week 8 10/27: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 9 11/3: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 10 11/7: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 11 11/17: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 12 BYE
Week 13 12/1: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 14 12/9: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 15 12/15: at Tennessee Titans
Week 16 12/19: Cleveland Browns
Week 17 12/29: Denver Broncos
Week 18 1/5: at Pittsburgh Steelers

CLEVELAND BROWNS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: Green Bay Packers
Week 2 8/17: Minnesota Vikings
Week 3 8/24: at Seattle Seahawks

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: Dallas Cowboys
Week 2: 9/15: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 3 9/22: New York Giants
Week 4 9/29: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 5 10/6: at Washington Commanders
Week 6 10/13: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 7 10/20: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 8 10/27: Baltimore Ravens
Week 9 11/3: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 10 BYE
Week 11 11/17: at New Orleans Saints
Week 12 11/21: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 13 12/2: at Denver Broncos
Week 14 12/8: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 15 12/15: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 16 12/19: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 17 12/29 Miami Dolphins
Week 18 1/5: at Baltimore Ravens

DALLAS COWBOYS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/11: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 2 8/17: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 3 8/24: Los Angeles Chargers

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at Cleveland Browns
Week 2 9/15: New Orleans Saints
Week 3 9/22: Baltimore Ravens
Week 4 9/26: at New York Giants
Week 5 10/6: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 6 10/13: Detroit Lions
Week 7 BYE
Week 8 10/27: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 9 11/3: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 10 11/10: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 11 11/18: Houston Texans
Week 12 11/24: at Washington Commanders
Week 13 11/28: New York Giants
Week 14 12/9: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 15 12/15: at Carolina Panthers
Week 16 12/22: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 17 12/29: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 18 1/5: Washington Commanders

DENVER BRONCOS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/11: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 2 8/18: Green Bay Packers
Week 3 8/25: Arizona Cardinals

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 2 9/15: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 3 9/22: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 4 9/29: at New York Jets
Week 5 10/6: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 6 10/13: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 7 10/17: at New Orleans Saints
Week 8 10/27: Carolina Panthers
Week 9 11/3: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 10 11/10: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 11 11/17: Atlanta Falcons
Week 12 11/24: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 13 12/2: Cleveland Browns
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/15: Indianapolis Colts
Week 16 12/22: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 17 12/29: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 18 1/5: Kansas City Chiefs

DETROIT LIONS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/8: at New York Giants
Week 2 8/17: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 3 8/24: Pittsburgh Steelers

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: Los Angeles Rams
Week 2 9/15: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 3 9/22: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 4 9/30: Seattle Seahawks
Week 5 BYE
Week 6 10/13: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 7 10/20: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 8 10/27: Tennessee Titans
Week 9 11/3: at Green Bay Packers
Week 10 11/10: at Houston Texans
Week 11 11/17: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 12 11/24: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 13 11/18: Chicago Bears
Week 14 12/5: Green Bay Packers
Week 15 12/15: Buffalo Bills
Week 16 12/22: at Chicago Bears
Week 17 12/30: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 18 1/5: Minnesota Vikings

GREEN BAY PACKERS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: at Cleveland Browns
Week 2 8/18: at Denver Broncos
Week 3 8/24: Baltimore Ravens

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/6: at Philadelphia Eagles (Brazil)
Week 2 9/15: Indianapolis Colts
Week 3 9/22: at Tennessee Titans
Week 4 9/29: Minnesota Vikings
Week 5 10/6: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 6 10/13: Arizona Cardinals
Week 7 10/20: Houston Texans
Week 8 10/27: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 9 11/3: Detroit Lions
Week 10 11/10: BYE
Week 11 11/17: at Chicago Bears
Week 12 11/24: San Francisco 49ers
Week 13 11/28: Miami Dolphins
Week 14 12/5: at Detroit Lions
Week 15 12/15: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 16 12/23 New Orleans Saints
Week 17 12/29: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 18 1/5: Chicago Bears

HOUSTON TEXANS

PRESEASON:

HOF 8/1: Chicago Bears
Week 1 8/9: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 2 8/17: New York Giants
Week 3 8/24: Los Angeles Rams

RREGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 2 9/15: Chicago Bears
Week 3 9/22: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 4 9/29: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 5 10/6: Buffalo Bills
Week 6 10/13: at New England Patriots
Week 7 10/20: at Green Bay Packers
Week 8 10/27: Indianapolis Colts
Week 9 10/31: at New York Jets
Week 10 11/10: Detroit Lions
Week 11 11/18: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 12 11/24: Tennessee Titans
Week 13 12/1: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/15: Miami Dolphins
Week 16 12/21: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 17 12/25: Baltimore Ravens
Week 18 1/5: at Tennessee Titans

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/11: Denver Broncos
Week 2 8/17: Arizona Cardinals
Week 3 8/22: at Cincinnati Bengals

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: Houston Texans
Week 2 9/15: at Green Bay Packers
Week 3 9/22: Chicago Bears
Week 4 9/29: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 5 10/6: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 6 10/13: at Tennessee Titans
Week 7 10/20: Miami Dolphins
Week 8 10/27: at Houston Texans
Week 9 11/3: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 10 11/10: Buffalo Bills
Week 11 11/17: at New York Jets
Week 12 11/24: Detroit Lions
Week 13 12/1: at New England Patriots
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/12: at Denver Broncos
Week 16 12/22: Tennessee Titans
Week 17 12/29: at New York Giants
Week 18 1/5: Jacksonville Jaguars

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

PRESEASON:

Week 1 8/10: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 2 8/17: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 3 8/23: at Atlanta Falcons

REGULAR SEASON:

Week 1 9/8: at Miami Dolphins
Week 2 9/15: Cleveland Browns
Week 3 9/23: at Buffalo Bills
Week 4 9/29: at Houston Texans
Week 5 10/6: Indianapolis Colts
Week 6 10/13: at Chicago Bears (London)
Week 7 10/20: New England Patriots (London)
Week 8 10/27: Green Bay Packers
Week 9 11/3: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 10 11/10: Minnesota Vikings

AT&T ATLANTA FALCONS TRAINING CAMP

Week 11 11/17: at Detroit Lions
Week 12 BYE
Week 13 12/1: Houston Texans
Week 14 12/8: at Tennessee Titans
Week 15 12/15: New York Jets
Week 16 12/22: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 17 12/29: Tennessee Titans
Week 18 1/5: at Indianapolis Colts

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 2 8/17: Detroit Lions
Week 3 8/22: Chicago Bears
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/5: Baltimore Ravens
Week 2 9/15: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 3 9/22: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 4 9/29: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 5 10/7: New Orleans Saints
Week 6 BYE
Week 7 10/20: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 8 10/27: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 9 11/4: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 10 11/10: Denver Broncos
Week 11 11/17: at Buffalo Bills
Week 12 11/24: at Carolina Panthers
Week 13 11/29: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 14 12/8: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 15 12/15: at Cleveland Browns
Week 16 12/21: Houston Texans
Week 17 12/25: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 18 1/5: at Denver Broncos

LAS VEGAS RAIDERS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 2 8/17: Dallas Cowboys
Week 3 8/23: San Francisco 49ers
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 2 9/15: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 3 9/22: Carolina Panthers
Week 4 9/29: Cleveland Browns
Week 5 10/6: at Denver Broncos
Week 6 10/13: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 7 10/20: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 8 10/27: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 9 11/3: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 10 BYE
Week 11 11/17: at Miami Dolphins
Week 12 11/24: Denver Broncos
Week 13 11/29: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 14 12/8: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 15 12/16: Atlanta Falcons
Week 16 12/22: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 17 12/29: at New Orleans Saints
Week 18 1/5: Los Angeles Chargers

LOS ANGELES CHARGERS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: Seattle Seahawks
Week 2 8/17: Los Angeles Rams
Week 3 8/24: at Dallas Cowboys
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 2 9/15: at Carolina Panthers
Week 3 9/22: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 4 9/29: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 5 BYE
Week 6 10/13: at Denver Broncos
Week 7 10/21: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 8 10/27: New Orleans Saints
Week 9 11/3: at Cleveland Browns
Week 10 11/10: Tennessee Titans
Week 11 11/17: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 12 11/25: Baltimore Ravens
Week 13 12/1: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 14 12/8: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 15 12/15: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 16 12/22: Denver Broncos
Week 17 12/29: at New England Patriots
Week 18 1/5: at Las Vegas Raiders

LOS ANGELES RAMS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/11: Dallas Cowboys
Week 2 8/17: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 3 8/24: at Houston Texans
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Detroit Lions
Week 2 9/15: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 3 9/22: San Francisco 49ers
Week 4 9/29: at Chicago Bears
Week 5 10/6: Green Bay Packers
Week 6 BYE
Week 7 10/20: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 8 10/24: Minnesota Vikings
Week 9 11/3: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 10 11/11: Miami Dolphins
Week 11 11/17: at New England Patriots
Week 12 11/24: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 13 12/1: at New Orleans Saints
Week 14 12/8: Buffalo Bills
Week 15 12/12: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 16 12/22: at New York Jets
Week 17: 12/29: Arizona Cardinals
Week 18 1/5: Seattle Seahawks

MIAMI DOLPHINS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/9: Atlanta Falcons
Week 2 8/17: Washington Commanders
Week 3 8/23: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 2 9/12: Buffalo Bills
Week 3 9/22: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 4 9/30: Tennessee Titans
Week 5 10/6: at New England Patriots
Week 6 BYE
Week 7 10/20: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 8 10/27: Arizona Cardinals
Week 9 11/3: at Buffalo Bills
Week 10 11/11: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 11 11/17: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 12 11/24: New England Patriots
Week 13 11/28: at Green Bay Packers
Week 14 12/8: New York Jets
Week 15 12/15: at Houston Texans
Week 16 12/22: San Francisco 49ers
Week 17 12/29: at Cleveland Browns
Week 18 1/5: at New York Jets

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 2 8/17: at Cleveland Browns
Week 3 8/24: at Philadelphia Eagles
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at New York Giants
Week 2 9/15: San Francisco 49ers
Week 3 9/22: Houston Texans
Week 4 9/28: at Green Bay Packers
Week 5 10/6: New York Jets (London)
Week 6 BYE
Week 7 10/20: Detroit Lions
Week 8 10/24: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 9 11/3 Indianapolis Colts
Week 10 11/10: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 11 11/17: at Tennessee Titans
Week 12 11/24: at Chicago Bears
Week 13 12/1: Arizona Cardinals
Week 14 12/8: Atlanta Falcons
Week 15 12/16: Chicago Bears
Week 16 12/22: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 17 12/29: Green Bay Packers
Week 18 1/5: at Detroit Lions

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/8: Carolina Panthers
Week 2 8/15: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 3 8/25: at Washington Commanders
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 2 9/15: Seattle Seahawks
Week 3 9/19: at New York Jets
Week 4 9/29: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 5 10/6: Miami Dolphins
Week 6 10/13: Houston Texans
Week 7 10/20: at Jacksonville Jaguars (London)
Week 8 10/27: New York Jets
Week 9 11/3: at Tennessee Titans
Week 10 11/10: at Chicago Bears
Week 11 11/17: Los Angeles Rams
Week 12 11/24: at Miami Dolphins
Week 13 12/1: Indianapolis Colts
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/15: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 16 12/22: at Buffalo Bills
Week 17 12/29: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 18 1/5: Buffalo Bills

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 2 8/10: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 3 8/25: Tennessee Titans
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Carolina Panthers
Week 2 9/15: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 3 9/22: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 4 9/29: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 5 10/7: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 6 10/13: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 7 10/13: Denver Broncos
Week 8 10/27: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 9 11/3: at Carolina Panthers
Week 10 11/10: Atlanta Falcons
Week 11 11/17: Cleveland Browns
Week 12 BYE
Week 13 12/1: Los Angeles Rams
Week 14 12/8: at New York Giants
Week 15 12/15: Washington Commanders
Week 16 12/23: at Green Bay Packers
Week 17 12/29: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 18 1/5: at Tampa Bay Buccaneerss

NEW YORK GIANTS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/8: Detroit Lions
Week 2 8/17: at Houston Texans
Week 3 8/24: at New York Jets
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Minnesota Vikings
Week 2 9/15: at Washington Commanders
Week 3 9/22: at Cleveland Browns
Week 4 9/26: Dallas Cowboys
Week 5 10/6: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 6 10/13: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 7 10/20: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 8 10/28: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 9 11/3: Washington Commanders
Week 10 11/10: Carolina Panthers (Germany)
Week 11 BYE
Week 12 11/24: Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 13 11/28: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 14 12/8: New Orleans Saints
Week 15 12/15: Baltimore Ravens
Week 16 12/22: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 17 12/29: Indianapolis Colts
Week 18 1/5: at Philadelphia Eagle

NEW YORK JETS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: Washington Commanders
Week 2 8/17: at Carolina Panthers
Week 3 8/24: New York Giants
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/9: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 2 9/15: at Tennessee Titans
Week 3 9/19: New England Patriots
Week 4 9/29: Denver Broncos
Week 5 10/6: Minnesota Vikings (Germany)
Week 6 10/14: Buffalo Bills
Week 7 10/20: at Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 8 10/27: at New England Patriots
Week 9 10/31: Houston Texans
Week 10 11/10: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 11 11/17: Indianapolis Colts
Week 12 BYE
Week 13 12/1: Seattle Seahawks
Week 14 12/8: at Miami Dolphins
Week 15 12/15: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 16 12/22: Los Angeles Rams
Week 17 12/29: at Buffalo Bills
Week 18 1/5: Miami Dolphins

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/9: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 2 8/15: at New England Patriots
Week 3 8/24: Minnesota Vikings
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/6: Green Bay Packers (Brazil)
Week 2 9/16: Atlanta Falcons
Week 3 9/22: at New Orleans Saints
Week 4 9/29: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 5 BYE
Week 6 10/13: Cleveland Browns
Week 7 10/20: at New York Giants
Week 8 10/27: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 9 11/3: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 10 11/10: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 11 11/14: Washington Commanders
Week 12 11/24: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 13 12/1: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 14 12/8: Carolina Panthers
Week 15 12/15: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 16 12/22: at Washington Commanders
Week 17 12/29: Dallas Cowboys
Week 18 1/5: New York Giants

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/9: Houston Texans
Week 2 8/17: Buffalo Bills
Week 3 8/24: at Detroit Lions
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 2 9/15: at Denver Broncos
Week 3 9/22: Los Angeles Chargers
Week 4 9/29: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 5 10/6: Dallas Cowboys
Week 6 10/13: at Las Vegas Raiders
Week 7 10/20: New York Jets
Week 8 10/28: New York Giants
Week 9 BYE
Week 10 11/10: at Washington Commanders
Week 11 11/17: Baltimore Ravens
Week 12 11/21: at Cleveland Browns
Week 13 12/1: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 14 12/8: Cleveland Browns
Week 15 12/15: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 16 12/21: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 17 12/25: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 18 1/5: Cincinnati Bengals

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Tennessee Titans
Week 2 8/18: New Orleans Saints
Week 3 8/23: at Las Vegas Raiders
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/9: New York Jets
Week 2 9/15: at Minnesota Vikings
Week 3 9/22: at Los Angeles Rams
Week 4 9/29: New England Patriots
Week 5 10/6: Arizona Cardinals
Week 6 10/10: at Seattle Seahawks
Week 7 10/20: Kansas City Chiefs
Week 8 10/27: Dallas Cowboys
Week 9 BYE
Week 10 11/10: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 11 11/17: Seattle Seahawks
Week 12 11/24: at Green Bay Packers
Week 13 12/1: at Buffalo Bills
Week 14 12/8: Chicago Bears
Week 15 12/12 Los Angeles Rams
Week 16 12/22: at Miami Dolphins
Week 17 12/30: Detroit Lions
Week 18 1/5: at Arizona Cardinals

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 2 8/17: at Tennessee Titans
Week 3 8/24: Cleveland Browns
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Denver Broncos
Week 2 9/15: at New England Patriots
Week 3 9/22: Miami Dolphins
Week 4 9/30: at Detroit Lions
Week 5 10/6: New York Giants
Week 6 10/10: San Francisco 49ers
Week 7 10/20: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 8 10/27: Buffalo Bills
Week 9 11/3: Los Angeles Rams
Week 10 BYE
Week 11 11/17: at San Francisco 49ers
Week 12 11/24: Arizona Cardinals
Week 13 12/1: at New York Jets
Week 14 12/8: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 15 12/15: Green Bay Packers
Week 16 12/22: Minnesota Vikings
Week 17 12/26: at Chicago Bears
Week 18 1/5: at Los Angeles Rams

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

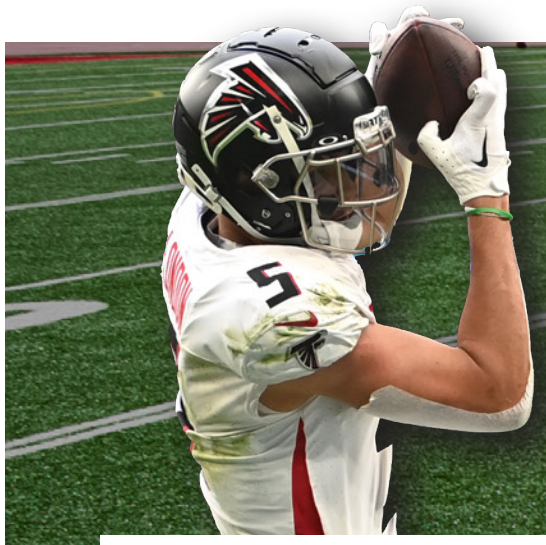
PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 2 8/17: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 3 8/18: Miami Dolphins
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: Washington Commanders
Week 2 915: at Detroit Lions
Week 3 9/22: Denver Broncos
Week 4 9/19: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 5 10/3: at Atlanta Falcons
Week 6 10/13: at New Orleans Saints
Week 7 10/21: Baltimore Ravens
Week 8 10/27: Atlanta Falcons
Week 9 11/4: at Kansas City Chiefs
Week 10 11/10: San Francisco 49ers
Week 11 BYE
Week 12 11/24: at New York Giants
Week 13 12/1: at Carolina Panthers
Week 14 12/8: Las Vegas Raiders
Week 15 12/15: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 16 12/22: at Dallas Cowboys
Week 17 12/29: Carolina Panthers
Week 18 1/5: New Orleans Saints

TENNESSEE TITANS

PRESEASON:
Week 1 8/10: San Francisco 49ers
Week 2 8/17: Seattle Seahawks
Week 3 8/25: at New Orleans Saints
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Chicago Bears
Week 2 9/15: New York Jets
Week 3 9/22: Green Bay Packers
Week 4 9/30: at Miami Dolphins
Week 5 BYE
Week 6 10/13: Indianapolis Colts
Week 7 10/20: at Buffalo Bills
Week 8 10/27: at Detroit Lions
Week 9 11/3: New England Patriots
Week 10 11/10: at Los Angeles Chargers
Week 11 11/17: Minnesota Vikings
Week 12 11/14: at Houston Texans
Week 13 12/1: at Washington Commanders
Week 14 12/8: Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 15 12/15: Cincinnati Bengals
Week 16 12/22: at Indianapolis Colts
Week 17 12/29: at Jacksonville Jaguars
Week 18 1/5: Houston Texans

WASHINGTON COMMANDERS

Preseason:
Week 1 8/10: at New York Jets
Week 2 8/17: at Miami Dolphins
Week 3 8/25: New England Patriots
REGULAR SEASON:
Week 1 9/8: at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Week 2 9/15: New York Giants
Week 3 9/23: at Cincinnati Bengals
Week 4 9/29: at Arizona Cardinals
Week 5 10/6: Cleveland Browns
Week 6 10/13: at Baltimore Ravens
Week 7 10/20: Carolina Panthers
Week 8 10/27: Chicago Bears
Week 9 11/3: at New York Giants
Week 10 11/10: Pittsburgh Steelers
Week 11/14: at Philadelphia Eagles
Week 12 11/24 :Dallas Cowboys
Week 13 12/1: Tennessee Titans
Week 14 BYE
Week 15 12/15: at New Orleans Saints
Week 16 12/22: Philadelphia Eagles
Week 17 12/29: Atlanta Falcons
Week 18 1/5: at Dallas Cowboys



Drake London returns with experience after being selected as the No. 8 pick in the 2022 NFL Draft and coupled with rookie Casey Washington, the group will complement the new additions in the quarterback room. London – at 6-foot-4 – is a big target and had 69 receptions for 905 yards and two touchdowns last season, a similar output from 2022 when he had 72 receptions for 866 yards and four touchdowns. The Falcons bolstered the receiving corps with the selection of Illinois' Washington in the sixth round of the 2024 NFL Draft (187th pick). Behind London and Washington, Chris Blair was signed in June from the XFL's DC Defenders where he had 25 receptions for 594 yards and three touchdowns.

WIDE RECEIVER

Featuring one of the most experienced and strongest offensive lines in the NFL, the new personnel in the quarterback room and talented running back stalls will benefit greatly in the upcoming season. Five returning starters bring depth to the position group. Jake Matthews, an 11-year veteran returns at left tackle, two-year veteran Matthew Bergeron features at left guard, four-year veteran Drew Dalman returns at center, six-year veteran Chris Lindstrom is at right guard and six-year veteran Kaleb McGary lines up at right tackle. At the guard position, the duo of Bergeron and Lindstrom could be the best guard combination in the league. The experience of veterans coupled with Bergeron, who is building off a productive rookie season, should create quality protection for the backfield.

OFFENSIVE LINE

When the ball is in the air, Darnell Mooney can be depended upon to get open and catch it. The five-year veteran was signed to a three-year, $39 million contract in March, adding further depth to the receivers' stall. Coupled with KhaDarel Hodge this season, the group looks to provide balance in a revamped offense. Mooney spent his first four seasons in Chicago where he caught 213 passes for 2,593 yards and 11 touchdowns. Last season, Hodge caught 14 passes for 232 yards and will be a popular piece of the offensive puzzle this season. Rondale Moore, a three-year veteran in Arizona, was picked up in the trade which sent quarterback Desmond Ridder out West. Moore had 40 receptions for 352 yards and a touchdown last season for the Cardinals.

WIDE RECEIVER

A revamped quarterback room is deep with talent after the addition of veteran Kirk Cousins and the drafting of Michael Penix Jr. Cousins was signed to a 4-year, $180-million contract in March. The 12-year veteran has stints in Washington (2012-2017) and Minnesota (2018-2023). Last season, Cousins was 216-of-311 passing for 2,331 yards and 18 touchdowns before suffering a season-ending achilles tear in Week 6. The Falcons selected Penix Jr. with the eighth-overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft. The Washington quarterback led the Huskies to the College Football Playoff National Championship game and finished as runner-up in the Heisman race. Atlanta-native Taylor Heinicke returns after appearing in five games last season, going 74-of-136 passing for 890 yards and five touchdowns. Additionally, Atlanta signed former Ball State and Illinois quarterback John Paddock as an undrafted free agent in April.

QUARTERBACK

Kicker Younghoe Koo returns with six years of experience to bolster the position group after finishing the last two seasons with nearly identical production. In both 2022 and 2023, Koo was 32-of-37 on field goals made, only missing between 40-49 yards three times and 50-plus yards on seven occasions. Last season, he was 27-of-28 on extra points, a 96.4 make percentage. In 2020, Koo led the league in field goals made (37) and total points (144). Punter Bradley Pinion is a 10-year veteran who signed a three-year, $8.65 million contract extension in March of 2023. He had 75 punts for 3,523 yards last season. Former undrafted free agent and three-year veteran Liam McCullough returns to handle the long-snapping duties and round out the group.

KICKER/PUNTER

Kyle Pitts was the fourth-overall selection in the 2021 NFL Draft and is coming off a season with 53 receptions for 667 yards and three touchdowns. He finished his rookie season with 68 receptions for 1,026 yards and a touchdown, and will look to record his second 1,000-yard season in 2024. Georgia-native Charlie Woerner (Rabun County) was signed to a three-year, $12-million contract in March after playing four seasons in San Francisco. He played in 65 games for the 49ers, but saw limited production, catching 11 passes for 120 yards while focusing on blocking. Ross Dwelley, a teammate of Woerner's in San Francisco, also joined the Falcons and had 44 receptions for 518 yards and five touchdowns during his six years with the 49ers. Atlanta-native John FitzPatrick (Marist School) was selected by the Falcons in the sixth round of the 2022 NFL Draft and rounds out the group alongside 2024 undrafted free agent Austin Stogner.

TIGHT END

Running back Bijan Robinson was picked eighth overall in the 2023 NFL Draft and enters his second season with the Falcons looking to lead the rushing attack behind a formidable offensive line. While playing in 17 games in 2023, starting in 16, Robinson rushed 214 times for 976 yards and four touchdowns while catching 58 passes for 487 yards and four touchdowns. With three-year veteran Tyler Allgeier co-starring in the backfield, the run game is well-equipped for success. Last season, Allgeier rushed 186 times for 683 yards and four touchdowns and had 18 receptions for 193 yards and a touchdown. The 2022 fifth round draft pick rushed for 1,035 yards as a rookie, reaching the end zone three times on the ground and once through the air. Rookie Jase McClellan bolsters the group after being selected in the sixth round of the 2024 NFL Draft out of the University of Alabama where he rushed for 1,981 yards and 18 touchdowns across four seasons.

RUNNING BACK

DEPTH

CHART

DEFENSIVE LINE

The defensive line returns familiar faces and exciting newcomers to the rotation for the 2024 season. Leading the way are 10-year veteran Grady Jarrett and nine-year veteran David Onyemata. Jarrett has spent a decade with the Falcons after being selected in the fifth round of the 2015 NFL Draft and has worked his way to being a stalwart of the defensive line. The former Clemson Tiger has played in 135 games, making 237 solo tackles with 34 sacks and five forced fumbles. Onyemata played seven seasons with the New Orleans Saints before signing a three-year, $35 million contract in March of 2023. Last season, Onyemata had 50 total tackles with 25 solo and 25 assists, had four sacks and three passes defended. Ta'Quon Graham bolsters the group with three years of NFL experience, totaling 72 combined tackles with four tackles for loss across his career with Atlanta. Six-year veteran Eddie Goldman returns after coming out of retirement earlier this year.

INSIDE LINEBACKER

Returning experience and rising talent highlights the inside linebacker corps and leading the way is three-year veteran Troy Andersen, six-year veteran Kaden Elliss, and former undrafted free agent Nate Landman. Anderson is a 6-foot-4, 235-pounder and a large threat to opposing offensive lines. He's made 47 tackles with 41 assists in his career. Elliss spent his first four seasons in New Orleans before signing a three-year, $21.5 million contract in March of 2023. Last season, Elliss – at 6-2, 240 pounds – started all 17 games and had career numbers with 82 tackles, 40 assists and four sacks with three passes defended. Landman made his presence known last season, ranking third on the team with 110 total tackles while adding seven tackles for loss. Blessed Trinity product and Atlanta-native JD Bertrand was selected in the fifth round of the 2024 NFL Draft and will debut after a five-year career at Notre Dame.

DEFENSIVE LINE

Featuring new defensive line coach Jay Rodgers, the Falcons will rely on second-year stalwart defensive end Zach Harrison to help anchor the line alongside a healthy Grady Jarrett. Harrison was drafted with the 75th-overall pick in the 2023 NFL Draft and at 6-foot-6, 272 pounds, he fills space. During his rookie season, he made 18 tackles with three sacks. Rookie defensive tackle Ruke Orhorhoro was selected as the 35th-overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft to add size at 6-4, 294 pounds. Returning experience is provided by 6-foot-3, 297-pound defensive tackle LaCale London for his second season with the Falcons after playing in seven games with six tackles last season. 2024 sixth round draft pick Zion Logue joins the Falcons after five seasons at the University of Georgia in one of college football's most prestigious programs.

CORNERBACK

The Falcons cornerbacks stall is led by fifth-year veteran A.J. Terrell, who was selected as the 16th-overall pick in the 2020 NFL Draft. The former Clemson Tiger has made 183 solo tackles, 64 assists and 11 tackles for loss with four interceptions during his career in Atlanta as one of the premier corners in the league. Clark Phillips returns after totaling 22 solo tackles last season as a rookie along with third-year veteran Dee Alford who finished his 2023 season with 25 solo tackles and two fumble recoveries. Mike Hughes joined Atlanta in 2023 after three seasons in Minnesota and a season apiece in Kansas City and Detroit, and had 14 solo tackles and seven assists in 15 games last season. Kevin King and Antonio Hamilton Sr. both join the Falcons with years of veteran experience.

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER

Norcross-native Lorenzo Carter anchors the outside linebacker corps and after his acquisition from the New York Giants in 2022, he has paid dividends alongside three-year veterans Arnold Ebiketie and Atlanta-native DeAngelo Malone (Cedar Grove). The Falcons bolstered the position with the selection of Bralen Trice as the 74th-overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft. Last season, Carter made 35 combined and 24 solo tackles with six tackles for loss and nine quarterback hits. Ebiketie played in 17 and started six games last season, making 25 combined and 16 solo tackles with six sacks and two forced fumbles. Malone, a three-year veteran, was taken with the 82nd pick of the 2022 NFL Draft out of Western Kentucky and provides a 6-foot-3 presence with sideline-to-sideline speed. The Falcons also signed James Smith-Williams in April after four seasons in Washington to top off the position.

SAFETY

Jessie Bates III returns with six years of NFL experience, five spent with the Cincinnati Bengals before his banner year with the Falcons last season after signing a four-year deal with Atlanta. In 2023, Bates had career highs in interceptions (6), forced fumbles (3), combined tackles (132), solo tackles (89) and tied his career high of three tackles for loss. 2021 second round draft pick Richie Grant has started in 32 games over the last two seasons with Atlanta, and finished the 2023 season with 66 solo tackles, three tackles for loss, two forced fumbles and an interception. 2023 seventh round draft pick DeMarcco Hellams racked up 25 solo tackles as a rookie, and rounds out the group alongside Dane Cruikshank who has spent five seasons with the Tennessee Titans (2018-21, 23) and one with the Chicago Bears (2022).

PUNT RETURNER/ KICK RETURNER

The Falcons have options at the kick/punt returner spot and four-year veteran Avery Williams, seven-year veteran Ray-Ray McCloud III and three-year veteran Dee Alford will be looked to produce. Williams suffered an injury before last season which put the departed Cordarrelle Patterson up front for many returns. With Williams healthy, he could produce like he did in the 2021-22 seasons, returning 38 punts for 445 yards and 39 kicks for 803 yards in that span. McCloud was signed to a two-year contract in March and has 138 punt returns for 1,324 yards and 108 kick returns for 2,438 yards in his career during stints with the Bills, Panthers, Steelers and 49ers. Alford is also featured as a cornerback, but his speedy nature makes him another option in the return game.

FALCONS OFFSEASON TIMELINE

JAN 10 — The Falcons sign Chris Blair, Natrone Brooks, Lukas Denis, Milo Eifler, Demone Harris, John Leglue, Austin Mack, Donavan Mutin, Willington Previlon, Justin Shaffer, Ryan Swoboda, Tre Tarpley, Tyler Vrabel, Carlos Washington, Barry Wesley to reserve/future contracts.

FEB 23 — The Falcons re-sign long snapper Liam McCullough.

MAR 4 — The Falcons re-sign offensive lineman Ryan Neuzil.

MAR 6 — The Falcons re-sign linebacker Nate Landman.

MAR 13 — The Falcons sign tight end Charlie Woerner to a three-year contract and quarterback Kirk Cousins to a four-year contract.

MAR 14 — The Falcons sign wide receiver KhaDarel Hodge, offensive lineman Storm Norton and trade for wide receiver Rondale Moore.

MAR 15 — The Falcons sign wide receiver Darnell Mooney to a three-year contract.

MAR 18 — The Falcons sign defensive lineman Kentavius Street and wide receiver Ray-Ray McCloud.

APR 3 — The Falcons sign defensive tackle Eddie Goldman.

APR 4 — The Falcons sign cornerback Antonio Hamilton Sr.

APR 8 — The Falcons sign cornerback Kevin King.

APR 10 — The Falcons sign defensive end James Smith-Williams.

APR 25

The Falcons select Washington quarterback Michael Penix Jr. with the 8th-overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft.

APR 26

The Falcons select Clemson defensive tackle Ruke Orhorhoro in the second round and Washington linebacker Bralen Trice in the third round of the 2024 NFL Draft.

APR 27

The Falcons select Oregon defensive tackle Brandon Dorlus in the fourth round, Notre Dame linebacker JD Bertrand in the fifth round, and Alabama running back Jase McClellan, Illinois wide receiver Casey Washington and Georgia defensive tackle Zion Logue in the sixth round of the 2024 NFL Draft.

APR 30

Falcons agree to terms with offensive lineman Ryan Coll, wide receiver JaQuae Jackson, quarterback John Paddock, cornerback Jayden Price, cornerback Anthony Sao, punter Ryan Sanborn, tight end Austin Stogner, cornerback Trey Vaval, wide receiver Isaiah Wooden and offensive lineman Nolan Potter.

MAY 9

The Falcons sign defensive end Kehinde Oginni Hassan.

MAY 13

The Falcons sign outside linebacker Bradlee Anae, safety Dane Cruikshank, wide receiver Dylan Drummond and tight end Ross Dwelley.

MAY 15

The Falcons sign cornerback Anthony Johnson.

MAY 22

The Falcons sign wide receivers Daylen Baldwin and OJ Hiliare.

JUN 4

The Falcons sign offensive lineman Andrew Stueber.

JUN 11

The Falcons sign cornerback Harrison Hand.

JUN 20

The Falcons sign offensive lineman Jaryd Jones-Smith and defensive lineman Prince Emili.

FALCONS READY TO MAKE NOISE IN 2024

BY CRAIG SAGER II

Head coach Raheem Morris will have a golden opportunity in 2024 to guide the Falcons back into the postseason and beyond. Morris inherits a reinvigorated roster that has the key pieces, balance and depth necessary to far exceed Atlanta's streak of three-straight 7-10 finishes. Atlanta will also be debuting new coordinators on both sides of the ball. This changing of the guard is worth examining with offensive coordinator Zac Robinson and defensive coordinator Jimmy Lake taking over units that were already trending in a positive direction.

While there have been tremendous bright spots during the past few seasons, the top of the offseason agenda heading into this offseason was bringing stability to the quarterback position. In March, the team satisfied this need with the signing of four-time Pro Bowler Kirk Cousins. The 35-year-old Cousins played the past two seasons for head coach Kevin O'Connell and Robinson was the understudy of O'Connell when he was calling plays for the Rams (2020-21) prior to taking over for the Vikings. His offense thrives off quick throws, timing and accuracy that Cousins provides. Cousins made his fourth Pro Bowl in 2022 and led the Vikings to a 13-4 record. He played eight games in 2023 before an injury abbreviated his season. In his six seasons with the Vikings, Cousins finished ranked third all-time in career passing (23,265) and he also set the franchise records for most consecutive games with a passing touchdown (39) and most attempts without an interception (224) among other career milestones.

Cousins was signed to a four-year contract in March and as the draft arrived, the team operated from the same "best available" theory that landed running back Bijan Robinson with the eighth-overall pick in 2023. The result of that philosophy was Washington quarterback Michael Penix Jr. being selected with the eighth-overall pick and it gives Atlanta a wealth of talent at the position that has not been there in previous years. Falcons quarterback coach T.J. Yates talked about the two new quarterbacks after watching them at OTAs and minicamp.

"People might view them as different players on the outside," Yates said, "but for our offense and how we want to do things here - they both extend plays from inside the pocket with their vision, with their anticipation, the field and the ability to make those subtle movements in the pocket and still deliver the ball downfield while keeping your eyes up."

GEARING UP

Atlanta's depth at the running back position is a tremendous strength heading into the 2024 season and will feature the tandem of Robinson and Tyler Allgeier. Robinson lived up to the high expectations last year by amassing 1,463 yards from scrimmage and surpassing legend William Andrews (1,332 yards) for the most yards from scrimmage by a rookie in Falcons history. Robinson also set a record with his six games with more than 100 yards from scrimmage and Allgeier has added six 100-yard games of his own since 2022—while showcasing his hard running style and penchant for breaking tackles. The Falcons also have Carlos Washington and Avery Williams in the backfield with the newly drafted Jase McClellan from Alabama.

READY FOR ACTION

In the trenches, Atlanta's offensive line will return all of its starters across the board. This unit that includes tackles Jake Matthews and Kaleb McGary, guards Chris Lindstrom and Matthew Bergeron and center Drew Dalman established themselves as one of the top run-blocking units in all of the league last season. This season will present an opportunity to expand their horizons in a more balanced scheme to increase overall production. The 2024 season has the potential to see Atlanta's receiving corps have a breakout season. At tight end, Kyle Pitts enters his fourth season with his elite ability to create mismatches. Outside, Drake London, Darnell Mooney and speedster Rondale Moore will take expanded roles as Atlanta's more balanced offense looks to test defenses through the air.

Defensively, two-time Pro Bowler Grady Jarrett is making his return from knee surgery to his leadership role at tackle and there are high expectations for second-year pro Zach Harrison along with David Onyemata. Atlanta added Ruke Orhorhoro, Brandon Dorlus and Zion Logue through the draft and they will rotate and compete with Kentavius Street, LaCale Landon and Ta'Quon Graham. At linebacker, Nate Landman fulfilled his duties last season when Troy Andersen's torn pectoral forced him out in Week 3. Landman, a healthy Andersen and Kaden Elliss return with experience at middle linebacker. Elliss finished second on the team last season with 122 tackles and started all 17 games, while the undrafted Landman ranked third with 110 total tackles. Atlanta also drafted Notre Dame standout, Atlanta-native and Blessed Trinity grad JD Bertrand. At outside linebacker, Atlanta welcomed back Lorenzo Carter and three-year pro Arnold Ebiketie, who will be joined by rookie third-round pick Bralen Trice.

Jessie Bates III and cornerback A.J. Terrell will anchor the secondary. Last season, Bates' presence helped Atlanta's pass defense improve from No. 25 to eighth in the league—cutting its passing yards per game average from 231.9 to 202.9. With Bates at safety helping limit big plays, the secondary is poised to be more aggressive and produce a higher rate of turnovers this season. Clark Phillips III was able to shine at cornerback across from Terrell and made strides throughout his rookie season. DeMarcco Hellams, Richie Grant and Micah Abernathy also round out the safety room and the nickel spot will see Grant, Dee Alford and Mike Hughes vying for the job.

The NFL's new kickoff rules make this year's Training Camp and preseason even more critical as coordinator Marquice Williams prepares his units for the changes. Avery Williams proved his ability as a return man with a league-leading punt return average in 2022 and is back healthy from his season-ending knee injury. Additionally, Abernathy has emerged as one of the best gunners in coverage situations and that skillset will be a major part of the new kickoff-return rules that will debut this year. Kicker Younghoe Koo battled hamstring issues late last season, but has come back strong for his sixth season with Atlanta. Punter Bradley Pinion is a nine-year veteran with a booming leg, tremendous placement and the experience to handle kickoffs in the new format.

KOO, FALCONS STRIVE FOR NEW HEIGHTS IN 2024

BY MAX WOLBORSKY

While the Atlanta Falcons have experienced steep rates of turnover over the last few years with the introduction of new coaches, general managers, players, uniforms and more, there have been notable cornerstones within the organization during this time. Prime examples would include veterans Grady Jarrett and Jake Matthews, however, placekicker Younghoe Koo has proved to be a consistent weapon for the Falcons since his debut.

The prized kicker is entering his sixth season with the Falcons, and is one of the longest-tenured players on the roster. Though his journey to the NFL is unique, there is no question that Koo has become one of the most consistent kickers in the league, and has provided the Falcons with a reliable weapon.

MAKING HIS MARK

Koo was born in Seoul, South Korea on Aug. 3, 1994 to Seungmae Choi and Hyunseo Koo and immigrated to the United States at the age of 12. Growing up, Koo enjoyed playing soccer and had never touched a football until he moved to the states.

It was in Ridgewood, New Jersey, approximately 6,845 miles from Seoul, that with the help of his classmates, Koo would begin to realize his kicking potential after punting a football for the first time at recess.

Koo began to draw attention from his coaches and other players' parents who knew that he had a shot to kick in the future. Playing football helped Koo learn English and helped him make friends in his new environment.

FINDING HIS FOOTING

The 5-foot-9, 185-pound kicker earned a scholarship to Georgia Southern University where he would continue his kicking career for the next four years. During his time in Statesboro, Koo saw action in 42 games from 2013-2016 and was 31-of-35 on field goals for an 88.37 field goal percentage.

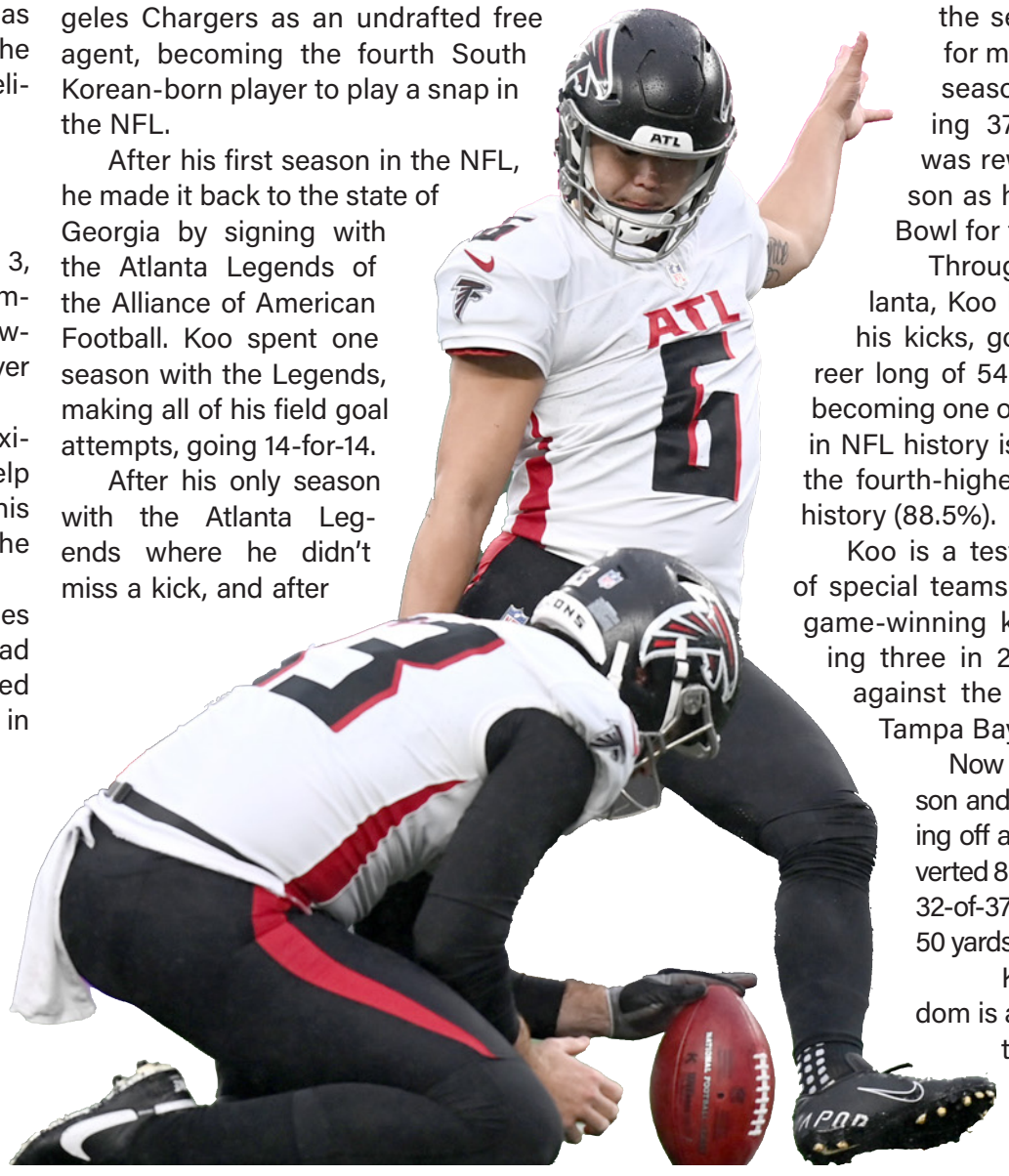
During his senior season, Koo finished the year 19-for-20 on his attempted field goals and registered a personal career-long of 53-yards to cap his 4-of-4 outing in a televised matchup against Arkansas State. Koo earned numerous awards for his senior season performance including All-Sun Belt First-Team and became a Lou Groza Award Finalist (first in Georgia Southern history), the award for the best kicker in college football.

RISING IN THE RANKS

Koo went undrafted in the 2017 NFL Draft, but would eventually sign with the Los Angeles Chargers as an undrafted free agent, becoming the fourth South Korean-born player to play a snap in the NFL.

After his first season in the NFL, he made it back to the state of Georgia by signing with the Atlanta Legends of the Alliance of American Football. Koo spent one season with the Legends, making all of his field goal attempts, going 14-for-14.

After his only season with the Atlanta Legends where he didn't miss a kick, and after spending a couple months in the New England Patriots organization, the Falcons signed Koo in October of 2019. Koo would be able to keep calling Atlanta home while also getting another opportunity in the NFL.



Koo has progressed into one of the most reliable kickers in all of the NFL, even leading the NFL in total points with 144 in 2020. He became the second Falcon to lead the NFL in points in the last 10 years, joining longtime Falcons kicker Matt Bryant's 158 points in 2016. The 2020 season was one of Koo's best statistical seasons, making 94.9 percent of his field goals on the year. During the season, Koo passed Bryant for most field goals made in one season in Falcons history, making 37 through 15 games. Koo was rewarded for his terrific season as he was selected to the Pro Bowl for the first time in his career.

Through his first five years in Atlanta, Koo has made close to 90% of his kicks, going 151-for-168 with a career long of 54-yards. Koo's ascension to becoming one of the most accurate kickers in NFL history is shown by him ranking as the fourth-highest accurate kicker in NFL history (88.5%).

Koo is a testament to the importance of special teams in football as he has five game-winning kicks in his career including three in 2021, and two last season against the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Now entering his seventh NFL season and sixth in Atlanta, Koo is coming off a 2023 season where he converted 86.5% of his field goals, making 32-of-37 including three from at least 50 yards or longer.

Koo's journey to NFL-stardom is as unique as they come, but that didn't stop him from becoming a dependable asset in the special teams unit for the Atlanta Falcons.

MORRIS AND FALCONS REUNITE

BY CRAIG SAGER II

The NFL has an exceptionally high turnover ratio compared to the other major professional sports leagues and this past offseason impacted 25 percent of the league with eight new head coaches hired.

When Atlanta's head coaching position opened on Jan. 8, the Carolina Panthers, Las Vegas Raiders and Los Angeles Chargers had already entered the coaching carousel and the Washington Commanders also announced they were moving on from their former head coach Ron Rivera. The next three days produced another trio of head coaching changes with the Titans, Seahawks and Patriots entering the ring. Atlanta's pursuit for its next head coach persisted in earnest and on Jan. 25 Raheem Morris was welcomed back to the Falcons organization as its new head coach.

"I am overjoyed for the opportunity for my family and I to return to Atlanta as the Falcons head coach," Morris said in a statement. "We know from firsthand experience what a first-class organization Atlanta is and what this team means to its city and its fans. I am incredibly appreciative of Arthur Blank for his leadership and for this entire organization for putting its trust in me to help lead this team."

All of the head coaching vacancies were filled by Feb. 1. Carolina turned to former Bucs offensive coordinator Dave Canales, while the Raiders retained Antonio Pierce after his successful 5-4 record as an interim head coach in 2023. The Chargers replaced Brandon Staley after his 24-24 three-year stint with Jim Harbaugh and the New England Patriots replaced Bill Belichick with Jerod Mayo—who is now the youngest head coach in the NFL. In Seattle, ex-Ravens defensive coordinator Mike Macdonald replaced Pete Carroll, ex-Bengals offensive coordinator Brian Callahan replaced Mike Vrabel in Tennessee and Dan Quinn went from his role as Cowboys' defensive coordinator to Washington head coach to replace Rivera.

WELCOME HOME

Morris was most recently with the Falcons just three seasons ago and the only remaining players from his last stint with the team are cornerback A.J. Terrell, defensive tackle Grady Jarrett, place kicker Younghoe Koo, and linemen Jake Matthews, Chris Lindstrom and Kaleb McGary. Beyond those key pieces, coach Morris will serve in a brand new capacity, and with a completely retooled roster from when he was thrust into the interim head coach midway through the 2020 campaign.

"I'm beyond excited to work side-by-side with Raheem in bringing a championship to Atlanta," general manager Terry Fontenot said in a statement. "Raheem is the right fit for our team, culture, and shared vision for success in Atlanta, and I cannot wait to start working with him and have his energy in our building."

The hiring certainly feels like a homecoming of sorts, but it is also a notable alliance that makes Morris not only the first full-time Black head coach in the franchise's history, but also the first former NFL head coach that Arthur Blank has hired in his 20-plus-year tenure.

"This is a historic day for the Atlanta Falcons," Blank said in a statement. "We are thrilled to welcome Raheem Morris back to Atlanta as the team's new head coach. ... Raheem emerged from a field of excellent candidates and is the right leader to take our team into the future."

ON A MISSION

Over the course of the Falcons' head coaching search, 14 candidates were brought in for interviews. Morris was one of only four that had second interviews with Atlanta and had also reached second interviews with the Seahawks and Commanders before the Falcons secured the pursuit.

"His time in LA has given him an enhanced perspective on everything from personnel, team operations, game planning, working with an outstanding offensive staff and many other things that has helped him develop into an even more prepared coach in all aspects of the game," said Blank. "I believe his leadership skills have grown and his understanding of what it takes to have a highly collaborative one-team culture are now at a much higher level."

Morris is the 19th head coach in franchise history and is coming off a tremendous three-year run with the Los Angeles Rams. Serving as defensive coordinator, Morris helped the Rams reach a pair of postseasons and capture the Super Bowl LVI title over the Bengals. Morris has spent the bulk of his coaching career on the defensive side of the ball, but was successful in his various offensive roles during the 2016-19 seasons with Atlanta. Fifteen years have passed since Morris' first time being hired as a head coach in the NFL. That initial opportunity came back in 2009 with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Morris reflected on the experience and growth he has received in the time since.

"It is 100%," Morris said about this time being different. "When you're 32 years old, you've got all the answers. Just ask me, and I'll tell you."

"What you find out is it's a learning process every single day, and you'd better be able to lean on people and talk to people and find out what is the best thing that works. ... I told [Falcons general manager Terry Fontenot] in my interview process, I said, 'Hey, I don't need to be the smartest person in the building. I want to hire. I want to have. I want to contribute. I want to collaborate with all the smart people that you've assembled.'"

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NEW BIRDS ON THE FLOCK

BY MAX WOLBORSKY

Coming off of an intriguing free agency last summer when Atlanta signed a plethora of defensive talent including Second Team All-Pro safety Jessie Bates, the Falcons switched their focus this season to revamp the offense. In mid-March, the team signed four offensive players beginning with quarterback Kirk Cousins, tight end Charlie Woerner, and wide receivers Darnell Mooney and Ray-Ray McCloud III. Additionally, Atlanta traded for wide receiver Rondale Moore from the Arizona Cardinals and in May signed tight end Ross Dwelley after six seasons with the 49ers. On the opposite side of the ball, they signed four defensive players in early April with defensive linemen Eddie Goldman and James Smith-Williams, and cornerbacks Kevin King and Antonio Hamilton Sr. to round out this year's free agent class.

Atlanta had one of the first major signings of the 2024 offseason when the Falcons landed Cousins, the former Minnesota Vikings quarterback, to a four-year contract. The Falcons locked in an experienced signal-caller to lead their offensive unit, who has proved that he can lead a talented roster to the postseason on numerous occasions. Cousins will be 36 years old entering next season and started in eight games last year before tearing his achilles. Before the injury, the veteran quarterback was playing some of the best football of his career, throwing for 18 touchdowns and completing close to 70 percent of his passes. Now, he will attempt to take a gifted Falcons roster to their first playoff appearance since 2017.

Cousins has made the playoffs four times in his career, twice with Washignton and twice with Minnesota. The veteran quarterback has made it out of the first round once, in 2019 when the Vikings defeated the New Orleans Saints in the Wild Card, but were eliminated by the San Francisco 49ers in the Divisional Round.

REVVING UP

The Falcons made major adjustments to their receiving corps during the offseason after finishing last season as one of the bottom-10 teams for both receptions and receiving touchdowns. Atlanta signed Mooney from the Chicago Bears and McCloud from the San Francisco 49ers along with Woerner who also spent last season in San Francisco.

Mooney signed a three-year contract with the Falcons in the early stages of free agency in March. The 26-year old receiver spent the first four seasons of his career with the Chicago Bears, totaling 2,593 yards on 213 receptions and scoring 11 touchdowns for Chicago in his time with the franchise. Mooney recorded career-best numbers in his second season in 2021 with 1,055 yards, 81 receptions and four touchdowns—the only 1,000-yard season in his career thus far. A season ago, Mooney caught 31 passes for 414 yards and a touchdown before signing with Atlanta in the offseason. With a new start ahead of him, Mooney provides reliability at the receiver position with his speed and big play ability becoming a factor for the Falcons offense in the near future.

Atlanta signed Woerner after the departure of tight end Jonnu Smith to the Miami Dolphins this offseason. The Falcons gave Woerner a three-year contract, boosting the team's depth at the position, backing up Kyle Pitts as he enters his fourth season in Atlanta. While Pitts is seen more as a threat in the passing game, Woerner provides another option for the Falcons offense as he is an experienced blocking tight end as he showed in San Francisco. In his career, Woerner has 11 receptions and 120 yards but finds a way to make his impact felt in more ways than catching the ball. Woerner signing with Atlanta is a homecoming for the tight end as he is originally from Tiger, Georgia and attended Rabun County High School before committing to the University of Georgia as a 4-star prospect.

READY TO ROLL

After not re-signing Cordarelle Patterson in the offseason, the Falcons found another versatile offensive weapon when they signed McCloud to a two-year deal. The sixth-year receiver accounted for 12 receptions for 135 yards a season ago, impacting not only the offense but the special teams units as well with his impressive ability as a returner. Last season for San Francisco, the veteran was on the field for 31 percent of the team's special teams plays as both a punt and kick return specialist. He accounted for 203 yards on 24 punt returns and 225 yards on kick returns a season ago. With Patterson no longer in the picture, McCloud could find his way onto the field in more ways than one.

Goldman was the first defensive signing for the Falcons during free agency this offseason as Atlanta was able to bring the six-year veteran defensive tackle out of retirement. This was not the first case of the Falcons interest in Goldman due to Atlanta giving him a one-year deal before he announced his retirement during the 2022 offseason. In March of 2023, the defensive lineman was reinstated by Atlanta before the Falcons put him on the exempt/left squad. Now with his official return set for 2024, Goldman provides experience at the position, having played in 81 games and starting in 73 of them. In his career he has recorded 175 total tackles, 13 sacks as well as 21 quarterback hits.

To round out its free agent class, Atlanta signed two defensive players in King and Smith-Williams. King was selected in the second round of the 2017 NFL Draft by the Green Bay Packers and spent five seasons with the franchise. He recorded 97 total tackles and seven interceptions over the course of his career in Green Bay. The former-Packer was sidelined for the 2023 season due to a torn achilles but will look to add some depth at cornerback. Smith-Williams is a former Washington Commander who was picked in the seventh round out of NC State in 2020. Washington found value in the seventh rounder as Smith-Williams has produced for four seasons, totaling 85 total tackles and 14 tackles for loss in 27 starts for Washington.

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FALCONS OF THE FUTURE

BY HAYDEN GILBERT

The first year of a new era of Falcons football set forth with the 2024 NFL Draft and fourth-year general manager Terry Fontenot and first-year head coach Raheem Morris made a strong statement with their first draft together, filling the teams roster holes and picking the next generation of Falcons stars.

FUTURE OF THE FRANCHISE

The Falcons started the night off with a bang, selecting Washington quarterback Michael Penix Jr. with the eighth-overall pick in the draft. Penix was the first quarterback the Falcons picked in the first round since Matt Ryan in the 2008 NFL Draft. In his senior season, Penix led the Huskies to the National Championship Game, throwing for over 4,900 yards and 36 touchdowns, becoming a Heisman finalist, and winning the Maxwell Award. Penix is the sixth quarterback the Falcons have drafted in the first round, joining Randy Johnson (1966), Steve Bartkowski (1975), Chris Miller (1987), Michael Vick (2001), and Matt Ryan (2008). Additionally, he was the only offensive player the Falcons took through the first five rounds as focus shifted to building up the defensive side of the ball.

A RUN ON DEFENSIVE TALENT

In the second round, with the 35th-overall pick, the Falcons traded up with the Arizona Cardinals to take Clemson defensive lineman Ruke Orhorhoro. Orhorhoro is a massive human being, measuring in at 6-foot-4, 294 pounds. He spent five years with the Tigers, accumulating 88 total tackles, 25.5 tackles for loss, and 12 sacks. His final season at Clemson was his best, with 25 tackles, eight tackles for loss and five sacks in only 12 games. Orhorhoro shows elite athleticism for his size, running a 4.89 40-yard dash, the fifth-fastest of all defensive linemen at the combine, of which he was both the tallest and heaviest of the top-five. To go along with his blazing fast 40, he had a 32-inch vertical, which was tied for the fourth-highest among defensive tackles. As a player, Orhorhoro has immense potential, and as a pass rusher he relies on his speed and strength to overpower opposing guards and bull rush his way to quarterbacks. However, he has the ability to grow into a high-end interior pass rusher as he develops pass rush moves with NFL coaching.

With the 74th-overall pick in the third round, the Falcons took Penix's college teammate, edge rusher Bralen Trice. Trice was one of the country's premier pass rushers in both the 2022 and 2023 seasons, combining for 16 sacks. In that same time period, he recorded 87 tackles and 23.5 tackles for loss. Trice was named to the First-Team All-Pac-12 team in both 2022 and 2023. Trice is a versatile pass rusher who can win in multiple ways. His pass rush moves are extremely varied, allowing him to get an upper hand on offensive tackles. Trice also showed a high motor in college, rushing with speed and power while playing through the whistle. While at Washington, Trice was impactful by lining up in both two and four point stances, playing as a traditional defensive end or as an outside linebacker to give him positional versatility. As a rookie, he will have a major starting role early in his career, and can satisfy a pass rushing role that the Falcons have been looking to make a substantial impact on the defensive side of the ball.

The Falcons run on front seven prospects continued into the fourth round as they selected Brandon Dorlus out of Oregon with the 109th overall pick. Dorlus was another high-upside pick by the Falcons front office. He finished with the second-fastest 40 among defensive tackles at the combine, running 4.85, while also having a 30.5-inch vertical, good for 11th among defensive tackles. Over his five seasons at Oregon, Dorlus improved every season, culminating with a five-sack, 25-tackle season. His five sacks were double his next best season. He shows versatility as a pass rusher, being able to play as a traditional 4-3 defensive tackle or as a defensive end, playing on the outside shoulder of the offensive tackle. He has a very unique frame that allows him to be extremely explosive and gives him the ability to fill holes and shed blocks in the run game.

With the 143rd-overall pick in the fifth round, the Falcons took local linebacker JD Bertrand out of Notre Dame. Bertrand played his high school career at Blessed Trinity Catholic School in Roswell, Ga., before having a long and successful career with the Fighting Irish, leading them in tackles in 2021, 2022, and 2023. In college, Bertrand was a traditional interior linebacker. He totaled 266 tackles, 23 tackles for loss, six sacks and nine pass deflections. He will have a role on the team as a middle linebacker early in his career, being above average as a run defender and pass defender.

DEPTH AND HIGH POTENTIAL

With the 186th pick, the Falcons added depth to the running back room with Alabama's Jase McClellan. McClellan was the main back for one of the premier programs in the nation. He led the Crimson Tide in rushing in 2023, accumulating 890 yards and scoring eight touchdowns. He is a strong, traditional between-the-tackles runner who has a good first cut. At 5-10, 220 pounds, he has a traditional running back frame that pairs nicely with his violent running style.

In the sixth round with the 187th pick, the Falcons added depth at wide receiver with Illinois' Casey Washington. Washington is a big receiver who excelled with the Illini as a deep ball and jump ball receiver. Washington caught 49 passes for 670 yards during his redshirt senior season. 32% of his receptions were jump ball passes, a skill that will give him a role early in his career.

With their final pick of the 2024 NFL Draft, at 197th overall, the Falcons drafted former Georgia Bulldogs defensive tackle Zion Logue. Logue is the biggest of the three interior defensive linemen the Falcons selected, at 6-6, 315 pounds. He will fill the role of a pure nose guard, providing high-end run-stopping ability, being brought in to anchor the front seven in short yardage and rushing down situations to help free up linemen and linebackers to make plays on the ball.

FLYING HIGH IN-DIVISION

BY NAJEH WILKINS

The NFC South has been one of the most competitive divisions in all of football, with close finishes and late-season victories determining which team comes out on top. The turnover across the years has led to some new faces joining the division, but the competition still features some of the league's all-time greats battling it out for the top spot.

Tampa Bay has won the NFC South for three-consecutive seasons and has made it to the divisional round of the playoffs two of the past three seasons. The Bucs will retain continuity after re-signing both quarterback Baker Mayfield and wide receiver Mike Evans to multi-year extensions this offseason. The duo combined for 1,255 yards and 13 touchdowns as Evans was the leading receiver for the Buccaneers last season. Mayfield had his best season as a pro, setting career highs in completion percentage, touchdowns and quarterback rating. Wide receiver Chris Godwin also had a productive year, finishing with a 1,000-yard season for the third-consecutive year. Another productive player for Tampa Bay was Rachaad White, who combined for 1,539 yards and nine touchdowns. White was the leading rusher for the Buccaneers and finished only 10 yards short of 1,000 on the ground. He was also Tampa Bay's third-leading receiver with 549 yards.

Major additions to the franchise this offseason include outside linebacker Randy Gregory, safety Jordan Whitehead, offensive linemen Ben Bredeson and Sua Opeta. Tampa Bay drafted center Graham Barton (Duke), edge rusher Chris Braswell (Alabama), safety Tykee Smith (Georgia), wide receiver Jalen McMillan (Washington), running back Bucky Irving (Oregon), offensive lineman Elijah Klein (Texas-El Paso), and tight end Devin Culp (Washington) to bolster the roster. Tampa Bay will look to tie the longest division title streak in the NFC South this upcoming season, a mark that was set by the Saints, who won four-consecutive division crowns from 2017-2020.

BUILDING BACK UP

Carolina will be entering year two of the Bryce Young regime. It was a difficult season for the Panthers as they finished fourth in the NFC South with a 2-15 overall record and will have their third head coach in three seasons after firing Frank Reich and moving on to former Tampa Bay offensive coordinator Dave Canales. The Panthers drafted South Carolina standout receiver Xavier Legette in the first round of the NFL Draft. Legette finished with 71 catches for 1,255 yards and seven touchdowns in his final collegiate season. Legette was First-Team All-SEC, Third-Team All-American, and a Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist in his final collegiate season. Carolina also added Diontae Johnson through a trade this offseason. Johnson had a productive season in 2023 for the Steelers, finishing with 717 yards and five receiving touchdowns. The Panthers also added edge rusher Jadeveon Clowney after signing him to a two-year deal, reconnecting him closer to home as he played his college ball for the South Carolina Gamecocks. The Panthers buffered their offensive line with the additions of Robert Hunt and Damien Lewis, each signing to long-term contracts. Other notable draft picks for the Panthers were running back Jonathon Brooks (Texas), linebacker Trevin Wallace (Kentucky), and tight end Ja'Tavion Sanders (Texas) all of whom could be potential contributors for Carolina this season. There will be high expectations for the Panthers this upcoming season to improve upon Bryce Young's rookie season.

The New Orleans Saints finished tied for first place in the division last season at 9-8, but lost the tiebreaker to the Buccaneers and ultimately missed the postseason despite winning four of their five final games. When healthy, the Saints have a productive receiving corps that is tough to slow down. Chris Olave had a stellar sophomore campaign and finished with 87 catches for 1,123 yards and five touchdowns. Rashid Shaheed complemented Olave well in the receiving game and was the second-leading receiver with 719 receiving yards. The Saints bolstered their receiving corps this offseason with the additions of Cedrick Wilson Jr. and Stanley Morgan–who combined have 10 years of NFL experience. Alvin Kamara and Jamaal Williams co-starred in the backfield, combining for 1,095 yards and nine touchdowns in 2023.

REMEMBER THE NAME

The Saints added notable free agent edge rusher Chase Young, who played in Super Bowl LVII with the San Francisco 49ers in 2023. Young has amassed 90 tackles and 16.5 sacks during his five-year career. They also added two-time Super Bowl champion Willie Gay, formerly of the Chiefs. New Orleans found some big-name players through the draft like offensive tackle Taliese Fuaga (Oregon State), cornerback Kool-Aid McKinstry (Alabama) and quarterback Spencer Rattler (South Carolina). Rattler was drafted in the fifth round of the 2024 NFL Draft and will likely compete for the backup job after the departure of Jameis Winston.

Going into 2024, the Falcons are the odds on favorite for the division crown and have been since acquiring star quarterback Kirk Cousins in March. Cousins threw for 2,331 yards and 18 touchdowns before a torn achilles in Week 8 against the Green Bay Packers sidelined him for the rest of the season. Before the injury, Cousins had three-consecutive seasons surpassing 4,000 yards passing. Atlanta had two players make All-Pro teams last season with offensive lineman Chris Lindstrom and safety Jessie Bates III–who were named Second-Team All-Pro. In his first year in Atlanta, Bates led the Falcons in tackles (132) and interceptions (6). Also returning from last year is standout running back Bijan Robinson, who had a productive rookie campaign rushing for 976 yards and four touchdowns.

Drake London had one of his best seasons as a pro and led the Falcons in catches (69) and receiving yards (905) in 2023. Kyle Pitts was also a valuable target and finished last season with 53 catches for 667 yards and three touchdowns. Other notable additions this offseason were wide receivers Ray-Ray McCloud III and Darnell Mooney. Mooney's breakout season came during his second year in the NFL when he had 1,055 yards receiving and four touchdowns on 81 catches. McCloud will be entering his seventh year in the NFL and is known for his big-play ability in the return game and his versatility on offense. In the NFL Draft, Atlanta made defense a priority. Of the eight draft picks for the Falcons, five of them were on the defensive side of the ball, including defensive tackles Ruke Orhorhoro (Clemson), Brandon Dorlus (Oregon), Zion Logue (Georgia), edge rusher Bralen Trice (Washington) and linebacker JD Bertrand (Notre Dame).

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FIRING ON ALL CYLINDERS

BY NAJEH WILKINS

The Falcons' quarterback room has been revamped for the 2024 season and is one of the best in the entire league. The group's only returning quarterback is Taylor Heinicke, while Kirk Cousins, Michael Penix Jr. and John Paddock are all first-year Falcons.

NEW KID IN TOWN

Cousins is one of the biggest adds for the Falcons this offseason, or of any team's offseason, after signing a four-year contract with the team to give Atlanta stability and leadership at the quarterback position. He is a trusted veteran in the NFL and has led his teams to the playoffs on each franchise he played for (Commanders and Vikings). In Minnesota, he led the Vikings to a 26-20 overtime Wild Card victory in 2019 over the New Orleans Saints. In his career, he has thrown for 39,471 yards (24th all-time) and 270 touchdowns. The four-time pro-bowler ranks eighth all-time in NFL regular season passer rating. Cousins has thrown for 4,000 passing yards or more in three of the last four seasons. He had one of his best seasons in 2022, when he ranked top-five in major passing categories–including attempts, passing yards, passing touchdowns, and interception ratio. He ranked fourth in attempts, fourth in passing yards, tied-fifth in touchdowns, and tied-third in interceptions–netting him an overall PFF score of 77.4. Perhaps one of his most notable moments from that 2022 season came during Week 15 against the Indianapolis Colts when Cousins led the largest comeback in NFL history–overcoming a 33-point deficit to defeat the Colts 39-36.

Prior to last season, Cousins was one of the most durable quarterbacks in the NFL, rarely missing games and always producing at a consistent rate. Cousins possesses a high football IQ and is one of the most accurate passers in the NFL. For his career, Cousins is completing around 67 percent of his passes, which is the fifth best all-time. With Cousins, there is no doubt about what he is capable of on the football field, but his leadership is what sets him apart. In 2023, he won the Bart Starr Award–an award that is given annually to an NFL player who best exemplifies character, integrity and leadership on and off the field. His former teammates rave about his work ethic and the standard he helped establish in Minneapolis.

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

Penix was drafted eighth-overall in the 2024 NFL Draft and was one of the best quarterbacks in college football in 2023. He had a stellar final collegiate season at Washington and finished second for the illustrious Heisman Trophy–the highest ever for a Husky. He led the Huskies to a 14-1 record and to the National Championship game for the first time since 1991, and left Washington holding the program record for passing yards in a single season with 4,903. Penix also led the Huskies to the Pac-12 Championship for the first time since 2016. He started all 15 games in 2023, completing 65 percent of his passes for 4,903 yards, 36 touchdowns and 11 interceptions. For his play on the field, he was awarded the Maxwell Award, annually given to the nation's most outstanding player.

Penix led Washington to an undefeated 13-0 record and the Pac-12 Championship against familiar foe Oregon. Penix threw for 319 yards and a touchdown while completing 69 percent of his passes in the championship game, leading to him being named the Most Valuable Player after the victory. Penix followed up that performance with an even more electric performance in the Sugar Bowl against Texas in the College Football Playoff. He went 29-for-38 for 430 yards and two touchdowns, helping the Huskies secure a berth in the National Championship game and earning Sugar Bowl MVP. Washington ultimately fell short to Michigan in the title game, but Penix was named Offensive Most Valuable Player at the team's postseason awards banquet and was also selected to the All-Pac 12 Second-Team for the second time in his collegiate career..

Penix proved in college that he can perform when the lights are brightest, during the most crucial moments for his team. He battled injuries throughout his collegiate career but persevered and became one of the faces of college football in his final season. The Falcons have their quarterback of the future who can learn from one of the best in the NFL and will be ready when his time comes.

HOMETOWN HERO

Heinicke is entering his seventh NFL season and is another experienced quarterback on the Falcons roster. The Georgia native has started 29 games over the course of his career, posting a 13-15-1 record as a starter. Last year, he threw for 890 yards and five touchdowns for the Falcons. In his playing career, Heinicke has thrown for 6,635 yards and 39 touchdowns. He previously starred at Collins Hill High School in Suwanee, Ga., where he was named Old Spice Player of the Year and set Gwinnett County's single-season records for passing yards (4,218) and touchdowns (44). At Old Dominion, he was named College Football Performance Awards National Performer of the Year and CFPA Freshman Performer of the Year in 2011. In 2014, he ranked third all-time in FBS history with 16,279 yards of total offense. Heinicke has proven he can come in and be ready to contribute when his number is called.

Paddock is an undrafted rookie quarterback that the Falcons added to the roster days after the NFL Draft concluded. Paddock played his college ball at Illinois and Ball State. He played in 24 games in his career–passing for 4,177 yards and 27 touchdowns with a 121.6 rating. He started the final three games of the season for Illinois, leading the Fighting Illini to a 1-2 record during that span and throwing for 1,056 yards and seven touchdowns. Paddock led Illinois to a thrilling 48-45 overtime victory against Indiana when he threw for 507 yards, four touchdowns and threw a game-winner to seal the victory. He attended Bloomfield Hills High School in Michigan, was a three-time All-Conference player and currently holds school records in passing yards (4,086) and touchdowns (26).

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DEFEND THE NEST

BY SAMIR AJY

There are a mix of young players with lots of upside combined with established, well-respected veterans looking to lead the way on the defensive side of the ball for the Falcons this season. In 2023, Atlanta ranked 11th in total defense, seventh in yards per play allowed, third in opponent third down conversions and fourth in opponent red zone scoring. For the second-consecutive year, Atlanta's defense will be led by a first-time NFL Defensive Coordinator in Jimmy Lake as he looks to make his mark in the league.

A NEW VOICE

Lake played safety at Eastern Washington University from 1995-1998 where he was a team captain and was named to the All-Big Sky Conference Academic Team. He has 25 years of experience coaching on the collegiate and professional level, including a head coaching stint at the University of Washington and two separate stints working alongside current Falcons head coach Raheem Morris with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Los Angeles Rams. Lake speaks highly of Morris in regards to their relationship on and off the field.

"We quickly learned that we saw the game very similarly." Lake said. "It's been a friendship off the field, and it's been a humongous growth on the field in the football world with us putting our brains together."

Lake has a vision of what he hopes to see in Atlanta's defense. "This is what I'm hoping for: On opening day in September, you'd see our defense play fast, play free, and play physical."

GRADY GETS BACK

Grady Jarrett is the team's second-longest tenured player and has evolved from a fifth-round draft pick who contributed to Atlanta's Super Bowl run in 2016 to a Pro Bowler that is regarded as a leader of the Falcons on the field and in the community. In 2023, Jarrett recorded 23 total tackles with 1.5 sacks in seven games prior to suffering a torn ACL in Week 8 against the Tennessee Titans. After Jarrett's injury, the Falcons went from giving up 296.6 yards and 20 points per game to opponents averaging 342.8 yards and 23.6 points per game, a testament to his presence. Jarrett is entering his 10th season in the NFL, all with the Falcons and his rehab has been an opportunity for him to grow as a player and person.

"I didn't allow myself to sulk about what happened. I knew I had work to do," Jarrett explained.

Rehabbing an injury is an arduous process and Jarrett has returned to form with an eagerness to get back in on the action.

"I'm feeling good," Jarrett said. "I worked my tail off to get to where I'm at, but I'm excited to get back on the field."

Atlanta's 2023 offseason secured All-Pro safety Jessie Bates III from the Cincinnati Bengals who was able to make an immediate impact, recording two interceptions and a forced fumble in a Week 1, 24-10 victory over the Carolina Panthers, receiving the NFC Defensive Player of the Week. Bates again received the honor in Atlanta's Week 12, 24-15 victory against the New Orleans Saints at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, recording two momentum-shifting plays. With Atlanta trailing 3-0 early in the game and New Orleans threatening to extend its lead, Bates intercepted a pass from Derek Carr--returning it 92 yards for a touchdown and giving the Falcons a 7-3 lead. Late in the third quarter, Atlanta led 14-12, with the Saints again deep into Atlanta territory, threatening to take the lead. Yet, it was Bates forcing a fumble on a quarterback draw against the Saints' Taysom Hill, giving Atlanta the ball. The Falcons scored on the ensuing drive on a 26-yard touchdown reception by Bijan Robinson, extending their lead to nine. Bates was selected to the 2023 Pro Bowl, his first career appearance.

Also signed last offseason was defensive tackle David Onyemata, who spent seven seasons with the New Orleans Saints before signing a three-year contract with the Falcons. He recorded 33 total tackles, five sacks and was an effective run stopper. Kaden Elliss also arrived after previously playing for the Saints, and the linebacker contributed 122 total tackles with four sacks.

JOINING FORCES

The Falcons will also look for contributions from in-house talent acquired recently, including linebackers Troy Andersen, Nate Landman, Arnold Ebiketie, and Zach Harrison, along with cornerback Clark Phillips III. Ebiketie, a 2022 second-round pick, accounted for six sacks and two forced fumbles last season and looks to contribute once again in 2024. Andersen, the team's other 2022 second-rounder, suffered shoulder and pectoral injuries that sidelined him for the remainder of the season, but will look to return to form in 2024. Landman took over the starting role after Andersen's injury and became a NFC Pro Bowl alternate, while Harrison, the team's 2023 third-round pick, received more snaps towards the end of 2023 and recorded 3.5 sacks.

General Manager Terry Fontenot continued to add young players to Atlanta's defense in the 2024 NFL Draft. In the second round, Atlanta traded up to select Clemson defensive tackle Ruke Orhorhoro 35th-overall. Orhorhoro can effectively win matchups against interior offensive linemen and rush the quarterback, giving the Falcons hope he will have an early impact up front. In the third round, the Falcons selected Michael Penix Jr.'s Washington teammate and fellow captain Bralen Trice, an outside linebacker who led all of FBS in total quarterback pressures in 2022 and 2023. Atlanta selected Brandon Dorlus out of Oregon in the next round, who showed not only quickness, but also versatility after playing defensive end and defensive tackle in college. Atlanta would complete its defensive additions through the 2024 draft class by selecting Atlanta-native and Blessed Trinity alumnus JD Bertrand from Notre Dame in the fifth round and defensive tackle Zion Logue from the University of Georgia in the sixth round.

DRASTIC CHANGES REINVENT KICKOFFS

BY CRAIG SAGER II

Kickoffs have an invariable significance within the game of football, and while carrying the distinction as football's 'most thrilling play', have also been the most scrutinized and studied plays over the last five decades. The tee placement, touchback rules, return rates and prioritization of player safety have driven the play's evolution through the years and have set the stage for a historic new format in 2024. These changes came on the heels of Super Bowl LVIII, which ended as the first championship in NFL history that did not have a single kickoff return. This anomaly was a consequence of previous rule changes, which over time were intended to take the kickoff return out of the game.

Fundamental changes that could also meet the high bar set on player safety would be required to reverse the diminishing role of kickoffs, but the Competition Committee found its solution this March and announced one of the most exciting changes in the league's history. Team officials were overwhelmingly supportive of the changes and the new rules were approved by a 29-3 vote.

Atlanta Falcons CEO Rich McKay, who has been a member of the league's Competition Committee for nearly three decades, said the kickoff rule change is the league's most consequential rule change since it adopted instant replay.

EMBRACING THE CHANGE

In short, the NFL will use a hybrid version of the kickoff that was originally adapted by the XFL in 2020. No one will be allowed to move until the ball is either caught or hits the ground and with the exception for the kicker, the kicking team will all line up on the opponent's 40-yard line. The changes will impact the return team by forcing nine of the 11 members to line up between their own 30 and 35-yard line in what will be referred to as the "Setup Zone". Players not on the restraining line must be lined up in a setup zone outside the hash marks and any player outside of the zone cannot move until the kick has hit the ground or made contact with a player in the landing zone or end zone.

Atlanta Falcons special teams coordinator Marquice Williams is looking forward to the changes and is taking an "embrace the unknown" approach to it all.

"That play was becoming dead," said Williams. "Now we're able to bring this play back to life. The majority of kickoffs last season ended in a fair catch. Well, a fair catch no longer exists. The play will be called dead."

Last year, only 22 percent of kickoffs were returned, which was the lowest percentage in league history. The XFL had a 97.0 kickoff-return rate last year by comparison. McKay has projected that the NFL rate will jump to 50-60 percent this year.

Another major shift will be the elimination of a team's ability to call a surprise onside kick. Without having to scheme for a surprise onside attempt, all of the focus will be on setting up the return and maximizing field position and opportunities to make a big play.

The landing zone is the area between the receiving team's goal line and 20-yard line. Any kick that hits short of the landing zone will be treated like a kickoff out of bounds and will be spotted at the 40-yard line. Additionally, all kicks that hit within the landing zone must be returned.

CHANGES OVER THE YEARS

In 1974, the kickoff tee placement was moved from the 40-yard line to the 35-yard line and at the time the league cited it as "part of a broad package designed to rev up the game." Creating more exciting returns was the motivation for the increased distance, and kickoff return rates immediately jumped from 75 percent to 92 percent. Kickers increased their leg strength overtime and the speed on kickoff coverage eventually saw the return rate drop and so 1994 saw the league move the tee placement back another five yards to the 30-yard line. The result of this move boosted the return rate from 68 percent in 1993 all the way to 88 percent in 1994.

In the ensuing years, particular attention was paid to making the play safer and this shift in philosophy resulted in the league putting the kicking line back to the 35-yard line and also limiting the running starts by the kicking team. According to the NFL, the number of concussions on kickoffs dropped by 40 percent during the 2011 season. The play was made safer, but the return rate dropped from 80 to nearly 50 percent and so its role within the game also decreased.

The return rate was at an all-time low, but that was still not enough to ensure the safety and so in 2016 the league incentivized touchbacks on kickoffs by moving the ball-placement from the 20-yard line to the 25-yard line. This was a one-year proposal that remained in place after the 2016 season.

"We passed moving the touchback to the 25, which we do think has a safety element to it," said NFL commissioner Roger Goodell. "We passed that also for one year because we do want to see if it changes the numbers and how it impacts the game because there is that thought that there will be some more short kicks."

Talk surrounding the kickoff continued each offseason and 2023 marked the implementation of a fair catch rule being applied to kickoffs. It seems like the NFL is following the path stamped by college football with its new fair catch rule. The NCAA approved the 25-yard line rule involving a fair catch outside the end zone prior to the 2018 season.

The fair catch was removed with the new 2024 rules. Additionally, onside kicks can only be attempted after the fourth quarter begins and must be declared by the trailing team.

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FACES OF THE FALCONS

BY SAMIR AJY

ARTHUR M. BLANK

OWNER AND CHAIRMAN
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Arthur Blank, a cofounder of the Home Depot corporation and the owner of the Atlanta Falcons and Atlanta United FC, is recognized as a successful businessman and community leader. The determination of Blank to build a consistent winner has led to a 178-176 record over his 22 seasons with the Falcons. Blank's Family of Businesses includes the Falcons, United, Atlanta Drive GC of the TGL, the PGA TOUR Superstore, and three ranches in Montana. He is also well-known for his philanthropy and his Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation has donated more than $1 billion to community causes since its founding in 1995. Blank will be inducted into the Falcons Ring of Honor this season and received the Sports Business Journal's Lifetime Achievement Award earlier this year.

RICH MCKAY

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – AMBSE;
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – ATLANTA FALCONS

Rich McKay, and his family, have served in a variety of prominent positions throughout the decades. McKay is one of the league's most distinguished and influential executives and began his illustrious tenure as General Manager of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, winning a Super Bowl with the franchise in 2002. McKay was hired by Owner and Chairman Arthur M. Blank in 2004 as Atlanta's general manager before being named team President in 2008 and Chief Executive Officer of AMBSE and Chief Executive Officer of the Atlanta Falcons in 2011. Rich's late father, the legendary John McKay, led University of Southern California to four national championships during the 1960's and 1970's.

GREG BEADLES

PRESIDENT

Beadles is a longtime member of the Falcons organization that has worked his way up diligently from an intern after graduating with a bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University and a master's degree from Georgia State. He begins his 30th year with the team as president after earning the position in Jan. 2023. Beadles has held numerous roles with the Falcons and AMBSE, including being part of the finance team that orchestrated the transfer of ownership of the Falcons from the Rankin Smith family to Arthur M. Blank in 2001. His direct experience with team and facility operations compliments a deep understanding of business and the importance of strong values.

TERRY FONTENOT

GENERAL MANAGER

Terry Fontenot will be in his fourth year as General Manager of the Falcons after taking the position in January of 2021 following an 18-year stint with the New Orleans Saints. Fontenot's hiring to the Falcons was the first of its kind, as he became the first Black General Manager in franchise history. He attended the Stanford Business School's Executive Education NFL-Stanford Program for Managers in 2012, a prominent educational program for up-and-coming executives. Fontenot was a four-year letterman at safety for Tulane (1999-2002), serving as team captain in 2001. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in business and organizational information technology.

RAHEEM MORRIS

HEAD COACH

Raheem Morris has coached for over two decades in the NFL, starting as a defensive quality control coach in 2002 with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers where he won a Super Bowl with the team. Morris was named the team's head coach in 2009 and was later hired by the Falcons in 2015–serving as a defensive backs coach, wide receivers coach, offensive and defensive passing game coordinator and interim head coach in 2020. Morris captured a second Super Bowl as the defensive coordinator for the Los Angeles Rams in 2021. In Jan., 2024, Morris was hired as the 19th head coach in Atlanta Falcons history.

ZAC ROBINSON

OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR

Zac Robinson played quarterback at Oklahoma State University and was drafted by the New England Patriots in 2010. After his playing career, Robinson served as a Senior Analyst at Pro Football Focus (PFF) for two years, analyzing quarterbacks and most notably touting three-time Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes coming out of college. Los Angeles Rams head coach Sean McVay hired Robinson to his coaching staff in 2019 as the team's assistant quarterbacks coach. He won Super Bowl LVI with the team in 2021 and was promoted to quarterbacks coach and passing game coordinator in 2022. Raheem Morris hired Robinson as the Falcons new offensive coordinator in Jan., 2024.

JIMMY LAKE

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR

Jimmy Lake's coaching career includes a lengthy tenure at the University of Washington and two stints alongside Raheem Morris with the Buccaneers and the Rams. Lake was hired by the University of Washington in 2014 as a defensive backs coach and was promoted to defensive coordinator in 2018. Under Lake, Washington's defense led the PAC-12 in scoring (15.5) and yards given up (301.8) for the fourth-consecutive year. Lake was named UW's head coach in 2019 and served as Sean McVay's Assistant Head Coach in 2023 before being hired as defensive coordinator for the Falcons in Jan., 2024.

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TAILBACKS TAKING FLIGHT

BY MAX WOLBORSKY

In an offseason that featured plenty of turnover for the Atlanta Falcons, one of the most significant position groups that remained largely consistent is the personnel in the running back room. The Falcons return two of the three members of their 2023 backfield including Bijan Robinson and Tyler Allgeier after letting Cordarrelle Patterson walk in free agency to Pittsburgh.

In addition to the two returners from last season, the Falcons brought back running back and punt returner Avery Williams–following his ACL tear a season ago in an open practice. Along with keeping Robinson and Allgeier as its one-two punch, the Falcons added running back depth in the 2024 NFL Draft by selecting Jase McClellan in the sixth round out of Alabama. New head coach Raheem Morris and offensive coordinator Zac Robinson will have plenty of weapons in the running back room going into 2024.

EYES ON BIJAN

After Atlanta used the eighth-overall pick on Robinson in the 2023 NFL Draft, Falcons and football fans across the country knew the talent level that the former Texas running back possesses— and they were surely not disappointed by any means. The electrifying running-style Robinson displayed on the field last season reassured the Falcon-faithful that they have their running back of the future. His vision in the open field to go along with his crafty footwork created some mesmerizing highlights for Falcons fans throughout all of last season. His talents as a running back go far beyond him rushing the ball as he was able to show off his pass-catching abilities at different points, making himself a threat to opposing defenses beyond the backfield.

In his first season of professional football, Robinson led all rookie running backs in total rushing yards and rushing attempts with 976 yards on 214 attempts on the season–scoring four touchdowns. He finished third among rookie running backs in yards per game with 57.4 yards, averaging 4.6 yards per carry. In addition to his rushing statistics, Robinson finished third among all rookies in receptions with 58 catches on 86 targets, averaging 28.6 receiving yards per game and 8.4 yards a catch. Though the Falcons added weapons to their offense this offseason, the second-year running back will still receive tons of attention from defenses as opposing coaches will have to account for him the moment he steps onto the field.

BY THE NUMBERS

The rushing attack for the Falcons was well above average during the 2023 season. Atlanta finished in the top-10 in both rushing attempts and rushing yards from a season ago, finishing with the ninth-most rushing yards (2,159 yards) and the third most attempts in the league (522), averaging 30.7 carries a game (4th overall). As a team, they finished averaging 4.1 yards per carry (16th overall) and scored 14 rushing touchdowns (15th overall) on the season.

Both Robinson and Allgeier, the Falcons leading rushers from a season ago, finished in the top-10 in terms of running back efficiency with Allgeier finishing fourth at 4.6 and Robinson at ninth at 4.37. With their dynamic duo, the Falcons finished last season rushing for 121 first downs, the eighth-highest in the league last season. While Robinson was used primarily as the feature back, Allgeier came in to relieve the workload and to keep the chains moving for the offense, giving the Falcons another reliable option at the position. The duo combined for 11 rushes over 20 yards as Robinson finished with seven and Allgeier with four of his own, ranking 12th in the league in the category. The promising pair of Robinson and Allgeier is one of the more overlooked running back duos in the league with plenty of room to improve with this only being their second year together in the same backfield.

STRETCH YOUR WINGS

This season's running backs for the Atlanta Falcons have spent a total of six seasons playing professional football with Allgeier being the most experienced going into his third season in the NFL. With Patterson now out of the picture for Atlanta, the position group made up of Robinson, Allgeier, McClellan and Williams average age comes out to a little over 23 years old, one of the youngest positional groups in the league.

In his rookie season, Robinson was tied for being the youngest running back in the league at 21 years old with Detroit Lions' Jahmyr Gibbs, New Orleans Saints' Kendre Miller, Baltimore Ravens' Keaton Mitchell, and New York Jets' Israel Abanikanda.

During the offseason, the Falcons drafted some running back depth in the sixth round with the 186th overall pick when they selected Alabama's Jase McClellan. McClellan, 22, was a solid option at running back for four years playing against some of the top-talent in college football in the SEC. In his four seasons at Alabama, McClellan rushed for 1,981 yards, scored 18 touchdowns and averaged 5.6 yards per carry on 355 rushing attempts. The rookie's balanced running style added in with his 5-foot-11, 212-pound frame creates a suitable and young option for the team at the running back position.

Williams is an intriguing player on the Falcons' roster as he switched his position from cornerback to running back during the 2022 offseason. During his first season as a running back, Williams was in a backup role totaling 22 carries, 109 yards and a touchdown during the season. He has also served as an effective punt returner for Atlanta as he led the NFL in yards per punt return with over 16 yards a return in 2022. Williams has been the team's first option at punt returner since he was drafted in 2021. Unfortunately during the 2023 offseason, Williams tore his ACL during an open practice at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, ruling him out for the entire 2023 campaign. Now at 25 years old, Williams will be welcomed back as a great spark within the Falcons young running back room as he comes back from injury.

FALCONS A VALUABLE ALLY WITH FAST-GROWING GIRLS FLAG

BY SETH ELLERBEE

It's been six years since the Atlanta Falcons and the Arthur M. Blank Foundation initiated a pilot program for girls high school flag football in Gwinnett County to provide young women the chance to compete in the sport of football.

Since that inaugural season with 19 programs taking to the fields in 2018, the trajectory of the sport has been nearly vertical. The Falcons – along with key contributions from individuals around the state, coupled with grant money from the Arthur M. Blank Foundation – are a major reason why.

"The idea for our support of girls flag football really came out of one of our values which really speaks to equality, speaks to opportunity and it speaks to being the best we could be," said Arthur Blank.

UNCHARTED TERRITORY

The GHSA sanctioned flag football in December of 2019 with Georgia becoming the fourth state in the nation to add the sport. From humble beginnings with 19 programs, Georgia now boasts 265 programs, which have added flag football to their athletics programs. The state championships are held alongside the boys finals at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta.

"We certainly felt and saw across the country that opportunity was not always there for women," Blank said. "If you reflect back to when flag football was not even a sport in the state, the fact that it's grown now to high schools across the state and the fact that we have close to 4,000 young women participating, it couldn't make us feel better with an opportunity to give the ladies a chance to build their own self-confidence and their own self esteem."

There have been 11 GHSA flag football state champions awarded since the inaugural season. In 2021, the sport expanded from two to three divisions, and in 2024, the GHSA will add a fourth, a testament to the popularity of the sport.

BUILDING A LEGACY

The early trailblazers, along with great teams which will emerge in the future, have been memorialized in the home of the Atlanta Falcons.

On May 11, 2022, the Atlanta Falcons unveiled a 30-foot dynamic display at Mercedes-Benz Stadium dedicated to the trailblazers who pioneered girls flag football and continue to build the sport in the state of Georgia and beyond.

The Falcons GHSA Flag Football Grant was announced after the inaugural season to help schools start

charter flag programs. The grant – which can reach up to $10,000 – has been paramount for many programs around the state building a fledgling program. And not only teams from Georgia have benefitted.

There were 42 recipients of the grant in 2024 from Georgia, 20 teams from Alabama and 12 schools from Montana.

"Every single year they've given all programs throughout the state the opportunity to apply for a grant," said McEachern flag football head coach Jake Burgdorf. "It's mostly for newer programs who need the funding to buy jerseys and all the necessities to start a program. Obviously, it's a huge help."

Burgdorf is the Executive Director of the Georgia Flag Football Coaches Association and has been involved in flag football camps with the Falcons to help grow the game while spreading knowledge and opportunities.

"We appreciate his willingness to help out because I do not think the sport would be where it is in Georgia without the Falcons and Mr. Blank's desire to do so," he said. "It just speaks greatly of what he's about as a man of character. He's involved in many different things for the betterment of Georgia and for the city of Atlanta. And it just shows he truly cares."

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Burgdorf was named the Atlanta Falcons Coach of the Week in October of 2023, receiving a $1,000 grant for the flag football team, a commemorative Falcons item and recognition from the Falcons and the AJC at a Falcons game. The nomination process begins in the Fall and runs each week of the football season, another way the Falcons and Blank are impacting the game.

"The reason the sport has grown so fast is because the Falcons are backing and putting their name on it," Burgdorf said. "It's becoming a sport that's obviously growing but getting better every single year. Better athletes are coming out and with the sport growing like it is, very soon it will be competing with being the favorite sport with football, basketball and the other major sports."

The sky's the limit for girls flag football in the state – and the nation – with colleges offering scholarships and the popularity rising exponentially each season. At this rate, 10 years from now, maybe we will see as many participants in the girls side of football as we see the boys.

"We could not be prouder to have an opportunity to showcase these young athletes," Blank said. "And give them a chance to develop their skills, develop their own self confidence at the highest possible level and to see that flourish in the future."

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RYAN RETIRES INTO THE RING

BY HAYDEN GILBERT

Following the official retirement of former MVP and Falcons legend Matt Ryan, the organization has decided to add him to the team's prestigious Ring of Honor. Ryan will join William Andrews (RB), Steve Bartkowski (QB), Tommy Nobis (LB), Jessie Tuggle (LB), Jeff Van Note (OL), Mike Kenn (OL), Claude Humphrey (DL), Deion Sanders (CB), Gerald Riggs (RB), Warrick Dunn (RB), Roddy White (WR), Todd McClure (OL), and Arthur Blank (owner).

EARLY YEARS AND EARLY SUCCESS

Ryan was drafted by the Falcons with the third-overall pick in the 2008 NFL Draft out of Boston College. His career started off with a bang, his first pass being a 62-yard touchdown to Michael Jenkins against the Detroit Lions. During his rookie season, Ryan led the Falcons to the playoffs before losing a heartbreaker to the eventual NFC Champion Arizona Cardinals in the Wild Card Round.

Ryan firmly hit his stride in his third season in 2010, throwing for over 3,700 yards with 28 touchdowns while making his first Pro Bowl. He led the Falcons to a 13-3 record and to the playoffs for the second time in his career. Ryan became the seventh Falcons quarterback to make a Pro Bowl and the first since Michael Vick in 2005. The Falcons also hosted their first playoff game since the 2004 season. The Falcons' 13-3 record was good for the second best in team history, only behind the 1998 season.

The 2011 season saw Ryan reach the 4,000-yard mark for the first time in his career, beginning a 10-season streak of breaking the 4,000-yard mark, one of the very few quarterbacks to ever pull off the feat. He led the Falcons to their third-straight winning season, the longest streak in team history.

The Falcons continued their dominance in 2012 while Ryan had the best season of his career at that time, passing for what were career highs in yards (4,509), touchdowns (32), completions (422), and completion percentage (68.6%). He led the Falcons to their first playoff win during his tenure, defeating the Seahawks in dramatic fashion. The team also made the NFC Championship for the first time since 2004.

THE VETERAN PRESENCE

While the 2013 season saw the Falcons first championship window under Ryan succumb to challenges, his individual success continued as he threw for more than 4,000 yards for the third-straight year and over 4,500 yards in consecutive seasons. He also set his career high in completions, with 439, the best mark throughout his career.

The next season saw the Falcons begin to grow as a team while Ryan made his return to the Pro Bowl. The Falcons won two more games than the year before, going 6-10. Ryan made his third Pro Bowl after throwing for 4,694 yards and 28 touchdowns, completing 66.1 percent of his passes. Ryan finished in the top-four of the league in completions, attempts and passing yards.

In 2015, the Falcons hired head coach Dan Quinn and offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan. With the new hires and the steady play of Ryan, the Falcons took another step towards contention, going 8-8 and defeating the then-undefeated Carolina Panthers in Week 16. Ryan had another 4,500-yard season, finishing third in completions (407) and fifth in passing yards (4,591).

The 2016 season saw the height of Ryan's career, with him winning NFL MVP, being named First-Team All-Pro and making the fourth Pro Bowl of his career. Ryan led the Falcons to an 11-5 record while passing for 4,944 yards and 38 touchdowns, completing 69.9 percent of his passes. In the playoffs, Ryan led the Falcons to playoff wins over Seattle in the Divisional Round and Green Bay in the NFC Championship–earning Atlanta's first Super Bowl appearance since the 1998 season. The Falcons fell short of the championship in overtime to New England, but Ryan would not let the loss affect his play moving forward.

The following season, Ryan quarterbacked the Falcons to a 10-6 finish and made the playoffs for the second-straight year. In the playoffs, the Falcons upset the NFC West Champion Los Angeles Rams in the Wild Card Round.

The 2018 season saw Ryan return to his 2016 MVP form, having statistically the second-best season of his career. He threw for 4,924 yards with 35 touchdowns, completing 69.4 percent of his passes, all three only behind his MVP campaign. Ryan finished in the top-four in completions, attempts, passing yards, touchdowns, and completion percentage. However, while Ryan was having one of the best seasons of his career, the Falcons were unable to earn a playoff spot and finished the year 7-9.

The final three years of Ryan's tenure added to his long list of franchise records already achieved. While Ryan was having high-end seasons, the Falcons were in the middle of a rebuilding phase at many key roles, going 7-9 in 2019, 4-12 in 2020, and 7-10 in 2021. Following the 2021 season, Ryan and the Falcons both came to terms to end the partnership, with Ryan being traded to the Colts for the final season of his career.

AN UNMATCHED LEGACY

Ryan finished his career as statistically the best quarterback in Falcons history and one of the best in NFL history. Ryan finished his Falcons career as the leader in passing yards, completions, wins, completions, and completion percentage among many others. On the NFL career leaderboards, Ryan finished seventh all-time in passing yards with 62,972, fifth all-time in completions with 5,551 and ninth all-time in passing touchdowns with 381.

With the announcement of his official retirement, the Falcons made the easy decision to add Ryan to their Ring of Honor. Being named to the ring of honor is the highest achievement a Falcons player can achieve, since the Falcons do not retire jerseys. Of the nearly 60 first-round picks the Falcons have had since their inception in 1966, Ryan is only the eighth to be named to the Ring of Honor. He is also only the second quarterback to be added to the Ring of Honor, joining Steve Bartkowski.

LORENZO CARTER

POSITION: OLB
HEIGHT: 6-5
WEIGHT: 264
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: GEORGIA

Entering his seventh year in the NFL, the Georgia native and Norcross High School alumni was drafted 66th overall by the New York Giants out of the University of Georgia in the 2018 NFL Draft. He's been a key piece of Atlanta's defense since joining the Falcons two years ago. In Carter's four seasons with the Giants, he totaled 149 tackles, 14.5 sacks, 21 tackles for loss, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery. In his first two seasons with the Falcons, Carter has played in 34 games tallying 93 total tackles (53 solo), seven sacks, three fumble recoveries, one forced fumble and one interception returned 28 yards for a touchdown. Last season, he made 35 combined and 24 solo tackles with six tackles for loss and nine quarterback hits. At Georgia from 2014-2017, he had 165 total tackles, 20.5 tackles for loss, 14 sacks, seven forced fumbles, and six fumble recoveries (one returned for a touchdown) in 54 games.

#1

DARNELL MOONEY

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 5-11

WEIGHT: 173

AGE: 26

COLLEGE: TULANE

A 2020 fifth round pick out of Tulane, Darnell Mooney was signed by the Falcons this offseason after spending four years in Chicago. During his tenure with the Bears, Mooney appeared in 60 games and recorded 213 receptions for 2,593 yards and 12 total touchdowns, including one rushing touchdown. Mooney set career highs in 2021 when he totaled 81 receptions for 1,055 yards and five touchdowns (one rushing). During his four seasons at Tulane (2016-2019), Mooney appeared in 50 games, totaling 154 receptions for 2,572 yards and 19 touchdowns. Out of Gadsden, Al., he played both wide receiver and defensive back for Gadsden City High School. He was named to an Alabama Sports Writers Association Class 7A first-team All-State selection after his senior season when he caught 37 passes for 697 yards and nine touchdowns. He also returned three punts for touchdowns and had one kickoff return for a touchdown.

JESSIE BATES III

POSITION: S
HEIGHT: 6-1
WEIGHT: 200
AGE: 27
COLLEGE: WAKE FOREST

One of the highest impact playmakers on the defensive side of the ball for the Falcons, safety Jessie Bates III returns for his second year in Atlanta. Going into his seventh season, Bates spent five years (2018-22) with the Cincinnati Bengals where he had 477 tackles, 14 interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown, three forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and earned second-team AP All-Pro honors in 2020. In March of 2023, Bates signed a four-year deal with the Falcons and has been a valuable anchor in the secondary. During the 2023 season he played in all 17 games, totaling 132 tackles, 11 passes defended, six interceptions and three forced fumbles (all career highs). He earned second-team All Pro honors and was selected to his first Pro Bowl that same year. Bates, the 54th overall pick in the 2018 NFL Draft out of Wake Forest, played 24 games in three years for the Demon Deacons, recording 179 tackles, 9.5 tackles for loss, six interceptions, nine passes defended and two forced fumbles.

#4

TAYLOR HEINICKE

POSITION: QB

HEIGHT: 6-1

WEIGHT: 210

AGE: 31

COLLEGE: OLD DOMINION

The 2015 undrafted free agent and Georgia native, Taylor Heinicke, brings experience to the quarterback room alongside rookie Michael Penix Jr. and veteran Kirk Cousins. Before signing a two-year deal with the Falcons in 2023, Heinicke played in 33 games, completing 530-of-830 passes for 5,745 yards, 34 touchdowns, and 24 interceptions, recording an 85.7 passer rating for the Texans, Panthers and Commanders. The Collins Hill High School product was named the "Old Spice Player of the Year" in the state of Georgia and the Gwinnett Daily Post Player of the Year. Heinicke set the Gwinnett County single-season record for passing yards (4,218 yards) and touchdowns (44). His passing yards ranks 10th in Georgia state history and his touchdowns rank 21st. This outstanding high school career landed Taylor at Old Dominion University, where he completed 1,238-of-1,829 passes for 14,959 yards and 132 touchdowns over four seasons, ranking third all-time in FBS history in total offense, fourth in touchdowns and sixth in passing yards.

DRAKE LONDON

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 219
AGE: 23
COLLEGE: USC

One of the Falcons' top offensive threats, Drake London enters his third year in the NFL. In 2023, he recorded 69 receptions for 905 yards and two touchdowns through 16 games. During his rookie season in 2022, London played in all 17 games and set a franchise rookie record with 72 receptions for 866 yards and four touchdowns. He became the first rookie in franchise history to have five or more receptions in five consecutive games. In 2021, London won Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Year and was USC's first player to record at least 15 receptions in numerous games. In 27 games, he totaled 160 receptions for 2,153 yards, and 15 touchdowns for the Trojans. The 2022 eighth overall pick in the NFL Draft, London capped his 2023 season with a career high in yards (905).

#6

YOUNGHOE KOO

POSITION: K

HEIGHT: 5-10

WEIGHT: 193

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: GEORGIA SOUTHERN

The Georgia Southern product, Younghoe Koo, was the first player in school history to be an FBS All-American and first kicker in school history to be a finalist for the Lou Garza Award. Entering his seventh year in the league, Koo is 154/174 (88.5 percent) on field goals and 147/154 (95.5 percent) on extra points in his career. In 2020, he led the entire NFL in made field goals with an astounding 94.9 field goal percentage, earning him his first Pro Bowl selection. During his career with the Falcons, Koo has surpassed legendary kicker Matt Bryant for the most made field goals in a single season (37 in 2020) and is the first Falcon to make eight field goals over 50 yards in a season. Koo has solidified himself as one of the best and most accurate kickers in the league.

#7

BIJAN ROBINSON

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 215
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: TEXAS

The 2023 eighth-overall pick, Bijan Robinson showed what he can bring to the Falcons offense after an excellent rookie season. Robinson was the highest running back drafted since 2018, when Saquon Barkley went second overall to the Giants. In his rookie season, he tallied 214 carries for 976 yards and four rushing touchdowns, while adding 58 receptions for 487 yards and four receiving touchdowns. Before his outstanding rookie year, he played 31 games in three seasons at the University of Texas where he recorded 539 carries for 3,410 yards and 33 touchdowns. In the air, he added 60 receptions for 805 yards and eight touchdowns. Robinson was named the 2022 Doak Walker Award winner, given to the nation's top running back, and was a unanimous first-team All-American. Born in Tucson, Ariz., he attended Salpointe Catholic High where he became the first player in Arizona to twice win the Ed Doherty Award as the state's top high school football player and is the state's all-time rushing touchdown leader with 114.

KYLE PITTS

POSITION: TE
HEIGHT: 6-6
WEIGHT: 247
AGE: 23
COLLEGE: FLORIDA

Kyle Pitts, the highest-drafted tight end in NFL history, lived up to the hype his rookie season (2021) becoming the second rookie tight end in history to post over 1,000 receiving yards. He is only one of three tight ends to catch more than 60 passes and receive a Pro Bowl selection, which hadn't been done by a rookie tight end since Jeremy Shockley in 2002. Over three seasons with the Falcons, Pitts has played in 44 games, recording 149 receptions for 2,049 yards and six touchdowns. In his three seasons at the University of Florida, he posted 100 receptions for 1,492 yards and 18 touchdowns through 32 games. In his junior season, Pitts was a unanimous first-team All-American and won the Mackey Award, given to the top tight end in college football.

MICHAEL PENIX JR.

POSITION: QB
HEIGHT: 6-3
WEIGHT: 215
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: WASHINGTON

The Falcons used their 2024 first round pick to select Michael Penix Jr., out of the University of Washington. Penix comes with plenty of experience, as he played six seasons of college football at Washington (2022-23) and Indiana (2018-21). Penix played in 49 games, completing 1,067-of-1,685 passes (63.3 percent) for 13,741 yards, 96 touchdowns, and 34 interceptions. In 2023, he earned the Maxwell Award, given to the nation's most outstanding player, was named a team captain and finished second in Heisman Trophy voting, the highest ever for a Washington player. Penix led the Huskies to the 2023 College Football Playoffs after posting an undefeated 13-0 record and a Pac-12 Championship. In the semifinal against Texas, he was named the Sugar Bowl MVP after completing 29-of-38 passes for 430 yards and two touchdowns.

OJ HILIARE

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 185

AGE: 23

COLLEGE: BOWLING GREEN

OJ Hiliare signed with the Falcons in 2024 as an undrafted free agent. Hiliare spent five years in college, playing at Alabama A&M and Bowling Green University. In his three seasons (2019-23) with Alabama A&M, he caught 86 passes for 1,150 yards and scored 10 touchdowns. In 2022, he transferred to Bowling Green where in two seasons he had 103 receptions for 1,279 yards and 10 touchdowns. He played in 26 games at BGSU, becoming the 31st player from the program to record 100-plus career receptions and 1,000-plus career receiving yards. He earned 2023 third-team All-MAC and 2022 second-team All-MAC honors, and was one of BGSU's five team captains in 2023. Hiliare was also the 41st Falcon to surpass 1,000 receiving yards and led all receivers with 10 receptions for 152 yards and one touchdown in the Quick Lane Bowl against Minnesota. He adds solid depth to the Falcons wide receiver room.

#12

KHADAREL HODGE

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 208

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: PRAIRIE VIEW A&M

KhaDarel Hodge enters his seventh year in the NFL (third year with the Falcons) after signing as an undrafted free agent with the Los Angeles Rams in 2018. He appeared in 14 games as a rookie. He signed with the Browns the following season, and posted 15 receptions for 256 yards in 25 games across two seasons (2018-19) with the team. Following the 2020 season, Hodge signed with the Lions and played in 16 games and recorded 13 receptions for 152 yards. In 2022, he signed with the Falcons and posted 202 receiving yards off 13 receptions and scored his first career touchdown. In 2023, Hodge posted career highs in receptions (14) and receiving yards (232). Originally a quarterback while at Alcorn State (2013), he transferred to Hinds Community College and transitioned to wide receiver before playing three seasons at Prairie View A&M. As a Panther, he caught 104 passes for 1,797 yards and 21 touchdowns.

#13

BRADLEY PINION

POSITION: P
HEIGHT: 6-5
WEIGHT: 255
AGE: 30
COLLEGE: CLEMSON

Bradley Pinion, a 10-year NFL veteran and one-time Super Bowl champion, returns for his third year with the Falcons after punting 75 times for a total of 3,523 yards, averaging 47 yards per punt, and three touchbacks in 2023. Playing three seasons (2012-14) at Clemson University, he appeared in 34 games and punted 140 times for 5,754 yards (41.1 avg.). He was drafted in the fifth round of the 2015 NFL Draft by the San Francisco 49ers. He appeared in 111 games over seven seasons with the 49ers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, averaging 43.7 yards per punt on 502 punts, which included 173 inside the 20-yard line. In 2019, Pinion set an NFL single-season record with 88 touchbacks on kickoffs. The following year, he posted the second-most touchbacks ever with 85 and won Super Bowl LV with the Buccaneers. The former USA Today High School All-American looks to add more numbers to his outstanding career in the 2024 season.

#14

RONDALE MOORE

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 5-7
WEIGHT: 181
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: PURDUE

Rondale Moore joins the Falcons in 2024 after a trade with the Arizona Cardinals, where he spent the first three seasons of his career. In Arizona, Moore appeared in 39 games, tallying 135 receptions for 1,201 yards and three touchdowns. In 2023, he became the first receiver in Cardinals history with over 100 rushing yards in a season. He also became the fourth Arizona receiver since 1970 to reach 100 career receptions in 25 games or fewer. During Moore's time at Purdue, he played three seasons (2018-20), and totaled 178 receptions for 1,915 yards and 14 touchdowns in addition to 248 rushing yards and three rushing touchdowns on 30 carries in 20 games. He broke school records for all-purpose yards in a season (2,215) and the most 100-yard receiving games (seven) in a season. In 2018, Moore became the first true freshman to earn consensus All-American honors in Big Ten history, in addition to earning Big Ten Wide Receiver of the Year, Freshman of the Year and first-team All-Big Ten.

#15

DYLAN DRUMMOND

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 186

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: EASTERN MICHIGAN

Dylan Drummond originally signed with the Detroit Lions following the 2023 NFL Draft after spending five seasons (2018-22) at Eastern Michigan. He spent the 2023 season on the Lions and New York Giants' practice squads. Drummond played in 48 games at Eastern Michigan, recording 183 receptions for 2,208 yards and 14 touchdowns. In 2021, he posted career highs in both receptions (64) and yards (704), while catching a team-high six touchdowns. Drummond was selected as a MAC Distinguished Scholar Athlete, and earned Academic All-MAC honors and collected third-team All-MAC honors during his time at Eastern Michigan. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he attended Cuyahoga Heights High School and finished his high school career with school records in receiving yards (1,051), receptions (190), touchdowns (41) and defensive touchdowns (four). He also holds the school record for the longest punt return for a touchdown (83 yards) and most touchdown receptions in a game (four).

#16

JOHN PADDOCK

POSITION: QB
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 190
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: ILLINOIS

John Paddock signed with the Falcons following the 2024 NFL Draft out of Illinois. Paddock played six seasons of college football, spending his first five (2018-22) at Ball State prior to transferring to Illinois for the 2023 season. He played in 24 games in his college campaign, completing 395-of-657 passes (60.1 percent) for 4,177 yards, 27 touchdowns and 18 interceptions for a passer rating of 121.6. As a redshirt senior at Ball State in 2022, Paddock notched career highs in passing yards (1,278) and touchdowns (18) in 12 games for the Cardinals. Paddock attended Bloomfield Hills (Mich.) High School where he became the winningest quarterback in program history and holds school records in passing yards (4,086) and touchdowns (26). His grandfather, John Wright Sr., played in the NFL for the Falcons and Lions.

#17

ARNOLD EBIKETIE

POSITION: OLB

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 250

AGE: 25

COLLEGE: PENN ST.

Arnold Ebiketie enters his third season with the Falcons after being selected by the club in the second round (38th overall) of the 2022 NFL Draft out of Penn State. In the past two seasons, the Silver Spring, Md., native has played in 33 games, and has recorded 37 tackles, 8.5 sacks, four forced fumbles, and three passes defensed. The outside linebacker played three seasons at Temple before transferring to Penn State in 2021. During his time at Temple, Ebiketie played in 24 games, recording 59 tackles, 10.5 tackles for loss, six sacks and three forced fumbles. In 2020, he was named second-team All-ACC after leading the team in tackles for loss, tackles and forced fumbles. In 2021, Ebiketie led Penn State with 18 tackles for loss and 9.5 sacks, while totaling 62 tackles, two forced fumbles and one pass defense. He was named second-team All-American and first-team All-Big Ten in 2021, with at least one tackle for loss in 11 of the 12 games in which he played.

KIRK COUSINS

POSITION: QB

HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 205

AGE: 35

COLLEGE: MICHIGAN STATE

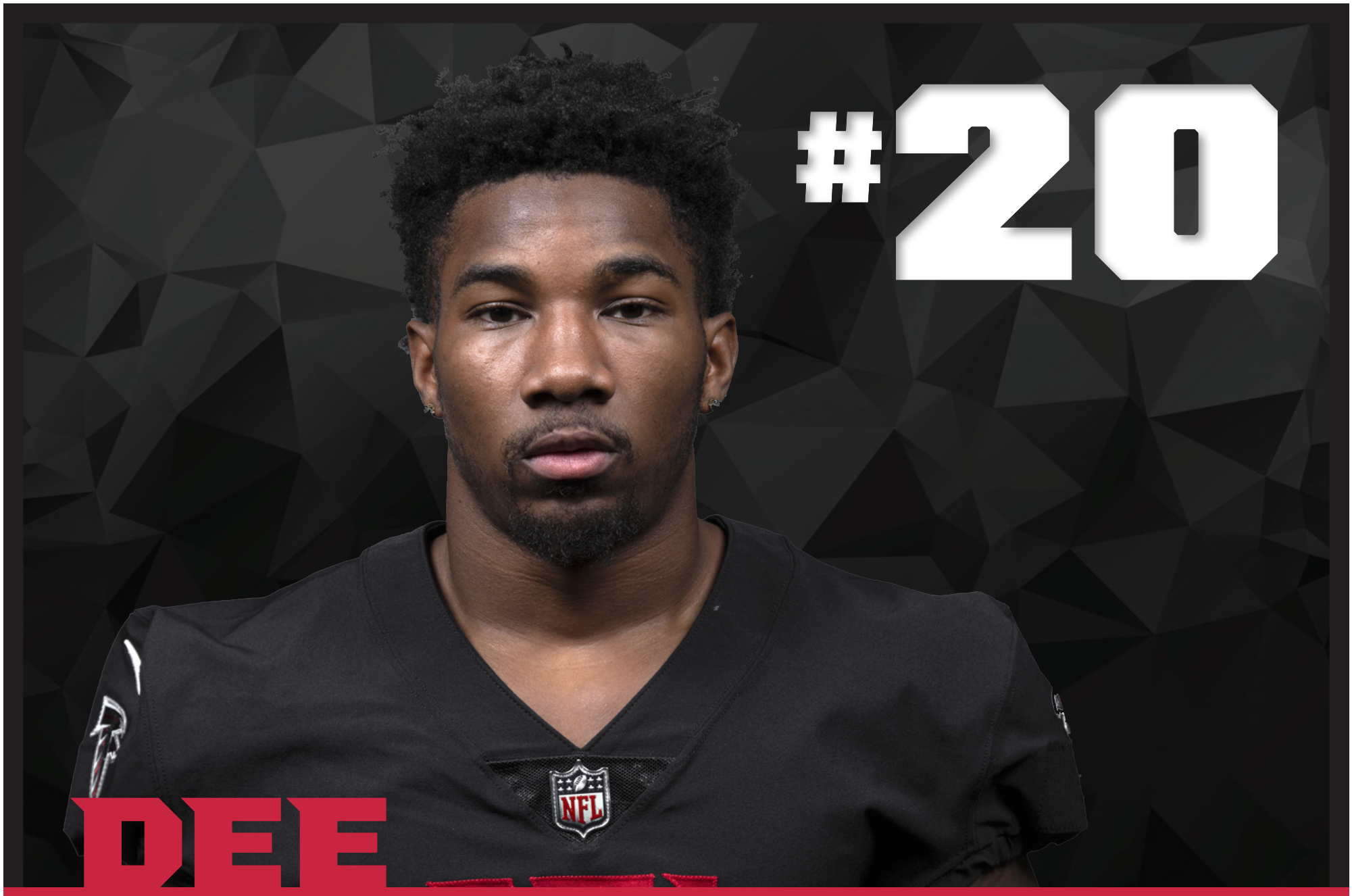
The Falcons signed quarterback Kirk Cousins in 2024. He was originally drafted in the fourth round of the 2012 NFL Draft by Washington where he played 62 games through six seasons, completing 1,372-of-2,096 passes for 16,206 yards and 99 touchdowns. In 2018, he signed a three-year contract with the Vikings that was extended in 2020 for another three seasons. During his time with the Vikings, he played in a total of 88 games and was 2,093-of-3,081 passing for 23,265 yards and 171 touchdowns. Cousins has appeared in five postseason games, completing 103-of-155 passes (66.5 percent) for 1,047 yards and five touchdowns between Washington and Minnesota. Cousins is a four-time Pro Bowler (2016, 2019, 2021-22), seven-time NFC Offensive Player of the Week, three-time NFC Offensive Player of the Month, and received the Bart Starr Award in 2023, given to a player that best exemplifies outstanding character and leadership on and off the field.

#19

CHRIS BLAIR

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 198
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: ALCORN STATE

The Falcons signed Chris Blair in 2023. In 2021, he spent time with the Packers' practice squad and in 2023 he appeared in 12 games for the D.C. Defenders of the XFL, recording 26 receptions for 594 receiving yards and three touchdowns. A Louisville, Miss. native, Blair attended Louisville High School where he helped the Wildcats to an undefeated record en route to a 2013 Class 3A state championship and earned Class 3A All-State honors as a junior. Blair attended Hinds Community College for two seasons (2016-17) and recorded 16 receptions for 218 yards and three touchdowns. He transferred to Alcorn State where he played two seasons (2018-19). While at Alcorn State, he caught 87 passes for 1,460 receiving yards and 13 touchdowns in 26 games. During Blair's senior season, he was ranked sixth in the FCS with an average of 21.1 yards per catch.



DEE ALFORD

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 177
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: TUSCULUM

Entering his third year in the league, and third with the Falcons, Dee Alford has appeared in 32 games since joining the Falcons in 2022 and has totaled 66 tackles, 13 passes defended, three tackles for loss, one interception and a half sack. Before joining the Falcons in 2022, Alford spent the 2021 season with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, posting 48 tackles, four interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown and one forced fumble in 14 games that season. Alford attended Tusculum University where he played for four seasons (2016-19). In 40 career games, he tallied 140 tackles, 40 passes defended (school record), 10 interceptions (third-most), 50 punt returns and 547 career punt return yards (third in school history). The Griffin, Ga., native attended Spalding High School where he led the region in interceptions, holds records for return yards, and won the 4A All-Region Georgia Southwest Bowl Game Team MVP.

MIKE HUGHES

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 5-10
WEIGHT: 191
AGE: 27
COLLEGE: UCF

Hughes is entering his seventh NFL season and second season with the Falcons. He was selected by the Vikings 30th overall in the 2018 NFL Draft. Through six seasons in the NFL, Hughes has appeared in 72 games (22 starts). He has recorded 191 tackles (148 solo), 21 passes defended, seven tackles for loss, six forced fumbles, three interceptions, including one returned for a touchdown, two quarterback hits and one fumble recovery for the Falcons, Lions, Chiefs and Vikings. Hughes played three seasons of college football at UCF (2017), Garden City (Kan.) Community College (2016) and North Carolina (2015). He earned first-team All-American Athletic Conference honors at cornerback and second-team All-AAC as a return specialist at UCF in 2017. In three years at the collegiate level, he totaled 107 tackles (87 solo), 17 passes defensed, one forced fumble and six interceptions.

#22

CLARK PHILLIPS III

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 5-9
WEIGHT: 184
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: UTAH

Clark Phillips III is entering his second season in the NFL and second with the Falcons after being selected in the fourth round (113th overall) of the 2023 NFL Draft. In his rookie season, he appeared in 11 games (five starts), and recorded 27 tackles (22 solo), five passes defended and one tackle for loss. Phillips played three seasons (2020-22) at Utah where he totaled 112 tackles (84 solo), 30 passes defensed, nine interceptions, five tackles for loss, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery in 31 games started. In 2021 across 14 games, he recorded 63 tackles (46 solo), one tackle for loss, two forced fumbles, 15 pass deflections and two interceptions. In 12 games in 2022, Phillips totaled 24 tackles (16 solo), two tackles for loss, one sack, 12 passes defensed and six interceptions. He was named second-team All-Pac-12 in 2021, first-team All-Pac-12 in 2022, unanimous All-American in 2022 and Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year in 2022.

#23

DEMARCCO HELLAMS

POSITION: S

HEIGHT: 6-1

WEIGHT: 203

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: ALABAMA

DeMarcco Hellams enters his second season in the NFL and second with the Falcons in 2024 after being selected in the seventh round (224th overall) of the 2023 NFL Draft out of Alabama. He appeared in 15 games (four starts) as a rookie in 2023, recording 32 tackles (20 solo), one tackle for loss and one quarterback hit. He played four seasons (2019-22) of college football at Alabama. As a true freshman in 2019, he recorded four tackles (two solo), half a tackle for loss, and half a sack. During his sophomore year in 2020, Hellams recorded 62 tackles (36 solo), three passes defensed, 1.5 tackles for loss and one sack as Alabama marched its way to another national title. In his junior season in 2021, he made 87 tackles (55 solo), 2.5 tackles for loss, six passes defensed, and three interceptions. In his senior season in 2022, he made 108 tackles (67 solo), three tackles for loss, one sack, eight passes defensed, one interception, one forced fumble, and one fumble recovery.

#24

A.J. TERRELL

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 6-1
WEIGHT: 194
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: CLEMSON

A.J. Terrell is heading into his fifth season in the NFL and fifth year starting in the Falcons secondary. He was selected by Atlanta with the 16th overall pick in 2020. Starting in 61 games for the Falcons, Terrell has recorded 247 tackles (183 solo), 11 tackles for loss, one sack, four forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, 43 passes defensed and four interceptions. He was named second-team All-Pro in the 2021 season. Terrell played three seasons (2017-19) at Clemson and posted 107 tackles (73 solo), 29 passes defensed, six interceptions (returned for a total of 160 yards, including a 44-yard touchdown), four tackles for loss and two forced fumbles in 44 games (30 starts) for the Tigers. Terrell was named third-team All-ACC in 2018 and first-team All-ACC in 2019. The Atlanta, Ga., native attended Westlake High School where he was the Class 7A Player of the Year by the Coaches Association and named first-team All-State by the Atlanta Journal Constitution in 2016.

#25

TYLER ALLGEIER

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-10
WEIGHT: 220
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: BYU

Allgeier is going into his third year in the NFL and third with the Falcons. He was drafted by the Falcons with the 151st overall pick in 2022. In 33 games, Allgeier has totaled 1,718 rushing yards on 396 carries and has scored seven touchdowns on the ground in addition to two receiving touchdowns. He was named to the PFWA All-Rookie Team in 2022. Allgeier played in 41 games (21 starts) over four seasons (2018-21) for BYU and totaled 2,899 yards on 452 carries and 36 touchdowns. He also added 46 catches for 437 yards and one receiving touchdown. In his redshirt freshman season, Allgeier played at running back and at linebacker, rushing for 119 yards on 17 carries and notching 26 tackles on defense. In 2020, he picked up 1,130 rushing yards on 150 carries and 13 touchdowns, earning honorable mention All-America honors.

AVERY WILLIAMS

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-9
WEIGHT: 196
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: BOISE STATE

Avery Williams enters his fourth NFL season and fourth season with the Falcons. Atlanta selected him 183rd overall in 2021. Through 32 games with the Falcons, he has returned 38 punts for 445 yards (11.7 avg.) and 39 kicks for 803 yards (20.6 avg.). He has also tallied 22 carries for 109 yards on offense. Williams appeared in 48 games for four seasons (2017-20) for Boise State and posted 152 career tackles, 26 passes defensed, five fumble recoveries and four interceptions. On special teams, he totaled 38 kick returns for 1,042 yards, including three returned for touchdowns while adding 82 punts returned for a total of 948 yards, including six returned for touchdowns. Williams received numerous awards while playing in college, including second-team All-MWC in 2017, first-team All-MWC in 2020, Consensus All-American in 2020, MWC Special Teams Player of the Year in 2019 and 2020, and the Jet Award in 2020.

#27

RICHIE GRANT

POSITION: S
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 204
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: UCF

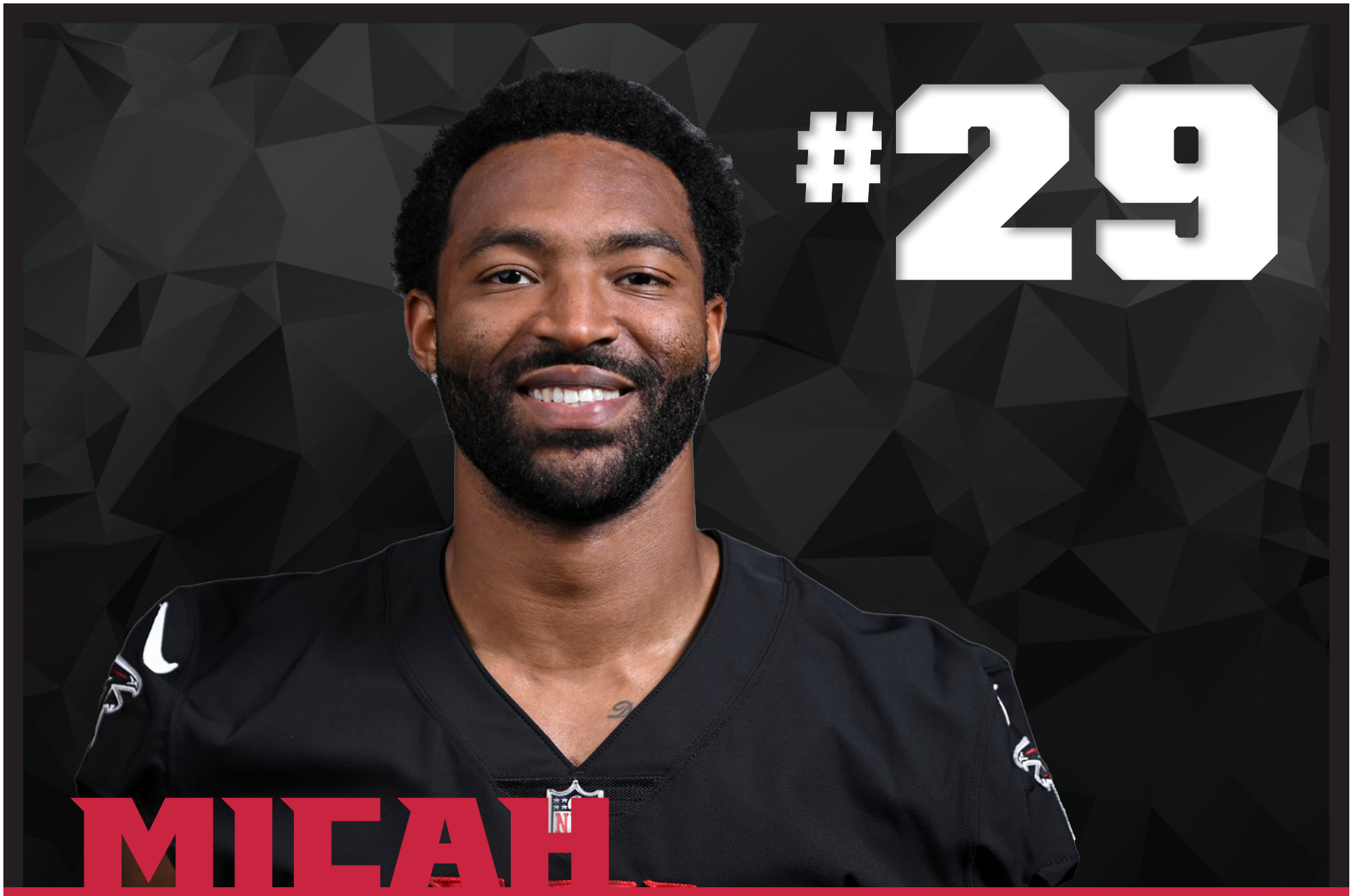
Richie Grant enters his fourth NFL season and fourth with the Falcons. Grant was selected by Atlanta with the 40th overall pick in 2021. In 50 games with the Falcons, Grant has 253 tackles (157 solo), eight tackles for loss, three sacks, four forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, 15 passes defensed and three interceptions. Grant played four seasons (2017-20) at UCF and totaled 291 tackles, 29 passes defensed, 10 interceptions, 12 tackles for loss and seven forced fumbles. In 2017, Grant recorded 32 tackles (25 solo), one tackle for loss, one forced fumble, and two passes defensed. As a sophomore, he recorded 109 tackles (69 solo), three tackles for loss, three forced fumbles, one fumble recovery, three passes defensed and six interceptions. Grant posted 150 tackles (96 solo), seven and a half tackles for loss, one sack, three forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries, 13 passes defensed, and four interceptions including a 39-yard interception returned for a touchdown in 2018 in his final two collegiate seasons. He was named to the first-team All-AAC for three consecutive seasons (2018-20).

#28

CARLOS WASHINGTON

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 220
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: SE LOUISIANA

Washington enters his second year in the NFL and second with the Falcons. He originally signed with the Falcons following the 2023 NFL Draft. Washington started his college career at New Hampshire where he redshirted in 2017. In 2018, he tallied 99 carries for 582 rushing yards and six touchdowns. In 2019, Washington recorded 138 carries for 601 rushing yards and three touchdowns. In one game in 2020, Washington picked up 30 rushing yards on 10 carries. Appearing in 10 games in 2021, he gained 547 rushing yards on 117 carries and one touchdown. Washington transferred to Southeastern Louisiana for his senior season in 2022 and had 715 rushing yards on 147 carries and 15 touchdowns. He attended Riverdale Baptist School in Upper Marlboro, Md., and as a senior totaled 1,200 rushing yards, 300 receiving yards and 20 total touchdowns. He was an All-Metro selection by the Washington Post.



MICAH ABERNATHY

POSITION: S
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 195
AGE: 27
COLLEGE: TENNESSEE

Abernathy heads into his second NFL season and second with the Falcons. He was signed by the Minnesota Vikings as an undrafted free agent in 2019. He also spent time with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Indianapolis Colts, Dallas Renegades of the XFL, Houston Gamblers of the USFL, and the Green Bay Packers. He played college football at Tennessee from 2015-18. In 44 games (30 starts), Abernathy recorded 197 tackles (128 solo), 11 passes defensed, seven tackles for loss, five fumble recoveries and two interceptions for the Volunteers. He attended Greater Atlanta Christian High School in Norcross, Ga., and became the first player from the program to be selected to the Under Armour All-America Game in 2015. He was named the 2014 Atlanta Journal-Constitution Offensive Player of the Year and was a first team All-State selection by the Associated Press as a junior in 2013.

JASE McCLELLAN

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 212
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: ALABAMA

The Falcons selected Jase McClellan with the 186th overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft. He played college football at Alabama from 2020-23. As a freshman, he tallied 23 carries for 245 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns. He had 40 carries for 191 rushing yards and one rushing touchdown during his sophomore campaign. As a junior, McClellan had 655 rushing yards on 112 carries and seven rushing touchdowns. He concluded his college career with 890 rushing yards on 180 carries and eight rushing touchdowns as a senior. McClellan was named to the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Honor Roll in 2023 and was a member of the National Championship team for the Tide in 2020. He attended Aledo High School in Aledo, Texas and recorded 6,468 rushing yards on 842 carries and 122 rushing touchdowns while catching 28 passes for 429 receiving yards and three touchdown receptions. He won the Texas 6A-Division 2 State Championship in 2019.

#31

DANE CRUIKSHANK

POSITION: S

HEIGHT: 6-1

WEIGHT: 209

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: ARIZONA

Dane Cruikshank is entering his fifth NFL season and first with the Falcons. He was originally drafted by the Tennessee Titans with the 152nd overall pick in 2018. Cruikshank also spent time with the Chicago Bears in 2022 and New York Jets in 2023. He spent four seasons with the Titans from 2017-20, returning in 2023 for the remainder of the season. He played college football at Citrus College from 2013-14 before transferring to Arizona and playing for the Wildcats from 2015-17. In 16 games at Citrus College, Cruikshank totaled 50 tackles (29 solo), one tackle for loss, one forced fumble, four passes defensed and one interception. He transferred to Arizona in 2015, where he redshirted his first year. In 2016 as a redshirt junior, he collected 60 tackles (53 solo), two tackles for loss, seven passes defensed and two interceptions. In his senior season, Cruikshank tallied career highs in tackles (74), tackles for loss (4.5) and interceptions (three), while adding five passes defensed, one forced fumble and one sack.

KEVIN KING

POSITION: CB

HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 200

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: WASHINGTON

Kevin King enters his fifth NFL season and first with the Falcons. He was originally selected by the Green Bay Packers with the 33rd overall pick in 2017. He spent five seasons with Green Bay from 2017 to 2021. He played at Washington from 2013-16. In his freshman year, he recorded 17 tackles (14 solo), one fumble recovery and one pass defense. As a sophomore, he had 65 tackles (43 solo), one tackle for loss, one forced fumble, three passes defensed and one interception. In his junior season, he totaled 39 tackles (24 solo), five tackles for loss, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, five passes defensed and three interceptions and was named an All-Pac-12 honorable mention. King finished his college career with 44 tackles (26 solo), four tackles for loss, 13 passes defensed and two interceptions as a senior.

#33

ANTONIO HAMILTON SR.

POSITION: CB

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 195

AGE: 31

COLLEGE: SOUTH CAROLINA ST.

Antonio Hamilton Sr. enters his ninth NFL season and first with the Falcons. He originally signed with the Raiders following the 2016 NFL Draft and has since spent time with the New York Giants, Kansas City Chiefs, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Arizona Cardinals. Since entering the league, he has appeared in 98 games (18 starts) and has totaled 172 tackles (140 solo), 25 passes defensed, two interceptions, one quarterback hit and one tackle for loss over eight seasons (2016-23). Hamilton played three seasons of college football at South Carolina State and recorded 73 tackles (66 solo), nine tackles for loss, nine passes defensed, four interceptions and one sack in 33 games. Hamilton also played a part on special teams, returning 33 kicks for 818 yards and two touchdowns, in addition to 23 punt returns for 498 yards and two touchdowns. He earned All-MEAC honors as a return specialist.

RAY-RAY MCCLOUD III

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 5-9
WEIGHT: 190
AGE: 27
COLLEGE: CLEMSON

Ray-Ray McCloud III heads into his seventh NFL season and first with the Falcons. He was originally selected by the Buffalo Bills in the sixth round of the 2018 NFL Draft. Since entering the league, McCloud has appeared in 77 regular-season games (11 starts) and caught 90 passes for 768 yards and one touchdown in addition to 15 carries for 192 yards and one touchdown over six seasons with the Bills, Panthers, Steelers and 49ers. He has also appeared in seven post-season games, catching four passes for 46 yards for the 49ers and Steelers. He played college football at Clemson from 2015-17. In 40 games, McCloud registered 127 receptions for 1,226 yards and four touchdowns. On special teams, he returned 50 punts for 485 yards, including one returned for a touchdown. He was named a second-team All-American and third-team All-ACC in 2017 and won the 2016 National Championship with the Tigers.

NATRONE BROOKS

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 176
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: SOUTHERN MISS

Brooks enters his second NFL season and second with the Falcons. He was signed as an undrafted free agent in 2023. He played college football at Copiah-Lincoln Community College from 2018-19 and Southern Mississippi from 2020-22. At Copiah-Lincoln, Brooks recorded 59 tackles (45 solo), 11 passes defensed, seven tackles for loss, 4.5 sacks, two interceptions, one fumble recovery and one blocked kick in 19 games. In his first year at Southern Mississippi, Brooks registered 39 tackles (25 solo), four tackles for loss, eight passes defensed and one interception. In 2021, he tallied 17 tackles (10 solo), one tackle for loss, nine passes defensed and one interception. In 2022, Brooks recorded 30 tackles (18 solo), five passes defensed, four tackles for loss, two interceptions and one fumble recovery. He attended Starkville (Miss.) High School and in 40 games recorded 136 total tackles (88 solo), 13 tackles for loss, one sack and six interceptions.

#36

JAYDEN PRICE

POSITION: CB

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 184

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: NORTH DAKOTA STATE

Jayden Price is entering his rookie season for the Falcons after Atlanta signed him as an undrafted free agent following the 2024 NFL Draft. He played five years of college football at North Dakota State from 2019-23. He played in 71 games for the Bison, and had 107 tackles (73 solo), four tackles for loss, one sack, one forced fumble, three fumble recoveries, 17 passes defensed and three interceptions. After redshirting his freshman season in 2018, he collected three tackles (one solo) and one fumble recovery in 2019. In 2020, he recorded 22 tackles (14 solo), two tackles for loss, four passes defensed and one interception. In 2021, Price recorded 17 tackles (14 solo), one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, and five passes defensed. In 2022, he posted 18 tackles (13 solo) and two passes defensed. As a senior, he registered a career-high 47 tackles (31 solo), three tackles for loss, one sack, one fumble recovery, six passes defensed and two interceptions.

#37

HARRISON HAND

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 185
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: TEMPLE

Harrison Hand enters his fourth NFL season and first with the Falcons. Originally drafted by Minnesota in the fifth round (169th overall) of the 2020 NFL Draft, he spent two seasons with the Vikings and totaled 22 tackles (19 solo), three passes defensed and one interception in 23 games (one start). He joined the Chicago Bears in 2022 and recorded 12 tackles (nine solo), one pass defense and one forced fumble in four games (one start). Hand played collegiate football at Baylor (2017-18) and Temple (2019), totaling 114 tackles (86 solo), 5.5 tackles for loss, 16 passes defensed, one forced fumble and four interceptions. He attended Cherry Hill West (N.J.) High School where he helped the program achieve its second playoff appearance in school history. Playing both defensive back and running back, he totaled 46 tackles, two interceptions (one returned for a touchdown), seven passes defensed, two fumble recoveries and two forced fumbles during his senior season.

TRE TARPLEY III

POSITION: S
HEIGHT: 6-1
WEIGHT: 203
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: VANDERBILT

Tre Tarpley III is entering his first NFL season and first with the Falcons. He started his professional football career playing for the Memphis Express of the Alliance of American Football in 2019. He also played for the Austin Generals of the Spring Football League in 2020 before spending two seasons (2022-23) with the Pittsburgh Maulers of the USFL. He played at Vanderbilt from 2014 to 2017, appearing in 47 games for the Commodores with 21 starts. In his freshman season, he made 18 tackles (14 solo), two tackles for loss and two forced fumbles. As a sophomore, Tarpley had 36 tackles (24 solo), five tackles for loss and three passes defensed. As a junior, he registered 40 tackles (29 solo), three tackles for loss, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and two passes defensed. As a senior in 2017, he had 29 tackles (18 solo) and three passes defensed.

#39

ROBERT BURNS

POSITION: RB
HEIGHT: 5-11
WEIGHT: 222
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: UCONN

Robert Burns was signed by the Chicago Bears as an undrafted free agent in 2023, and is entering his first season with the Falcons after his acquisition from Chicago in January. He played six years of college football at Miami (2018-20) and Connecticut (2021-22). He redshirted his freshman year in 2017 and saw action in eight games in 2018. In 2019, Burns had 116 yards on 29 carries and two catches for 21 yards and one touchdown. In 2020, he played in nine games - mostly on special teams - as a redshirt junior. He continued his college career as a grad student at UConn and in 2021, he totaled 45 yards on 12 carries. Burns had 374 yards on 74 carries and two touchdowns in 2022. He played high school football at Gulliver Prep in Pinecrest, Fl., and rushed for over 1,200 yards with 15 touchdowns during his high school career.

#40

JD BERTRAND

POSITION: ILB

HEIGHT: 6-1

WEIGHT: 233

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: NOTRE DAME

Bertrand heads into his rookie season with the Falcons after Atlanta selected him with the 143rd overall pick of the 2024 NFL Draft. Bertrand attended Blessed Trinity High School where he won back-to-back state championships in 2017 and 2018. He played college football at Notre Dame (2019-23) and appeared in 52 games for the Fighting Irish, totaling 266 tackles (154 solo), 23 tackles for loss, six sacks, and two forced fumbles. Bertrand redshirted his true freshman season. In his redshirt freshman season, he made seven tackles (five solo) in 10 games. In 2021, he had 101 tackles (63 solo), seven tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, and one pass defense. In 2022, Bertrand recorded 82 tackles (45 solo), nine tackles for loss, two sacks, and three passes defensed. In 2023, he had 76 tackles (41 solo), eight tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks, five passes defensed, and one forced fumble.

#41

LUKAS DENIS

POSITION: S

HEIGHT: 5-11

WEIGHT: 185

AGE: 27

COLLEGE: BOSTON COLLEGE

Denis is entering his first season in the NFL after spending time in the XFL with the St. Louis Battlehawks in 2023. While in St. Louis, Denis played in 10 games and made 37 total tackles (16 solo), along with two interceptions, two tackles for loss and one sack. He played college football for four seasons at Boston College where he posted 139 total tackles (82 solo), 25 passes defensed, nine interceptions (second in program history), three forced fumbles, one tackle for loss and a half sack for the Eagles. The Massachusetts native attended Everett High School where he played on offense, defense and returned kicks on special teams. In 2014, he recorded 52 tackles, two forced fumbles, eight interceptions (including three returned for a touchdown) and 13 passes defensed on defense and 17 touchdowns on offense. That same year, he was named ESPN Boston's Defensive Player of the Year and Massachusetts Prep Stars Defensive Player of the Year.

TREY VAVAL

POSITION: CB

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 170

AGE: 23

COLLEGE: MINNESOTA STATE-MANKATO

Vaval enters his rookie season in the NFL with the Atlanta Falcons after joining the organization as an undrafted free agent after the 2024 NFL Draft. He played three years (2019-21) of college football at Missouri Western before transferring ahead of the 2022 season to spend his final two years at Minnesota State-Mankato. In his five years, Vaval played in 47 games where he recorded 114 tackles (88 solo), 18 passes defensed, eight tackles for loss, five blocked kicks, three interceptions and one sack on defense. He also played on special teams, returning 79 kicks for 1,634 yards (20.6 avg.) and one touchdown, in addition to 80 punts for 1,286 yards (16.1 avg.) and one touchdown. He was named first-team D2CAA All-Super Region, second-team All-NSIC and D2CAA second-team All-American. Vaval is a Missouri native where he attended Blue South Springs High School and was a second-team All-Missouri selection before entering college.

ANTHONY JOHNSON

POSITION: CB
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 205
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: VIRGINIA

Johnson originally signed with the Green Bay Packers following the 2023 NFL Draft. He spent time with the Packers and the New Orleans Saints before joining the Falcons in 2024. During his collegiate career, Johnson played in 55 games, recording 138 total tackles (94 solo) including nine for loss, seven interceptions and three forced fumbles. He spent his first three seasons (2018-20) of collegiate football at Louisville. In his senior season at Virginia, he was named first-team All-ACC, first-team VaSID All-State and was a team captain, starting in all 10 games for the team. After a stellar performance during his senior season, Johnson earned an invite to the Reese's Senior Bowl where he competed against some of the top college prospects in the nation. He attended Chaminade-Madonna Prep in Hollywood, Fla., where he earned All-State and All-Broward County honors in 2016.

TROY ANDERSEN

POSITION: ILB
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 239
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: MONTANA STATE

Troy Andersen is entering his third season in the NFL and third with the Falcons in 2024. He started two games in 2023 before suffering a season-ending injury. In Anderson's rookie season in 2022, he recorded 62 tackles (35 solo), three tackles for loss, one pass defense and one forced fumble. He recorded 12 tackles in his first career start against the 49ers in 2022, which is second-most by a Falcons player in their first career start since 2000. He spent four seasons at Montana State where he played linebacker, running back and quarterback. He was named first-team All-Big Sky in 2018 playing quarterback for the Bobcats, and was a unanimous first-team All-American and named 2021 FCS ADA Defensive Player of the Year. He grew up in Dillion, Mt., where he helped lead Beaverhead County High School to the Class A state championship in 2016 and was named Montana Defensive Player of the Year.

#45

DONAVAN MUTIN

POSITION: ILB
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 227
AGE: 23
COLLEGE: HOUSTON

Mutin spent some time on the Falcons practice squad in 2023 after a stint with the Colts. He played five seasons at the University of Houston where he was featured in 10 games as a true freshman and totaled seven tackles (two solo) and one fumble recovery. He started all 12 games as a sophomore and made 61 tackles (25 solo) in addition to five tackles for loss and one interception. In his junior season, he totaled 22 tackles, two tackles for loss and one sack prior to missing the final five games due to injury. In 2021 he led the team in tackles with 77 and had three forced fumbles. In his final season with the Cougars, he was a team captain and finished with All-American Athletic Conference second team honors. Mutin grew up in Spring, Texas and attended Klein Collins High School where he was named District 15-6A MVP as a senior.

BRADLEE ANAE

POSITION: OLB
HEIGHT: 6-3
WEIGHT: 260
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: UTAH

After entering the league in 2020, Bradlee Anae spent two seasons with the Cowboys and appeared in 11 games, mainly on special teams. Anae also spent time with the Jets organization before landing with the Falcons in May. He spent his college days at the University of Utah where he was a two-time first-team All-Pac-12 as well as being a consensus All-American his senior year as a captain for the Utes. He led the Pac-12 in sacks his junior year with eight and had 13 sacks his senior season, which was good for eighth in the FBS. Anae grew up in Laie, Hawaii, where he attended Kahuku High School, playing football, basketball, and was a member of the track team. He helped lead the football team to an undefeated record and a Division I state title along with earning a first-team All-State selection his senior year.

#48

BRALEN TRICE

POSITION: OLB

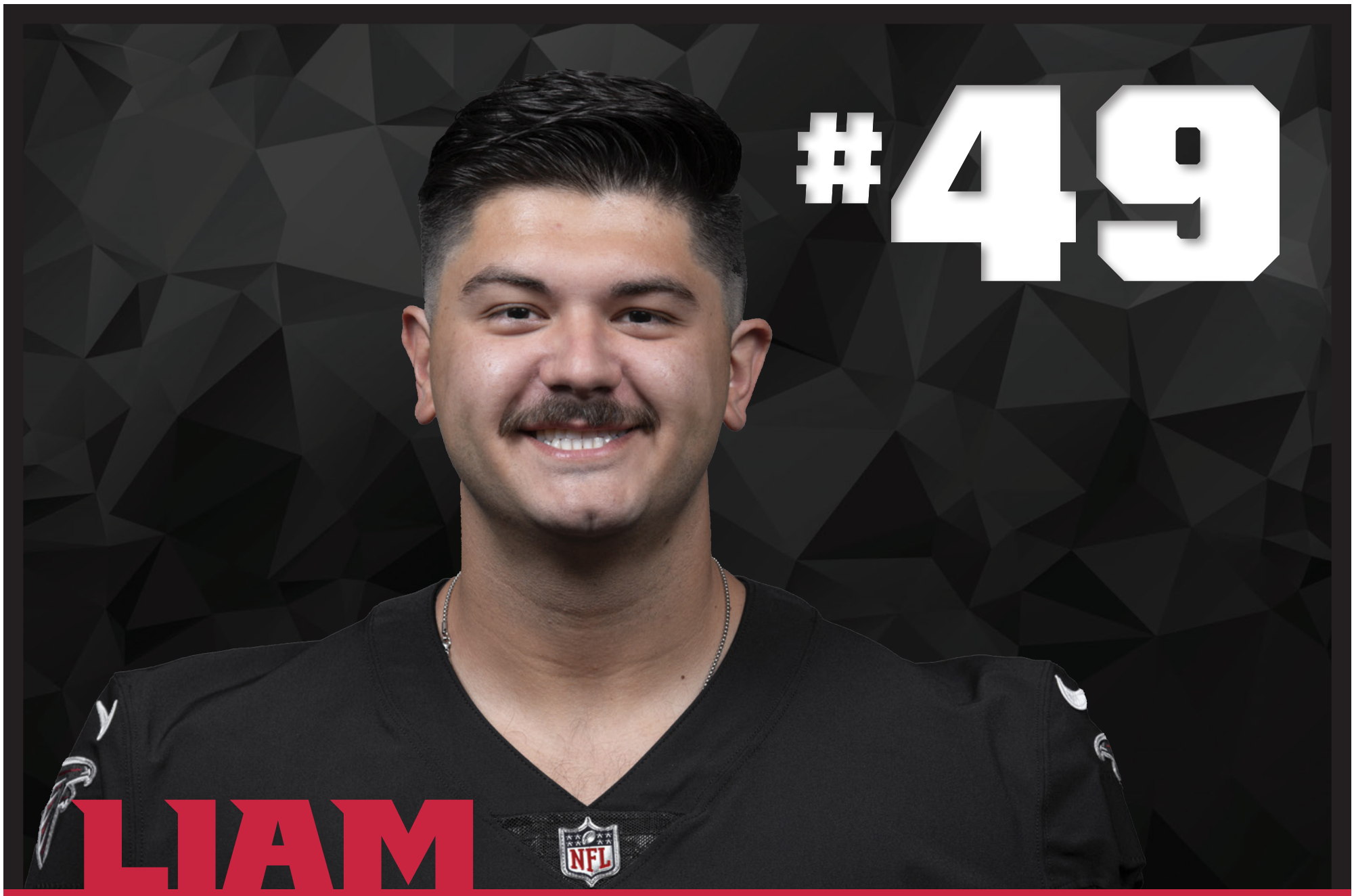
HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 245

AGE: 23

COLLEGE: WASHINGTON

After spending five years in the Washington Huskies football program, Trice was drafted by the Atlanta Falcons in the third round of the 2024 NFL Draft. The 74th-selection in the draft played in 40 games with the Huskies, starting in 29. In those 40 games, Trice accumulated 101 tackles including 28.5 tackles for loss, and 18 sacks in three seasons. The Phoenix-native recorded 49 tackles last season, leading the Huskies in sacks with seven on the year. The junior linebacker was rewarded for his efforts on the field with first-team All-Pac-12 honors. The 23-year-old was one of two Washington Huskies selected by Atlanta in the 2024 NFL Draft along with quarterback, Michael Penix Jr.. Trice was a huge part of the Huskies national championship run where they made the College Football Playoff semifinals against the Texas Longhorns at the Sugar Bowl. He recorded five total tackles, three tackles for loss and two sacks against the third-seeded Longhorns.



#49

LIAM McCULLOUGH

POSITION: LS
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 247
AGE: 27
COLLEGE: OHIO STATE

Coming into his third season with the Falcons, Liam McCullough re-signed with the team for 2024 during the offseason. Prior to being with the Falcons, McCullough spent time with the Raiders and Steelers organizations but never saw action in a regular season game. He has since played in all 34 games over his last two seasons in Atlanta. McCullough spent his college career at Ohio State where he snapped in 55 games and was a finalist for the Patrick Mannelly Award which goes to the top long snapper in the country. He was also Academic All-Big Ten all four years at Ohio State. McCullough grew up in Columbus, Ohio and attended Worthington Kilbourne High School where he became the number one ranked long snapper in the country by 247Sports. He would be invited to play in the U.S. Army All-American game and would follow his Brother, Roen, to Ohio State who also snapped for the Buckeyes.

#50

JAMES SMITH-WILLIAMS

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 265
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: NC STATE

After spending the first four seasons of his NFL career in Washington, James Smith-Williams signed with the Falcons in the offseason. While on the Commanders last season Smith-Williams racked up 23 tackles and a sack in seven starts. His most productive season was in 2021 when he started 14 games and finished with 30 tackles and 2.5 sacks. Smith-Williams played college football at N.C State for five seasons from 2015-2019. In his final season at N.C State he recorded 20 tackles and six sacks in seven games for the Wolfpack. He would also be named to the Academic All-ACC team during his time at N.C State. Smith-Williams grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina and attended Millbrook High School where on top of playing football was a member of the National Honor Society and All-Academic Honor Roll. He tied a school record making 19 sacks in his senior season and leading the team to an 11-3 record.

#51

DEANGELO MALONE

POSITION: OLB

HEIGHT: 6-4

WEIGHT: 240

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: WESTERN KENTUCKY

DeAngelo Malone is coming into his third season playing for his hometown team. Malone grew up in Ellenwood, Georgia and went to Martin Luther King Jr. High School for three years, where he earned first team All-State honors, and Cedar Grove High School for his senior year. At Cedar Grove he helped lead the team to a 13-2 record and a Class 3A State Championship. He has spent his whole NFL career with the Falcons and appeared in almost every game in the past two seasons and has racked up 35 tackles and a sack during that time. Malone played his college days at Western Kentucky playing five seasons for the Hilltoppers. While in Bowling Green Malone became the all-time sack leader in Western Kentucky history when he recorded 34 sacks and was second all-time in tackles for loss with 60. He was a three-time first-team All-Conference USA and earned two Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year awards.

#52

MILO EIFLER

POSITION: ILB

HEIGHT: 6-1

WEIGHT: 228

AGE: 26

COLLEGE: ILLINOIS

After spending the previous two seasons in Washington, Milo Eifler joined the Falcons for last season where he appeared in two games. He had four tackles while a member of the Commanders and spent some time on the Dolphins practice squad in 2021. Eifler attended Illinois and Washington for college, spending one year with the Huskies and two with the Illini. While with the Illini, he recorded 90 tackles, three sacks, and one fumble recovery. He missed three games in his senior season and racked up 27 tackles and 3.5 tackles for a loss. Eifler was raised in Berkley, Calif. and attended Bishop O'Dowd High School. He was named first-team All-WACC as a junior and first-team All-West Alameda County Conference Foothill League as a senior. He was also invited to play in the U.S. Army All-American game in 2015.

#53

NATE LANDMAN

POSITION: ILB

HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 238

AGE: 25

COLLEGE: COLORADO

Landman is going into his third-year in the Atlanta Falcons organization after they re-signed him to a three-year contract this offseason. The linebacker made a name for himself in 2023 as he appeared in 16 games throughout the course of the season, starting in 14. The 25 year-old totaled 66 total tackles with three forced fumbles, two sacks and one interception. Landman produced for the Falcons defense, making tackles and forcing turnovers, earning his time on the field with the Falcons defensive unit. The Danville, Calif. native attended the University of Colorado where he played in Boulder for five seasons. Landman had a decorated career with the Buffaloes as his play earned him all-conference honors in four separate seasons, a first in program history. He recorded 349 total tackles in five seasons at Colorado despite only playing in 12 combined games in his final two years.

#54

BRANDON DORLUS

POSITION: DT

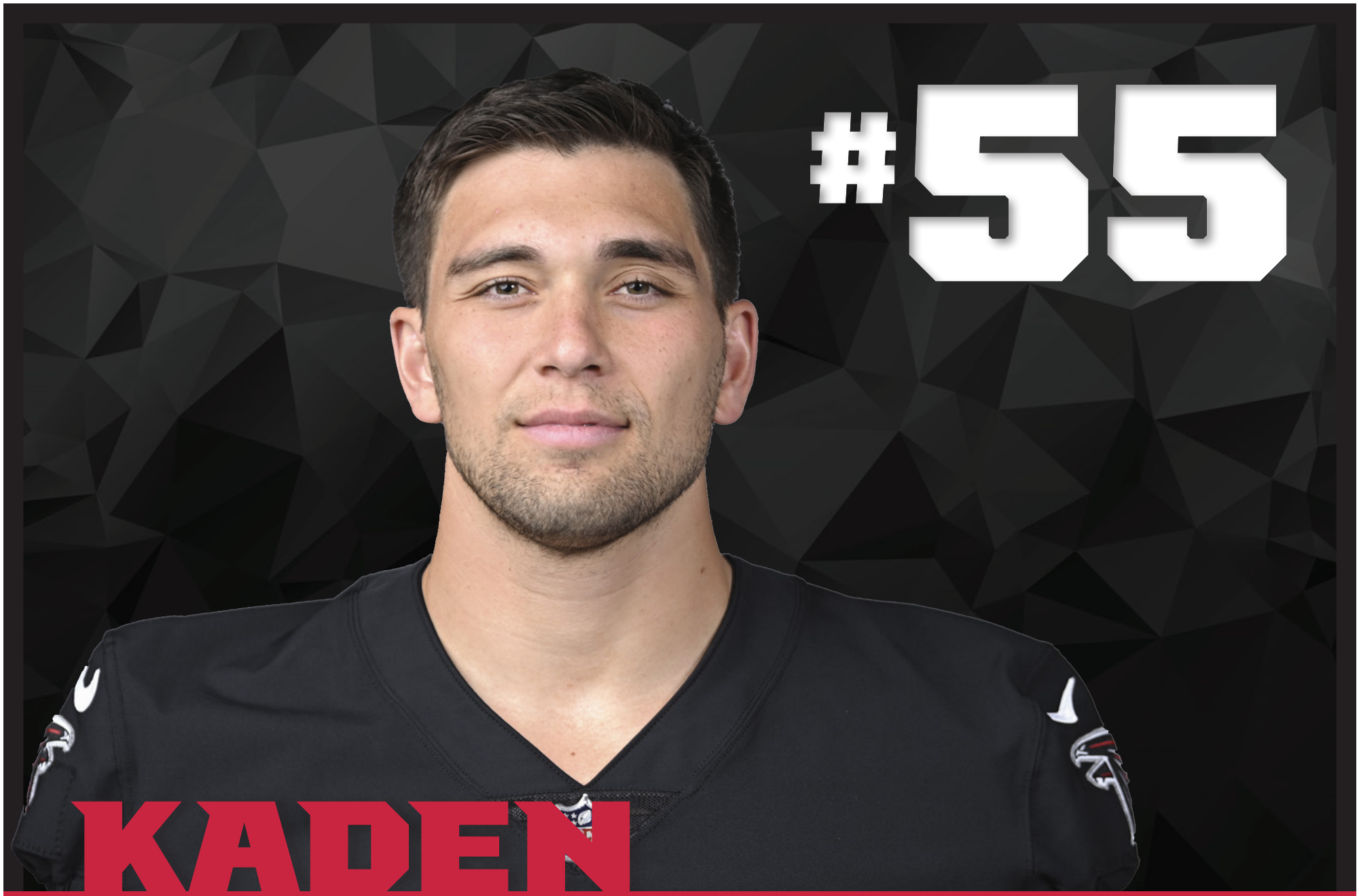
HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 290

AGE: 23

COLLEGE: OREGON

A rookie out of the University of Oregon who was taken in the fourth round, Brandon Dorlus finished a successful five-year career with the Ducks last season. While in Eugene, he finished with All-Pac-12 honors three times in 2020, 2021, and 2023. He played in 57 games while at Oregon and tallied 106 tackles, 27 tackles for loss and 12 sacks. In his senior season, he led the team with a career high five sacks and helped lead them to the Pac-12 Championship game. Dorlus attended Deerfield Ridge High School in Florida for his junior and senior year of high school and Calvary Christian for his freshman and sophomore year. In his senior season, he helped lead Deerfield Ridge to a 12-2 record and an appearance in the 8A semifinals while racking up 11 sacks and three forced fumbles.



KADEN ELLISS

POSITION: ILB
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 238
AGE: 29
COLLEGE: IDAHO

Kaden Elliss is coming off a year in which he had a career high in tackles with 122 during his first season with the Falcons. He started all 17 games last season and tallied four sacks and three passes defensed. Prior to his time on the Falcons, Elliss spent four seasons with the Saints where he finished the 2022 season with a career high seven sacks as well as 78 tackles in 11 starts. Elliss went to the University of Idaho where he played four seasons with the Vandals and earned first-team All-Big Sky in his senior season. Over his four years in Moscow, Idaho he recorded 296 tackles, 17 sacks, and six forced fumbles. Elliss is one of 12 children and grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah where he attended Judge Memorial Catholic High School. He helped lead the school to its first state championship in 30 years and was named Utah High School Athletic Associations MVP.

JOVAUGHN GWYN

POSITION: OL

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 297

AGE: 25

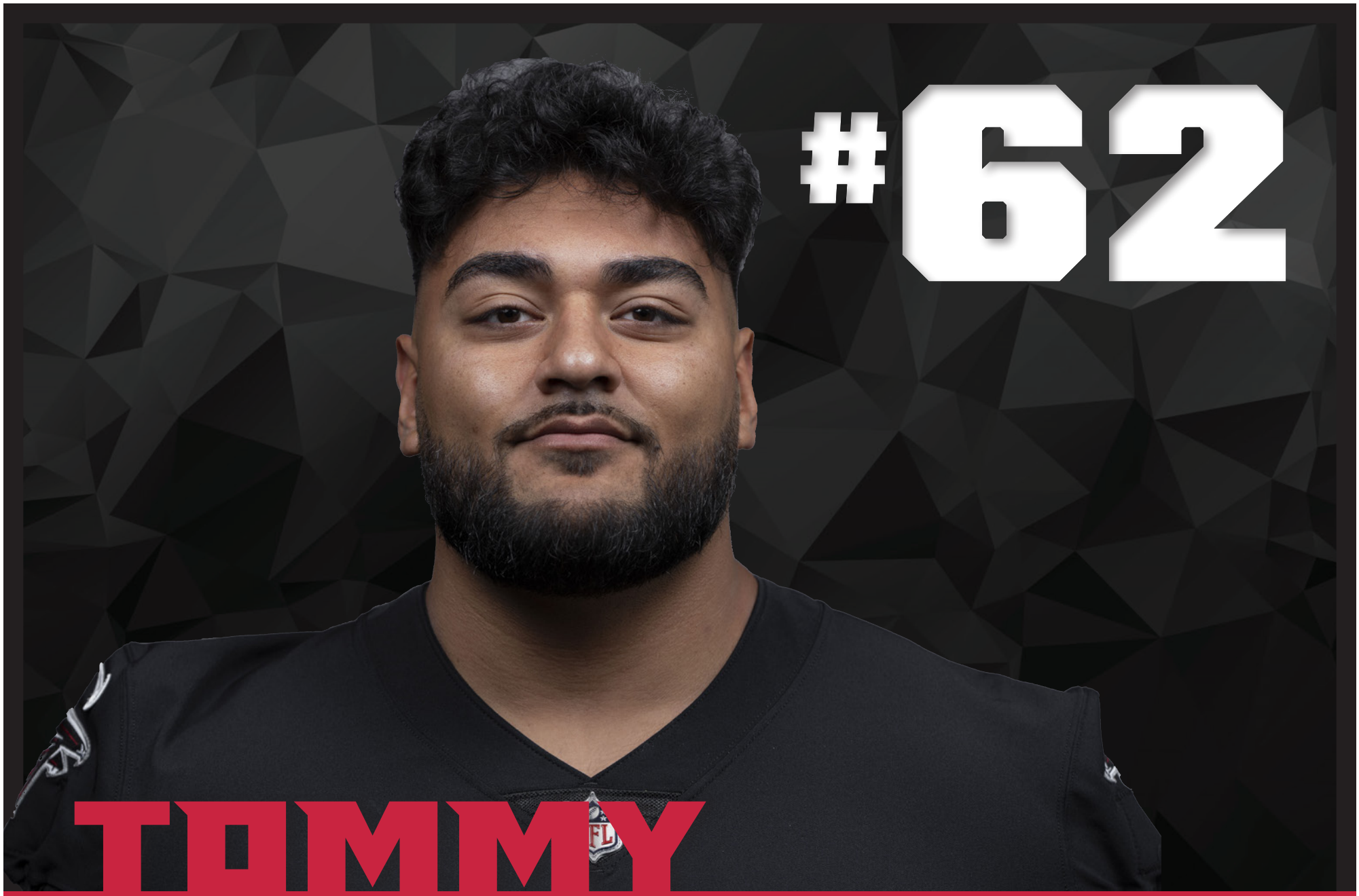
COLLEGE: SOUTH CAROLINA

Jovaughn Gwyn was selected by the Atlanta Falcons in the seventh round (225th overall) of the 2023 NFL Draft. He made the active roster out of training camp and appeared in one game during his rookie season. Gwyn attended South Carolina and played five seasons with the football program. He made his first start for the Gamecocks in 2019 and started 11 games that season. He was a team captain for his final two seasons with the program and earned the 2022 Outstanding Student Athlete Award. During his five seasons, Gwyn made 47 starts and helped the Gamecocks produce their first 1,000-yard rusher since 2013. He grew up in Charlotte, N.C. and attended Harding University High School where he would help lead the team to a 14-1 record and a 4A State Title. He was named first-team All-State by the Associated Press as well as the 4A All-State team.

ZION LOGUE

POSITION: DT
HEIGHT: 6-6
WEIGHT: 314
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: GEORGIA

Zion Logue was the final draft pick of this year's draft for the Falcons, taken in the sixth round. Logue went to University of Georgia for college and played five seasons for the football program. He missed only one game between 2021-23 while winning two College Football Playoff National Championships with the Bulldogs. In the 50 games he played for the Bulldogs, he made 52 tackles, 1.5 sacks and a forced fumble. His senior season was by far the best with him making 17 tackles with three tackles for loss. He grew up in Lebanon, Ohio where he attended Lebanon High School and helped lead the team to an 8-4 record which was their best since 2004 and brought the team to the Division I Class 6A State Playoffs. As a senior, he tallied 57 tackles with an interception and a forced fumble.



#62

TOMMY TOGIAI

POSITION: DL

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 296

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: OHIO STATE

Togiai was drafted in the fourth round of the 2021 NFL Draft by the Cleveland Browns where he appeared in 18 games, starting in two of them. As a rookie in 2021, he made 16 tackles, one quarterback hit, one pass defense and a half sack. In his sophomore campaign in 2022, he recorded 13 tackles, two quarterback hits, one pass defense and a half sack. Togiai was signed to the practice squad in 2023 and the 24-year old looks to serve as a quality depth piece for a young defensive line. A product of Pocatello, Id., Togiai was named the state's high school Gatorade Player of the Year and was a three-time first-team All-State selection and became the first player from Idaho to sign with Ohio State University to play football. Togiai made seven starts in three years at Ohio State where he received second team All Big 10 honors in 2020.

#63

CHRIS LINDSTROM

POSITION: G

HEIGHT: 6-4

WEIGHT: 299

AGE: 27

COLLEGE: BOSTON COLLEGE

Lindstrom is entering his sixth year with the Atlanta Falcons, continuing to build off a strong collegiate career by becoming a household name throughout the NFL as one of the top guards in the league. Lindstrom anchored an offensive line that helped the Falcons finish third and ninth respectively in 2022 and 2023 in rushing yards per game, earning second-team All-Pro honors and Pro Bowl nods those same years. The Falcons rewarded Linstrom in April of 2023, signing him to a five-year deal. Lindstrom played football at Shepard Hill High School in Dudley, Ma. where his father served as head coach. Lindstrom stayed close to home and enrolled at Boston College where he saw action in 50 games. He earned All-ACC honors twice and was named a second-team All-American by the Athletic. During his junior year, he led the Eagles in career starts (36) and career games played (38). In 2018, Lindstrom didn't allow a single sack and earned All-ACC first-team honors for his dominant play.

RYAN NEUZIL

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-3
WEIGHT: 303
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: APPALACHIAN STATE

Neuzil signed with the Falcons after going undrafted in 2021, and made his NFL debut in 2022 in a Week 9 game against the Los Angeles Chargers, recording four snaps on special teams. Neuzil signed a one-year contract with the Falcons in 2024. Before signing to the Falcons, Neuzil attended Appalachian State and moved to the center position before earning the starting job at left guard. With the Mountaineers, he was a two-time first-team All-Sun Belt selection, and finished his collegiate career with 44 straight starts at left guard. Across his four seasons at Appalachian State, the Mountaineers ranked seventh (2020), 16th (2019), 14th (2018) and 22nd (2017) in rushing yards per game, while ranking 40th (2020), 13th (2019), 21st (2018) and second (2017) in sacks allowed per game. Ryan Neuzil played tight end at Braden River High School in Florida where he was a first-team All-District and an All-Area selection.

#65

MATTHEW BERGERON

POSITION: OL

HEIGHT: 6-5

WEIGHT: 318

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: SYRACUSE

Bergeron was drafted 38th overall in the second round by the Falcons in the 2023 NFL Draft. In his rookie campaign, he started all 17 games, and played in a team-high 1,129 offensive snaps, all while adjusting to the guard position after spending an overwhelming majority of his collegiate career at tackle. Bergeron looks to build off of a promising rookie campaign and provide long-term stability for the interior of Atlanta's offensive line, alongside Chris Lindstrom and center Drew Dalman. Bergeron is a native of Thetford Mines, Quebec, Canada, where he was named athlete of the year in 2018 and the first player in the city's history to receive a NCAA Division I football scholarship. As a freshman, he started in five games at Syracuse, earning Pro Football Focus All-Freshman second team, rotating between tackle and guard. Bergeron was a starter in 39 of his 46 career games at Syracuse, earning an All-ACC honorable mention in 2021 and second-team All-ACC as a senior in 2022.

JOHN LEGLUE

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 310
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: TULANE

Leglue was signed to the Denver Broncos in 2019 as an undrafted free agent. He also spent time on the New Orleans Saints practice squad before being signed by the Green Bay Packers and becoming a member of the team's 53-man roster. Leglue spent two seasons respectively with the Packers and the Pittsburgh Steelers before being signed to the Atlanta Falcons practice squad in 2023. Leglue is an Alexandria, La. native who attended Holy Savior Menard Central High School, where he earned first-team All-District honors and contributed to the 32-13 record the Eagles posted during his career. As a junior and senior, he earned All-Central Louisiana honors, while also lettering in basketball and baseball. Leglue started in 48 games at Tulane, including 13 his senior year. Throughout his collegiate career, he spent time starting at both guard and tackle throughout his collegiate career, contributing to an offensive line that helped Tulane average 231.5 rushing yards per game in 2018.

DREW DALMAN

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-3
WEIGHT: 305
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: STANFORD

A fourth round pick by the Falcons in 2021, Dalman spent 2022 starting all 17 games at center for the Falcons. The Salinas, California native spent four years at Stanford University-first becoming a starter during his sophomore year. Dalman would go on to become a full time starter his junior year, starting every game in both the 2019 and shortened 2020 seasons. In his senior season, Dalman did not give up a single pressure in the six games of the short season as part of an offensive line that didn't give up a single sack all season. After his fourth season at Stanford, Dalman entered the 2021 NFL Draft, where he was selected 114th overall in the fourth round. Dalman played all 17 games in his rookie season in Atlanta as a reserve offensive lineman. In his second season in 2022, he was named the Falcons' full-time starting center. In 2023, he started 14 games and was named a Pro Bowl alternate for the NFC.

KYLE HINTON

POSITION: OL

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 315

AGE: 26

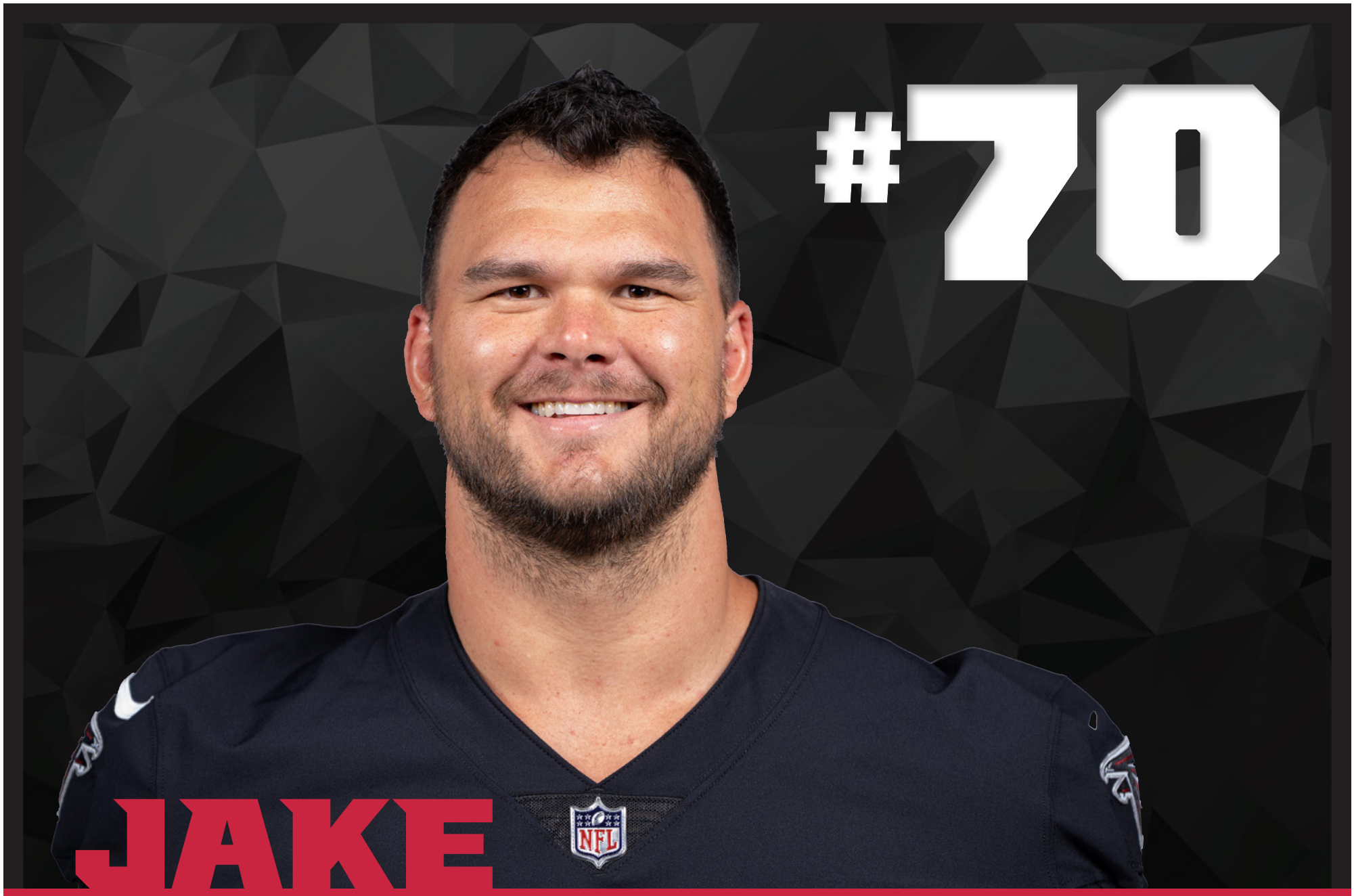
COLLEGE: WASHBURN

Hinton was selected in the 7th round of the 2020 NFL Draft by the Minnesota Vikings, where he would spend three seasons on the practice squad before being activated to the 53-man roster debuting as a reserve at left tackle for the Vikings in Week 18 of the 2022 NFL Season. He was signed by the Atlanta Falcons in 2023 where he played in 16 games, starting one. Hinton is entering his fifth season in the NFL and second with the Falcons. He spent three seasons at Washburn University in Topeka, Kan. where he would start in 34 games at left tackle. At Washburn, Hinton received all-region honors in 2018 and 2019, All-America honors three times, and was a four-time all-MIAA offensive line selection. A two-sport athlete, Hinton also excelled on Washburn's track and field team, finishing ninth at the NCAA Indoor Championships and even set school records in the weight throw and is a top six mark in school history for the discus. Hinton played both offensive and defensive line at Liberty High School in Peoria, Arizona where he was a three-time academic all-district selection and was named team MVP of the defensive line as a sophomore and received the same honors for the offensive line as a junior.

BARRY WESLEY

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 310
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: COLORADO STATE

Barry Wesley was a four-year starter at Colorado State and emerged as an elite blocker. In high school, Wesley recorded 17 pancake blocks in only nine games, and lettered in football and wrestling. Wesley was initially a walk-on at Colorado State, and received a scholarship at the beginning of the 2018 season. The following year, Wesley received the Albert C. Yates Student Leadership Award, which is given to a student who displays a large amount of involvement and commitment to fulfilling the university's traditions and spirits. Wesley was not limited to just one position on the line, for he played both tackle and guard, and excelled at both. After Wesley graduated, he played in seven games during his time on the Seattle Sea Dragons. At 6-foot-7, 310 pounds, Barry Wesley looks to make an immediate impact on the Falcons offensive line and jumpstart what he hopes to be a long career in the NFL.



#70

JAKE MATTHEWS

POSITION: T

HEIGHT: 6-5

WEIGHT: 314

AGE: 32

COLLEGE: TEXAS A&M

Atlanta drafted Matthews with the sixth-overall pick in the 2014 NFL Draft and he has been a staple of the offensive line ever since, earning a spot on the NFC's Pro Bowl roster in 2018. Going into his 11th season with the Falcons, Matthews is the longest tenured player on the roster and was named a team captain by his peers for a third-consecutive year in 2023. Last season, Matthews broke Matt Ryan's franchise record of 154 consecutive starts when he notched his 155th against the Saints. He has since increased that record to 160, dating back to his rookie year. A former first team All-District and All-Greater Houston honoree, Matthews has been anchoring offensive lines since his days at Elkins High School in Texas where he earned High School All-America honors from USA Today, Parade and SuperPrep in 2009. Matthews went on to play college football at Texas A&M, and as a senior was a consensus All-America and a unanimous All-SEC First-Team selection, and received the Bobby Bowden Award.

PRINCE EMILI

POSITION: DT
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 300
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: PENN

Prince Emili is a native of New City, N.J., where he attended Clarkstown High School and served as a captain of the school's football team and was named first-team All-State and second-team All-Metro. He played football at the University of Pennsylvania where he was a member of the 2016 Ivy League Champion Quakers team. Emili gained a starting role in 2018 and led all Quaker defensive linemen with 41 tackles, with four tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks. In 2019, he was named first team All-Ivy and received the honor again in 2021 along with a CoSIDA Academic All-District for his efforts in the classroom. Emili signed with the Buffalo Bills in 2022 as an undrafted free agent and spent two seasons on the New Orleans Saints practice squad and one with the XFL's San Antonio Brahmas before signing a contract with the Atlanta Falcons in the 2024 offseason.

#72

KEHINDE OGINNI

POSITION: DL

HEIGHT: 6-6

WEIGHT: 232

AGE: 25

COLLEGE: AHMADU BELLO (NIGERIA)

Born in Abakaliki, Nigeria, Oginni started out on the basketball courts before ever touching a football. At fifteen years old he attended a camp hosted by the Ejike Ugboaja Foundation, and a fter receiving some equipment and footballs would never look back. He would go on to train with local football teams at Ahmadu Bello University and gained interest from several US colleges, though he would never play football for a college program. Ahmadu Bello University, founded in 2009, would play its first football game in 2016 against the Lagos Marines. Ahmadu Bello emerged victorious with a 26-14 score, and Oginni logged six receptions for 104 yards and two touchdowns in the win. He attended the Arizona State University Pro Day where he impressed the scouts for the Kansas City Chiefs, who would sign him as an undrafted free agent. On May 9, 2024 the Falcons signed Oginni as a defensive lineman. He was designated as the Falcons international player as part of the NFL's International Player Pathway and does not count against the 90-man roster limit.

#73

TYLER VRABEL

POSITION: OL

HEIGHT: 6-6

WEIGHT: 319

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: BOSTON COLLEGE

The Falcons signed Tyler Vrabel as an undrafted free agent in 2022. He spent the season on the practice squad/injured reserve and would play in three games across the 2023 season. Vrabel had a successful career at Boston College where he played for three seasons after redshirting his freshman year. Vrabel appeared in 35 games for the Eagles over his four seasons, and started at both right and left tackle during his tenure. He also earned All-ACC honorable mention for three-consecutive seasons between 2019 and 2021. He is the son of former Tennessee Titans head coach Mike Vrabel, who won three Super Bowls with the Patriots (XXXVI, XXXVIII, XXXIX) and a coach of the year award with the Titans in 2021. Vrabel attended St. Pius X High School in Houston, Tx., and earned first team All-State honors as a senior and was a finalist for Texas offensive lineman of the year. He was also ranked the 103rd best offensive lineman in the country.

#74

ANDREW STUEBER

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 338
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: MICHIGAN

Stueber played college football at the University of Michigan, where he made 20 starts in 34 games, mostly at right tackle and contributed to an offensive line that earned the Joe Moore Award, given to the top offensive line in all of college football. In 2021, Stueber received first-team All-Big Ten Honors along with being named a second-team All-American. He was drafted by the New England Patriots in the 7th Round of the 2022 NFL Draft. Stueber hails from Darien, Ct., where he played football at Darien High School, helping lead the Blue Wave to back-to-back Class LL State Championships in 2015 and 2016. As a senior, he anchored an offensive line that helped the offense pass for 3,501 yards and rush for 2,181, averaging 167.8 rushing yards per game. Accordingly, Stueber was recognized with CHSCA All-State first-team honors and Camp All-Connecticut first-team honors as a junior and senior. Stueber signed with the Atlanta Falcons in 2024.

#75

JARYD JONES-SMITH

POSITION: T
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 320
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: PITT

Smith began his NFL career with the Houston Texans after signing as an undrafted free agent in 2018. He appeared in seven games for the Las Vegas Raiders and Baltimore Ravens before spending time in the UFL with the St. Louis Battlehawks. In 2022 during his first stint with St. Louis, Smith was named to the All-XFL team. In 2024 during his second stint with the team, he earned All-UFL honors prior to signing with the Falcons this June. Smith played collegiate football at the University of Pittsburgh and started the majority of his last two seasons at right tackle. He also majored in communications and interned in Pitt's athletic media relations office. A Philadelphia native, he attended West Catholic High School, where he was a two-way lineman and helped West Catholic win a Catholic League Class AA championship and the PIAA playoffs during his senior year. He also lettered in track and field and basketball.

#76

KALEB McGARY

POSITION: T

HEIGHT: 6-6

WEIGHT: 341

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: WASHINGTON

Kaleb McGary, the 31st overall pick in the 2019 NFL Draft, has been a consistent force on the Falcons offensive line since joining Atlanta. Through a trade with the Los Angeles Rams, the Falcons moved up to acquire McGary, a decision that has paid dividends. He has been Atlanta's starting right tackle since his rookie season, and has played in 77 total games with 76 starts. Standing at 6-6 and weighing 341 pounds, McGary is a physical presence that helped Atlanta finish ninth in the NFL in rushing yards last season. At the University of Washington, he started in 47 of the 53 games he played, and was named First-Team All-Pac-12 in 2018. McGary also won the Morris Trophy for the top offensive lineman in his conference, and allowed just six sacks during his four years of collegiate football. The Falcons re-signed McGary to a 3-year contract during the 2023 offseason, locking in a key piece to Atlanta's growing offense.

#77

STORM NORTON

POSITION: OL
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 317
AGE: 30
COLLEGE: TOLEDO

Norton begins his second year with the Falcons after signing with Atlanta in September of 2023. He was signed by the Detroit Lions as an undrafted free agent in 2017 and has since had stints with the Arizona Cardinals, Minnesota Vikings, New Orleans Saints, Los Angeles Chargers, and the XFL's Los Angeles Wildcats prior to his arrival in Atlanta. Norton is a graduate of Whitmer High School in Toledo, Ohio, where he received second-team All-Conference honors, was named the district's Lineman of the Year as a senior in 2011, and also lettered in basketball and track and field. He attended the University of Toldeo, and started 28 games for the Rockets over the span of four seasons. In his collegiate career Norton led an offensive line that allowed five sacks in 2015, the second-lowest in the country, and helped the offense lead the MAC. Norton played in 14 games for the Falcons in 2023, including three starts at right tackle.

JOSH ALI

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 6-0

WEIGHT: 200

AGE: 25

COLLEGE: KENTUCKY

Josh Ali was signed to the Falcons practice squad in 2022 after going undrafted from the University of Kentucky. He spent the 2023 season on injured reserve. Ali chose Kentucky over 21 other offers from the likes of Iowa, Louisville, and North Carolina State. At Kentucky, Ali Caught 131 passes for 1,447 yards and eight touchdowns over his five years. His senior year Ali caught 41 passes for 601 yards and three touchdowns. After his fifth and final year with the Wildcats Ali went undrafted in the 2022 NFL Draft. Ali was xinvited to the Falcons rookie minicamp and was later signed to the Falcons practice squad. He was activated and made his debut against the Arizona Cardinals in Week 17 of the 2022 NFL Season, and got his first live game action during the home stretch of the season. A Miami, Fl. native, he played for Chaminade-Madonna Prep in Hollywood, Fl., where he became a three-star prospect.

#81

AUSTIN MACK

POSITION: WR

HEIGHT: 6-2

WEIGHT: 215

AGE: 26

COLLEGE: OHIO STATE

Austin Mack enters his first season with the Atlanta Falcons after signing as a free agent during the offseason. Mack returns to the NFL after spending the 2023 season in the CFL with the Montreal Alouettes, recording 78 receptions for over 1,100 yards and four touchdown catches, en route to being named an East Division and CFL All-Star. Mack started in 28 games at Ohio State, recording 1,050 receiving yards and six touchdowns throughout his time at the university, helping lead the Buckeyes to three consecutive Big 10 Championships from 2017-2019. He signed with the New York Giants as an undrafted free agent in 2020 and appeared in 11 games with the team, totaling seven receptions for 91 yards. Mack has also spent time on practice squads for the Tennessee Titans and San Francisco 49ers.

#82

CASEY WASHINGTON

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 200
AGE: 23
COLLEGE: ILLINOIS

Casey Washington enters his rookie season with the Falcons after being selected in the sixth round (187th overall) of the 2024 NFL Draft. Washington played five seasons (2019-2023) at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. During his tenure at Illinois, he appeared in 55 games, making 20 starts, and accumulated 122 receptions for 1,508 yards, averaging 12.4 yards per catch, with four touchdowns. In his senior year in 2023, Washington had a standout season with 49 receptions for 670 yards and four touchdowns in 12 games, placing him ninth in the Big Ten for receptions. As a junior in 2022, he played in 13 games and caught 31 passes for 306 yards. His sophomore season in 2021 saw him contribute 21 receptions for 294 yards across 12 games, while in 2020, he recorded 10 catches for 106 yards in eight games. He looks to start out his NFL career on a positive note with the Atlanta Falcons.

ISAIAH WOODEN

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 5-9
WEIGHT: 170
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: SOUTHERN UTAH

Isiah Wooden is set to bring his explosive playmaking abilities in his first season in the NFL with the Atlanta Falcons. Wooden capped off his collegiate career at Southern Utah, where he played in 11 games over two seasons (2022-2023). He recorded 58 receptions for 1,052 yards, scoring 15 touchdowns, and added 126 yards and one touchdown on 15 carries. Additionally, he showcased his versatility on special teams, returning 14 kicks for 386 yards and six punts for 30 yards. Before Southern Utah, Wooden played three seasons at Kent State (2019-2021), where he participated in four games and made four catches for 94 yards. He also returned one kick for 25 yards. Wooden began his college journey at Dixie State in 2018, catching seven passes for 61 yards and one touchdown, while also returning eight kicks for 288 yards and a touchdown over nine games.

#84

DAYLEN BALDWIN

POSITION: WR
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 212
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: MICHIGAN

Daylen Baldwin joins the Falcons after a brief stint in 2022 with the Cleveland Browns as an undrafted free agent before spending time on the Minnesota Vikings practice squad in 2023. Baldwin's college career is marked by versatility and productivity across multiple programs. He started at Morgan State University, playing two seasons (2017-2018) and catching 30 passes for 333 yards and two touchdowns. After transferring to Jackson State University, he redshirted in 2019 before leading the team in the spring 2020 season with 27 catches for 540 yards and seven touchdowns in just six games. His final college season was with Michigan in 2021, where he made 17 receptions for 256 yards and two touchdowns over 14 games. Baldwin's impressive performance earned him recognition and showcased his ability to adapt and excel in different competitive environments. With his diverse experience and proven skills, he aims to make a significant impact with the Falcons.

#85

ROSS DWELLEY

POSITION: TE

HEIGHT: 6-5

WEIGHT: 235

AGE: 29

COLLEGE: SAN DIEGO

Ross Dwelley joins the Falcons after a six-season tenure with the San Francisco 49ers, where he played in 84 games and started 17. Over his career, he has recorded 44 receptions for 518 yards, averaging 11.8 yards per catch, and scored five touchdowns. In the 2023 season, he appeared in 12 games, recording a 12-yard catch. The previous year, he tallied 105 yards on three catches, including one touchdown. Dwelley played in all 17 games in 2021, with two starts, and recorded 51 yards and a touchdown on four receptions. His best season came in 2020 when he set career highs with 19 receptions and 245 yards, along with a touchdown, over 16 games and nine starts. In 2019, he made 15 catches for 91 yards and scored two touchdowns over 16 games, six of which he started. He joins the Falcons uplifting the team with experience and a veteran presence which can help prepare the team in the future.

JOHN FITZPATRICK

POSITION: TE
HEIGHT: 6-7
WEIGHT: 250
AGE: 24
COLLEGE: GEORGIA

John FitzPatrick returns to the Falcons for his third year with the franchise. Following a standout collegiate career at the University of Georgia, FitzPatrick looks to make an impact at the professional level. Spending three seasons (2019-2021) with the Bulldogs after red-shirting in 2018, FitzPatrick appeared in 38 games, making 13 starts. While primarily utilized as a blocking tight end, he also contributed 17 receptions for 200 yards and one touchdown. In 2021, FitzPatrick played through injuries to aid Georgia's offense, which averaged 443.1 total yards and 191.2 rushing yards per game, ranking ninth in scoring offense nationally. He played a role in Georgia's impressive 13-1 season, which ended up in winning a national title. FitzPatrick also had a reception for 12 yards during his time with the Falcons last season, highlighting his adaptability and team contribution. His strong blocking skills and experience in high-pressure games make him a valuable asset for the Falcons' offense.

#88

AUSTIN STOGNER

POSITION: TE

HEIGHT: 6-6

WEIGHT: 258

AGE: 24

COLLEGE: OKLAHOMA

Rookie Austin Stogner enters the Falcons' lineup with a dynamic collegiate background across multiple programs. Starting his career at Oklahoma, he transferred to South Carolina for the 2022 season before returning to Oklahoma for his final campaign in 2023. Over his college tenure, Stogner played 59 games, starting 33 of them. At Oklahoma, he caught 84 passes for 1,060 yards and 10 touchdowns, showcasing his versatility and skill as a tight end. In 2023, Stogner started all 13 games for Oklahoma, recording 17 receptions for 196 yards and a touchdown. His brief stint at South Carolina in 2022 saw him contribute to 20 receptions for 210 yards and a touchdown in 12 games. Recognized for his academic achievements, Stogner was named First-Team Academic All-Big 12 and received the Alamo Bowl Sportsmanship Award in 2023. As a rookie, Stogner brings both on-field talent and off-field leadership to the Falcons, poised to make an impact in his debut NFL season.

#89

CHARLIE WOERNER

POSITION: TE
HEIGHT: 6-5
WEIGHT: 241
AGE: 26
COLLEGE: GEORGIA

Charlie Woerner brings a wealth of experience from both the NFL and his collegiate career at the University of Georgia. In his four seasons with the San Francisco 49ers (2020-2023), he appeared in 65 regular-season games with seven starts, catching 11 passes for 120 yards, averaging 10.9 yards per reception. He also played in six postseason games that year. In 2023, he played in 17 games with two starts, recording three receptions for 32 yards. The previous season, he saw action in all 17 games with two starts, contributing on special teams with two tackles across all three postseason games. In 2021, he appeared in 17 games with three starts, catching five passes for 52 yards and adding eight tackles on special teams, including one postseason start. In his rookie season, he played in 12 games and recorded three receptions for 36 yards. Woerner looks to bring excitement to Atlanta as he pairs up with Kyle Pitts as the new tight end duo in town.

#90

DAVID ONYEMATA

POSITION: DL

HEIGHT: 6-4

WEIGHT: 300

AGE: 31

COLLEGE: MANITOBA (CANADA)

David Onyemata enters his second season with the Atlanta Falcons with an impressive NFL career highlighted by his tenure with the Saints. Across 106 games (68 starts) in New Orleans, Onyemata totaled 244 tackles (131 solo), 28 tackles for loss, six passes defended, one interception and 63 quarterback hits. During his fifth season as a Saint, he set career highs in total tackles (44), assists (24), tackles for loss (10) and quarterback hits (16), and also secured his only interception of his career. He is a true disruption for opposing quarterbacks, and his defensive contributions extend far beyond the front line. Onyemata wasted no time bringing his high level of play to Atlanta after being signed to a three-year contract in March of 2023, and set new career highs during his first season with the Falcons in total tackles (50), assists (25), passes defended (three) and forced fumbles (two). Additionally, he tied his career highs for solo tackles (25) and quarterback hits (16).

#91

DEMONE HARRIS

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 272
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: BUFFALO

Demone Harris brings a versatile defensive skill set to the Falcons after stints with multiple NFL teams. In 14 games across five seasons with the Buccaneers, Ravens, Chiefs, and Texans, Harris accumulated 11 total tackles, including three quarterback hits, two tackles for loss, and one pass defensed. During his collegiate career at the University at Buffalo, Harris made a significant impact on defense. Appearing in 42 games, he recorded 108 tackles (58 solo), 18 tackles for loss, 9.5 sacks, four forced fumbles, three passes defensed, two interceptions and one fumble recovery. Named second-team All-Mid-American Conference, Harris logged career highs in tackles (54) and tackles for loss (8.5) during his senior year in 2017, adding 3.0 sacks, one pass defensed, one fumble recovery, and one forced fumble. His experience will strengthen Atlanta's defensive lineup, contributing both on the field and as a mentor to younger players.

#93

KENTAVIUS STREET

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-2
WEIGHT: 287
AGE: 28
COLLEGE: NC STATE

Returning for his second year with the Falcons after being traded for during the 2023 season from Philadelphia, Kentavius Street brings a strong presence to the team's defensive line with his experience in disrupting offenses across multiple NFL teams. Street has been in the league for six years now, providing some veteran experience to the roster. In 65 games (10 starts) with the 49ers, Saints, Eagles and Falcons, Street has amassed 89 tackles (48 solo), including 17 tackles for loss, 14 quarterback hits, 7.5 sacks, two passes defended, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery. During the 2023 season with the Falcons, Street started all five games he appeared in, showcasing his versatility with 14 tackles (nine solo), four tackles for loss, one sack, one quarterback hit, one pass defended and one fumble recovery. His impact was also felt in 2022 in his lone season with the Saints when he achieved career highs in total tackles (29), quarterback hits (eight) and sacks (3.5).

#94

LACALE LONDON

POSITION: DL

HEIGHT: 6-3

WEIGHT: 297

AGE: 26

COLLEGE: WESTERN ILLINOIS

LaCale London brings a relentless edge to the Falcons' defensive unit, boasting experience from the XFL and collegiate football. In 2023, London appeared in seven games with the Falcons, totaling 13 tackles (six solo), two tackles for loss and one fumble recovery. Before his time in Atlanta, he showcased his talents with the St. Louis Battlehawks, making an impact in 10 games with 33 total tackles (15 solo), five tackles for loss, three sacks, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery. London's collegiate journey began at Iowa Central Community College, where he displayed his pass-rushing prowess with six sacks in six games. Transitioning to Western Illinois for two seasons, London continued to excel, totaling 68 tackles (43 solo), 17 tackles for loss, 7.5 sacks, seven passes defended, three forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. His standout performance in 2019 included 45 tackles, 9.5 tackles for loss, four sacks, three forced fumbles and one fumble recovery.

TA'QUON GRAHAM

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 307
AGE: 25
COLLEGE: TEXAS

Ta'Quon Graham enters his fourth season with the Atlanta Falcons on the defensive line, coming from a competitive background from the University of Texas where he totaled 72 tackles (41 solo), 23 tackles for loss, seven sacks, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery across four seasons. Drafted in the fifth round of the 2021 NFL Draft, Graham swiftly acclimated to the professional level and across three years in the league has amassed 72 tackles (29 solo), one forced fumble, four tackles for loss and 12 quarterback hits. His disruptive play style and tenacity promise to bolster the Falcons' defense, offering a potent blend of athleticism and football intelligence. Graham's ability to excel in both run defense and pass rushing situations underscores his potential impact. As he continues to develop and refine his skills, Graham is poised to make a substantial difference on the field, improving the Falcons' defensive front and contributing to their defensive strategies moving forward.

ZACH HARRISON

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-6
WEIGHT: 289
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: OHIO STATE

Zach Harrison, a dynamic defensive lineman out of Ohio State, has brought his game-changing talent to the Atlanta Falcons. During his four seasons with the Buckeyes, Harrison appeared in 46 games, making 28 starts. His impressive college career stats include 106 total tackles (63 solo), 25.5 tackles for loss, 13 sacks, 11 passes defended, five forced fumbles, and one interception. In his senior year in 2022, Harrison's performance was exceptional, amassing 34 total tackles, eight tackles for loss, 3.5 sacks, five passes defended, three forced fumbles and one interception. His efforts earned him a First-Team All-Big Ten selection. His leadership on and off the field was recognized as he was named a team captain and received Second-Team All-Big Ten (media) and Third-Team All-Big Ten (coaches) honors. During his rookie season in Atlanta in 2023, Harrison contributed to the team by accumulating 33 tackles (18 solo), three sacks, four tackles for loss and five quarterback hits.

GRADY JARRETT

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-0
WEIGHT: 305
AGE: 31
COLLEGE: CLEMSON

Entering his 10th season in the NFL, Grady Jarrett has established himself as a formidable force on the defensive line for the Atlanta Falcons. Over his career, Jarrett has seen action in 135 games with 120 starts, accumulating 443 tackles (237 solo), 34 sacks, 68 tackles for loss, three fumble recoveries and 114 quarterback hits. The two-time Pro Bowler (2019, 2020) played in eight games in 2023, totaling 23 tackles (nine solo), 1.5 sacks, two tackles for loss and eight quarterback hits before suffering a season-ending injury in Week 8 against the Tennessee Titans. Prior to the injury, Jarrett had started every game for the Falcons since 2018, a testament to his durability. Across the 2022 season when Jarrett played in 17 games, he recorded 61 tackles (30 solo), 12 tackles for loss, six sacks and 17 quarterback hits. He'll look to add another banner year to his resume in 2024 as he returns after healing up in the offseason.

RUKE ORHORHORO

POSITION: DT
HEIGHT: 6-4
WEIGHT: 294
AGE: 22
COLLEGE: CLEMSON

Rookie Ruke Orhorhoro emerged as a standout defensive lineman at Clemson University showcasing promise throughout his five-season collegiate career from 2019 to 2023. Orhorhoro's impact at Clemson was marked by his presence in 53 games, including 30 starts, where he displayed defensive prowess with 88 tackles (39 solo), 25.5 tackles for loss, 12 sacks and nine passes defensed. In his senior year in 2023, Orhorhoro started all 12 games and recorded 25 tackles (13 solo), eight tackles for loss, a career-high five sacks, and one pass defensed, earning recognition on the third-team All-ACC. Equally impressive in 2022, he contributed 23 tackles (13 solo), eight tackles for loss, five passes defensed, and four sacks in 14 games (nine starts), once again receiving third-team All-ACC honors for his consistent performance and impact on Clemson's defensive line. As he transitions to the professional level, Orhorhoro brings a blend of skill, determination, and proven ability to bolster the Falcons' defensive strategy.

EDDIE GOLDMAN

POSITION: DL
HEIGHT: 6-3
WEIGHT: 325
AGE: 30
COLLEGE: FLORIDA STATE

Eddie Goldman, entering his eighth year in the NFL, has been a consistent force on the defensive line. Over seven seasons (2015-2021) with the Chicago Bears, Goldman has played in 81 games (73 starts) and recorded 175 tackles (116 solo), 21 quarterback hits, 18 tackles for loss, 13 sacks, two fumble recoveries and one pass defense. In 2021, Goldman appeared in 14 games (10 starts), contributing 22 tackles (14 solo), one tackle for loss, one quarterback hit, and a half sack. His 2019 season was notable as he started 15 games and tallied 29 tackles (20 solo), two tackles for loss, two quarterback hits, and one sack, earning recognition as a Pro Bowl alternate. Goldman's 2017 season saw him starting 15 games and recording 44 tackles (27 solo), five quarterback hits, three tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks, and one fumble recovery.