

# PLAYBOOK

08.31.17

DALVIN  
COOK





# TCO

TWIN CITIES ORTHOPEDICS

OFFICIAL SPORTS MEDICINE PROVIDER



It takes a lot to bring down a Minnesota Vikings player, but when an injury occurs, a Twin Cities Orthopedics physician is on the field and ready to assess the situation.

TCO is proud to be a part of the **NEW Home of the Minnesota Vikings in Eagan!**

Best yet, the community can see the same great doctors at  
40 locations across the metro.

Learn more at **TCOmn.com**



**TWIN CITIES  
ORTHOPEDICS**





PAGE

24

LOVE AT FIRST  
SIGHT

DALVIN COOK

**CONTENTS**

- 2 Fan Code of Conduct
- 5 Vikings-49ers Recap

**TONIGHT'S GAME**

- 8 Tonight's Game
- 11 Tonight's Promotions
- 15 Vikings Snapshot
- 17 Dolphins Snapshot
- 18 Vikings Depth Chart
- 19 Dolphins Depth Chart

**FEATURE STORIES**

- 21 Timeout: Joe Berger
- 24 Dalvin Cook: Love At First Sight
- 28 Miami Vikes
- 35 Crash Course: Young Defenders

**ENTERTAINMENT**

- 36 Vikings Entertainment Network
- 39 Cheerleader Spotlight
- 40 Viktor the Viking

**EXTRAS**

- 12 Upcoming Events
- 43 Vikings Legends
- 45 Vikings in the Community
- 47 U.S. Bank Stadium Maps
- 48 Concession Offerings

**EDITOR:** Craig Peters**WRITERS:** Craig Peters, Eric Smith and Lindsey Young**ART DIRECTION & DESIGN:**

Alicia Dreyer and Taylar Jacobson

**CONTRIBUTING DESIGN:**

Elizabeth Bazany, Jack LeWin and Jackie Ramacher

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** Andy Kenutis,Zach Tarrant, Travis Ellison, Dane Kuhn and the *Associated Press***PUBLISHED BY:** GameDay Sports;

info@gamedaysportsmarketing.com

**ADVERTISING INQUIRIES:**

advertising@vikings.nfl.net

© 2017 by Minnesota Vikings Football, LLC.  
All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole  
or in part without written consent of the  
publisher is prohibited.



## WE ARE VIKINGS, NOT BARBARIANS

We are confident that our fans lead the NFL in enthusiasm, support, hospitality and sportsmanship. Our image is shaped not only by our players, coaches and employees, but by our fans as well. Our goal is to create a high-energy environment to lend support to our team, while maintaining a family-oriented atmosphere.

**TO ENSURE** that all fans have a pleasant game-day experience, each patron should act responsibly and be considerate of others. Unruly behavior will not be tolerated and, in some cases, might be deemed grounds for dismissal from U.S. Bank Stadium. These cases include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Underage drinking
- Actions that are harmful to or endanger others
- Throwing items of any kind
- Using foul or abusive language and/or gestures
- Displaying inappropriate behavior toward others
- Disorderly conduct
- Wearing obscene or indecent clothing
- Smoking in non-designated areas

- Sitting or standing in the aisles
- Entering or attempting to enter the field of play
- Failure to follow instructions of stadium security personnel
- Entering the stadium with any prohibited items
- Harassment of visiting-team fans

Season Ticket Owners are responsible for the actions of any individual using their tickets. Any of the above behavior by anyone using an account owner's ticket(s) may be cause for non-renewal of ticket privileges. Vikings management and security reserve the right to deem an act or exhibited behavior as inappropriate and take action, based on available information and circumstances. Thank you for making U.S. Bank Stadium an enjoyable and friendly atmosphere to watch Vikings football!

### REPORT GAME DAY ISSUES

Text VIKES (space), the issue and location to:

**69050**

You may also contact an usher or security officer, or stop by the nearest Guest Services location, to report the problem.

Standard text message rates and other charges may apply.

## NFL BAG POLICY

The Vikings strongly encourage fans to not bring any type of bags, but should the need arise, fans will be able to carry the following style and size bag, package or container at stadium plaza areas, stadium gates, or when approaching queue lines of fans awaiting entry into the stadium:



**CLEAR PLASTIC BAG**  
No larger than 12" x 6" x 12"



**SMALL CLUTCH BAGS**  
No larger than 4.5" x 6.5"



**ONE GALLON BAG**  
Clear plastic freezer bag



# A network that performs at home or away.

**#1 Overall Network Performance in America seven times in a row.**

ROOT Metrics®



**verizon**✓

Rankings based on the RootMetrics® U.S. National RootScore® Reports: 2H 2013–2H 2016. Tested with best commercially available smartphones on four national mobile networks across all available network types. Your experiences may vary. The RootMetrics award is not an endorsement of Verizon. Visit [www.rootmetrics.com](http://www.rootmetrics.com) for more details.



# Norse power.

The redesigned 2018 Hyundai Sonata Turbo.



With a 245-hp 2.0L twin-scroll turbo GDI engine, sport-tuned suspension, and available features like wireless device charging, the redesigned 2018 Sonata Turbo is built to thrill.

Visit your local Twin Cities Hyundai Dealer or [buyhyundai.com](http://buyhyundai.com).



Official Sponsor of the Minnesota Vikings and the NFL

 **HYUNDAI**  
**Assurance**

**America's Best Warranty**  
**10-Year/100,000-Mile**  
*Powertrain Limited Warranty*

2018 Sonata Limited 2.0T shown. Qi wireless charging function is based on smartphone compatibility and/or specific accessory cases. America's Best Warranty claim based on total package of warranty programs. See dealer for LIMITED WARRANTY details. Hyundai is a registered trademark of Hyundai Motor Company. All rights reserved. ©2017 Hyundai Motor America.

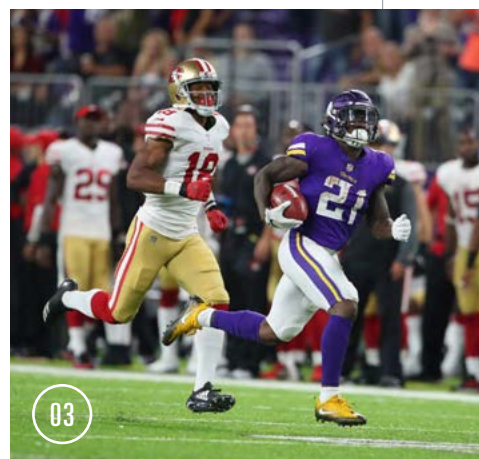




# VIKINGS

## VS. 49ERS

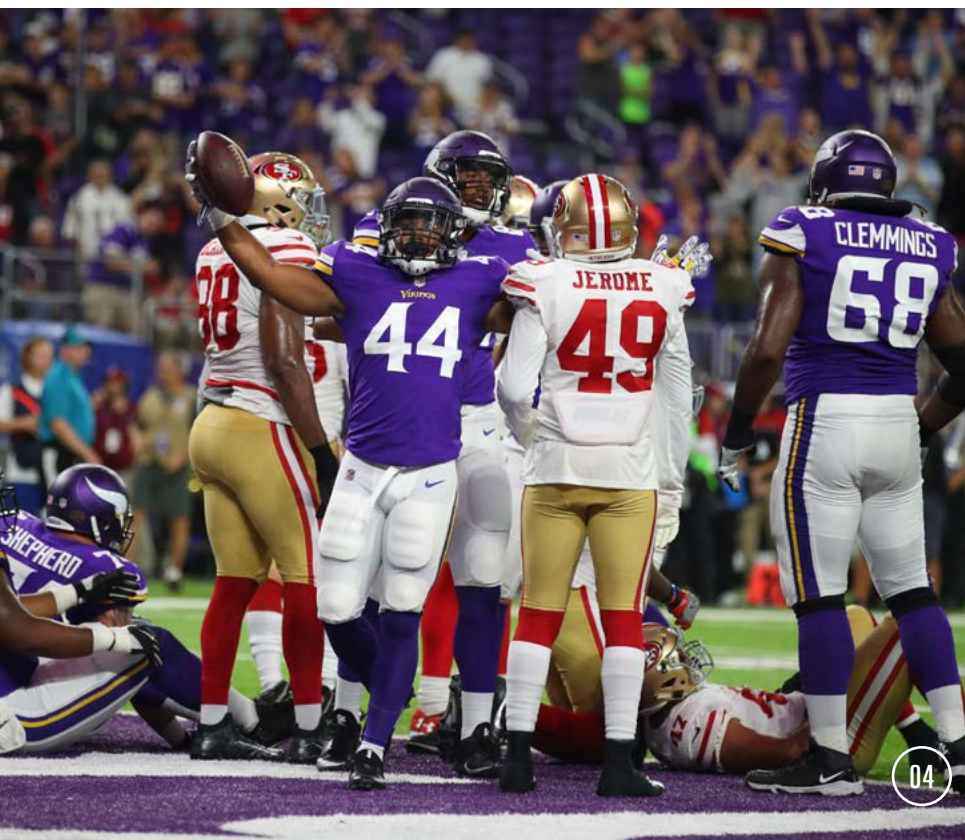
THE VIKINGS RETURNED TO U.S. BANK STADIUM AFTER OPENING THE PRESEASON WITH TWO ROAD GAMES AND DEFEATED THE 49ERS 32-31, PULLING OFF A DRAMATIC COMEBACK AND SNATCHING VICTORY ON THE GAME'S FINAL SNAP.



**01 |** Antone Exum, Jr., corralled a pass that was knocked away from Louis Murphy by Jabari Price.

**02 |** Eric Kendricks recorded the Vikings first of two sacks on the night.

**03 |** Jerick McKinnon's 108-yard kickoff return for a touchdown sparked the Vikings comeback, cutting the 49ers lead to 24-17. Minnesota outscored San Francisco 15-7 in the final period.



**04** | Terrell Newby plunged into the end zone as time expired, making the score 31-30 and setting up the game-winning 2-point conversion.

**05** | Rodney Adams was able to high-step into the end zone for the Vikings first touchdown after catching a side-arm toss from Case Keenum and picking up blocks during a 9-yard touchdown.

**06** | Taylor Heinicke dives across the goal line for the game-winning 2-point conversion.



SEE THE FULL GAME GALLERY ON [VIKINGS.COM](https://vikings.com) OR IN THE APP





# WIN TICKETS TO VIKINGS GAME *in London!*

Your passion can pay off big time! Enter non-winning Minnesota Vikings and SKOL tickets for a chance to see the purple and gold play in London. Visit [mnlotttery.com](http://mnlotttery.com) for complete lists of prizes and rules.

ONLINE ENTRY ONLY BY SEPTEMBER 5, 2017. MUST BE 18+ TO ENTER OR PLAY.





**THE VIKINGS WILL CLOSE OUT** the 2017 preseason by hosting the Dolphins at U.S. Bank Stadium. Tonight's game will give players on both teams one last opportunity to vie for a coveted roster spot. All NFL teams must reduce their rosters from 90 players to 53 by Saturday afternoon.

Miami is returning its top four receiving targets (receivers Jarvis Landry, DeVante Parker, Kenny Stills and running back Jay Ajayi) from 2016 and its top two rushers (Ajayi and Kenyan Drake), but the Dolphins

lost quarterback Ryan Tannehill during a non-contact practice drill at training camp. Miami worked out a deal to bring former Bears QB Jay Cutler to South Beach.

The Vikings and Dolphins have met 11 times in the regular season, with Miami holding a 7-4 edge. The Dolphins also claimed Super Bowl VIII against the Vikings in Houston on Jan. 13, 1974. The teams have met in the season 20 previous times, including three times on Aug. 31 (1973, 1990 and 2001). The Vikings went 3-0 in those games.

## [#MINNESOCIAL17]

Welcome to the Vikings #Minnesocial night, featuring additional social media integrations to our in-stadium show and TV broadcast. Follow the Vikings Snapchat and Instagram accounts to see unique content just for this game.

## FAMILIAR FACES

Former Bears QB Jay Cutler is one of several familiar faces who will be on the Dolphins sideline tonight, along with former Lions DT Ndamukong Suh and five players who spent time with the Vikings (WR Mitch Mathews, G Isame Faciane, TE MarQueis Gray, G Sean Hickey and LB Brandon Watts. LB Rey Mauluga played for Vikings Head Coach Mike Zimmer for five seasons (2009-13) in Cincinnati.



## VIKINGS CHEERLEADERS - ALUMNI PERFORMANCE

The pre-game performance tonight features 175 alumni cheerleaders who cheered for the Vikings between 1961-1983. The women represent the Pom Pom Girls, Edina Hornettes, Roosevelt Rockettes and St. Louis Park Parkettes.

## COLOR GUARD

Minneapolis Fire Department  
Honor Guard

## HALFTIME

AUDL Ultimate Frisbee: Madison Radicals will take on the Minnesota Wind Chill



A man and a woman are shown in profile, performing a squat exercise on a dark gym bench. The woman is in the foreground, wearing a dark athletic tank top and black sneakers, with her hair in a ponytail. The man is behind her, shirtless, wearing black fingerless gloves and black sneakers. They are both looking down, focused on their form. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Official Healthy Way of Life Partner of the Minnesota Vikings

# Train like a pro. Feel like a pro.

From Olympic-style weights to TEAM Training, saunas, steam rooms and whirlpools, you can work out, recover and relax all in one amazing place.

Text **VIKINGS** to 21467 to get your free Life Time guest pass.

**LIFE TIME**<sup>®</sup>  
HEALTHY WAY OF LIFE

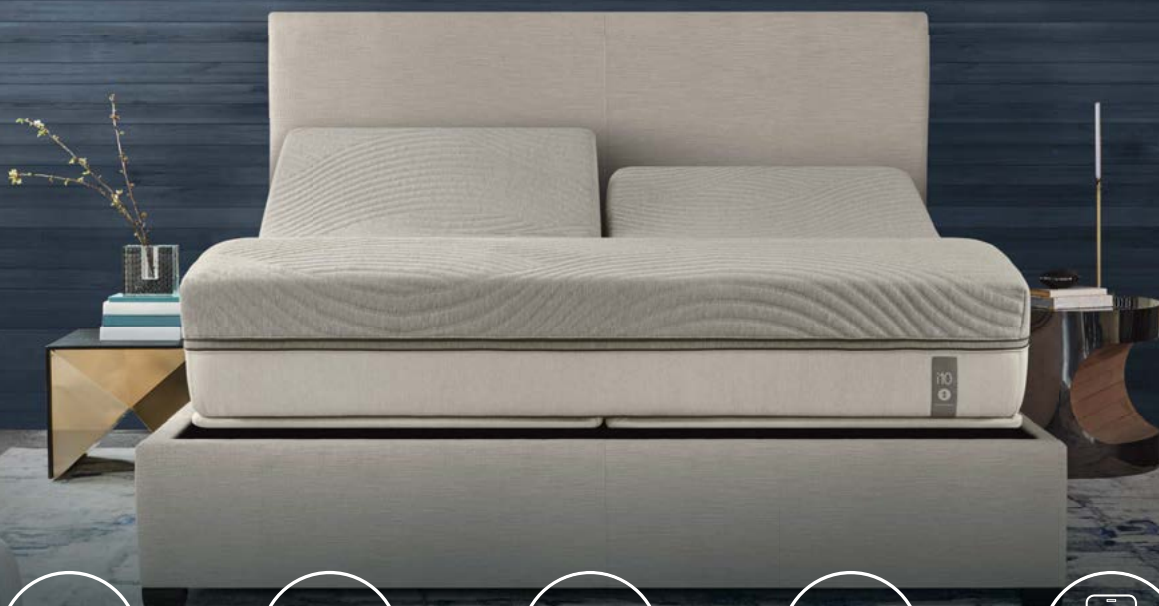
©2017 LIFE TIME, INC. All rights reserved. MKMG171715

# The only bed that goes to work when you go to sleep.

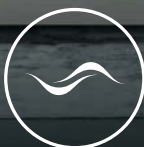
## INTRODUCING THE SLEEP NUMBER 360™ SMART BED

Discover the smartest, most adjustable sleep of your life. Responsive Air™ technology senses and effortlessly adjusts for your ideal comfort. Partner Snore™ technology\* lets you sleep in peace. It's even designed to warm your feet to help you fall asleep faster.

DOES YOUR BED DO THAT?™



Adjust firmness on each side—your Sleep Number® setting



Senses and automatically responds to you



Foot warming—designed to help you fall asleep faster



Gently raise your partner's head to help alleviate mild snoring\*



Control your comfort and see how you've slept with SleepIQ® technology

25-YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY†  
lets you sleep with peace of mind

LASTS TWICE AS LONG  
as an innerspring

91% OF BED OWNERS‡  
say they'd recommend Sleep Number

sleep  number®

\*May temporarily relieve common mild snoring in otherwise healthy adults. Partner Snore™ technology is available with Split King and FlexTop® King mattresses on FlexFit™ adjustable bases. †2-Year Limited Warranty on SleepIQ® technology. Warranties available at [sleepnumber.com](http://sleepnumber.com). ‡Results from a 2016 Sleep Number survey of 1,797 customers asked about their likelihood to recommend Sleep Number to a friend, family member, or colleague. SLEEP NUMBER, SELECT COMFORT, SLEEP IQ and the Double Arrow Design are registered trademarks and IT is a trademark of Select Comfort Corporation. ©2017 Select Comfort Corporation.



## TONIGHT'S PROMOTIONS



Tweet your seat location to @vikingspromos for your chance to win prizes from the Vikings Street Team at tonight's game.

### CENTURYLINK - VIKINGS LEGENDS MEET & GREET EXPERIENCE

Meet a Vikings Legend during tonight's game! Share your best game-day photo and seat location using #CenturyLinkLegends for a chance to win! Winner will be selected during halftime.



### KWIK TRIP FAMILY OF THE GAME

Kwik Trip will select a lucky family each home game this season as the Family of the Game to receive lower-level tickets, on-field passes and more! Congratulations to tonight's Kwik Trip Family of the Game, the Fuhrman Family from Minneapolis.



### U.S. BANK HOMETOWN HERO

During each home game, U.S. Bank and the Minnesota Vikings will recognize one individual who has helped make our community a better place. We will honor a Minnesotan who has gone to extraordinary measures. Tonight's Hometown Hero is Charles Rucker, a fire engineer for the Minneapolis Fire Department. Rucker has worked for the Minneapolis Fire Department for more than 17 years. He also is the President of the Minneapolis African American Professional Firefighters Association and youth mentor.



### HY-VEE #SKOL

Share a photo at tonight's game using #SKOL to see yourself on the video board and for the chance to win a Hy-Vee gift card!



### SPALON MONTAGE GIVEAWAY

Spalon Montage will be giving away a \$100 gift card at tonight's game! Show us your game-day hairstyle by tweeting a photo @VikingsPromos using #VikingsHairstyle to enter.



### VIKINGS WIN, YOU WIN FROM PAPA JOHN'S

Join Papa John's this season in cheering on the Vikings. Every time the Vikings win during the 2017 season, fans receive 50 percent off their entire order the next day at participating Papa John's locations. Just order online at papajohns.com and type in promo code "VIKE550." Visit the Promotions page on vikings.com for more details.





## ▶ UPCOMING EVENTS

### MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

**AUG. 24 - SEPT. 4, 2017**

It's time for #TheGreatMNSkolTogether as the Vikings are back at the Minnesota State Fair. Stop by the Vikings home on the west side of Underwood St. between Dan Patch & Carnes Avenues. Enjoy activities, load up on the latest Vikings gear and have a chance to win a free trip to London to see the Vikings take on the Browns at Twickenham Stadium on Oct. 29.

### VIKINGS COUNTRY

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6, 6 P.M.**

The popular *Vikings Country* radio show returns on Sept. 6 at Junction 70 in Cottage Grove. Host Mike Mussman is joined each week by a Vikings player. Tune in on KFAN and the Vikings Radio Network or attend the live broadcast each week at various locations around the Twin Cities.



Visit [vikings.com/promotions](http://vikings.com/promotions) or download the vikings app for full event listings

### FRIDAY FOOTBALL FEAST

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 8, 9 A.M. - NOON**

Join KFAN each Friday morning from 9 a.m. to noon for a Friday Football Feast. Paul Allen and Paul Charchian will get you set for the weekend's action, including an in-depth preview of the upcoming Vikings game. Use #MVPTablePromo in your tweets and photos for your chance to win an MVP experience! This week's Friday Football Feast will kickoff on Sept. 8 at the Buffalo Wild Wings in Crystal.

### VIKINGS WOMEN: WORKOUT WEDNESDAY WITH LIFE TIME

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 13, 6:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.**

Vikings Women invite you to join us once a month during the regular season for Workout Wednesdays. Classes will be taught by Life Time instructors with exclusive access to Vikings locations! The next Workout Wednesday will be Yoga in the Park on Sept. 13 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at The Commons outside U.S. Bank Stadium. Attendees can participate for free or for a \$10 fee that includes a gift and photo opportunity. Visit [vikings.com/womensevents](http://vikings.com/womensevents) for more information.

### MINNESOTA VIKINGS FOOTBALL CLINIC AT LIFE TIME - WOODBURY

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 14, 7 P.M. - 8 P.M.**

At Life Time, children will participate in a one-hour clinic led by E.J. Henderson, Minnesota Vikings Youth Football Manager, and have a meet-and-greet opportunity with Vikings players. Visit [lifetime.formstack.com/forms/footballclinics](http://lifetime.formstack.com/forms/footballclinics) to sign up.

### TCO VIKINGS 5K

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 16**

Experience what it is like to be a Minnesota Viking as you run out of the tunnel and conquer the field. Join us Saturday, Sept. 16 for the TCO Vikings 5K as you and your friends finish on the 50-yard line of U.S. Bank Stadium. Post-race, runners can tour the Vikings locker room and get autographs from Vikings Legends. Space is limited. Register at [vikings.com/run](http://vikings.com/run).

### DELTA VIKINGS VILLAGE

Opening two-and-a-half hours prior to kickoff, this pregame home base for Vikings fans is all about finding your favorite tailgate fare, ice-cold Miller Lite, Vikings Legends autographs and live music from the Pepsi "Sound The North" stage. Delta Vikings Village is free for Vikings fans with or without tickets and will be the ultimate destination for fans looking to congregate and celebrate together before, during and after Vikings homes games.

### THE COMMONS

Fans will also be able to enjoy downtown's newest treasure, The Commons. The Vikings will take over the easterly block of The Commons prior to each game this season with great family friendly activities and entertainment. Complete with Vikings inflatable games, face painting, a DJ or live music and visits from Viktor, the SKOL Line and Vikings Cheerleaders, The Commons will have something for the entire family.



# WILDFIRE<sup>®</sup>

**STEAKS, CHOPS & SEAFOOD**

DINE IN  
STYLE AT WILDFIRE

THE CLASSIC 1940'S SUPPER CLUB

EDEN PRAIRIE CENTER



LUNCH · DINNER · CARRY OUT · CATERING · PRIVATE PARTIES

©2017 LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU<sup>®</sup> RESTAURANTS, INC.

SATURDAY / SEPTEMBER 16 / 2017



 TWIN CITIES  
ORTHOPEDICS



VIKINGS  
**5K**



FINISH ON THE  
**50 YD LINE**

AT U.S. BANK STADIUM

REGISTER NOW AT

**VIKINGS.COM/RUN**





## PLAYER TO WATCH: CB MACKENSIE ALEXANDER

ALEXANDER IS HEADING INTO HIS SECOND PRO SEASON with a more defined role on the Vikings. The 2016 second-round pick out of Clemson has been running with the first team at nickel cornerback since Minnesota opened training camp on July 27. The nickel cornerback is used in the slot, a position that is becoming more and more necessary in the NFL as teams, including the Dolphins, incorporate three-receiver sets. After playing Alexander at outside cornerback and in the slot last preseason, Vikings Head Coach Mike Zimmer and defensive backs coach Jerry Gray have primarily worked with Alexander in the slot this offseason.

**SPLASHY ENTRANCE:** ALEXANDER PUT IN PLENTY OF WORK LAST PRESEASON, PLAYING 40 SNAPS AGAINST THE BENGALS, 58 AGAINST THE SEAHAWKS, 39 AGAINST THE CHARGERS AND ALL 71 AGAINST THE RAMS. HE WAS CREDITED WITH 17 TACKLES BY PRESS BOX STATISTICIANS, FOUR PASS BREAKUPS AND TWO INTERCEPTIONS.

# 2 FOR 2

Alexander recorded an interception in his first road game and his home debut during the 2016 preseason. Alexander intercepted Keith Wenning to open the fourth quarter in Minnesota's game at Cincinnati to start the 2016 preseason slate. He also picked off San Diego's Mike Bercovici when the Vikings hosted the Chargers to open U.S. Bank Stadium.

## 2016 SEASON LEADERS

Passing (Yds)	Sam Bradford	3,877
Rushing (Yds)	Jerick McKinnon	539
Receiving (Yds)	Adam Thielen	967
Tackles	Eric Kendricks	126
Sacks	Danielle Hunter	12.5
Interceptions	Xavier Rhodes	5
KOR (Yds)	Cordarrelle Patterson	792
PR (Avg.)	Marcus Sherels	13.9

## 2017 SCHEDULE

### PRESEASON (2-1)

P1	8/10	at Buffalo Bills	W 17-10
P2	8/18	at Seattle Seahawks	L 20-13
P3	8/27	San Francisco 49ers	W 32-31
P4	8/31	Miami Dolphins	

### REGULAR SEASON (0-0)

1	9/11	New Orleans Saints	
2	9/17	at Pittsburgh Steelers	
3	9/24	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	
4	10/1	Detroit Lions	
5	10/9	at Chicago Bears	
6	10/15	Green Bay Packers	
7	10/22	Baltimore Ravens	
8	10/29	at Cleveland Browns (London)	
9	11/5	BYE WEEK	
10	11/12	at Washington Redskins	
11	11/19	Los Angeles Rams	
12	11/23	at Detroit Lions	
13	12/3	at Atlanta Falcons	
14	12/10	at Carolina Panthers	
15	12/17	Cincinnati Bengals	
16	12/23	at Green Bay Packers	
17	12/31	Chicago Bears	

## TOP 2s AGAINST DOLPHINS

### RUSHING YARDS

145	Adrian Peterson on 28 attempts in Minnesota (Sept. 19, 2010)
113	Terry Allen on 15 attempts in Minnesota (Sept. 25, 1994)

### PASSING YARDS

355	Daunte Culpepper on 23-of-37 passing in Minnesota (Sept. 10, 2000)
326	Warren Moon on 26-of-37 passing in Minnesota (Oct. 30, 1994)

### RECEIVING YARDS

168	Cris Carter on nine catches in Minnesota (Sept. 10, 2000)
127	Jake Reed on nine catches in Minnesota (Sept. 25, 1994)



#1 FOR NEW COUNTRY

**FUNNY.COUNTRY.MORNINGS.**

**CHRIS CARR & COMPANY | WEEKDAYS 6A-10A**



**MAVERICK | KIA | CHRIS CARR**





## PLAYER TO WATCH: TE MARQUEIS GRAY

**THE FORMER GOLDEN GOPHERS** quarterback and receiver has returned to Minnesota, this time as the Dolphins tight end. In 2016 Gray caught a career-best 14 passes for 174 yards, played in all 16 games and made seven starts. He is part of a group that was enhanced on March 9 when Julius Thomas (acquired in a trade from Jacksonville) and Anthony Fasano (rejoined team that he played for from 2008-12) were added. Gray has totaled 26 career receptions for 318 yards (12.2 yards per reception) but is still searching for his first pro touchdown.

**RECORD PLAYER:** GRAY SET SCHOOL RECORDS FOR RUSHING YARDS BY A QUARTERBACK IN A GAME WITH 174 ON 27 CARRIES AGAINST ILLINOIS AND RUSHING YARDS BY A QUARTERBACK IN A SEASON WITH 966 ON 199 ATTEMPTS AS A JUNIOR IN 2011. HE PARTICIPATED WITH QUARTERBACKS IN THE 2013 NFL SCOUTING COMBINE BEFORE TRANSITIONING TO TIGHT END. GRAY'S TIME OF 4.73 SECONDS IN THE 40-YARD DASH WAS THE FOURTH FASTEST BY A QB AND WOULD HAVE RANKED EIGHTH AMONG TIGHT ENDS.

5 - IN - 5

In 2016, the Dolphins became the fifth NFL team for which Gray has played. He began his pro career with San Francisco as an undrafted free agent in 2013. After his release from the 49ers, Gray was claimed by the Browns. The Vikings claimed him via a similar situation the following year. He was released in November and joined the Bills. He was signed by Miami in 2016 and re-signed in December.

## 2016 SEASON LEADERS

Passing (Yds)	Ryan Tannehill	2,995
Rushing (Yds)	Jay Ajayi	1,272
Receiving (Yds)	Jarvis Landry	1,136
Tackles	Kiko Alonso	115
Sacks	Cameron Wake	11.5
Interceptions	Tony Lippett	4
KOR (Yds)	Jakeem Grant	439
PR (Avg.)	Jarvis Landry	10.2

## 2017 SCHEDULE

### PRESEASON (1-2)

P1	8/10	Atlanta Falcons	W 23-20
P2	8/17	Baltimore Ravens	L 31-7
P3	8/24	at Philadelphia Eagles	L 38-31
P4	8/31	at Minnesota Vikings	

### REGULAR SEASON (0-0)

1	9/10	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	
2	9/17	at Los Angeles Chargers	
3	9/24	at New York Jets	
4	10/1	New Orleans Saints (London)	
5	10/8	Tennessee Titans	
6	10/15	at Atlanta Falcons	
7	10/22	New York Jets	
8	10/26	at Baltimore Ravens	
9	11/5	Oakland Raiders	
10	11/13	at Carolina Panthers	
11	BYE WEEK		
12	11/26	at New England Patriots	
13	12/3	Denver Broncos	
14	12/11	New England Patriots	
15	12/17	at Buffalo Bills	
16	12/24	at Kansas City Chiefs	
17	12/31	Buffalo Bills	

## TOP 2s AGAINST VIKINGS

### RUSHING YARDS

129	Andra Franklin on 28 attempts at Miami (Dec. 5, 1982)
92	Lamar Miller on 19 attempts at Miami (Dec. 21, 2014)

### PASSING YARDS

431	Dan Marino on 29-of-54 passing in Minnesota (Sept. 25, 1994)
396	Ryan Tannehill on 35-of-47 passing at Miami (Dec. 21, 2014)

### RECEIVING YARDS

160	Irving Fryar on six catches in Minnesota (Sept. 25, 1994)
120	Tony Martin on six catches in Minnesota (Sept. 10, 2000)



# MINNESOTA VIKINGS

## OFFENSE

<b>WR</b>	<b>RT</b>
19 Adam Thielen	72 Mike Remmers
11 Laquon Treadwell	64 Willie Beavers
18 Michael Floyd	79 Reid Fragel
<b>LT</b>	<b>TE</b>
71 Riley Reiff	82 Kyle Rudolph
69 Rashod Hill	89 David Morgan
76 Aviante Collins	86 Kyle Carter
<b>LG</b>	84 Bucky Hodges
75 Alex Boone	<b>WR</b>
78 Jeremiah Sirles	14 Stefon Diggs
74 Austin Shepherd	17 Jarius Wright
66 Freddie Tagaloa	16 Cayleb Jones
<b>C</b>	<b>QB</b>
62 Nick Easton	8 Sam Bradford
65 Pat Elflein	7 Case Keenum
67 Zac Kerin	6 Taylor Heinicke
<b>RG</b>	3 Mitch Leidner
61 Joe Berger	<b>FB</b>
68 T.J. Clemmings	30 C.J. Ham
63 Danny Isidora	<b>HB</b>
	33 Dalvin Cook
	25 Latavius Murray
	21 Jerick McKinnon

## DEFENSE

<b>LE</b>	<b>SLB</b>
99 Danielle Hunter	55 Anthony Barr
96 Brian Robison	50 Eric Wilson
60 Ifeadi Odenigbo	58 Noor Davis
<b>DT</b>	<b>LCB</b>
92 Tom Johnson	26 Trae Waynes
95 Datone Jones	23 Terence Newman
90 Will Sutton	35 Marcus Sherels
<b>NT</b>	<b>RCB</b>
98 Linval Joseph	29 Xavier Rhodes
93 Shamar Stephen	20 Mackensie Alexander
94 Jaleel Johnson	24 Jabari Price
<b>RE</b>	<b>SS</b>
97 Everson Griffen	34 Andrew Sendejo
91 Stephen Weatherly	27 Jayron Kearse
64 Tashawn Bower	39 Jack Tocho
<b>WLB</b>	<b>SS</b>
59 Emmanuel Lamur	22 Harrison Smith
51 Edmond Robinson	41 Anthony Harris
56 Elijah Lee	32 Antone Exum, Jr.
<b>MLB</b>	
54 Eric Kendricks	
40 Kentrell Brothers	
42 Ben Gedeon	

## SPECIALISTS

<b>P</b>	<b>PR</b>
4 Ryan Quigley	35 Marcus Sherels
9 Taylor Symmank	12 Rodney Adams
	13 Stacy Coley
<b>K</b>	<b>KR</b>
2 Kai Forbath	35 Marcus Sherels
1 Marshall Koehn	12 Rodney Adams
<b>LS</b>	21 Jerick McKinnon
47 Kevin McDermott	

		POS.	HT.	WT.	AGE	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Marshall Koehn	K	6-1	197	24	1	Iowa
2	Kai Forbath	K	5-11	197	29	6	UCLA
3	Mitch Leidner	QB	6-3	228	23	R	Minnesota
4	Ryan Quigley	P	6-2	205	27	5	Boston College
5	Teddy Bridgewater	QB	6-2	215	24	4	Louisville
6	Taylor Heinicke	QB	6-1	210	24	3	Old Dominion
7	Case Keenum	QB	6-1	215	29	5	Houston
8	Sam Bradford	QB	6-4	224	29	8	Oklahoma
9	Taylor Symmank	P	6-2	195	24	R	Texas Tech
11	Laquon Treadwell	WR	6-2	215	22	2	Mississippi
12	Rodney Adams	WR	6-1	189	22	R	South Florida
13	Stacy Coley	WR	6-0	195	23	R	Miami
14	Stefon Diggs	WR	6-0	191	23	3	Maryland
15	Isaac Fruechte	WR	6-3	210	26	2	Minnesota
16	Cayleb Jones	WR	6-3	209	24	1	Arizona
17	Jarius Wright	WR	5-10	191	27	6	Arkansas
18	Michael Floyd	WR	6-3	220	27	6	Notre Dame
19	Adam Thielen	WR	6-2	200	26	4	Minnesota State
20	Mackensie Alexander	CB	5-10	192	23	2	Clemson
21	Jerick McKinnon	RB	5-9	205	25	4	Georgia Southern
22	Harrison Smith	S	6-2	214	28	6	Notre Dame
23	Terence Newman	CB	5-10	197	38	15	Kansas State
24	Jabari Price	CB	5-11	200	24	4	North Carolina
25	Latavius Murray	RB	6-3	230	27	5	Central Florida
26	Trae Waynes	CB	6-0	190	25	3	Michigan State
27	Jayron Kearse	S	6-4	215	23	2	Clemson
29	Xavier Rhodes	CB	6-1	218	27	5	Florida State
30	C.J. Ham	RB	5-11	235	24	1	Augustana
31	Sam Brown	CB	6-1	175	24	R	Missouri Western
32	Antone Exum, Jr.	S	6-0	219	26	4	Virginia Tech
33	Dalvin Cook	RB	5-10	210	22	R	Florida State
34	Andrew Sendejo	S	6-1	210	29	6	Rice
35	Marcus Sherels	CB	5-10	175	29	7	Minnesota
36	Tre Roberson	CB	6-0	200	24	1	Illinois State
37	Terrell Sinkfield	CB	6-1	195	26	1	Northern Iowa
38	Horace Richardson	CB	5-11	199	23	R	SMU
39	Jack Tocho	S	6-0	202	21	R	N.C. State
40	Kentrell Brothers	LB	6-1	242	24	2	Missouri
41	Anthony Harris	S	6-1	192	25	3	Virginia
42	Ben Gedeon	LB	6-2	244	22	R	Michigan
44	Terrell Newby	RB	5-9	204	22	R	Nebraska
47	Kevin McDermott	LS	6-5	240	27	5	UCLA
48	Bronson Hill	RB	5-10	215	24	2	Eastern Michigan
50	Eric Wilson	LB	6-1	230	22	R	Cincinnati
51	Edmond Robinson	LB	6-3	245	25	3	Newberry
54	Eric Kendricks	LB	6-0	232	25	3	UCLA
55	Anthony Barr	LB	6-5	255	25	4	UCLA
56	Elijah Lee	LB	6-2	229	21	R	Kansas State
58	Noor Davis	LB	6-4	243	22	R	Stanford
59	Emmanuel Lamur	LB	6-4	245	28	6	Kansas State
60	Ifeadi Odenigbo	DE	6-3	258	23	R	Northwestern
61	Joe Berger	C	6-5	305	35	13	Michigan Tech
62	Nick Easton	C	6-3	303	25	3	Harvard
63	Dylan Bradley	DT	6-1	286	22	R	Southern Mississippi
63	Danny Isidora	G	6-3	306	23	R	Miami
64	Willie Beavers	G	6-5	322	23	2	Western Michigan
64	Tashawn Bower	DE	6-5	250	22	R	LSU
65	Pat Elflein	C	6-3	303	23	R	Ohio State
66	Sam McCaskill	DE	6-3	246	23	R	Boise State
66	Freddie Tagaloa	G	6-7	308	23	R	Arizona
67	Zac Kerin	G	6-5	305	26	3	Toledo
68	T.J. Clemmings	T	6-5	309	25	3	Pittsburgh
69	Rashod Hill	T	6-6	313	25	2	Southern Mississippi
71	Riley Reiff	T	6-6	305	28	6	Iowa
72	Mike Remmers	T	6-5	310	28	5	Oregon State
73	Sharrif Floyd	DT	6-3	311	26	5	Florida
74	Austin Shepherd	T	6-4	327	25	3	Alabama
75	Alex Boone	G	6-8	310	30	8	Ohio State
76	Chunky Clements	DT	6-2	295	22	R	Illinois
76	Aviante Collins	T	6-4	292	24	R	TCU
78	Jeremiah Sirles	T	6-6	315	26	4	Nebraska
79	Reid Fragel	T	6-8	318	26	2	Ohio State
81	Moritz Böhringer	WR	6-4	225	23	1	N/A
82	Kyle Rudolph	TE	6-6	265	27	7	Notre Dame
83	RJ Shelton	WR	5-10	200	23	R	Michigan State
84	Bucky Hodges	TE	6-6	257	22	R	Virginia Tech
85	Nick Truesdell	TE	6-6	252	27	1	Grand Rapids CC
86	Kyle Carter	TE	6-3	245	24	1	Penn State
87	Josiah Price	TE	6-4	249	24	R	Michigan State
89	David Morgan	TE	6-4	265	24	2	Texas-San Antonio
90	Will Sutton	DT	6-1	290	25	4	Arizona State
91	Stephen Weatherly	DE	6-5	265	23	2	Vanderbilt
92	Tom Johnson	DT	6-3	288	32	7	Southern Mississippi
93	Shamar Stephen	DT	6-5	310	26	4	Connecticut
94	Jaleel Johnson	DT	6-3	316	23	R	Iowa
95	Datone Jones	DE	6-5	288	27	5	UCLA
96	Brian Robison	DE	6-3	259	34	11	Texas
97	Everson Griffen	DE	6-3	273	29	8	Southern California
98	Linval Joseph	DT	6-4	329	28	8	East Carolina
99	Danielle Hunter	DE	6-5	252	22	3	LSU



NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	BIRTHDATE	EXP.	COLLEGE
1	Rashad Lawrence	WR	6-2	190	6/10/92	1	Northwestern
2	Maurice Smith	S	6-0	197	6/14/95	R	Georgia
3	Andrew Franks	K	6-1	204	1/11/93	3	RPI
4	Matt Darr	P	6-1	217	7/2/92	3	Tennessee
5	Torry McTyer	CB	5-11	184	4/10/95	R	UNLV
6	Jay Cutler	QB	6-3	231	4/29/83	12	Vanderbilt
7	Brandon Doughty	QB	6-3	212	10/6/91	1	Western Kentucky
8	Matt Moore	QB	6-3	219	8/9/84	11	Oregon State
9	David Fales	QB	6-2	213	10/4/90	3	San Jose State
10	Kenny Stills	WR	6-1	196	4/22/92	5	Oklahoma
11	DeVante Parker	WR	6-3	212	1/20/93	3	Louisville
14	Jarvis Landry	WR	5-11	208	11/28/92	4	LSU
16	Matt Haack	P	6-0	205	7/25/94	R	Arizona State
18	Malcolm Lewis	WR	5-10	194	10/27/93	R	Miami
19	Jakeem Grant	WR	5-7	169	10/30/92	2	Texas Tech
20	Reshad Jones	S	6-1	223	2/25/88	8	Georgia
21	Jordan Lucas	CB	6-0	202	8/2/93	2	Penn State
22	T.J. McDonald	S	6-2	223	1/26/91	5	USC
23	Jay Ajayi	RB	6-0	223	6/15/93	3	Boise State
25	Xavien Howard	CB	6-1	196	7/4/93	2	Baylor
26	Damien Williams	RB	5-11	224	4/3/92	4	Oklahoma
27	Storm Johnson	RB	6-0	228	7/10/92	2	UCF
28	Bobby McCain	CB	5-11	192	8/18/93	3	Memphis
29	Nate Allen	S	6-1	214	11/30/87	8	South Florida
30	Cordrea Tankersley	CB	6-1	196	11/19/93	R	Clemson
31	Michael Thomas	S	5-11	195	3/17/90	5	Stanford
32	Kenyan Drake	RB	6-1	211	1/26/94	2	Alabama
33	Larry Hope	CB	5-11	188	10/19/93	R	Akron
34	Senorise Perry	RB	6-0	210	9/19/91	3	Louisville
35	Walt Aikens	S	6-1	212	6/19/91	4	Liberty
36	Tony Lippett	CB	6-3	192	7/2/92	3	Michigan State
37	A.J. Hendy	S	6-0	206	4/8/93	1	Maryland
38	De'Veon Smith	RB	5-11	221	11/8/94	R	Michigan
40	Lafayette Pitts	CB	5-11	194	9/24/92	2	Pittsburgh
41	Byron Maxwell	CB	6-1	198	2/23/88	7	Clemson
42	Alterraun Verner	CB	5-10	187	12/13/88	8	UCLA
43	Winston Chapman	LS	6-2	244	4/15/92	1	Mississippi State
44	Deon Lacey	LB	6-3	235	7/18/90	1	W. Alabama
45	Mike Hull	LB	6-0	232	5/25/91	2	Penn State
46	Neville Hewitt	LB	6-2	234	4/6/93	3	Marshall
47	Kiko Alonso	LB	6-3	233	8/14/90	5	Oregon
48	MarQueis Gray	TE	6-4	263	11/7/89	5	Minnesota
49	Junior Sylvestre	LB	6-0	242	12/27/91	1	Toledo
50	Andre Branch	DE	6-5	263	7/14/89	6	Clemson
51	Mike Pouncey	C	6-5	298	7/24/89	7	Florida
52	Raekwon McMillan	LB	6-2	248	11/17/96	R	Ohio State
53	Vincent Taylor	DT	6-3	296	1/5/94	R	Oklahoma State
56	Davon Godchaux	DT	6-3	305	11/11/94	R	LSU
57	Trevor Reilly	LB	6-5	240	1/17/88	3	Utah
58	Brandon Watts	LB	6-2	242	1/21/91	3	Georgia Tech
59	Chase Allen	LB	6-3	250	8/29/93	R	Southern Illinois
61	Joby Saint Fleur	DE	6-4	253	11/11/92	R	NW Oklahoma State
62	Ted Larsen	C/G	6-3	320	6/13/87	8	NC State
63	Sean Hickey	T	6-6	306	9/29/91	1	Syracuse
64	Jake Brendel	C	6-4	299	9/10/92	2	UCLA
65	Anthony Steen	C/G	6-4	320	5/9/90	2	Alabama
66	Avery Young	T	6-5	326	11/12/92	2	Auburn
67	Laremy Tunsil	T	6-5	318	8/2/94	2	Mississippi
68	Isaac Asiata	G	6-3	341	12/29/92	R	Utah
69	Isaiah Faciane	G	6-4	302	5/11/91	1	FIU
70	Ja'Wuan James	T	6-6	307	6/3/92	4	Tennessee
71	Eric Smith	T	6-4	321	9/2/95	R	Virginia
73	Julius Warmley	DE	6-2	297	5/15/90	2	Tulane
74	Jermion Bushrod	G/T	6-5	318	8/19/84	11	Towson
75	Cameron Malveaux	DE	6-5	276	8/22/94	R	Houston
76	Praise Martin-Oguike	DE	6-1	256	8/30/93	R	Temple
77	Jesse Davis	T	6-6	321	9/15/91	1	Idaho
78	Terrence Fede	DE	6-4	267	11/19/91	4	Marist
79	Sam Young	T	6-8	306	6/24/87	8	Notre Dame
80	Anthony Fasano	TE	6-4	258	4/20/84	12	Notre Dame
81	Drew Morgan	WR	6-0	187	12/2/94	R	Arkansas
82	Trey Griffey	WR	6-2	209	1/19/94	R	Arizona
83	Thomas Duarte	TE	6-2	244	3/30/95	2	UCLA
84	Damore'ea Stringfellow	WR	6-2	222	10/18/94	R	Mississippi
85	Mitch Mathews	WR	6-6	213	4/15/91	1	BYU
86	Chris Pantale	TE	6-5	255	3/22/90	1	Boston College
87	Rashawn Scott	WR	6-0	199	1/29/92	2	Miami
88	Leonte Carroo	WR	6-1	215	1/24/94	2	Rutgers
89	Julius Thomas	TE	6-5	262	6/27/88	7	Portland State
90	Charles Harris	DE	6-3	250	3/6/95	R	Missouri
91	Cameron Wake	DE	6-3	263	1/30/82	9	Penn State
92	John Denney	LS	6-5	242	12/13/78	13	Brigham Young
93	Ndamukong Suh	DT	6-4	305	1/6/87	8	Nebraska
94	Lawrence Timmons	LB	6-1	242	5/14/86	11	Florida State
95	William Hayes	DE	6-3	278	5/2/85	10	Winston-Salem State
96	Lawrence Okoye	DT	6-6	309	10/6/91	2	None
97	Jordan Phillips	DT	6-6	333	9/21/92	3	Oklahoma
98	Nick Williams	DE	6-4	297	2/21/90	4	Samford
--	Rey Maulaluga	LB	6-2	258	1/20/87	9	USC

\*Depth charts are unofficial

## OFFENSE

### WR

10	Kenny Stills
88	Leonte Carroo
18	Malcolm Lewis

### LT

67	Laremy Tunsil
79	Sam Young

### LG

62	Ted Larsen
65	Anthony Steen
66	Avery Young

### C

51	Mike Pouncey
64	Jake Brendel

### RG

74	Jermion Bushrod
68	Isaac Asiata
63	Sean Hickey

### RT

70	Ja'Wuan James
77	Jesse Davis
71	Eric Smith

### TE

89	Julius Thomas
80	Anthony Fasano
48	MarQueis Gray

### QB

8	Matt Moore
6	Jay Cutler
6	Brandon Doughty

### RB

23	Jay Ajayi
26	Damien Williams
32	Kenyan Drake

### WR

14	Jarvis Landry
81	Drew Morgan
1	Rashad Lawrence

### WR

11	DeVante Parker
19	Jakeem Grant
84	D. Stringfellow

## DEFENSE

### DE

50	Andre Branch
90	Charles Harris
78	Terrence Fede

### DT

93	Ndamukong Suh
56	Davon Godchaux
53	Vincent Taylor

### DT

97	Jordan Phillips
98	Nick Williams
73	Julius Warmley

### DE

91	Cameron Wake
95	William Hayes
75	Cameron Malveaux

### LB

47	Kiko Alonso
46	Neville Hewitt
44	Deon Lacey

### LB

52	Raekwon McMillan
45	Mike Hull
--	Rey Maulaluga

### LB

94	Lawrence Timmons
57	Trevor Reilly
58	Brandon Watts

### CB

41	Byron Maxwell
28	Bobby McCain
42	Alterraun Verner

### CB

25	Xavien Howard
36	Tony Lippett
40	Lafayette Pitts

### S

20	Reshad Jones
31	Michael Thomas
21	Jordan Lucas

### S

29	Nate Allen
22	T.J. McDonald
37	A.J. Hendy

## SPECIALISTS

### P / H

4	Matt Darr
16	Matt Haack

### LS

92	John Denney
43	Winston Chapman

### K

3	Andrew Franks
---	---------------

### KR

19	Jakeem Grant
32	Kenyan Drake
26	Damien Williams

### PR

19	Jakeem Grant
32	Kenyan Drake
81	Drew Morgan

MIAMI  
DOLPHINS





**The Confident Solution.®**

**DEFEND  
YOUR  
ENGINES**



**Visit [FVPparts.com](http://FVPparts.com) to find a service center near you.**



Factory Motor Parts is a proud partner of the Minnesota Vikings.



# TIMEOUT WITH JOE BERGER

"VERSATILITY" IS JOE BERGER'S MIDDLE NAME. OK, NOT REALLY. BUT IT COULD BE.

BY LINDSEY YOUNG

**FROM HIS COLLEGE DAYS** to now entering his 13th NFL season, Berger has learned to roll with the punches and play at his best in whatever role is asked of him.

Berger garnered attention at Michigan Tech, where he started 28 games at right tackle. He auditioned for teams at the 2005 NFL Scouting Combine and was then a sixth-round draft pick by Carolina.

After training camp and preseason with the Panthers, however, Berger joined the Dolphins for the 2005 regular season. From 2005-10, Berger spent time with Miami, Dallas (2007-08) and then returned to Miami. He primarily held a special teams role before starting 20 games at center during 2009 and 2010.

Berger signed with the Vikings in 2011 and played in 13 games, making starts at center, right guard and left guard.

"Coming up here, the area just kind of felt like home," said Berger, a Michigan native. "It was nice to get back up in the Midwest.

"It's just been a place where I was able to be the swing guy for a while, learn from some good players that were ahead of me and just settle in a little bit," Berger added.

He was called on in 2013 to fill in at right guard and left guard, and in 2014 he started the final nine games of the season at right guard. In 2015, he started all 16 games for the first time of his career, this time at center. Last season, he started at center and both guard positions.



**HOMETOWN:**  
NEWAYGO, MI



**MICHIGAN TECH:**  
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING  
DEGREE



**DRAFTED BY CAROLINA:**  
207TH OVERALL IN 2005



**WE CAUGHT UP WITH JOE  
FOR A RECENT TIMEOUT**

**Q.** You've played with a lot of different offensive line groups. What makes the 2017 unit special?

**A.** I think the best thing we have in our current group is just that they come ready to work. So we know that we have things we have to improve, and I think the guys come in open to that, and we all just want to get better.

**Q.** Besides not snapping the ball, what is the biggest adjustment between C and G?

**A.** I think at center, you have a lot of pre-snap stuff you're thinking about – getting everybody lined up, everybody's relying on your call, so there's a lot that you're doing before you snap the ball. And then I think after the ball is snapped, there's just space that you're dealing with at guard that you don't have at center. So it's just getting used to that space that you have.

**Q.** You earned a mechanical engineering degree from Michigan Tech; what is it about that field that you're passionate about?

**A.** *I just love the idea of taking a raw material and making it into something, whatever that is. I have a woodshop at home that's kind of my hobby. Just being able to take some pile of something and turn it into something useful. The whole manufacturing end of it, I guess, is what really appealed to me. You know, that's what I was trying to get into until I got invited to the combine. So I would like to do that at some point. It's been a little while since I got the degree, but hopefully someone will have me.*

**Q.** Do any special projects of yours especially stand out?

**A.** *There's been things along the way, like furniture here and there. I made a dresser for the house and some other little things like that. My dad and I finished the upstairs of the garage that [my wife and I] stayed in for six years, kind of as our 'crash pad' back in Michigan. So just little things around the property that you're able to do yourself and not have to rely on other people.*

**Q.** As a guy who enjoys the outdoors, have you found a favorite fishing spot in Minnesota?

**A.** *I haven't had a chance to get out too much here. We go out to Michigan a lot when we can, because the [in-season schedule] is busy. Newaygo is on the river, so when I get a chance to go out with someone there, it's fun. I'm not the greatest fisherman in the world, but if I'm in the right boat with the right person, I can catch fish. I'd probably be able to catch fish with B-Rob (Brian Robison).*

**Q.** I understand that two of your four children are adopted. Why is adoption such an important cause for you and your family?

**A.** *I think just to let moms know that there's options out there. We've been so fortunate and blessed with this adoption and the two families that we've been connected with in that way. Just great people, and adoption is such an unselfish thing. It's cool to see, and [my wife] Abby and I have been so blessed just to have the two added bonuses to our family.*



"YOU'VE GOT  
SOME SPECIFIC  
FACES YOU CAN  
PICTURE WHEN  
YOU'RE OUT  
HERE AND DAYS  
GET HARD."

- JOE BERGER ON  
BEING A DAD

**Q.** Has being a father changed your career perspective at all?

**A.** *I think maybe your motivation, your focus, changes. You know, you've got some specific faces you can picture when you're out here and days get hard. I think that, and the other thing is, when football's tough and the days get long, you come home to a family. For me at this point, I can't imagine not being able to come home to them.*

**Q.** What is your favorite family activity during the offseason?

**A.** *The Twin Cities has some great stuff around here. On the off day during the season, sometimes it gets long and you just want to relax with them, but stuff like getting to the zoo when we can or the Children's Museum over in Saint Paul, stuff like that. There's great parks all around, which is a great place to go and just let the kids play and be able to hang out with them that way. So just trying to get out and spend time with them, Tuesday is a great family day for that.*



ALL THE FLAVOR WITH A  
**NEW SMOOTH FINISH**



WHEN YOU GOT **FLOW**,  
YOU KNOW.





# Dalvin Cook

## LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

KENNEDY POLAMALU'S FIRST INTRODUCTION TO RUNNING BACK DALVIN COOK WAS THROUGH FILM.

**THE VIKINGS RUNNING BACKS COACH** popped in the tape and leaned back in his chair: Cook versus Miami.

"Probably the first film that I put in was him against Miami, because that's his hometown – to see how he plays and how he reacts," Polamalu recalled. "And then him against Clemson, another big opponent. And the bowl game against Michigan ... you want to see how he reacts."

National stage games and hometown crowds could easily offer distractions, but Cook showed nothing but focus.

"The kid loves football," Polamalu said. "He is very competitive, and his enthusiasm is contagious."

First impressions are important, and Cook made a positive one on Polamalu before ever meeting him.

As a junior at Florida State, Cook recorded 150 rushing yards on 27 carries and added a 59-yard reception for a touchdown against Miami. And it wasn't the first time he ran all over his hometown school. Over three seasons and three matchups, Cook quieted the Hurricanes with 464 rushing yards and six touchdowns (four rushing, two receiving).

Cook racked up 169 yards and four touchdowns on the ground against Clemson in 2016.

The Seminoles' pro-style offense gave Polamalu snapshots of Cook in situation after situation that was comparable to the NFL.

"You see him run behind the quarterback, and then in the shotgun, you see him catch the football. You see him check protection," Polamalu said. "And those are

things that are usually very difficult to watch because a lot of colleges are in the tempo, shotgun offense."

Cook finished his college career as Florida State's all-time leader in rushing yards (4,464) and rushing touchdowns (46) in just three seasons. In December, he played in the Orange Bowl, once again on a Miami stage. Cook led the Seminoles to a one-point victory over Michigan and was named the game's MVP after racking up 207 yards of offense (145 rushing, 62 receiving).

And when he traded in FSU's Garnet and Gold for Vikings Purple, Cook hit the ground running.

On the first play of his first NFL game, Cook felt the weight of the ball in his hands. He took the handoff from Sam Bradford out of the shotgun formation and surged ahead, barreling through a knot of bodies for a gain of 5 before being taken to the ground.

Second play, another handoff, this time from the pistol for a 4-yard gain.

Third play, third-and-1. Bradford took the snap out of shotgun, this time passing it to Cook in the flat for a first down.

Cook played the first three series of Minnesota's 17-10 defeat of Buffalo. The rookie running back's numbers were modest but memorable on the night of his 22nd birthday: five carries for 13 rushing yards and four catches for 30 yards through the air.

"It was definitely fun, getting that first carry," Cook said after the game. "Once you get that out of the way, you can really get going and play football."

He prides himself on versatility.

"Going out there and catching balls," Cook said. "If they split me out wide, if they free-release me out of the backfield, whatever it is, I just have to help my team win games. That's what they brought me in for."

Just a handful of months ago, the Vikings couldn't envision a scenario in which Cook landed in their laps.

Leading up to the NFL Draft, Polamalu studied film on each and every draft-eligible back. He scouted, he evaluated, he had a wish list.

"I didn't think we even had a chance at drafting him," said Polamalu, who had tracked Cook's success since his time at Miami Central High School.

Polamalu said he was asked about Cook by Vikings General Manager Rick Spielman.

"I really had him ranked going, you know," Polamalu said, using his hand to demonstrate an imaginary measurement above his head. "I didn't think he was even going to be close to where we were going to be drafting."

“

WE PUT A PLAY IN,  
WE PUT A PROTECTION  
IN, WE PUT A SCHEME  
IN, AND IT'S LIKE  
HE'S GOT IT.

SAM BRADFORD

WRITTEN BY: LINDSEY YOUNG



MINNESOTA VIKINGS  
**LOCKER ROOM**  
OFFICIAL TEAM STORE

# TODAY'S ITEM OF THE GAME



Cutter & Buck Fairwood Polo

**ONLY \$39.95**

Original Price: \$59.00

While supplies last.



*"I love the game."*  
I LOVE EVERYTHING THAT COMES WITH IT. THE WINNING.

THE LOSING. THE BROTHERHOODS. THE FANS. THE  
RELATIONSHIPS THAT YOU MAKE.

DALVIN COOK



The Vikings, who had traded their 2017 first-round pick in exchange for Bradford the previous September when Teddy Bridgewater went down with a season-ending knee injury, weren't slated to pick until the second round at No. 48.

But Cook kept slipping through the cracks, staying on the board through the first night of the draft. On the second night, Spielman and the Vikings traded up to the 41st overall pick to snag Cook.

"You're just hoping," Polamalu said. "And then when it came true, now it was trying to build an environment and teach him some of the skills needed not only on the field but off the field as well."

The rookie has been more than receptive to that environment. Through rookie minicamp, OTAs, training camp and now three preseason games, Cook has taken each new step in stride. Bradford has played with a number of rookie backs over his first seven seasons in the league and said Cook's ease of transition has been impressive.

"He's just really sharp," Bradford said. "Mentally, for him to be able to come in and grasp everything that we've asked him to do and asked him to learn, I think that's been one of the more impressive things about him."

Added Bradford: "We put a play in, we put a protection in, we put a scheme in, and it's like he's got it."

The quarterback stressed that the offense hasn't catered to Cook in any way by creating special plays for him, and the team hasn't been limited in what it asks him to do.

"I mean, we've pretty much thrown everything at him, and he's shown that he's

able to handle that," Bradford said.

One aspect of the game Cook continually works to further develop is his vision, a quality he believes sets him apart from other running backs in the league.

While he relies on physical ability and quick feet to surge him through holes, it's Cook's vision that "puts my body in place to make the plays." He explained that hitting the gym and training his eyes are equally important – especially when practicing against Minnesota's defense.

"In the NFL, the holes close real quick," Cook said. "[You're] coming to a hole, it may look wide open, but you've got d-linemen like Linval [Joseph], and he's just so smart where he'll just wait on you to come back. And I think my eyes put me in a place to do that – take the next hole, which might be the better hole, stuff like that."

Polamalu said that since arriving in Minnesota, Cook has welcomed any instruction that can help him improve his vision and every other facet of his game.

"He's always trying to improve, and that's what's fun," Polamalu said. "He's a coachable young man – very coachable. He listens and takes it, and then he uses and applies it. I couldn't ask for more as a position coach."

Cook is now grateful for the opportunity to apply the things he learns from coaches and his veteran teammates on game day.

In Cook's second preseason game – and second start – against the Seahawks on Aug. 18, he played two offensive series and recorded 40 rushing yards on seven carries, including a 15-yard burst. He added a 10-yard reception.

"I thought he displayed good vision," Offensive

Coordinator Pat Shurmur said of Cook's Seattle performance. "He's trying to do what we're coaching him to do, yet he's very natural in his ability to run the football. There were a couple seams he hit there that were pretty tight that became almost explosive runs."

"You see a guy that's disappointed when he doesn't make the safety miss," Shurmur continued. "That's a good thing because one of those times when the safety does miss, that could be a touchdown."

Minnesota's playbook is a little larger than Florida State's, but Cook has embraced the challenge. With three preseason contests now under his belt and just over a week separating the rookie from his first regular-season game in the pros, Cook is chomping at the bit.

"I love the game," Cook said. "I love everything that comes with it. The winning. The losing. The brotherhoods. The fans. The relationships that you make, the people that you meet. I love this game. It's all I know."

Cook will have the opportunity tonight to once again face a Miami squad, this time at the highest level. Against his hometown team, he'll take the field of his adopted home, ready to make plays and win over the hearts of Minnesota.

And on Sept. 11, Cook hopes to lead the Vikings to a season-opener win over Adrian Peterson and the Saints. Just like he can envision where holes will appear in the defense, Cook has been picturing that day for as long as he can remember.

"I always dreamed about playing *Monday Night Football* in my first game," Cook said. "So it's going to be unreal. There couldn't have been a better way to start my career."

Danny Isidora

Stacy Coley





BY CRAIG PETERS

# MIAMI VIKES

The skyscrapers of Miami rise starkly above the coastline, but  
they aren't the only entities reaching for the stars.



WIN A TRIP TO

# LONDON



TO SEE THE VIKINGS PLAY THE  
BROWNS AT TWICKENHAM STADIUM

[VIKINGS.COM/CONTEST](http://VIKINGS.COM/CONTEST)



# THE DREAM

begins early...

...IN THE YOUTH LEAGUES WHERE PLAYERS HAVE BEEN TOLD ABOUT AND WITNESSED SUCCESS STORIES OF MIAMIANS WHO HAVE MADE IT TO THE NFL AND IMPACTED THE GAME. A VAST ARRAY OF TALENT FUELS COMPETITION THAT EXTENDS TO ELITE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAMS AND ON TO ESTABLISHED AND EMERGING COLLEGE PROGRAMS.

"Kids in Miami play football at the age of 4 or 5, and it's real contact. They take it seriously," Xavier Rhodes said. "Me, I think I played at the age of 10 or 11, so I was more of a guy that was into wrestling, but once I got into football and I realized I could do well in it, that's when I took it seriously."

Rhodes, 27, starred as a running back and receiver at Norland High School before becoming a cornerback at Florida State. The position switch worked well for the 2013 first-round pick who recently signed a contract extension with the Vikings.

Before Teddy Bridgewater, 24, helped Louisville trounce Florida in the Sugar Bowl and became an eventual first-round pick, he quarterbacked a powerhouse at Northwestern.

Just three years after helping Miami Central win a 6A state title with a 223-yard, four-touchdown game, Dalvin Cook gained 207 total offensive yards on Michigan in the Orange Bowl on his path to the 2017 NFL Draft, where Minnesota selected him in the second round.

Rhodes, who learned about others ahead of him and continued to progress, heard about younger players' reputations growing with each play on the gridiron. He made a vow to help other Floridians as they reached for their

goals, not knowing he was destined to become teammates with Bridgewater, Cook and others in Minnesota.

"Yeah, I knew about them," Rhodes said of Bridgewater and Cook. "Once you know about them, once you figure them out and hear about them, and I've been hearing about those guys because Dalvin went to Central. When I was in high school, I played Central a lot. Northwestern was the big school in Miami, so I knew about Teddy, too."

"Those were the guys when they were coming out that I knew about and felt I always had to look out for, and we all looked out for," Rhodes said. "It was a great feeling, to know that your friends and people around you grew up in the same neighborhood as you."

In addition to Rhodes, Bridgewater and Cook, the Vikings 90-man roster includes 10 other players who prepped in Florida. Rookies Stacy Coley (Northeast in Oakland Park) and Danny Isidora (Cypress Bay in Weston), Emmanuel Lamur (King's Academy in West Palm Beach) and Jabari Price (Ely in Pompano Beach) all have ties to the Miami area.

Coley and Isidora were even able to stay close to home for college and suit up for the Miami Hurricanes.

Coley said he was inspired to play football by a cousin who coached him in youth football.

"He inspired me to live out my dream, and my high school coach was Coach [Donnell] Bennett from Northeast High School who played at the University of Miami," Coley said. "He was a mentor and a father figure to me and just kept me going every day."

"Going to the University of Miami changed my life and my family's life," Coley added. "It was a great experience. My family could go to all of the games and have that journey with me, so they could experience my journey."

Isidora also appreciated playing for Miami and values the opportunity to represent his home and school well as a pro.

"[Attending Miami] was really important to me because I love where I'm from, and I went there to do the best I could to make it better," Isidora said. "Another thing was I wanted my family to come out there and be able to support me. It's a great school, a great location, the best decision I've ever made. I'm glad I made that decision, and it wasn't anywhere else."

Isidora also was familiar with Cook and Joe Yearby when the running backs teamed together in high school. Cook opted for Florida State, and Yearby wound up joining the Hurricanes and running behind blocks by Isidora.

Isidora and Coley were thrilled to continue as teammates via their selection by Minnesota in April. They also said it has been helpful to have so many Miami Vikes in the locker room who can relate to their experiences growing up and help them adjust to a new environment.

"We have a lot of pride," Isidora said. "We don't want to let ourselves down, our family down, our school down, me and Stacy, so we're just out here trying to get better every day."

One thing is for certain, as they progress as professionals, the influence of Miami will stay with them if they are like Rhodes and Bridgewater, who did considerable

charity work and continued to rehab his knee at home before reporting to training camp. Bridgewater has remained strong in his recovery efforts.

Cook, who was raised by his grandmother, partially credited Miami's football culture for his successes.

"I feel like I have a good football IQ, coming from where I come from," Cook said during training camp. "We take football very seriously at a young age. This is what I love to do, so why not put all the hard work into it?"

Reaching the next level isn't just a point of pride; it's a necessity. Football in Florida isn't just a way of life. For many neighborhoods, it's the way to a better life.

"Basically, growing up there helps you realize you have to grow up fast. Everything in Miami is fast living," Rhodes said. "You grow up in a neighborhood that's a poor neighborhood, you have to live fast, you have to go out there on your own and find your own way, so growing up there, I was probably 12 and had the mind of a 20, 21-year-old guy."

Inland from the sandy beaches lined with high-rise condos and the manicured mansions on the Intracoastal Waterway sit more modest houses. Instead of an adornment of gently swaying palms, pitfalls await.

"People want to do better for themselves and family, and they choose football as a way out," Coley said. "Everybody puts all of their focus on football and one day lives out their dreams to have success with football."

"It's real competitive. You have young people out there going at it," Coley added. "You have different rivalries, people going to school and talking about the game that's coming up, Friday, Saturday, it's just real competitive down there. We like to compete and have fun."

Rhodes said football is the most visible positive path for many Miamians, and he's tried to emphasize to young players to take advantage of athletic scholarships to further their educations.

"When you're from Miami, you feel like you have two options, and that's to play football or be in the streets, and the thing is, the fact that we're able to take the positive route and make that change shows a lot," Rhodes said. "We try to take everyone in, try to change everyone's life in Miami, but we try to bring everyone that is playing football in and have them spread the word and knowledge and go the same route because we know how big football has been for us."

Rhodes, who was able to enter the NFL Draft early, plans to finish his college degree. He said he's also tried to encourage the next wave of young players to have a backup plan in case football doesn't work out.

"We get a full scholarship because of something we're blessed with, and that's talent. God has blessed us with talent, so why not take advantage of that free scholarship and try to get our degrees, and if we don't make it to the NFL, that will be our backup plan," Rhodes said. "Now we have to take another step and encourage kids not only to worry about football and making it to the NFL but worrying about getting a degree and figuring out something outside of football."

Rhodes tells young people that less than 1 percent of players make it from high school to the NFL and adds, "I'm not trying to kill y'all's dreams, but that's the God's honest truth, so you guys have to have a backup plan in case you don't make it."

Coming off his first Pro Bowl and signing a contract extension, Rhodes is definitely living his dream, but he can relate personally to friends who haven't been able to do so.

"I know a lot of kids, a few of my friends that didn't make it to the league and felt like they were failures," Rhodes said. "They wanted to take it to the utmost and commit suicide. I feel like if we tell those guys to take advantage of education and not worry too much about sports, which we all know we want to be NFL players in Florida, but if we take our education seriously, we'll be all right."

# MIAMI VIKES

Miami and Florida Exports

## MIAMI

Teddy Bridgewater, Northwestern  
Dalvin Cook, Miami Central  
Xavier Rhodes, Norland

## NEAR MIAMI

Stacy Coley, Northeast (Oakland Park)  
Danny Isidora, Cypress Bay (Weston)  
Emmanuel Lamur, King's Academy  
(West Palm Beach)  
Jabari Price, Ely (Pompano Beach)

## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Mackensie Alexander, Immokalee  
Jayron Kearse, South Fort Myers

## NORTH/CENTRAL FLORIDA

Rodney Adams, Lakewood  
(St. Petersburg)  
Noor Davis, Leesburg  
Rashod Hill, Ed White High School  
(Jacksonville)  
Linval Joseph, Santa Fe High School  
(Alachua)



"Basically, growing up there helps you realize you have to  
grow up fast. Everything in Miami is fast living."

- XAVIER RHODES



***Vikings Coverage on***



***NORTH***™

***SUNDAYS***

**BEYOND THE GRIDIRON - 9:30AM**

**#VIKINGS CONNECTED - 10AM**

**GAMEPLAN - 10:30AM**

**GAMEDAY LIVE - 1 HOUR  
BEFORE KICKOFF**

**Check local listings**



***Follow FOX Sports North Coverage of the Vikings on  
FOXSPORTSNORTH.COM***



GET OFF THE SIDELINES AND INTO

THE GAME WITH THE

# VIKINGS APP



**INSTANT REPLAY**



**EXPRESS PICKUP**



**NFL REDZONE**

**PLUS MUCH MORE**



*DOWNLOAD THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS APP  
FROM THE APP STORE OR GOOGLE PLAY*



Download on the  
**App Store**



GET IT ON  
**Google Play**



# YOUNG DEFENDERS

BY CRAIG PETERS

THE VIKINGS HAVE SENT WAVES OF ROOKIE DEFENDERS CRASHING INTO OPPONENTS THIS PRESEASON.

Defensive ends Tashawn Bower and Ifeadi Odenigbo and defensive tackle Jaleel Johnson have each made plays behind the line of scrimmage.

First-year linebackers Elijah Lee and Eric Wilson have recovered fumbles, and Ben Gedeon has recorded 11 tackles and seven solo stops (according to press box stats).

"So far so good," Bower said recently of the Vikings rookie class. "We're all coming along and take coaching and all are down with the plays. We all hustle to the ball and we have great effort."

The players will have one final game setting to campaign for a spot on the 53-man roster or consideration for the Vikings practice squad during tonight's game against Miami to conclude the 2017 preseason.

Their jobs will be to challenge the Dolphins but also to make decisions tough for Vikings talent evaluators and coaches who must reduce the roster from 90 to 53 players on Saturday.

"There's several spots where we're going to have some tough issues," Vikings Head Coach Mike Zimmer said. "That's why it's good to have the fourth preseason game to get another chance to see them. This week will be a big week for a lot of these guys. Some of these young defensive lineman have looked good. Jaleel Johnson has had a couple good ball games, Ifeadi [Odenigbo] has done a nice job in some areas, [Tashawn] Bower, [second-year pro Stephen] Weatherly. So they're showing some things that could be valuable for us down the road."

Bower recorded a sack in his first two games, and he did so against the Seahawks with the Vikings defense facing a difficult situation. The undrafted rookie out of LSU dropped Trevone Boykin for a loss of 10 after Seattle began its first possession of the second half at the Minnesota 18-yard line. Odenigbo followed with another sack two plays later, forcing the Seahawks to settle for a field goal.

After being required to pull up and avoid contact against Vikings quarterbacks during the offseason program and training camp, Bower said defenders have enjoyed the opportunity to finish plays.

"It's good," Bower said. "It's something you don't get to do often, but once you have the opportunity, you better make it."

Bower has eight tackles, 2.0 sacks, three tackles for loss and three quarterback hurries. Odenigbo has nine tackles, one sack, one tackle for loss and two quarterback hurries.

A switch by coaches of Johnson to the 3-technique defensive tackle spot allowed him to show a "bulldog mentality" against Seattle, totaling five tackles, including a pair for losses. He also had a sack at Buffalo.

"I thought Jaleel Johnson played well, Bower had another good day," Zimmer said. "Ifeadi, 'Big O' – that's what we call him, I thought he did some good things too. So, those three guys, they've kind of stepped up."

Wilson has been credited with 11 tackles so far and defended two passes against the Bills, and Lee has six tackles.

Bower has been able to learn from third-year pro Danielle Hunter, a former Tigers teammate. Hunter hosted Bower on his official visit to LSU and helped Minnesota "recruit" Bower to sign with the Vikings after the draft.

Similar to Hunter's approach when he arrived in Minnesota as a third-round pick, Bower has paid attention to all of the little details and said he wants to continue to improve against the run.

As for the success on pass plays, Bower credited coaching and teamwork, along with a burst of power.

"I'm just using my combination of speed and power and all of the techniques that Coach teaches, it takes all four guys to get a sack, so it's not just me helping out."

– TASHAWN BOWER





## VIKINGS ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

Vikings Entertainment Network (VEN) is the umbrella for all Vikings content and entertainment initiatives including preseason games, team TV shows, vikings.com, in-stadium programming as well as the Minnesota Vikings Cheerleaders (MVC), Skol Line Drum Team and Viktor the Viking.



Can Brian Robison hold a note as long as professional singers Chris Hawkey and John Michael Montgomery? What kind of dashboard drummers do Jerick McKinnon and Shamar Stephen make for Phil Collins' "In the Air Tonight"? Find out and enjoy many other surprises in this year's "Vikings CARaoke, Volume II" recurring feature on *Vikings Connected*.



### VIKINGS NOW

*Vikings Now* is available for Apple TV, streaming your favorite video content from Vikings Entertainment Network. Watch game highlights, exclusive interviews and TV shows in 1080p on your home television. Versions for Roku and Amazon Fire TV are coming soon.



*Vikings: Beyond the Gridiron* is an Emmy Award-winning show that offers rare, behind-the-scenes looks at the Vikings on and off the field in a documentary format. *Vikings: Beyond the Gridiron* is produced by Elite Edge Productions in conjunction with VEN and airs Fridays on My 29 WFTC, Sundays on KMSP and re-airs on Fox Sports North.



*Vikings GameDay LIVE*, the team's live one-hour pregame TV show, was launched in 2016. Featuring in-depth analysis and commentary to get you ready for each week's game, *Vikings GameDay LIVE* will bring you live reports from the field each week, all leading up to the game. *Vikings GameDay LIVE* is produced by VEN in conjunction with FOX 9 KMSP and airs Sunday mornings on FOX 9 KMSP.



*Vikings GamePlan* returns for an 11th season in 2017 as the team's Xs and Os football show. Hosted by Paul Allen, *GamePlan* features interviews with current players and Head Coach Mike Zimmer, game film review, expert analysis and more.





**3M** Science.  
Applied to Life.

## From our labs to your life.

At 3M, we believe the right science applied the right way touches people worldwide, generating breakthroughs that make your lives better, easier and more complete.

[3M.com](http://3M.com)



# ***RANDLE'S***

RESTAURANT • BAR

***Brunch • Lunch • Dinner***  
***Private Dining***

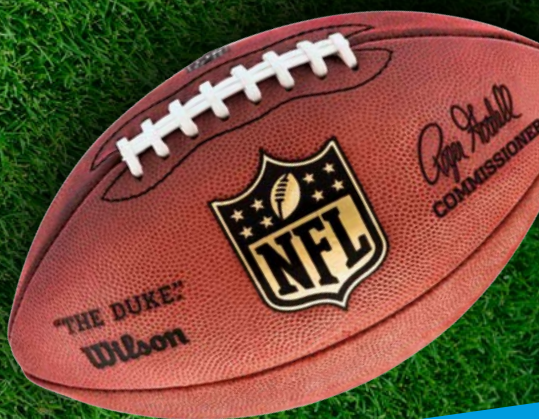
921 Nicollet Mall | [johnrandle.com](http://johnrandle.com)



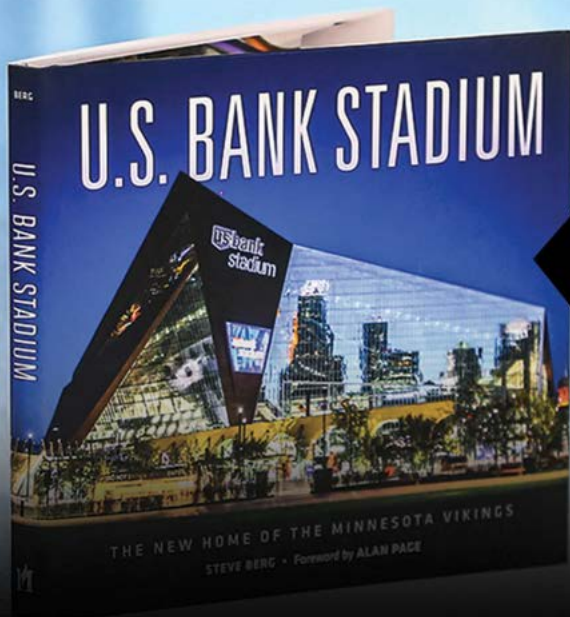


# NFL TICKET EXCHANGE

Get 100% Ticketmaster Verified Tickets  
Now at [NFLTicketExchange.com](http://NFLTicketExchange.com)



*ticketmaster*®



A MUST HAVE FOR ANY

# VIKINGS FAN

PURCHASE THE BOOK NOW AT  
VIKINGS LOCKER ROOM STORE  
— OR —  
[VIKINGSLOCKERROOM.COM](http://VIKINGSLOCKERROOM.COM)



# TAKE 5

## WITH EMMA

WE SAT DOWN WITH SECOND-YEAR CHEERLEADER, EMMA, FOR A QUICK Q & A.

### TOP OF YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Attend a Beyoncé concert

### NAME AN INSPIRING/INFLUENTIAL WOMAN IN YOUR LIFE:

My mom. She has taught me so many valuable lessons that I'll carry with me for the rest of my life.

### HOW DO YOU DEFINE "EMPOWERED"?

To me, to empower is to do all you can to lift others up in order to give them the confidence to be independent and in control of their own lives.

### FAVORITE WORKOUT TIP?

Exercise is most effective when you can find the least amount your body requires rather than the most it can withstand.

### FAVORITE MEMORY AS AN MVC?

My favorite memory is that first game day of my rookie season. I would go back and relive that experience every day if I could!



EMMA  
SECOND-YEAR

### CHECK OUT EMMA IN THIS YEAR'S CALENDAR OR ON THE VIKINGS APP

GET YOUR 2017-2018 VIKINGS CHEERLEADER CALENDAR FEATURING ALL 42 CHEERLEADERS AT TODAY'S GAME OR ONLINE AT [VIKINGSLOCKERROOM.COM](http://VIKINGSLOCKERROOM.COM). FOR EXCLUSIVE VIKINGS CHEER PHOTOS, DOWNLOAD THE OFFICIAL VIKINGS APP BY GOING TO [MNVKN.GS/APPDOWNLOAD](http://MNVKN.GS/APPDOWNLOAD) ON ANY DEVICE.

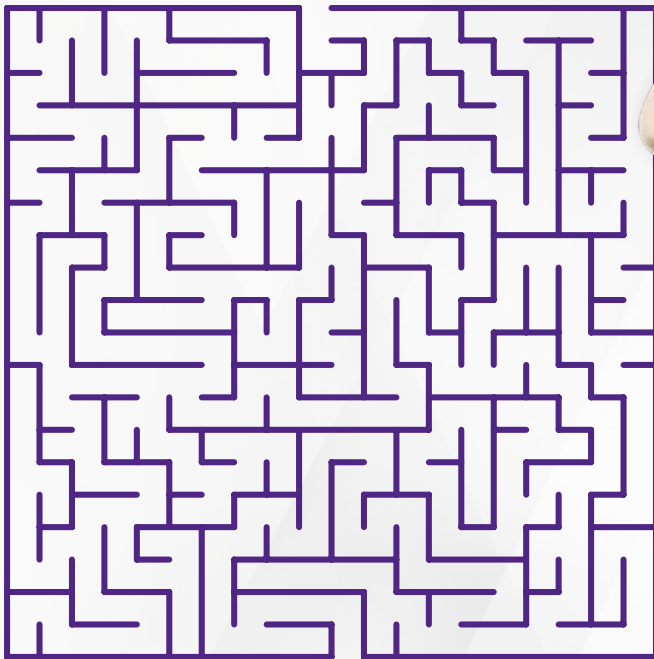


# VIKTOR'S

## STADIUM MAZE

Viktor needs help getting to U.S. Bank Stadium for game day. See if you can trace the path to get Viktor through the maze to the stadium!

**START**



**FINISH**

**FOLLOW VIKTOR: @VIKTORTHEVIKING**



*YOU CAN HIRE VIKTOR THE VIKING, THE OFFICIAL MASCOT OF THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS, TO APPEAR AT YOUR NEXT EVENT!*

**Call (952) 918-8548 or email [viktor@vikings.nfl.net](mailto:viktor@vikings.nfl.net)**







**BUILT TO BE BOLD**

WITH A VIKINGS KIDS CLUB MEMBERSHIP YOU CAN  
SHOW OFF YOUR VIKINGS PRIDE AND RECEIVE EXCLUSIVE  
BENEFITS. AGES 14 AND UNDER ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS  
ONE-OF-A-KIND CLUB THAT WILL GIVE YOU AN INSIDE LOOK  
AT THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS. JOIN TODAY FOR ONLY \$20!

### EXCLUSIVE ITEMS

SKOL Pillowcase  
Sweatshirt backpack  
Mini pennant  
Team flag  
Activity book  
Mini helmet  
Temporary Tattoos  
Poster

### EXCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES

VIP experiences at events during Training Camp,  
Game Days, and more  
Entry into member-only contests  
Eligibility for Vikings Autographed Merchandise  
E-birthday cards  
E-newsletters

join for only

**\$20**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO JOIN THE VIKINGS KIDS CLUB,

VISIT: **VIKINGS.COM/KIDSClub**



## Never miss a kickoff at U.S. Bank Stadium!

With METRO Blue and Green lines taking you right to the gates of the stadium, your pre-game and post-game celebrations are only a train ride away!

And with Northstar service to all home games and multiple bus routes, there is no need to worry about parking or traffic.



Save time and skip the lines. Buy your ticket with the Metro Transit app.

Or get an All-Day Pass at [metrotransit.org/vikings](http://metrotransit.org/vikings).



## TOTALlimo.com

From stretch limousines, to BMW and Mercedes sedans to multi-passenger motor coaches, we are the one stop shop for all your transportation needs. Proudly serving the Twin Cities for over 30 years.

(651) 770-5668 • (800) 387-5668



Preferred transportation partner of the Minnesota Vikings.





# HONORING A VIKINGS ORIGINAL & 1 OF THE '50 GREATEST'

ED SHAROCKMAN, #45

The Vikings would like to honor the memory and express condolences to the family and all friends of Ed Sharockman, who passed away on Aug. 19 at the age of 77.

Sharockman was a member of the original Vikings squad, joining the fledgling team as a fifth-round draft pick in the 1961 NFL Draft, and one of the 50 Greatest Vikings.

Born in St. Clair, Pennsylvania, Sharockman played collegiately at Pittsburgh before he was selected by the Vikings – and the Dallas Texans (22<sup>nd</sup> round of the 1961 AFL Draft). The Dallas Texans became the Kansas City Chiefs in 1963 and wound up playing the Vikings in Super Bowl IV.

Sharockman ranks third in Vikings history with 40 interceptions – trailing only Paul Krause and Bobby Bryant. He led Minnesota in the category four times (1962-63, '65, '70) and is one of four players, joining Bryant, Joey Browner and Antoine Winfield, to lead the Vikings in interceptions in four separate seasons.

He also ranks third among Vikings cornerbacks in games (141) and starts (126) and second behind Krause in yards after interceptions. Sharockman totaled 804 yards and three

touchdowns on interception returns.

Sharockman also forced six fumbles and recovered nine, including one that he returned 88 yards for a touchdown in 1962.

Vikings Historian and former Head Athletic Trainer Fred Zamberletti recalled his days with Sharockman.

"Ed always would tell you how many times he's broken his nose," Zamberletti said.

"Ed was a great athlete, not only in football but in basketball," Zamberletti added. "It was back in the day when we were having to play some great quarterbacks like [Johnny] Unitas, people like that. Ed would get very uptight before a game. He'd get nervous as hell."

Sharockman, however, intercepted Unitas twice on Dec. 16, 1962, and intercepted Earl Morrall twice on Oct. 25, 1971. All told, he had seven games with multiple interceptions, including a career-best three against the Boston Patriots and former teammate Joe Kapp on Dec. 13, 1970.

"He was a great teammate," Zamberletti said. "You knew Ed was going to give everything he had and was always going to show up. He was not a complainer. He was the kind of guy that players liked."





## Nominate your school to be selected as MINNESOTA FOOTBALL PROGRAM OF THE YEAR



Minnesota Vikings & Innovative Office Solutions, along with the National Football Foundation and supported by KFAN, will honor one Minnesota community as the “Minnesota Football Program of the Year.” The award will go to the program that best demonstrates how their community gets “In the Game.” The recognition will take place at the Minnesota Football Honors in the spring.

Nominations are being accepted from now through October 6th on [Vikings.com/InTheGame](https://vikings.com/InTheGame).

In the spring the Minnesota Vikings, Innovative Office Solutions and KFAN will “takeover” the winning community with a once-in-a-lifetime event including Vikings players, Vikings Mascot Viktor and the Vikings Cheerleaders. The winning community will be given a \$10,000 check for their school’s football program.

**NOMINATE YOUR SCHOOL AT [VIKINGS.COM/INTHEGAME](https://vikings.com/INTHEGAME)**

Presented by Innovative Office Solutions





MIKE ZIMMER FOUNDATION  
HOSTS FREE

## ▶ Youth Football Camp

**A SEA OF 350 YOUNG PEOPLE**, grades one through eight, filled Winter Park in May for the inaugural and free Mike Zimmer Foundation Football ProCamp that was sponsored by Medtronic.

The young people tossed and caught footballs, learned fundamentals about the game and listened alertly to messages about healthy and active living and the importance of approaching life with a positive attitude.

"It's good to be here. It's important for us to give back to the community and be able to invite these 350 kids here to this camp," Zimmer told members of the media. "Obviously, all free. We want to make sure that we're combining sports, athletics and education and healthy lifestyle with everything. ... My daughter, Corri, who runs the foundation, has done an unbelievable job, and I think the kids are having a lot of fun."

A much "more congenial" version of Zimmer, the Vikings head coach, strolled across the turf, gently offering tips to the excited yet attentive campers.

Zimmer was joined by his son, Vikings linebackers coach Adam Zimmer, and youngest daughter, Corri, who has led the Mike Zimmer Foundation since its launch in spring 2016.

As the Zimmers glanced across the gridiron, each camper's smile reminded them of Vikki Zimmer, a loving wife and mother who passed away in 2009. Vikki's giving spirit and

the way she put others first has guided the Mike Zimmer Foundation.

"I was talking to my dad earlier. I leaned over and just thought, 'My mom would love this,' " Corri said. "It's cool to see it come to life after all of the planning and process, just to see these kids have a great time. Promoting a healthy and active lifestyle is a really important message when they're at a young age."

Adam, who was reminded of attending Emmitt Smith's camp during his youth, said the scene was "exactly what [his mom] would have wanted."

"She was always wanting to give back to the community," Adam said. "She always put herself last, so we're trying to carry on her spirit in terms of what she taught us in terms of being generous. We're all blessed to be in a great situation where we can do this. Hopefully she's looking down on us and smiling right now."

A total of 200 spots were reserved for Boys & Girls Clubs, and the remaining 150 were available on a first-come, first-served basis. Zimmer and his former boss, Cincinnati Head Coach Marvin Lewis, are the only two NFL coaches who host camps. He was asked to compare his approach to instructing the youth to when he coaches the Vikings.

"Much different. I'm a lot more congenial, I guess, is a way to say it," Zimmer said. "I see a lot more positives than negatives. To me, it's these kids having fun and enjoying the sport

and enjoying getting out and doing things."

Vikings assistant coaches and players, including veterans Brian Robison, Harrison Smith, Kevin McDermott and Stephen Weatherly, helped with the camp. Rookies Jaleel Johnson, Jack Tocho, Elijah Lee, Dylan Bradley, Shaan Washington, Horace Richardson and Eric Wilson also participated, jumping in scrimmages with the campers and working together in a drill that stressed the importance of communication and teamwork.

The Mike Zimmer Foundation also distributed \$10,000 scholarships to Minnesota high school seniors Noah Sanders and Randy Cuate Galarza this summer and recently donated 80 backpacks filled with supplies to The Salvation Army. Visit [mikezimmerfoundation.org](http://mikezimmerfoundation.org) to learn more.



### TONIGHT'S COMMUNITY PARTNER

Each year in Minnesota nearly 6,000 babies are born premature – that's 1 in 10 babies born too soon. The Minnesota Vikings and the March of Dimes are teaming up to help create a brighter future and healthier tomorrow for all babies and their families. Make a donation at [marchofdimes.org](http://marchofdimes.org) and help March of Dimes give every baby a fighting a chance!



## SKOL SERVICE

## SHARING SKOL SERVICE

### “AWESOME AND PROUD.”

Those were Bev Zimmerman's first two thoughts when she walked into U.S. Bank Stadium for the first time last year.

“I am just so proud to be part of this family, and I'm proud to display the stadium to other people. It's great to show everyone how much the Vikings have put into the stadium and what it's meant for our community.”

Bev, a retired receptionist and current SMG Guest Experience Representative, loves being part of the game-day team at U.S. Bank Stadium. On game days, Bev works at the Lower Pentair Gate checking tickets to enter the Valhalla Suites, and on non-game days, she gives tours of U.S. Bank Stadium.

Born and raised in Iowa, Bev met her husband while she was a teacher in Illinois, and after a brief stint in Washington D.C., Bev and her family moved to Minneapolis in 1973. No matter where Bev lived, she always



BEV ZIMMERMAN

has loved her Vikings. When Bev retired, she was looking for something fun to do and saw an ad in the paper to work at the brand new U.S. Bank Stadium. She went to the stadium for the interview and was hired on the spot to join SMG's Guest Experience Team. After working at the stadium for a few months, she decided she liked being around the stadium so much, she became a tour guide!

Bev's favorite part of game day is meeting people and working with her teammates. “I love working with and getting to know the other employees working in the stadium,” Bev says. “I get to know them better and get

to know our guests! It is fabulous learning about their backgrounds and forming relationships with them. Some of them come back after visiting me, just wanting a hug!”

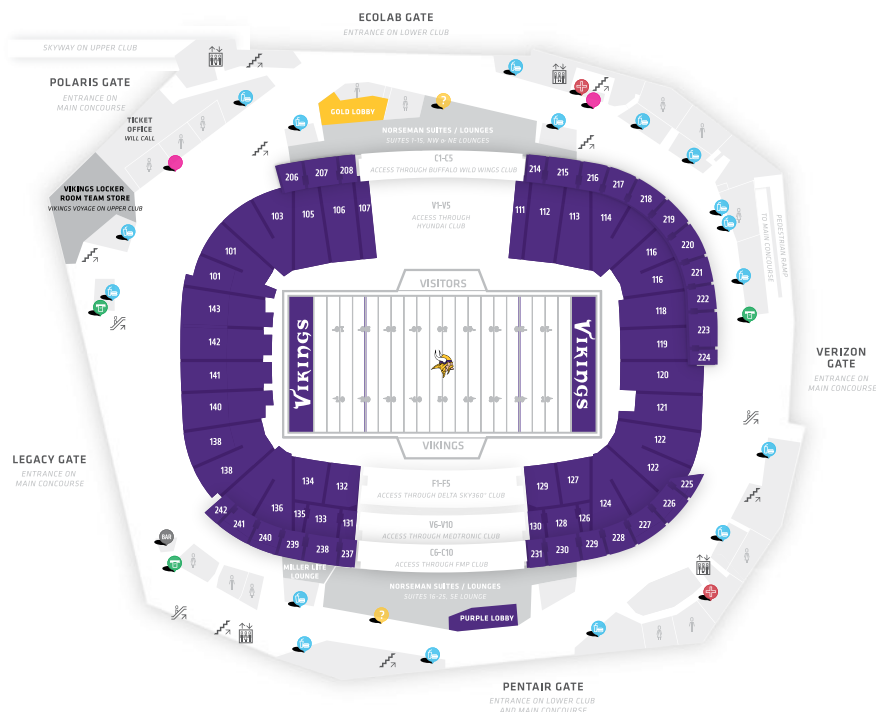
Bev is excited for this Vikings season and of course the Super Bowl coming to Minneapolis! “I can hardly wait for the Super Bowl, but it's always a privilege to come to U.S. Bank Stadium as each event is special and each one brings its unique opportunities and experiences.”

Thank you, Bev, for your passion and love for the Vikings and U.S. Bank Stadium. We are so grateful to have you as a Team Member!

HAVE YOU WITNESSED A SKOL SERVICE  
TEAM MEMBER GOING ABOVE AND  
BEYOND? E-MAIL YOUR STORY TO  
[GUESTSERVICES@VIKINGS.NFL.NET](mailto:GUESTSERVICES@VIKINGS.NFL.NET)



## MAIN CONCOURSE



## UPPER CONCOURSE



## STADIUM KEY

- CONCESSIONS
- U.S. BANK ATMS
- GUEST SERVICES
- 3M FIRST AID STATIONS
- MAMAVA LACTATION SUITE
- STAIRS
- ELEVATORS
- ESCALATORS

## GOLD LOBBY

ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- HYUNDAI CLUB
- BUFFALO WILD WINGS CLUB
- MYSTIC LAKE'S CLUB PURPLE
- NORSEMAN SUITES 1-15
- NW/NE NORSEMAN LOUNGES
- LOFT SUITES 1-27
- TRUSS BAR
- LODGE BAR
- LODGE CABINS

## PURPLE LOBBY

ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- DELTA SKY360° CLUB
- MEDTRONIC CLUB
- FMP CLUB
- TURF & TOUCHDOWN SUITES
- VALHALLA SUITES
- NORSEMAN SUITES 16-25
- SE NORSEMAN SUITES
- LOFT SUITES 28-46



#### **612 BURGER KITCHEN – 143, 339**

Burgers, Tots, Peanuts

#### **ANDREW ZIMMERN'S CANTEEN – 121**

Lamb Bucket, Lamb Sandwich, ½ or Whole Chicken, Frozen Hot Chocolate, Crispy Fried Potatoes, Chicken Sandwich, BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Coleslaw, Macaroni Salad, Bombolini

#### **ANDREW ZIMMERN'S HOAGIES – 344**

Italian Sausage Hoagie, Porketta Hoagie, Italian Beef, Roasted Pork, Frozen Hot Chocolate, Bombolini

#### **BARS - NEAR PURPLE /GOLD LOBBY, 301, 325**

Beer, Liquor, Wine, Bloody Mary's (outside Purple & Gold Lobbies)

#### **THE BRAT STAND – 317, 347**

Hot Dog, Bratwurst, Peanuts

#### **BUD'S BBQ – 324**

Pulled Pork Sandwich, Bud's Bucket, Mac N Cheese, Baked Beans

#### **CARIBOU COFFEE BAR – 136**

**CRAFT MYLO - 103, 118, 121, 131, 312, 343, 360**  
Domestic & Craft Beer

#### **STATE FAIR FAVORITES – 114**

Smoked Turkey Leg, Pork Chop on a Stick, BBQ Loaded Potato, Cookie Dough Cone

#### **CROWN ROYAL PORTABLE STAND – 341**

Beer & Cocktails

#### **CORNER BAR – 138**

Beer, Wine, Purple Passion vodka drink

#### **CURDS N CAKES – 114**

Blue Moon Beer-Battered Bacon Cheese Curds

#### **GO BIG... OR GO HOME – 347**

Jumbo Nachos, Peanuts, Beer

#### **HEADWATERS – 109, 114, 119**

Beer & Peanuts

#### **IKE'S – 119, 329**

Beer, Peanuts, Hand Carved Sandwiches

#### **IKE'S BLOODY MARY / PURPLE PASSION – NEAR PURPLE / GOLD LOBBY, 315, 334**

Jumbo Nachos, Peanuts, Beer

#### **THE KERNEL – 103, 318**

Popcorn, Beer

#### **KRAMARCZUK'S – 108, 336**

Beer, Peanuts, Sausages

#### **M-ARTISAN PRETZEL – 134, 311, 346**

Pretzels With Dipping Sauce & Peanuts

#### **MAC & CHEESE PORTABLE STAND – 116**

Mac N Cheese With Chicken Or Brats

#### **MILL CITY CLASSICS – 105, 113, 118, 129, 130, 311, 317, 341, 349**

Hot Dogs, Brats, Nachos, Popcorn, Pretzels, Peanuts

#### **MILLER TIME PUB – 314**

Beer, Liquor, Wine

#### **METRO BREW – 101, 102, 318, 336**

Miller Lite, Coors Light, Redd's, Blue Moon

#### **NACHOS – 116, 122, 131, 360**

Beef Nachos, Peanuts

#### **NEW AMSTERDAM VODKA PORTABLE STAND – 307**

Peanuts, Liquor, Beer

#### **NORTH STAR GRILL – 103, 124, 132, 304, 313, 328, 345**

Hot Dogs, Brats, Burgers, Chicken Tenders, Veggie Burger (103, 124, 304), Chicken Sandwich (103, 124, 304), Cheese Curds (103, 124), Ice Cream (103, 304), Nachos, French Fries, Peanuts

#### **PRAIRIE DOGS – 122**

Handcrafted Hot Dogs, Peanuts

#### **R TACO – 310**

Rusty Pork Taco, Fried Chicken Taco, Fried Shrimp Taco

#### **RED ZONE GRILL – 105, 113, 126, 131**

Hot Dogs, Brats, Burgers, Chicken Tenders, French Fries, Candy, Peanuts

#### **REVIVAL – 111**

Pork Rinds, Chicken Sandwich, Chicken & Coleslaw

#### **LOLA'S – 334**

Peanuts, Beer, Rib Tips, Hot Dog

#### **PHILLY CHEESE STEAK – 107**

Philly cheese steak, beer, peanuts

#### **THE STACK – 328**

Turkey Sandwich, Peanuts, Beer

#### **STONE ARCH PIZZA – 134, 307**

Pizza, Pretzels, Candy, Hotdogs, Peanuts

#### **TWIN CITIES FOODIE – 101**

Chicken Meatballs, Jerk Bacon Sammie, Chicken Nachos, Peanuts

#### **WILD & FRESH MARKET – 124, 318**

Salads, Boom Chicka Pop Popcorn, Gluten-Free

GLUTEN-FRIENDLY  
OPTIONS

#### **MILL CITY CLASSICS – SECTIONS 113, 317**

Gluten-Friendly Hot Dog Buns

#### **WILD & FRESH MARKET – SECTIONS 124, 318**

Gluten Free Options

#### **EVERYWHERE –**

Gluten-Free  
Hot Dogs



**EXPRESS PICK UP  
AVAILABLE ON THE  
VIKINGS APP**





TM



**OFFICIAL BEER  
SPONSOR OF THE  
MINNESOTA VIKINGS**



©2016 MILLER BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WI



# Let there be no mistaking where your loyalty lies

Open any U.S. Bank consumer checking account  
and choose the Minnesota Vikings Debit Card.

Ask a U.S. Banker about one today.



[usbank.com](http://usbank.com)

The Official Bank of the Minnesota Vikings



All regular account opening procedures apply. \$25 minimum deposit is required to open a U.S. Bank consumer checking account. Deposit products offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. ©2017 U.S. Bank. The issuer of the U.S. Bank Visa Debit Card is U.S. Bank National Association, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. The Minnesota Vikings and the Vikings logo are registered trademarks of NFL Properties, Inc. "World's Most Ethical Companies" and "Ethisphere" names and marks are registered trademarks of Ethisphere LLC.