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PLAYBOOK



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Whether you're a pro athlete or a weekend go-getter, we're here to help after an injury strikes. We have 39 convenient locations, including urgent care hours. In most cases, you don't even need a referral to see one of our top-rated specialists and get back to what you love.

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QUESTIONS AT THE GAME?

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



WE ARE VIKINGS, NOT BARBARIANS.

We have the best fans in the NFL. To ensure that all fans have a pleasant game-day experience, each patron should act responsibly and be considerate of others.

TO REPORT ISSUES: TEXT VIKES (SPACE), THE ISSUE AND LOCATION TO 612-777-8977

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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2021 VIKINGS ALL-STATE FOOTBALL TEAM

COACH OF THE YEAR:

Ryan Weinandt, Dassel-Cokato

PLAYERS:

Samuel Angell, LB, Andover
 Jarrett Bennett, RB, St. Michael-Albertville
 Charles Boucher, TE/WR, Minneapolis SW
 Carter Birr, RB/CB, Albany
 Jack Boyle, RB, Chaska
 Carter Callahan, RB/LB, Becker
 T.J. Chiabotti, RB/LB, North Woods
 Connor Develice, QB, Andover
 Jacob Deutschman, QB, Anoka
 Joey Gerlach, TE/S, Woodbury
 Eli Gillman, RB/CB, Dassel-Cokato
 Ryan Haley, RB/LB, Mankato West
 Lucas Heyer, OL/DL, Hill-Murray
 Cayden Holcomb, WR/S, Rochester Mayo
 Kristen Hoskins, WR/CB, Alexandria
 Derrick Jameson, Jr., RB, Maple Grove
 Lucas Jansky, QB, Kimball
 Mitchell Jaskowiak, RB/LB, Glencoe-Silver Lake
 Emmett Johnson, RB/S, Holy Angels
 Andrew Karls, QB/S, St. Cloud Apollo
 Drew Kittelson, QB/CB, Blooming Prairie
 Tait Kongsjord, T/DT, Deer River
 Levi Lampert, WR/CB, Upsala-Swanville
 Devin Lockerby, C/DT, Faribault
 Drew Lundeen, RB/LB Redwood Valley
 Jacob Meissner, RB/DT, Providence Academy
 McKale Pierson, RB/LB, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton
 Peyton Rondestvedt, QB, Wadena-Deer Creek
 Charlie Ryks, QB/LB, Breck
 Matt Sloan, RB/LB, White Bear Lake
 Matt Thompson, WR/DE, Hancock
 Mason Wilson, TE/DE, Stillwater

INSPIRE CHANGE

SUNDAY, JAN. 9, 2022 | U.S. BANK STADIUM

The NFL and the Vikings introduced the inaugural Inspire Change games across the NFL in Week 17 and are continuing them this week for the 2021 regular-season finale.

The Vikings have initiated multiple "Be the Change" efforts to advance social justice.

Open to all teams and players, the NFL's #InspireChange initiative acknowledges the ways that systemic racism contributes to barriers to opportunity and equality and focuses on creating progress in education, economic advancement, community and police relations, and criminal justice reform.

Visit NFL.com/InspireChange or text NFLIC to 635635 to learn more.

Elements that will be used to show support during today's game include:

- New Era sideline headwear (winter hats) for players, coaches and other personnel
- The painting of "It Takes All of Us" behind one end zone and "Advance Social Justice" on the opposite end zone
- Inspire Change logo decals on helmets and towels for players
- A special edition game coin that will be used for the pregame coin toss and auctioned at NFL Auction (nflauction.nfl.com) to raise money for Inspire Change grant partners*

**Note: The Vikings received a second coin to use for the club's social justice efforts.*

TODAY'S GAME ELEMENTS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Sounds of Blackness, a three-time Grammy-winning ensemble established in the Twin Cities in 1971

COLOR GUARD

The colors will be presented by United States Marines.

HALFTIME

American Ultimate Disc League Showcase: Minnesota Wind Chill vs. Chicago Union

Scan the code
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phone for more
info



IT'S TIME TO UP YOUR GAME



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TODAY'S PROMOTIONS



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. In connection to today's Inspire Change game and the Vikings "Be the Change" efforts, our Hometown Hero is Nya Sigin, a freshman at Prior Lake High School. Nya overcame being the target of bullying and racism in a video made by classmates.

For more on Nya's story, see page 33.



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.



OPENING DRIVE SWEEPSTAKES

PRESENTED BY KWIK TRIP

Today's Kwik Trip opening drive contestant is Allen Lehman from Sauk Rapids. Allen will win \$25 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. Allen also has the chance to win a Ford Bronco Sport from Northland Ford Dealers during today's game.



#VIKINGSHAIR

PRESENTED BY SPALON MONTAGE

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.



SACKS FOR APPS

PRESENTED BY BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Buffalo Wild Wings has brought you "Sacks for Apps" during all Vikings home and away games this season! If the Vikings record 2.0 or more sacks in a game, all fans score a free appetizer with a minimum purchase of \$20. Offer is valid for three days after each eligible game. Visit Vikings.com/bww for your digital coupon and details.



THAT DESERVES A CROWN

PRESENTED BY CROWN ROYAL

Crown Royal believes in sustainability and supporting clean water initiatives and is proud to present Dodge Nature Center with a \$1,000 grant. Founded in 1967 as one of the first nature centers in Minnesota, Dodge continues to be a pioneer in environmental education. Dodge opened one of the first nature-based preschools in the U.S. in 2000, which has inspired the creation of similar schools, and hosts numerous low- or no-cost events to provide accessible outdoor activities for families and adults.

CrownRoyal™



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.

HyVee®

ABSOLUT® VIKINGS HOMEGATER

Are you the Absolut® Vikings Homegater? Whatever you do on game day, celebrate your Absolut® best this football season by submitting your photo as the Absolut® Homegater of the week. Today is your LAST CHANCE to submit your photos for your chance to win our grand prize and be dubbed the Absolut Homegater of the Season! Visit Vikings.com/homegater to enter. SKOL!

ABSOLUT®

VIKINGS WIN, YOU WIN!

PRESENTED BY KWIK TRIP

Vikings Win, You Win! Buy one Pothole Pizza from Kwik Trip and get the second one free the day after a Vikings win!



FAN CAM

PRESENTED BY U.S. BANK

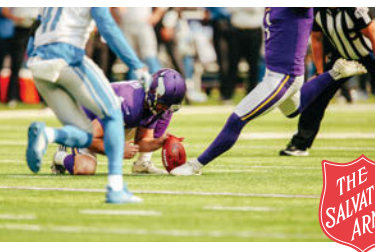
Vikings Fancam, presented by U.S. Bank, captures your excitement throughout the game. Tag yourself and enter to win prizes by visiting vikings.fancam.com.



STRONGER TOGETHER

PRESENTED BY PEPSI

Through its Stronger Together program, Pepsi committed \$50,000 to the Raise the Barr foundation that was co-founded by Vikings linebacker Anthony Barr and his mother Lori. The money will provide scholarships and resources to single parents who are pursuing college degrees.



FIELD GOALS FOR CHARITY

PRESENTED BY INNOVATIVE OFFICE SOLUTIONS

In partnership with the Vikings and Post-it, Innovative Office Solutions launched the Field Goals for Charity program, committing \$250 for each field goal made by the Vikings (up to \$5,000) for The Salvation Army's mission to meet human needs.

Being involved is embedded into the culture at Innovative. They value philanthropic effort and have been able to give back to hundreds of organizations through local partnerships and charity work in the community.





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how it all began through interactive
exhibits and one of a kind artifacts.

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Vikings.com/Museum.





JUSTIN

JEFFERSON

RECEIVER
6'1" | 195 LBS
2ND SEASON
COLLEGE: LSU

2021 SCHEDULE

@CIN
WK1 | L, 27-24

@LAC
WK10 | W, 27-20

@ARI
WK2 | L, 34-33

GB
WK11 | W, 34-31

SEA
WK3 | W, 30-17

@SF
WK12 | L, 34-26

CLE
WK4 | L, 14-7

@DET
WK13 | L, 29-27

DET
WK5 | W, 19-17

PIT
WK14 | W, 36-28

@CAR
WK6 | W, 34-28

@CHI
WK15 | W, 17-9

BYE WEEK

LAR
WK16 | L, 30-23

DAL
WK8 | L, 20-16

@GB
WK17 | L, 37-10

@BAL
WK9 | L, 34-31

CHI
WK18 | JAN. 9

2-YEAR TALLY

Regardless of what happens today, Jefferson has set NFL records for a player in his first two seasons with 2,909 receiving yards and for the most before turning 23.

PLAYER HIGHLIGHT

So much for that sophomore slump some wondered if Justin Jefferson might experience.

The 2020 first-round pick followed an impressive rookie season with even bigger

numbers, going from 88 catches to 103, from 1,400 yards to 1,509 and seven touchdown catches to nine.

Jefferson is the fifth different player in franchise history to record more than 100 catches in a season.

His yardage also ranks as the second-most by a

Viking in a season behind 1,632 by Hall of Famer Randy Moss in 2003.

Entering Week 18, which is new this season with the expanded 17-game schedule, Jefferson ranks fourth in the NFL in receptions and second in yardage. His nine touchdown catches are tied for seventh.



VIKINGS ROSTER

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	PRACTICE SQUAD			
1	Greg Joseph	K	6-0	206	4	Florida Atlantic	Boca Raton, FL	5	Tye Smith	CB	6-0 190 6 Towson Raleigh, NC
3	Jordan Berry	P	6-5	195	7	Eastern Kentucky	Melbourne, AUS	9	Trishton Jackson	WR	6-1 191 1 Syracuse West Bloomfield, MI
7	Patrick Peterson	CB	6-1	198	11	LSU	Fort Lauderdale, FL	34	Jake Bargas	FB	6-2 245 2 North Carolina Boca Raton, FL
11	Kellen Mond	QB	6-3	212	R	Texas A&M	San Antonio, TX	36	A.J. Rose Jr.	RB	6-1 212 R Kentucky Cleveland, OH
12	Dede Westbrook	WR	6-0	178	5	Oklahoma	Cameron, TX	40	Zach Davidson	TE	6-7 251 R Central Missouri Webb City, MO
14	Sean Mannion	QB	6-6	230	7	Oregon State	Pleasanton, CA	46	Myles Dorn	S	6-2 210 2 North Carolina Charlotte, NC
15	Ihmir Smith-Marsette	WR	6-1	185	R	Iowa	Newark, NJ	47	Tuf Borland	LB	6-1 233 R Ohio State Bolingbrook, IL
17	K.J. Osborn	WR	5-11	203	2	Miami	Ypsilanti, MI	50	T.J. Smith	DT	6-3 300 1 Arkansas Moultrie, GA
18	Justin Jefferson	WR	6-1	195	2	Louisiana State	St. Rose, LA	61	Timon Parris	T	6-6 330 3 Stony Brook Floral Park, NY
20	Harrison Hand	CB	5-11	185	2	Temple	Cherry Hill, NJ	62	Cole Banwart	OL	6-4 298 R Iowa Ottosen, IA
22	Harrison Smith	S	6-2	211	10	Notre Dame	Knoxville, TN	66	Eddie Yarbrough	DE	6-3 259 4 Wyoming Aurora, CO
23	Xavier Woods	S	5-11	204	5	Louisiana Tech	West Monroe, LA	67	Rick Leonard	T	6-7 311 1 Florida State Middletown, MD
24	Mackensie Alexander	CB	5-10	192	6	Clemson	Immokalee, FL	68	Kyle Hinton	G	6-2 315 2 Washburn Peoria, AZ
25	Alexander Mattison	RB	5-11	215	3	Boise State	San Bernadino, CA	79	Kenny Willekes	DE	6-3 264 2 Michigan State Rockford, MI
26	Kene Nwangwu	RB	6-1	210	R	Iowa State	Frisco, TX	87	Myron Mitchell	WR	6-1 185 R UAB Jasper, AL
27	Cameron Dantzler	CB	6-2	190	2	Mississippi State	Hammond, LA	91	T.Y. McGill	DT	6-0 294 7 North Carolina State Jesup, GA
29	Kris Boyd	CB	5-11	195	3	Texas	Gilmer, TX	RESERVE/INJURED			
30	C.J. Ham	FB	5-11	250	6	Augustana	Duluth, MN	12	Chad Beebe	WR	5-10 187 4 Northern Illinois Aurora, IL
31	Wayne Gallman	RB	6-0	210	5	Clemson	Loganville, GA	13	Blake Proehl	WR	6-1 190 R East Carolina Charlotte, NC
33	Dalvin Cook	RB	5-10	210	5	Florida State	Miami, FL	14	Nate Stanley	QB	6-4 233 1 Iowa Menomonie, WI
35	Luke Stocker	TE	6-5	253	11	Tennessee	Berea, KY	19	Adam Thielen	WR	6-2 200 8 Minnesota State Detroit Lakes, MN
41	Chazz Surratt	LB	6-2	233	R	North Carolina	Denver, NC	52	Mason Cole	C	6-5 298 4 Michigan Tarpon Springs, FL
42	Andrew DePaola	LS	6-1	229	7	Rutgers	Parkton, MD	57	Ryan Connelly	LB	6-2 234 3 Wisconsin Eden Prairie, MN
44	Josh Metellus	S	5-11	207	2	Michigan	Pembroke Pines, FL	66	Jordon Scott	DT	6-1 326 R Oregon Largo, FL
45	Troy Dye	LB	6-3	225	2	Oregon	Norco, CA	81	Bisi Johnson	WR	6-0 210 3 Colorado State Lakewood, CO
48	Blake Lynch	LB	6-3	233	2	Baylor	Gilmer, TX	82	Ben Ellefson	TE	6-3 250 2 North Dakota State Hawley, MN
51	Wyatt Davis	G	6-4	315	R	Ohio State	Bellflower, CA	84	Irv Smith Jr.	TE	6-2 240 3 Alabama New Orleans, LA
55	Anthony Barr	LB	6-5	257	8	UCLA	San Pedro, CA	95	Janarius Robinson	DE	6-5 258 R Florida State Panama City, FL
56	Garrett Bradbury	C	6-3	300	3	North Carolina State	Charlotte, NC	99	Danielle Hunter	DE	6-5 263 7 Louisiana State Katy, TX
58	Michael Pierce	DT	6-0	340	6	Samford	Daphne, AL	RESERVE/NON-FOOTBALL INJURY OR ILLNESS			
59	Nick Vigil	LB	6-2	230	6	Utah State	Plain City, UT	76	Jaylen Twyman (INJ.)	DT	6-2 285 R Pittsburgh Washington, DC
64	Blake Brandel	T	6-7	315	1	Oregon State	Milwaukie, OR	97	Everson Griffen (ILL.)	DE	6-3 273 12 USC Avondale, AZ
69	Rashod Hill	T	6-6	310	6	South. Mississippi	Jacksonville, FL	RESERVE/COVID-19 & PRACTICE SQUAD RESERVE/COVID-19			
73	Tashawn Bower	DE	6-5	250	4	LSU	Somerville, NJ	8	Kirk Cousins	QB	6-3 205 10 Michigan State Holland, MI
74	Olisaemeka Udoh	G	6-6	320	3	Elon	Fayetteville, NC	39	Parry Nickerson [PS]	CB	5-10 179 4 Tulane Algiers, LA
78	Dakota Dozier	G	6-4	305	8	Furman	West Columbia, SC	43	Camryn Bynum	S	6-0 200 R California Corona, CA
83	Tyler Conklin	TE	6-3	248	4	Central Michigan	Chesterfield, MI	54	Eric Kendricks	LB	6-0 232 7 UCLA Fresno, CA
85	Dan Chisena	WR	6-3	203	2	Penn State	Downington, PA	71	Christian Darrisaw	T	6-5 315 R Virginia Tech Upper Marlboro, MD
90	Sheldon Richardson	DT	6-3	290	9	Missouri	St. Louis, MO	72	Ezra Cleveland	G	6-6 312 2 Boise State Spanaway, WA
92	James Lynch	DT	6-4	295	2	Baylor	Round Rock, TX	75	Brian O'Neill	T	6-7 310 4 Pittsburgh Wilmington, DE
93	Patrick Jones II	DE	6-4	264	R	Pittsburgh	Chesapeake, VA	89	Chris Herndon	TE	6-4 253 4 Miami Norcross, GA
94	Dalvin Tomlinson	DT	6-3	325	5	Alabama	McDonough, GA				
96	Armon Watts	DT	6-5	307	3	Arkansas	St. Louis, MO				
98	D.J. Wonnum	DE	6-5	258	2	South Carolina	Stone Mountain, GA				



THIS IS
OUR TEAM



33
RUNNING BACK
Dalvin Cook



8
QUARTERBACK
Kirk Cousins



30
FULLBACK
C.J. Ham



17
WIDE RECEIVER
K.J. Osborn



83
TIGHT END
Tyler Conklin



75
RIGHT TACKLE
Brian O'Neill



74
RIGHT GUARD
Olisaemeka Udoh



56
CENTER
Garrett Bradbury



72
LEFT GUARD
Ezra Cleveland




71
LEFT TACKLE
Christian Darrisaw




18
WIDE RECEIVER
Justin Jefferson


VIKINGS OFFENSE




33
CORNERBACK
Jaylon Johnson




98
DEFENSIVE TACKLE
Bilal Nichols




96
NOSE TACKLE
Akiem Hicks



99
LINEBACKER
Trevis Gipson



44
LINEBACKER
Alec Ogletree



38
SAFETY
Tashaun Gipson Sr.

BEARS DEFENSE



97
DEFENSIVE END
Mario Edwards Jr.



22
CORNERBACK
Kindle Vildor



94
LINEBACKER
Robert Quinn



4
SAFETY
Eddie Jackson

VIKINGS SPECIAL TEAMS



1
KICKER
Greg Joseph



3
PUNTER
Jordan Berry



42
LONG SNAPPER
Andrew DePaola



12
PUNT RETURNER
Dede Westbrook



26
KICK RETURNER
Kene Nwangwu



VIKINGS DEPTH CHART

VIKINGS OFFENSE

VIKINGS DEFENSE

WR	Justin Jefferson	Dede Westbrook
LT	Christian Darrisaw	Rashod Hill
LG	Ezra Cleveland	Dakota Dozier
C	Garrett Bradbury	
RG	Olisaemeka Udoh	Wyatt Davis
RT	Brian O'Neill	Blake Brandel
TE	Tyler Conklin	Chris Herndon Luke Stocker
WR	K.J. Osborn	I. Smith-Marsette Dan Chisena
QB	Kirk Cousins	Sean Mannion Kellen Mond
RB	Dalvin Cook	Alexander Mattison Kene Nwangwu
FB	C.J. Ham	

LDE	D.J. Wonnum	Patrick Jones II
NT	Michael Pierce	Armon Watts
DT	Dalvin Tomlinson	James Lynch
RDE	S. Richardson	Tashawn Bower
SLB	Anthony Barr	Blake Lynch
MLB	Eric Kendricks	Troy Dye
WLB	Nick Vigil	Chazz Surratt
LCB	Patrick Peterson	Mackensie Alexander Harrison Hand
RCB	Cameron Dantzler	Kris Boyd
SS	Harrison Smith	Josh Metellus
FS	Xavier Woods	Camryn Bynum



59
LINEBACKER
Nick Vigil



23
SAFETY
Xavier Woods



54
LINEBACKER
Eric Kendricks



22
SAFETY
Harrison Smith



55
LINEBACKER
Anthony Barr



27
CORNERBACK
Cameron Dantzler



73
DEFENSIVE END
Sheldon Richardson



58
NOSE TACKLE
Michael Pierce



94
DEFENSIVE TACKLE
Dalvin Tomlinson



98
DEFENSIVE END
D.J. Wonnum



7
CORNERBACK
Patrick Peterson

VIKINGS DEFENSE



12
WIDE RECEIVER
Allen Robinson II



71
LEFT TACKLE
Jason Peters



65
LEFT GUARD
Cody Whitehair



67
CENTER
Sam Mustipher



68
RIGHT GUARD
James Daniels



74
RIGHT TACKLE
Germain Ifedi



85
TIGHT END
Cole Kmet



11
WIDE RECEIVER
Darnell Mooney



1
QUARTERBACK
Justin Fields



32
RUNNING BACK
David Montgomery



84
WIDE RECEIVER
Marquise Goodwin

BEARS SPECIAL TEAMS



2
KICKER
Cairo Santos



16
PUNTER
Pat O'Donnell



48
LONG SNAPPER
Patrick Scales



17
PUNT/KICK RETURNER
Jakeem Grant Sr.



BEARS DEPTH CHART

BEARS OFFENSE

BEARS DEFENSE

WR	Allen Robinson II		
LT	Jason Peters	Teven Jenkins	Elijah Wilkinson
LG	Cody Whitehair	Alex Bars	
C	Sam Mustipher	Cody Whitehair	
RG	James Daniels	Alex Bars	
RT	Germain Ifedi	Larry Borom	Lachavious Simmons
TE	Cole Kmet	Jimmy Graham	Jesse James
WR	Marquise Goodwin	Jakeem Grant Sr.	
WR	Darnell Mooney	Damiere Byrd	
QB	Justin Fields	Andy Dalton	Nick Foles
RB	David Montgomery	Damien Williams	Khalil Herbert

DT	Bilal Nichols	Margus Hunt	
NT	Akiem Hicks	Eddie Goldman	Khyiris Tonga
DE	Mario Edwards Jr.	Angelo Blackson	
OLB	Trevis Gipson	Bruce Irvin	
ILB	Alex Ogletree	Caleb Johnson	
ILB	Roquan Smith	Christian Jones	
OLB	Robert Quinn	Sam Kamara	
CB	Jaylon Johnson	Artie Burns	
CB	Kindle Vildor	Duke Shelley	Thomas Graham Jr.
S	Tashaun Gipson Sr.	Marqui Christian	
S	Eddie Jackson	Deon Bush	

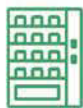
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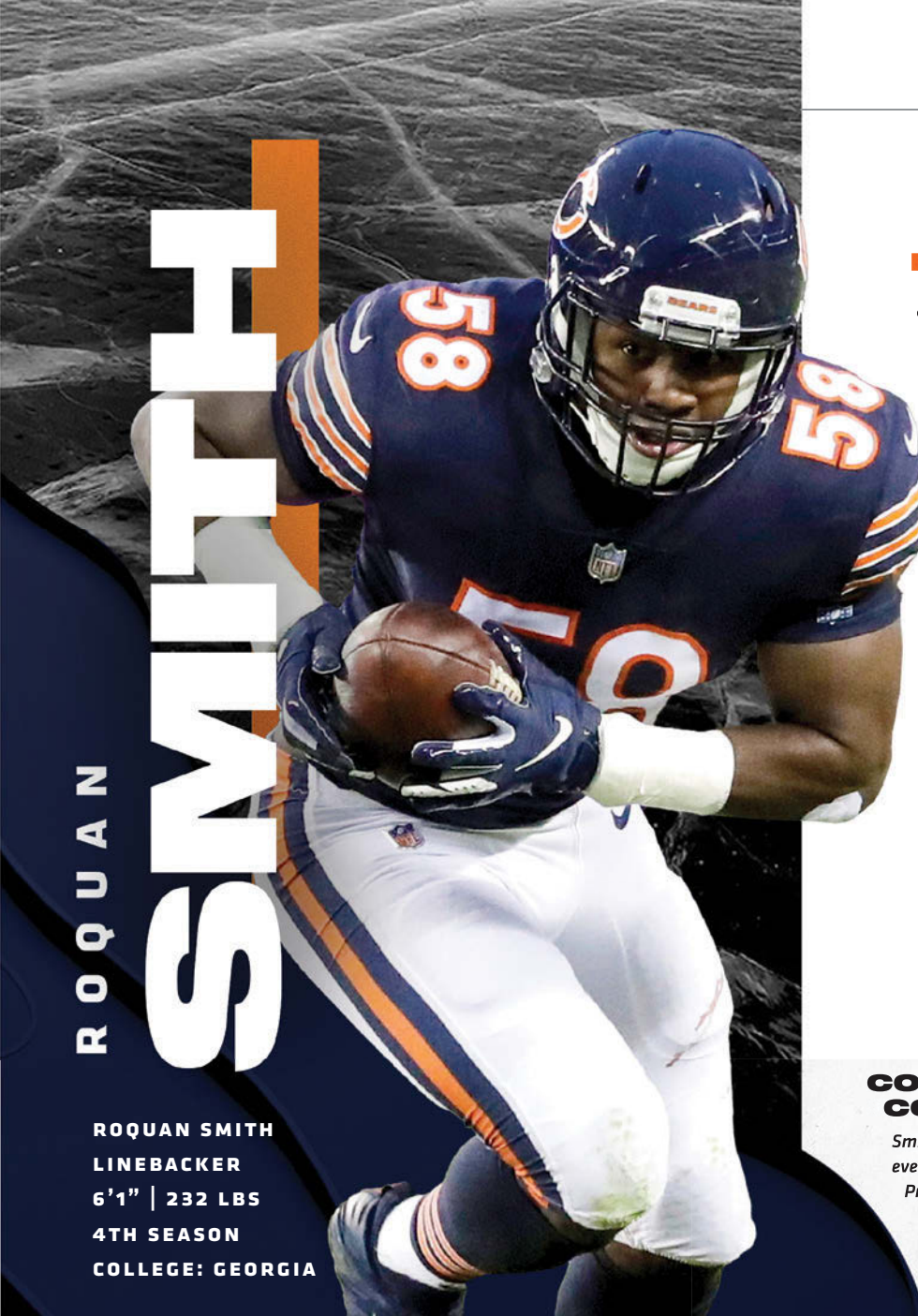


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ROQUAN

SMITH

ROQUAN SMITH
LINEBACKER
6'1" | 232 LBS
4TH SEASON
COLLEGE: GEORGIA

2021 SCHEDULE

@LAR
WK1 | L, 34-14

BYE WEEK

CIN
WK2 | W, 20-17

BAL
WK11 | L, 16-13

CLE
WK3 | L, 26-6

@DET
WK12 | W, 16-14

DET
WK4 | L, 24-14

ARI
WK13 | L, 33-22
WK10 | L, 31-10

@LV
WK5 | W, 20-9

@GB
WK14 | L, 45-30

GB
WK6 | W, 24-14

MIN
WK15 | L, 17-9

@TB
WK7 | L, 38-3

@SEA
WK16 | W, 25-24

SF
WK8 | L, 33-22

NYG
WK17 | W, 29-3

@PIT
WK9 | W, 39-27

@MIN
WK18 | JAN. 9

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Smith is involved in multiple community events and has supported The Dovetail Project, a Chicago-based nonprofit that provides resources for young fathers to pursue educational opportunities and gain employment while involving themselves in their children's lives.

PLAYER HIGHLIGHT

Roquan Smith has posted a career-best 157 tackles, which rank fourth in the NFL entering Week 18. He has recorded double-digit tackles in nine games this season, including 10 when the

Vikings and Bears met at Soldier Field on Dec. 20. He is the first Bears defender to record at least 100 tackles in four consecutive seasons since linebacker Lance Briggs did so for six in a row (2004-09).

Beyond tackles, Smith has shown his threats as a playmaker. In Week 2, he picked off Bengals

QB Joe Burrow and returned the ball 53 yards for his first career touchdown. Smith has recorded at least one interception in each of his four seasons since Chicago selected him with the eighth overall pick of the 2018 NFL Draft.

Smith has totaled 14 sacks and 43 tackles for loss in 60 games.



BEARS ROSTER

ROSTER BEARS

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
1	Justin Fields	QB	6-3	228	R	Ohio State	Kennesaw, GA
2	Cairo Santos	K	5-8	175	8	Tulane	St. Augustine, FL
4	Eddie Jackson	DB	6-0	206	5	Alabama	Lauderdale Lakes, FL
8	Damien Williams	RB	5-11	225	7	Oklahoma	San Diego, CA
9	Nick Foles	QB	6-6	262	10	Arizona	Austin, TX
10	Damiere Byrd	WR	5-9	175	6	South Carolina	Sicklerville, NJ
11	Darnell Mooney	WR	5-11	173	2	Tulane	Gadsden, AL
12	Allen Robinson II	WR	6-2	220	8	Penn State	Detroit, MI
14	Andy Dalton	QB	6-2	219	11	TCU	Katy, TX
16	Pat O'Donnell	P	6-4	223	8	Miami (FL)	Lake Worth, FL
17	Jakeem Grant Sr.	WR	5-7	171	6	Texas Tech	Dallas, TX
18	Jesse James	TE	6-7	251	7	Penn State	Glassport, PA
20	Duke Shelley	DB	5-9	176	3	Kansas State	Tucker, GA
22	Kindle Vildor	DB	5-11	189	2	Georgia Southern	College Park, GA
23	Marquī Christian	DB	5-11	195	5	Midwestern State	Spring, TX
24	Khalil Herbert	RB	5-9	212	R	Virginia Tech	Fort Lauderdale, FL
25	Artie Burns	DB	6-0	187	4	Miami (FL)	Miami, FL
26	Deon Bush	DB	6-0	198	6	Miami (FL)	Miami, FL
27	Thomas Graham Jr.	DB	5-11	197	R	Oregon	Rancho Cucamonga, CA
32	David Montgomery	RB	5-11	224	3	Iowa State	Cincinnati, OH
33	Jaylon Johnson	DB	6-0	196	2	Utah	Fresno, CA
35	Ryan Nall	RB	6-2	240	4	Oregon State	Sandy, OR
38	Tashaun Gipson Sr.	DB	6-1	207	8	Wyoming	Dallas, TX
44	Alec Ogletree	LB	6-3	250	9	Georgia	Newnan, GA
45	Joel Iyegbuniwe	LB	6-1	235	4	W. Kentucky	Bowling Green, KY
46	Sam Kamara	LB	6-2	288	R	Stony Brook	Carteret, NJ
48	Patrick Scales	LS	6-3	226	7	Utah State	Louisville, KY
55	Bruce Irvin	LB	6-3	258	10	West Virginia	Atlanta, GA
57	Christian Jones	LB	6-3	245	8	Florida State	Winter Park, FL
58	Roquan Smith	LB	6-1	232	4	Georgia	Montezuma, GA
64	Alex Bars	OL	6-5	334	3	Notre Dame	Nashville, TN
65	Cody Whitehair	OL	6-3	316	6	Kansas State	Kearney, NE
67	Sam Mustipher	OL	6-2	332	2	Notre Dame	Owings Mills, MD
68	James Daniels	OL	6-4	327	4	Iowa	Warren, OH
70	Elijah Wilkinson	OL	6-6	322	5	Massachusetts	Downingtown, PA
71	Jason Peters	OL	6-4	328	18	Arkansas	Queen City, TX
73	Lachavious Simmons	OL	6-5	319	2	Tennessee State	Selma, AL
74	Germain Ifedi	OL	6-5	334	6	Texas A&M	Houston, TX
75	Larry Borom	OL	6-5	333	R	Missouri	Detroit, MI
76	Teven Jenkins	OL	6-6	321	R	Oklahoma State	Topeka, KS
80	Jimmy Graham	TE	6-7	259	12	Miami (FL)	Goldsboro, NC
81	J.P. Holtz	TE	6-3	246	3	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
84	Marquise Goodwin	WR	5-9	180	8	Texas	Rowlett, TX
85	Cole Kmet	TE	6-6	260	2	Notre Dame	Lake Barrington, IL
87	Jesper Horsted	TE	6-4	241	2	Princeton	Shoreview, MN
90	Angelo Blackson	DL	6-4	315	7	Auburn	Bear, DE
91	Eddie Goldman	NT	6-3	325	6	Florida State	Washington, DC

#	NAME	POS	HT	WT	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
92	Caleb Johnson	LB	6-2	227	R	Houston Baptist	San Diego, CA
93	Margus Hunt	DT	6-8	295	9	SMU	Karksi-Nuia, Estonia
94	Robert Quinn	LB	6-4	245	11	North Carolina	Ladson, SC
95	Khyiris Tonga	DL	6-4	338	R	BYU	West Valley, UT
96	Akiem Hicks	DT	6-4	335	10	Regina	Elk Grove, CA
97	Mario Edwards Jr.	DE	6-3	277	7	Florida State	Denton, TX
98	Bilal Nichols	DT	6-4	302	4	Delaware	Newark, DE
99	Trevis Gipson	LB	6-4	263	2	Tulsa	Cedar Hill, TX

PRACTICE SQUAD

13	Rodney Adams	WR	6-1	188	2	South Florida	St. Petersburg, FL
15	Nsimba Webster	WR	5-10	180	3	Eastern Washington	Antioch, CA
19	Ryan Willis	QB	6-4	220	R	Virginia Tech	Overland Park, KS
30	Dee Virgin	DB	5-9	195	4	West Alabama	Donalsonville, GA
31	Michael Joseph	DB	6-1	196	2	Dubuque	Oswego, IL
39	BoPete Keyes	DB	6-1	200	2	Tulane	Laurel, MS
43	Ledarius Mack	LB	6-1	238	1	Buffalo	Vero Beach, FL
47	Ben Mason	FB	6-3	256	R	Michigan	Newtown, CT
49	Charles Snowden	LB	6-7	245	R	Virginia	Silver Spring, MD
53	Arlington Hambricht	OL	6-5	309	2	Colorado	Ypsilanti, MI
60	Dieter Eiselen	OL	6-4	320	1	Yale	Stellenbosch, S. Africa
63	LaCale London	DE	6-5	307	1	Western Illinois	Peoria, IL
72	Tyrone Wheatley Jr.	OL	6-6	326	R	Morgan State	Buffalo, NY
78	Auzoyah Alufohai	DL	6-4	320	2	West Georgia	Houston, TX
82	Isaiah Coulter	WR	6-2	198	2	Rhode Island	Brandywine, MD
83	Dazz Newsome	WR	5-10	184	R	North Carolina	Hampton, VA

INJURED RESERVE

6	Danny Trevathan	LB	6-0	234	10	Kentucky	Youngstown, OH
21	Xavier Crawford	DB	5-11	185	3	Central Michigan	Pittsburg, CA
36	D. Houston-Carson	DB	6-0	202	6	William & Mary	Woodford, VA
37	Teez Tabor	DB	6-0	193	3	Florida	Washington, DC
50	Jeremiah Attaochu	LB	6-3	262	8	Georgia Tech	Ibadan, Nigeria
52	Khalil Mack	LB	6-3	267	8	Buffalo	Fort Pierce, FL
59	Cassius Marsh Sr.	LB	6-4	254	8	UCLA	Mission Hills, CA

ACTIVE/PHYSICALLY UNABLE TO PERFORM

29	Tarik Cohen	RB	5-6	196	5	North Carolina A&T	Bunn, NC
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SERIES HISTORY



REGULAR SEASON AND POSTSEASON

ALL-TIME RESULTS

VIKINGS ARE 62-57-2 IN 121 GAMES, 62-56-2 IN REGULAR SEASON

LONGEST WIN STREAKS:

8 GAMES
BY MINNESOTA VIKINGS
(Dec. 3, 1972 – Oct. 10, 1976)

6 GAMES
BY CHICAGO BEARS, TWICE
(Dec. 11, 1983 – Oct. 5, 1986 &
Dec. 28, 2009 – Nov. 25, 2012)

FIRST MEETING

SEPT. 17, 1961 | @ MIN
VIKINGS 37, BEARS 13

Fran Tarkenton came off the bench to throw four touchdowns and rush for another as Minnesota delivered a shocking upset in its Inaugural Game.

LAST MEETING

DEC. 20, 2021 | @ CHI
VIKINGS 17, BEARS 9

Minnesota's defense kept Chicago's offense out of the end zone until the final play of the game thanks to three fumble recoveries. D.J. Wonnum recorded a career-high 3.0 sacks.



10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF ALLEN'S 22

Today's game marks the seventh time the Vikings have closed a regular season by hosting the Bears since 2011.

The first game in this stretch featured 3.5 sacks by Jared Allen to give him a Vikings-record 22 for the season.

In one smooth motion, Allen rolled off Josh McCown and onto his feet, running into the open field to the roar of a raucous Metrodome crowd.

He had roped another one.

"Voice of the Vikings" Paul Allen captured the

moment, announcing:

"There it is! Jared Allen haaaaaa done it! Twenty-two sacks – a new Vikings record!"

The late Chris Doleman was a guest that day and encouraged Allen as he tied, then passed the 21 recorded by Doleman in 1989.

Allen revisited the record-setting play a decade later for Vikings.com:

"They were in split backs. The backs stepped up to block the middle, and I was able to win on the edge. Plus, the crowd was great, and I had a good jump on the ball."

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TOP 2 AGAINST BEARS

RUSHING YARDS

224 Adrian Peterson on 20 attempts at CHI (10.14.07)

211 Adrian Peterson on 35 attempts in MIN (12.01.13)

PASSING YARDS

436 Tommy Kramer on 28-of-55 passing in MIN (09.19.85)

392 Brett Favre on 32-of-48 passing in MIN (11.29.09)

RECEIVING YARDS

204 Randy Moss on 12 catches at CHI (11.14.99)

177 Sammy White on 10 catches in MIN (11.28.82)

AGAINST VIKINGS

RUSHING YARDS

275 Walter Payton on 40 attempts in MIN (11.20.77)

182 Walter Payton on 23 attempts in MIN (09.09.79)

PASSING YARDS

422 Jim Miller on 34-of-48 passing at CHI (11.14.99)

381 Brian Griese on 26-of-45 passing at CHI (10.14.07)

RECEIVING YARDS

249 Alshon Jeffery on 12 catches in MIN (12.01.13)

198 Marty Booker on eight catches at CHI (09.08.02)



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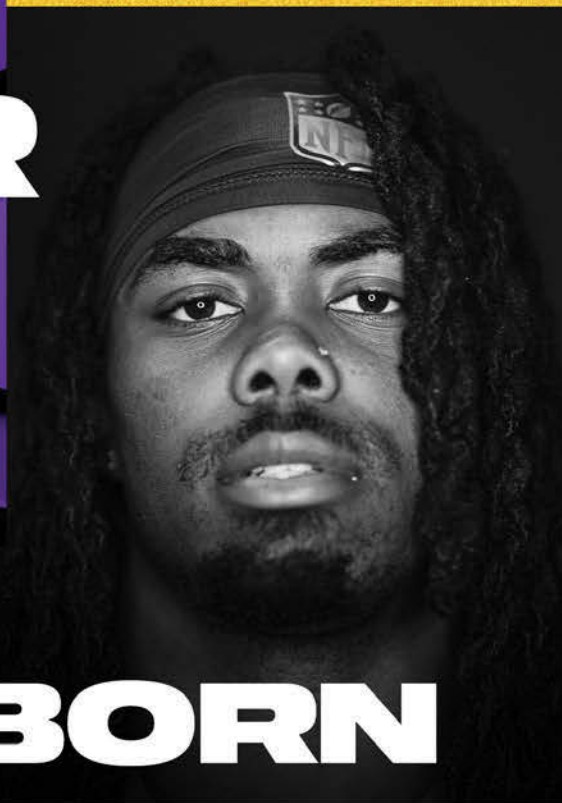
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BY CRAIG PETERS

WATER BREAK

PRESENTED BY *Crown Royal*

K.J. OSBORN



The mirrors at K.J. Osborn's Minneapolis abode offer more than the opportunity to check his look.

They happen to be spots where he's written goals with Dry Erase markers.

There are football goals, business goals and personal goals.

When he reaches one, he checks it off with a different colored marker.

Osborn clearly took a major step forward in football this year with the benefit of a full offseason program, which he and draft classmates were denied 2020 because of COVID-19 protocols. After not playing an offensive snap as a rookie, Osborn enters today's 2021 season-finale with 49 receptions for 634 yards and six touchdowns.

"I'm looking forward to some goals right now for 2022. I'll make some football goals as the year goes on, after I've looked at what I want to do next year," Osborn said. "Always self-improvement, but usually what I'll do is

I'll sit down and reflect on what good things happened this year, what bad things happened this year, what I can improve. I'll write them down and start tracking my progress, 'How can I make this happen?'

"I say on Twitter a lot, 'I want to do more.' I'm not the player I want to be yet. I want to do more for this team, more as a player, more as a person, more as a man, just always trying to get better, so at the end of the year, in the offseason, I'll look back and reflect at the things I was able to do this year," Osborn said. "Obviously it's a [big difference] from now at this time than last year."

Osborn also has posted "Morning Mo" — as in motivation — messages on his personal Instagram Stories for about a year-and-a-half.

"I started it just at random. ... I've been doing it every day, and I get feedback. A lot of people say they look forward to me posting.

"I don't just throw anything up there. I look for something, I find something that I feel like

people can really relate to and help people get up in the morning and get a boost of motivation," Osborn added. "Who knows right now how much more it will go, but right now, it's just motivation for people and I'm seeing that it helps them, so I'll continue to do it."

A native of Ypsilanti, Michigan, Osborn attended the University of Buffalo and studied sociology before transferring to the University of Miami as a graduate student and earning a degree in criminal justice.

He is pursuing an internship with the FBI in Miami this offseason.

"I'm trying to work that out, but I want to play football for as long as I can, and we'll see where things go down the road," Osborn said. "I don't know if I can be in the Secret Service after being in the NFL. I don't know how that works, because I'm not really secret."

We caught up with K.J. this week for a Water Break, presented by Crown Royal.

Q: What sparked your interest in studying criminal justice?

A: "People ask me that. I don't know. I would honestly say TV shows, like *The First 48*, I used to watch that a lot. I always liked storylines like *White House Down*, those types of CIA/Secret Service movies, so I kind of like that hero role of saving people. I thought I wanted to do something with the FBI or CIA or Secret Service."

Q: Given your background from having studied sociology and criminal justice, what is your perspective on where things are at and where they are going?

A: "I think everybody has done a good job these last couple of years of talking, just speaking out. We've seen things that people would say are unjust with police and brutality. That was a super-big thing in 2020, and a lot of people, I feel like it opened a chance for people

to talk about what's right and what's not right, and how can we get better as a society and hold people accountable and doing the right thing. I think the world, we've collectively just tried to make strides to be better as people, as a society. We'll hopefully continue to do that, so I think we've made strides since last year where a lot of stuff was really in the air, especially with George Floyd and things all over the country."

Q: What were your emotions from getting drafted and soon seeing the George Floyd tragedy occur in the city that you're going to be calling home?

A: "I got drafted and was in Miami, so I wasn't able to get right up here. I saw it happened and I didn't know if it was on the outskirts or kind of in Minneapolis. It was maybe about two or three exits from where I live, and when I first got here, everything was boarded up. I saw a couple of looting incidents and graffiti everywhere, so it was a lot of stuff going on, but that's just how the cards were dealt. I didn't think anything bad of the city. It was just something that happened. I tried to deal with it the best I could, but it was different because of COVID, so I wasn't really out of the house too much. ... This year, during OTAs and a little during the season, I was actually able to see a little more of the city."

Q: What have you seen from the Vikings Social Justice Committee and the way older players have led things? What do you look forward to implementing as your career grows?

A: "It inspires me a lot, just to see how they get out in the community, how they are able to help and make an impact. It was a little different for me because I came in during the COVID-19 year, and it's still hanging around, so I haven't gotten a chance to get out as much as I want to. We have a really good group of vets, and [when] those guys are able to go out in the community and make that impact, it truly makes a difference. Just one person at a time, one family at a time."

Q: Were you surprised how many people weighed in on your mom's Twitter campaign for you to give her the ball from the Carolina win?

A: "I was surprised. She was asking for the game ball. It was a nice play, so I kind of wanted to keep it for myself, but she lobbied for it. She won a lot of people over because I was born 10 days late, and all the moms on Twitter are like, 'She has to get the ball because you were 10 days late.' That gave people a good laugh, so she got the ball."

Q: I don't think we can do an interview with you without asking about [your English bulldog] Larry. How's Larry doing?

A: "Larry's doing great. He sleeps like he pays the bills. He naps wherever. He jumps on the bed when he's not supposed to. He really enjoys the snow. This is his first winter because I got him last year when he was about 6 weeks old and I was here – I think I got him going into Week 16 – so I was maybe here for a week-and-a-half. He kind of did his growing in Miami, so a couple of weeks ago when it first snowed, I took him outside. It was his first experience with snow, and he was jumping around and rolling in it. He loves it, and I'm out there freezing."





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ERIC KENDRICKS

How the Linebacker Makes
Splash Plays & Stacks Tackles



BY ERIC SMITH

ERIC KENDRICKS QUICKLY SPRANG INTO ACTION.

It was Week 5, and the Vikings were locked in a tight battle with the Lions at U.S. Bank Stadium.

With Minnesota up by seven points and Detroit's offense nearing the red zone, the Vikings linebacker pulled off one of his signature flashy plays.

Kendricks crept forward out of his stance as quarterback Jared Goff faked the handoff before peeling backward and quickly shifting his hips to get into coverage.

Listed at just 6 feet tall on the Vikings roster, that stature might have actually helped Kendrick as he waited for Goff to fire a pass into a nearby window for wide receiver KhaDarel Hodge.

The Lions quarterback never saw Kendrick, who slithered into the passing lane to pick off the pass with only his right hand.

"I kind of was crouching a little bit. I knew [Goff] couldn't really see me, that's how I felt. I couldn't really see him, so I figured he couldn't really see me," Kendrick quipped back in October. "But I figured it was something coming behind me, so I just kind of, like, popped out."

That interception is one of two that Kendrick has corralled this season, along with a career-best 5.0 sacks. He's added a fumble recovery and four quarterback hits.

Kendricks enters today with 143 tackles, which ranks eighth in the NFL and is a new career high. That's seven seasons and seven times of reaching triple digits in tackles, according to league stats.

But in the world of Eric Kendrick, highlight-worthy plays seem as routine.

Just ask Vikings Co-Defensive Coordinator Adam Zimmer, who is also Kendrick's position coach.

Zimmer raved shortly after that one-handed interception, but he also made sure to note the impact Kendrick has on games even when he might not fill up the stat sheet. In those cases, Zimmer said, teams simply try their best to avoid him.

"Well, he just has a great feel for the game, and that comes from studying what you're getting, reading the quarterback's eyes, anticipating things – and he's tremendous at it," Zimmer said in mid-October. "In fact, I talked to the Cleveland coaches after the [Week 4 game between the Browns and Vikings] game and they said, 'He's the best one we've gone against.'"

"Because he's just so quick to react and know what he's getting all the time," Zimmer added. "And that's a tribute to him, as far as his work in the film room and studying and knowing what route concept is coming, but also just that

natural ability to make a play on the ball."

Kendricks is on the verge of completing his seventh season in Purple since he was a 2015 second-round draft pick out of UCLA.

In fact, Kendrick just played his 100th career game for the Vikings in Week 17 against the Packers. (He has made 96 starts since joining the lineup a few games into his rookie season).

"When I look back, that's crazy," Kendrick said. "I always feel grateful to be out there."

The 29-year-old has blossomed from a bit of a wild card on the field – Vikings Head Coach Mike Zimmer used to joke that Kendrick played like he had too much coffee – to a player who is as consistent and reliable as they come, both on the Vikings and across the league.

By most accounts, his best season came in 2019 when he was both an All-Pro selection and was also named as a Pro Bowler. Interestingly, it's the only one of the past six in which he hasn't recorded an interception, but he did record 12 passes defended, forced two fumbles and recovered two fumbles.

And even though an injury likely cost him more accolades in 2020, and he wasn't named to the initial Pro Bowl roster this season, either, those within the Vikings organization know the value Kendrick brings to the field.

Let Vikings center Garrett Bradbury explain what makes him so dynamic.

"He's so athletic and quick," Bradbury said. "He does so many



**HE JUST HAS
A GREAT FEEL
FOR THE GAME,**

**AND THAT COMES FROM STUDYING
WHAT YOU'RE GETTING, READING
THE QUARTERBACK'S EYES,
ANTICIPATING THINGS –
AND HE'S TREMENDOUS AT IT."**

- CO-DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR ADAM ZIMMER

things, he controls all the calls of the defense, he's kind of sneaky, kind of hides behind his D-linemen sometimes.

"You don't really know who's going to come off on a combination, and then all of a sudden he backdoors it and makes the play," Bradbury added. "He keeps you on your toes, and he's playing next-level football where he's listening to the offensive line calls and he's knowing what we're doing when and communicating that to the defense, so I'm happy he's on our team, for sure."

While Bradbury has gone up against Kendricks for three years in practices, others in Purple are about to complete their first season as Kendricks' teammate.

Defensive tackle Dalvin Tomlinson and safety Xavier Woods – both of whom benefit from Kendricks' presence in the middle of the Vikings defense – described his impact.

"It makes our job a lot easier because it helps take the double teams off the D-tackles and things like that and just helps us make the play a lot easier, rather than not having a guy that doesn't shoot the gap," Tomlinson said.

"[His] instincts are the biggest thing," Tomlinson added. "Some things I feel like E.K. was born with, just the way he reads offenses and hits gaps and stuff like that. It's something that you can't really teach at all."

Woods added: "He's a playmaker, a baller. He leads the team in tackles, so we know what his job is going to be, he's going to do his job and we can rely on him."

Yes, Kendricks once again leads Minnesota in tackles, a distinction he's held every season since his rookie year, with the lone exception being 2020 when he missed five games due to injury.

And despite the lack of national accolades, those who do garner them on the Vikings know Kendricks is deserving of hardware whether he gets it or not.

Vikings running back Dalvin Cook, who has made three consecutive Pro Bowls, credited Kendricks for helping him thrive and develop his own game in recent years.

"It's a mind game. It's a mind game when you play good 'backers like that," Cook said. "I think he's top in the league, too. [Linebackers like that] run around the field physical, they get around blocks, they can cover."

"It's just a mind game: 'you move me, I move you.' The running back and the linebacker playing mind games all night. Because, really, the O-line can't really block those guys. They move around so much," Cook added. "It's like, now I've got to be the one that moves the guy and moves him out the spot and puts him where I need to put him at, to get him on my O-line, to do what I need to do to get some running lanes. It's a mind game between the back and that guy."

Almost seven seasons down and more to go for Kendricks, who has already shown he could end up as one of the top linebackers in Vikings history.

"He just loves to play football and is always uplifting everybody, no matter what the situation is or what's happened ... if it's in the meeting rooms or anything like that," Zimmer said. "He's always Mr. Positive, that energetic guy and I think he holds us together. Those guys are guys that we lean on to keep the group together and keep fighting."

NO.

54



2021 STATS

143 | TOTAL TACKLES

81 | SOLO TACKLES

2 | INTERCEPTIONS

5 | SACKS

“

HE'S A PLAYMAKER,

A BALLER. HE LEADS THE TEAM IN TACKLES, SO WE KNOW WHAT HIS JOB IS GOING TO BE, HE'S GOING TO DO HIS JOB AND WE CAN RELY ON HIM."

- SAFETY XAVIER WOODS

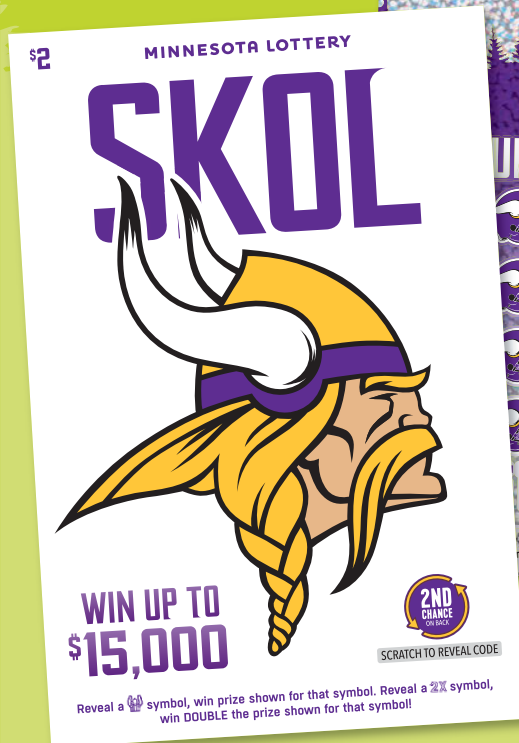
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BY ERIC SMITH

FOR FRIEND & FELLOW

KENDRICKS & ALL SQUARE MOURN TRAGIC LOSS

After every game, win or lose, Eric Kendricks knew the text message would be waiting for him.

The correspondence from Randall Smith was always there. Whether it followed a thrilling win or crushing loss, the tone was usually the same from a newfound friend.

"Randall texted me after every game [for the past year or so]," Kendricks said. "Me and him got closer over the years.

"He would text me after the game and say, 'Good job,' or 'Get 'em next time.' Just something nice and encouraging," Kendricks added. "I have a couple people who text me after games, and he ended up being one of those people."

Kendricks misses those texts. And he misses his friend, too.

Smith was shot and killed while sitting in his car in downtown Minneapolis in mid-November. The father of two was 41 years old.

His passing was a crushing loss for those who knew him, especially for friends that became like family at All Square, the Minneapolis nonprofit social enterprise that includes a craft grilled cheese restaurant, professional development institute

and blossoming Civil Rights law firm.

Smith helped found All Square's Fellow & Fellow Alum Fund, which supports formerly incarcerated individuals in their efforts to rejoin society.

Kendricks first connected with All Square in November 2019 when he and teammates visited to listen and learn from the challenges that formerly incarcerated individuals face when they try to rejoin society.

Further moved by the murder of George Floyd in May 2020, Kendricks strengthened his efforts to promote social justice, which included forming bonds with All Square fellows, shaped by Smith.

The news of Smith's tragic and sudden passing hit the Vikings linebacker hard, especially during the middle of a stressful football season.

"I was obviously shocked. It was upsetting, but it was also kind of hard for me in the sense that we were in the thick of the season," Kendricks said. "It seemed like everything kept moving around me and I had to stay focused on football and things like that ... I couldn't really put as much time into that as I wanted to.

"It wasn't advantageous for timing,

**"YOU'RE
A LEADER,
MAN, FOR REAL.
AND WE WANT YOU
TO KEEP IT UP."**

- ERIC KENDRICKS TO RANDALL SMITH

and obviously you can't expect the timing to ever be good," Kendricks added. "It was just messed up, you know?"

Kendricks had just seen Smith in person a few weeks earlier, when Kendricks surprised Smith and his co-workers with a hefty check for \$150,000 for the Fellow & Fellow Alum Fund from the Vikings Social Justice Committee, of which Kendricks is a member.

Smith later revealed All Square would make a sandwich in Kendricks' honor (something they did in November), but Kendricks had one final surprise for his friend: a pair of tickets to Super Bowl LVI at SoFi Stadium in Los Angeles on Feb. 13, 2022.

"Randall, shoot, I've known you for a few years now," Kendricks said in late October. "You're a leader, man, for real. And we want you to keep it up."

It took Smith, who served as the Community Director for All Square, a few moments to catch his breath.

"I usually have something thoughtful to say," Smith said. "But this is pretty incredible."

"I never envisioned we would partner up with the Vikings or anything like that," Smith added. "At first, [All Square] was something small. All of this is just a blessing."

Smith also commented on his growing friendship with Kendricks.

"I'm grateful for you and for All Square and the partnership that we've developed," Smith said. "It means a lot to me, for real."

Kendricks said that Smith's passing "no doubt" will inspire him to continue to advocate for change in the Twin Cities community, whether it be at All Square or elsewhere.

It was Smith who helped present Kendricks with a custom jersey in the fall of 2020 that announced he would be the Vikings Community Man of the Year and also nominated for the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award. (Kendricks, by the way showed up with a check from the Social Justice Committee for \$250,000 that day).

In a way, there was something about surprises – and making a difference in the community – that

drew Kendricks and Smith together.

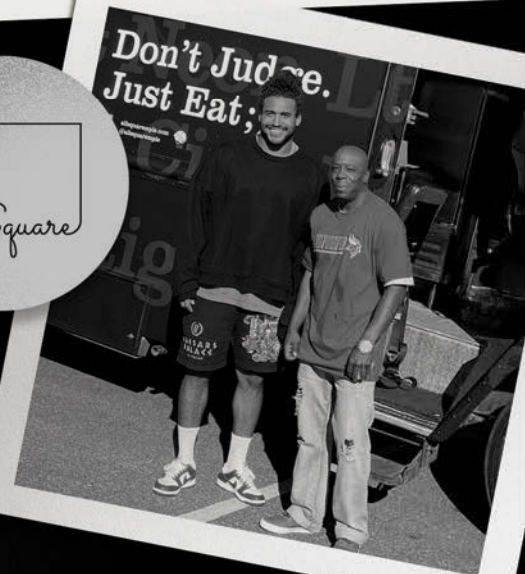
All Square shut down for the month of December to grieve Smith's passing. But its work will continue, and it will be as important as ever to keep Smith's legacy alive.

Kendricks said he isn't going anywhere, especially after the passing of his friend. If anything, he's more motivated than ever to help All Square continue to thrive and grow.

"I just want to be there for them. They are a great organization," Kendricks said. "I think the impact that Randall left on that organization is felt."

"He was there, he was working. He was a huge part of their story and their success," Kendricks added. "I think, for them, it's carrying on his legacy and understanding they are doing the right work, the kind of work that needs to be done but also isn't necessarily the easiest kind of work. But it has to continue."

"HE WAS THERE, HE WAS WORKING. HE WAS A HUGE PART OF THEIR STORY AND THEIR SUCCESS."



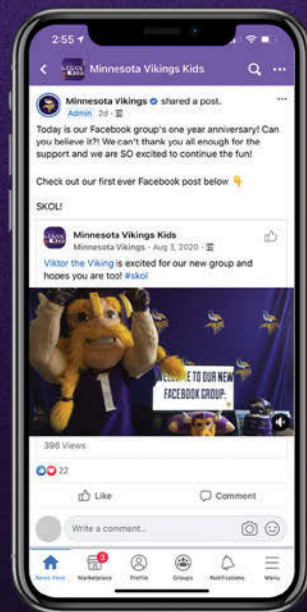


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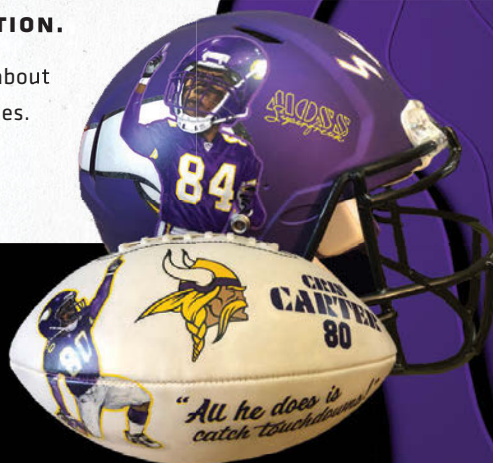
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SUPER SUPPORT SYSTEM

TEEN BULLIED IN RACIST VIDEO SURPRISED WITH SUPER BOWL TICKETS

Nya Sigin has a whole NFL team - and really, the entire league - behind her.

Nya, 14, was invited to the Vikings-Steelers *Thursday Night Football* game at U.S. Bank Stadium by three Vikings teammates - Anthony Barr, Eric Kendricks and Alexander Mattison - along with Assistant Head Coach/Co-Defensive Coordinator Andre Patterson.

The group joined a Zoom call with Nya, her sister and her mother during Thanksgiving week. The Vikings desired to speak with Nya and offer encouragement after the Prior Lake High School freshman became the target of a racist video made by fellow students.

In the video, the girls are heard making racist remarks, using racial slurs and encouraging Nya to take her own life.

Nya later spoke with media members and maintained a kind, calm demeanor despite such a painful experience.

The Vikings message to Nya in response is clear: *You are not alone.*

"A lot of people are hearing you," Kendricks said. "Obviously there's a lot of negative, a lot of bad out there, but I just want to let you know there's a lot more good than there is bad."

"You've gotta cling on to that, and you've gotta truly believe in it," he added. "I just want to thank you for speaking up and standing up for yourself and for others like you. We're here for you as Vikings."

Patterson, who grew up in Richmond, California, told Nya that he's encountered instances of racism and discrimination throughout his life, as have his two children. He encouraged Nya, imploring her to not allow the bullying and behavior of others to impact her self-image and self-worth.

"I just want to let you know that you're special. Never forget that," Patterson said. "Just know that you have a special place in this world, you have a special life ahead of you, and don't let anybody hold you down."

Barr, who recently was named the Vikings nominee for Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year, revealed his heart and compassion while speaking with Nya.

"You matter. You're very important," Barr said. "I just want to commend you on speaking out. I was really impressed by that. We're here to support you. We love you, and just know that you're not alone."

Though the Vikings told Nya she'd be

receiving tickets to the Vikings-Steelers game, there still was one more major surprise in store for her.

About 20 minutes before kickoff, Nya and her family were greeted near the sideline by Vikings Owner/Chairman Zygi Wilf, Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf and NFL Commission Roger Goodell, who surprised Nya with a pair of free tickets to Super Bowl LVI.

Her expression wavered between pure shock and elation as she turned to her family in disbelief.

"They told me there would be a surprise, and I thought maybe we'd have good seats or something," Nya laughed. "And now I'm going to the Super Bowl?!"

And while she's thrilled to have received the tickets, Nya is most grateful for the kindness and compassion that's shown so strongly through a bleak situation.

"It made me feel like I finally had [an outside] support system behind me," Nya said of the Zoom call and attending the Vikings game. "I finally feel supported. I feel so loved. It's amazing."

I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING UP. WE'RE HERE FOR YOU AS VIKINGS."

- ERIC KENDRICKS TO NYA SIGIN



BY LINDSEY YOUNG

INVESTING IN FUTURES

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE BOOSTS EDUCATIONAL ENDEAVORS

The Vikings Social Justice Committee, which was established in 2018, has been whole-heartedly supported (personally and financially) by the Wilf family ownership group.

The committee provides an opportunity for ownership, staff, coaches and players to work together to make positive changes in the Twin Cities community.

The Vikings Social Justice Committee recently committed \$100,000 to Project Success, which serves more than 20 Minneapolis public schools, and another \$100,000 to the George Floyd Legacy Scholarship Endowment, which will fund "Be the Change" academic scholarships for years to come.

VIKINGS SUPPORT PROJECT SUCCESS WITH \$100K FROM SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

It was a time of education, reflection and celebration.

While this year's team-up between the Minnesota Vikings and Project Success looked a little different, the athletes and young people made the most of a difficult situation.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic prohibited (for a second year) the annual trip to Washington, D.C. taken by Vikings Legends, leadership and players, along with Project Success

students. Instead, seven current players and Hall of Famer Alan Page met virtually with youth last month.

Vikings Owner/President Mark Wilf joined the call for the surprise announcement of a \$100,000 donation from the Vikings Social Justice Committee to Project Success and the awarding of a dozen \$1,000 scholarships.

Wilf emphasized pride in current and former Vikings who have worked to make a difference in the surrounding community, including the seven players – and Page – on the call.

"I just thank them, and I'm blessed to be around such examples. Tonight's really important to myself and our whole organization," Wilf said. "We're always advocating for transformational change, and Project Success remains a top priority for our organization.

"So tonight we're committing, as an organization, \$100,000 from our

players' Social Justice Committee, to partner with Project Success next year," Wilf added with a smile.

Project Success Executive Director Adrienne Diercks' shocked and emotional expression said it all.

"Mark, I'm pretty speechless," Diercks said, proceeding to thank multiple people in the Vikings organization. "We're going to save that money, and we are going to bring students to D.C., because that's what we do with that incredible gift. Thank you, from my heart."

Wilf then congratulated 12 Project Success students who will each receive a \$1,000 academic scholarship. The 12 recipients were selected from a group of 24 young people who submitted essays.

Diercks emphasized the importance of continuing to establish a supportive community, even in a virtual setting, that can be a resource for the young people.

"We wished we were in person, but





the most important thing is that we are together and we are in community," Diercks said. "We're together, sharing time and space, and that's pretty special. So thank you for being here."

Current Vikings Anthony Barr, C.J. Ham, Patrick Jones II, Eric Kendricks, Alexander Mattison, Irv Smith, Jr., and D.J. Wonnum participated.

The evening included a unique "virtual tour" of the National African American Museum of History and Culture with Damion Thomas, the

museum's curator of sports. Students heard from Page and engaged in a Q-and-A session with the former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice, and they joined Vikings players in breakout workshop sessions to discuss personal goals and community involvement.

In one breakout group, Barr, Kendricks and Mattison answered some icebreaker questions from students before delving into topics of a little more serious nature.

Prompted by the Project Success

leader, the group engaged in productive dialogue about sources of motivation and what leadership in a community looks like.

"I'm motivated by everybody in this room," Kendricks told the students. "It's inspiring. Keep it up."

Wilf encouraged the group to persevere through challenges.

"We all have to lean on each other," he said. "Keep sharing your stories. Keep dreaming big and keep inspiring all of us."

BARR & KENDRICKS MEET 2021 'BE THE CHANGE' SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Salaam Day was beyond thankful to be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship toward his college education.

But then to also meet Vikings linebackers Eric Kendricks and Anthony Barr, and receive a surprise shopping spree at the Vikings Locker Room store?

Salaam wasn't quite sure how to express his gratitude for such a special day.

Barr and Kendricks met Salaam at the Vikings Museum last month to congratulate him for being named the 2021 "Be the Change" Scholarship recipient.

They told Salaam, who recently completed his first semester at Augsburg University and plans to study computer science, they're proud of his academic endeavors and efforts for social justice.

"It means everything to me. I would have never expected to receive a scholarship from the Minnesota Vikings," Salaam said. "They're my favorite football team, and they're [creating] an opportunity for me to keep going through college and not to give up. It's a blessing."

Salaam was selected for the scholarship by the Vikings Social Justice Committee after players and leadership read the young man's submitted essay. In it, Salaam placed priority on education, as well as on making a difference in his community through social justice initiatives and his involvement with the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Barr and Kendricks are impressed by the work Salaam is doing. Barr explained his shared passion for

education and the work he and his mom Lori do through the Raise the Barr foundation.

The eighth-year linebacker said Salaam is "well-deserving" of this year's scholarship.

Salaam appreciated the opportunity to connect face-to-face with athletes he's looked up to for years – both on and off the field, and the players equally enjoyed the experience.

"It's great to be able to give this opportunity," Kendricks said. "Last year we weren't able to meet [the recipient]. It's good to meet in-person, good to shake hands, look each other in the eyes, 'Let's get this done.' We're in this together."

Added Barr: "They're the future. They can really bring about this change that we're all striving to accomplish."



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HUNGRY FOR EQUALITY

BY ERIC SMITH

Over the summer, Oluremi Famodu-Jackson met Tim Williams at a farmers market in Hopkins.

Famodu-Jackson, the Sports Dietician for the Vikings, was looking for new restaurants to cater Friday lunches for players, coaches and staff during the season. Williams, who owns Who's Yo' Daddy BBQ, was looking to grow his business.

A timely pairing was formed, as Who's Yo' Daddy became a hit with the organization this season when Famodu-Jackson launched the Hungry for Equality initiative.

"This opportunity has helped my business by exposing me to a larger scale market," Williams explained. "I have been cooking for many years and serving my community through events like local area farmers markets, but this has given me a chance to expand my current client base.

"Being a Minnesota resident and minority small business owner is challenging within itself," Williams added. "However, knowing and having the privilege to serve our Vikings speaks volumes that they trust local area minority businesses can deliver

the quality of service and a food product that is appetizing and appealing to their expectations."

Friday catered lunches are nothing new to the organization. They started decades ago when players had outside food brought in on Fridays to celebrate the end of the work week and give cafeteria staff a break from their usual duties.

The team then took over the initiative, using a rotation of local restaurants to feed players.

But Famodu-Jackson, who is in her third season in her role, wanted her department to be able to align with the organization's equity and inclusion initiatives. The Hungry for Equality food program was born with a focus on including restaurants owned by minorities, women and members of marginalized groups to provide the Friday lunches.

"If the Vikings are going to promote diversity, equity and inclusion, then this is one way – at least in my department – I can help tackle that," Famodu-Jackson said. "This has been something I have been passionate about for the past two years after the death of George Floyd and with what was happening here with the players. I thought, 'What can I do?'"

"In the nutrition world, I like to call it a white bread world, a lot of the guidelines made have been around Caucasian individuals," Famodu-Jackson added. "But there is a diverse group of guys [on this team]."

She responded with diverse offerings.

Besides Who's Yo' Daddy BBQ, the Vikings also served Ono Hawaiian Plates and Soul Bowl. Taste of Rondo, another soul food restaurant, was also on the menu at Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center.

Broders' Pasta Bar and Yeah Yeah Taco were a pair of women-owned restaurants that Famodu-Jackson had serve food. She also tabbed two different Chinese food places (David Fong's and Great Mandarin), plus Sonora Grill (Mexican) and Jakeeno's (pizza and pasta).

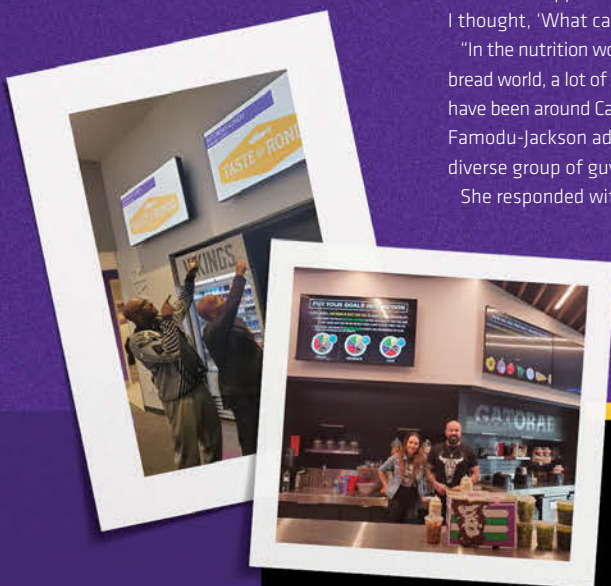
All of the restaurants are appreciative of the opportunity to gain exposure and new customers.

"This has helped our business by giving us exposure to a wider market," said Jess Kelley of Ono Hawaiian Plates. "As a newer business in the Twin Cities, especially as the first Hawaiian restaurant in the Twin Cities, there are still a lot of people who have not heard of us."

Vikings fullback C.J. Ham said he is proud of Famodu-Jackson and the team for promoting an inclusive atmosphere while also serving delicious food. He noted the burritos from Yeah Yeah Taco were "phenomenal."

"We're mixing it up with different types of food, not just the traditional steak and potatoes. There's some cultural foods," Ham said. "I'm a big supporter of women and minority-owned businesses."

"A lot of us in here had never been to these places before, so it opened our taste buds," Ham added. "And now we know about them and support them."



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Hobie
ARTIGUE

Jim
RICH

Dawn
MITCHELL



THURSDAY
6PM



SUNDAY
HOME - 9:30A
AWAY - 10AM



SUNDAY
10:35P



GOING PROBOWLING

BY: ERIC SMITH, LINDSEY YOUNG & CRAIG PETERS



A trio of Vikings teammates were selected to the 2022 Pro Bowl. Running back Dalvin Cook, receiver Justin Jefferson and safety Harrison Smith all were selected to the all-star game, the NFL and ESPN announced before Minnesota played the Bears in Chicago on Dec. 20.

After last year's Pro Bowl festivities were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's game is scheduled to be played Sunday, Feb. 6, at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas.

The Pro Bowl combines votes from fans, players and coaches.

JEFFERSON GOES BACK-TO-BACK FOR PRO BOWL HONORS

Make it two straight Pro Bowls for Jefferson to start his NFL career.

And making it even more special? The dynamic second-year pro found out the news from Hall of Famer Randy Moss.

Jefferson joined Moss and Hall of Fame QB Steve Young on the field before the *Monday Night Football* game for a talk-and-toss session and to provide the ESPN broadcasters with lessons on "The Griddy."

The 22-year-old donned Moss's 2000 Pro Bowl jersey for the reveal.

"Hey man," Moss asked, "what are you out here doing in the jersey, brother?"

"I've got to show the love. Hey, it's [the week of] Pro Bowl [announcements], so I wanted to represent," Jefferson said.

"Well, speaking of the selections, on behalf

of the National Football League, you're going back for your second year. Congratulations, young man" Moss told him.

Jefferson joined Moss and Sammy White as the only three Vikings wide receivers to make Pro Bowls in each of their first two pro seasons.

COOK EARNS 3RD STRAIGHT PRO BOWL NOD

Cook has earned his third straight Pro Bowl nod thanks to recognition from players, coaches and fans around the NFL.

He was the highest-voted NFC running back but finished fifth overall in fan voting, falling behind Jonathan Taylor (Colts), Joe Mixon (Bengals), Najee Harris (Steelers) and Nick Chubb (Browns).

Entering Sunday's game against the Bears, Cook's 4,741 career rushing yards rank fifth in franchise history.

Cook is the fifth Vikings running back with at least three Pro Bowls, joining Tommy Mason

(1962-64), Bill Brown (1964-65 and 1967-68), Chuck Foreman (1973-77) and Adrian Peterson (2000-10, 2012-13 and 2015).

SMITH'S 6TH PRO BOWL TIES KRAUSE AND BROWNER

Smith is an all-star for the sixth time after leading NFC safeties in fan votes. He previously participated in five in a row from 2015-19.

The 10-year pro has tied Hall of Famer Paul Krause and Joey Browner, who are both in the Vikings Ring of Honor, for the most Pro Bowl recognitions by a Vikings DB all-time.

Smith also is tied for the second-most Pro Bowl recognitions among NFL DBs since 2012 and only trails teammate Patrick Peterson, who has been to seven in that span.

Through Week 17, Smith has totaled 108 tackles (league stats), three tackles for loss, 3.0 sacks, seven passes defended and an interception in 11 games.



SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

BARR RECEIVES ED BLOCK COURAGE AWARD

Vikings linebacker Anthony Barr was selected as Minnesota's 2021 Ed Block Courage Award recipient.

The award was created in honor of the former head athletic trainer of the Baltimore Colts to annually recognize one player from every NFL team who exemplifies commitments to sportsmanship and courage.

Recipients are selected for their ability to overcome adversity on and off the field while making positive community impacts through service.

The announcement of Barr's selection occurred three weeks after he was named as the Vikings Community Man of the Year and the team's nominee for the 2021 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year. An investor in dreams, Barr has made a tremendous impact through his Raise the Barr foundation.

Barr underwent extensive rehab after suffering a torn pectoral muscle against the Indianapolis Colts in Week 2 of the 2020 season.

As he was preparing to return for his eighth pro season, Barr dealt with a knee injury during Vikings training camp, which required him to miss the first four games of 2021.

THIELEN A FINALIST FOR NFL SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

Vikings receiver Adam Thielen's 2021 season ended when he was placed on Injured Reserve, but the recognition for his sportsmanship is continuing.

Thielen is one of eight finalists from across the NFL for the 2021 Art Rooney Sportsmanship Award, the league announced in December. The winner will be named during NFL Honors on the eve of Super Bowl LVI.

Each NFL team nominated one player for the award that was created in honor of Steelers Founder Art Rooney, Sr. Thielen's former Vikings teammate, Teddy Bridgewater, was named the winner of the leaguewide award in 2020.

Thielen's nomination by the Vikings was announced earlier this month. He is joined as a finalist by the following players: Buffalo QB Josh Allen, Houston WR Brandin Cooks, Miami DB Jason McCourty, New England WR Matthew Slater, Tampa Bay LB Lavonte David, New Orleans DE Cameron Jordan and San Francisco FB Kyle Juszczyk.

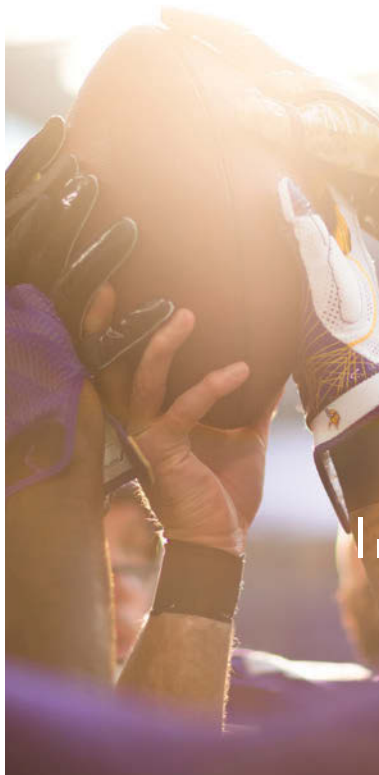
JEFFERSON PRESENTED KOREY STRINGER

GOOD GUY AWARD

Vikings receiver Justin Jefferson was selected by Twin Cities media members for the 2021 Korey Stringer Good Guy Award.

The award was created in 2001 by the Twin Cities chapter of the Pro Football Writers of America in honor of the late offensive lineman who died Aug. 1, 2001. He was posthumously inducted to the Vikings Ring of Honor on Nov. 19, 2001.

The award is presented annually in recognition of a player's rapport and cooperative spirit.



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BY LINDSEY YOUNG

GREG COLEMAN

RETIRING FROM SIDELINE
REMAINING A VOICE OF INSPIRATION

This story is a segment of a larger feature on Greg Coleman. Read the full story, including a dive into Coleman's "Pregame Preach," on Vikings.com.

Greg Coleman is proud to have been a member of the Vikings organization. From his decade as the Vikings punter, to his role with KFAN and the Vikings Radio Network, Coleman has been impacted by – and conversely made an impact on – this team. But today's game marks Coleman's last in his role, as he's retiring to Florida with the love of his life, Eleanor.

It's not "good-bye" to the Twin Cities, though. It's "see you later." As he anticipates green golf courses year-round, Coleman also is reflecting on the Vikings efforts to "Be the Change" within their community.

"This organization has been purposeful," Coleman said. "It has not been a check-the-box mentality."

Coleman pointed to Eric Kendricks, Anthony Barr and other players – past and present – who have worked to make a difference.

"There are people who say about our Social Justice Committee, 'Well, why don't you just shut up and play football? There's no place in sports for that.' Listen – sports is part of our society. And we are part of this community," Coleman said. "What if we had not used our voices to voice our displeasure about how [certain people] were treated many years ago?"

"I read somewhere where someone told Eric Kendricks, 'Just shut up and play football.' What if Eric had not used his voice to be a light in the life of young people in this community?" Coleman continued. "The list goes on and on. What if Alan Page had chosen to be silent about a lot of different things? And Jim Marshall, and Carl Eller – years and years ago."

Coleman is no stranger to racism. During his youth, his all-Black team won the league championship but was not allowed to play in the Gator Bowl. Then at the NFL level, he recalled the days long before social media, when his

teammates of color would receive handwritten letters that weren't fan mail but rather "nasty, vulgar, racist" words spewed on paper.

"And these were some of the same people that cheered for us on Sundays. But when we took that jersey off, we were just another Black man," Coleman said. "I can't unzip this Black skin. I can take the jersey off. But I cannot unzip the fact that I'm a Black man, and I am not apologetic about using this platform to raise awareness for diversity."

Coleman emphasized that it's tragic George Floyd had to lose his life at the hands of a police officer for tides to begin to change in Minnesota, the country and around the world. He's proud, though, to see young men and women using their voices for a greater good.

"You can go back many years. Athletes have been a catalyst for change. I was fortunate enough to live in an era where I saw Muhammad Ali, what he did about racism in boxing," Coleman said. "And when he and Jim Brown and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, and a few other prominent athletes, used their voices to make a difference."

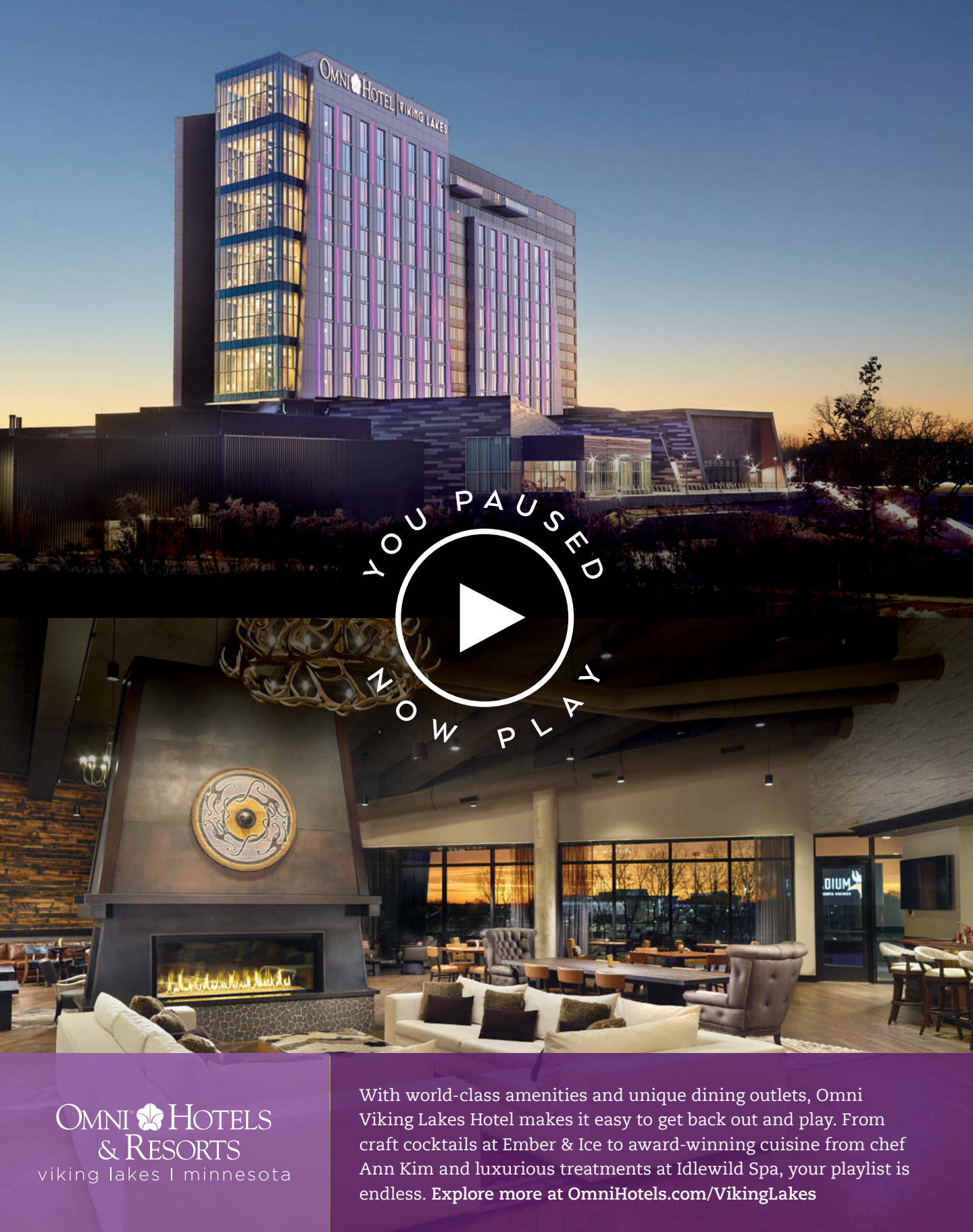
"I applaud this Social Justice Committee because we were doing things even before the George Floyd murder," Coleman continued. "There are so many great things about this Vikings community that make you proud. ... But what if those men had kept their voices quiet? Where would we be?"

THE BEST USE THE BEST



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WINTER SKOLSTICE DEBUTS

Viking Lakes launched "Winter Skolstice" this week, introducing nearly 60 days of free activities at the Eagan campus.

Winter Skolstice is designed to give Minnesotans of all ages and skill levels different opportunities to get outside and enjoy winter activities through Feb. 27.

"This is a great opportunity to safely welcome Minnesotans to campus and create fun for all ages and skill levels," said Viking Lakes General Manager Kyle Chank. "We encourage people to join us and experience life in fresh air at Viking Lakes."

For more information, visit explorevikinglakes.com/winterskolstice.



WARMING HAUS

POWERED BY XFINITY



Measuring 40-by-80 feet, the Warming Haus is fully heated and will offer food and beverages outside Omni Viking Lakes Hotel. In partnership with Xfinity, the tent will be equipped with televisions and Wi-Fi to host watch parties around the Winter Olympics in a Nordic environment. The food and beverage offerings will feature a winter flare, and the

Warming Haus plans to have live music on weekends. For information on corporate rentals, visit explorevikinglakes.com/warminghaus.

SKATE & SLED

AT OMNI HAUS



Every day through the duration of Winter Skolstice, Minnesotans can skate at no cost on a 30-by-60-foot ice rink that has been constructed on the patio outside Omni Viking Lakes. Due to COVID-19, participants must bring their own skates. The rink is available for private event rentals. Omni Viking Lakes will also have free sleds

available. Participants must register in advance at explorevikinglakes.com/skating. Stay-and-play packages with Omni Viking Lakes are also available:

U.S. BANK POND HOCKEY



U.S. Bank Pond Hockey opened this past Friday with four hockey rinks available on the Viking Lakes north pond. Nightly youth leagues and weekend tournaments will be programmed in partnership with Prime Hockey. Concessions will be available on site, and participants must register for tournaments in advance at explorevikinglakes.com/hockey.

USA CURLING EXPERIENCE



To celebrate the 2022 Winter Olympics, USA Curling will offer free curling on the Viking Lakes north pond daily beginning Friday, Jan. 21. Five sheets of ice will be available with USA Curling providing equipment and staff. Participants must register in advance at explorevikinglakes.com/curling. Curling sheets are also available to be rented for private events.

ABOUT VIKING LAKES

Viking Lakes is a 200-acre, mixed-use master development owned and operated by the Wilf Family/MV Ventures and located in Eagan. With a mission formed around a healthy, active lifestyle, the campus will ultimately encompass more than 3 million square feet of corporate and medical offices, retail, entertainment and multi-family housing. The project boasts open and public spaces, including trails, water/wetland preserves and other amenities to create vibrancy and connectivity, all anchored by the 34-acre headquarters and training facility of the Minnesota Vikings – Twin Cities Orthopedics Performance Center and TCO Stadium. The Eagan campus already includes Twin Cities Orthopedics Eagan, Training Haus Sports Medicine Center, MV Ventures, Arete Sport, USTA Northern, Minnesota Rokkr and Version1, Viking Lakes Residences, the Omni Viking Lakes Hotel and the Vikings Museum and Locker Room Team Store.

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MVC SPOTLIGHT

Emily

BY LINDSEY YOUNG

The past two years have been a time of growth, perspective and gratitude for MVC Emily.

After experiencing her rookie season in 2019, Emily weathered the drastically altered 2020 campaign with her team before returning to in-person game days at U.S. Bank Stadium this season.

"I really missed having the Vikings community," Emily said recently of games played in empty stadiums due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communities throughout Minnesota and beyond also have experienced heightened societal tensions and social justice issues, which have added to daily life stressors for many.

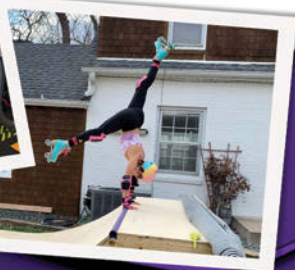
"The past year-and-a-half has really helped me appreciate even more the opportunity to be part of something so special," Emily said. "Everyone has been through so much, so it feels extra special to bring fans back together for Vikings games this year.

We caught up with Emily to chat about her time with the MVC, how she's personally navigated difficult times and how she's been impacted by her teammates.

Now being in your third year, what do you most enjoy about being a part of the MVC? I love being able to carry on the legacy of the MVC by working hard and sharing my passion for health and fitness and, of course, dancing and cheering on the Vikings. I am really appreciating every moment, even more so being able to be back-in-person and on-field for game day with the best fans.

What do you most appreciate about the fan engagement aspect of MVC? I love hearing everyone's stories.

Whether it's your first game or 50th game, every fan has his or her own special connection to the team, and I love that.



What difference do fans make on the atmosphere at U.S. Bank Stadium for game day?

The fans make all the difference for the game-day atmosphere. We need fans to bring the energy, get loud and help us win. Everyone has a story and a reason they cheer for the Vikings; it brings people together and makes us all feel like we are a part of something bigger. We all can be that 12th man on game day.

I heard you picked up a new hobby while navigating the pandemic, right? Roller skating? Yes – I cannot sit still! While I was missing dancing and performing, roller skating gave me the chance to learn new skills, dance and meet new people. There are so many different styles, skills and techniques involved with roller skating. It's a lifelong activity that I will definitely continue, and I got my sisters and nieces into it, too.

How have you seen your MVC teammates encourage one another and make an impact outside of the organization during challenging times? The love and support we have for one another on and off the field goes unmatched! Whether it be a note of encouragement on game day or a simple "you got this" before a performance, I know my teammates have my back. Being part of this team during challenging times has brought us all closer together. Having your cheer sisters to lean on for support no matter what is going on in your life is such a gift. I think we all bring that same sentiment with us to our daily lives, in our careers, at school, volunteering or with our families. As cheerleaders, we can all continue to uplift and encourage others when we know the world needs it!

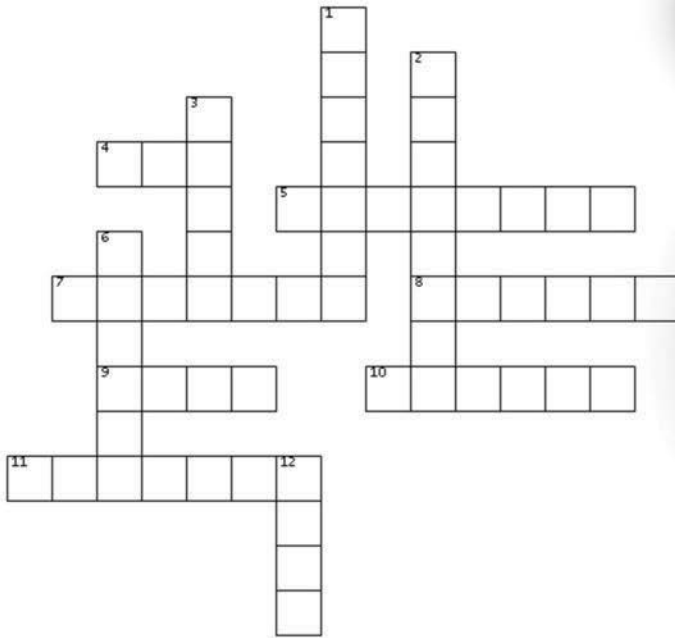
THANK YOU MVC PARTNERS



Bring the Salon Home



VIKTOR THE VIKING



ACROSS

4. VIKTOR'S JERSEY NUMBER
5. VIKTOR'S FAVORITE SPORT
7. NICKNAME FOR A FOOTBALL
8. SHOES FOOTBALL PLAYERS WEAR
9. FAKE GRASS ON A FOOTBALL FIELD
10. WOODEN WRITING UTENSIL
11. VIKTOR'S FAVORITE TEAM

DOWN

1. BUTTERY STADIUM SNACK
2. VIKTOR'S FACIAL HAIR
3. TEAM FROM CHICAGO VIKINGS PLAY
6. SOCIAL MEDIA APP WHERE VIKTOR POSTS SILLY VIDEOS
12. WHITE STUFF THAT FALLS FROM THE SKY



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NEWBORN FAN CLUB



The Vikings Kids Club gives young fans plenty to smile about by offering members exclusive engagement with players throughout the entire year via events and members-only contests, as well as monthly e-newsletters. Upon registration, members receive a special Vikings kit that includes the following:

- Rubber Grip Football
- Metal Water Bottle
- Autographed Poster
- Chef Apron & more!

A full-body photograph of a young girl with a large, dark afro hairstyle. She is smiling broadly, showing her teeth. She is wearing a purple Minnesota Vikings jersey with the number 10 in white. A patterned scarf with yellow, white, and blue designs is wrapped around her neck. She is holding a brown and white football with both hands; the football has the Vikings logo and the text 'VIKINGS FOOTBALL' and 'POWERED BY DICK'S SPORTS' on it. She is also wearing black leggings, white socks, and purple sneakers. The background is a purple wall with a white cloud graphic and the word 'THE' in white letters.

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PURPLE LOBBY

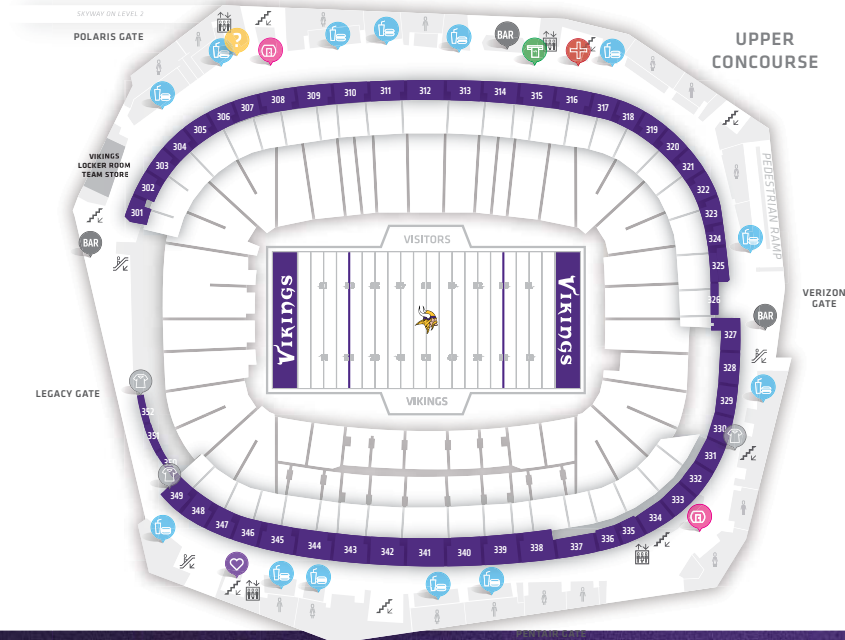
ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 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

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



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STADIUM HIGHLIGHT



THANK YOU FANS

FOR MAKING OUR HOME BETTER

U.S. Bank Stadium features an iconic design with signature elements, but Vikings fans are what make it a truly special place on game days.

From the echo of the Gjallarhorn until the clock strikes 0:00, Vikings fans have provided the heartbeat to go along with the drumbeat of the SKOL Chant. Its reverberations fill this space.

Fans were truly missed in 2020. It was great to welcome them back to the venue, which is completing its sixth season today.

Thank you all for the continued support and the memories we've made so far.

SKOL SERVICE SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to all of our SKOL Service Team Members!

This year has been like no other, but due to the resiliency, adaptability and passion for creating memorable experiences, our game-day team members have been able to welcome fans back to U.S. Bank Stadium with open arms and an electric SKOL Chant.

Every game day, our team members worked hard so that all fans at U.S. Bank Stadium could enjoy unforgettable experiences. The magic of game days would not be possible without the devoted mindset of our team members and their focus on safety, efficiency, courtesy and appearance.

As Walt Disney once said, "You can design and create, and build the most wonderful place in the world. But it takes people to make the dream a reality."

Thank you, SKOL Service Team Members, for making the dream a reality!

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



CONCESSIONS

BE GRACEFUL | SECTIONS 122 & 328

Fans aiming to uphold New Year's resolutions yet still enjoy great stadium food today can turn to Be Graceful, which is located near Sections 122 and 328. Robert Grace's creations have been a part of the U.S. Bank Stadium food offerings since the 2016 inaugural season. This year, he introduced a vegan Impossible Sloppy Joe, a Portobello French Dip and a falafel pita in addition to a mainstay turkey sandwich.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR A FULL LIST OF CONCESSIONS.



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