

DEN VS. MIN | 08.14.21 | U.S. BANK STADIUM

PLAYBOOK



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TCOmn.com





WELCOME BACK

Welcome back. Two simple words can mean so much, especially when nearly 600 days have passed since Vikings fans last filled U.S. Bank Stadium for a game in December 2019.

The time since Minnesota hosted Chicago to conclude that season by preparing for a playoff game in New Orleans – and upset win – has presented numerous challenges, but our resolve remains strong in large part to the support of Vikings fans that continued despite the closure of U.S. Bank Stadium.

We thank you for returning to embark on the 2021 season **together.**



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MINNESOTA LOTTERYTM

GET PUMPED!

Lottery scratch games on sale now
with a 2nd chance to win season
tickets, on-field suite tickets,
Vikings gear and more!

Visit mnlottery.com for details.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



MUST BE 18+



VIKINGS VS. BRONCOS

AUG. 14, 2021 | U.S. BANK STADIUM

Today's exhibition contest is the opener for the Vikings and Broncos. It also marks the second time in four seasons that Minnesota and Denver have met to open a preseason. The Vikings took the previous contest, 42-28, in a game that was notable because it was the first in-game action for Kirk Cousins with Minnesota and Case Keenum with Denver.

Now, another former Vikings QB, Teddy Bridgewater, is expected to make his Broncos debut. He's not the only player who previously suited up in Purple that will now take the field from the visitor's locker room. Mike Boone, Brett Jones and Shamar Stephen have also made their way to the Rocky Mountains after playing for Minnesota last season.

2020 TEAM STATS

YARDS PER GAME / ALLOWED

	RUSH	PASS
MIN OFF	142.7	250.6
	393.3 4TH IN THE NFL	
DEN DEF	130.0	237.9
	367.9 21ST IN THE NFL	
DEN OFF	119.9	215.7
	335.6 23RD IN THE NFL	
MIN DEF	134.4	258.8
	393.3 27TH IN THE NFL	

TEAM TRENDS

2ND-QUARTER DOWNTURNS

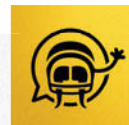
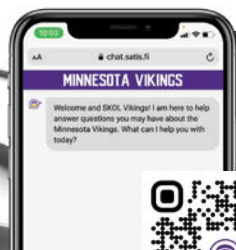
After mostly holding their own in first quarters last season with a combined score of 93-74, the Vikings were outscored 137-82 in second quarters. The Broncos fared even worse by a count of 151-75 in second quarters. Denver's foes also scored more in opening stanzas (74-54).

66.6 PERCENT OF THE TIME

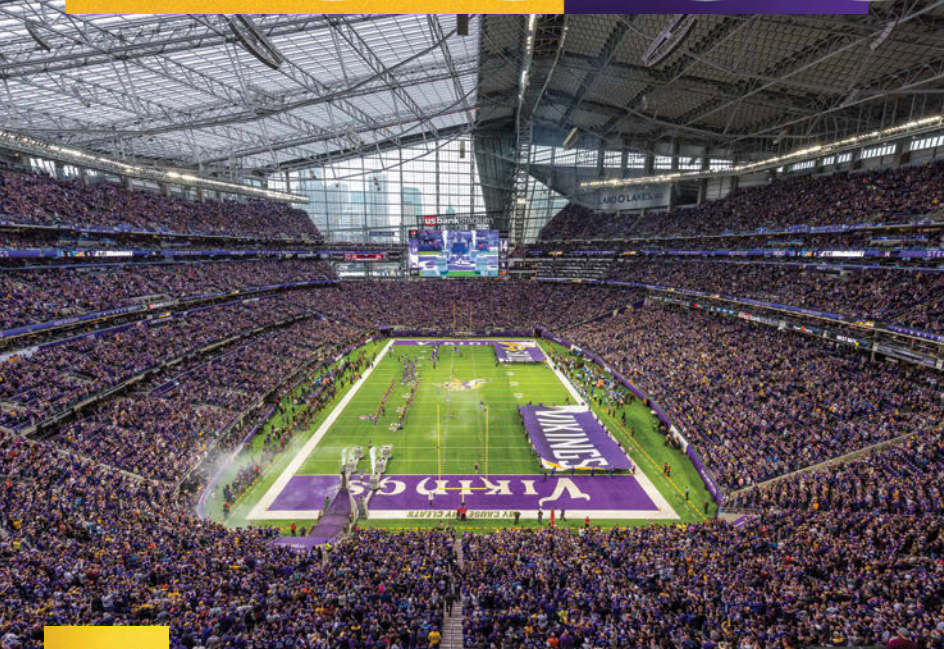
According to Next Gen Stats, the Broncos used 11 personnel (one running back, one tight end and three receivers) on 685 of their 1,029 offensive snaps in 2020. That grouping was also the one most used by the Vikings, but Minnesota's rate was 27.4 percent (280 of 1,023 plays). The Vikings used 21 personnel (running back, fullback and tight end) on 267 plays and a 12 grouping (one running back, two tight ends) on 224 plays.

QUESTIONS AT THE GAME?

USE YOUR SMARTPHONE TO SCAN AND START YOUR CHAT WITH 'ASK VIK,' THE VIKINGS VIRTUAL ASSISTANT.



TODAY'S PROMOTIONS



SACKS FOR APPS

PRESENTED BY BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Buffalo Wild Wings brings you "Sacks for Apps" during all Vikings home and away games this season! When the Vikings record two or more sacks in a game, all fans score a free appetizer 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.



**BUFFALO
WILD
WINGS**

OPENING DRIVE SWEEPSTAKES

PRESENTED BY KWIK TRIP

Buy a Pothole Pizza or a 20-oz Pepsi product with your Kwik Rewards Card and you are entered for your chance to win cash in the Vikings Opening Drive. Buy both a Pothole and a Pepsi product and you will earn 10 bonus entries. Game-day contestants will have the chance to win a Ford Bronco Sport from Northland Ford Dealers at the end of the season. Stop by any Minnesota Kwik Trip store for details.

KwikTRIP

#VIKINGSHAIR

**PRESENTED BY
SPALON MONTAGE**

Spalon Montage is giving one lucky fan a \$100 gift card! Tweet a photo of you at the game to @Vikingspromo using #VikingsHAIR for a chance to win!

SPALON
EST. 1991



FAN OF THE YEAR

PRESENTED BY CAPTAIN MORGAN

Does your Vikings fandom go beyond the game? The Vikings and the NFL are celebrating extraordinary fans who are a positive influence and inspire others through their love of football. Nominate yourself or others for a chance to win a trip to Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles! Enter at nfl.com/fanoftheyear or **scan the code** with the camera app on your smartphone.

CaptainMorgan



YOU COULD WIN A PEPSI PRIZE PACK!

Simply scan your Pepsi cup with the Vikings app or select "Augmented Reality" within the Vikings app to unlock Vikings photo filters. Share yours using #VikingsGameFace for your chance to win!

For full contest rules, visit vikings.com/VikingsGameFace.



HY-VEE FUEL SAVERS

PRESENTED BY HY-VEE

THEY score, YOU save! Shop your local Hy-Vee store following game day to receive great fuel savings. Simply spend the same amount that the Vikings scored, and earn a 1¢ credit on your Hy-Vee Fuel Saver + Perks® card. If the Vikings score 14 points, spend \$14 or more the next day and earn 14¢ credit on your Hy-Vee Fuel Saver + Perks® card. SKOL! Promotion valid at all Minnesota Hy-Vee locations, some limitations apply. See store for details.



HOMETOWN HEROES

PRESENTED BY U.S. BANK

During each home game, U.S. Bank and the Minnesota Vikings will recognize individuals who have helped make our community a better place. The program honors individuals who have gone to extraordinary measures to make positive differences in the community. If you would like to nominate someone, visit vikings.com/fans/promos/hometown-hero.



CHARITY AUCTION

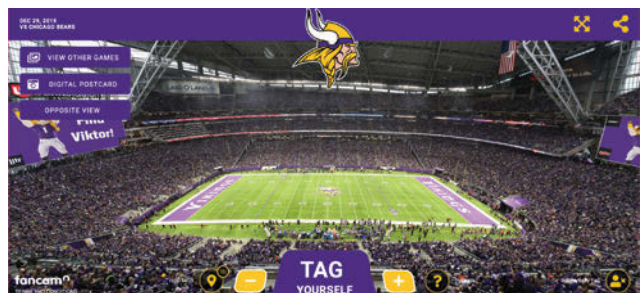
BENEFITING THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS FOUNDATION

Bid on the latest and greatest Vikings memorabilia for auction benefiting the Minnesota Vikings Foundation. By registering for the auction, you will be the first to know about new items, one-of-a-kind art pieces and exclusive experiences. How else are you going to get on the field on game day or meet your favorite Legend? Bids close at the end of the third quarter, and you do not need to be present to bid or win. Browse all items for auction at bidpal.net/vikings2021.

FANCAM

PRESENTED BY U.S. BANK

Vikings Fancam, presented by U.S. Bank, captures your excitement throughout the game. Tag yourself and enter to win prizes at vikings.fancam.com.





READY, SET GLOW

SATURDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL RUN

TCO Stadium

Sat, Sept. 18 | 6 PM

Secure your spot at [Vikings.com/5K](https://vikings.com/5k)

The 2021 TCO Vikings 5K features a sunset run with glowing grab bag elements including 3M reflective shirt, glowing lanyard + medal, and other goodies!





UPCOMING EVENTS



MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

AUG. 26 - SEPT. 6 | 1311 UNDERWOOD STREET

Visit the Vikings at the Minnesota State Fair Aug. 26 to Labor Day, Sept. 6! Score an exclusive giveaway item, register to win a VIP experience for the Vikings vs. Packers game, stock up on the newest Vikings merchandise, and finish out your visit with a photo op.



STEM DAY AT THE STATE FAIR

THURSDAY, AUG. 26

Join the Vikings on Thursday, Aug. 26 at the Minnesota State Fair for the STEM Day at the Fair. This free event runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Dan Patch Park. The Minnesota Vikings, in collaboration with the Challenger Learning Center of Minnesota, and other STEM organizations from around the state will engage youth, families and fair-goers in a wide range of hands-on STEM activities involving robotics, engineering, computer coding, geography sciences and more, in addition to STEM-oriented live entertainment all day long.



READY, SET, GLOW! AT THE TCO VIKINGS 5K

SATURDAY, SEPT. 18 | TCO STADIUM | EAGAN, MN

The 2021 TCO Vikings 5K features a sunset run with glowing features, including an exclusive 3M reflective shirt, lanyard + medal and more.

Not in state? No problem! The TCO Vikings VIRTUAL 5K is back for runners who would like to participate on their own time at their own location. Secure your spot now at vikings.com/5K.



A man and a young boy are playing football in a park. The boy, wearing a blue hoodie, is in the foreground with his back to the camera, ready to catch a football. The man, wearing a dark blue sweater and grey pants, is in the background, having just thrown the ball. The ground is covered in brown autumn leaves, and there are trees and a house in the background.

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Getting you back to the moments you love.

From manufacturing to safety to healthcare, scientists at 3M work every day to apply science in meaningful ways. This includes purification technologies that help advance vaccine and therapy development, like the COVID-19 vaccine. Helping fans like you get back to the moments you love.

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DANIELLE

HUNTER

DEFENSIVE END
6'5" | 263 LBS
7TH SEASON
COLLEGE: LSU

PLAYER TO WATCH

DANIELLE HUNTER

Hunter's workload in this one might be minimal, but the Vikings are excited to welcome him back after a neck injury forced him to miss all of 2020.

Keep an eye on the way Hunter comes off the line of scrimmage with lightning quickness, as well as whether he uses a speed rush or flexes his power while

pressuring passers. Hunter always has committed to Minnesota's approach to stopping the run, so be sure to notice that unheralded element of his game.

Hunter became the youngest player in NFL history to officially record 50 career sacks, doing so at the age of 25 years, 40 days on Dec. 8, 2019.

2021 SCHEDULE

@ CIN
WK1 | SEPT. 13

@ LAC
WK10 | NOV. 14

@ ARI
WK2 | SEPT. 19

GB
WK11 | NOV. 21

SEA
WK3 | SEPT. 26

@ SF
WK12 | NOV. 28

CLE
WK4 | OCT. 3

@ DET
WK13 | DEC. 5

DET
WK5 | OCT. 10

PIT
WK14 | DEC. 9

@ CAR
WK6 | OCT. 17

@ CHI
WK15 | DEC. 20

BYE WEEK

LAR
WK16 | DEC. 26

DAL
WK8 | OCT. 31

@ GB
WK17 | JAN. 2

@ BAL
WK9 | NOV. 7

CHI
WK18 | JAN. 9

- 29 SACKS FROM 2018-19 | 3RD IN THE NFL
- 36 TFLS FROM 2018-19 | 2ND IN THE NFL
- 2-TIME PRO BOWLER (2018, 2019)
- 54.5 CAREER SACKS | 12TH IN VIKINGS HISTORY (TEAM STATS)

QUICK STATS



VIKINGS ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
1	Greg Joseph	K	6-0	206	4	Florida Atlantic	Boca Raton, FL	47	Tuf Borland	LB	6-1	230	R	Ohio State	Bolingbrook, IL
2	Britton Colquitt	P	6-3	195	12	Tennessee	Knoxville, TN	48	Blake Lynch	LB	6-3	233	2	Baylor	Gilmer, TX
3	Jake Browning	QB	6-2	210	2	Washington	Folsom, CA	49	Christian Elliss	LB	6-3	236	R	Idaho	Highlands Ranch, CO
5	Tye Smith	CB	6-0	195	6	Towson	Raleigh, NC	50	Hercules Mata'afa	DE	6-2	256	4	Washington State	Lahaina, HI
6(0)	Danny Etling	QB	6-3	230	4	LSU	Terre Haute, IN	51	Wyatt Davis	G	6-4	315	R	Ohio State	Bellflower, CA
6(S)	Riley Patterson	K	6-0	190	R	Memphis	Edwardsville, IL	52	Mason Cole	OL	6-5	298	4	Michigan	Tarpon Springs, FL
7	Patrick Peterson	CB	6-1	203	11	LSU	Fort Lauderdale, FL	54	Eric Kendricks	LB	6-0	232	7	UCLA	Fresno, CA
8	Kirk Cousins	QB	6-3	202	10	Michigan State	Holland, MI	55	Anthony Barr	LB	6-5	257	8	UCLA	San Pedro, CA
9	Sheldon Richardson	DT	6-3	290	9	Missouri	St. Louis, MO	56	Garrett Bradbury	C	6-3	300	3	N.C. State	Charlotte, NC
11	Kellen Mond	QB	6-3	211	R	Texas A&M	San Antonio, TX	57	Ryan Connelly	LB	6-2	234	3	Wisconsin	Eden Prairie, MN
12	Chad Beebe	WR	5-10	187	4	Northern Illinois	Aurora, IL	58	Jordan Brailford	DE	6-3	255	3	Oklahoma State	Tulsa, OK
13	Blake Proehl	WR	6-1	190	R	East Carolina	Charlotte, NC	59	Nick Vigil	LB	6-2	230	6	Utah State	Plain City, UT
14	Nate Stanley	QB	6-4	233	1	Iowa	Menomonie, WI	60	Turner Bernard	LS	6-1	239	R	San Diego State	Glendale, AZ
15	I. Smith-Marsette	WR	6-1	185	R	Iowa	Newark, NJ	61	Evin Ksiezarczyk	T	6-6	315	1	Buffalo	West Seneca, NY
16	Whop Philyor	WR	5-11	182	R	Indiana	Tampa, FL	62	Zeandae Johnson	DT	6-4	292	R	California	Fresno, CA
17	K.J. Osborn	WR	5-11	203	2	Miami	Ypsilanti, MI	63	Cohl Cabral	C	6-5	302	1	Arizona State	Rancho Cucamonga, CA
18	Justin Jefferson	WR	6-1	195	2	LSU	St. Rose, LA	64	Blake Brandel	T	6-7	315	1	Oregon State	Milwaukie, OR
19	Adam Thielen	WR	6-2	200	8	Minnesota State	Detroit Lakes, MN	65	Zack Bailey	OL	6-5	315	3	South Carolina	Summerville, SC
20	Warren Jackson	WR	6-6	219	R	Colorado State	Mission Hills, CA	66	Jordon Scott	DT	6-1	326	R	Oregon	Largo, FL
21	Bashaud Breeland	CB	5-11	195	8	Clemson	Allendale, SC	68	Kyle Hinton	G	6-2	315	2	Washburn	Peoria, AZ
22	Harrison Smith	S	6-2	211	10	Notre Dame	Knoxville, TN	69	Rashod Hill	T	6-6	310	6	Southern Miss	Jacksonville, FL
23	Xavier Woods	S	5-11	212	5	Louisiana Tech	West Monroe, LA	71	Christian Darrisaw	T	6-5	315	R	Virginia Tech	Upper Marlboro, MD
24	Mackensie Alexander	CB	5-10	192	6	Clemson	Immokalee, FL	72	Ezra Cleveland	G	6-6	312	2	Boise State	Spanaway, WA
25	Alexander Mattison	RB	5-11	215	3	Boise State	San Bernardino, CA	73	Dru Samia	G	6-5	314	3	Oklahoma	W. Sacramento, CA
26	Kene Nwangwu	RB	6-1	210	R	Iowa State	Frisco, TX	74	Olisaemeka Udoh	T	6-6	320	3	Elon	Fayetteville, NC
27	Cameron Dantzler	CB	6-2	190	2	Mississippi State	Hammond, LA	75	Brian O'Neill	T	6-7	310	4	Pittsburgh	Wilmington, DE
29	Kris Boyd	CB	5-11	195	3	Texas	Gilmer, TX	78	Dakota Dozier	G	6-4	305	8	Furman	West Columbia, SC
30	C.J. Ham	FB	5-11	250	6	Augustana	Duluth, MN	79	Kenny Willekes	DE	6-3	264	2	Michigan State	Rockford, MI
31	Ameer Abdullah	RB	5-9	196	7	Nebraska	Homewood, AL	82	Shane Zylstra	TE	6-4	237	R	Minnesota State	Spicer, MN
32	Cameron Smith	LB	6-2	232	3	USC	Granite Bay, CA	83	Tyler Conklin	TE	6-3	248	4	Central Michigan	Chesterfield, MI
33	Dalvin Cook	RB	5-10	210	5	Florida State	Miami, FL	84	Irv Smith Jr.	TE	6-2	240	3	Alabama	New Orleans, LA
34	Jake Bargas	FB	6-2	245	2	North Carolina	Boca Raton, FL	85	Dan Chisena	WR	6-3	203	2	Penn State	Downington, PA
35	Luther Kirk	S	6-2	197	2	Illinois State	Garland, TX	86	Brandon Dillon	TE	6-5	250	2	Marian	Flora, IN
36(0)	Amari Henderson	CB	6-1	180	1	Wake Forest	Charlotte, NC	87	Myron Mitchell*	WR	6-1	185	R	UAB	Jasper, AL
36(0)	A.J. Rose Jr.	RB	6-1	212	R	Kentucky	Cleveland, OH	89	Dede Westbrook	WR	6-0	178	5	Oklahoma	Cameron, TX
37	Dylan Mabin	CB	6-1	190	2	Fordham	Macedonia, OH	90	Jalyn Holmes	DE	6-5	277	4	Ohio State	Norfolk, VA
38	Harrison Hand	CB	5-11	185	2	Temple	Cherry Hill, NJ	91	Stephen Weatherly	DE	6-5	262	6	Vanderbilt	Snellville, GA
39	Parry Nickerson	CB	5-10	182	4	Tulane	Algiers, LA	92	James Lynch	DT	6-4	295	2	Baylor	Round Rock, TX
40	Zach Davidson	TE	6-7	243	R	Central Missouri	Webb City, MO	93	Patrick Jones II	DE	6-4	264	R	Pittsburgh	Chesapeake, VA
41	Chazz Surratt	LB	6-2	230	R	North Carolina	Denver, NC	94	Dalvin Tomlinson	DT	6-3	325	5	Alabama	McDonough, GA
42	Andrew DePaola	LS	6-1	220	7	Rutgers	Parkton, MD	95	Janarius Robinson	DE	6-5	258	R	Florida State	Panama City, FL
43	Camryn Bynum	S	6-0	200	R	California	Corona, CA	96	Armon Watts	DT	6-5	307	3	Arkansas	St. Louis, MO
44	Josh Metellus	S	5-11	209	2	Michigan	Pembroke Pines, FL	97	Michael Pierce	DT	6-0	340	6	Samford	Daphne, AL
45	Troy Dye	LB	6-3	231	2	Oregon	Norco, CA	98	D.J. Wonnum	DE	6-5	258	2	South Carolina	Stone Mountain, GA
46	Myles Dorn	S	6-2	205	2	North Carolina	Charlotte, NC	99	Danielle Hunter	DE	6-5	263	7	LSU	Katy, TX

* Reserve/COVID-19

ROSTER AS OF PRINT DEADLINE [08.10.21]

THE BEST DEFENSE *FVP* IS A GOOD OFFENSE. CHECK YOUR BATTERY TODAY.



When's the last time you had your battery checked? Summer heat and winter cold are tough on your car's battery. And getting yours tested the next time you're in for service is the best way to avoid being stranded. When it's time to replace, get a battery from FVP—a brand of Factory Motor Parts. Power you can trust.

Need a battery? Leave it to the professionals. Scan the QR code to find a shop near you.



OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE MINNESOTA VIKINGS.



33
RUNNING BACK
Dalvin Cook



8
QUARTERBACK
Kirk Cousins



30
FULLBACK
C.J. Ham



19
WIDE RECEIVER
Adam Thielen



84
TIGHT END
Irv Smith Jr.



75
RIGHT TACKLE
Brian O'Neill



74
RIGHT GUARD
Olisaemeka Udoh



56
CENTER
Garrett Bradbury



72
LEFT GUARD
Ezra Cleveland



69
LEFT TACKLE
Rashod Hill



18
WIDE RECEIVER
Justin Jefferson

VIKINGS OFFENSE

VIKINGS DEFENSE



7
CORNERBACK
Patrick Peterson



99
DEFENSIVE END
Danielle Hunter



94
DEFENSIVE TACKLE
Dalvin Tomlinson



97
NOSE TACKLE
Michael Pierce



91
DEFENSIVE END
Stephen Weatherly



21
CORNERBACK
Bashaud Breeland



55
LINEBACKER
Anthony Barr



22
SAFETY
Harrison Smith



54
LINEBACKER
Eric Kendricks



23
SAFETY
Xavier Woods



59
LINEBACKER
Nick Vigil

VIKINGS SPECIAL TEAMS



1
KICKER
Greg Joseph



2
PUNTER
Britton Colquitt



42
LONG SNAPPER
Andrew DePaola



31
**KICK/PUNT
RETURNER**
Ameer Abdullah



VIKINGS DEPTH CHART

VIKINGS OFFENSE

WR	Jefferson	Osborn	Westbrook
LT	Hill	Darrisaw	Ksiezarczyk
LG	Cleveland	Samia	Hinton
C	Bradbury	Cole	Cabral
RG	Udoh	Dozier	Davis
RT	O'Neill	Brandel	Bailey
TE	Smith Jr.	Conklin	Dillon
WR	Thielen	Beebe	Smith-Marsette
QB	Cousins	Browning	Stanley
RB	Cook	Mattison	Abdullah
FB	Ham	Bargas	

VIKINGS DEFENSE

LDE	Hunter	Holmes	Mata'afa
NT	Pierce	Watts	Lynch
DT	Tomlinson	Richardson	Johnson
RDE	Weatherly	Wonnum	Willekes
SLB	Barr	Lynch	Connelly
MLB	Kendricks	Dye	Borland
VLB	Vigil	C. Smith	Surratt
LCB	Peterson	Alexander	Hand
RCB	Breeland	Dantzler	Boyd
SS	H. Smith	Dorn	Metellus
FS	Woods	Bynum	Kirk

*Depth Chart is not official. Denver's depth chart had not been submitted by print deadline (08.10.21)



CONNECTIONS RUN DEEP

BY ERIC SMITH

VIKINGS GENERAL MANAGER RICK SPIELMAN KNEW IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

For the past several years, he had looked on as Vice President of Player Personnel/ Assistant General Manager George Paton participated in job interviews for general manager positions in the NFL.

Each time, Paton (shown above) had returned to the Vikings franchise for which he put forth tremendous work ethic and delivered results since arriving in Minnesota in 2007.

The opportunity that Paton received from the Denver Broncos, however, was one that he could not pass up for himself and his family. The Broncos announced Paton as their GM in January, which Spielman described soon after as “very emotional.”

The relationship between Spielman and Paton runs deep. Spielman brought Paton to Minnesota in 2007, the first year in which Spielman led the Vikings drafts. The duo also previously worked together in Chicago and Miami.

“We started our career back when I was the co-director in Chicago and he came in as an intern, I believe, in 1997-1998,” Spielman said. “When I left Chicago and went to Miami, it took me a year, but I knew that was the number one person I wanted to bring with me down to Miami. And then when I came here to Minnesota, it took me a year, but I was not going to give up until I was able to get George Paton up here with me.

“I’ve been in this business, I think, going on

my 31st year, and I don’t believe I would be in the position I’m in without having George Paton by my side through everything that we’ve been through,” Spielman continued. “He’s been my sounding board, my closest friend and truly like a brother to me.”

Spielman, who is the godfather of Paton’s son Beau, said he believes Paton has landed with a “great organization” and is going to a place with an “opportunity to have a lot of success.”

“While it is difficult to leave the Vikings, the relationships I enjoyed in Minnesota are for life,” Paton said in January. “I am truly grateful for the Wilf family, Rick Spielman, Rob Brzezinski, Mike Zimmer and the entire Vikings organization. Thank you for treating us like family.”

ADDITIONAL VIKINGS - BRONCOS CONNECTIONS

- Minnesota P Britton Colquitt played for Denver from 2010 to 2015 and helped the Broncos win Super Bowl 50.
- Vikings rookie WR Warren Jackson recently spent time with the Broncos before Minnesota signed him on Aug. 9.
- The father of Vikings LB Christian Elliss (Luther) played defensive line for Denver and later served as team chaplain for two years.
- Broncos QB Teddy Bridgewater (2014-17), RB Mike Boone (2018-20), C Brett Jones (2018-20) and DT Shamar Stephen (2014-17; 2019-20) all previously played for the Vikings.
- Minnesota Assistant Head Coach/Co-Defensive Coordinator Andre Patterson (2005-06), Offensive Coordinator Klint Kubiak (2016-18), Senior Offensive Advisor Rick Dennison (1995-2009 and 2015-16), tight ends coach Brian Pariani (1995-2004; 2015-16) and offensive line coach Phil Rauscher (2015-17) all previously coached in Denver. Dennison played linebacker for the Broncos from 1982-90.
- Denver Offensive Coordinator Pat Shurmur held the same role for Minnesota in 2017. He began 2016 as the Vikings tight ends coach and was promoted to interim offensive coordinator nine games into that season.

Pierre
NOUJAIM

Ron
JOHNSON

Hobie
ARTIGUE

Jim
RICH

Dawn
MITCHELL



THURSDAY
6PM



SUNDAY
HOME - 9:30A
AWAY - 10AM



SUNDAY
10:35P

2021 SCHEDULE

@ NYG
WK1 | SEPT. 12

PHI
WK10 | NOV. 14

@ JAX
WK2 | SEPT. 19

BYE WEEK

NYJ
WK3 | SEPT. 26

LAC
WK12 | NOV. 28

BAL
WK4 | OCT. 3

@ KC
WK13 | DEC. 5

@ PIT
WK5 | OCT. 10

DET
WK14 | DEC. 12

LV
WK6 | OCT. 17

CIN
WK15 | DEC. 19

@ CLE
WK7 | OCT. 21

@ LV
WK16 | DEC. 26

WAS
WK8 | OCT. 31

@ LAC
WK17 | JAN. 2

@ DAL
WK9 | NOV. 7

KC
WK18 | JAN. 9

SET CAREER HIGHS LAST SEASON WITH:

- 340 COMPLETIONS
- 69.1 COMPLETION PERCENTAGE
- 3,733 YARDS
- 15 TOUCHDOWNS

QUICK STATS

TEDDY

BRIDGEWATER

QUARTERBACK
6'2" | 210 LBS
8TH SEASON
COLLEGE: LOUISVILLE

PLAYER TO WATCH

TEDDY BRIDGEWATER

A first-round pick by the Vikings in the 2014 NFL Draft, Bridgewater helped open U.S. Bank Stadium with an impressive performance in a preseason contest against the Chargers two days before suffering a knee injury that sent him on a long rehab process and impacted multiple franchises. Bridgewater's relentlessness was rewarded in

2017 when he took the field for nine snaps in a 34-7 win by Minnesota that clinched the NFC North. He played sparingly for New Orleans here in 2018. Last season as Carolina's starter, he made his first start in a regular-season game at U.S. Bank Stadium, but the venue was empty.



BRONCOS ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
1	KJ Hamler	WR	5-9	178	2	Penn State	Pontiac, MI	51	Marquiss Spencer	DE	6-4	300	R	Mississippi State	Greenwood, MS
2	Pat Surtain II	CB	6-2	202	R	Alabama	Plantation, FL	52	Netane Muti	G	6-3	315	2	Fresno State	Wahiawa, O'ahu, HA
3	Drew Lock	QB	6-4	228	3	Missouri	Columbia, MO	53	Jonathon Cooper	OLB	6-4	257	R	Ohio State	Gahanna, OH
4	Brett Rypien	QB	6-2	202	3	Boise State	Spokane, WA	54	Josh Watson	ILB	6-2	240	3	Colorado State	Blue Springs, MO
5	Teddy Bridgewater	QB	6-2	215	8	Louisville	Miami, FL	55	Bradley Chubb	OLB	6-4	275	4	North Carolina State	Marietta, GA
6	Sam Martin	P	6-1	211	9	Appalachian State	Fayetteville, GA	58	Von Miller	OLB	6-3	250	11	Texas A&M	DeSoto, TX
8	Brandon McManus	K	6-3	201	8	Temple	Lansdale, PA	59	Malik Reed	OLB	6-2	235	3	Nevada	Dothan, AL
9	Kendall Hinton	WR	6-0	195	2	Wake Forest	Durham, NC	61	Graham Glasgow	G	6-6	310	6	Michigan	Aurora, IL
10	Jerry Jeudy	WR	6-1	193	2	Alabama	Deerfield Beach, FL	62	Peter Kalambayi	ILB	6-3	254	4	Stanford	Raleigh, NC
11	Diontae Spencer	WR	5-8	170	3	McNeese State	New Iberia, LA	63	Curtis Robinson	ILB	6-3	235	R	Stanford	Irvine, CA
12	Trinity Benson	WR	6-0	180	1	East Central	Lewisville, TX	64	Barrington Wade	ILB	6-1	232	R	Iowa	Skokie, IL
13	Michael Ojemudia	CB	6-1	200	2	Iowa	Farmington Hills, MI	65	Brett Jones	C	6-2	315	6	Regina	Weyburn, Saskatchewan
14	Courtland Sutton	WR	6-4	216	4	Southern Methodist	Brenham, TX	66	Dalton Risner	G	6-5	312	3	Kansas State	Wiggins, CO
15	De'Mornay Pierson-El	WR	5-9	195	1	Nebraska	Alexandria, VA	68	Lorenzo Neal Jr.	DT	6-3	325	R	Purdue	Houston, TX
16	Tyrie Cleveland	WR	6-2	205	2	Florida	Houston, TX	69	Nolan Laufenberg	G	6-3	315	R	Air Force Academy	Castle Rock, CO
19	Seth Williams	WR	6-3	211	R	Auburn	Cottondale, AL	70	Bobby Massie	T	6-6	325	10	Mississippi	Lynchburg, VA
21	Ronald Darby	CB	5-11	193	7	Florida State	Oxon Hill, MD	71	Austin Schlottmann	G/C	6-6	300	3	Texas Christian	Brenham, TX
22	Kareem Jackson	S	5-10	183	12	Alabama	Macon, GA	72	Garett Bolles	T	6-5	300	5	Utah	Walnut Creek, CA
23	Kyle Fuller	CB	5-11	194	8	Virginia Tech	Baltimore, MD	73	Cam Fleming	T	6-5	320	8	Stanford	Fort Hood, TX
25	Melvin Gordon III	RB	6-1	215	7	Wisconsin	Kenosha, WI	75	Quinn Bailey	T	6-6	323	3	Arizona State	Gilbert, AZ
26	Mike Boone	RB	5-10	206	4	Cincinnati	Macclenny, FL	76	Calvin Anderson	T	6-5	300	3	Texas	Philadelphia, PA
27	Nate Hairston	CB	6-0	185	5	Temple	Washington, D.C.	77	Quinn Meinerz	C	6-3	320	R	Wisconsin-Whitewater	Hartford, WI
28	Royce Freeman	RB	6-0	238	4	Oregon	Imperial, CA	78	Drew Himmelman	T	6-10	315	R	Illinois State	Geneseo, IL
29	Bryce Callahan	CB	5-9	188	7	Rice	Moscow, ID	79	Lloyd Cushenberry III	C	6-4	315	2	Louisiana State	Geismar, LA
30	Caden Sterns	S	6-1	207	R	Texas	Cibola, TX	81	Tim Patrick	WR	6-4	212	4	Utah	San Diego, CA
31	Justin Simmons	S	6-2	202	6	Boston College	Manassas, VA	82	Eric Saubert	TE	6-5	253	5	Drake	Chicago, IL
32	LeVante Bellamy	RB	5-9	190	2	Western Michigan	Indianapolis, IN	83	Andrew Beck	FB/TE	6-3	255	3	Texas	Tampa, FL
33	Javonte Williams	RB	5-10	220	R	North Carolina	Wallace, NC	84	DeVontres Dukes	WR	6-4	216	R	South Florida	Tampa, FL
35	Kary Vincent Jr.	CB	5-10	189	R	Louisiana State	Houston, TX	85	Albert Okwuegbunam	TE	6-5	258	2	Missouri	Springfield, IL
36	Trey Marshall	S	6-0	207	4	Florida State	Lake City, FL	86	Branden Mack	WR	6-5	220	R	Temple	Wyncote, PA
37	P.J. Locke	S	5-10	202	2	Texas	Beaumont, TS	87	Noah Fant	TE	6-4	249	3	Iowa	Omaha, NE
39[O]	Damarea Crockett	RB	5-11	225	1	Missouri	Little Rock, AK	88	Shaun Beyer	TE	6-5	248	R	Iowa	Shellsburg, IA
39[D]	Saivion Smith	CB	6-1	199	2	Alabama	Tampa, FL	89	Austin Fort	TE	6-4	244	3	Wyoming	Gillette, WY
40	Justin Strnad	ILB	6-3	235	2	Wake Forest	Palm Harbor, FL	90	DeShawn Williams	DL	6-1	291	4	Clemson	Central, SC
41	Jamar Johnson	S	6-1	197	R	Indiana	Sarasota, FL	91	Andre Mintze	OLB	6-3	246	R	Vanderbilt	Philadelphia, PA
42	Parnell Motley	CB	6-0	180	2	Oklahoma	Washington, D.C.	92	Jonathan Harris	DL	6-5	295	2	Lindenwood	Aurora, IL
43[D]	Rojesterman Farris II	CB	6-1	180	1	Hawaii	Coral Springs, FL	93	Dre'Mont Jones	DE	6-3	281	3	Ohio State	Cleveland, OH
43[O]	Adam Prentice	FB	6-0	245	R	South Carolina	Fresno, Ca	94	Deyon Sizer	DT	6-4	280	2	CSU-Pueblo	Centennial, CO
45	Alexander Johnson	ILB	6-2	255	4	Tennessee	Gainesville, GA	95	McTelvin Agim	DL	6-3	300	2	Arkansas	Texarkana, TX
46	Jacob Bobenmoyer	LS	6-2	235	2	Northern Colorado	Cheyenne, WY	96	Shelby Harris	DE	6-2	290	7	Illinois State	Milwaukee, WI
47	Josey Jewell	ILB	6-2	236	4	Iowa	Decorah, IA	97	Isaiah Mack	DT	6-1	299	3	Ten.-Chattanooga	Tunnel Hill, GA
48	Derrek Tuszka	OLB	6-5	246	2	North Dakota State	Warner, SD	98	Mike Purcell	DL	6-3	328	6	Wyoming	Highlands Ranch, CO
49	Mac McCain III	CB	6-0	175	R	North Carolina A&T	Greensboro, NC	99	Shamar Stephen	DL	6-5	309	8	Connecticut	Westbury, NY
50	Pita Taumoepeenu	OLB	6-1	245	4	Utah	Provo, UT								

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MIN VS. DEN

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8-7
IN 15 GAMES

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3 games by Denver
(12.30.07 – 10.04.15)

FIRST MEETING
OCT. 15, 1972 | @ DENVER
VIKINGS 23, BRONCOS 20

Gene Washington caught a 31-yard pass from Fran Tarkenton for the winning score in the fourth quarter.

LAST MEETING
NOV. 17, 2019 | VS. DENVER
VIKINGS 27, BRONCOS 23

The Vikings overcame a 20-0 halftime deficit thanks to three touchdown passes by Kirk Cousins and a rushing score by Dalvin Cook.



THROWBACK MOMENT

CULPEPPER TO MOSS TO MOE WILLIAMS

With time winding down in the first half, Daunte Culpepper heaved a pass 44 yards to Randy Moss, who then flipped the ball over his head to Moe Williams. The running back caught the lateral and cruised the final 15 yards of the 59-yard score.

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TOP 2 AGAINST BRONCOS

RUSHING YARDS

103 Herschel Walker on 12 attempts in MIN (09.29.91)

98 Darrin Nelson on 11 attempts in MIN (10.26.87)

PASSING YARDS

381 Christian Ponder on 29-of-47 passing in MIN (12.04.11)

366 Sean Salisbury on 19-of-37 passing at DEN (11.14.93)

RECEIVING YARDS

156 Percy Harvin on eight catches in MIN (12.04.11)

151 Randy Moss on 10 catches in MIN (10.19.03)

AGAINST VIKINGS

RUSHING YARDS

158 Gaston Green on 26 attempts in MIN (09.29.91)

117 Clinton Portis on 25 attempts in MIN (10.19.03)

PASSING YARDS

334 John Elway on 27-of-36 passing in MIN (11.24.96)

290 John Elway on 30-of-40 passing at DEN (11.14.93)

RECEIVING YARDS

144 Demaryius Thomas on four catches in MIN (12.04.11)

123 Steve Watson on five catches at DEN (11.18.84)

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BY CRAIG PETERS

WATER BREAK

PRESENTED BY *Crown Royal*

CHRISTIAN ELLISS



Christian Elliss is one of 12 children, but the way he sees it is he has “11 best friends” ranging from age 26 to 10.

The 22-year-old is the third-oldest who has been raised by former Lions and Broncos defensive lineman Luther Elliss, a first-round pick by Detroit in 1995 who later worked in Denver as chaplain for the team.

Christian has been a high school star in two states (Utah and Colorado) and an all-conference player in a third (Idaho). The two-time All-Big Sky First-Team selection with the Vandals participated in spring football games after Idaho postponed its 2020 fall season, turned around quickly to turn in an impressive pro day and was this year’s “Prospect X” in *Sports Illustrated*’s pre-draft mystery miniseries.

Although Christian went undrafted two years after his brother, Kaden, was a seventh-round selection of the Saints, one of a dozen siblings is trying to become one of 53 on Minnesota’s season-opening roster.

Trying to land with the Vikings is an audible for the rookie who grew up as a Lions fan.

“I had to shed that one quickly,” Christian said. “I’m always going to be appreciative of

that organization and what they did for my family, but other than that, that’s as far as it goes.”

We caught up with Christian recently for a Water Break, presented by Crown Royal.

Q: Despite your family’s long experience with the NFL, has there been anything you’ve encountered that you didn’t expect?

A: “The accountability they hold you to as a rookie. I was always taught, not from my dad, but in high school and college, that you give the younger guys a little bit of time. We got a little bit of that in rookie minicamp, but right after that, you’re held accountable.

“That’s the point. This is a job. It’s a game, it’s fun, but it’s also work, so I had to figure out that balance because I was taking it more, ‘It’s fun. It’s OK if I don’t spend as much time on film and don’t go as hard all the time because I’m a rookie.’

“One, that’s a poor attitude. Two, that will get you fired, and three, I want to be the best I can be, so having that attitude is not going to

allow me to do that. Coach Adam Zimmer really drilled that into me. This is all fun and games, but it’s also work. You have to do your job, study to know your plays so that when you’re out there you’re not a deer caught in the headlights, which I was like. It was a great learning curve, so I’m excited for the rest of camp.”

Q: You have the opportunity to learn from Anthony Barr and Eric Kendricks. What have they shared about the lessons they learned a few years back?

A: “They’ve always been great linebackers, and it was comforting for them to be like, ‘Dude, when I was a rookie, those first few practices, you mess up a lot.’

“Luckily they’re so knowledgeable in the entirety of the defense from the safeties to the defensive line, so being able to work with them has been amazing, a gift from God, really, to be able to watch them and see them play. It really showed there’s some guys that stand out there like Anthony and Eric who really have the athletic ability and the smarts. Something they

showed me, really, is the most important part is your brain, how you think on the field, the quicker you can react, because everybody pretty much has the same athleticism. Some are a little above, some are a little below, but it's all about your mental [game]."

Q: How wild was your pre-draft process with Idaho moving football to the spring and you having an improvised pro day?

A: "[My pro day] was a day-and-a-half after a game. I got through my pro day, and luckily God allowed me to perform. I was a little sore, but it worked out. It was a little hectic, and I don't know if I ever want to do that again."

Q: When your dad was in his pre-draft process, he had been advised to not do some workouts and later regretted the decision. Did that experience help push you through your workout?

A: "Yes. Something my dad always taught me that he learned at that stage is do whatever the coaches ask of you, because they're your employer, so whatever they ask, I'll do it. If they ask you to 'Carry this weight,' you say, 'How far?' "

Q: Based on Sports Illustrated's Prospect X reports, the third day of the draft sounded like it was pure chaos. Take us through what it was like.

A: "You never want to be that guy who falls through, but I ended up being that guy. Fell through and had like 14 teams calling me. I have one phone, so teams were like, 'I couldn't get ahold of you. I'm texting.'"

"I ended up having to use my dad's and brother's phones, three phones going at once, and got down to four teams. [Vikings General Manager] Rick [Spielman] just really set it over for me. He knows my dad, and my dad knows him from the Lions days. Everything I've heard about Rick, he's an amazing guy. I wanted to be able to work with him."

Q: Do you get any swag, like a jersey, for your participation?

A: "It didn't really come with much. It was just a blessing to be recognized. I'm not a big social media guy."

Q: Was it tough to keep the fact you were Prospect X a secret?

A: "No, because at the time of the draft, I deleted all social media from my phone. I actually just redownloaded Instagram the other day just to start getting back into it."

Q: How important is your faith to you?

A: "It's huge. It's everything. Football is going to come and go. Money is going to come and go. If I'm smart, it doesn't matter when I die. I can't take anything with me. The only thing I can take is my heart and soul, so my faith is everything. God comes first, before relationships, before football."

Q: How long was your dad a chaplain with the Broncos?

A: "He did that for two years and then came out to Idaho. Now he's a chaplain out there. It's been awesome to see God's work out there, changing the culture of Idaho, because when I got there, it was not very good, but luckily everybody has had a change of hearts. Everybody is enjoying themselves now. A lot of people are going to Christ, so I'm loving it. I'm so proud of my dad and my family and the Vandals."

Q: Not many people know about Moscow, Idaho. What's the vibe out there?

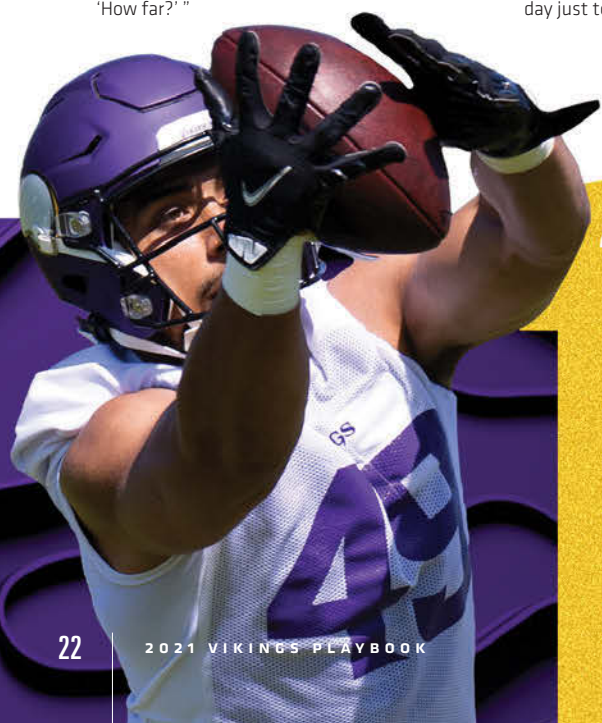
A: "It's a small town. Everybody is friendly. Everybody is kind. There's some good underground eating spots, and then there's a lot of outdoor activities, so it's my kind of town."

Q: Given your ties to the Broncos, how special is it to have the joint practices and open the preseason against Denver? Did you go to many of their practices?

A: "I watched a few of theirs, and it was back when Peyton Manning was still playing, so it was awesome to be able to go there and watch him."

THIS IS A JOB. IT'S A GAME, IT'S FUN, BUT IT'S ALSO WORK, SO I HAD TO FIGURE OUT THAT BALANCE."

- CHRISTIAN ELLISS



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GEORGE
KITTLE

IRV SMITH, JR.

TRAVIS
KELCE



SESSION

SUMMER SCHOOL WITH TIGHT END IRV SMITH, JR.

BY ERIC SMITH

IRV SMITH, JR., WENT BACK TO SCHOOL THIS SUMMER. NO, SMITH WASN'T ON CAMPUS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA. INSTEAD, THE VIKINGS TIGHT END WAS A PUPIL AT TIGHT END UNIVERSITY.

The two-day session took place in Nashville, Tennessee, in late June. The meetup was spearheaded by two of the league's top tight ends: Kansas City's Travis Kelce and San Francisco's George Kittle.

Smith said an invite to TE U from Kittle popped up in his Instagram messages a few weeks before, and he was more than happy to accept.

"I heard they were doing something, and me and Kittle have a pretty cool relationship," Smith said. "He kind of let me know before, and he said they couldn't wait to have me there to be part of something special."

More than 40 NFL tight ends converged on the summit that honed in on route-running technique, classroom work and on-field demonstrations.

Kelce, perhaps the league's best receiving tight end, could be seen on social media showing the attendees how to firmly plant a foot in the ground and explode out of a route.

"He's definitely animated, a lot of energy," Smith said of Kelce, who has compiled five straight 1,000-yard seasons. "It was great vibes out there. Everybody was really selfless and just wanted to have fun."

Smith also took plenty away from Kittle, who has become a force through the air and as a blocker in San Francisco's offense over the past four seasons. Kittle, of course, operates in Kyle Shanahan's offensive scheme that has some similarities to what Smith

and the Vikings run in Minnesota.

"We pick each other's brains, for sure. He's had a lot of success in this league in similar offenses," Smith said of Kittle. "Just going back and forth, our favorite plays and our favorite routes and what we like to run. 'How do you get open on this play, against a certain defense when they show this look? How do you go about it?'"

"Just cool little things like that because at Tight End U, it was all tight ends. We do a lot of the same things," Smith added. "It's not like it's a whole bunch of receivers and linemen and things like that. It's our position. It was super cool having everybody there and learning from each other."

Smith said he relished the generosity of the other players he spent time with.

"It was really cool just being around a group of guys that all play the same position but are all selfless players," Smith said. "Talking about the importance of the position, different offensive guys do different things ... some guys are more blockers and some guys are more receivers. Just getting a true sense of the success other guys have had, plus the success that I've had, and kind of talk about that and build on that so we all be the best versions of ourselves."

But make no mistake about it, Smith wasn't there just to learn. He had plenty of tips and tricks to pass along, too.

"Being with a group of guys like that, at the end of the day we're all competitors, so we wanted to show our own abilities and what we can do out there," Smith said. "It was just cool watching some of the best at the position. But for myself, I feel like I have the ability and a chance to also be counted up with those guys."

As Smith enters Year 3 in Purple, many expect him to have a breakout season in 2021.

He will certainly have the opportunity to do so now that he is firmly entrenched as the Vikings No. 1 tight end. (Veteran Kyle Rudolph, who spent 10 years with the Vikings, is now with the Giants).



IT WAS REALLY COOL JUST BEING AROUND A GROUP OF GUYS THAT ALL PLAY THE SAME POSITION BUT ARE ALL SELFLESS PLAYERS."

- IRV SMITH, JR. ON TE U

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And Smith's first chance to show the league who he is comes in the Vikings preseason opener against the Broncos, a team that will always provide a special memory for the tight end.

Back in the 2019 season, Smith and his teammates stunningly trailed 20-0 at halftime of their Week 11 game against Denver at U.S. Bank Stadium.

It was Smith, then only a rookie, who provided a jolt of energy with a 10-yard touchdown catch from Kirk Cousins early in the third quarter to finally get the Vikings on the board.

His first career score prompted a small celebration and ignited a thrilling comeback.

"We were down by three scores ... Kirk delivered the ball and I ran a post route, caught it in the back of the end zone," Smith said. "It kind of brought us back and brought a big spark to the whole stadium and the whole energy of the team.

"It was awesome with my first touchdown being such a key play to getting us a victory," Smith added. "And it really helped in leading us to the playoffs."

Smith recently reflected on how far he has grown from that moment 21 months ago to where he is now.

"I just try to take one day at a time. Each day and each practice, that's a new day," Smith explained. "That's the beauty of [training] camp. Let's say you had a great practice today, you can't come back the next day and practice terrible.

"You have to be where your feet are but also have fun," Smith added. "Football is a child's game and is something that we love to do."

Perhaps no player on the Vikings roster has stacked more strong days of camp together than Smith, who has stood out nearly every day with his ability to stretch the field, move the chains or find the end zone.

Vikings Head Coach Mike Zimmer has noticed, whether that's Smith hauling in a one-handed score near the goal line or scooting down the field for a big chunk of yards to move the chains on third-and-long.

"He looks a little bit quicker and faster to me — running routes a little bit faster, setting guys up a little bit better, as well," Zimmer said. "He's very confident; he's catching the ball really well."

Other Vikings players and coaches have been impressed, too. That includes Vikings linebacker

1ST CAREER TD

10-YARD PASS FROM
KIRK COUSINS
VS. DEN



**I JUST TRY TO TAKE ONE
DAY AT A TIME. EACH DAY
AND EACH PRACTICE,**

**THAT'S A
NEW DAY."**



**HE CAN DO SO MANY DIFFERENT THINGS
AND LINE UP IN SO MANY DIFFERENT AREAS.**

**HE'S A REALLY GOOD
GUY AND A REALLY
GOOD PLAYER."**

- ANTHONY BARR ON IRV SMITH, JR.

Anthony Barr, who shook his head a bit when asked about the difficulties of trying to keep up with Smith all over the field.

"It's tough, man. He's a great player. He's grown a lot from last year and the year before that," Barr said. "I think he's going to have a huge role this year. Just really excited to watch him.

"It makes us better as defenders trying to cover him," Barr added. "He can do so many different things and line up in so many different areas. He's a really good guy and a really good player."

Smith will be counted on to lead his position group in his third NFL season. He'll do so with a strong mentality of what it takes – Smith's father, Irv, was the 20th overall pick of the 1993 NFL Draft by New Orleans and played seven seasons in the league.

But he'll also be viewed as an integral part of the offense at the age of 23. The youngest player taken in the first two rounds of his draft class, Smith just celebrated his 23rd birthday on Aug. 9.

"We ask the guys to lead with production. That's how you're going to be a leader on the team," Vikings Offensive Coordinator Klint Kubiak said of the team's approach. "We don't care

what you say. We care about how you act and what you do on the field. Irv has produced since he's been here."

Fellow tight end Tyler Conklin has seen Smith grow on and off the field in recent seasons. Conklin noted that Smith has never been as positioned for a potentially big season as he is now.

"I think the big thing for just the tight end position in general – and I think Irv would probably agree with this – is we just do so much on the field, whether it's the run game or the pass game or pass protection," Conklin said. "Just becoming more comfortable with the playbook and learning how the game is played and learning all these different pieces. I think that's how he's probably grown the most.

"I think that allows you to be more sure of yourself, which allows you to play at full speed. He's definitely grown tremendously, and he's a heck of a tight end. The big thing for Irv is he leads by example," Conklin added. "He practices his butt off, he works his butt off, and he leads by doing things the right way and practicing and competing as hard as he does. I think that just rubs off on other people around him and our room specifically."

Through two seasons, Smith has compiled 66 catches for 676 yards

and seven scores in 29 games.

And as the regular season looms, few would be surprised if Smith's production as a receiving target takes a big leap.

Now viewed as the prototype NFL tight end with a blend of size (he is 6-foot-2 and 240 pounds), athleticism and strength as a blocker, many expect Smith to become a household name in the coming months.

Not that the easygoing and affable Smith has his sights set on a bevy of personal accolades.

Even with his role about to take off, Smith will keep his lessons from summer school close.

"My dream season? Win the Super Bowl. That's the main goal," Smith said. "If we do that, my personal goals will take care of themselves.

"I want to show that tight ends are some of the most athletic players on the field. I feel like we are weapons out there," Smith added. "We're not just receivers and we're not just blockers ... we're out there and they put us all over the field – out wide, in the slot, in the backfield, with our hand in the dirt. That's something that no other position does, so I feel like it's special and something we take a lot of pride in."

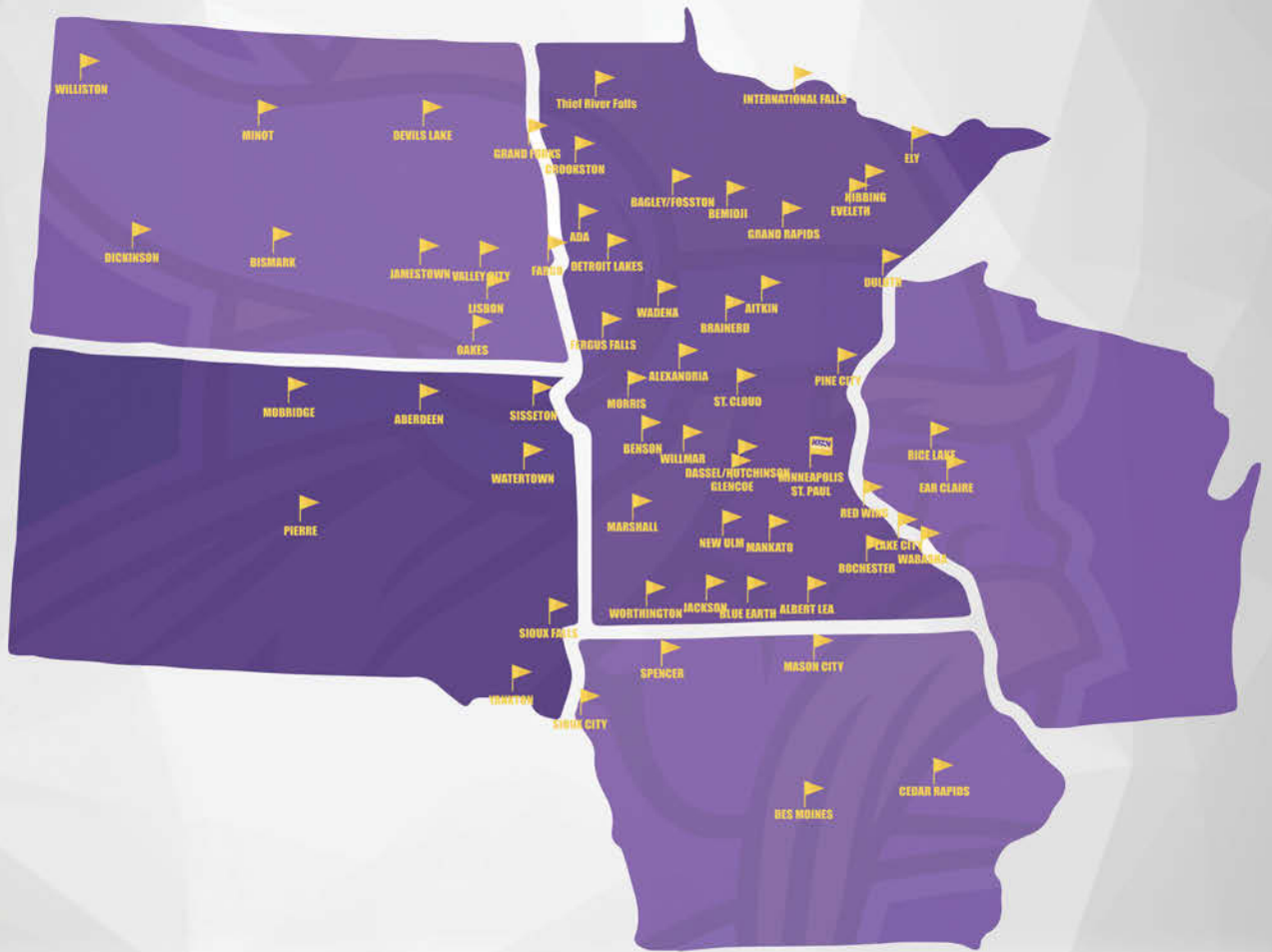
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RANDY MOSS HOSTS FISHING TOURNEY IN MEMORY OF SID HARTMAN

BY CRAIG PETERS

The custom T-shirts said "STRAIGHT BASS HOMIE," offering a spinner on one of the most famous lines ever uttered by Pro Football Hall of Famer Randy Moss.

People who know Moss from near and far have probably seen the "Straight cash, Homie," clip, and they likely know his passion for fishing.

There's a good chance, particularly in Minnesota, that they also know about the receiver's deep relationship with intrepid reporter Sid Hartman, whose final column with the *Star Tribune* appeared on Oct. 18, 2020. Hartman passed away later that day at age 100 but not before leaving a lasting legacy with "close, personal friends."

The value that Moss and Hartman each placed on loyalty made the connection stronger.

"It goes a long way. ... When you look at Sid and his history and how long he was a journalist, what else does he need to do to make a name [for himself]? The only thing he had to do was just continue to keep it real with the players, and I think that's what he was able to do," Moss told Vikings.com.

"Where I come from, we call it 'keeping it real.' In common terms, you call it loyalty. He was a loyal man.

"Just hearing Chad [Hartman] talk about how loyal his father was and what we as athletes in the state of Minnesota, not just football players, everybody, meant to him meant a lot to hear because I gave him utmost respect, no matter what it was," Moss added.

Moss aligned fishing and fellowship with former Vikings teammates and Twin Cities athletes in tribute to Hartman on July 28.

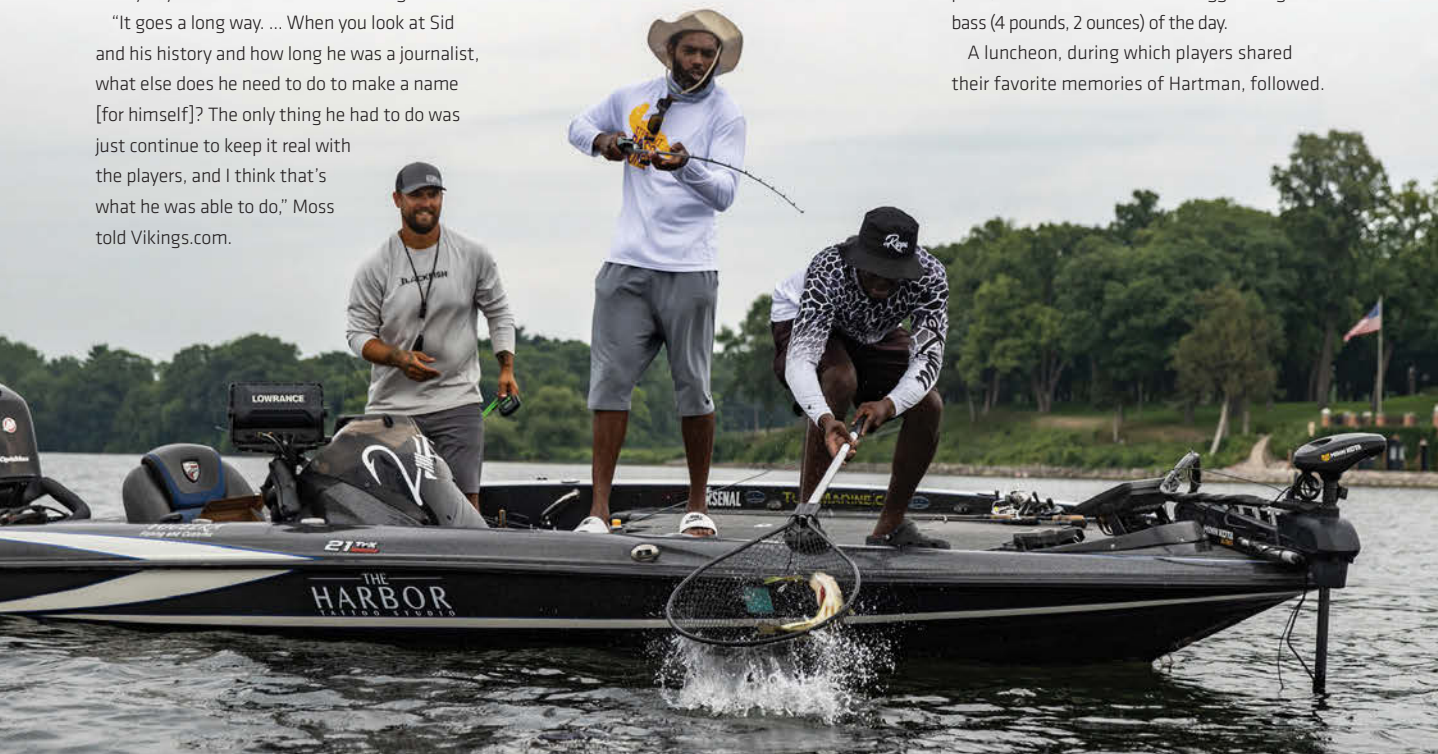
He rounded up Vikings Legends Daunte Culpepper, Jake Reed, Robert Smith, Scott Studwell, Pete Berich and Todd Bouman, as well as former Twins Joe Mauer and Al Newman,

Minnesota Wild defenseman Matt Dumba and former Gophers and Timberwolves big man John Thomas to partner with guides.

A heavy rainstorm hit as boats were scheduled to depart Lord Fletcher's to scour Lake Minnetonka for bass, but the tournament was able to proceed. Uncommon to most fishing tournaments, each contestant was given a Mystery Tackle Box from the subscription service and challenged with using something inside the kit to lure fish.

Bouman had a successful day teaming with Studwell and winning first place with a total haul of 14 pounds, 8 ounces to narrowly edge the team that featured Dumba (14 pounds, 6 ounces). Reed's team totaled 13 pounds, 14 ounces for third place, and Thomas reeled in the biggest single bass (4 pounds, 2 ounces) of the day.

A luncheon, during which players shared their favorite memories of Hartman, followed.



The Straight Bass Classic will be accompanied by an upcoming online auction to raise funds for the DYRK1A Syndrome International Association. Hartman's 20-year-old grandson, Quintin, has faced numerous health problems caused by the extremely rare condition brought by a change in the DYRK1A gene.

After hearing stories from the Vikings Legends about what Sid Hartman meant to them, Chad Hartman shared the courage Quintin has shown his entire life.

"Quintin had some health challenges right from the start. We couldn't quite figure out what was going on, and we were surrounded by great doctors and great help," Chad Hartman said. "His heart stopped at one point, and he couldn't feed. He had awful reflux and was in and out of the hospital over and over again, and we just couldn't figure out what was going on.

"We have so many categories to place individuals in due to health issues. Quintin

was unknown, in this different category, and it was an incredible challenge, but it was also the most amazing fortune I've lived," Chad Hartman continued. "There are people in this room who are heroes to so many people. I have one hero in my life, and that's [Quintin]. The pain he has had to deal with, the surgeries he's had to deal with. He's on the autism spectrum, but every single day is happy and kind. He suffers seizures and had leg surgery four years ago and couldn't walk for six months."

Quintin was able to say "thank you" on behalf of himself and others with DYRK1A Syndrome. His tone was quiet, but the gratitude filled the banquet room.

"At the end of the day, when you come together for a great cause like this and just hear the stories, you feel the emotions in the room," Moss said. "I think it's great to be a part of something like this and to be able to raise money for the DYRK1A foundation. It's always

great to be part of a great cause, and to come up here and honor Sid Hartman, that's what I like."

Moss reminisced about creating Randy's Purple Pioneers as a rookie with guidance from former Head Coach Dennis Green, the Vikings Ring of Honor inductee who initiated the Vikings Community Tuesday program that has influenced other NFL teams.

And he was happy to have help from other Vikings Legends who didn't blink when asked to participate.

"You've got guys like Culpepper, who didn't hesitate. Robert Smith didn't hesitate. Stud' didn't hesitate. Stud' played way before us, and for him to come back and be part of the executive office and still be a part of it, once you're in the helmets and pads, it's a brotherhood for life," Moss added. "I hope this isn't a one-time thing and that we can continue to do something like this."



*All event photos
provided by Catch Co.*



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TODAY'S ITEM OF THE GAME

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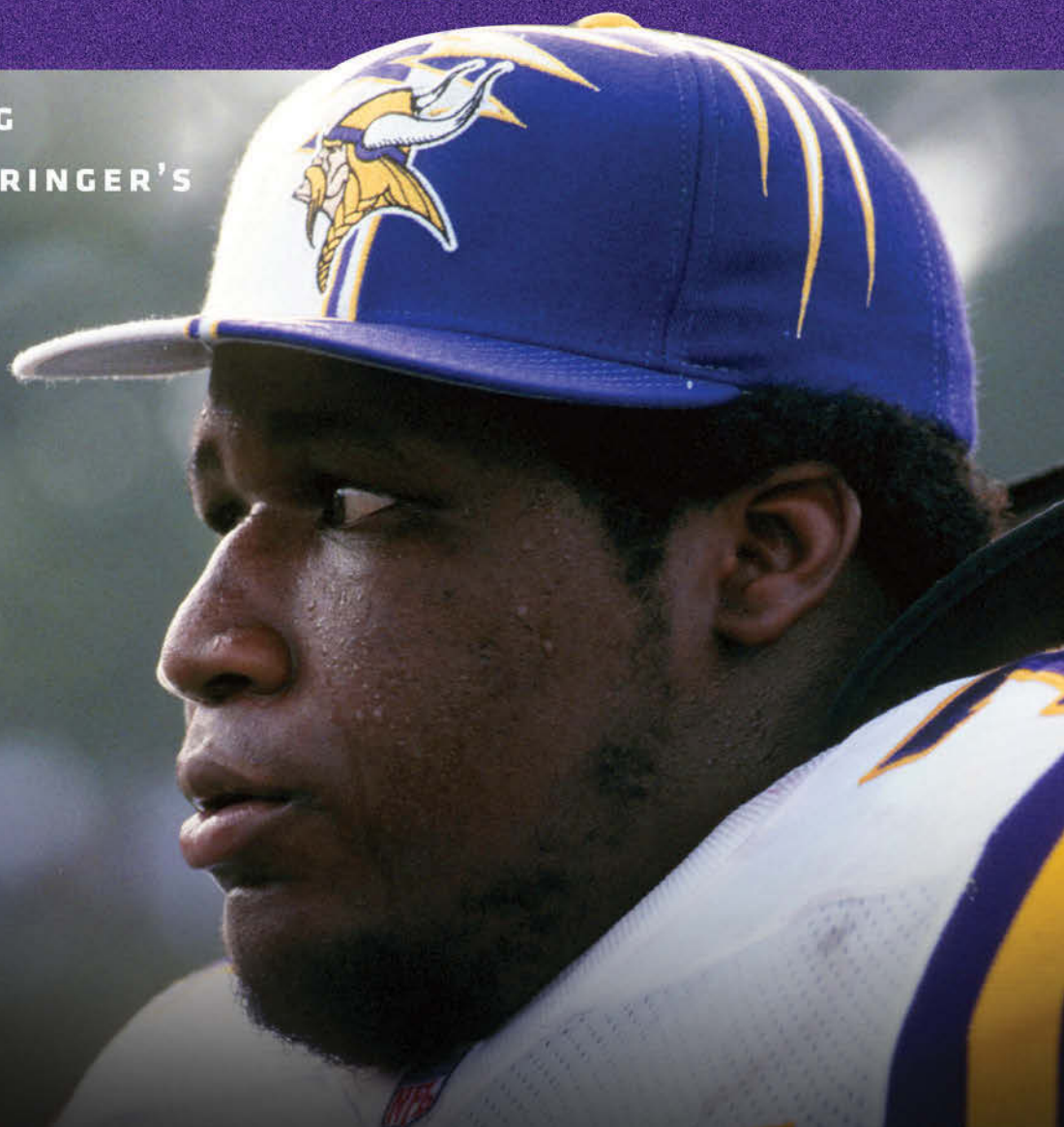
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REMEMBERING BIG K

HONORING
KOREY STRINGER'S
LEGACY



BY LINDSEY YOUNG

Cris Carter still remembers the final conversation he ever had with his friend Korey Stringer.

Carter in No. 80 and Stringer in No. 77 crossed the pavement together – like every day of training camp – to the practice field on July 31, 2001.

"We talked about the kind of shape that he was in and about how he was really looking forward to the season," Carter recalled.

The Vikings offensive line had been shaken up during free agency, and Stringer anticipated an additional leadership responsibility a year after Randall McDaniel signed with Tampa Bay.

"It was time for him to be even more of a vocal leader. Because he didn't have to do that before," Carter told

Vikings.com. "But hearing him verbalizing that – and we really had a lot of great leaders, like Randall, that he was following in the footsteps of. So that was going to be an adjustment."

Carter can still picture the field's layout. The way he and the other receivers snagged balls zipped through the JUGS machine not far from where Stringer worked on his footwork and hand placement.

"We were both just getting some extra work in for practice. Just like people had taught us, and just like you were supposed to do," the Hall of Famer said. "Never in my wildest imagination did I think that would be my last conversation, or did I think catching balls on that JUGS machine and him hitting the bag would be the last time I would see him alive.

"Those will be my lasting conversations and lasting memory of 'Big K,'" Carter added, heaviness evident in his voice.

Fellow Hall of Fame receiver Randy Moss holds a similar moment close to his heart.

"The memory that stands out is seeing him, before we went to practice, he had his arms [outstretched] over the big, long bleacher," Moss told Vikings.com, extending his own arms to full wingspan. "I said, 'You ready big fella?' 'Yeah, I'm ready.' We're going out there, and that's the last time I was seeing him or speaking to him."

A BELOVED TEAMMATE WITH A GRAVITATIONAL PULL

August 1 marked the 20th anniversary of Stringer's tragic death less than 24 hours after collapsing at Vikings Training Camp in Mankato.

Former teammates deeply miss their friend. They have preserved fond memories.

Bubbly. Smiling. Gentle giant. Made everybody laugh. Silly.

You'd be hard-pressed to find anyone who disliked the fun-loving, joke-cracking Stringer who grew up in Warren, Ohio, and shined for the Buckeyes before Minnesota drafted him 24th overall in 1995.

Randall McDaniel took Stringer out to lunch shortly after the draft, and it became clear from the get-go that Stringer was a "great man" beyond his football skills.

"His personality – it just shined through. Always laughing, always smiling, always could

make you feel better," McDaniel said.

Longtime Vikings equipment manager Dennis Ryan reminisced about Stringer's knack for impersonations – specifically Fat Albert – and other entertainment he provided, creating a gravitational pull in the locker room.

Moss also expanded Stringer's plethora of talents.

"He could sing," Moss said. "He knew music, loved music and could rap a little bit, so I just enjoyed the time we spent. The times that can't be replaced.

"We have a lot of [game-day] memories, me jumping up in his arms and things like that, but those will last a lifetime," Moss added. "The ones you will never get back are when you spend the time away from work, away from the game, and get to know each other. And that's what me and 'Big K' were able to do."

Former Vikings running back Robert Smith played with Stringer at Ohio State before reuniting with him in that locker room prior to Stringer's rookie campaign.

"Big K" was just plain fun to be around, Smith explained.

"Always that way. Just such a genuinely good and fun person," Smith said. "We'd always come in and we'd talk about 'South Park.' I remember the movie 'Half Baked' was part of the line of jokes we'd use so many times."

And to Smith's recollection, Stringer never actually uttered the running back's first name.

"I don't know that Korey ever called me Robert," Smith laughed. "My nickname at Ohio



State was 'Juice,' and then that name carried over to the pros, as well; a lot of nicknames do that. And then the other one was just a silly name – he'd call me Rupert, on purpose. It was never Robert; it was either Juice or Rupert."

Late last month, Jake Reed's eyes glistened as he stood just feet from Stringer's "Frozen in Time" ice column exhibit at the Minnesota Vikings Museum.

He tries not to think about it, he says. Twenty years later, the memory of losing his friend to heat stroke complications at the age of 27 remains raw and painful.

"It was one of the worst days in football in my life. I hate thinking about it. When I saw his picture over there, I said a little prayer," Reed said. "Because Korey was an unbelievable guy. Because when you see a player like that – Korey was big, strong, healthy, in-shape. That can't happen. If that happened to him, it can happen to anyone. It was so mind-blowing.

"Every time you hit that practice field, you thought about Korey. Every time you had a hot practice, you thought about him," Reed added, his voice trailing off.

A GENEROUS LIFTER OF SPIRITS

Stringer's football prowess spoke for itself.

Despite being the youngest of the group, he immediately fit in with an offensive line that featured (from left to right) Todd Steussie, McDaniel, Jeff Christy, David Dixon and Stringer. He was part of the historic 15-1 1998 Vikings squad and helped Smith notch four consecutive seasons with 1,000-plus rushing yards.

His true legacy, though, lies in his kindness,

generosity and heart much bigger than his jersey size.

Stringer cared for and respected everyone, whether that person was a fellow first-round pick or an unknown name signed as an undrafted rookie. He looked out for every one of his teammates, whether he'd known them 10 years or 10 minutes.

When Culpepper was drafted 11th overall by Minnesota in 1999, Stringer was one of the first who made an impression on him.

"Me coming in as a rookie, he kind of put his arm around me and said, 'Hey man, if you have a tough day, don't worry about it.' He was one of those guys that motivated from a gentle angle," Culpepper said. "He was kind of like a gentle giant. That's what I would call him."

Amidst the fame and fortune that comes with being a first-round pick in the NFL, Stringer never lost sight of what truly mattered. He regularly participated in Community Tuesdays, investing in the young people and families around him, and he gave generously.

Following his Pro Bowl appearance in 2000, Stringer didn't hesitate to sign the \$15,000 check over to a youth football program in his hometown.

"He was a great man and a great football player – and that combination is [often] taken for granted," Carter said.

LEGACY OF HELPING OTHERS

Stringer's life and legacy are not to be forgotten.

“He was one of those guys that motivated from a gentle angle. He was kind of like a gentle giant. That’s what I would call him.”

- DAUNTE CULPEPPER

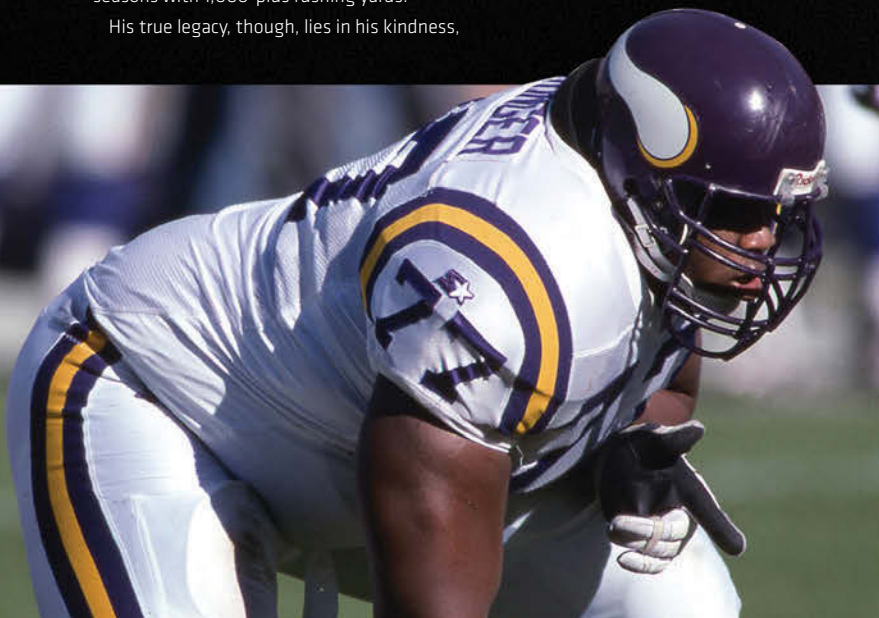
Just before the July 31 Night Practice at TCO Stadium, fans turned attention to a videoboard tribute recognizing the 20-year anniversary of Stringer's passing. A moment of silence followed, and eyes cast on a pair of No. 77s painted on the field at the 25-yard lines. Another No. 77 was added to the grass berm that rises above the Vikings practice fields.

Perhaps the greatest way in which Stringer's memory lives on is through Kelci Stringer, who worked to develop an exertional heat stroke prevention institute to honor her husband's legacy. Kelci teamed up with exertional heat stroke expert Douglas Casa, Ph. D, ATC at the University of Connecticut, and the Korey Stringer Institute became a reality in 2010.

The Vikings and the NFL Foundation teamed up with the Korey Stringer Institute to create the Korey and Kelci Stringer Athletic Training Scholarship with an initial \$50,000 endowment. The scholarship will be awarded annually to benefit athletic training students in partnership with the National Athletic Training Association (NATA) Research and Education Foundation.

And while Stringer's life can never be replaced, his teammates realize that even after his passing, he's managed to do what he always did best: help others.

"[Korey's death has] completely changed the way that people look at heat-stroke deaths and the way that people talk about hydration," Smith said. "Something that 20, 25 years ago was used as punishment, even, at practice – withholding water – is something that's changed to, 'It's important for you to stay hydrated for your health,' and it's actually become something that people focus on for improvement of performance. It's a pretty dramatic change."



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VS.
DET
10.08
MONTICELLO

AT
CAR
10.15
CHAMPLIN

**BYE
WEEK**

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DAL
10.29
OAKDALE

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BAL
11.05
ELK RIVER

AT
LAC
11.12
COON RAPIDS

VS.
GB
11.19
APPLE VALLEY

AT
SF
11.26
BLAINE

AT
DET
12.03
EDINA

VS.
PIT
12.09*
LAKEVILLE

AT
CHI
12.17
ROSEVILLE

VS.
LAR
12.23*
SAVAGE

AT
GB
12.31
PLYMOUTH

VS.
CHI
1.07
EAGAN

AWAY - WHITE HOME - YELLOW

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

* IS FOR THURSDAY SHOW



BACKSTAGE HALL PASS



BY CRAIG PETERS

STEVE HUTCHINSON'S election in 2020 to the Pro Football Hall of Fame occurred in his third year of eligibility, but his enshrinement was delayed until 2021.

Family members, teammates from multiple levels of football, and connections from all three of his NFL cities were able to get the band back together.

A rock concert-themed party planned by Hutchinson's wife, Landyn, and hosted by the couple at Royal Docks Brewhouse + Cannery with assists from the Seahawks and Vikings brought the fire so great that Guy Fieri was happy to support his friend.

Royal Docks customized cans of IPA and Lager with an intimidating picture of Hutchinson and lighter-hearted quotes before transforming into Club Seventy Six.

Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint made the trek from Nashville, Tennessee, to serve meat from a whole hog, and Skyline Chili served up some dogs. Tacos from one food truck delivered, and another served ice cream sandwiches that used thin layers of cookie dough.

Members of the Wolverines 1997 National Champions team reunited, and 2021 Hall of Fame enshrinees Peyton Manning, John Lynch and Charles Woodson were among the NFLers who came to show their support.

As one T-shirt available at the complimentary, show-style merch stand proclaimed, it was "All for the Hall" – and for Hutch.

Hutchinson received his Gold Jacket earlier that night. His enshrinement, when his bronze bust was unveiled, followed on Saturday. He is scheduled to receive his Hall of Fame Ring of Excellence this fall.



CLUB
SEVENTY SIX



BACKSTAGE HALL PASS

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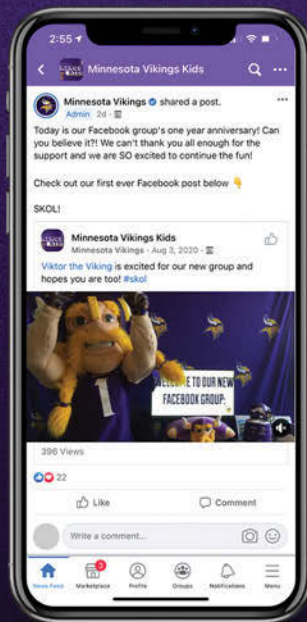


The Minnesota Vikings Kids Facebook group is your one-stop shop for Vikings content geared toward youth.

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Vikings Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf & Pro Football Hall of Fame President/CEO David Baker

NFL OWNERS THE FOUNDERS AND STEWARDS OF AMERICA'S GAME

BY CRAIG PETERS

FOUNDERS & STEWARDS

WILF FAMILY FUNDS NEW HALL OF FAME EXHIBIT

Stewards understand significant events that preceded them. More importantly, they preserve and try to improve conditions for those who follow.

Since becoming the owners of the Vikings in 2005, brothers Zygi and Mark Wilf and their cousin, Lenny, have earnestly spoken about their stewardship approach and made financial and other commitments to support their caretaking efforts.

That has continued with a \$1 million donation to the Pro Football Hall of Fame to fund the new "NFL Owners: The Founders and Stewards of America's Game" exhibit.

Zygi Wilf traveled to Canton, Ohio, last week to celebrate the enshrinement of former Vikings guard Steve Hutchinson as a member of the 2020 class and the grand opening of the exhibit.

"Since our family became the stewards of the Minnesota Vikings in 2005, we have been honored to support the Pro Football Hall of Fame," Wilf said. "The work of The Hall is critical to pay tribute to the heroes of pro football and to preserve the game's rich history. Honoring and supporting our Legends and those who have come before us is extremely important for my family and all of us in the NFL."

"The story of football, however, can't be told without recognizing the individuals who laid the foundation of the National Football League and those who carry it forward today," Wilf continued. "Our family is humbled to be part of that. We are proud to join all of you to officially unveil the Pro Football Hall of Fame 'Founders' exhibit."

He joined Pro Football Hall of Fame President and CEO David Baker for a tour through the space that has transformed the original portal to the Pro Football Hall of Fame into an homage to the sport's past, a link to the NFL's present and a gateway to its future.

The space is located at the former front doors to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, which opened in 1963 in Canton, Ohio, more than four decades after the meeting that immediately established the American Professional Football Association on Sept. 17, 1920. The upstart league was renamed the NFL in 1922 and is now preparing for its 102nd season.

Just beyond two sets of double doors is where enshrinees — the likes of Fran Tarkenton, Alan Page and Bud Grant — formally delivered acceptance speeches. On hot enshrinement days, distinguished guests would pass through those portals to cool, stepping over the original logo for the Pro Football Hall of Fame that was inlaid in the floor and remains exposed.

"It's very appropriate to be here and be at the former entrance where they held the ceremonies right outside these doors and to have the original welcome plaque," Wilf said. "To see all of the faces

of the former teams' owners brings back a nostalgia that I always carry with me as part of my passion for the game."

The recognition of Hutchinson and the Centennial Class, as well as the ribbon-cutting, were delayed a year by the COVID-19 pandemic. The eventual occurrence of those events is a reminder of perseverance that helped the NFL grow and gain traction as America's most-watched professional sports league.

"This is a good day. You can see we have a lot of people coming back to the Pro Football Hall of Fame," Baker said in a soothing tone that offsets his towering frame. "Thanks to the generosity of Zygi, Lenny, Mark and the Wilf family who have such great respect for the history of the league, we have the 'Founders' exhibit, which is all about the owners and what they did."

Nods to the past include photos of some of the earliest owners and transformative leaders. A space lists the 14 original teams from 1920, which included the Chicago Cardinals franchise that is now in Arizona and the Decatur Staleys led by founder, coach and player George Halas. That squad changed its name to the Chicago Staleys a year later and adopted the Bears nickname in 1922.

An interactive display screen covers each team's history of ownership.

The "Foolish Club" which founded the rival American Football League to begin play in 1960 and challenge the NFL is also recognized. The AFL invited a Minnesota franchise, but organizers withdrew after Halas helped convince the NFL to place an expansion franchise before the 1961 season.

The service and sacrifice of more than 1,200 who delayed, interrupted or canceled their NFL careers to serve in the military during World War II is also noted.

Born in 1950 in Germany to Holocaust survivors, Wilf immigrated to the United States. His family first settled in Birmingham, Alabama, before relocating to

the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area.

Wilf explained during the tour that his father's business partner introduced Joseph Wilf to American football and that the construction company, Garden Homes, built houses for some of the New York Giants players. Joseph Wilf envisioned an opportunity for his family to better adapt to Americanization through football when the Giants played at Yankee Stadium.

"He made us very passionate about the game and the sport and about our teams," Wilf said. "We carry that over as an important factor of being an owner, to have the passion, and he certainly gave it to us by introducing us to this great game."

Wilf also explained that his father had an opportunity in 1961 to buy the New York Titans, a Foolish Club franchise that soon became the Jets, but said, "What do I know about the football business?"

In celebration of the NFL's 100th season, the Pro Football Hall of Fame shipped a 1920 Hupmobile, which is usually displayed in Canton in honor of the automobile showroom in which league founders met, to 2019 Annual League Meeting for a photo with an ownership representative from each team.



The photo, executed despite logistical challenges, is used as a wall graphic for part of the exhibit to recognize the current stewards who helped the NFL navigate the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 without missing a single game.

"We are deeply grateful to the Wilf family, not only for the quality organization that they run with the Minnesota Vikings but also for the values that they espouse in their company, in their philanthropy, in everything they do," Baker said, before adding:

"These are the kind of people who should be owners in the [NFL], and we need more like them, along with the other owners we have."



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As people throughout the United States and world continue to navigate challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are spotlighting three-year veteran MVC Grace. A graduate of nursing school in May 2021, Grace is on the front line and making a significant impact as a registered nurse at a North Memorial hospital.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE A CAREER IN NURSING?

I've known I wanted a career in the medical field for as long as I can remember. For a while, I thought I would be a doctor. However, I took a class called Orientation to Healthcare Careers my junior year of high school, and I loved the direct patient-care aspect and the many different roles that come with nursing. The shorter length of school helped a little, too (laughs).

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART ABOUT THE WORK YOU DO?

So far, it's doing the little things for my patients. A typical patient expects the basic cares from his or her nurse, but I always try to go a little above and beyond – whether it's simply taking extra time in a patient's room to ask them about their family, helping them groom their hair or assisting in other self-care measures. ... I genuinely feel like I grow as a nurse and a person with each patient I care for.

WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'VE LEARNED THROUGH YOUR EXPERIENCES THIS PAST YEAR?

The importance of being a great team member. Now more than ever, the support staff has been so essential. With there being a bed shortage, everyone in the hospital

(doctors, nurses, aids, housekeeping, security, maintenance, IT support and many others) needed to be all-hands-on-deck to get rooms ready for the next patient as fast as possible.

WAS THERE A POSITIVE OR UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE DURING YOUR WORK IN THE PAST YEAR?

I was caring for a sweet older man who was battling COVID-19. Most often, these patients get worse before they get better, so caring for a patient as they have ups and downs ... while they stay positive throughout the whole stay is super inspiring. As an NST, I often was the one who walked patients out the doors of the hospital, where they were finally able to reconnect with their family.

WHAT MESSAGE DO YOU WANT TO SEND TO THE FANS?

I would say the following: 1) Please check in with all your loved ones on the status of their mental and physical health. These times have been so hard on all of us; 2) Go out of your way to be kind to everyone you cross paths with. You never know what others are going through, and that small moment might be the only light or sign of hope for them in these times that can be so dark and lonely; 3) Lastly, you are loved, you are not alone, you deserve help, and it will get better.



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MentalHealthMN
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National Suicide
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Substance Abuse and
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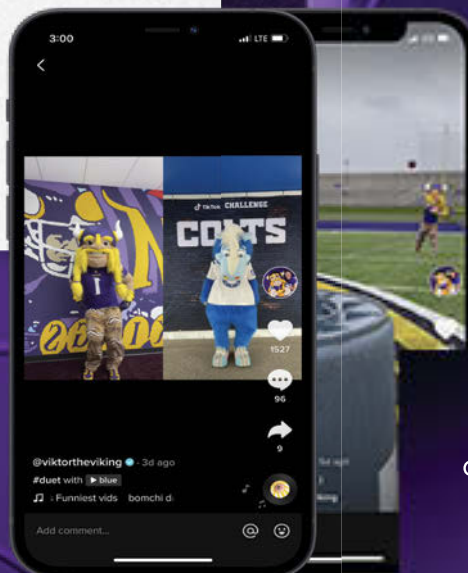
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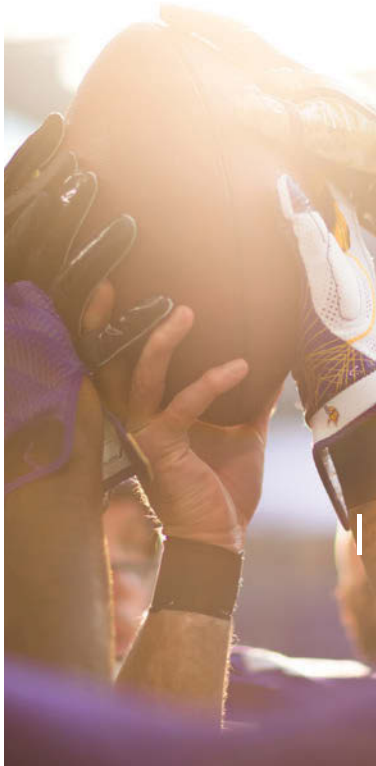
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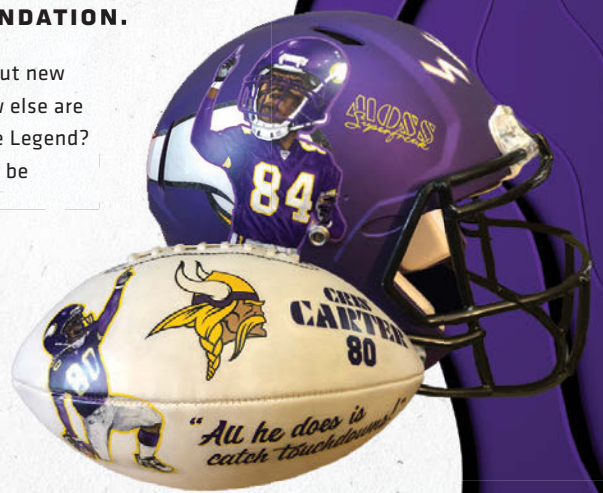
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By registering for the auction, you will be the first to know about new items, one-of-a-kind art pieces and exclusive experiences. How else are you going to get on the field on game day or meet your favorite Legend? Bids close at the end of the 3rd quarter and you do not need to be present to bid or win.











Browse all items for auction;
bidpal.net/vikings2021.

Or scan QR Code to browse all items

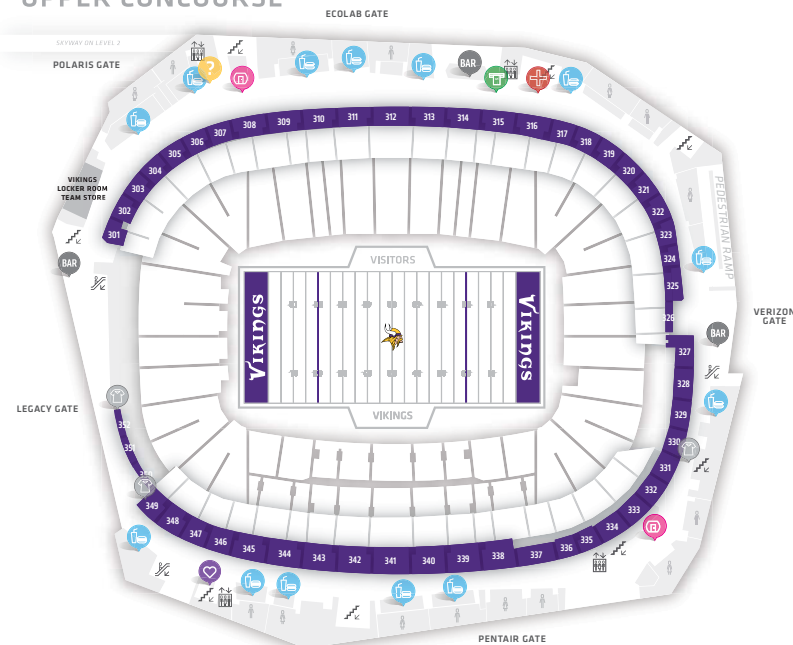


U.S. BANK STADIUM

-  CONCESSIONS
-  U.S. BANK ATMS
-  GUEST SERVICES
-  3M FIRST AID STATIONS
-  NORTH MEMORIAL MAMAVA LACTATION SUITE
-  MOTHERS NURSING ROOM
-  3M SENSORY ROOM
-  MERCHANDISE STAND



UPPER CONCOURSE



GOLD LOBBY

ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- POLARIS CLUB
- LITTLE SIX'S CLUB GOLD
- MYSTIC LAKE'S CLUB PURPLE
- NORSEMAN SUITES 1-15
- NW/NE NORSEMAN LOUNGES
- LOFT SUITES 1-27
- TRUSS BAR
- LUMEN LODGE
- LUMEN CABINS

PURPLE LOBBY

ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- DELTA SKY360° CLUB
- MEDTRONIC CLUB
- FMP CLUB
- TURF & TOUCHDOWN SUITES
- VALHALLA SUITES
- NORSEMAN SUITES 16-27
- SE NORSEMAN SUITES
- LOFT SUITES 28-46
- MILLER LITE LOUNGE



NEED HELP FINDING SOMETHING?

USE THE CAMERA APP ON YOUR SMART PHONE TO SCAN & ASK A QUESTION.

STADIUM HIGHLIGHT



VIKINGS VOYAGE

ABOVE THE TEAM STORE | ADJACENT TO THE SKYWAY

The Vikings Voyage is a dramatic and interactive space inside U.S. Bank Stadium where the team's lore comes alive. Located on the second floor of the Vikings Locker Room Team Store, the Voyage is a free experience and open to fans during both preseason games.

Snap a photo on the bench with the Purple People Eaters, see memorabilia, test your strength against a Vikings tackling dummy and more at the Voyage.



CONCESSIONS

FIND WHAT YOU'RE CRAVING!

Whether you pick up a sweet treat from Hockey Mom Brownies or try the all-new "Pep Rally" Pizza from PotHole, there's something for everyone at U.S. Bank Stadium! Scan the QR Code for a full list of offerings.



WHAT IS SKOL SERVICE?

The SKOL Service Program was developed to create a guest-focused culture for our game-day team members. Our SKOL Service mission is our commitment to create memorable experiences for our fans. SKOL Service is our purpose as team members at U.S. Bank Stadium to provide a safe and world-class sports environment for all.

SKOL Service is built upon four main quality standards: safety, courtesy, appearance and efficiency.

SAFETY

We are determined to create a safe environment for all fans and game-day staff by putting safety first through our actions and knowledge of safety procedures.

COURTESY

Our team members exemplify friendliness, respect and positivity with all fans and gameday staff they meet.

APPEARANCE

We take pride in our appearance and surroundings to foster a clean and welcoming environment on game-day.

EFFICIENCY

We work diligently to pay attention to every detail in order to exceed the expectations of our fans and game-day staff.

If you had a great experience with one of our team members, please share this with us by emailing guestservices@vikings.nfl.net! SKOL!

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