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10.13.2019

CRUCIAL CATCH



PLAYER BOOK



AT



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EDITOR: Craig Peters

COPY EDITOR: Lindsey Young

WRITERS: Craig Peters, Eric Smith & Lindsey Young

ART DIRECTION & DESIGN:

Taylor Sievert, Alicia Dreyer, Elizabeth Bazany, Dane Kuhn & Jackie Ramacher

PHOTOGRAPHY: Andy Kenutis, Travis Ellison, Dane Kuhn, Kam Nedd & the Associated Press

PUBLISHED BY: GameDay Sports; info@gamedaysportsmarketing.com

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: advertising@vikings.nfl.net

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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 inconsiderate 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 ISSUES

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

69050

QUESTIONS?

Use the photo app on your smart phone to scan & ask a question.



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

VIKINGS

AT GIANTS

The Vikings earned their first road victory of 2019 with a fast start on offense and relentless defensive effort.

Minnesota totaled 490 yards of offense and only allowed 211 by New York, and the Vikings scored on four of their first five possessions.

Head Coach Mike Zimmer presented a game ball to Vikings Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf and Owner/President Mark Wilf on behalf of the team's ownership group.



01



02



03

01 | Dalvin Cook totaled 218 yards from scrimmage (132 rushing and 86 receiving), becoming the first player in franchise history with at least 120 rushing yards and 80 or more receiving yards in the same game.

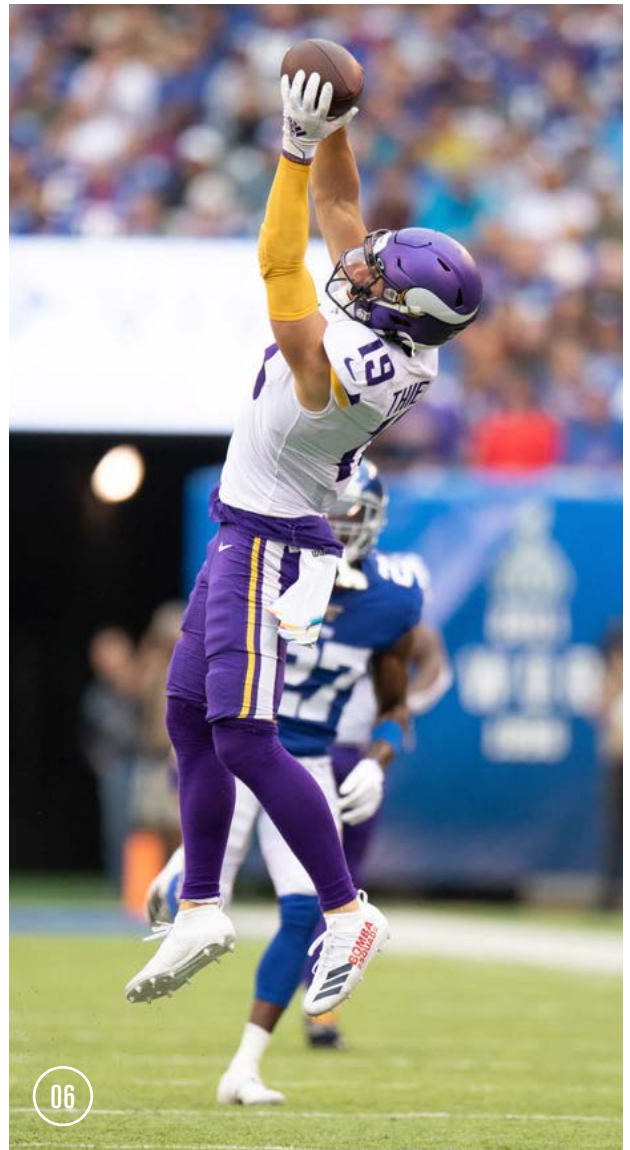
02 | Anthony Barr became the third player in NFL history to record a safety and an interception in the same game. He swarmed rookie running back Jon Hilliman in the end zone for the 2-pointer to shift momentum back to Minnesota and helped ice the game by picking off rookie quarterback Daniel Jones in the fourth quarter.

03 | Kirk Cousins opened ablaze, completing 19 of 23 passes for 278 yards in the first half. He finished 22-for-27 with 306 yards, two touchdowns and a passer rating of 138.6.



04 | Ifeadi Odenigbo recorded his first career sack and Minnesota's first of four takedowns of Jones. Danielle Hunter sacked Jones twice.

05 | Dan Bailey made all four field goals [31, 48, 32 and 45 yards] and both extra points to score 14 points and earn NFC Special Teams Player of the Week.



06 | Adam Thielen caught seven passes for 130 yards and two touchdowns. It was the second time in his career in which he has had two receiving touchdowns.

WANT MORE?

Check out 'Through the Lens' presented by Andersen Windows and Doors on vikings.com or follow Official Team Photographer Andy Kenutis @vikingsphotog on Instagram.



VS. PHI



Today's game features the Eagles and Vikings meeting for the 29th time in the regular season or playoffs.

Minnesota is 14-10 in regular-season games and 0-4 in playoff contests against the Eagles.

The series began with a 31-21 Vikings win on Oct. 28, 1962. Minnesota Head Coach Norm Van Brocklin led his squad over the team that he had quarterbacked to an NFL title in 1960.

Tommy Mason and Fran Tarkenton sparked a 24-point run in the second quarter. Mason rushed for a 1-yard touchdown and caught a 74-yard touchdown pass from the QB, who also rushed for a 10-yard score.

Mason added another 8-yard touchdown catch from Tarkenton in the fourth quarter. He accounted for 158 total yards from scrimmage on the day. Tarkenton finished 8-of-17 passing with two scores and a passer rating of 101.8. "Scramblin Fran" also rushed seven times for 69 yards.

Another highlight in the series occurred on Oct. 24, 1976, when Chuck Foreman became the first Vikings player to rush for 200 yards in a game, helping fuel a 31-12 win at Philadelphia.

This is the first time for the Vikings to host the Eagles since Dec. 15, 2013, a 48-30 win by Minnesota in the penultimate game at the Metrodome. Eagles safety Andrew Sendejo recorded four tackles, including one for loss, for the Vikings in that game.



**CRUCIAL
CATCH**
INTERCEPT CANCER

Cancer affects millions each year, but it is important to know that patients, survivors and caregivers are not alone in this fight. It is also important to remember those who have lost battles with the disease and their loved ones. Multiple elements of today's Crucial Catch: Intercept Cancer game are intended to show support, from the National Anthem, Color Guard and a special halftime performance to the gear worn by players and coaches and beyond.

TODAY'S GAME IS
PRESENTED BY

Mystic Lake
CASINO • HOTEL

GJALLARHORN

Vikings Legend Keith Millard will sound the Gjallarhorn. The All-Pro defensive tackle recorded 18 sacks in 1989 and was named NFC Defensive Player of the Month that October.



MINNESOTA VIKINGS JUNIOR CHEERLEADERS (JR MVC) PERFORMANCE

Prior to today's contest, 300 participants in the JR MVC program will perform a professional production alongside the Minnesota Vikings Cheerleaders. The JR MVC program is designed specifically to promote self-esteem, pride, hard work and fun among young women 3 - 14 years of age. Visit vikings.com/cheerleaders for more details on the JR MVC program.

HALFTIME

Today's Halftime will feature a special performance by Caly Bevier, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer at age 15 and is now in remission. Bevier will be joined by survivors, patients and caregivers during halftime. She also will sing the National Anthem before the game.

IT'S A SIMPLE GAME PLAN— INTERCEPT CANCER!

TOGETHER WITH THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS,
WE WANT YOU TO MAKE A CRUCIAL CATCH.



CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

Mystic Lake's Change for the Better program allows guests to donate change to charity when redeeming a ticket. Throughout October, Mystic Lake will match Change for the Better donations. All proceeds will benefit local cancer charities.



Mystic Lake

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#1 FOR NEW COUNTRY

FUNNY.COUNTRY.MORNINGS.

CHRIS CARR & COMPANY | WEEKDAYS 6A-10A



MAVERICK | KIA | CHRIS CARR



During each home game, U.S. Bank and the Minnesota Vikings will recognize individuals who have helped make our community a better place.

Today's Hometown Hero is United States Army Sgt. Zachary Ewing, a 2010 graduate of Blaine High School who enlisted in March 2011. Sgt. Ewing deployed on missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Sgt. Ewing was injured in Iraq, and his treatment for that injury led to the discovery of a rare and aggressive cancer. Sgt. Ewing battled for 15 months before passing away on Aug. 27, 2016, at age 24. If you would like to nominate a Hometown Hero, visit Vikings.com/fans/promos/hometown-hero.

CENTURYLINK BOOSTBOX

CenturyLink Boostbox is your connection to the Vikings. CenturyLink has teamed up with quarterback Kirk Cousins to connect you to the Vikings all season long. Enter to win an exclusive fan experience including VIP tickets and sideline passes, engraved tablet, signed gear and more! Visit centurylink.com/Vikings to enter.



OPENING DRIVE SWEEPSTAKES

Today's Kwik Trip opening drive contestant is Paula Gellert from Fairmont, Minnesota. Paula will win a \$25 Kwik Trip gift card for every yard earned on the Vikings opening drive plus a \$500 bonus for a field goal or \$1,000 for an opening drive touchdown! To enter, see your neighborhood Kwik Trip today.

Kwik Trip

COIN TOSS CAPTAIN

U.S. Bank is giving you the chance to receive an exclusive experience to be the U.S. Bank Coin Toss Captain at an upcoming Vikings game! Enter to win two tickets, pregame sideline passes and a commemorative game coin. Visit Vikings.com/Rewards to join Vikings Rewards and enter for your chance to win.



#VIKINGSHAIRSTYLE

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



AUGMENTED REALITY SOUVENIR PEPSI CUPS

Scan your Pepsi cup with the Vikings App to unlock some of our best player celebrations! Share yours with #SkolCelebrations #Contest for a chance to win Vikings tickets and other prizes!



SACKS FOR APPS

Buffalo Wild Wings brings you "Sacks for Apps" during all Vikings home and away games this season! When the Vikings record 3.0 or more sacks in a game, fans score a free shareable with a minimum purchase of \$5. Offer is valid for three days after each eligible game. Visit Vikings.com/bww for your digital coupon and offer details.



HY-VEE #SKOL

Share a photo at today's game using #SKOL to see yourself on the video board and for the chance to win a \$25 Hy-Vee gift card!



VIKINGS CHAT BOT

OPEN THE VIKINGS APP AND CLICK ON THE 'ASK ME ANYTHING' BUTTON TO PLAY TRIVIA AND WIN A PRIZE, WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, OR SIMPLY FIND YOUR FAVORITE FOOD FROM YOUR SEAT!



LIGHTS ON FOR THURSDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

OCT. 24 | U.S. BANK STADIUM

On Thursday, Oct. 24, the Vikings will take the field against the Washington Redskins in Primetime Purple uniforms, just the sixth time in Vikings history that the team will wear "purple on purple." Fans that want to suit up with the team can get their Primetime Purple jerseys in the Vikings Locker Room stores at U.S. Bank Stadium, Mall of America and Viking Lakes in Eagan, or online at vikingsfanshop.com.

VIKINGS COUNTRY

OCT. 15 | 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Join Mike Mussman along with Anthony Harris for *Vikings Country* presented by Miller Lite on Tuesday, Oct. 15, at Clive's Roadhouse in Rogers. You could win great prizes, including tickets in the Miller Lite Lounge at U.S. Bank Stadium! For more info, visit vikings.com/vikingscountry.

WORKOUT WEDNESDAYS*

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16

Join Vikings Women once a month during the football season for Workout Wednesdays. Classes will be taught by Life Time instructors for all fitness levels. The next class, Dance Jam with Jessica Jordani, will be held at TCO Performance Center. Register at vikings.com/womensevents.

FRIDAY FOOTBALL FEAST

OCT. 18 | 9 A.M. - NOON

Join KFAN each Friday morning from 9 a.m. to noon for a Friday Football Feast presented by Coors Light and KFAN. 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 for a chance to win an MVP experience! This week's Friday Football Feast will be at the Buffalo Wild Wings in Crystal.



DEC. 7 | U.S. BANK STADIUM

Celebrate all things football at the Minnesota Football Showcase presented by Andersen Windows and Doors. Join us Saturday, Dec. 7, at U.S. Bank Stadium for a football-filled day featuring the best high school players facing off in the 47th Minnesota High School All-Star Game. Fans can also participate in a youth clinic and receive autographs from Vikings Legends and current players. Learn more at Vikings.com/Showcase.

**Women ages 18 and up are welcome.*



NOMINATE YOUR SCHOOL TO BE SELECTED AS THE MINNESOTA FOOTBALL COMMUNITY 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 COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR.”** Nominations are being accepted from now on Vikings.com/CommunityOfTheYear.

In the spring, the Minnesota Vikings, Innovative Office Solutions and KFAN will present the winning community with a **TOWN TAKEOVER**, 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 its school's football program.





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PLAYER TO WATCH:

RB DALVIN COOK

DALVIN COOK HAS HIT HIS STRIDE to open his third pro season. After battling injuries, including a torn ACL in his rookie season and a hamstring in 2018, Cook has taken the NFL by storm to start 2019. He ranks second in rushing yards (542) and combined yards (742) and is tied for fourth in the NFL with five rushing touchdowns through the first five weeks of the season. Cook has showcased his speed once he gets into the open field and incredible elusiveness when navigating through traffic, utilizing nifty footwork and maintaining his balance for extra yards. He will face a stiff challenge in today's game from an Eagles run defense that leads the NFL in stinginess. Philadelphia has only allowed 63.0 rushing yards per game this season, which is 16.2 fewer per game than the Eagles allowed in 2017 when they led the league in the category. The Vikings might try to create more space for Cook in the passing game. He leads the team with 21 receptions entering today's game.

ELITE COMPANY: COOK BECAME THE FIFTH PLAYER IN NFL HISTORY TO RUSH FOR AT LEAST 110 YARDS AND A TOUCHDOWN IN THE FIRST THREE GAMES OF A SEASON. EVERY OTHER BACK THAT HAS DONE SO – JIM BROWN (1958), O.J. SIMPSON (1975), EMMITT SMITH (1995) AND CURTIS MARTIN (2004) – IS ENSHRINED IN THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME.

FOUR
WITH **100+**

Cook has rushed for more than 100 yards in four of the first five games of 2019, giving him six such performances in 20 career games and five in the eight games in which Kevin Stefanski has called plays.

2019 SEASON LEADERS

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| Passing (Yds) | Kirk Cousins | 1,041 |
| Rushing (Yds) | Dalvin Cook | 542 |
| Receiving (Yds) | Adam Thielen | 309 |
| Tackles | Eric Kendricks | 50 |
| Sacks | Danielle Hunter | 5.0 |
| Interceptions | Anthony Harris | 2 |
| KOR (Yds) | Ameer Abdullah | 58 |
| PR (Avg.) | Marcus Sherels | 5.4 |

2019 SCHEDULE

PRESEASON (3-1)

| | | | |
|----|------|-----------------------|---------|
| P1 | 8/9 | at New Orleans Saints | W 34-25 |
| P2 | 8/18 | Seattle Seahawks | W 25-19 |
| P3 | 8/24 | Arizona Cardinals | W 20-9 |
| P4 | 8/29 | at Buffalo Bills | L 27-23 |

REGULAR SEASON (3-2)

| | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 9/8 | Atlanta Falcons | W 28-12 |
| 2 | 9/15 | at Green Bay Packers | L 21-16 |
| 3 | 9/22 | Oakland Raiders | W 34-14 |
| 4 | 9/29 | at Chicago Bears | L 16-6 |
| 5 | 10/6 | at New York Giants | W 28-10 |
| 6 | 10/13 | Philadelphia Eagles | |
| 7 | 10/20 | at Detroit Lions | |
| 8 | 10/24 | Washington Redskins | |
| 9 | 11/3 | at Kansas City Chiefs | |
| 10 | 11/10 | at Dallas Cowboys | |
| 11 | 11/17 | Denver Broncos | |
| 12 | 11/24 | Bye Week | |
| 13 | 12/2 | at Seattle Seahawks | |
| 14 | 12/8 | Detroit Lions | |
| 15 | 12/15 | at Los Angeles Chargers | |
| 16 | 12/23 | Green Bay Packers | |
| 17 | 12/29 | Chicago Bears | |

TOP 2 AGAINST EAGLES

RUSHING YARDS

| | |
|-----|--|
| 200 | Chuck Foreman on 28 attempts at Philadelphia (Oct. 24, 1976) |
| 125 | Robert Smith on 22 attempts in Minnesota (Sept. 28, 1997) |

PASSING YARDS

| | |
|-----|---|
| 382 | Matt Cassel on 26-of-35 passing in Minnesota (Dec. 15, 2013) |
| 343 | Daunte Culpepper on 37-of-47 passing at Philadelphia (Sept. 20, 2004) |

RECEIVING YARDS

| | |
|-----|--|
| 163 | Greg Jennings on 11 catches in Minnesota (Dec. 15, 2013) |
| 151 | Cris Carter on six catches at Philadelphia (Oct. 15, 1990) |

2019 SEASON LEADERS

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------|
| Passing (Yds) | Carson Wentz | 1,152 |
| Rushing (Yds) | Jordan Howard | 248 |
| Receiving (Yds) | Zach Ertz | 312 |
| Tackles | Rodney McLeod | 23 |
| Sacks | Brandon Graham | 3.0 |
| Interceptions | Nate Gerry | 2 |
| KOR (Yds) | Miles Sanders | 207 |
| PR (Avg.) | Darren Sproles | 9.3 |

2019 SCHEDULE

PRESEASON (1-3)

| | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------|---|-------|
| P1 | 8/8 | Tennessee Titans | L | 27-10 |
| P2 | 8/15 | at Jacksonville Jaguars | W | 24-10 |
| P3 | 8/22 | Baltimore Ravens | L | 6-15 |
| P4 | 8/29 | at New York Jets | L | 6-0 |

REGULAR SEASON (3-2)

| | | | | |
|----|-------|------------------------|---|-------|
| 1 | 9/8 | Washington Redskins | W | 32-27 |
| 2 | 9/15 | at Atlanta Falcons | L | 24-20 |
| 3 | 9/22 | Detroit Lions | L | 27-24 |
| 4 | 9/26 | at Green Bay Packers | W | 34-27 |
| 5 | 10/6 | New York Jets | W | 31-6 |
| 6 | 10/13 | at Minnesota Vikings | | |
| 7 | 10/20 | at Dallas Cowboys | | |
| 8 | 10/27 | at Buffalo Bills | | |
| 9 | 11/3 | Chicago Bears | | |
| 10 | 11/10 | Bye Week | | |
| 11 | 11/17 | New England Patriots | | |
| 12 | 11/24 | Seattle Seahawks | | |
| 13 | 12/1 | at Miami Dolphins | | |
| 14 | 12/9 | New York Giants | | |
| 15 | 12/15 | at Washington Redskins | | |
| 16 | 12/22 | Dallas Cowboys | | |
| 17 | 12/29 | at New York Giants | | |

TOP 2 AGAINST VIKINGS

RUSHING YARDS

| | |
|-----|---|
| 169 | Wilbert Montgomery on 20 attempts in Minnesota (Sept. 14, 1980) |
| 146 | Duce Staley on 17 attempts at Philadelphia (Nov. 11, 2001) |

PASSING YARDS

| | |
|-----|---|
| 428 | Nick Foles on 30-of-48 passing in Minnesota (Dec. 15, 2013) |
| 333 | Donovan McNabb on 23-of-36 passing in Minnesota (Oct. 28, 2007) |

RECEIVING YARDS

| | |
|-----|---|
| 195 | DeSean Jackson on 10 catches in Minnesota (Dec. 15, 2013) |
| 174 | Timmy Brown on five catches in Minnesota (Oct. 28, 1962) |



PLAYER TO WATCH:

QB CARSON WENTZ

CARSON WENTZ, THE NO. 2 OVERALL PICK of the 2016 NFL Draft, is in his fourth season as Philadelphia's top quarterback. Wentz became the first Eagles rookie quarterback to start a season opener since Davey O'Brien in 1939 and the first to play in a Week 1 game since Randall Cunningham in 1985, and he is already among the top QBs in Eagles franchise history. Wentz set Philadelphia single-season records of 33 touchdowns in 2017 and completion percentage of 69.5 in 2018. The 26-year-old ranks fifth in franchise history with 11,304 passing yards and with 80 touchdown passes. He has thrown just 30 interceptions. Listed at 6-foot-5 and 237 pounds, Wentz hangs tough in the pocket – he's been sacked 100 times – and is able to make plays with his legs, bouncing back from a torn ACL that he suffered in Los Angeles on Dec. 10, 2017. He has rushed 163 times for 601 yards and three touchdowns.

CHAMPS ON REPEAT: AT NORTH DAKOTA STATE, WENTZ WAS A MEMBER OF TEAMS THAT WON FIVE CONSECUTIVE NCAA DIVISION I FCS TITLES (2011-15), INCLUDING THE FINAL TWO SEASONS AS A STARTER. HE WENT 20-3 AS THE BISON'S STARTING QUARTERBACK.

18
WITH 100+

In just 45 starts, Wentz has compiled a passer rating of 100 or higher 18 times, including twice already this season. He did so in the season opener against Washington and at Green Bay in Week 4. He also hit the benchmark last year at home against Minnesota (Oct. 7).



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VIKINGS ROSTER


| | | |
|----|---------------------|----|
| 2 | Britton Colquitt | P |
| 4 | Sean Mannion | QB |
| 5 | Dan Bailey | K |
| 8 | Kirk Cousins | QB |
| 11 | Laquon Treadwell | WR |
| 14 | Stefon Diggs | WR |
| 16 | Davion Davis | WR |
| 19 | Adam Thielen | WR |
| 20 | Mackensie Alexander | CB |
| 21 | Mike Hughes | CB |
| 22 | Harrison Smith | S |
| 23 | Mike Boone | RB |
| 25 | Alexander Mattison | RB |
| 26 | Trae Waynes | CB |
| 27 | Jayron Kearse | S |
| 29 | Xavier Rhodes | CB |
| 30 | C.J. Ham | FB |
| 31 | Ameer Abdullah | RB |
| 33 | Dalvin Cook | RB |
| 35 | Marcus Sherels | CB |
| 38 | Kris Boyd | CB |
| 39 | Marcus Epps | S |
| 40 | Kentrell Brothers | LB |
| 41 | Anthony Harris | S |
| 42 | Ben Gedeon | LB |
| 50 | Eric Wilson | LB |
| 51 | Hercules Mata'afa | DT |
| 54 | Eric Kendricks | LB |
| 55 | Anthony Barr | LB |
| 56 | Garrett Bradbury | C |
| 58 | Austin Cutting | LS |
| 61 | Brett Jones | C |
| 64 | Josh Kline | G |
| 65 | Pat Elflein | G |
| 69 | Rashod Hill | T |
| 71 | Riley Reiff | T |
| 73 | Dru Samia | G |
| 74 | Olisaemeka Udoh | T |
| 75 | Brian O'Neill | T |
| 78 | Dakota Dozier | G |
| 81 | Bisi Johnson | WR |
| 82 | Kyle Rudolph | TE |
| 83 | Tyler Conklin | TE |
| 84 | Irv Smith Jr. | TE |
| 91 | Stephen Weatherly | DE |
| 92 | Jalyn Holmes | DT |
| 93 | Shamar Stephen | DT |
| 94 | Jaleel Johnson | DT |
| 95 | Ifeadi Odenigbo | DE |
| 96 | Armon Watts | DT |
| 97 | Everson Griffen | DE |
| 98 | Linval Joseph | DT |
| 99 | Danielle Hunter | DE |




33
RUNNING BACK
Dalvin Cook




8
QUARTERBACK
Kirk Cousins




30
FULLBACK
C.J. Ham




14
WIDE RECEIVER
Stefon Diggs




82
TIGHT END
Kyle Rudolph




75
RIGHT TACKLE
Brian O'Neill




64
RIGHT GUARD
Josh Kline




56
CENTER
Garrett Bradbury



65
LEFT GUARD
Pat Elflein




71
LEFT TACKLE
Riley Reiff




19
WIDE RECEIVER
Adam Thielen


VIKINGS OFFENSE




29
CORNERBACK
Avonte Maddox




96
DEFENSIVE END
Derek Barnett




93
DEFENSIVE TACKLE
Tim Jernigan




91
DEFENSIVE TACKLE
Fletcher Cox




55
DEFENSIVE END
Brandon Graham




21
CORNERBACK
Ronald Darby




54
LINEBACKER
Kamu Grugier-Hill




23
SAFETY
Rodney McLeod



53
LINEBACKER
Nigel Bradham



27
SAFETY
Malcolm Jenkins



52
LINEBACKER
Zach Brown

VIKINGS SPECIAL TEAMS



5
KICKER
Dan Bailey



2
PUNTER
Britton Colquitt



58
LONG SNAPPER
Austin Cutting



35
PUNT RETURNER
Marcus Sherels



31
KICK RETURNER
Ameer Abdullah



ROSTER AND DEPTH CHART

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

OFFENSE

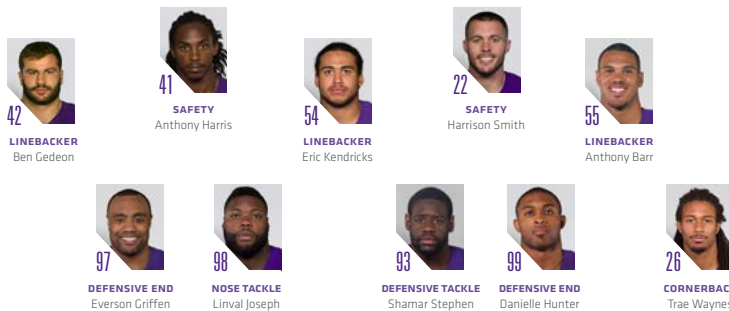
| | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|
| WR | Diggs | B. Johnson | Davis |
| LT | Reiff | Hill | |
| LG | Elflein | Dozier | |
| C | Bradbury | Jones | |
| RG | Kline | Samia | |
| RT | O'Neill | Hill | |
| TE | Rudolph | I. Smith Jr. | Conklin |
| WR | Thielen | Treadwell | |
| QB | Cousins | Mannion | |
| FB | Ham | | |
| HB | Cook | Mattison | Abdullah |

DEFENSE

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| LDE | Hunter | Weatherly | |
| NT | Joseph | J. Johnson | Watts |
| DT | Stephen | Holmes | Mata'afa |
| RDE | Griffen | Odenigbo | |
| WLB | Gedeon | Wilson | |
| MLB | Kendricks | Brothers | |
| SLB | Barr | Wilson | |
| LCB | Waynes | Hughes | Boyd |
| RCB | Rhodes | Alexander | Sherels |
| SS | H. Smith | Epps | |
| FS | Harris | Kearse | |

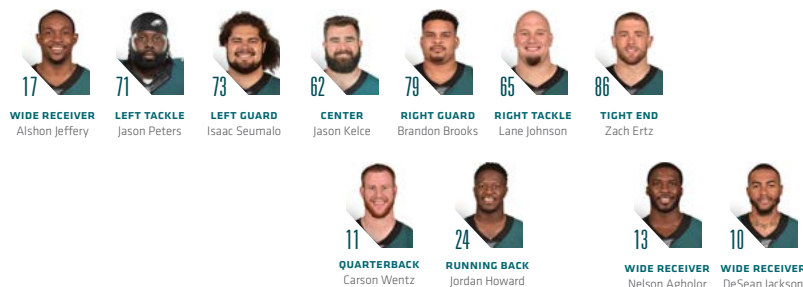
EAGLES ROSTER

| | | |
|----|-----------------------|-----|
| 1 | Cameron Johnston | P |
| 4 | Jake Elliott | K |
| 7 | Nate Sudfeld | QB |
| 10 | DeSean Jackson | WR |
| 11 | Carson Wentz | QB |
| 13 | Nelson Agholor | WR |
| 16 | Mack Hollins | WR |
| 17 | Alshon Jeffery | WR |
| 18 | Josh McCown | QB |
| 19 | J.J. Arcega-Whiteside | WR |
| 21 | Ronald Darby | CB |
| 22 | Sidney Jones | CB |
| 23 | Rodney McLeod | S |
| 24 | Jordan Howard | RB |
| 26 | Miles Sanders | RB |
| 27 | Malcolm Jenkins | S |
| 29 | Avonte Maddox | CB |
| 30 | Corey Clement | RB |
| 32 | Rasul Douglas | CB |
| 35 | Orlando Scandrick | CB |
| 36 | Rudy Ford | S |
| 37 | Ryan Lewis | CB |
| 39 | Craig James | CB |
| 42 | Andrew Sendejo | S |
| 43 | Darren Sproles | RB |
| 45 | Rick Lovato | LS |
| 47 | Nate Gerry | LB |
| 50 | Duke Riley | LB |
| 51 | Shareef Miller | DE |
| 52 | Zach Brown | LB |
| 53 | Nigel Bradham | LB |
| 54 | Kamu Grugier-Hill | LB |
| 55 | Brandon Graham | DE |
| 57 | T.J. Edwards | LB |
| 62 | Jason Kelce | C |
| 65 | Lane Johnson | T |
| 66 | Akeem Spence | DT |
| 67 | Nate Herbig | C/G |
| 69 | Matt Pryor | G/T |
| 71 | Jason Peters | T |
| 72 | Halapoulivaati Vaitai | T/G |
| 73 | Isaac Seumalo | OL |
| 74 | Daeshon Hall | DE |
| 75 | Vinny Curry | DE |
| 77 | Andre Dillard | T |
| 79 | Brandon Brooks | G |
| 86 | Zach Ertz | TE |
| 88 | Dallas Goedert | TE |
| 91 | Fletcher Cox | DT |
| 93 | Tim Jernigan | DT |
| 94 | Josh Sweat | DE |
| 96 | Derek Barnett | DE |
| 98 | Hassan Ridgeway | DT |



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OFFENSE

| | | |
|----|---------|------------------|
| WR | Jeffery | Arcega-Whiteside |
| LT | Peters | Dillard |
| LG | Seumalo | Pryor |
| C | Kelce | Herbig |
| RG | Brooks | Vaitai |
| RT | Johnson | Vaitai |
| TE | Ertz | Goedert |
| WR | Agholor | |
| WR | Jackson | Hollis |
| QB | Wentz | McCown Sudfeld |
| RB | Howard | Sanders Sproles |

DEFENSE

| | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------|-----------|
| DE | Barnett | Curry | Miller |
| DT | Jernigan | Spence | |
| DT | Cox | Ridgeway | |
| DE | Graham | Sweat | Hall |
| OLB | Grugier-Hill | Gerry | |
| MLB | Bradham | Edwards | |
| OLB | Brown | Riley | |
| CB | Maddox | Jones | Scandrick |
| CB | Darby | Douglas | James |
| S | McLeod | Sendejo | |
| S | Jenkins | Ford | |

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TIMEOUT WITH MIKE HUGHES

BY ERIC SMITH



INCREASED FASHION SENSE

BOUGHT HIS MOM A HOUSE IN JULY OF 2018

SELF-TAUGHT GYMNAST

MIKE HUGHES PAUSED AS HE REFLECTED ON THE PAST YEAR.

Tomorrow marks the one-year anniversary of the Vikings cornerback playing in his sixth career game, a home tilt against Arizona, and final outing of his rookie campaign.

Hughes had already made an instant impact as a first-round pick, notching a pick-six in his first career game, fitting in well with a talented defense.

But on Oct. 14, 2018, Hughes suffered a torn ACL and was lost for the season. He missed the first two games of 2019, too, before returning in Week 3 against Oakland.

Hughes explained what the upcoming one-year milestone of his injury means to him.

"It's been a long road, and I've been working my tail off. It's been rough ... it wasn't an easy comeback. But that day is something to remember. I'll never forget that day," Hughes said. "And Oct. 23 is the day I had surgery, so I'll never forget that day, either. I just want to keep working to

get back to myself and be better than I was.

"You learn patience. With an injury like this, you can't really rush it," Hughes also added. "Being patient was pretty rough, but being mentally strong was a tough part of it, as well. Those are two important things I learned."

Hughes couldn't walk for the first six weeks after his surgery but attacked his rehab with a passion, even on the rough days.

The 22-year-old provided some details on what his least-favorite day was during rehab.

"I'm not sure if you're familiar with a BFR machine ... blood flow restriction ... but it's a thing they put on your leg," Hughes said. "It cuts off all circulation, and you have to do certain workouts with it."

"That was tough for me, and one thing that I didn't really enjoy. It's to get it stronger," Hughes added. "It's one of those where you come in and think, 'Oh, I've got that today.' It's just another thing you have to push through. I tried to look at the positives."

While today's game against the Eagles

marks Hughes' fourth of 2019, he is still looking for his first interception since Week 1 of the 2018 season.

But when he gets it, he knows the amount of work he will have put in to get it.

"It will be that much more exciting for me, especially if I get another pick-six," Hughes said. "It will be special, just thinking about all the hard work I put in since I got my first one. I can't wait to get in that moment."





WE CAUGHT UP WITH
▼ HUGHES FOR A TIMEOUT



Q. You always seem to be one of the best-dressed guys on road trips. Where did you get your passion for fashion?

A. “The fashion thing has grown on me over the last couple years. I see guys around the league express themselves in different ways with how they dress, and I wanted to get in that phase. I kind of found my own little niche, so anytime I can express myself ... me and the other guys kind of compete, especially for road games when we have to have business attire. We try to have fun with it.”

Q. Do you have a go-to look?

A. “No, I like to switch it up. I try to wear something I’ve never seen any other guy wear, whether it’s a different brand or something.”

Q. You bought your mom a house in North Carolina in July of 2018. How is she liking her new home?

A. “She’s doing well. Obviously, I’m not able to go back and visit too much. When I do, I have my own room. It’s just a great feeling to know I’ve taken care of my

family and know they’re all set. That was a big accomplishment for me and something I wanted to do ever since I started playing football. Being able to do it was special.”

Q. Is your room decked out with Vikings gear?

A. “Actually, I have my own bedroom, and then we made a Vikings cave. It’s upstairs, like a game room that is painted purple and yellow, has a Fathead [sticker] of me in there, some pool tables.”

Q. You’re in a section of the locker room where, particularly on Fridays, there always seems to be a lot of chatter between you and the other defensive backs, often at a high volume. What are you guys usually debating?

A. “Usually random things (laughs). Honestly, you might have to ask me on a Friday to see what we’re talking about that day.”

Q. Who is the loudest person in those debates?

A. “You’ll probably agree with this, but probably Jayron [Kearse]. We get pretty deep in the debate, and he’s

probably the most passionate about what he believes.”

Q. What’s one thing people might not know about you?

A. “A lot of people back home know, maybe not Vikings fans, but I’m a big gymnast. I can do some pretty crazy flips that I’ve been doing since I was young. Obviously with the knee injury, I don’t try anything right now, but I’ve still got it in me.”

Q. Were you in gymnastics growing up?

A. “I wasn’t, I just learned on my own. But I got pretty good at it.”

“[IF I GET ANOTHER PICK-SIX] IT WILL BE SPECIAL, JUST THINKING ABOUT ALL THE HARD WORK I PUT IN SINCE I GOT MY FIRST ONE. I CAN’T WAIT TO GET IN THAT MOMENT.”

— MIKE HUGHES

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NO BULL

BY CRAIG PETERS

AS ONE GLANCES AT LINVAL

JOSEPH, WHO IS LISTED BY THE
VIKINGS AT 6-FOOT-4 AND 329
POUNDS, IT'S HARD TO FATHOM
THAT HE HAS EVER BEEN ON THE
RECEIVING END OF BULLYING.

It's far easier to imagine Joseph taking what he wants and leaving a wide path in his wake, but few visions could be further from the truth.

Joseph experienced bullying for the first time as a 10-year-old after his family moved from the Virgin Islands to Gainesville, Florida.

"The Virgin Islands is 'one love.' Everybody gets along, everybody helps each other, so coming from that world to Gainesville, Florida, going into school, 'Hey, how you doing? My name is Linval Joseph.' And somebody told me, 'You can't talk to him. He's not one of us.'"

"I was like, 'What do you mean? He's a human.' They were like, 'No, we don't talk to him,' " Joseph continued. "Now, racism came into play. I didn't know what any of that stuff was. I had to learn as I grew. Because I talked to them, they didn't want to accept me because now I'm an alien, now I'm this, now I'm that."

Each time someone would say something bad about him, Joseph bounced back.

"I used it as fuel, meaning if somebody told me I was poor or had on non-name-brand shoes, I was like, 'OK, let me go work and get a job so I can buy shoes. Let me help my mom out.' It forced me to grow up at a very young age."

Sports provided a transformative activity. Joseph already had enjoyed some success in basketball and track and field when he became more involved with football, learning techniques and trying to become stronger.

"The first time I ever touched a weight, I only benched 135," Joseph recalled. "I was shaking with it, and they picked on me, 'You're too big to be so weak.'"

"I went home and did push-ups every single day, 500. It took six hours the first time I tried," he said. "Every day I got better at it until it was down to an hour, by doing sets of 40, 60, 40, just knocking them out,

knocking out 500 a day. My bench went from 135 to 250, 315, 400, 450, 500, and 550 was the most I ever did in high school."

Along the way to becoming a state champion weightlifter, Joseph wasn't picked on anymore, but he saw peers hurting other peers. Joseph tried to discourage such behavior and came to understand that the bully's desire to hurt others originated from a rough home life.

"We're in the locker room, and he'd take a guy and put his head in the toilet with blue water," Joseph said. "He was asking me to help. I was like, 'Bro, why are you doing this? What did he do to you?'"

"He was like, 'Shut up. Why are you taking his side?'"

"Finally, to understand his situation better, I went to his house, and I saw that he was mistreated at home, beat up, and for him to feel like a normal kid, he had to do [wrong] to someone else to feel like it was OK because it happened to him," Joseph said. "He was getting bullied, and it forced him to do things to other people just to feel normal. At that point in my life, I understood, 'Wow, it can't be like this. This is not a good thing to do.'"

Joseph knows that not everyone is able to respond to bullying and have positive results, so he's committed to helping those who are encountering the activity and trying to end it.

He has created the Linval Joseph Foundation to help victims and spread the word that bullying – in any form or fashion – is wrong.

Joseph crisscrossed the Twin Cities and made stops in outstate Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and New York to deliver his anti-bullying platform in person. He has another event scheduled this month when teammates join him for a "Bowling Battle" between the offense and defense in Faribault on Oct. 29.

“ I’M JUST USING MY PLATFORM.”

I FEEL LIKE I TOUCH A LOT OF
PEOPLE’S LIVES. EVERY DAY WHEN
SOMEBODY MESSAGES ME AND
TELLS ME, ‘THANK YOU FOR WHAT
YOU’RE DOING. YOU SAVED ME. I
THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING MY LIFE,
AND AFTER HEARING YOU, I FEEL
STRONG,’ IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD.”

- LINVAL JOSEPH

“Some people get bullied and they tank. You never get to see their max potential because they never had anybody by their side to talk to them or help them get through it,” Joseph said. “I’m just using my platform. I feel like I touch a lot of people’s lives. Every day when somebody messages me and tells me, ‘Thank you for what you’re doing. You saved me. I thought about taking my life, and after hearing you, I feel strong,’ it makes me feel good.”

Joseph’s message is one of H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Progress Every Day).

It allows him to show that he’s “more than just a football player” and share his journey on a “long road” to being comfortable talking about who he is and why he does what he does.

The approach also helps in his role as one of the Vikings season-long captains, a responsibility he readily accepts.

“I just want to be a great person,” Joseph said. “It’s hard to be perfect in this world. It really is. I want to be an example of a true professional, a father, show everybody how to do things right because me doing things right always led me to better and more.”

Joseph was part of the free agency class that joined the Vikings in 2014, just months after Mike Zimmer was hired as head coach. Zimmer has given Joseph props multiple times over the years for his commitment to putting the team first.

Assistant defensive line coach Rob Rodriguez describes Joseph as “one of the best teammates I’ve ever seen and been around – he’s unbelievable.”

Teammates respect Joseph’s impact within the Vikings defense and locker room.

“When Zim’ describes him, everything is perfect,” said Anthony Barr, another multiyear captain. “The long arms, he’s fast, he’s smart. He’s a perfect football player, really, and it all came to a head on that play.”

Odds are, you already know what play Barr is referencing: Joseph recovered a fumble forced by Stephen Weatherly last year at Philadelphia and

returned it 64 yards for a touchdown.

Although Weatherly and Joseph are most commonly mentioned when that play is talked about, it really was the result of communication and collaboration.

Weatherly credited a tip from Jalyn Holmes, who was involved in the defensive line rotation at the start of the drive and throughout the day, with providing vital information.

The Vikings had done their prep work on the offensive line for the Eagles, trying to identify the moments when certain types of pass-rush moves would be most effective.

“When I came in, Jalyn stopped me and said, ‘He’s tired,’ talking about the right tackle,” Weatherly explained, adding that he knew it might be a good time to utilize an inside move.

“The ball was snapped ... I tried to sell it as hard as I could to the outside and pop inside really fast. I saw [Eagles quarterback Carson] Wentz with the ball, loading it back, so I was putting my head down and tried to drive as quickly as possible so he [couldn’t] get it off. I thought he threw it.”

The ball was knocked from Wentz’s grip and landed softly in Joseph’s massive hands.

He quickly transitioned and picked up steam.

“Rumbling” is often used to describe touchdowns by the biggest players on the field, but this run was far more graceful than most. He glided as if on the elliptical machine that he frequents at Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center.

“I just remember him running and trying to catch up to him,” Barr said. “I don’t think he needed our help. He was flying and probably would have been fine without the escort, but I just wanted to make sure he was clean and able to get the touchdown he deserved.”

Weatherly added: “L.J. put on film why he deserves a speed increase on Madden.”

Holmes said he thought Joseph might get caught, but defensive tackle Jaleel Johnson and running back Dalvin Cook, who knows a thing or two about long touchdown runs, said they were certain that Joseph had enough speed and gas in the tank to get there.



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WHAT'S IN A MEME?

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When Mom says dinner is ready, L.J. runs down as fast as he can to get his plate and is winded afterward because he's so excited.

— ANTHONY BARR

The mission was hard, but I made it look easy.

— JALYN HOLMES

Damn, I'm tired.

— KYLE RUDOLPH

Resting to do more work.

— DANIELLE HUNTER

"I've never seen somebody that big move like that," Holmes said. "Man, it was amazing. I thought he was going to get caught, to be honest with you, but Linval is a great athlete, especially for his size. He took it to the crib."

Why did Johnson not have a doubt?

"Because he's a fast guy, and a lot of guys are intimidated by him," Johnson said. "You're not going to tackle Linval head-on, so I knew it was going to be a touchdown from the get-go."

Cook, who was inactive, immediately smiled and put his arms above his head in celebration from the sideline.

"I know how fast Linval moves," he said. "I see him chase the ball every day in practice. Just to see him do it in the game was good."

Joseph credited the defensive line rotation, as well as the other 10 players on the field.

"The reason why I love football is it's not about one individual player," Joseph said. "Without Stephen, without Anthony Barr, without [Eric] Kendricks, without Sheldon [Richardson], it never would

have happened. That was a big moment because Philly, the last two years, they took our soul."

As great as that moment was, the ensuing image became iconic.

Joseph was shown on the sideline wearing an oxygen mask and sunglasses. Photographers couldn't resist the visual. Nor could the internet. Images quickly went viral.

Platforms that can be misused by cyber bullies delivered joys via pixels.

Weatherly and Johnson were among the players who went right back in on defense. They didn't know just what they had missed until after the game.

"It was a clean look," Weatherly said. "He was taking deep breaths with the oxygen machine. It was an intimidating picture for sure."

Johnson said the picture is "a classic" that he's saved on his phone for inspiration.


Holmes added: "L.J.'s a swaggy guy, so he put the shades on with the breathing machine. He's a big Don. He's got the nickname Big Goon."

Joseph, who has since said the oxygen tank wasn't working, explained that he didn't love the immediate notoriety. It has grown on him — and been illustrated on his right arm in a tattoo he got this spring. He even spotted trick-or-treaters imitating the look last fall.

"It kind of became a part of me, 'Man, this was a big moment in my life,' " Joseph said. "It was such a big moment in my life, I got it tattooed on me. This is a memory I'm going to have the rest of my life. At this point in your life, when something positive happens or somebody wants to dress as me for Halloween, you're doing something good."

All of Joseph's investment in cardio on the elliptical and commitment to teamwork paid off in a big way.

"Everything I ever worked so hard for, I got the opportunity to show it to the world," Joseph said. "It made my dad proud."



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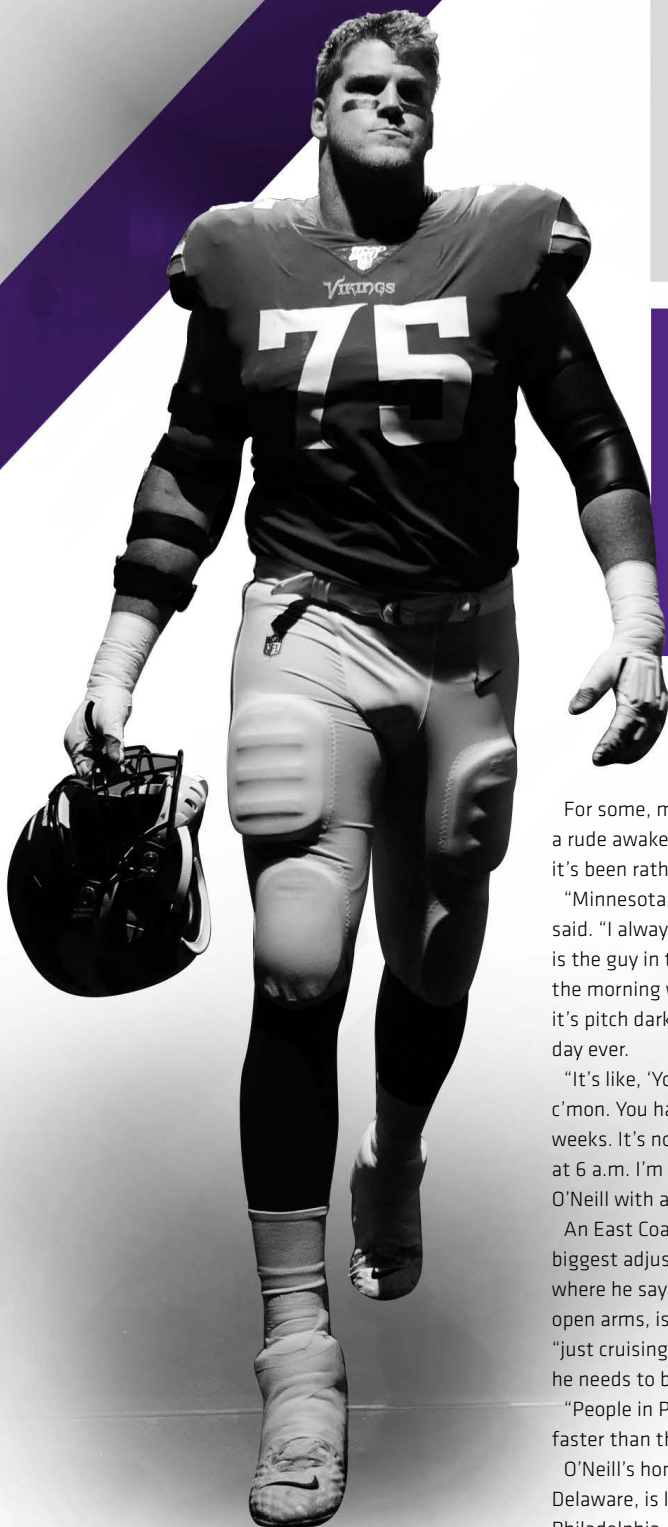


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KID MAN

AT HEART
ON THE FIELD

BY LINDSEY YOUNG

For some, moving far from home can be a rude awakening. But for Brian O'Neill, it's been rather polite.

"Minnesota Nice is a real thing," O'Neill said. "I always joke that Minnesota Nice is the guy in the elevator at 6 o'clock in the morning when it's 20 degrees outside, it's pitch dark, and he's having the best day ever.

"It's like, 'You're not that happy, bro, c'mon. You haven't seen the sun in three weeks. It's not all sunshine and puppies at 6 a.m. I'm doing fine, thanks,'" added O'Neill with a laugh.

An East Coast native, O'Neill feels the biggest adjustment to the Midwest, where he says he's been welcomed with open arms, is his patience with drivers "just cruising along" on the freeway when he needs to be somewhere.

"People in Philly and New York, they drive faster than they do here," he said.

O'Neill's hometown of Wilmington, Delaware, is located just 31 miles from Philadelphia. There was a time, he

admitted, "in a former life," that he "rooted for a team that was green," but O'Neill fell out of alliance with any particular team when he began his collegiate career at Pittsburgh.

"Pitt's football facility is connected to the Steelers facility ... so you kind of root for them because you see them every day, and then you also root for your former teammates and people you knew," O'Neill said.

His family has been a tough sell, though. Particularly his sports-loving, dedicated grandmother, who wore purple for the Vikings-Giants game last weekend but likely will don neutral colors for today's matchup against the Eagles.

"It was the same thing with high

school. I went to the high school that she didn't really like, so she wore the other team's color to games," O'Neill laughed. "It's just kind of understood where her allegiance lies. I'm the only person on our team that she'll root for."

Nevertheless, he's happy and grateful to be in Minnesota via the Vikings drafting him with the 62nd overall pick in 2018.

O'Neill had prepared for the pros with the help of veteran 49ers tackle Joe Staley and Hall of Famer Jackie Slater, and Staley ironically was one of the first opponents that he crossed paths with in the NFL.

"He's been kind of the guy I want to play like. He's been, like, *that guy*," said O'Neill, who was active but did not play in the Vikings season opener against San Francisco last year. "It was cool to see him in my first game. I was all nervous walking onto the field before, and he was just loose."

"Obviously, now I would be loose going out to say 'Hi' to somebody, but at that point, [I was] kind of [apprehensive]," he added.

What O'Neill didn't know then is that just one week later, he would get his first action at Green Bay when stepping in for Rashod Hill, who slid to left tackle when Riley Reiff suffered an injury.

O'Neill started the next game, and the next game after that, and he hasn't looked back.

O'Neill enters today's matchup with 20 games – and 16 starts – under his belt and has yet to allow a sack of quarterback Kirk Cousins, who was immediately impressed with the youngster's comfort level and abilities.

"Any time you can draft a player, he can show up, play well early and you can continue to grow and stay humble and

hungry, I think that is a really good sign for your team, for your offense," Cousins said. "Brian is a really good example of that."

The 2019 Vikings offense looks quite different from that of the system he first entered last year.

The Vikings have implemented a zone blocking scheme under Offensive Coordinator Kevin Stefanski and Assistant Head Coach/Offensive Advisor Gary Kubiak and have put much more emphasis on the ground game.

O'Neill believes he is well-fit for this type of system, saying it allows him to best use his strengths, including using his athleticism to get to the second level.

"I love this system," he said. "I love being able to run the ball, but at the same time, I know that [there might] be times that I'll have to pony up and pass block 50 times in a game. I had to do that sometimes last year."

With the help of O'Neill and the rest of the offensive line, running back Dalvin Cook has racked up 542 rushing yards and five touchdowns for Minnesota through five games.

The rapport between O'Neill, who has donned a Dalvin "The Chef" Cook T-shirt, and Cook, who includes the offensive linemen in touchdown celebrations, is strong. And O'Neill will tell you that the third-year back really requires very little help to get things done.

"He's really, really talented; and he's really, really down to earth; and he also works really, really hard. ... I don't think there is a missing piece, in my mind, to him as a football player," O'Neill said of Cook. "When you get a guy like that, all you've gotta do

is give him an inch. So, for me, it's like, 'Hell yeah, let's go.' "

And as for Cook's thoughts on the right tackle?

"He's a kid at heart," he said. "But when he steps on the field, he's a man."

The aforementioned side is one fans may not be as familiar with from O'Neill, a 6-foot-7, intimidating presence on game day. But during the week, whether at a Community Tuesday event, at practice or in a meeting room, it's difficult for O'Neill *not* to have fun.

"I'm 24 years old, and I'm coming here to play football every day. It could be a lot worse," O'Neill said. "Playing football is sweet. So, obviously I'm going to have fun and act like a little kid because this is what I wanted to do when I was a little kid."

But he also takes seriously his responsibility to the team and magnitude of his role on the Vikings 53-man roster.

"When I get on the field, whatever is required for the right tackle in the Minnesota Vikings offense to ... help give us the best chance to succeed, I'm going to do that," he added.

"I always say, I'm not trying to prove I'm a tough guy," O'Neill said. "I want to be known as a good player. And being a good player, you have to have toughness. ... I don't go out there trying to play 'tough guy' and show people that I can hit [defenders] so hard. No, I want to play well. I want to play really well. So whatever's asked of me to do that, that's what I'm going to do."

**"WHEN I GET ON THE FIELD, WHATEVER IS REQUIRED
FOR THE RIGHT TACKLE IN THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS
OFFENSE TO ... HELP GIVE US THE BEST CHANCE
TO SUCCEED, I'M GOING TO DO THAT."**

- BRIAN O'NEILL



A group of four women are cheering enthusiastically, holding up signs that spell out 'SKOL'. The woman on the far left is wearing a Viking helmet and a white shirt. The woman next to her is wearing sunglasses and a 'MINNESOTA VIKINGS Football' t-shirt. The woman on the far right is also wearing a Viking helmet and a white shirt. The woman next to her is wearing sunglasses and a 'MINNESOTA VIKINGS Football' t-shirt. The signs they are holding are white with black text or graphics: 'S', 'K', a football, and 'L'.

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FRENCH BULLDOG

NICKNAME:

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MOTTO:

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SLEEP HARD

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Chances are, you'll hear Basil before you see her.

By the time Vikings linebacker Eric Kendricks walks her from his upper-level apartment down to the sidewalk, Basil knows she's on her way to the park. The charcoal-colored French bulldog's signature, raspy snort is endearing in a way, announcing her presence in advance of prancing around the corner.

"Her nickname is Princess Basil," Kendricks says with a laugh. "Because she's a queen. A diva."

Basil wears a bright-pink harness that crosses over her proportionally broad chest. She pulls against it with each step she and Kendricks take to reach the open grass that signals play-time.

Kendricks reaches down to unclip the leash, and Basil is free. She bounces through the green, stopping briefly to press her flat nose against the ground and sniff each intriguing scent. She keeps an eye on her owner but isn't afraid to wander and play, attacking twigs that have snapped off from nearby trees.

Kendricks finds a moderate-sized branch lying nearby and tosses it to Basil, who clamps onto an end and drags a line through the dirt with the cumbersome stick. Over and over again she abandons the challenge, runs a straight line out and back and then returns to wrestle the branch.

After 15 minutes or so, Kendricks calls her

EAGLES VS. VIKINGS

ERIC KENDRICKS

BY LINDSEY YOUNG

over to a nearby bench and motions for her to take a rest.

"My favorite thing, it's like a two-headed [monster], honestly. She goes so hard," Kendrick says above the sound of Basil's labored breathing. "Anybody who knows her and is around her, she has no stop to her. I guess she probably gets that a little bit from me.

"It's also the worst thing about her, as well," he quips. "Because when you want her to chill and relax, she's usually turned up. But I love it."

Kendricks and his girlfriend, Ally, bought Basil as a puppy nearly two years ago.

The linebacker remembers playing with his uncle's English bulldogs as a child and falling in love with the breed. But when it came time to get his own, Kendrick opted for a French bulldog due to the lesser size but similar demeanor.

Both being cuisine connoisseurs, Kendrick and Ally brainstormed about a food-related name for their new puppy.

"We were thinking about all types of food that we could name her," Kendrick explained. "And then we started going into spices – salt, pepper – and then we [listed] things like oregano, then basil, and then it was like, 'Ooo, that kinda sounds good.'"

The name stuck.

Basil is a big part of life for Kendrick, who is a proud dog dad – just ask any one of his 122,000

Instagram followers.

He especially appreciates the little behaviors that make Basil, Basil. The way she is scared of the vacuum cleaner but will lunge after it when Kendrick pretends to be threatened by the appliance. Or the way she stretches out, back legs straight out behind her, and flattens into a sun-soaked spot on the floor.

"Her attitude, man. Her attitude is just through the roof. I can't explain it," Kendrick says. "When she wants to listen, she's going to listen to you. But if she doesn't want to listen, she doesn't hear a word. It doesn't matter what you say."

What's the worst thing that Basil has ever done when not in the mood to listen?

Kendricks doesn't have to ponder the question for long before launching into a story about an afternoon with Vikings defensive end Ifeadi Odenigbo. At the time, Odenigbo's dog, a Goldendoodle named Macy, was still a puppy and smaller than Basil.

"Basil was just kind of being aggressive, and we separated them and put Macy on the couch, and we told Basil she couldn't come on the couch: 'No, Basil. No.' She didn't like that," Kendrick recalls. "She didn't like that we were telling her, 'No.' She walked out in front of us and just stared at us, stared at us right in our eyes, and she just took a fat poop right on the floor.

"And then as soon as I stood up, like as she

was pooping, she just took off around the corner," he continues, reenacting his reactionary jump from the sofa. "So we knew it was just completely intentional. She was just upset that she couldn't go on the couch."

Play dates with other dogs are at the top of Basil's list.

"Some of her best friends are the other dogs on the team," Kendrick says, mentioning Macy in addition to Harrison Smith's chocolate Lab, Deuce.

"I first brought Basil over to meet Deuce, and Deuce was this big-ol' huge Lab, strong, and we were kind of nervous bringing little Basil around," Kendrick said. "But Deuce, actually, he changed his whole demeanor. He was very, very gentle with Basil, and then they became friends, as well."

Kendricks pulls Basil into his lap and roughhouses a little, then gives her a kiss.

Asked why he chose Basil over another type of pet, Kendrick says he loves the loyalty that most dogs provide.

"My dog doesn't listen to me, but most dogs listen to people," he quips. "They just love you. I'm an animal person, though, you know? I like all animals. Cats, dogs, it doesn't matter to me. I actually really like lizards, too, snakes, things like that."

Adds Kendrick: "Basil, though, that's my girl right there."

"When she wants to listen, she's going to listen to you. But if she doesn't want to listen, she doesn't hear a word. It doesn't matter what you say."

- ERIC KENDRICKS



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EARLY DIVERSITY

IN THE NFL

Long before Vikings lore launched, Minnesotans – by birth, by college attended or both – and multiple places around the state played important roles in the early days of the NFL, which was known as the American Pro Football Association from 1920-21 before becoming the National Football League in 1922.

The contributions to the league were enriched through a diversity of players that may have been few in number but were important groundbreakers.

BY CRAIG PETERS

BOBBY MARSHALL

Bobby Marshall, a Wisconsin native, attended Minneapolis Central High School before becoming the first African-American player in the Western Conference (predecessor to the Big Ten). Marshall's career with the Golden Gophers (1903-06) landed him in the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971.

Marshall graduated with a degree in law and practiced in the Twin Cities. He played for multiple baseball teams after college and into the next decade.

He became the first African-American to play in an NFL game when he did so with the Rock Island Independents in a win over the Muncie Flyers on Oct. 3, 1920. The game occurred a week before Fritz Pollard took the field with the Akron Pros and defeated the Columbus Panhandles on Oct. 10. Akron claimed the first league title.

Marshall later started seven games for the 1925 Duluth Kelleys at age 45.

The NFL began a period of banning African-American players in 1933, and the league was segregated until Kenny Washington signed with the Los Angeles Rams in 1946, a year before his UCLA teammate Jackie Robinson broke Major League Baseball's color barrier.

Pollard became the first African-American Head Coach in league history in 1921, but decades passed before another opportunity occurred. Art Shell (hired by the Raiders in 1989) became just the second in NFL history, and Vikings Ring of Honor Head Coach Dennis Green (hired by Minnesota in 1992) was the third. The Fritz Pollard Alliance is a present-day champion of diversity in the NFL.

JOE GUYON

Born on White Earth Reservation in 1892, Joe Guyon pursued educational opportunities at Carlisle Indian Industrial School from 1912-13, where he played for Pop Warner. Guyon later played at Georgia Tech for John Heisman from 1917-18. His brother, Charles, was an assistant coach, and the Yellow Jackets went 9-0, scoring 491 points en route to the 1917 national title.

Guyon was a member of the 1920 Canton Bulldogs that went 7-4-2 in the NFL's inaugural season. He played for seven different teams, including the New York Giants that won the NFL title in 1927. He was enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1966 and the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971.



BOBBY MARSHALL



JOE GUYON

Pro Football Hall of Fame

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THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS ARE HONORING SURVIVORS WHO HAVE BATTLED VARIOUS TYPES OF CANCER AND THE MEMORIES OF LOVED ONES WHILE SHOWING SUPPORT OF CAREGIVERS WHO ARE UNIFIED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER.

As part of the annual Crucial Catch: Intercept Cancer initiative, the Vikings are hosting a group of cancer survivors and caregivers who were surprised by Kyle Rudolph at Vikings Training Camp with tickets to today's game.

Players last week began wearing game-day apparel with a logo that represents multiple types of cancer. Helmet decals, captains' patches, cleats, wristbands, gloves, sideline caps, towels and shoelaces are included.

Coaches and officials also can wear multi-colored ribbon pins and sideline apparel.

The game balls feature the Crucial Catch

logo, and there will be other showings of support around U.S. Bank Stadium.

Game-worn Crucial Catch merchandise and footballs will be autographed and auctioned on NFL Auction (nfl.com/auction), and the money raised will be donated to the American Cancer Society for its CHANGE (Community Health Advocates implementing Nationwide Grants for Empowerment and Equity) grant program. CHANGE grants provided opportunities to community health centers to support systems-level change and increased access to low- or no-cost cancer screenings in underserved communities.

This is the 11th consecutive season in which the NFL and American Cancer Society have partnered in providing guidance on the importance of early detection as well as risk-reduction efforts.

Since 2009, more than \$20 million has been raised and donated to ACS through the partnership. In the past seven-plus years, CHANGE grants have contributed to more than 325,000 screenings.

The NFL and ACS are encouraging the entire NFL community to complete "The Defender," a free digital tool that provides consumers with a personalized game plan to reduce their cancer risk. The Defender shows how healthy lifestyle habits can help reduce cancer risk and is available at TheDefender.cancer.org.



VIKINGS VISIT HOPE LODGE

VIKINGS PLAYERS AND LEGENDS VISITED THE RICHARD M. SCHULZE FAMILY AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY HOPE LODGE IN MINNEAPOLIS ON TUESDAY TO SERVE A DINNER AND SPEND TIME WITH CANCER PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS.

The facility that opened in 2007 has 42 guest rooms where cancer patients and caregivers are able to stay at no personal cost while they are here to undergo treatment. All but two rooms were in use on Tuesday night, when current Vikings Ifeadi Odenigbo and Aviante Collins joined alumni Tuineau Alipate, Autry Beamon and Ben Williams in serving up plates of comfort food – meatloaf, mashed potatoes, broccoli and salad – in a large communal dining area that is flanked by large kitchen spaces.

Although the dining space is ample, the overwhelming feeling was one of coziness fostered by the genuine empathy that each patient has for each peer's diagnosis and

journey during treatment. Collins described the scene as "one big family."

"Two of my uncles passed away from cancer, so it really does mean a lot to me," Collins said. "I'm glad they [expanded Crucial Catch] to multiple kinds of cancer."

Added Williams: "Knowing the fight that some of these people go through, it really touches home, because it shows you how thankful you should be every day."

Joel Varela, who is from Superior, Wisconsin, is undergoing treatment. The relationships that Varela has formed with other Hope Lodge guests is something that he said he will "cherish forever."

"It's a blessing. Really, to take advantage of this full facility, is beyond words," Varela said. "Almost instantaneously since I walked through the door, it's been a family setting. I started my treatment back in May with chemotherapy for five days every three weeks. I did three rounds of chemotherapy for five days every three weeks. I did three rounds of chemotherapy, and now I'm in the radiation stage, so I'm here for a month-and-a-half."

As part of the NFL's Crucial Catch initiative, the Wilf family ownership group of the Vikings provided football and non-football employees with a pair of custom Nike shoes to wear during the "Crucial Catch" game. More than 400 pairs of shoes representing 11 categories of cancer were delivered to coaches, staff, cheerleaders, flag runners and the SKOL Line in 2018 to show support for those who are battling cancer and their caregivers, as well as pay tribute to the lives claimed by cancer. Employees who have since been hired received shoes this year.



VIKINGS AND MYSTIC LAKE HONOR SURVIVORS AND FAMILY MEMBERS

The Vikings and Mystic Lake partnered to host a reception and panel for ACS survivors and family members on Friday (after press time). Vikings.com will recap the event.

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THE WEATHERLY REPORT

ON LOCATION AT SWEET MARTHA'S COOKIES



BY LINDSEY YOUNG

STEPHEN WEATHERLY STOOD POISED AND FOCUSED, BLOCKED OUT THE CHAOS AROUND HIM AND PREPARED TO REACT.

The second he heard the call, he lunged forward with his arms extended ...

... and handed off a hot tray of chocolate chip cookies to a smiling, sweating high school student.

"COOKIES!"

The call came again, and Weatherly pivoted quickly once, then twice, trying to pinpoint the source.

He spotted an empty pan and dashed to replace it with his. Just behind him, Martha Rossini Olson laughed.

The sight of the 6-foot-5 Weatherly darting about inside the Sweet Martha's Cookie Jar building in a bright-yellow

T-shirt was comical, to say the least.

But Martha mostly was impressed by how quickly he caught on to the process.

"He was just right on the spot with those cookies," said Martha, a lifelong Vikings fan. "We just thought it was so much fun. He was so enthusiastic about everything he did."

Weatherly tackled the madness of the Minnesota State Fair for a segment of *The Weatherly Report*, a Vikings Entertainment Network content series that is new for the 2019 season. And he didn't simply sit back and observe; as with the "hot hands" runner station, the Vikings defensive end embraced each step of the process.

"From the mixing of the ingredients all the way to serving it to the customer was great. My favorite part was being the cookie runner," Weatherly said. "I was thinking, 'OK, they've got a whole

tray; they'll be fine.' But then you realize, they have probably 20-25 open stations, and you've gotta stay on the move.

"Playing football and always having to read and react, I was pretty good at that," Weatherly added. "I would say that was my favorite part."

Weatherly enjoyed immersing himself in the experience and appreciated Martha's hospitality.

"It's a well-oiled machine. Everyone has a job, everyone does their job and is highly efficient. It's really fast," said Weatherly, who added that it meant a lot for Martha herself to spend time showing him the ropes.

ON THE FIELD AND ON-AIR

The Weatherly Report will feature six episodes in which Weatherly does a unique activity or tries his hand at a new craft.

Since joining the Vikings as a seventh-round draft pick in 2016, Weatherly has worked his way up the proverbial ladder to play a more integral role in Minnesota's defense. And while he's proud of his on-field success, he's excited to show fans another side of himself.

"I'm more than just a football player, and it's great to show that I like to do different things," Weatherly said. "If anyone can take something away from it, it's that when you have an idea, if you have an interest in something, just go for it."





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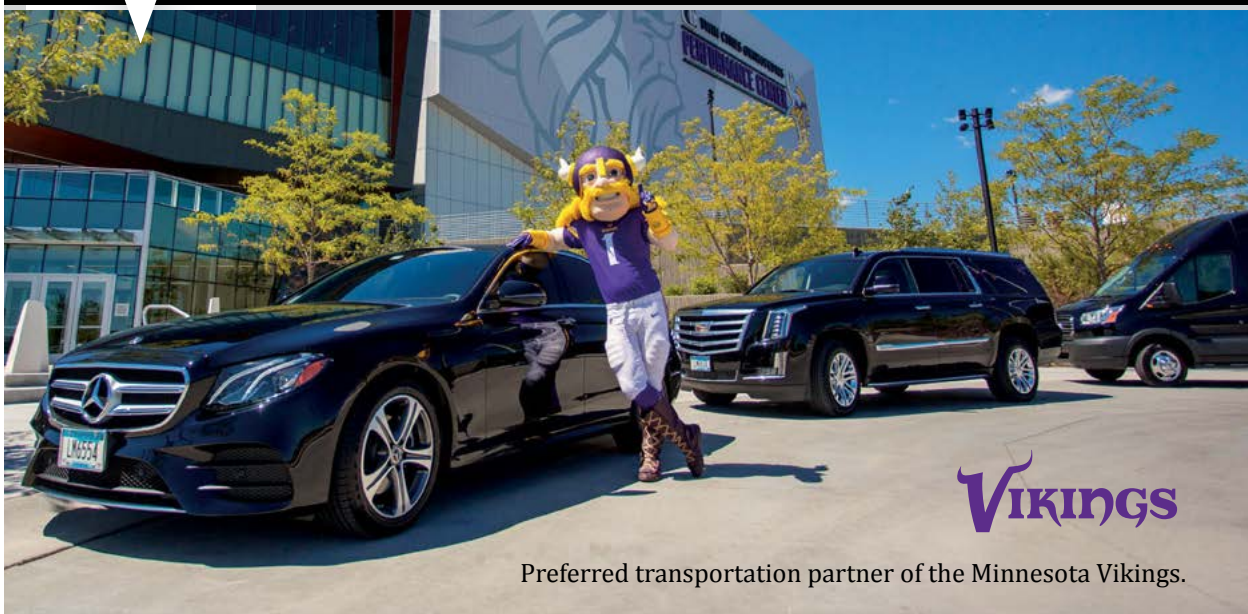
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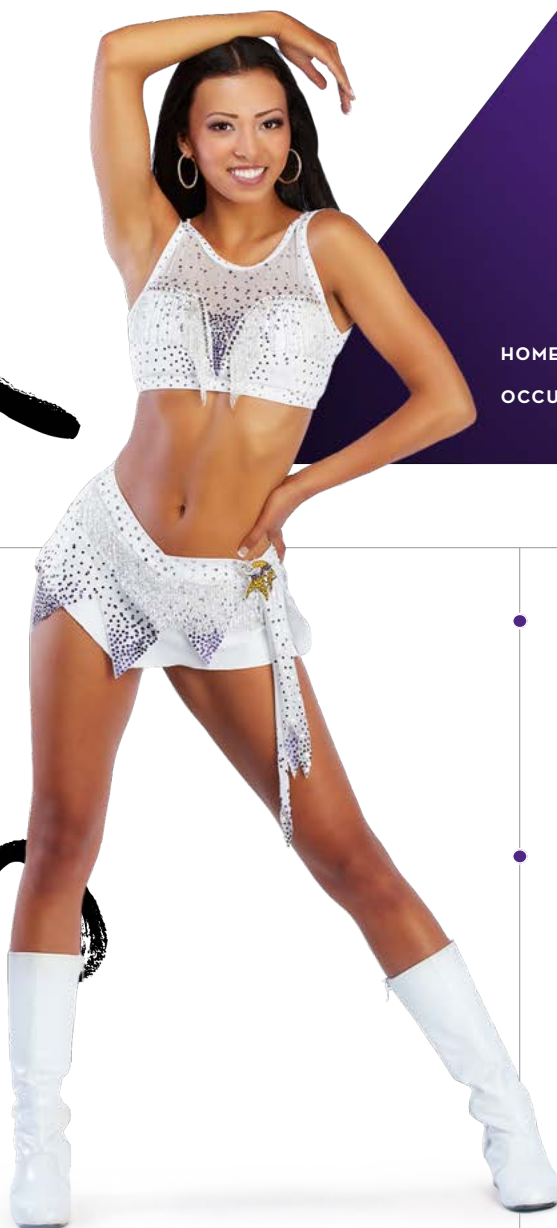

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Get to know Soonji

HOMETOWN: BLAINE, MN

OCCUPATION: STUDENT

FAVORITE APPEARANCE?

My favorite appearance is the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure event. I meet so many amazing people and hear the most inspiring stories. Also, I get to see so many furry friends!

FAVORITE GAME-DAY HIGHLIGHT?

My favorite part of game day would be doing the SKOL Chant. There is absolutely nothing like it in the world. Seeing the entire stadium of fans on their feet proudly cheering on their favorite team fills my heart to the fullest.



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GET YOUR 2019-2020 VIKINGS CHEERLEADER CALENDAR FEATURING ALL 33 CHEERLEADERS AT TODAY'S GAME OR ONLINE AT VIKINGSLOCKERROOM.COM. FOR EXCLUSIVE VIKINGS CHEER PHOTOS, DOWNLOAD THE OFFICIAL VIKINGS APP BY GOING TO MNVKN.GS/APPDOWNLOAD ON ANY DEVICE.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



THE 2019 VIKINGS PREP SPOTLIGHT SERIES PRESENTED BY FVP AT TCO STADIUM FEATURED THREE GAMES IN SEPTEMBER.

The series continued the commitment by the Vikings to youth football programming and showcasing the game at the high school level.

"High school football is one of our greatest traditions in America," Minnesota Vikings General Manager Rick Spielman said. "The values and lessons our game teaches young people are foundations they carry on for the rest of their lives."

The series began in 2018, the year that Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center and TCO Stadium opened, and all games were broadcast by FOX 9+ for the second consecutive year.

Kirk Cousins attended the first game of 2019 between the Eden Prairie Eagles and Shakopee Sabers, and Vikings Chief Operating Officer Andrew Miller presented the postgame trophy to Eden Prairie after a hard-fought win.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz attended the 2019 series finale between Mankato West and Rochester Mayo. Walz presented the postgame trophy to the school where he previously coached and taught geography.

2019 RESULTS:

SEPT. 20

Eden Prairie 14
vs.
Shakopee 6



SEPT. 27

Chaska 21
vs.
Apple Valley 0



SEPT. 28

Mankato West 58
vs.
Rochester Mayo 21



2018 RESULTS:

*MSHSL STATE QUARTERFINAL ROUND

SEPT. 28

Farmington 41
vs.
Eagan 28

OCT. 12

Lakeville North 38
vs.
Prior Lake 3

NOV. 9

Lakeville North 35
vs.
St. Michael-Albertville 8*

NOV. 10

Owatonna 42
vs.
Chaska 27*

NOV. 10

Elk River 23
vs.
Spring Lake Park 21*

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MINNESOTA VIKINGS FOUNDATION

The Minnesota Vikings Foundation advances the well-being of youth through engaging health and education initiatives. We enlist the support of the Vikings players, staff, fans and community to help make a measurable impact in the lives of youth in our community who need it most.

GAME-DAY AUCTIONS

There are multiple ways to support the Minnesota Vikings Foundation, including through participating in gameday auctions.

You can bid on unique memorabilia and unforgettable experiences every home game. Use bidpal.net/vikings2019 to register. Bidders do not need to be present to win.

Go to vikings.com/foundation to learn more about our commitment to this community.



VIKINGS TABLE

Vikings Table, a custom-built food truck, serves healthy meals and provides nutritional education to youth across the Greater Twin Cities. Vikings Table funds its programming through selling meals and catering events. Check out the truck on The Commons on game days. Email: contact@vikingstable.com; Twitter: [@VikingsTable](https://twitter.com/VikingsTable)

NONPROFIT OF THE GAME: AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

The NFL and Minnesota Vikings players, coaches and staff are committed to helping the American Cancer Society fight cancer. The NFL's Crucial Catch: Intercept Cancer initiative emphasizes the importance of early detection and risk reduction in fighting multiple types of cancer.

Since 2009, the first year of the NFL's Crucial Catch campaign, the NFL's work has raised more than \$20 million

for the American Cancer Society. Money raised through Crucial Catch supports the American Cancer Society's Community Health Advocates implementing Nationwide Grants for Empowerment and Equity (CHANGE) program. This program promotes health equity and addresses cancer early detection disparities through community based cancer prevention programs that increase access to necessary cancer screenings.





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SKOL SERVICE

SPOTLIGHT ON JOHN GIBEAU

JOHN GIBEAU DRIVES TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS EACH WAY ON VIKINGS GAME DAYS in order to be a part of the Guest Experience Team at U.S. Bank Stadium.

John's dedication has earned him a lead role on the team of Purple People who welcome and assist guests at U.S. Bank Stadium.

Elected at age 21, John became the youngest mayor in the history of Minnesota. Now he works as an insurance agent and stays busy with his nonprofit, Ceylon Area First.

The father of five and Vikings fan for more than 40 years shares his passion for the team with his children and while working directly with fans.

What drives him to make the commute every home game?



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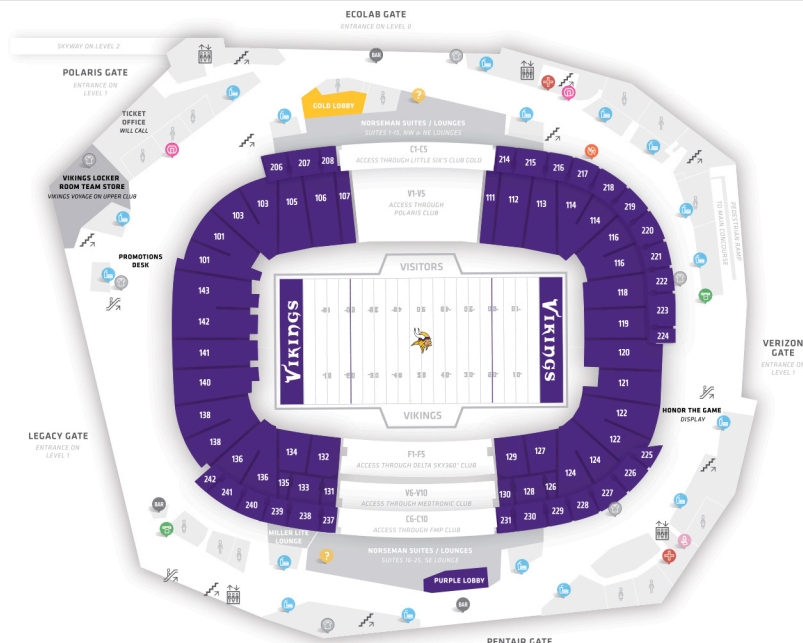
The ability to put fans' experiences first.

Knowing that he can have an impact on fans and make their experiences memorable, even in a small way, is the most rewarding part for John. He describes the team of Purple People and Guest Experience workers at the stadium as "a type of family that is hard to find anywhere else."













John said his favorite memory on the job so far is the Minneapolis Miracle, but he's also been amazed at how widespread Vikings fandom has become.

"That day was amazing," John said. "I think it's incredible how many fans the Minnesota Vikings have that travel for Game Day from Europe or somewhere overseas. It's fun to interact with so many walks of life!"

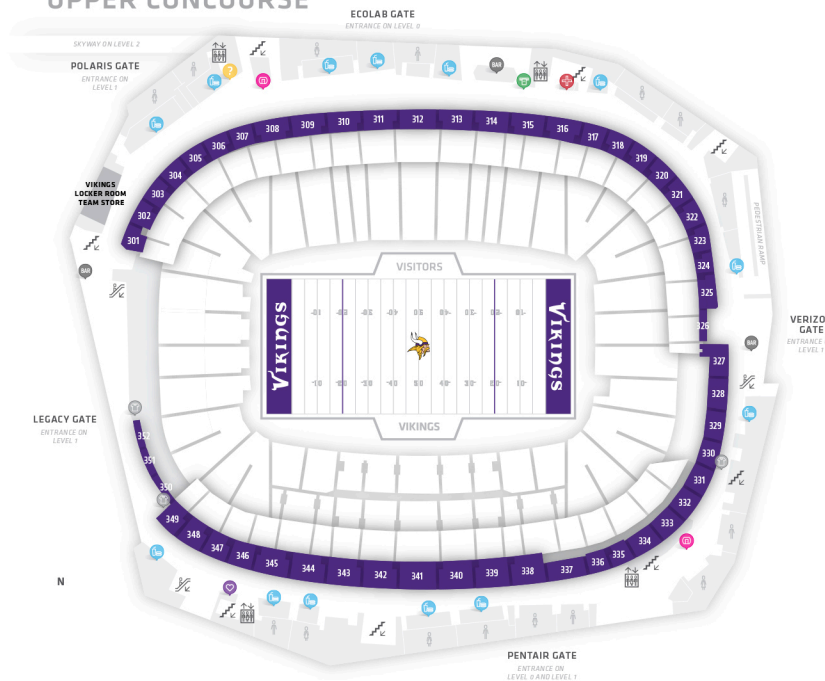
John, thank you so much for your hard work and dedication to the Minnesota Vikings! We are so appreciative of you and the positive attitude and humor that you bring. Fans, you can find John around the Legacy Gates on game days. If you see him, be sure to give him a high five.



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- MYSTIC LAKE'S CLUB PURPLE
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- NW/NE NORSEMAN LOUNGES
- LOFT SUITES 1-27
- TRUSS BAR
- CENTURYLINK LODGE
- CENTURYLINK CABINS

PURPLE LOBBY

ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

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- MEDTRONIC CLUB
- FMP CLUB
- TURF & TOUCHDOWN SUITES
- VALHALLA SUITES
- NORSEMAN SUITES 16-27
- SE NORSEMAN SUITES
- LOFT SUITES 28-46
- MILLER LITE LOUNGE



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FAVORITES

BUBBLE WAFFLE

111, Upper Concourse Legacy Gate

CHEESE CURDS

114, 129, 143

DIPPIN DOTS

129, 307

MAC & CHEESE

108, 111, 116, 310

MINI DONUTS

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NACHOS

105, 106, 112, 113, 117, 122, 130, 131, 310, 311, 317, 341, 344, 349, Endzone Grill West Endzone

PIZZA

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All concession stands & portables

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& TREATS

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121

A LA MODE ICE CREAM

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ALL CONCESSION STANDS & FOOD PORTABLES

Bottled Water, Bottled Soda

ALL CONCESSION STANDS

Fountain Soda, Gatorade, Draft Beer

ALL BEER PORTABLES

16oz Canned Beer

BLOODY MARYS

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CRISPIN HARD CIDER

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AZ CANTEEN 341

AZ CANTEEN ROTISSERIE 121

MARKET BBQ 122, 324

CARIBOU COFFEE 138

CURDS & CAKES 114

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NORTH STAR GRILL 103, 118,

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STANDS

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BE GRACEFUL 124, 329

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DORITOS WALKING TACO 132, Upper Concourse Legacy Gate

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MARKET BBQ 122

MINI DONUTS 111, 318

NACHOS 117

O'CHEEZE 108

STEAK AND CHEESE 107

RESTAURANT SPOTLIGHT



Rusty Taco STANDS

Rusty Taco has expanded in a BIG way at U.S. Bank Stadium! Find the new Rusty Taco locations on the main concourse by Sections 105, 113 and 122 and on the upper concourse by Section 310. You'll find Rusty Taco's authentic Loaded Nachos, Tres Grande Nachos, the Taco Trio and Rusty Taco's Specialty Margarita!

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Per 12 oz.: 96 cals, 3.2g carbs, <1g protein, 0g fat

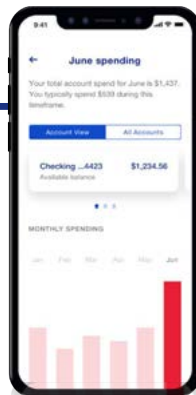


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