AT

9.12.21 × 10:00 AM PT



SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS GAME RELEASE

SAP STAT ZONE

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (0-0) AT DETROIT LIONS (0-0)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 × 10:00 AM PT × FORD FIELD × DETROIT, MI × FOX

2021 SEASON SCHEDULE

REGULAR SEASON (0-0)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME (PT)
SEPT. 12	@ DETROIT	10:00 AM
SEPT. 19	@ PHILADELPHIA	10:00 AM
SEPT. 26	**GREEN BAY**	**5:20 PM**
OCT. 3	**SEATTLE**	**1:05 PM**
OCT. 10	@ ARIZONA	1:25 PM
OCT. 24	**INDIANAPOLIS**	**5:20 PM**
OCT. 31	@ CHICAGO	10:00 AM
NOV. 7	**ARIZONA**	**1:25 PM**
NOV. 15	**LA RAMS**	**5:15 PM**
NOV. 21	@ JACKSONVILLE	10:00 AM
NOV. 28	**MINNESOTA**	**1:25 PM**
DEC. 5	@ SEATTLE	5:20 PM
DEC. 12	@ CINCINNATI	10:00 AM
DEC. 19	**ATLANTA**	**1:05 PM**
DEC. 23	@ TENNESSEE	5:20 PM
JAN. 2	**HOUSTON**	**1:05 PM**
JAN. 9	@ LA RAMS	1:25 PM

MEDIA CENTER

The 49ers media center is updated daily and contains all of the necessary information to cover the team. On the site, you will find a compilation of 49ers game releases, rosters, updated player bios, pronunciation guides, gamebooks, transcriptions, statistics, audio files and much more.

To access the site, please visit: **https://49ers.1rmg.com/**

MEDIA GUIDE

The 49ers 2021 media guide is available online at **https://49ers.1rmg.com/season/2021/media-guide/** and will be updated weekly throughout the season.

WEEKLY RELEASE

The electronic version of the 49ers weekly release is available online. To access the book, please visit: **https://49ers.1rmg.com/weekly-releases/**

49ERS AT LIONS

The San Francisco 49ers open the 2021 regular season as they travel to Detroit, MI, and take on the Lions at Ford Field. San Francisco's overall record versus Detroit is 38-28-1, as the Niners have won 10 out of the last 11 matchups between the two teams.

The 49ers are visiting the Lions for the first time since 2015, with San Francisco having won two of their three games at Ford Field. This also marks the fifth time Detroit and San Francisco face off in the opening game of the regular season, with the teams splitting the four matchups.

The 49ers finished the preseason with a 2-1 record as their offense averaged 188.3 rushing yards per game which led the NFL. The Niners defense held opponents to 210.7 net yards per game which ranked second in the NFL. The unit also finished tied for the most sacks in the preseason with 12.0.

BY THE NUMBERS

16-4 The **49ers** have won 16 of the last 20 regular season matchups against the Lions, including 10 of the previous 11.

12 The **Niners** defense surrendered 12 rushing TDs by opponents in 2020, ranking tied for the 4th-fewest in the NFL (TB - 10; Chi. - 11; NO - 11; Bal. - 12; LAR - 12).

2 According to the NFL's Next Gen Stats, RB **Raheem Mostert** registered the fastest two ball carriers in the NFL last season and the fastest in the NFL since 2016 with a max speed of 22.73 MPH on his 76-yd. TD recept. vs. Arz. (9/13/20) and 23.09 MPH on his 80-yd. TD run at NYJ (9/20/20).

1-0 **San Francisco** looks to start the season 1-0 for the seventh time in the past 10 seasons.

.750 Over the last 2 seasons under head coach **Kyle Shanahan** (2019-20), **San Francisco's** 12 victories for a .750 winning percentage on the road is tied for the 4th-highest in the NFL over that span (KC - 15; Bal. - 13; NO - 13; Buf. - 12; GB - 12; Sea. - 12).

49ERS ON THE AIR

TELEVISION: FOX
Play-By-Play: Kevin Kugler
Color Analyst: Mark Sanchez
Sideline Reporter: Laura Okmin

U.S. BANK 49ERS RADIO NETWORK
KGO 810 AM & The Bone 107.7 FM
Play-By-Play: Greg Papa
Color Analyst: Tim Ryan

SPANISH BROADCAST
www.49ers.com/news/Espanol
Play-By-Play: Jesús Zárate
Color Analyst: Carlos Yustis

Corry Rush - Vice President of Communications • **Mike Chasanoff** - Senior Manager of Football Communications
Peter Volmut - Manager of Football Communications • **Tessa Giammona** - Coordinator of Football Communications
Clint Cohen - Football Communications Intern

THE HEAD COACHES



Kyle Shanahan was named the 20th head coach of the San Francisco 49ers on February 6, 2017. He enters his fifth season with the 49ers after spending the previous two seasons as the offensive coordinator of the Atlanta Falcons. Shanahan has 17 seasons of coaching experience at the NFL level, including nine seasons as an offensive coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons (2015-16), Cleveland Browns (2014), Washington Redskins (2010-13) and Houston Texans (2008-09). In six of his nine seasons as an offensive coordinator (2008-09, 2012-13 and 2015-16), and one as head coach of the 49ers (2019), Shanahan has directed an offense that ranked in the top 10 in the NFL in yards gained. In 2019, Shanahan led the 49ers to NFC West and Conference titles en route to a trip to Super Bowl LIV in his third season with the team, winning Coach of the Year honors by *Sporting News* and NFC Coach of the Year by the Committee of 101. Following the 2016 season, Shanahan was named Associated Press Assistant Coach of the Year, Coordinator of the Year by Sporting News and Assistant Coach of the Year by the Pro Football Writers of America after a record-setting performance by the Falcons offense en route to capturing the NFC South Division Title and an appearance in Super Bowl LI.

COACHES COMPARISON

Kyle Shanahan		Dan Campbell
29-35 (.453)	**Record as Head Coach**	5-7 (.417)
29-35 (.453)	**Record with Current Team**	0-0 (.000)
31-36 (.463)	**Overall Record (Regular/Postseason)**	5-7 (.417)
5th	**Years as Head Coach with Team**	1st
5th	**Years as Head Coach in NFL**	1st
18th	**Years as an NFL Coach**	22nd



Dan Campbell was named the Detroit Lions head coach on January 20, 2021. Campbell brings 22 years of NFL experience to the Lions, including 11 years as a coach and 11 as a player. He most recently served as the assistant head coach/tight ends coach for the New Orleans Saints from 2016-20. In 2015, Campbell became the Miami Dolphins' interim head coach following organizational changes, where he took over a 1-3 team that had lost three consecutive contests and immediately helped the team win its first two games under his leadership. The Dolphins finished 5-7 under Campbell that season, including a 20-10 win over the New England Patriots in the season finale. Under Campbell, Miami improved eight spots in the NFL's rushing yards per game rankings and saw five Dolphins selected to the Pro Bowl in 2015. Prior to taking over interim duties with the Dolphins, Campbell was responsible for mentoring Miami's tight ends unit dating back to 2011, after initially joining the Dolphins in 2010 as a coaching intern. Campbell entered the NFL coaching ranks following an 11-year playing career with the New York Giants (1999-2002), Dallas Cowboys (2003-05), Detroit Lions (2006-08) and New Orleans Saints (2009). A third-round selection by the Giants in the 1999 NFL Draft, the former tight end appeared in 114 total career games (76 starts) and caught 91 passes for 934 yards and 11 touchdowns. He was a member of the Giants team that appeared in Super Bowl XXXV following the 2001 season. In his first year as a player with the Lions in 2006, Campbell posted career-highs in receiving yards (308), yards per reception (14.7) and touchdowns (four).

ROAD WARRIORS

- San Francisco finished the 2020 season with a 5-3 record on the road. Combined with a 7-1 road record in 2019, it marked the first time since the 2012-13 seasons that the 49ers reached 5-or-more road wins in consecutive seasons.
- From 2019-20 under head coach Kyle Shanahan, San Francisco's 12 victories for a .750 winning percentage on the road is tied for the 4th-highest in the NFL over that span.

HIGHEST WIN % ON THE ROAD IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Wins	Losses	Win %
1.	Kansas City Chiefs	15	1	.938
2t.	Baltimore Ravens	13	3	.813
	New Orleans Saints	13	3	.813
4t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**12**	**4**	**.750**
	Buffalo Bills	12	4	.750
	Green Bay Packers	12	4	.750
	Seattle Seahawks	12	4	.750



WILD, WILD, WEST

- San Francisco's 8 wins over NFC West opponents over the past 2 seasons (2019-20) are tied for the 4th-most wins for a team against their own division over that span.

MOST DIVISION WINS IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Wins	Losses	Win %
1t.	Green Bay Packers	11	1	.917
	New Orleans Saints	11	1	.917
3.	Kansas City Chiefs	10	2	.833
4t.	Baltimore Ravens	9	3	.750
	Buffalo Bills	9	3	.750
6t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**8**	**4**	**.667**
	New England Patriots	8	4	.667
	Tennessee Titans	8	4	.667

49ERS RECORD WHEN

TEAM	2020 Reg. Season	Shanahan Reg. Season
Overall	6-10	29-35
At Home	1-7	14-18
On the Road	5-3	15-17
Neutral Site	0-0	0-0
In Primetime	1-3	7-7
In Dome	0-4	2-7
In September	2-1	6-7
In October	2-2	7-11
In November	1-3	5-8
In December	1-3	11-8
In January	0-1	0-1
Vs. NFC	4-8	21-29
Vs. NFC West	3-3	10-14
Vs. NFC East	1-3	3-7
Vs. NFC North	0-1	3-4
Vs. NFC South	0-1	3-4
Vs. AFC	2-2	10-6
Vs. AFC West	0-0	2-2
Vs. AFC East	2-2	2-2
Vs. AFC North	0-0	3-1
Vs. AFC South	0-0	3-1
Scoring on opening drive	4-2	20-8
Scoring first	4-4	18-14
Leading at half	6-1	22-5
Leading after three quarters	6-3	26-7
Winning time of possession	5-5	17-12
Out-rushing opponent	5-5	20-14
Out-passing opponent	5-7	23-18
Out-gaining opponent	6-6	24-14
OFFENSE		
40% + 3rd down conversions	3-6	19-14
50% + 3rd down conversions	3-1	16-5
Not throwing an INT	3-2	11-8
Passing for 300+ yards	1-3	8-7
Having a 100+ yard rusher	2-0	6-5
Having a 100+ yard receiver	3-3	14-11
Scoring 20+ points	6-6	27-16
Scoring 30+ points	3-1	16-4
Rushing for 150+ yards	3-1	11-5
Having 20+ first downs	4-6	21-21
Not allowing a sack	1-1	5-2
Allowing two or fewer sacks	4-4	19-12
DEFENSE		
Opp. less than 40% on 3rd down	5-5	20-12
Opp. less than 30% on 3rd down	2-2	11-5
Scoring a defensive TD	1-0	5-2
Returning an INT for a TD	1-0	4-1
Returning a fumble for a TD	0-0	1-1
Recording 3+ sacks	1-2	15-12
Recording 5+ sacks	0-0	3-2
Winning the turnover battle	5-1	12-6
Allowing 17 or fewer points	5-0	17-2
Allowing a 100-yard rusher	0-0	3-6
Allowing a 100-yard receiver	0-5	7-15
Not allowing a rushing TD	4-3	16-11
Not allowing a passing TD	4-1	10-2

2020 COMPARISON

49ERS (rank)		LIONS (rank)
6-10 (4th NFCW)	**Record**	5-11 (4th NFCN)
23.5 (21st)	**Points Per Game**	23.6 (20th)
370.1 (15th)	**Total Offense**	350.2 (20th)
118.1 (15th)	**Rushing Offense**	93.7 (30th)
252.1 (12th)	**Passing Offense**	256.5 (10th)
31:23 (5th)	**Possession Average**	27:54 (t-29th)
24.4 (17th)	**Points Allowed Per Game**	32.4 (32nd)
314.4 (5th)	**Total Defense**	419.8 (32nd)
106.4 (7th)	**Rushing Defense**	134.9 (28th)
207.9 (4th)	**Passing Defense**	284.9 (30th)
30 (22nd)	**Sacks**	24 (t-26th)
12 (t-14th)	**Interceptions**	7 (t-30th)
46.2 (9th)	**Punting Avg. (Gross)**	49.1 (3rd)
-11 (t-30th)	**Turnover Differential**	-9 (t-27th)

49ERS		LIONS
PASSING YARDS		
Nick Mullens 2,437		Matthew Stafford... 4,084
Jimmy Garoppolo .. 1,096		Chase Daniel 264
RUSHING YARDS		
Jeff Wilson Jr. 600		Adrian Peterson 604
Raheem Mostert 521		D'Andre Swift 521
RECEPTIONS		
Brandon Aiyuk 60		Marvin Jones 76
Kendrick Bourne 49		T.J. Hockenson 67
RECEIVING YARDS		
Brandon Aiyuk 748		Marvin Jones 978
Kendrick Bourne 667		T.J. Hockenson 723
INTERCEPTIONS		
Three Players 2		Duron Harmon 2
SACKS		
Kerry Hyder 8.5		Romeo Okwara 10.0
Arik Armstead 3.5		Everson Griffen 3.5



SERIES HISTORY VS. DETROIT

DETROIT LIONS	Overall: 38–28–1	Home: 24–10–1	Away: 14–18

Date	Win	Score	Location
10/8/50	Lions	24–7	D
10/22/50	49ers	28–27	SF
12/2/51	49ers	20–10	D
12/16/51	49ers	21–17	SF
9/28/52	49ers	17–3	SF
10/12/52	49ers	28–0	D
10/11/53	Lions	24–21	D
10/25/53	Lions	14–10	SF
10/24/54	49ers	37–31	SF
11/14/54	Lions	48–7	D
10/16/55	49ers	27–24	D
10/30/55	49ers	38–21	SF
10/21/56	Lions	20–17	D
11/4/56	Lions	17–13	SF
11/3/57	49ers	35–31	SF
11/17/57	Lions	31–10	D
12/22/57 (d)	**Lions**	**31–27**	**SF**
11/2/58	49ers	24–21	SF
11/16/58	Lions	35–21	D
10/18/59	49ers	34–13	D
11/1/59	49ers	33–7	SF
10/9/60	49ers	14–10	D
11/6/60	Lions	24–0	SF
10/1/61	49ers	49–0	D
11/5/61	Tie	20–20	SF
9/23/62	Lions	45–24	D
11/11/62	Lions	38–24	SF
10/6/63	Lions	26–3	D
11/3/63	Lions	45–7	SF
9/13/64	Lions	26–17	SF
12/13/64	Lions	24–7	D
11/14/65	49ers	27–21	D
12/5/65	49ers	17–14	SF
10/23/66	49ers	27–24	SF
11/24/66	49ers	41–14	D
10/29/67	Lions	45–3	SF
10/27/68	49ers	14–7	D
11/2/69	Lions	26–14	SF
11/22/70	Lions	28–7	D
12/19/71	49ers	31–27	SF
11/4/73	Lions	30–20	D
10/14/74	Lions	17–13	D
11/2/75	Lions	28–17	SF
10/23/77	49ers	28–7	SF
12/17/78	Lions	33–14	P
11/2/80	Lions	17–13	P
9/6/81	Lions	24–17	P
12/31/83 (d)	**49ers**	**24–23**	**SF**
9/2/84	49ers	30–27	P
10/20/85	Lions	23–21	P
10/2/88	49ers	20–13	SF
10/20/91	49ers	35–3	SF
12/28/92	49ers	24–6	SF
12/19/93	49ers	55–17	P
10/9/94	49ers	27–14	P
9/25/95	Lions	27–24	P
12/23/96	49ers	24–14	SF
12/14/98	49ers	35–13	SF
11/4/01	49ers	21–13	SF
10/5/03	49ers	24–17	SF
11/12/06	49ers	19–13	D
9/21/08	49ers	31–13	SF
12/27/09	49ers	20–6	SF
10/16/11	49ers	25–19	D
9/16/12	49ers	27–19	SF
12/27/15	Lions	32–17	D
9/16/18	49ers	30–27	SF

(d) – NFC Divisional Playoff *(D) – Detroit* *(P) – Pontiac*

Record: **At Levi's Stadium:** (1–0) **Ford Field:** (2–1)

Points: **At Levi's Stadium:** (30–27) **Ford Field:** (61–64)

SERIES HIGHLIGHTS

Matchups: 67

Series Record: 49ers lead series 38-28-1

49ers Home Record vs. Lions: 49ers lead series 24-10-1

49ers Away Record vs. Lions: Lions lead series 18-14

First Meeting: 10/8/50, Lions win 24-7, at Det.

Last Meeting: 9/16/18, 49ers win 30-27, at SF

Current Streak: Won 1

Longest 49ers Win Streak: 9 (12/23/96 - 9/16/12)

Longest Lions Win Streak: 6 (9/23/62 - 12/13/64)

Most 49ers Points: 55 (12/19/93): 49ers win 55-17, at Det. (*p*)

Most Lions Points: 48 (11/14/54): Lions win 48-7, at Det.

49ers Shutouts: 2 (Last 10/1/61): 49ers win 49-0, at Det.

Lions Shutouts: 1 (11/6/60): Lions win 24-0, at SF



SLING THE ROCK

- The 49ers offense finished the 2020 season with 371 passing comps., the 2nd-most in a single season in franchise history.

MOST COMPS. IN A SINGLE SEASON, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Season	Comps.
1.	1995	432
2.	**2020**	**371**
3.	2000	366
4.	1980	363
5.	1970	362

MOST PASSING 1ST DOWNS IN A SINGLE SEASON, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Season	Pass 1st
1.	1995	231
2.	1998	223
3.	**2020**	**217**
4.	1986	213
5.	1993	212

- San Francisco's offense finished the 2020 season with 217 passing 1st downs, the 3rd-most in a single season in franchise history.

GET OUT IN FRONT

- San Francisco's 1,128 rushing yds. in the 1st half in 2020 were the 6th-most in the NFL on the season (Bal. - 1,546; NO - 1,250; Phi. - 1,216; Ten. - 1,216; NE - 1,137).
- The team's 4.64 rushing avg. in the 1st half of the 2020 season ranked 8th in the NFL (KC - 5.78; Bal. - 5.66; NO - 5.48; Sea. - 5.48; Phi. - 5.40; Ten. - 5.13; Chi. - 4.81).
- The 49ers have outscored their opponents 855-700 since 2019. The team's +155 point differential ranks 3rd in the NFC and 7th in the NFL (Bal. - +414; NO - +262; KC - +254; GB - +203; Buf. - +181; NE - +168) over that span.

MOST RUSHING YDS. IN THE 1ST HALF IN THE NFL, 2020

	Team	Yds.
1.	Baltimore Ravens	1,546
2.	New Orleans Saints	1,250
3t.	Philadelphia Eagles	1,216
	Tennessee Titans	1,216
5.	New England Patriots	1,137
6.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**1,128**

HIGHEST PT. DIFFERENTIAL IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Diff.
1.	Baltimore Ravens	+414
2.	New Orleans Saints	+262
3.	Kansas City Chiefs	+254
4.	Green Bay Packers	+203
5.	Buffalo Bills	+181
6.	New England Patriots	+168
7.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**+155**

STRETCH THE FIELD

- San Francisco registered 228 big plays since 2019 (rushes of 10-or-more yds. and receptions of 20-or-more yds.), tied for the 5th-most in the NFL over that span. Of those 228 big plays, 111 have been rushing while 117 have been receiving.

MOST BIG PLAYS (RUSHES OF 10+ YDS. & PASSES OF 20+ YDS.) IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Big Plays
1.	Baltimore Ravens	260
2.	Minnesota Vikings	238
3.	Tennessee Titans	235
4.	Buffalo Bills	234
5t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**228**
	Cleveland Browns	228



IN THE RED

- The 49ers offense saw 117 drives reach the red zone over the past two seasons (2019-20), which were the 4th-most in the NFL (NO - 125; Bal. - 124; Atl. - 118).
- San Francisco scored 70 TDs on their 117 drives that reached the red zone since 2019.

MOST DRIVES TO REACH THE RED ZONE IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	RZ Drives
1.	New Orleans Saints	125
2.	Baltimore Ravens	124
3.	Atlanta Falcons	118
4.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**117**
5t.	Three Teams	116

MOVE THE CHAINS

- San Francisco's offense converted 42.1% of their 3rd down atts. over the last two seasons (2019-20), ranking 12th in the NFL and 6th in the NFC (Dal. - 43.7%; NO - 43.5%; Atl. - 43.0%; TB - 42.4%; GB - 42.3%).

HIGHEST 3RD DOWN % IN THE NFC, 2019-20

	Team	3rd %
1.	Dallas Cowboys	43.7
2.	New Orleans Saints	43.5
3.	Atlanta Falcons	43.0
4.	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	42.4
5.	Green Bay Packers	42.3
6.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**42.1**

HIGHEST 3RD DOWN % IN THE NFL WHEN PASSING, 2019-20

	Team	3rd %
1.	Kansas City Chiefs	44.6
2t.	Los Angeles Chargers	41.8
	Los Angeles Rams	41.8
4.	Las Vegas Raiders	41.7
5t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**41.1**
	Green Bay Packers	41.1

- The 49ers converted 41.1% of their 3rd down atts. when passing over the last two seasons (2019-20), tied for the 5th-highest rate in the NFL over that span (KC - 44.6%; LAC - 41.8%; LAR - 41.8%; LV - 41.7%; GB - 41.1%).

YARDS ON YARDS

- The 49ers averaged 375.6 yds. per game since 2019, ranking 7th in the NFL over that span.
- San Francisco accumulated 12,019 total net yds. of offense and allowed 9,539 total net yds. on defense the last two seasons (2019-20). The team's +2,480 total net yds. differential ranks 1st in the NFL since 2019.

HIGHEST YDS. PER GAME AVG. IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Yds./Gm.
1.	Dallas Cowboys	401.7
2.	Kansas City Chiefs	397.5
3.	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	391.0
4.	Baltimore Ravens	385.3
5.	Tennessee Titans	379.6
6.	Los Angeles Rams	375.9
7.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**375.6**
8.	New Orleans Saints	375.2
9.	Los Angeles Chargers	374.8
10.	Atlanta Falcons	374.1

HIGHEST TOTAL NET YARDAGE DIFFERENTIAL IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	Total Yds.	Def. Total Yds.	Diff.
1.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**12,019**	**9,539**	**+2,480**
2.	Baltimore Ravens	12,331	10,085	+2,246
3.	Los Angeles Rams	12,030	9,945	+2,085
4.	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	12,511	10,737	+1,774
5.	New Orleans Saints	12,005	10,303	+1,702

CONTROL THE CLOCK

- The Niners had an average time of possession of 31:23 on the 2020 season, ranking 5th in the NFL (GB - 32:29; LAR - 32:01; Buf. - 31:45; NO - 31:43).

HIGHEST AVG. TIME OF POSSESSION IN THE NFL, 2020

	Team	TOP
1.	Green Bay Packers	32:29
2.	Los Angeles Rams	32:01
3.	Buffalo Bills	31:45
4.	New Orleans Saints	31:43
5.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**31:23**

ELITE ON FIRST

- Since the beginning of 2017, the Niners have racked up 11,737 total yds. of offense on 1,884 plays on 1st down.
- The team's 6.23 average yds. gained on 1st down is the 3rd-highest in the NFL over that span (NO - 6.39; KC - 6.25).

HIGHEST AVG. YDS. GAINED ON 1ST DOWN IN THE NFL, 2017-20

	Team	Avg.
1.	New Orleans Saints	6.39
2.	Kansas City Chiefs	6.25
3.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**6.23**
4.	Atlanta Falcons	6.08
5.	Tennessee Titans	5.93



WHAT'S THE RUSH?

- Over the last 2 seasons (2019-20), the 49ers scored 42 rushing TDs, tied for the 3rd-most in the NFL over that span (Ten. - 47; Bal. - 45; NO - 42).
- The Niners registered 19 rushing TDs in the 2020 season, ranking t-10th in the NFL.

MOST RUSHING TDS IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	TDs
1.	Tennessee Titans	47
2.	Baltimore Ravens	45
3t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**42**
	New Orleans Saints	42
5.	Arizona Cardinals	40

NOTHIN' BUT A JIMMY G THANG



JIMMY GAROPPOLO

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Garoppolo completed 94 of 140 passing atts. (67.1%) for 1,096 yds. and 7 TDs with a passer rating of 92.4 in 2020.

JIMMY GQ

Garoppolo has quickly climbed the 49ers record books since joining the team in 2017. Among San Francisco QBs with 500 passing atts., he ranks 1st in completion percentage (67.5%) and 2nd in passer rating (98.1), behind QB Steve Young (101.4).

ILLUSTRIOUS COMPANY

In San Francisco's 2019 Week 11 game vs. Arz. (11/17/19), Garoppolo completed 34 of 45 atts. (75.6 pct.) for a career-high 424 yds., a career-high tying 4 TDs and a QB rating of 115.4.

Garoppolo joined Hall of Fame QBs Joe Montana and Steve Young as the only QBs in franchise history to throw for over 400 yds. and 4 TDs in a game.

49ERS QBS WITH AT LEAST 400 PASSING YDS. & 4 TDS IN A GAME, FRANCHISE HISTORY

Player	Opp.	Date	Atts.	Comps.	Yds.	TDs	Rtg.
Jimmy Garoppolo	**vs. Arz.**	**11/17/19**	**45**	**34**	**424**	**4**	**115.4**
Steve Young	at LAR	11/28/93	32	26	462	4	145.3
Joe Montana	at Atl.	10/14/90	49	32	476	6	119.6
Joe Montana	at Phi.	9/24/89	34	25	428	5	142.8
Joe Montana	at Atl.	10/6/85	57	37	429	5	116.8

QUICK HITS

- His career .774 winning percentage (24-7) as a starter is the 3rd-highest (Lamar Jackson - .857; Patrick Mahomes - .789) among active QBs (min. 10 starts).
- Garoppolo is 1 of 6 QBs in the Super Bowl era to win at least 20 of his first 25 career starts.
- Garoppolo's 3 games in 2019 with 300-or-more passing yds. and 4-or-more TD passes (Week 9 at Arz., Week 11 vs. Arz. & Week 14 at NO) were the most by a 49ers QB in a single season since QB Steve Young in 1993 (3 games).
- In his first-career start with the 49ers at Chi. (12/3/17), Garoppolo completed 26 of 37 atts. for 293 yds. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, his 293 passing yds. set the franchise record for most passing yds. by a player in his first start with the team.
- Garoppolo completed 23 of 33 atts. for 268 yds., 3 TDs and a passer rating of 124.3 vs. LAR (10/18/20). He threw 3 TD passes in the first half, marking the 3rd time he has done so in his career and the first time since 2019 [3 at Arz. (10/31/19)].

MOST QB WINS THROUGH 25 STARTS, SUPER BOWL ERA

	Player	Wins
1.	Ben Roethlisberger	22
2.	Dan Marino	21
3t.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**20**
	Pat Haden	20
	Roger Staubauch	20
	Kurt Warner	20

JIMMY CLIMBS THE RANKS



WHEN IT MATTERS

- Garoppolo generated 4 game-winning drives in the 4th Qtr. or OT in 2019, which according to ESPN Stats & Info, were the 3rd-most in the NFL on the season (Josh Allen, Buf. - 5; Russell Wilson, Sea. - 5).

GAROPPOLO'S GAME-WINNING DRIVES IN 2019

			Time Remaining	
Date	Opp.	Final Score	When Drive Started	At Final Score
12/21/19	vs. LAR	34-31	2:30	0:00
12/8/19	at NO	48-46	0:53	0:00
11/17/19	vs. Arz.	36-26	2:12	0:31
9/22/19	vs. Pit.	24-20	5:29	1:15

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG

- In just 31 games played with the 49ers (30 starts), Garoppolo has completed 596 of 883 passing atts. for 7,352 yds. and 46 TDs. His 7,352 passing yds. are the 8th-most in franchise history.

MOST PASSING YDS. BY A QB, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Games	Atts.	Comps.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Joe Montana	167	4,600	2,929	35,124	244
2.	John Brodie	201	4,491	2,469	31,548	214
3.	Steve Young	150	3,648	2,400	29,907	221
4.	Jeff Garcia	74	2,360	1,449	16,408	113
5.	Y.A. Tittle	112	2,194	1,226	16,016	108
6.	Alex Smith	80	2,177	1,290	14,280	81
7.	Colin Kaepernick	69	1,692	1,011	12,271	72
8.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**31**	**883**	**596**	**7,352**	**46**
9.	Steve DeBerg	39	1,201	670	7,220	37
10.	Steve Spurrier	92	840	441	5,250	33

- Garoppolo's 2019 season saw him complete 329 of 476 passes for 3,978 yds. and 27 TDs. His 3,978 passing yds. were the 4th-most in a single season in franchise history.

MOST PASSING YDS. IN A SINGLE SEASON, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Season	Atts.	Comps.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Jeff Garcia	2000	561	355	4,278	31
2.	Steve Young	1998	517	322	4,170	36
3.	Steve Young	1993	462	314	4,023	29
4.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**2019**	**476**	**329**	**3,978**	**27**
5.	Steve Young	1994	461	324	3,969	35

THE PEOPLE'S TIGHT END



GEORGE KITTLE

MR. 3,000

In his 47th career game vs. Phi. (10/4/20), Kittle reached 3,000 career rec. yds., which is tied for the 3rd-fewest games by a TE to reach 3,000-or-more career rec. yds. in NFL history.

FEWEST GAMES TO 3,000 REC. YDS. BY A TE, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Gms.
1t.	Mike Ditka	45
	Kellen Winslow Sr.	45
3t.	**George Kittle**	**47**
	Rob Gronkowski	47
5.	Jimmy Graham	49

FIRST 50

Kittle's 3,380 rec. yds. through his first 50 career NFL games are the 3rd-most by a TE in in NFL history.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN FIRST 50 CAREER GAMES, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Yds.
1.	Mike Ditka	3,436
2.	Kellen Winslow Sr.	3,420
3.	**George Kittle**	**3,380**
4.	Rob Gronkowski	3,255
5.	Jimmy Graham	3,106

WELCOME BACK GEORGE

Making his return from injury Week 4 of 2020 vs. Phi. (10/4/20), TE George Kittle finished the night with 15 recepts. for 183 yds. and 1 TD. He became the first TE in NFL history to register 15-or-more recepts. and 175-or-more yds. in a single game. His 15 recepts. set the franchise record for the most recepts. in a single game by a TE and were the most by any member of the 49ers since WR Terrell Owens registered 20 recepts. vs. Chi. (12/17/00).

Kittle owns the top 2 and 3 of the top 5 performances for most rec. yds. in a game by a TE in franchise history.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN A SINGLE GAME, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Date	Opp.	Recepts.	Yds.	TDs
1.	**George Kittle**	**12/9/18**	**vs. Den.**	**7**	**210**	**1**
2.	**George Kittle**	**10/4/20**	**vs. Phi.**	**15**	**183**	**1**
3.	Vernon Davis	10/13/13	vs. Arz.	8	180	2
4.	Eric Johnson	10/10/04	vs. Arz.	13	162	1
5.	**George Kittle**	**12/30/18**	**at LAR**	**9**	**149**	**1**

GOOD OVER TIME

A 2019 AP First-Team All-Pro, TE George Kittle ranks 2nd in the NFL in rec. yds. (3,579) among all TEs since entering the NFL in 2017.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN THE NFL, SINCE 2017

	Player	Recepts.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
1.	Travis Kelce, KC	388	5,019	12.9	34
2.	**George Kittle, SF**	**264**	**3,579**	**13.6**	**14**
3.	Zach Ertz, Phi.	314	3,238	10.3	23
4.	Jared Cook, Oak./NO	202	2,793	13.8	24
5.	Evan Engram, NYG	216	2,420	11.2	13

2020 TE RANKS

- Averaged 79.3 rec. yds./game, ranking 2nd in the NFL.
- Ranked 3rd in the NFL with 2 games with 100-or-more rec. yds.
- Ranked 5th in the NFL with 294 rec. yds. after the catch.
- Ranked 9th in the NFL with 634 rec. yds.
- Ranked t-12th in the NFL with 32 rec. 1st downs.

GEORGE FEELS 100

Kittle has 10 career games with 100-or-more yds. Those 10 games are the 4th-most by a TE in NFL history through their first 50 career games

MOST GAMES WITH 100-OR-MORE REC. YDS. BY A TE THROUGH 50 CAREER GAMES, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Gms.
1t.	Mike Ditka	14
	Kellen Winslow Sr.	14
3.	Rob Gronkowski	12
4.	**George Kittle**	**10**

KONSISTENT KITTLE

Kittle's 2,945 rec. yds. in his first 3 NFL seasons are the most by a TE through their first 3 seasons in NFL history.

MOST REC. YDS. IN FIRST 3 SEASONS BY A TE, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Yds.
1.	**George Kittle**	**2,945**
2.	Mike Ditka	2,774
3.	Rob Gronkowski	2,663
4.	Jimmy Graham	2,648

KITTLE GETS 1,000

Kittle finished the 2019 season with 1,053 rec. yds., becoming the 5th player, and first TE, in franchise history to record multiple 1,000-yd. seasons.

MOST 1,000-YD. SEASONS, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Seasons
1.	Jerry Rice	12
2.	Terrell Owens	5
3t.	**George Kittle**	**2**
	Anquan Boldin	2
	John Taylor	2

STONE COLD KITTLE

CAREER NUGGETS

- With 7 recepts. for 109 yds. and 1 TD, including a 44-yd. TD recept. on 4th-and-2 vs. LAR (10/18/20), Kittle registered his 10th career game with 100-or-more rec. yds., which are the most by a TE in franchise history and ranks t-7th among all players.
- Not only were Kittle's 1,377 yds. in 2018 the most in a single season by a TE in NFL history at the time, he was also the first member of the 49ers to reach 1,000 rec. yds. in a single season since WR Anquan Boldin registered 1,062 rec. yds. in 2014 and the first TE to reach 1,000 rec. yds. in a single season. His 1,377 rec. yds. were the most by a 49ers player since WR Terrell Owens had 1,412 rec. yds. in 2001.
- Kittle has registered the two longest TD recepts. by a TE in franchise history [82t at LAC (9/30/18) & 85t vs. Den. (12/9/18)].

SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Kittle finished the 2018 season with 88 recepts. for 1,377 yds. (15.6 avg.), both team highs. His 1,377 yds. were the most in a single season by a TE in NFL history at the time and ranked 8th among all players that year, while his 88 recepts. ranked 3rd in the NFL among TEs (Zach Ertz, Phi. - 116; Travis Kelce, KC - 103). His recept. total was also the most in a single season by a 49ers TE.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN A SINGLE SEASON, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Year	Recepts.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
1.	Travis Kelce, KC	2020	105	1,416	13.5	11
2.	**George Kittle, SF**	**2018**	**88**	**1,377**	**15.6**	**5**
3.	Travis Kelce, KC	2018	103	1,336	13.0	10
4.	Rob Gronkowski, NE	2011	90	1,327	14.7	17
5.	Jimmy Graham, NO	2011	99	1,310	13.2	11

A DAY TO REMEMBER

Kittle finished with 7 recepts. for a career-high 210 yds. and 1 TD vs. Den. (12/9/18). His 210 rec. yds. were the most in a single game by a TE in franchise history, the 8th-most among all players and the 3rd-most by a TE in a single-game in the NFL since 1960. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, his 210 rec. yds. in the 1st half were the most in the 1st half of an NFL game since Seattle Seahawks WR Steve Largent registered 224 rec. yds. in the 1st half at Det. (10/18/87).

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN A SINGLE GAME, SINCE 1960

	Player	Date	Opp.	Recepts.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Shannon Sharpe, Den.	10/20/02	at KC	12	214	2
2.	Jackie Smith, StL Cardinals	10/13/63	vs. Pit.	9	212	2
3.	**George Kittle, SF**	**12/9/18**	**vs. Den.**	**7**	**210**	**1**
4t.	Rich Caster, NYJ	9/24/72	at Bal. Colts	6	204	3
	Pete Retziaff, Phi.	11/14/65	vs. Was.	7	204	0

FROM THE START

Kittle's 515 rec. yds. in 2017 ranked 2nd in the NFL in 2017 among rookie TEs (Evan Engram, NYG - 722 yds.) and also were the 8th-most in a single season by a 49ers rookie and the most by a 49ers rookie TE since the merger in 1970.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A ROOKIE TE IN THE NFL, 2017

	Player	Yds.	Rd. Selected	Overall Pick
1.	Evan Engram, NYG	722	1st	23rd
2.	**George Kittle, SF**	**515**	**5th**	**146th**
3.	O.J. Howard, 432	432	1st	19th
4.	David Njoku, Cle.	386	1st	29th
5.	Gerald Everett, LAR	244	2nd	44th



GEORGE KITTLE

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Kittle registered 48 recepts. for 634 yds. (13.2 avg.) and 2 TDs in addition to 2 carries for 17 yds. in 2020.

RAHEEM THE DREAM



THROUGH THE AIR & ON THE GROUND

- In San Francisco's Week 1 game in 2020 vs. Arz. (9/13/20), RB Raheem Mostert registered a 76-yd. TD recept. from QB Jimmy Garoppolo, the longest TD recept. of his career and his 3rd career rec. TD. Mostert finished the game with 15 carries for 56 yds. and 4 recepts. for a career-high 95 yds. and 1 TD. It marked the first time he led the team in rushing and receiving yards in the same game.
- According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Mostert's 76-yd. rec. TD was the 4th-longest TD recept. by a RB in franchise history and the longest since RB Garrison Hearst had an 81-yd. rec. TD vs. NO (11/22/98).

LONGEST REC. TD BY A RB, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Opp.	Date	Long Rec. TD
1.	Delvin Williams	vs. Was.	11/7/76	85
2.	Garrison Hearst	vs. NO	11/22/98	81
3.	Carroll Hardy	at Det.	10/30/55	78
4.	**Raheem Mostert**	**vs. Arz.**	**9/13/20**	**76**

CAN'T CATCH HEEM

- In San Francisco's 2020 Week 2 game at NYJ (9/20/20), Mostert finished the game with 8 carries for 92 yds. (11.5 avg.) and 1 TD while adding 2 recepts. for 15 yds. His 80-yd. TD run was a career-long run and marked his 10th career TD.
- With a 75-yd. TD rec. the previous week vs. Arz. (9/13/20), Mostert became the first member of the 49ers to record a TD of 75-or-more yds. in back-to-back games since WR Jerry Rice in 1988 (vs. Was. (11/21/88, at SD (11/27/88).
- According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Mostert became the first player since Cecil Turner in 1970 (95-yd. KR in first game & 96-yd. KR in second game) to have a touchdown of 75-or-more yds. in each of the first two weeks of a season.
- Also according to the Elias Sports Bureau, Mostert joined Jim Brown (1963) as the only players in NFL history with a 75-yd. rushing TD and 75-yd. rec. TD in his team's first 2 games of a season.
- Dating back to the 2019 regular season, Mostert registered at least 1 TD in 8-consecutive regular season games. With 1 rushing TD at NYJ (9/20/20), he tied WRs Terrell Owens, Jerry Rice and Freddie Solomon and E Dave Parks for the 2nd-longest streak of consecutive games with at least 1 TD in franchise history.

QUICK HITS

- Mostert registered at least 1 rushing TD in each of the final 6 games of the season in 2019, becoming the 3rd player in franchise history, and the first since 1995, to score at least 1 rushing TD in 6-or-more consecutive games.

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A RUSHING TD, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Years	Gms.
1.	Joe Perry	1953-54	7
2t.	**Raheem Mostert**	**2019**	**6**
	Derek Loville	1995	6

RAHEEM MOSTERT

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Mostert registered 104 carries for 521 yds. (5.0 avg.) and 2 TDs to go along with 16 recepts. for 156 yds. (9.8 avg.) and 1 TD in 2020.

TOP SPEED

According to the NFL's Next Gen Stats, Mostert registered a max speed of 22.73 MPH on his 76-yd. TD recept. vs. Arz. (9/13/20) and 23.09 on his 80-yd. TD run at NYJ (9/20/20), the fastest two ball carriers in the NFL on the season and the fastest in the NFL since 2016.

NFL NEXT GEN STATS

RIDE THE WAVE

Over the past 3 seasons (2018-20), Mostert's 5.65 avg. yds. per carry ranks 4th among all players in the NFL with at least 125 carries and 2nd among RBs.

HIGHEST RUSHING AVG. IN THE NFL, 2018-20 (min. 125 atts.)

	Player	Avg.
1t.	Lamar Jackson, Bal.	6.03
	Kyler Murray, Arz.	6.03
3.	J.K. Dobbins, Bal.	6.01
4.	**Raheem Mostert, SF**	**5.65**
5.	Russell Wilson, Sea.	5.47

PUT A DEEBO ON IT



DEEBO SAMUEL

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Samuel registered 33 recepts. for 391 yds. (11.8 avg.) and 1 TD to go along with 8 carries for 26 yds. on the ground in 2020.

QUICK HITS

- Making his first return to action since Week 7 of 2020 at LAR (11/29/20), Samuel finished with a career-high 11 recepts. for 133 yds., marking his 1st 100-yd. game of the season and 4th of his career.
- On the first drive of the game vs. LAR (10/18/20), Samuel found the endzone for his 1st TD of the season and 4th rec. TD of his career. He finished the game with 6 recepts. for 66 yds. and 1 TD.
- Samuel's 802 rec. yds. on the 2019 season were the 2nd-most by a rookie in franchise history [Jerry Rice - 927 (1985)]. His 57 recepts. rank 2nd by a rookie in franchise history (RB Earl Cooper - 83 recepts. in 1980).

MOST REC. YDS. IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A ROOKIE, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Yds.
1.	WR Jerry Rice	1985	927
2.	**WR Deebo Samuel**	**2019**	**802**
3.	WR Brandon Aiyuk	2020	748
4.	WR Gene Washington	1969	711
5.	E Dave Parks	1964	703

- Samuel registered his 3rd rushing TD of the season on a 30-yd. TD run at Sea. (12/29/19). He finished the game with 5 recepts. for 102 yds. and had 2 carries for 33 yds. and 1 TD. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Samuel is the first WR in franchise history to have 3-or-more rushing TDs in a single season. He is the first WR to have 3-or-more rushing TDs in a single season in the NFL since 2016 (WR Tyreek Hill, KC - 3 rushing TDs & WR Ty Montgomery, GB - 3 rushing TDs).
- Samuel hauled in 8 recepts. for a career-high 134 yds. vs. Arz. (11/17/19). Along with his 8 recepts. for 112 yds. Week 10 vs. Sea. (11/11/19), Samuel became the first rookie in franchise history to register at least 8 recepts. and 100 rec. yds. in consecutive games. The last rookie in the NFL to accomplish the feat was WR Odell Beckham Jr. in 4 consecutive weeks from 12/7/14 through 12/28/14.
- Samuel registered 3 games with 100-or-more rec. yds. in 2019. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, his 3 games with 100-or-more rec. yds. were the most in a single season by a rookie in franchise history.
- With at least 8 recepts. and 100 rec. yds. in consecutive games in 2019, Samuel is 1 of 3 49ers rookies since 1970 with 8-or-more recepts. and 100-or-more rec. yds. in a single game.

MOST GAMES WITH 100-OR-MORE REC. YDS. IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A ROOKIE, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Gms.
1.	**WR Deebo Samuel**	**2019**	**3**
2t.	WR Brandon Aiyuk	2020	2
	WR Jerry Rice	1985	2
	E Dave Parks	1964	2

49ERS ROOKIES WITH 8-OR-MORE RECEPTS. & 100-OR-MORE REC. YDS. IN A SINGLE GAME, SINCE 1970

Player	Date	Opp.	Recepts.	Yds.	TDs
WR Brandon Aiyuk	12/13/20	vs. Was.	10	119	0
WR Deebo Samuel	**11/17/19**	**vs. Arz.**	**8**	**134**	**0**
WR Deebo Samuel	**11/10/19**	**vs. Sea.**	**8**	**112**	**0**
WR Jerry Rice	12/9/85	vs. LAR	10	241	1

FRIDAY TURNED SUNDAY

In 2019, WR Deebo Samuel's 57 recepts. on the season ranked 4th in the NFL by rookies.

MOST RECEPTS. IN THE NFL AMONG ROOKIES, 2019

	Player	Recepts.
1.	Diontae Johnson, Pit.	59
2t.	Terry McLaurin, Was.	58
	DK Metcalf, Sea.	58
4.	**Deebo Samuel, SF**	**57**
5.	A.J. Brown, Ten.	52

In 2019, Samuel's 802 rec. yds. on the season ranked 4th in the NFL among rookies.

MOST REC. YDS. IN THE NFL AMONG ROOKIES, 2019

	Player	Yds.
1.	A.J. Brown, Ten.	1,051
2.	Terry McLaurin, Was.	919
3.	DK Metcalf, Sea.	900
4.	**Deebo Samuel, SF**	**802**
5.	Darius Slayton, NYG	740

NO FLY ZONE

- The Niners defense held opponents to 207.9 net passing yds. per game in 2020, ranking 4th in the NFL (LAR - 190.7; Was. - 191.8; Pit. - 194.4).
- Since the beginning of the 2019 season, the team's 188.6 average net passing yds. per game allowed is the fewest allowed in the NFL over that span.

FEWEST NET PASSING YDS. PER GAME ALLOWED IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	YPG
1.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**188.6**
2.	Pittsburgh Steelers	194.5
3.	New England Patriots	201.3
4.	Los Angeles Rams	208.6
5.	Los Angeles Chargers	211.9



WHAT'S YOUR RATING?

- Over the last 2 seasons (2019-20), San Francisco has held opposing QBs to an average passer rating of 85.8, ranking 7th in the NFL over that span (NE - 75.5; Pit. - 78.2; Bal. - 82.5; Buf. - 82.9; LAR - 83.6; KC - 85.0).
- The 49ers defense has allowed an average completion percentage of 62.4% since 2019, ranking 8th in the NFL (Pit. - 58.8%; NO - 60.7%; Bal. - 61.2%; KC - 61.5%; NE - 61.7%; GB - 62.1%; Cin. - 62.3%).

SHORT OF THE STICKS

- The 49ers defense held opponents to a 35.5% 3rd down conversion percentage in the 2020 season, ranking 4th in the NFL (Mia. - 31.2%; Bal. - 34.0%; LAR - 35.4%).
- San Francisco forced 41 drives that resulted in a 3-and-out in 2020, ranking 4th in the NFL (Pit. - 52; LAR - 51; Phi. - 42).
- Since 2019, the 49ers defense has held opponents to a 34.4% 3rd down conversion percentage, ranking 2nd in the NFL (NE - 32.3%).

LOWEST 3RD DOWN % ALLOWED IN THE NFL, 2019-20

	Team	3rd Conv.	3rd Att.	3rd %
1.	New England Patriots	123	381	32.3
2.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**135**	**392**	**34.4**
3.	Baltimore Ravens	137	385	35.6
4.	Philadelphia Eagles	150	416	36.1
5.	New Orleans Saints	152	417	36.5

DEFENSIVE QUICK HITS

- San Francisco allowed 314.4 yds. per game in 2020, ranking 5th in the NFL (LAR - 281.9; Was. - 304.6; Pit. - 305.8; NO - 310.9).
- The 49ers allowed opponents to reach the red zone 45 times in 2020, ranking t-2nd in the NFL (Was. - 43; Bal. - 45; Pit. - 45).

FEWEST NET YDS. PER GAME ALLOWED IN THE NFL, 2020

	Team	YPG
1.	Los Angeles Rams	281.9
2.	Washington Football Team	304.6
3.	Pittsburgh Steelers	305.8
4.	New Orleans Saints	310.9
5.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**314.4**



- San Francisco's defense surrendered 12 rushing TDs by opponents in 2020, ranking tied for the 4th-fewest in the NFL (TB - 10; Chi. - 11; NO - 11; Bal. - 12; LAR - 12).
- The Niners defense gave up 88 big plays in 2020 (rushes of 10-or-more yds. and recepts. of 20-or-more yds.), tied for the 7th-fewest in the NFL (LAR - 71; TB - 79; Was. - 79; GB - 82; NO - 84; Ind. - 87; Bal. - 88).

FEWEST RUSHING TDS ALLOWED IN THE NFL, 2020

	Team	Rush TDs
1.	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	10
2t.	Chicago Bears	11
	New Orleans Saints	11
4t.	**San Francisco 49ers**	**12**
	Baltimore Ravens	12
	Los Angeles Rams	12

ALL-PRO FRED

YOU'VE GOT A FRED IN ME

- Warner racked up a team-high 125 tackles, to go along with 6 PDs, 2 INTs, 2 FRs and 1 FF in 2020, earning AP First-Team All-Pro honors and a selection to his first career Pro Bowl.
- Warner was 1 of 2 players in the NFL with 110-or-more tackles (125), 5-or-more PDs (6), 2-or-more INTs (2), 1-or-more FFs (1) and 1-or-more FRs (2) in 2020 (LB Eric Wilson, Min.).

49ERS TACKLE LEADERS, 2020

	Player	Tackles
1.	**Fred Warner**	**125**
2.	Dre Greenlaw	83
3.	Jimmie Ward	71
4.	Jason Verrett	60
5t.	Three Players	49

PLAYERS WITH 110-OR-MORE TACKLES, 5-OR-MORE PDS, 2-OR-MORE INTS, 1-OR-MORE FFS & 1-OR-MORE FRS, 2020

Player	Tackles	PDs	FFs	FRs	INTs
Fred Warner, SF	**125**	**6**	**1**	**2**	**2**
Eric Wilson, Min.	121	8	1	2	3

- Tied a career high with 14 tackles (tied for the most in the NFL in Week 16) to go along with a career-high 3 PDs, 1 FF & 1 FR at Arz. (12/26/20) and was named NFC Defensive Player of the Week.
- In San Francisco's Week 10 game of 2019 vs. Sea. (11/11/19), Warner registered 10 tackles, a career-high 2.0 sacks, 1 FF and 1 PD. His 2.0 sacks were the first of his career, as he became the first 49ers MLB to register 2.0-or-more sacks in a game since LB NaVorro Bowman had 2.0 sacks at StL (9/26/13).
- He became the first player in the NFL to register at least 10 tackles, 2.0 sacks a 1 FF in a game since Chicago Bears DL Akiem Hicks tallied 10 tackles, 2.0 sacks and 1 FF vs. SF (12/4/16).
- Warner intercepted Rams QB Jared Goff and returned the pass 46 yds. for a TD vs. LAR (12/21/19), marking the first INT and TD of his career.
- Warner finished the 2019 season as 1 of 3 LBs in the NFL with at least 90 tackles (118), 4 PDs (9), 3.0 sacks (3.0), 2 FFs (3) and 1 INT (1).
- In Weeks 10-13 of 2019, Warner registered 44 tackles, 4 TFLs, 3.0 sacks, 3 PDs and 2 FFs. His 44 tackles were tied for the most in the NFL over that span, as he was winner of NFC Defensive Player of the Week in Week 12. Warner was the only player in the NFL to register 40-or-more tackles and 3.0-plus sacks over that span. He was named NFC Defensive Player of the Month (November).

QUICK HITS

- Warner was selected by the 49ers in the 3rd round (70th overall) of the 2018 NFL Draft out of the Brigham Young University. He has stared all 39 games throughout his career.
- Warner was the only NFL defender in Week 1 of 2018 to register at least 10 tackles (12), 1 FF and 1 PD, according to Gamebook Statistics.
- In 2018, Warner racked up 123 tackles, ranking 12th in the NFL, 7th in the NFC and 3rd among all rookies.
- With 10-or-more tackles in each of the first 4 games of his career, Warner became the first rookie since 2000 to begin his career with 4 consecutive games of at least 10 tackles.

MOST TACKLES IN THE NFL AMONG ROOKIES, 2018 (according to gamebook stats)

	Player	Tackles
1.	Darius Leonard, Ind.	163
2.	Leighton Vander Esch, Dal.	138
3.	**Fred Warner, SF**	**123**
4t.	Roquan Smith, Chi.	121
	Tremaine Edmunds, Buf.	121



FRED WARNER

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Warner registered 115 tackles, 6 PDs, 2 INTs, 2 FRs and 1 FF in 2020. He earned AP First-Team All-Pro honors and was selected to the 2021 Pro Bowl.

TRICKY NICK

THE TECHNICIAN

- With 47 tackles, 9.0 sacks, 2 FRs, 2 PDs, 1 INT and 1 FF on the 2019 season, Bosa ranked t-22nd in the NFL among all players in sacks and 3rd among rookies.
- Bosa registered 4 tackles, 3.0 sacks, 1 PD and 1 INT vs. Car. (10/27/19), joining Vikings DE/DT Kevin Williams (12/28/2003) and Panthers DE Julius Peppers (10/13/2002) as the only rookies to have at least 3.0 sacks and an interception in a single game since 1982.

MOST SACKS IN THE NFL AMONG ROOKIES, 2019

	Player	Sacks
1.	Josh Allen, Jax.	10.5
2.	Maxx Crosby, Oak.	10.0
3.	**Nick Bosa, SF**	**9.0**
4.	Brian Burns, Car.	7.5
5.	Montez Sweat, Was.	7.0

- He became the first NFL player since Chiefs DL Chris Jones in 2017 [vs. Phi. (9/17/17)] with 3.0-or-more sacks and 1-or-more INT in a single game.
- His 3.0 sacks that week were the most by a member of the 49ers since LB Aldon Smith registered 5.5 sacks vs. Chi (11/19/12).
- Bosa became the 6th player since 1982 to record at least 7.0 sacks through his first 7 career games [DE Mark Anderson (7.5 – 2006), DE Julius Peppers (7.0 – 2002), DT Santana Dotson (7.0 – 1992), LB James Francis (7.0 – 1990) & LB Vernon Maxwell (7.0 – 1983)].
- In Week 5 vs. Cle. (10/7/19), Bosa was 1 of 2 players in the NFL with at least 2.0 sacks, 1 FF and 1 FR (Orlando Scandrick, Phi.), while his 5 QB hits on the night were tied for the most in the NFL that week.
- His 25 QB hits in 2019 ranked 1st among rookies in the NFL.
- Bosa's 16 tackles for loss on the season were tied for the 5th-most in the NFL.

MOST QB HITS IN THE NFL AMONG ROOKIES, 2019

	Player	QBH
1.	**Nick Bosa, SF**	**25**
2.	Josh Allen, Jax.	22
3.	Brian Burns, CAR.	16
4.	Maxx Crosby, Oak.	14
5.	Montez Sweat, Was.	13

MOST TACKLES FOR LOSS IN THE NFL AMONG ALL PLAYERS, 2019

	Player	TFLs
1.	Aaron Donald, LAR	20
2.	Shaquil Barrett, TB	19
3.	Joey Bosa, LAC	18
4.	Za'Darius Smith, GB	17
5t.	**Nick Bosa, SF**	**16**
	Maxx Crosby, Oak.	16
	Bud Dupree, Pit.	16
	Dante Fowler, LAR	16

- In Weeks 5-8 of 2019, Bosa registered the most TFLs (9), tied for the most sacks (6.0) and ranked 2nd with 9 QB hits. He was named NFC Player of the Week twice (Weeks 5 & 8) and earned both NFC Defensive Player of the Month and NFL Defensive Rookie of the Month honors for the month of October.



NICK BOSA

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Bosa registered 6 tackles, 1 FF and 1 QB hit in 2020.

QUICK HITS

- With 9.0 sacks on the 2019 season, Bosa finished with the 4th-most by a 49ers rookie since 1982.
- Making his NFL debut at TB (9/8/19), Bosa registered a 9-yd. sack on Buccaneers QB Jameis Winston, the first of his career.

MOST SACKS BY A 49ERS ROOKIE, 1982-2019

	Player	Year	Sacks
1.	LB Aldon Smith	2011	14.0
2.	LB Charles Haley	1986	12.0
3.	DT Dana Stubblefield	1993	10.5
4.	**DL Nick Bosa**	**2019**	**9.0**
5.	DE Andre Carter	2001	6.5

- In Week 5 of 2019, finished with 5 QB hits, tied for the most in the NFL among all players. He won NFC Defensive Player of the Week for his performance.
- With 2.0 sacks, 1 FF and 1 FR vs. Cle. (10/7/19), Bosa registered his first career FF, FR and multi-sack game. According to ESPN Stats & Info, Bosa became the only 49ers player to register 2.0 sacks, 1 FF and 1 FR in a single-game in the last 25 years. He also became the first 49ers rookie with at least 2.0 sacks in a game since DL DeForest Buckner at Buf. (10/16/16).

GOULDEN BOOT

CLIMBS THE RANKS

Gould has made 114 FGs as a member of the 49ers. His 114 FGM rank 5th in franchise history.

Combined with his 276 career made FGs as a member of the Chicago Bears, Gould is the 13th kicker in NFL history to reach 100 made FGs for 2 different franchises.

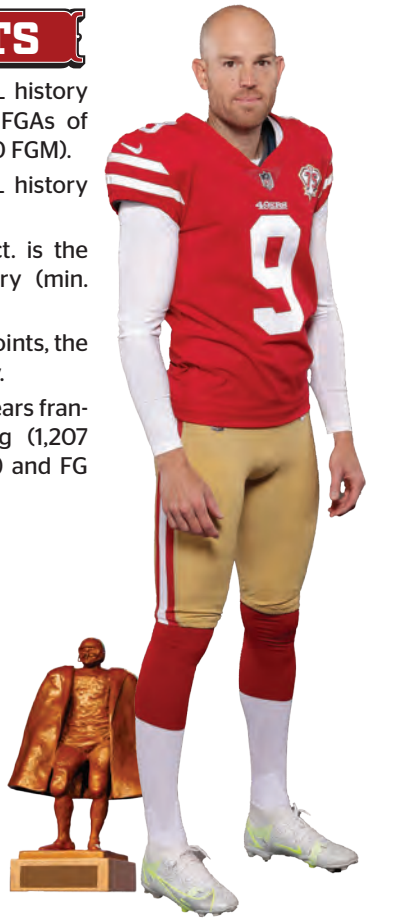
MOST CAREER FGM, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	FGM
1.	Ray Wersching	190
2.	Tommy Davis	140
3.	Joe Nedney	129
4.	Mike Cofer	128
5.	**Robbie Gould**	**114**

He also is just the 7th kicker in NFL history to record 200 FGM with 1 franchise and 100 FGM with another (Gary Anderson; Morten Anderson; John Carney; Ryan Longwell; Matt Stover; Adam Vinatieri).

QUICK HITS

- Gould Ranks 7th in NFL history in FG pct. (68.9%) on FGAs of 50-or-more yds. (min. 20 FGM).
- Is 1 of 11 kickers in NFL history with at least 400 FGM.
- His 88.4% made FG pct. is the highest in 49ers history (min. 100 atts.).
- Gould has 1,731 career points, the 15th-most in NFL history.
- Ranks as the Chicago Bears franchise leader in scoring (1,207 points), made FGs (276) and FG pct. (85.4 pct.).



CLIMBS THE RANKS

Gould connected on FGs from 21 and 33 yds. at LAC (9/30/18), making a franchise-record 33 consecutive FGAs from 10/29/17-9/30/18.

He currently holds both the longest and 3rd-longest FGM streak in franchise history.

MOST CONSECUTIVE FGM, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Range	FGM
1.	**Robbie Gould**	**10/29/17-9/30/18**	**33**
2.	Phil Dawson	10/6/13-12/29/13	27
3.	**Robbie Gould**	**10/15/18-9/8/19**	**25**
4.	Phil Dawson	9/14/15-12/13/15	19
5.	Joe Nedney	11/26/06-9/30/07	18

2-YEAR SPAN

Over his first 2 seasons with the 49ers (2017-18), Gould made 72 of 75 FGAs (96.0%). His 96.0 FG %, along with his 96.1% from 2016-17, are the 2 highest percentages in NFL history over a 2-year span (min. 32 FGAs).

HIGHEST FG % IN A 2-YEAR SPAN, NFL HISTORY (min. 32 atts.)

	Player	Years	FG %
1.	**Robbie Gould**	**2016-17**	**96.1**
2.	**Robbie Gould**	**2017-18**	**96.0**
3.	Eddie Murray	1988-89	95.2
4.	Adam Vinatieri	2014-15	94.8
5.	Justin Tucker	2016-17	94.7

KNOCKS IT THROUGH

Gould finished the 2017 season with 145 pts., setting a new single-season career high, while his 39 made FGs tied for the 3rd-most in a single season in NFL history.

MOST FGM IN A SINGLE SEASON, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Year	FGM
1.	David Akers, SF	2011	44
2.	Neil Rackers, Arz.	2005	40
3t.	**Robbie Gould, SF**	**2017**	**39**
	Olindo Mare, Mia.	1999	39
	Jeff Wilkins, StL	2003	39

HISTORIC LEG

Among those with 100-or-more career made FGs, Gould ranks t-5th in made FG percentage at 86.6%.

HIGHEST FG PCT. AMONG KICKERS WITH 100-OR-MORE FGM, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Pct.
1.	Justin Tucker	90.7
2.	Harrison Butker	90.3
3.	Josh Lambo	88.9
4.	Chris Boswell	88.0
5t.	**Robbie Gould**	**86.6**
	Wil Lutz	86.6
7.	Mike Vanderjagt	86.5

ROBBIE GOULD

WHAT'S MY LINE?

Gould connected on 19 of 23 FGAs (82.6%) and 36 of his 38 PATs in 2020.

UNDER PRESSURE

Throughout his 15-year career, and including the postseason, Gould has connected on 17 game-winning FGs (losing by 2-or-less points or tied in the 4th Qtr. or tied in OT), with 6 as a member of the 49ers.

GOULD'S CAREER GAME-WINNING FGS

Date	Opp.	Final Score	4th Qtr./OT	Time Remaining
11/29/20	at LAR	23-20	4th Qtr.	0:00
12/21/19	vs. LAR	34-31	4th Qtr.	0:00
12/8/19	at NO	48-46	4th Qtr.	0:00
12/16/18	vs. Sea.	26-23	OT	---
12/17/17	vs. Ten.	25-23	4th Qtr.	0:00
12/3/17	at Chi.	15-14	4th Qtr.	0:04
10/4/15	vs. Oak.	22-20	4th Qtr.	0:02
11/11/13	vs. Bal.	23-20	OT	---
10/28/12	vs. Car.	23-22	4th Qtr.	0:00
9/27/10	vs. GB	20-17	4th Qtr.	0:04
9/20/09	vs. Pit.	17-14	4th Qtr.	0:15
12/22/08	vs. GB	20-17	OT	---
12/11/08	vs. NO	27-24	OT	---
11/25/07	vs. Den.	37-34	OT	---
1/14/07*	vs. Sea.	27-24	OT	---
12/17/06	vs. TB	34-31	OT	---
11/6/05	at NO	20-17	4th Qtr.	0:06

*Postseason

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS COACHING STAFF



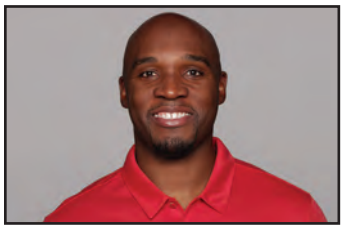
Kyle Shanahan
Head Coach



Richard Hightower
Special Teams Coordinator



Mike McDaniel
Offensive Coordinator



DeMeco Ryans
Defensive Coordinator



Jon Embree
Asst. Head Coach/Tight Ends



Butch Barry
Assistant Offensive Line



James Bettcher
Sr. Defensive Assistant/
Running Game Specialist



Daniel Bullocks
Safeties



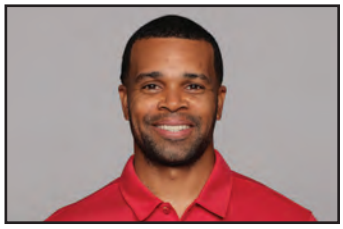
Brian Fleury
Offensive Quality Control



Chris Foerster
Offensive Line



Leonard Hankerson
Offensive Quality Control



Matthew Harper
Assistant Special Teams



Andrew Hayes-Stoker
Defensive Quality Control



Johnny Holland
Linebackers



Kris Kocurek
Defensive Line



Klay Kubiak
Defensive Quality Control



August Mangin
Special Teams Quality Control



Rich Scangarello
Quarterbacks



Bobby Slowik
Offensive Passing Game
Specialist



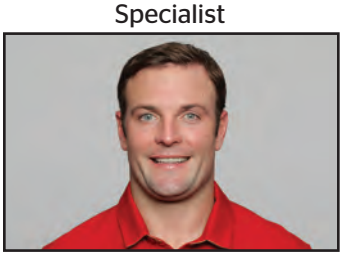
Darryl Tapp
Assistant Defensive Line



Robert Turner Jr.
Running Backs



Cory Undlin
Defensive Passing Game
Specialist/Secondary



Wes Welker
Wide Receivers



Zach Yenser
Assistant Offensive Line

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS UNOFFICIAL DEPTH CHART

Compiled by the 49ers Football Communications staff

AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

OFFENSE					
WR	11	Brandon Aiyuk	6	Mohamed Sanu Sr.	15 Jauan Jennings
LT	71	Trent Williams	76	Jaylon Moore	
LG	75	Laken Tomlinson			
C	50	Alex Mack	64	Jake Brendel	
RG	60	Daniel Brunskill	65	Aaron Banks	
RT	69	Mike McGlinchey	66	Tom Compton	
TE	85	George Kittle	82	Ross Dwelley	89 Charlie Woerner
WR	19	Deebo Samuel	81	Trent Sherfield	14 Jalen Hurd
RB	31	Raheem Mostert	28	Trey Sermon	23 JaMycal Hasty
					25 Elijah Mitchell
FB	44	Kyle Juszczyk			
QB	10	Jimmy Garoppolo	5	Trey Lance	
DEFENSE					
LDE	91	Arik Armstead	55	Dee Ford	
LDT	99	Javon Kinlaw	95	Kentavius Street	
RDT	93	D.J. Jones	90	Kevin Givens	92 Zach Kerr
RDE	97	Nick Bosa	56	Samson Ebukam	98 Arden Key
SAM	51	Azeez Al–Shaair	45	Demetrius Flannigan–Fowles	
MIKE	54	Fred Warner			
WILL	57	Dre Greenlaw	36	Marcell Harris	
LCB	4	Emmanuel Moseley	20	Ambry Thomas	26 Josh Norman
RCB	2	Jason Verrett	38	Deommodore Lenoir	
NB	24	K'Waun Williams			
FS	1	Jimmie Ward	29	Talanoa Hufanga	
SS	3	Jaquiski Tartt	32	Tavon Wilson	
SPECIAL TEAMS					
P	18	Mitch Wishnowsky			
K	9	Robbie Gould			
H	18	Mitch Wishnowsky			
PR	11	Brandon Aiyuk	6	Mohamed Sanu Sr.	
KOR	25	Elijah Mitchell	20	Ambry Thomas	23 JaMycal Hasty
LS	46	Taybor Pepper			

Injured Reserve List – T Shon Coleman, CB Davontae Harris, DL Maurice Hurst, WR Richie James, OL Justin Skule

Reserve/PUP – DB Tarvarius Moore, RB Jeff Wilson Jr.

Reserve/Suspended – DL Jordan Willis

Underline – rookies

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Brandon Aiyuk	EYE–yook
Azeez Al–Shaair	uh–ZEEZ, all–SHY–urr
Samson Ebukam	EH–boo–kahm
Robbie Gould	GOLD
JaMycal Hasty	juh–MY–kuhl
Talanoa Hufanga	tal–uh–NOE–uh, who–FAWN–guh
Jalen Hurd	JAY–len
Kyle Juszczyk	YOOZ–check
Javon Kinlaw	juh–VONN
Deommodore Lenoir	dee–AH–mo–door, luh–NOOR
Tarvarius Moore	tarr–VEAR–ee–us
Raheem Mostert	MOZE–tert
Justin Skule	SKOOL
Kentavius Street	ken–TAY–vee–us
Jaquiski Tartt	juh–KWAH–skee
Ambry Thomas	AM–bree
K'Waun Williams	KAY–wahn
Tavon Wilson	TAY–von
Mitch Wishnowsky	wish–NOW–ski
Charlie Woerner	WER–ner

The 49ers audio pronunciation guide can be found at: https://49ers.1rmg.com/pronunciation–guide/

COACHING STAFF

Kyle Shanahan	Head Coach
Richard Hightower	Special Teams Coordinator
Mike McDaniel	Offensive Coordinator
DeMeco Ryans	Defensive Coordinator
Jon Embree	Assistant Head Coach/Tight Ends
Butch Barry	Assistant Offensive Line
James Bettcher	Sr. Defensive Assistant/Running Game Specialist
Daniel Bullocks	Safeties
Brian Fleury	Offensive Quality Control
Chris Foerster	Offensive Line
Leonard Hankerson	Offensive Quality Control
Matthew Harper	Assistant Special Teams
Andrew Hayes–Stoker	Defensive Quality Control
Johnny Holland	Linebackers
Kris Kocurek	Defensive Line
Klay Kubiak	Defensive Quality Control
August Mangin	Special Teams Quality Control
Rich Scangarello	Quarterbacks
Bobby Slowik	Offensive Passing Game Specialist
Darryl Tapp	Assistant Defensive Line
Robert Turner Jr.	Running Backs
Cory Undlin	Defensive Passing Game Specialist/Secondary
Wes Welker	Wide Receivers
Zach Yenser	Assistant Offensive Line

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS NUMERICAL ROSTER

AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

NO	PLAYER	POS	HT	WT	Age	EXP	COLLEGE	ACQUIRED
1	Jimmie Ward	DB	5–11	195	30	8	Northern Illinois	D–1 in '14
2	Jason Verrett	CB	5–10	188	30	8	Texas Christian	FA in '19
3	Jaquiski Tartt	S	6–1	215	29	7	Samford	D–2 in '15
4	Emmanuel Moseley	CB	5–11	190	25	4	Tennessee	FA in '18
5	Trey Lance	QB	6–4	224	21	R	North Dakota State	D–1 in '21
6	Mohamed Sanu Sr.	WR	6–2	210	32	10	Rutgers	FA in '21
9	Robbie Gould	K	6–0	190	38	17	Penn State	FA in '17
10	Jimmy Garoppolo	QB	6–2	225	29	8	Eastern Illinois	TR in '17 (NE)
11	Brandon Aiyuk	WR	6–0	200	23	2	Arizona State	D–2B in '20
14	Jalen Hurd	WR	6–5	230	25	3	Baylor	D–3 in '19
15	Jauan Jennings	WR	6–3	212	24	1	Tennessee	D–7 in '20
18	Mitch Wishnowsky	P	6–2	220	29	3	Utah	D–4 in '19
19	Deebo Samuel	WR	6–0	215	25	3	South Carolina	D–2 in '19
20	Ambry Thomas	CB	6–0	190	21	R	Michigan	D–3B in '21
23	JaMycal Hasty	RB	5–8	205	24	2	Baylor	FA in '20
24	K'Waun Williams	CB	5–9	185	30	7	Pittsburgh	FA in '17
25	Elijah Mitchell	RB	5–10	200	23	R	Louisiana	D–6 in '21
26	Josh Norman	CB	6–0	200	33	10	Coastal Carolina	FA in '21
28	Trey Sermon	RB	6–0	215	22	R	Ohio State	D–3A in '21
29	Talanoa Hufanga	S	6–0	200	21	R	Southern California	D–5C in '21
31	Raheem Mostert	RB	5–10	205	29	7	Purdue	FA in '16
32	Tavon Wilson	S	6–0	208	31	10	Illinois	FA in '21
36	Marcell Harris	LB	6–0	215	27	4	Florida	D–6 in '18
38	Deommodore Lenoir	DB	5–10	200	21	R	Oregon	D–5B in '21
44	Kyle Juszczyk	FB	6–1	235	30	9	Harvard	FA in '17
45	Demetrius Flannigan–Fowles	LB	6–2	223	25	2	Arizona	FA in '19
46	Taybor Pepper	LS	6–4	245	27	4	Michigan State	FA in '20
50	Alex Mack	C	6–4	311	35	13	California–Berkeley	FA in '21
51	Azeez Al–Shaair	LB	6–2	228	24	3	Florida Atlantic	FA in '19
54	Fred Warner	LB	6–3	230	24	4	Brigham Young	D–3A in '18
55	Dee Ford	DL	6–2	252	30	8	Auburn	TR in '19 (KC)
56	Samson Ebukam	DL	6–3	245	26	5	Eastern Washington	FA in '21
57	Dre Greenlaw	LB	6–0	230	24	3	Arkansas	D–5 in '19
60	Daniel Brunskill	OL	6–5	300	27	3	San Diego State	FA in '19
64	Jake Brendel	OL	6–4	299	28	4	UCLA	FA in '20
65	Aaron Banks	OL	6–5	325	24	R	Notre Dame	D–2 in '21
66	Tom Compton	OL	6–6	315	31	9	South Dakota	FA in '20
69	Mike McGlinchey	T	6–8	310	26	4	Notre Dame	D–1 in '18
71	Trent Williams	T	6–5	320	33	12	Oklahoma	TR in '20 (Was.)
75	Laken Tomlinson	OL	6–3	315	29	7	Duke	TR in '17 (Det.)
76	Jaylon Moore	OL	6–4	311	23	R	Western Michigan	D–5A in '21
81	Trent Sherfield	WR	6–1	219	25	4	Vanderbilt	FA in '21
82	Ross Dwelley	TE	6–5	235	26	4	San Diego	FA in '18
85	George Kittle	TE	6–4	250	27	5	Iowa	D–5A in '17
89	Charlie Woerner	TE	6–5	241	23	2	Georgia	D–6 in '20
90	Kevin Givens	DL	6–1	285	24	2	Penn State	FA in '19
91	Arik Armstead	DL	6–7	290	27	7	Oregon	D–1 in '15
92	Zach Kerr	DL	6–2	334	31	8	Delaware	FA in '21
93	D.J. Jones	DL	6–0	305	26	5	Mississippi	D–6A in '17
95	Kentavius Street	DL	6–2	287	25	3	North Carolina State	D–4 in '18
97	Nick Bosa	DL	6–4	266	23	3	Ohio State	D–1 in '19
98	Arden Key	DL	6–5	240	25	4	Louisiana State	FA in '21
99	Javon Kinlaw	DT	6–5	319	23	2	South Carolina	D–1A in '20
Practice Squad								
7	Nate Sudfeld	QB	6–6	227	27	6	Indiana	FA in '21
17	Travis Benjamin	WR	5–10	175	31	9	Miami	FA in '20
35	Jared Mayden	S	6–0	205	23	2	Alabama	FA in '20
40	Josh Hokit	FB	6–1	225	23	1	Fresno State	FA in '20
41	Dee Virgin	CB	5–9	195	27	3	West Alabama	FA in '21
53	Rashad Smith	LB	6–1	220	24	2	Florida Atlantic	FA in '21
58	Alex Barrett	DL	6–2	250	27	2	San Diego State	FA in '19
59	Elijah Sullivan	LB	6–0	215	24	R	Kansas State	FA in '21
61	Senio Kelemete	OL	6–3	301	31	9	Washington	FA in '21
62	Corbin Kaufusi	OL	6–9	275	28	1	Brigham Young	FA in '21
67	Darrion Daniels	DL	6–3	311	23	2	Nebraska	FA in '20
68	Colton McKivitz	OL	6–6	301	25	2	West Virginia	D–5 in '20
77	Alfredo Gutierrez*	OL	6–9	332	25	R	Tecnológico de Monterrey	FA in '21
83	Isaiah Zuber	WR	6–0	190	24	1	Mississippi State	FA in '21
84	Tanner Hudson	TE	6–5	239	26	3	Southern Arkansas	FA in '21
86	River Cracraft	WR	6–0	198	26	3	Washington State	FA in '20
88	Jordan Matthews	TE	6–3	236	29	7	Vanderbilt	FA in '21
Injured Reserve List								
13	Richie James	WR	5–9	185	26	4	Middle Tennessee State	D–7B in '18
26	Davontae Harris	CB	5–11	200	26	4	Illinois State	W in '21 (Bal.)
67	Justin Skule	OL	6–6	315	24	3	Vanderbilt	D–6B in '19
78	Shon Coleman	T	6–5	310	29	5	Auburn	TR in '18 (Cle.)
96	Maurice Hurst	DL	6–2	291	26	4	Michigan	FA in '21
Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform List								
22	Jeff Wilson Jr.	RB	6–0	213	25	4	North Texas	FA in '18
33	Tarvarius Moore	DB	6–2	200	25	4	Southern Mississippi	D–3B in '18
Reserve/Suspended List								
94	Jordan Willis	DL	6–4	270	26	5	Kansas State	TR in '20 (NYJ)

* NFL's International Pathway Program

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

NO	PLAYER	POS	HT	WT	Birthdate	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
11	Aiyuk, Brandon	WR	6–0	200	3–17–98	2	Arizona State	Reno, NV
51	Al–Shaair, Azeez	LB	6–2	228	8–4–97	3	Florida Atlantic	Tampa, FL
91	Armstead, Arik	DL	6–7	290	11–15–93	7	Oregon	Elk Grove, CA
65	Banks, Aaron	OL	6–5	325	9–3–97	R	Notre Dame	El Cerrito, CA
97	Bosa, Nick	DL	6–4	266	10–23–97	3	Ohio State	Fort Lauderdale, FL
64	Brendel, Jake	OL	6–4	299	9–10–92	4	UCLA	Plano, TX
60	Brunskill, Daniel	OL	6–5	300	1–27–94	3	San Diego State	Valley Center, CA
66	Compton, Tom	OL	6–6	315	5–10–89	9	South Dakota	Rosemount, MN
82	Dwelley, Ross	TE	6–5	235	1–26–95	4	San Diego	El Dorado Hills, CA
56	Ebukam, Samson	DL	6–3	245	5–9–95	5	Eastern Washington	Portland, OR
45	Flannigan–Fowles, Demetrius	LB	6–2	223	9–4–96	2	Arizona	Tucson, AZ
55	Ford, Dee	DL	6–2	252	3–19–91	8	Auburn	Odenville, AL
10	Garoppolo, Jimmy	QB	6–2	225	11–2–91	8	Eastern Illinois	Arlington Heights, IL
90	Givens, Kevin	DL	6–1	285	3–1–97	2	Penn State	Newark, NJ
9	Gould, Robbie	K	6–0	190	12–6–82	17	Penn State	Jersey Shore, PA
57	Greenlaw, Dre	LB	6–0	230	5–25–97	3	Arkansas	Fayetteville, AR
36	Harris, Marcell	LB	6–0	215	6–9–94	4	Florida	Orlando, FL
23	Hasty, JaMycal	RB	5–8	205	9–12–96	2	Baylor	Longview, TX
29	Hufanga, Talanoa	S	6–0	200	2–1–00	R	Southern California	Corvallis, OR
14	Hurd, Jalen	WR	6–5	230	1–23–96	3	Baylor	Hendersonville, TN
15	Jennings, Jauan	WR	6–3	212	7–10–97	1	Tennessee	Murfreesboro, TN
93	Jones, D.J.	DL	6–0	305	1–19–95	5	Mississippi	Piedmont, SC
44	Juszczyk, Kyle	FB	6–1	235	4–23–91	9	Harvard	Lodi, OH
92	Kerr, Zach	DL	6–2	334	8–29–90	8	Delaware	Gaithersburg, MD
98	Key, Arden	DL	6–5	240	5–3–96	4	Louisiana State	College Park, GA
99	Kinlaw, Javon	DT	6–5	319	10–3–97	2	South Carolina	Charleston, SC
85	Kittle, George	TE	6–4	250	10–9–93	5	Iowa	Norman, OK
5	Lance, Trey	QB	6–4	224	5–9–00	R	North Dakota State	Marshall, MN
38	Lenoir, Deommodore	DB	5–10	200	10–6–99	R	Oregon	Los Angeles, CA
50	Mack, Alex	C	6–4	311	11–19–85	13	California–Berkeley	Santa Barbara, CA
69	McGlinchey, Mike	T	6–8	310	1–12–95	4	Notre Dame	Philadelphia, PA
25	Mitchell, Elijah	RB	5–10	200	5–2–98	R	Louisiana	Erath, LA
76	Moore, Jaylon	OL	6–4	311	1–9–98	R	Western Michigan	Detroit, MI
4	Moseley, Emmanuel	CB	5–11	190	3–25–96	4	Tennessee	Greensboro, NC
31	Mostert, Raheem	RB	5–10	205	4–9–92	7	Purdue	New Smyrna Beach, FL
26	Norman, Josh	CB	6–0	200	12–15–87	10	Coastal Carolina	Greenwood, SC
46	Pepper, Taybor	LS	6–4	245	5–28–94	4	Michigan State	Saline, MI
19	Samuel, Deebo	WR	6–0	215	1–15–96	3	South Carolina	Inman, SC
6	Sanu Sr., Mohamed	WR	6–2	210	8–22–89	10	Rutgers	South Brunswick, NJ
28	Sermon, Trey	RB	6–0	215	1–30–99	R	Ohio State	Marietta, GA
81	Sherfield, Trent	WR	6–1	219	2–25–96	4	Vanderbilt	Danville, IL
95	Street, Kentavius	DL	6–2	287	5–8–96	3	North Carolina State	Greenville, NC
3	Tartt, Jaquiski	S	6–1	215	2–18–92	7	Samford	Mobile, AL
20	Thomas, Ambry	CB	6–0	190	9–9–99	R	Michigan	Detroit, MI
75	Tomlinson, Laken	OL	6–3	315	2–9–92	7	Duke	Chicago, IL
2	Verrett, Jason	CB	5–10	188	6–18–91	8	Texas Christian	Fairfield, CA
1	Ward, Jimmie	DB	5–11	195	7–18–91	8	Northern Illinois	Mobile, AL
54	Warner, Fred	LB	6–3	230	11–19–96	4	Brigham Young	San Marcos, CA
24	Williams, K'Waun	CB	5–9	185	7–12–91	7	Pittsburgh	Montvale, NJ
71	Williams, Trent	T	6–5	320	7–19–88	12	Oklahoma	Longview, TX
32	Wilson, Tavon	S	6–0	208	3–19–90	10	Illinois	Washington, DC
18	Wishnowsky, Mitch	P	6–2	220	3–3–92	3	Utah	Perth, Australia
89	Woerner, Charlie	TE	6–5	241	10–16–97	2	Georgia	Tiger, GA
Practice Squad								
58	Barrett, Alex	DL	6–2	250	3–6–94	2	San Diego State	Mesa, AZ
17	Benjamin, Travis	WR	5–10	175	12–29–89	9	Miami	Belle Glade, FL
86	Cracraft, River	WR	6–0	198	11–1–94	3	Washington State	Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
67	Daniels, Darrion	DL	6–3	311	12–4–97	2	Nebraska	Dallas, TX
77	Gutierrez, Alfredo*	OL	6–9	332	12–29–95	R	Tecnológico de Monterrey	Tijuana, MX
40	Hokit, Josh	FB	6–1	225	11–12–97	1	Fresno State	Clovis, CA
84	Hudson, Tanner	TE	6–5	239	11–12–94	3	Southern Arkansas	Camden, TN
62	Kaufusi, Corbin	OL	6–9	275	4–12–93	1	Brigham Young	Provo, UT
61	Kelemete, Senio	OL	6–3	301	5–10–90	9	Washington	Seattle, WA
88	Matthews, Jordan	TE	6–3	236	7–16–92	7	Vanderbilt	Madison, AL
35	Mayden, Jared	S	6–0	205	6–24–98	2	Alabama	Sachse, TX
68	McKivitz, Colton	OL	6–6	301	8–9–96	2	West Virginia	Jacobsburg, OH
53	Smith, Rashad	LB	6–1	220	4–20–97	2	Florida Atlantic	Homestead, FL
7	Sudfeld, Nate	QB	6–6	227	10–7–93	6	Indiana	Modesto, CA
59	Sullivan, Elijah	LB	6–0	215	5–13–97	R	Kansas State	Tucker, GA
41	Virgin, Dee	CB	5–9	195	10–29–93	3	West Alabama	Donalsonville, GA
83	Zuber, Isaiah	WR	6–0	190	4–15–97	1	Mississippi State	Stone Mountain, GA
Injured Reserve List								
78	Coleman, Shon	T	6–5	310	11–25–91	5	Auburn	Olive Branch, MS
26	Harris, Davontae	CB	5–11	200	1–21–95	4	Illinois State	Wichita, KS
96	Hurst, Maurice	DL	6–2	291	5–9–95	4	Michigan	Westwood, MA
13	James, Richie	WR	5–9	185	9–5–95	4	Middle Tennessee State	Sarasota, FL
67	Skule, Justin	OL	6–6	315	11–23–96	3	Vanderbilt	Clifton, VA
Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform List								
33	Moore, Tarvarius	DB	6–2	200	8–16–96	4	Southern Mississippi	Quitman, MS
22	Wilson Jr., Jeff	RB	6–0	213	11–16–95	4	North Texas	Elkhart, TX
Reserve/Suspended List								
94	Willis, Jordan	DL	6–4	270	5–2–95	5	Kansas State	Kansas City, MO

* NFL's International Pathway Program

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS POSITIONAL ROSTER

AS OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

NO	PLAYER	POS	HT	WT	DOB	EXP	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN	ACQUIRED
Quarterbacks (2)									
5	Lance, Trey	QB	6–4	224	5–9–00	R	North Dakota State	Marshall, MN	D–1 in '21
10	Garoppolo, Jimmy	QB	6–2	225	11–2–91	8	Eastern Illinois	Arlington Heights, IL	TR in '17 (NE)
Running Backs/Fullbacks (5)									
23	Hasty, JaMycal	RB	5–8	205	9–12–96	2	Baylor	Longview, TX	FA in '20
25	Mitchell, Elijah	RB	5–10	200	5–2–98	R	Louisiana	Erath, LA	D–6 in '21
28	Sermon, Trey	RB	6–0	215	1–30–99	R	Ohio State	Marietta, GA	D–3A in '21
31	Mostert, Raheem	RB	5–10	205	4–9–92	7	Purdue	New Smyrna Beach, FL	FA in '16
44	Juszczyk, Kyle	FB	6–1	235	4–23–91	9	Harvard	Lodi, OH	FA in '17
Wide Receivers (6)									
6	Sanu Sr., Mohamed	WR	6–2	210	8–22–89	10	Rutgers	South Brunswick, NJ	FA in '21
11	Aiyuk, Brandon	WR	6–0	200	3–17–98	2	Arizona State	Reno, NV	D–1B in '20
14	Hurd, Jalen	WR	6–5	230	1–23–96	3	Baylor	Hendersonville, TX	D–3 in '19
15	Jennings, Jauan	WR	6–3	212	7–10–97	1	Tennessee	Murfreesboro, TN	D–7 in '20
19	Samuel, Deebo	WR	6–0	215	1–15–96	3	South Carolina	Inman, SC	D–2 in '19
81	Sherfield, Trent	WR	6–1	219	2–25–96	4	Vanderbilt	Danville, IL	FA in '21
Tight Ends (3)									
82	Dwelley, Ross	TE	6–5	235	1–26–95	4	San Diego	El Dorado Hills, CA	FA in '18
85	Kittle, George	TE	6–4	250	10–9–93	5	Iowa	Norman, OK	D–5A in '17
89	Woerner, Charlie	TE	6–5	241	10–16–97	2	Georgia	Tiger, GA	D–6 in '20
Offensive Line (9)									
50	Mack, Alex	C	6–4	311	11–19–85	13	California–Berkeley	Santa Barbara, CA	FA in '21
60	Brunskill, Daniel	OL	6–5	300	1–27–94	3	San Diego State	Valley Center, CA	FA in '19
64	Brendel, Jake	OL	6–4	299	9–10–92	4	UCLA	Plano, TX	FA in '20
65	Banks, Aaron	OL	6–5	325	9–3–97	R	Notre Dame	El Cerrito, CA	D–2 in '21
66	Compton, Tom	OL	6–6	315	5–10–89	9	South Dakota	Rosemount, MN,	FA in '20
69	McGlinchey, Mike	T	6–8	310	1–12–95	4	Notre Dame	Philadelphia, PA	D–1 in '18
71	Williams, Trent	T	6–5	320	7–19–88	12	Oklahoma	Longview, TX	TR in '20 (Was.)
75	Tomlinson, Laken	OL	6–3	315	2–9–92	7	Duke	Chicago, IL	TR in '17 (Det.)
76	Moore, Jaylon	OL	6–4	311	1–9–98	R	Western Michigan	Detroit, MI	D–5A in '21
Specialists (3)									
9	Gould, Robbie	K	6–0	190	12–6–82	17	Penn State	Jersey Shore, PA	FA in '17
18	Wishnowsky, Mitch	P	6–2	220	3–3–92	3	Utah	Perth, Australia	D–4 in '19
46	Pepper, Taybor	LS	6–4	245	5–28–94	4	Michigan State	Saline, MI	FA in '20
Defensive Line (11)									
55	Ford, Dee	DL	6–2	252	3–19–91	8	Auburn	Odenville, AL	TR in '19 (KC)
56	Ebukam, Samson	DL	6–3	245	5–9–95	5	Eastern Washington	Portland, OR	FA in '21
90	Givens, Kevin	DL	6–1	285	3–1–97	2	Penn State	Newark, NJ	FA in '19
91	Armstead, Arik	DL	6–7	290	11–15–93	7	Oregon	Elk Grove, CA	D–1 in '15
92	Kerr, Zach	DL	6–2	334	8–29–90	8	Delaware	Gaithersburg, MD	FA in '21
93	Jones, D.J.	DL	6–0	305	1–19–95	5	Mississippi	Piedmont, SC	D–6A in '17
95	Street, Kentavius	DL	6–2	287	5–8–96	3	North Carolina State	Greenville, NC	D–4 in '18
97	Bosa, Nick	DL	6–4	266	10–23–97	3	Ohio State	Fort Lauderdale, FL	D–1 in '19
98	Key, Arden	DL	6–5	240	5–3–96	4	Louisiana State	College Park, GA	FA in '21
99	Kinlaw, Javon	DT	6–5	319	10–3–97	2	South Carolina	Charleston, SC	D–1A in '20
Linebackers (5)									
36	Harris, Marcell	LB	6–0	215	6–9–94	4	Florida	Orlando, FL	D–6 in '18
45	Flannigan–Fowles, Demetrius	LB	6–2	223	9–4–96	2	Arizona	Tucson, AZ	FA in '19
51	Al–Shaair, Azeez	LB	6–2	228	8–4–97	3	Florida Atlantic	Tampa, FL	FA in '19
54	Warner, Fred	LB	6–3	230	11–19–96	4	Brigham Young	San Marcos, CA	D–3A in '18
57	Greenlaw, Dre	LB	6–0	230	5–25–97	3	Arkansas	Fayetteville, AR	D–5 in '19
Defensive Backs (10)									
1	Ward, Jimmie	DB	5–11	195	7–18–91	8	Northern Illinois	Mobile, AL	D–1 in '14
2	Verrett, Jason	CB	5–10	188	6–18–91	8	Texas Christian	Fairfield, CA	FA in '19
3	Tartt, Jaquiski	S	6–1	215	2–18–92	7	Samford	Mobile, AL	D–2 in '15
4	Moseley, Emmanuel	CB	5–11	190	3–25–96	4	Tennessee	Greensboro, NC	FA in '18
20	Thomas, Ambry	CB	6–0	190	9–9–99	R	Michigan	Detroit, MI	D–3B in '21
24	Williams, K'Waun	CB	5–9	185	7–12–91	7	Pittsburgh	Montvale, NJ	FA in '17
26	Norman, Josh	CB	6–0	200	12–15–87	10	Coastal Carolina	Greenwood, SC	FA in '21
29	Hufanga, Talanoa	S	6–0	200	2–1–00	R	Southern California	Corvallis, OR	D–5C in '21
32	Wilson, Tavon	S	6–0	208	3–19–90	10	Illinois	Washington, DC	FA in '21
38	Lenoir, Deommodore	DB	5–10	200	10–6–99	R	Oregon	Los Angeles, CA	D–5B in '21
Injured Reserve List (5)									
13	James, Richie	WR	5–9	185	9–5–95	4	Middle Tennessee State	Sarasota, FL	D–7B in '18
26	Harris, Davontae	CB	5–11	200	1–21–95	4	Illinois State	Wichita, KS	W in '21 (Bal.)
67	Skule, Justin	OL	6–6	315	11–23–96	3	Vanderbilt	Clifton, VA	D–6B in '19
78	Coleman, Shon	T	6–5	310	11–25–91	5	Auburn	Olive Branch, MS	TR in '18 (Cle.)
96	Hurst, Maurice	DL	6–2	291	5–9–95	4	Michigan	Westwood, MA	FA in '21
Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform List (2)									
22	Wilson Jr., Jeff	RB	6–0	213	11–16–95	4	North Texas	Elkhart, TX	FA in '18
33	Moore, Tarvarius	DB	6–2	200	8–16–96	4	Southern Mississippi	Quitman, MS	D–3B in '18
Reserve/Suspended List (1)									
94	Willis, Jordan	DL	6–4	270	5–2–95	5	Kansas State	Kansas City, MO	TR in '20 (NYJ)

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS ROSTER BREAKDOWN

ROSTER BY EXPERIENCE

PLAYER	EXP	GP/GS	W/SF
Gould, Robbie	17	236/0	60/0
Mack, Alex	13	179/179	0/0
Williams, Trent	12	134/133	14/14
Norman, Josh	10	120/95	0/0
Sanu Sr., Mohamed	10	128/96	3/0
Wilson, Tavon	10	125/45	0/0
Compton, Tom	9	106/37	7/3
Juszczyk, Kyle	9	122/82	58/51
Ford, Dee	8	79/43	12/2
Garoppolo, Jimmy	8	48/32	31/30
Kerr, Zach	8	88/16	0/0
Verrett, Jason	8	39/34	14/13
Ward, Jimmie	8	78/58	78/58
Armstead, Arik	7	78/59	78/59
Mostert, Raheem	7	58/8	45/8
Tartt, Jaquiski	7	66/50	66/50
Tomlinson, Laken	7	95/87	63/63
Williams, K'Waun	7	77/38	51/28
Coleman, Shon*	5	23/16	0/0
Ebukam, Samson	5	64/35	0/0
Jones, D.J.	5	44/29	44/29
Kittle, George	5	53/45	53/45
Willis, Jordan^	5	50/2	7/0
Brendel, Jake	4	21/3	0/0
Dwelley, Ross	4	43/15	43/15
Harris, Davontae*	4	38/8	0/0
Harris, Marcell	4	37/13	37/13
Hurst, Maurice*	4	40/17	0/0
James, Richie*	4	40/10	40/10
Key, Arden	4	37/10	0/0
McGlinchey, Mike	4	44/44	44/44
Moore, Tarvarius&	4	48/13	48/13
Moseley, Emmanuel	4	29/17	29/17
Pepper, Taybor	4	32/0	12/0
Sherfield, Trent	4	44/4	0/0
Warner, Fred	4	48/48	48/48
Wilson Jr., Jeff&	4	28/5	28/5
Al–Shaair, Azeez	3	31/9	31/9
Bosa, Nick	3	18/16	18/16
Brunskill, Daniel	3	30/23	30/23
Greenlaw, Dre	3	29/22	29/22
Hurd, Jalen	3	0/0	0/0
Samuel, Deebo	3	22/16	22/16
Skule, Justin*	3	31/12	31/12
Street, Kentavius	3	18/2	18/2
Wishnowsky, Mitch	3	32/0	32/0
Aiyuk, Brandon	2	12/11	12/11
Flannigan–Fowles, Demetrius	2	11/1	11/1
Givens, Kevin	2	14/1	14/1
Hasty, JaMycal	2	8/0	8/0
Kinlaw, Javon	2	14/12	14/12
Woerner, Charlie	2	14/0	14/0
Jennings, Jauan	1	0/0	0/0
Banks, Aaron	R	0/0	0/0
Hufanga, Talanoa	R	0/0	0/0
Lance, Trey	R	0/0	0/0
Lenoir, Deommodore	R	0/0	0/0
Mitchell, Elijah	R	0/0	0/0
Moore, Jaylon	R	0/0	0/0
Sermon, Trey	R	0/0	0/0
Thomas, Ambry	R	0/0	0/0

HOW THEY WERE BUILT

YEAR	PLAYER	ACQ
2014	Jimmie Ward	D1
2015	Arik Armstead	D1
	Jaquiski Tartt	D2
2016	Raheem Mostert	FA
2017	K'Waun Williams	FA
	Robbie Gould	FA
	Kyle Juszczyk	FA
	George Kittle	D5a
	D.J. Jones	D6a
	Laken Tomlinson	TR
	Jimmy Garoppolo	TR
2018	Mike McGlinchey	D1
	Fred Warner	D3a
	Tarvarius Moore&	D3b
	Kentavius Street	D4
	Marcell Harris	D6
	Richie James*	D7b
	Shon Coleman*	TR
	Ross Dwelley	FA
	Emmanuel Moseley	FA
	Jeff Wilson Jr.&	FA
2019	Dee Ford	TR
	Jason Verrett	FA
	Daniel Brunskill	FA
	Nick Bosa	D1
	Deebo Samuel	D2
	Jalen Hurd	D3
	Mitch Wishnowsky	D4
	Dre Greenlaw	D5
	Justin Skule*	D6b
	Azeez Al–Shaair	FA
	Demetrius Flannigan–Fowles	FA
	Kevin Givens	FA
2020	Tom Compton	FA
	Jake Brendel	FA
	Javon Kinlaw	D1a
	Brandon Aiyuk	D1b
	Charlie Woerner	D6
	Jauan Jennings	D7
	Trent Williams	TR
	JaMycal Hasty	FA
	Taybor Pepper	FA
	Jordan Willis^	TR
2021	Samson Ebukam	FA
	Alex Mack	FA
	Trent Sherfield	FA
	Tavon Wilson	FA
	Mohamed Sanu Sr.	FA
	Zach Kerr	FA
	Maurice Hurst*	FA
	Arden Key	FA
	Trey Lance	D1
	Aaron Banks	D2
	Trey Sermon	D3a
	Ambry Thomas	D3b
	Jaylon Moore	D5a
	Deommodore Lenoir	D5b
	Talanoa Hufanga	D5c
	Elijah Mitchell	D6
	Davontae Harris*	W
	Josh Norman	FA

*Injured Reserve
&Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform
#Reserve/COVID–19
^Reserve/Suspended

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS PARTICIPATION CHART

PLAYER	at DET 9–12	at PHI 9–19	GB 9–26	SEA 10–3	at ARZ 10–10	IND 10–24	at CHI 10–31	ARZ 11–7	LAR 11–15	at JAX 11–21	MIN 11–28	at SEA 12–5	at CIN 12–12	ATL 12–19	at TEN 12–23	HOU 1–2	at LAR 1–9	GP	GS	DNP	IA
Aiyuk, Brandon																		0	0	0	0
Al–Shaair, Azeez																		0	0	0	0
Armstead, Arik																		0	0	0	0
Banks, Aaron																		0	0	0	0
Barrett, Alex																		0	0	0	0
Benjamin, Travis																		0	0	0	0
Bosa, Nick																		0	0	0	0
Brendel, Jake																		0	0	0	0
Brunskill, Daniel																		0	0	0	0
Coleman, Shon*																		0	0	0	0
Compton, Tom																		0	0	0	0
Cracraft, River																		0	0	0	0
Daniels, Darrion																		0	0	0	0
Dwelley, Ross																		0	0	0	0
Ebukam, Samson																		0	0	0	0
Flannigan–Fowles, Demetrius																		0	0	0	0
Ford, Dee																		0	0	0	0
Garoppolo, Jimmy																		0	0	0	0
Givens, Kevin																		0	0	0	0
Gould, Robbie																		0	0	0	0
Greenlaw, Dre																		0	0	0	0
Gutierrez, Alfredo																		0	0	0	0
Harris, Davontae*																		0	0	0	0
Harris, Marcell																		0	0	0	0
Hasty, JaMycal																		0	0	0	0
Hokit, Josh																		0	0	0	0
Hudson, Tanner																		0	0	0	0
Hufanga, Talanoa																		0	0	0	0
Hurd, Jalen																		0	0	0	0
Hurst, Maurice*																		0	0	0	0
James, Richie*																		0	0	0	0
Jennings, Jauan																		0	0	0	0
Jones, D.J.																		0	0	0	0
Juszczyk, Kyle																		0	0	0	0
Kaufusi, Corbin																		0	0	0	0
Kelemete, Senio																		0	0	0	0
Kerr, Zach																		0	0	0	0
Key, Arden																		0	0	0	0
Kinlaw, Javon																		0	0	0	0
Kittle, George																		0	0	0	0
Lance, Trey																		0	0	0	0
Lenoir, Deommodore																		0	0	0	0
Mack, Alex																		0	0	0	0
Matthews, Jordan																		0	0	0	0
Mayden, Jared																		0	0	0	0
McGlinchey, Mike																		0	0	0	0
McKivitz, Colton																		0	0	0	0
Mitchell, Elijah																		0	0	0	0
Moore, Jaylon																		0	0	0	0
Moore, Tarvarius&																		0	0	0	0
Moseley, Emmanuel																		0	0	0	0
Mostert, Raheem																		0	0	0	0
Norman, Josh																		0	0	0	0
Pepper, Taybor																		0	0	0	0
Samuel, Deebo																		0	0	0	0
Sanu Sr., Mohamed																		0	0	0	0
Sermon, Trey																		0	0	0	0
Sherfield, Trent																		0	0	0	0
Skule, Justin*																		0	0	0	0
Smith, Rashad																		0	0	0	0
Street, Kentavius																		0	0	0	0
Sudfeld, Nate																		0	0	0	0
Sullivan, Elijah																		0	0	0	0
Tartt, Jaquiski																		0	0	0	0
Thomas, Ambry																		0	0	0	0
Tomlinson, Laken																		0	0	0	0
Verrett, Jason																		0	0	0	0
Virgin, Dee																		0	0	0	0
Ward, Jimmie																		0	0	0	0
Warner, Fred																		0	0	0	0
Williams, K'Waun																		0	0	0	0
Williams, Trent																		0	0	0	0
Willis, Jordan^																		0	0	0	0
Wilson, Tavon																		0	0	0	0
Wilson Jr., Jeff&																		0	0	0	0
Wishnowsky, Mitch																		0	0	0	0
Woerner, Charlie																		0	0	0	0
Zuber, Isaiah																		0	0	0	0

Position = Starter, P = Played, DNP = Did Not Play, IA = Inactive, IR = Injured Reserve, PUP = Physically Unable to Perform, PS = Practice Squad, PS–INJ = Practice Squad Injured, NFI = Non–Football Injury, SUS = Suspended, EXP = Roster Exemption, OO = Reserve/Opt–Out, RC = Reserve/COVID–19, BYE = Week 6, NR = Not on Roster.

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

OFFENSE

Opp	WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	TE	WR	FB	RB	QB	Other
at DET												
at PHI												
GB												
SEA												
at ARZ												
IND												
at CHI												
ARZ												
LAR												
at JAX												
MIN												
at SEA												
at CIN												
ATL												
at TEN												
HOU												
at LAR												

DEFENSE

Opp	LDE	LDT	RDT	RDE	SAM	MIKE	WILL	LCB	RCB	SS	FS	Other
at DET												
at PHI												
GB												
SEA												
at ARZ												
IND												
at CHI												
ARZ												
LAR												
at JAX												
MIN												
at SEA												
at CIN												
ATL												
at TEN												
HOU												
at LAR												

INACTIVES

Opp
at DET
at PHI
GB
SEA
at ARZ
IND
at CHI
ARZ
LAR
at JAX
MIN
at SEA
at CIN
ATL
at TEN
HOU
at LAR

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS TRANSACTIONS

1–1 Signed K Tristan Vizcaino to the team's practice squad.
Promoted DL Alex Barrett to the active roster from the team's practice squad.
Placed T Trent Williams and DL Jordan Willis on the Injured Reserve List.

1–2 Activated OL Tom Compton to the active roster from the Injured Reserve List.
Activated DL Josiah Coatney and OL Isaiah Williams from the team's practice squad (COVID–19 replacement).
Activated WR Jordan Matthews and K Tristan Vizcaino from the team's practice squad (standard elevation).
Signed P Drew Kaser to the team's practice squad.
Released OL Aaron Neary from the team's practice squad.

1–4 DL Josiah Coatney, WR Jordan Matthews, K Tristan Vizcaino and OL Isaiah Williams reverted back to the team's practice squad.
Waived P Drew Kaser.
Signed the following 13 free agents to Reserve/Future contracts: CB Adonis Alexander, DL Josiah Coatney, S Chris Edwards, LB Jonas Griffith, DL Daeshon Hall, CB Tim Harris Jr., FB Josh Hokit, WR Jauan Jennings, DB Obi Melifonwu, WR Austin Proehl, OL Dakoda Shepley, WR Kevin White and OL Isaiah Williams.

1–6 Waived LS Colin Holba.
Signed TE Chase Harrell and S Jared Mayden to Reserve/Future contracts.

1–15 Signed QB Josh Johnson and OL Corbin Kaufusi to Reserve/Future contracts.

1–18 Promoted Mike McDaniel to offensive coordinator and DeMeco Ryans to defensive coordinator.

1–21 Signed CB Ken Webster to a one–year extension.

1–26 Signed RB Jeff Wilson Jr. to a one–year extension.

2–4 Signed LS Taybor Pepper to a two–year contract extension through the 2022 season.

2–8 Signed QB Josh Rosen and RB Austin Walter to one–year extensions.

2–11 Signed S Kai Nacua to a one–year extension.
Announced coaching staff hires/title changes: Butch Barry (assistant offensive line), James Bettcher (senior defensive assistant/run game specialist), Chris Foerster (offensive line), Leonard Hankerson (offensive quality control), Matthew Harper (assistant special teams), Andrew Hayes–Stoker (defensive quality control), Johnny Holland (linebackers), Klay Kubiak (defensive quality control), August Mangin (special teams quality control), Rich Scangarello (quarterbacks), Bobby Slowik (offensive passing game specialist), Darryl Tapp (assistant defensive line) and Cory Undlin (defensive passing game specialist/secondary).

2–19 Promoted Adam Peters to Assistant General Manager.

2–22 Signed WR River Cracraft to a one–year extension.

3–3 Claimed CB Mark Fields II off waivers from the Houston Texans.

3–5 Signed TE Ross Dwelley and S Marcell Harris to one–year extensions
Declined the 2021 contract option for LB Mark Nzeocha.

3–12 Tendered a one–year contract to exclusive rights free agent OL Daniel Brunskill.
Released DL Ronald Blair III.

3–15 Signed FB Kyle Juszczyk to a five–year extension through the 2025 season.
Signed CB Emmanuel Moseley to a two–year extension through the 2022 season.

3–17 Re–signed CB Briean Boddy–Calhoun and TE Daniel Helm to one–year deals.

3–18 Signed C Alex Mack to a three–year deal.

3–19 Signed DL Samson Ebukam to a two–year deal.
Signed WR Trent Sherfield to a one–year deal.
Re–signed CB Dontae Johnson to a one–year deal.
Released WR Chris Thompson.

3–22 Signed S Tavon Wilson to a one–year deal.
Re–signed S Jaquiski Tartt to a one–year deal.
Re–signed DL D.J. Jones to a one–year deal.

3–23 Signed DL Zach Kerr to a one–year deal.
Re–signed T Trent Williams to a six–year deal.
Re–signed DL Jordan Willis to a one–year deal.

3–26 Acquired the number three overall draft pick in the 2021 NFL Draft from the Miami Dolphins in exchange for San Francisco's 2021 first–round (12th overall) draft choice, along with the 49ers 2022 and 2023 first–round picks and a 2022 compensatory third–round draft pick
Re–signed CB K'Waun Williams to a one–year deal.

3–29 Signed LB Nathan Gerry to a one–year deal.

3–30 Signed WR Mohamed Sanu to a one–year deal.

4–1 Re–signed CB Jason Verrett to a one–year deal.

4–7 Signed QB Nate Sudfeld to a one–year deal.

4–13 OL Daniel Brunskill signed his one–year tender.
Waived TE Chase Harrell.

4–21 Signed RB Wayne Gallman II to a one–year deal.

4–23 Signed DL Maurice Hurst and DL Arden Key to one–year deals.

4–27 Waived DL Josiah Coatney

4–28 Re–signed OL Tom Compton to a one–year deal.

4–29 Selected QB Trey Lance in the first round (3rd overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.

4–30 Waived DB Obi Melifonwu.
Traded 2021 2nd round (43rd) and 2021 7th round (230th from New York Jets) draft picks to Las Vegas for 2021 2nd round (48th) and 2021 4th round (121st) draft picks.
Traded 2021 4th round (117th) and 2021 4th round (121st from Las Vegas) draft picks to Los Angeles Rams for 2021 3rd round (88th) draft pick.
Selected OL Aaron Banks in the second round (48th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Selected RB Trey Sermon in the third round (88th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Selected CB Ambry Thomas in the third round (102nd overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Exercised the fifth–year contract option on T Mike McGlinchey for the 2022 season.

5–1 Selected OL Jaylon Moore in the fifth round (155th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Selected DB Deommodore Lenoir in the fifth round (172nd overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Selected S Talanoa Hufanga in the fifth round (180th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.
Selected RB Elijah Mitchell in the sixth round (194th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft.

5–4 Waived CB Adonis Alexander, WR Matt Cole and S Chris Edwards.

5–12 Waived RB Austin Walter.

5–13 Signed the following five draft picks to four–year deals: OL Aaron Banks, OL Jaylon Moore, DB Deommodore Lenoir, S Talanoa Hufanga and RB Elijah Mitchell.
Signed the following five undrafted free agents: OL Alfredo Gutierrez, LB Justin Hilliard, TE Josh Pederson, LB Elijah Sullivan and WR Austin Watkins Jr.

5–17 Signed WR Marqise Lee to a one–year deal.
Waived WR Austin Proehl.

5–21 Signed WR Bennie Fowler to a one–year deal.
Waived WR Marqise Lee.

6–1 Signed WR Andy Jones to a one–year deal.
Waived TE Daniel Helm.
Released QB Josh Johnson.

6–2 Signed LB James Burgess Jr. to a one–year deal.
Weston Richburg announced his retirement from the National Football League.
Signed TE MyCole Pruitt to a one–year deal.

6–7 Signed S Tony Jefferson to a one–year deal.
Released CB Briean Boddy–Calhoun.

6–11 Signed OL Senio Kelemete to a one–year deal.
Waived/injured OL Justin Skule.

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS TRANSACTIONS (CONT.)

6–17 NFL suspends DL Jordan Willis six games.
7–6 Waived LB Nathan Gerry.
7–21 Signed RB Trey Sermon to a four–year deal.
Claimed WR Nsimba Webster off waivers from the Los Angeles Rams.
7–26 Signed CB Ambry Thomas to a four–year deal.
Released DL Daeshon Hall.
7–27 Placed DB Tarvarius Moore and RB Jeff Wilson Jr. on the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List.
Placed CB Emmanuel Moseley on the Reserve/COVID–19 List.
Waived WR Andy Jones.
Signed DL Eddie Yarbroughand DL Anthony Zettel to one–year deals.
7–28 Placed WR Jauan Jennings and S Jaquiski Tartt on the Reserve/COVID–19 List.
Signed QB Trey Lance to a four–year deal.
7–31 Released WR Bennie Fowler.
Signed TE Jordan Matthews to a one–year deal.
8–4 Signed TE Joshua Perkins and CB B.W. Webb to one–year deals.
Waived/injured CB Tim Harris Jr.
Waived TE Josh Pederson.
8–6 DL Anthony Zettel has retired from the National Football League.
Signed DL Davin Bellamy to a one–year deal.
Activated WR Jauan Jennings, CB Emmanuel Moseley and S Jaquiski Tartt from the Reserve/Covid–19 List.
Placed S Jaquiski Tartt on the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List.
8–10 Signed DL Shilique Calhoun and CB Alexander Myres to one–year deals.
Waived CB Mark Fields II and OL Isaiah Williams.
8–11 Signed LB Donald Payne to a one–year deal.
Released WR Kevin White.
8–12 Signed S Ha Ha Clinton–Dix and DL Eddie Vanderdoes to one–year deals.
Placed S Tony Jefferson II on the Injured Reserve List and waived DL Davin Bellamy.
8–16 Signed LB Mychal Kendricks to a one–year deal.
Waived LB James Burgess Jr., LB Donald Payne and DL Eddie Vanderdoes.
8–17 Released TE Joshua Perkins.
Waived QB Josh Rosen and CB Ken Webster.
Waived/injured WR Austin Watkins Jr.
Claimed CB Davontae Harris off waivers from the Baltimore Ravens.
8–24 Released DL Shilique Calhoun and CB B.W. Webb.
Waived WR River Cracraft and OL Corbin Kaufusi.
Placed LB Mychal Kendricks on the Injured Reserve List.
8–25 Activated S Jaquiski Tartt from the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List.
8–27 Signed OL Corbin Kaufusi to a one–year deal.
Released S Kai Nacua.
8–28 Signed WR River Cracraft to a one–year deal.
Waived/injured WR Richie James.
8–31 Traded LB Jonas Griffith and a 2022 seventh–round draft pick to the Denver Broncos in exchange for the Broncos 2022 sixth–round and 2023 seventh–round draft choices.
Placed DB Tarvarius Moore and RB Jeff Wilson Jr. on the Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform List.
Placed T Shon Coleman on the Injured Reserve List.
Released the following players: WR Travis Benjamin, OL Jake Brendel, S Ha Ha Clinton–Dix, RB Wayne Gallman II, CB Dontae Johnson, OL Senio Kelemete, TE Jordan Matthews, TE MyCole Pruitt, QB Nate Sudfeld and DL Eddie Yarbrough.
Waived the following players: DL Alex Barrett, WR River Cracraft, DL Darrion Daniels, OL Alfredo Gutierrez, LB Justin Hilliard, FB Josh Hokit, OL Corbin Kaufusi, S Jared Mayden, OL Colton McKivitz, CB Alexander Myres, OL Dakoda Shepley, LB Elijah Sullivan and WR Nsimba Webster.
The NFL placed DL Jordan Willis on the Reserve/Suspended List.
9–1 Signed OL Jake Brendel and CB Dontae Johnson to one–year deals.
Placed CB Davontae Harris and DL Maurice Hurst on the Injured Reserve List.
Signed the following players to the team's practice squad: DL Alex Barrett, WR Travis Benjamin, WR River Cracraft, DL Darrion Daniels, OL Alfredo Gutierrez, FB Josh Hokit, OL Corbin Kaufusi, OL Senio Kelemete, TE Jordan Matthews, S Jared Mayden, OL Colton McKivitz, QB Nate Sudfeld and LB Elijah Sullivan.
9–3 Signed TE Tanner Hudson, LB Rashad Smith, CB Dee Virgin and WR Isaiah Zuber to the team's practice squad.
9–6 Signed CB Josh Norman to a one–year deal.
Released CB Dontae Johnson.

2021 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS PRESEASON STATISTICS

Date	W/L	Score	Opponent	Attendance
8/14	L	16–19	Kansas City	54,397
8/22	W	15–10	at Los Angeles Chargers	68,327
8/29	W	34–10	Las Vegas	60,873

Team Statistics	49ers	Opponents
Total First Downs	**59**	**44**
Rushing	30	15
Passing	22	22
Penalty	7	7
3rd Down: Made/Att	13/41	10/38
3rd Down Pct.	31.7%	26.3%
4th Down: Made/Att	3/4	1/1
4th Down Pct.	75.0%	100.0%
Possession Avg.	**31:05**	**28:55**
Total Net Yards	**1,039**	**632**
Avg. Per Game	346.3	210.7
Total Plays	200	179
Avg. Per Play	5.2	3.5
Net Yards Rushing	**565**	**190**
Avg. Per Game	188.3	63.3
Total Rushes	114	64
Net Yards Passing	**474**	**442**
Avg. Per Game	158.0	147.3
Sacked/Yards Lost	7/47	12/74
Gross Yards	521	516
Attempts/Completions	79/43	103/68
Completion Pct.	54.4%	66.0%
Had Intercepted	3	3
Punts/Average	**19/50.1**	**21/47.8**
Net Punting Avg.	**41.7**	**42**
Penalties/Yards	**25/218**	**22/196**
Fumbles/Ball Lost	**4/2**	**1/0**
Touchdowns	**8**	**4**
Rushing	5	1
Passing	3	3
Returns	0	0

Score By Periods	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	OT	Pts
49ers	13	24	21	7	0	65
Opponents	7	13	10	9	0	39

Scoring	TD	Ru	Pa	Rt	PAT	FG	2Pt	Pts
J. Hasty	3	3	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	18
R. Gould	0	0	0	0	6/8	3/3	0	15
T. Benjamin	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
M. Sanu Sr.	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
J. Garoppolo	1	1	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
T. Lance	1	1	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
T. Sherfield	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
J. Willis	0	0	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
49ers	**8**	**5**	**3**	**0**	**6/8**	**3/3**	**0**	**65**
Opponents	**4**	**1**	**3**	**0**	**3/4**	**4/5**	**0**	**39**

2–Pt. Converstions: **49ers 0/0, Opponents 0/0**

Sacks:
49ers: J. Willis 2.5, A. Armstead 1.0, A. Barrett 1.0, J. Burgess Jr. 1.0, S. Ebukam 1.0, Z. Kerr 1.0, K. Nacua 1.0, K. Street 1.0, E. Vanderdoes 1.0, E. Yarbrough 1.0, D. Daniels 0.5 **Total: 12.0, Opponents: 7.0**

Fumbles Lost: J. Hasty 1, N. Sudfeld 1 **Total: 2**
Opponent Fumble Recoveries: None

Rushing	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
J. Hasty	35	176	5.0	35t	3
W. Gallman II	34	153	4.5	12	0
T. Sermon	16	63	3.9	14	0
R. Mostert	7	53	7.6	17	0
N. Webster	1	34	34.0	34	0
E. Mitchell	6	24	4.0	9	0
J. Jennings	2	23	11.5	12	0
T. Lance	7	16	2.3	8	1
J. Garoppolo	3	13	4.3	10	1
B. Aiyuk	1	8	8.0	8	0
J. Hurd	1	2	2.0	2	0
N. Sudfeld	1	0	0.0	0	0
Team	**114**	**565**	**5.0**	**35t**	**5**
Opponents	**64**	**190**	**3.0**	**13**	**1**

Receiving	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
T. Sherfield	5	156	31.2	80t	1
J. Hasty	4	26	6.5	12	0
J. Hurd	4	25	6.3	13	0
D. Samuel	3	46	15.3	24	0
C. Woerner	3	44	14.7	34	0
R. Cracraft	3	32	10.7	23	0
J. Perkins	3	24	8.0	10	0
J. Jennings	2	41	20.5	26	0
T. Benjamin	2	24	12.0	16t	1
N. Webster	2	18	9.0	12	0
R. James	2	16	8.0	11	0
T. Sermon	2	14	7.0	11	0
J. Hokit	2	4	2.0	2	0
J. Matthews	1	16	16.0	16	0
G. Kittle	1	14	14.0	14	0
K. Juszczyk	1	9	9.0	9	0
M. Sanu Sr.	1	5	5.0	5t	1
W. Gallman II	1	4	4.0	4	0
B. Aiyuk	1	3	3.0	3	0
49ers	**43**	**521**	**12.1**	**80t**	**3**
Opponents	**68**	**516**	**7.6**	**39**	**3**

Interceptions	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
H. Clinton–Dix	1	36	36.0	36	0
J. Mayden	1	16	16.0	16	0
D. Lenoir	1	0	0.0	0	0
49ers	**3**	**52**	**17.3**	**36**	**0**
Opponents	**3**	**19**	**6.3**	**12**	**0**

Punting	No	Yds	Avg	Net	TB	In	Lg	B
M. Wishnowsky	19	951	50.1	41.7	3	7	75	0
49ers	**19**	**951**	**50.1**	**41.7**	**3**	**7**	**75**	**0**
Opponents	**21**	**1,003**	**47.8**	**42.0**	**1**	**8**	**66**	**0**

Punt Returns	Ret	FC	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
R. Cracraft	4	2	7	1.8	4	0
T. Benjamin	3	2	34	11.3	16	0
R. James	2	1	42	21.0	32	0
N. Webster	1	1	19	19.0	19	0
49ers	**10**	**6**	**102**	**10.2**	**32**	**0**
Opponents	**10**	**3**	**99**	**9.9**	**16**	**0**

Kickoff Returns	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
N. Webster	4	89	22.3	43	0
R. James	3	48	16.0	21	0
E. Mitchell	2	60	30.0	45	0
A. Thomas	1	22	22.0	22	0
49ers	**10**	**219**	**21.9**	**45**	**0**
Opponents	**10**	**218**	**21.8**	**40**	**0**

Field Goals	1–19	20–29	30–39	40–49	50+
R. Gould	1/ 1	1/ 1	1/ 1	0/ 0	0/ 0
49ers	**1/ 1**	**1/ 1**	**1/ 1**	**0/ 0**	**0/ 0**
Opponents	**0/ 0**	**0/ 0**	**0/ 0**	**1/ 1**	**3/ 4**

Gould: (36G) () (21G, 19G)
Opponents: (62N, 52G, 46G) (50G) (51G)

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Cmp%	Yds/Att	TD	TD%	Int	Int%	Long	Sack/Lost	Rating
T. Lance	41	19	276	46.3%	6.7	3	7.3%	1	2.4%	80t	6/39	83.0
J. Garoppolo	16	10	105	62.5%	6.6	0	0.0%	1	6.3%	24	0/0	55.5
J. Rosen	15	10	93	66.7%	6.2	0	0.0%	1	6.7%	26	1/8	55.7
N. Sudfeld	7	4	47	57.1%	6.7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	23	0/0	77.7
49ers	**79**	**43**	**521**	**54.4%**	**6.6**	**3**	**3.8%**	**3**	**3.8%**	**80t**	**7/47**	**71.8**
Opponents	**103**	**68**	**516**	**66.0%**	**5.0**	**3**	**2.9%**	**3**	**2.9%**	**39**	**12/74**	**75.6**

PRESEASON GAME 1
KANSAS CITY 19, SAN FRANCISCO 16

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Pts
Kansas City	**7**	**0**	**3**	**9**	**19**
San Francisco	**6**	**3**	**0**	**7**	**16**

KC – B. Pringle, 5 pass from C. Henne (H. Butker) (6–39, 3:31)
SF – T. Sherfield, 80 pass from T. Lance (kick failed) (1–80, 0:18)
SF – R. Gould, 36 FG (8–27, 4:28)
KC – H. Butker, 52 FG (12–50, 6:14)
KC – H. Butker, 46 FG (5–31, 2:40)
SF – J. Hasty, 4 run (R. Gould) (4–59, 1:50)
KC – S. Buechele, 1 run (kick failed) (9–68, 1:23)

TEAM STATISTICS	KC	SF
First Downs	17	18
Net Yards Gained	258	383
Rushes/Yards	22/74	29/175
Net Yards Passing	184	208
Att/Comp/INT	39/26/1	32/18/1
Sacked/Yards Lost	4/12	5/39
Punts/Average	7/53.4	8/47.3
Fumbles/Lost	0/0	3/1
Penalties/Yards	4/33	7/73
Time of Possession	29:28	30:32
3rd Down Efficiency	5/16 (31.3%)	5/15 (33.3%)

RUSHING: CHIEFS – J. McKinnon 3–19, C. Edwards–Helaire 4–16, S. Buechele 3–13–1 TD, D. Thompson 4–12, D. Gore 4–6, Da. Williams 2–6, E. McGuire 1–3, A. Gordon 1–(–1) ... **49ERS** – J. Hasty 10–63–1 TD, N. Webster 1–34, T. Sermon 9–26, J. Jennings 2–23, W. Gallman 6–21, B. Aiyuk 1–8.

RECEIVING: CHIEFS – D. Fountain 4–38, J. Fortson 3–32, E. McGuire 2–27, J. McKinnon 2–21, C. Powell 2–20, M. Kemp 2–10, B. Pringle 2–10–1 TD, M. Burton 1–7, T. Hill 1–5, C. Edwards–Helaire 1–5, D. Shepherd 1–5, T. Kelce 1–4, D. Thompson 1–4, C. Williams 1–3, D. Schoen 1–3, D. Gore 1–2 ... **49ERS** – J. Perkins 3–24, N. Webster 2–18, T. Sermon 2–14, R. Cracraft 2–9, J. Hokit 2–14, T. Sherfield 1–80–1 TD, C. Woerner 1–34, J. Jennings 1–26, J. Matthews 1–16, D. Samuel 1–13, J. Hasty 1–5, W. Gallman 1–4.

PASSING: CHIEFS – A. Gordon 17–11–79–0–0 TDs, S. Buechele 11–8–76–0–0 TDs, C. Henne 9–6–37–1–1 TD, P. Mahomes 2–1–4–0–0 TDs ... **49ERS** – J. Rosen 15–10–93–1–0 TDs, T. Lance 14–5–128–0–1 TD, J. Garoppolo 3–3–26–0–0 TDs.

INTs: CHIEFS – A. Watts 1–12 ... **49ERS** – D. Lenoir 1–0.

SACKS: CHIEFS – T. Ward 2–17, T. Wharton 1–8, O. Cobb 1–7, C. Jones 1–7 ... **49ERS** – A. Barrett 1–7, J. Burgess 1–0, E. Vanderdoes 1–0, D. Daniels 0.5–2.5, J. Willis 0.5–2.5.

49ERS TURNOVER RATIO: –1 (**KC**: 0 fumbles, 1 INT/**SF**: 1 fumble, 1 INT).

Weather: Clear
Temperature: 79 degrees
Wind: Northwest 12 mph
Playing Surface: Grass
Time: 3:05
Attendance: 54,397

PRESEASON GAME 2
SAN FRANCISCO 15, LOS ANGELES CHARGERS 10

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Pts
San Francisco	**0**	**8**	**7**	**0**	**15**
Los Angeles Chargers	**0**	**10**	**0**	**0**	**10**

SF – E. Stick sacked in end zone by J. Willis for a safety
LAC – J. Palmer, 3 pass from E. Stick (M. Badgley) (7–40, 3:09)
LAC – M. Badgley, 50 FG (8–35, 3:14)
SF – M. Sanu Sr., 5 pass from T. Lance (kick failed) (6–75, 0:45)
SF – T. Benjamin, 16 pass from T. Lance (R. Gould) (11–63, 6:28)

TEAM STATISTICS	SF	LAC
First Downs	15	15
Net Yards Gained	281	162
Rushes/Yards	37/148	22/53
Net Yards Passing	133	109
Att/Comp/INT	25/14/2	35/24/1
Sacked/Yards Lost	2/8	5/36
Punts/Average	7/46.6	7/44.0
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	0/0
Penalties/Yards	13/118	12/105
Time of Possession	29:01	30:59
3rd Down Efficiency	5/15 (33.3%)	2/11 (18.2%)

RUSHING: 49ERS – W. Gallman II 15–72, J. Hasty 19–58, J. Garoppolo 1–10, T. Lance 1–8, N. Sudfeld 1–0 ... **CHARGERS** – E. Stick 3–15, L. Rountree 8–12, D. Bradwell 2–11, J. Kelley 7–9, C. Daniel 1–5, K. Hill 1–1.

RECEIVING: 49ERS – J. Hasty 3–21, T. Sherfield 2–50, T. Benjamin 2–24–1 TD, R. James 2–16, D. Samuel 1–9, K. Juszczyk 1–9, M. Sanu Sr. 1–5–1 TD, C. Woerner 1–4, B. Aiyuk 1–3 ... **CHARGERS** – K. Hill 4–18, L. Rountree 4–15, T. Johnson 4–11, D. Bradwell 4–9, J. Kelley 2–12, J. Guyton 1–39, J. Hurst 1–14, M. Bandy 1–10, S. Anderson 1–7, T. McKitty 1–7, J. Palmer 1–3–1 TD.

PASSING: 49ERS – T. Lance 14–8–102–1–2 TDs, J. Garoppolo 6–3–15–1–0 TDs, N. Sudfeld 3–5–24–0–0 TDs ... **CHARGERS** – C. Daniel 21–14–60–1–0 TDs, E. Stick 14–10–85–0–1 TD.

INTs: 49ERS – J. Mayden 1–16 ... **CHARGERS** – T. Campbell 1–7, A. Samuel 1–0.

SACKS: 49ERS – K. Nacua 1–18, K. Street 1–9, J. Willis 1–7, A. Armstead 1–2, S. Ebukam 1–0 ... **CHARGERS** – J. Lemonier 1–6, K. Fackrell 1–2.

49ERS TURNOVER RATIO: –2 (**SF**: 1 fumble, 2 INTs/**LAC**: 0 fumbles, 1 INT).

Weather: Clear
Temperature: 73 degrees
Wind: Southwest 15 mph
Playing Surface: Turf
Time: 3:13
Attendance: 68,327

PRESEASON GAME 3
LAS VEGAS 10,
SAN FRANCISCO 34

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Pts
Las Vegas	**0**	**3**	**7**	**0**	**10**
San Francisco	**7**	**13**	**14**	**0**	**34**

SF – J. Garoppolo, 1 run (R. Gould) (10–68, 4:59)
SF – T. Lance, 2 run (R. Gould) (14–75, 7:02)
LV – D. Carlson, 51 FG (11–50, 5:23)
SF – R. Gould, 21 FG (11–47, 3:46)
SF – R. Gould, 19 FG (8–73, 1:06)
LV – N. Bowers, 16 pass from N. Peterman (D. Carlson) (10–80, 5:20)
SF – J. Hasty, 35 run (R. Gould) (3–56, 1:32)
SF – J. Hasty, 3 run (R. Gould) (2–11, 0:51)

TEAM STATISTICS	**LV**	**SF**
First Downs	12	26
Net Yards Gained	212	375
Rushes/Yards	20/63	48/242
Net Yards Passing	149	133
Att/Comp/INT	29/18/1	22/11/0
Sacked/Yards Lost	3/26	0/0
Punts/Average	7/45.9	4/61.8
Fumbles/Lost	1/0	0/0
Penalties/Yards	6/58	5/27
Time of Possession	26:18	33:42
3rd Down Efficiency	3/11 (27.3%)	3/11 (27.3%)

RUSHING: RAIDERS – T. Ragas 9–39, N. Peterman 3–13, B. Emmons 7–11, G. Groshek 1–0... **49ERS** – W. Gallman II 13–60, J. Hasty 6–55–2 TDs, R. Mostert 7–53, T. Sermon 7–37, E. Mitchell 6–24, T. Lance 6–8–1 TD, J. Garoppolo 2–3–1 TD, J. Hurd 1–2.

RECEIVING: RAIDERS – D. Stoner 3–69, T. Ragas 3–15, K. Doss 2–28, N. Bowers 2–17–1 TD, D. Turner 2–15, G. Groshek 2–6, B. Emmons 1–10, M. Bushman 1–10, A. Ellis 1–3, J. Brown 1–2... **49ERS** – J. Hurd 4–25, T. Sherfield 2–26, D. Samuel 1–24, R. Cracraft 1–23, J. Jennings 1–15, G. Kittle 1–14, C. Woerner 1–6.

PASSING: RAIDERS – N. Peterman 29–18–175–1–1 TD... **49ERS** – T. Lance 13–6–46–0–0 TDs, J. Garoppolo 7–4–64–0–0 TDs, N. Sudfeld 2–1–23–0–0 TDs.

INTs: RAIDERS – None... **49ERS** – H. Clinton–Dix 1–36.

SACKS: RAIDERS – None... **49ERS** – Z. Kerr 1–11, J. Willis 1–9, E. Yar–brough 1–6.

49ERS TURNOVER RATIO: +1 (**LV**: 0 fumbles, 1 INT/**SF**: 0 fumbles, 0 INTs).

Weather: Clear
Temperature: 81 degrees
Wind: North/Northwest 6 mph
Playing Surface: Grass
Time: 2:51
Attendance: 60,873

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS

Date	W/L	Score	Opponent
9/13	L	20–24	Arizona
9/20	W	31–13	at New York Jets
9/27	W	36–9	at New York Giants
10/4	L	20–25	Philadelphia
10/11	L	17–43	Miami
10/18	W	24–16	Los Angeles Rams
10/25	W	33–6	at New England
11/1	L	27–37	at Seattle
11/5	L	17–34	Green Bay
11/15	L	13–27	at New Orleans
11/29	W	23–20	at Los Angeles Rams
12/7	L	24–34	Buffalo
12/13	L	15–23	Washington
12/20	L	33–41	at Dallas
12/26	W	20–12	at Arizona
1/3	L	23–26	Seattle

Team Statistics	49ers	Opponents
Total First Downs	**350**	**311**
Rushing	101	102
Passing	217	176
Penalty	32	33
3rd Down: Made/Att	77/197	71/200
3rd Down Pct.	39.1%	35.5%
4th Down: Made/Att	6/15	13/20
4th Down Pct.	40.0%	65.0%
Possession Avg.	**31:23**	**28:37**
Total Net Yards	**5,922**	**5,030**
Avg. Per Game	370.1	314.4
Total Plays	1,046	997
Avg. Per Play	5.7	5.0
Net Yards Rushing	**1,889**	**1,703**
Avg. Per Game	118.1	106.4
Total Rushes	437	430
Net Yards Passing	**4,033**	**3,327**
Avg. Per Game	252.1	207.9
Sacked/Yards Lost	39/287	30/199
Gross Yards	4,320	3,526
Attempts/Completions	570/371	537/341
Completion Pct.	65.1%	63.5%
Had Intercepted	17	12
Punts/Average	**67/46.2**	**69/48.5**
Net Punting Avg.	**41.6**	**43.8**
Penalties/Yards	**85/731**	**79/709**
Fumbles/Ball Lost	**20/14**	**22/8**
Touchdowns	**45**	**42**
Rushing	19	12
Passing	25	25
Returns	1	5

Score By Periods	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	OT	Pts
49ers	89	84	77	126	0	376
Opponents	68	111	83	128	0	390

Scoring	TD	Ru	Pa	Rt	PAT	FG	2Pt	Pts
R. Gould	0	0	0	0	36/38	19/23	0	93
J. Wilson Jr.	10	7	3	0	0/0	0/0	0	60
B. Aiyuk	7	2	5	0	0/0	0/0	0	42
K. Juszczyk	6	2	4	0	0/0	0/0	0	36
J. McKinnon	6	5	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	36
J. Reed	4	0	4	0	0/0	0/0	0	24
R. Mostert	3	2	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	18
K. Bourne	2	0	2	0	0/0	0/0	1	14
G. Kittle	2	0	2	0	0/0	0/0	0	12
T. Vizcaino	0	0	0	0	2/2	3/3	0	11
D. Samuel	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
J. Hasty	1	1	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
J. Kinlaw	1	0	0	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
R. Dwelley	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
R. James	1	0	1	0	0/0	0/0	0	6
49ers	**45**	**19**	**25**	**1**	**38/40**	**22/26**	**1**	**376**
Opponents	**42**	**12**	**25**	**5**	**37/40**	**33/37**	**1**	**390**

2–Pt. Converstions: 49ers 1/4, Opponents 1/2

Sacks:
49ers: K. Hyder Jr. 8.5, A. Armstead 3.5, D. Jones 3.0, D. Jordan 3.0, J. Willis 2.5, K. Williams 2.0, J. Kinlaw 1.5, K. Alexander 1.0, K. Givens 1.0, D. Greenlaw 1.0, D. Johnson 1.0, J. Taylor 1.0, F. Warner 1.0 **Total: 30.0 Opponents: 39.0**

Fumbles Lost: N. Mullens 4, C. Beathard 3, R. James 2, J. Wilson Jr. 2, R. Mostert 1, D. Pettis 1, K. Webster 1 **Total: 14**
Opponent Fumble Recoveries: M. Harris 2, F. Warner 2, K. Givens 1, K. Hyder Jr. 1, D. Jordan 1, T. Moore 1 **Total: 8**

Rushing	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
J. Wilson Jr.	126	600	4.8	34	7
R. Mostert	104	521	5.0	80t	2
J. McKinnon	81	319	3.9	55	5
J. Hasty	39	148	3.8	20	1
B. Aiyuk	6	77	12.8	38t	2
K. Juszczyk	17	64	3.8	10	2
T. Coleman	28	53	1.9	12	0
C. Beathard	6	28	4.7	17	0
D. Samuel	8	26	3.3	10	0
J. Garoppolo	10	25	2.5	9	0
G. Kittle	2	17	8.5	9	0
N. Mullens	9	8	0.9	7	0
A. Walter	1	3	3.0	3	0
49ers	**437**	**1,889**	**4.3**	**80t**	**19**
Opponents	**430**	**1,703**	**4.0**	**61**	**12**

Receiving	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
B. Aiyuk	60	748	12.5	49	5
K. Bourne	49	667	13.6	49t	2
G. Kittle	48	634	13.2	44t	2
D. Samuel	33	391	11.8	35	1
J. McKinnon	33	253	7.7	26	1
J. Reed	26	231	8.9	26	4
R. James	23	394	17.1	47	1
R. Dwelley	19	245	12.9	36	1
K. Juszczyk	19	202	10.6	41	4
R. Mostert	16	156	9.8	76t	1
J. Wilson Jr.	13	133	10.2	21t	3
T. Taylor	10	86	8.6	29	0
J. Hasty	7	33	4.7	16	0
R. Cracraft	6	41	6.8	12	0
T. Coleman	4	34	8.5	18	0
C. Woerner	3	36	12.0	18	0
A. Walter	1	27	27.0	27	0
M. Sanu	1	9	9.0	9	0
49ers	**371**	**4,320**	**11.6**	**76t**	**25**
Opponents	**341**	**3,526**	**10.3**	**70**	**25**

Interceptions	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
J. Taylor	2	8	4.0	8	0
F. Warner	2	3	1.5	3	0
J. Verrett	2	0	0.0	0	0
E. Moseley	1	51	51.0	51	0
J. Kinlaw	1	27	27.0	27t	1
R. Sherman	1	18	18.0	18	0
J. Tartt	1	16	16.0	16	0
A. Witherspoon	1	0	0.0	0	0
A. Al–Shaair	1	0	0.0	0	0
49ers	**12**	**123**	**10.3**	**51**	**1**
Opponents	**17**	**293**	**17.2**	**76t**	**2**

Punting	No	Yds	Avg	Net	TB	In	Lg	B
M. Wishnowsky	66	3,093	46.9	41.6	6	25	60	1
49ers	**67**	**3,093**	**46.2**	**41.6**	**6**	**25**	**60**	**1**
Opponents	**69**	**3,349**	**48.5**	**43.8**	**5**	**23**	**68**	**0**

Punt Returns	Ret	FC	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
T. Taylor	9	14	112	12.4	20	0
R. James	6	6	34	5.7	12	0
R. Cracraft	5	2	40	8.0	21	0
B. Aiyuk	2	2	26	13.0	16	0
D. Pettis	2	2	14	7.0	8	0
K. Webster	1	0	0	0.0	0	0
49ers	**25**	**26**	**226**	**9.0**	**21**	**0**
Opponents	**23**	**28**	**183**	**8.0**	**22**	**0**

Kickoff Returns	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
J. McKinnon	12	239	19.9	30	0
A. Walter	5	93	18.6	34	0
R. James	4	73	18.3	21	0
J. Hasty	3	57	19.0	21	0
K. White	1	20	20.0	20	0
R. Dwelley	1	20	20.0	20	0
D. Pettis	1	18	18.0	18	0
49ers	**27**	**520**	**19.3**	**34**	**0**
Opponents	**32**	**795**	**24.8**	**75**	**1**

Field Goals	1–19	20–29	30–39	40–49	50+
R. Gould	0/ 0	3/ 3	5/ 6	9/ 10	2/ 4
T. Vizcaino	0/ 0	0/ 0	2/ 2	1/ 1	0/ 0
49ers	**0/ 0**	**3/ 3**	**7/ 8**	**10/ 11**	**2/ 4**
Opponents	**1/ 1**	**7/ 7**	**6/ 6**	**14/ 15**	**5/ 8**

Gould: (52G, 24G) (46G) (52G, 32G, 55N, 26G) () (37G) (49G) (41G, 32G) () (22G) (32G, 40G) (50N, 46G, 44G, 42G) (45G) () (41G, 31G) (41N, 37N) ()
Vizcaino: () () () () () () () () () () () () () () () (36G, 47G, 33G)
Opponents: (52N, 56G, 49N) (41G, 25G) (52G, 42G, 47G) (35G) (26G, 50G, 29G, 31G, 49G) (42G) (40G, 41G) (48G) (19G, 53G) (49G, 23G) (48G, 41G) (37G, 28G) (53N, 51G, 31G, 21G) (48G, 60N, 46G) (27G, 43G) (36G, 30G)

Passing	Att	Cmp	Yds	Cmp%	Yds/Att	TD	TD%	Int	Int%	Long	Sack/Lost	Rating
N. Mullens	326	211	2,437	64.7%	7.5	12	3.7%	12	3.7%	49	19/139	84.1
J. Garoppolo	140	94	1,096	67.1%	7.8	7	5.0%	5	3.6%	76t	11/77	92.4
C. Beathard	104	66	787	63.5%	7.6	6	5.8%	0	0.0%	49t	9/71	105.7
49ers	**570**	**371**	**4,320**	**65.1%**	**7.6**	**25**	**4.4%**	**17**	**3.0%**	**76t**	**39/287**	**90.1**
Opponents	**537**	**341**	**3,526**	**63.5%**	**6.6**	**25**	**4.7%**	**12**	**2.2%**	**70**	**30/199**	**88.6**

2020 DEFENSIVE & SPECIAL TEAMS STATISTICS

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TACKLES			For	Quarterback				
PLAYER	Total	Solo	Ast	Loss	Sacks	INT	PD	FF	FR
F. Warner	125	79	46	5	1.0	2	6	1	2
D. Greenlaw	83	59	24	7	1.0	0	1	0	0
J. Ward	71	43	28	0	0.0	0	4	2	0
J. Verrett	60	50	10	2	0.0	2	7	0	0
K. Hyder Jr.	49	30	19	10	8.5	0	0	0	1
A. Armstead	49	29	20	6	3.5	0	3	0	0
T. Moore	49	34	15	1	0.0	0	1	1	1
E. Moseley	47	34	13	0	0.0	1	9	0	0
A. Al–Shaair	34	21	13	1	0.0	1	2	1	0
J. Kinlaw	33	15	18	3	1.5	1	4	0	0
K. Alexander	30	22	8	3	1.0	0	0	1	0
M. Harris	29	23	6	0	0.0	0	3	2	1
J. Tartt	28	19	9	1	0.0	1	4	0	0
J. Taylor	22	20	2	2	1.0	2	3	0	0
K. Williams	22	17	5	5	2.0	0	4	1	0
D. Jones	20	14	6	7	3.0	0	1	0	0
K. Givens	19	14	5	5	1.0	0	1	0	1
A. Witherspoon	19	16	3	1	0.0	1	4	0	0
D. Johnson	19	14	5	1	1.0	0	3	0	0
R. Sherman	18	16	2	1	0.0	1	1	0	0
D. Jordan	17	11	6	3	3.0	0	1	1	1
J. Willis	13	7	6	2	2.5	0	0	0	0
K. Street	11	5	6	1	0.0	0	0	0	0
N. Bosa	6	3	3	0	0.0	0	0	1	0
A. Barrett	5	0	5	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D. Flannigan–Fowles	4	3	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D. Daniels	4	2	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D. Ford	3	1	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
B. Allen	3	3	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S. Thomas	2	0	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
J. Walker	2	2	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	**896**	**606**	**290**	**67**	**30.0**	**12**	**62**	**11**	**7**

SACKS (30.0)

K. Hyder Jr. (8.5) – 1.0 vs. Arz., 1.0 at NYG, 0.5 vs. Phi., 1.0 vs. Mia., 1.0 at Sea., 1.0 at NO, 2.0 at LAR, 1.0 at Arz.
A. Armstead (3.5) – 1.0 at NYJ, 0.5 vs. Phi., 2.0 at Dal.
D. Jones (3.0) – 1.0 vs. Arz., 1.0 vs. Phi., 1.0 at Arz.
D. Jordan (3.0) – 1.0 at NYG, 1.0 vs. Buf., 1.0 vs. Was.
J. Willis (2.5) – 1.0 vs. GB, 0.5 at NO, 1.0 vs. Was.
K. Williams (2.0) – 1.0 at Sea., 1.0 at Arz.
J. Kinlaw (1.5) – 1.5 at NO
K. Alexander (1.0) – 1.0 vs. Mia.
K. Givens (1.0) – 1.0 at NE
D. Greenlaw (1.0) – 1.0 at NE
D. Johnson (1.0) – 1.0 vs. Sea.
J. Taylor (1.0) – 1.0 vs. Phi.
F. Warner (1.0) – 1.0 vs. Sea.

INTERCEPTIONS (12)

J. Taylor (2) – 2–8 at NE
J. Verrett (2) – 1–0 vs. LAR, 1–0 vs. Was.
F. Warner (2) – 1–0 at NYG, 1–3 at NE
A. Al–Shaair (1) – 1–0 vs. Phi.
J. Kinlaw (1) – 1–27t at LAR
E. Moseley (1) – 1–51 at NE
R. Sherman (1) – 1–18 at LAR
J. Tartt (1) –1–16 vs. Arz.
A. Witherspoon (1) – 1–0 at Arz.

TOUCHDOWNS (1)

J. Kinlaw (1) – 27–yd. INT return at LAR

SINGLE-GAME BESTS

Tackles: 15 by Emmanuel Moseley vs. Arz.
Tackles For Loss: 2, five times, last by Arik Armstead & K'Waun Williams at Arz.
Sacks: 2.0, two times, last by Arik Armstead at Dal.
Interceptions: 2 by Jamar Taylor at NE
Passes Defensed: 3, two times, last by Fred Warner at Arz.
Forced Fumbles: 2, two times, last by Jimmie Ward at LAR
Fumble Recoveries: 1, five times, last by Fred Warner at Arz.
Special Teams Tackles: 3, two times, last by Marcell Harris at Dal.

SPECIAL TEAMS

PLAYER	Tot	Solo	Ast	FF	FR
M. Harris	9	7	2	0	1
D. Johnson	8	6	2	0	0
J. Walker	6	5	1	0	0
T. Moore	5	4	1	0	0
D. Flannigan–Fowles	5	5	0	0	0
K. Webster	4	4	0	1	0
D. Greenlaw	4	3	1	0	0
M. Wishnowsky	4	3	1	0	0
J. Cyprien	3	2	1	1	0
R. Dwelley	3	2	1	0	0
A. Witherspoon	3	1	2	0	0
R. Cracraft	3	2	1	0	0
C. Woerner	3	2	1	0	0
J. Tartt	2	2	0	0	0
J. Ward	2	2	0	0	0
J. Hasty	2	2	0	0	0
A. Al–Shaair	2	1	1	0	0
T. Pepper	2	2	0	0	0
M. Nzeocha	2	1	1	0	0
M. Cole	2	2	0	0	0
A. Armstead	1	1	0	0	0
R. James	1	0	1	0	0
J. Mayden	1	1	0	0	0
K. Nacua	1	1	0	0	0
T. Coleman	1	1	0	0	0
TOTALS	**79**	**62**	**17**	**2**	**1**

BLOCKED PATs (1)

D. Jordan (1) – blocked S. Sloman's PAT vs. LAR

2020 49ERS OFFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME TEAM STATISTICS

	Arz	@NYJ	@NYG	Phi	Mia	LAR	@NE	@Sea	GB	@NO	@LAR	Buf	Was	@Dal	@Arz	Sea	Totals
First Downs																	
Total	18	17	29	25	19	24	26	24	17	21	18	24	21	28	22	17	**350**
Rushing	6	3	7	4	7	6	13	6	6	3	6	5	7	9	11	2	**101**
Passing	10	12	19	20	8	16	13	16	8	14	10	18	13	15	11	14	**217**
Penalty	2	2	3	1	4	2	0	2	3	4	2	1	1	4	0	1	**32**
Third Down																	
Conversions	2	7	8	5	2	5	5	6	3	7	3	6	4	6	2	6	**77**
Attempts	11	13	12	11	10	13	9	13	10	16	14	11	15	15	9	15	**197**
Percentage	18.2	53.8	66.7	45.5	20.0	38.5	55.6	46.2	30.0	43.8	21.4	54.5	26.7	40.0	22.2	40.0	**39.1**
4th Down																	
Conversions	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	**6**
Attempts	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	**15**
Time of Possession																	
49ers	28:34	32:13	39:44	30:31	23:07	37:55	38:23	29:02	23:30	32:54	34:03	25:02	32:11	34:56	27:44	32:20	**31:23**
Total Net Yards																	
Plays	61	59	73	70	59	70	63	66	53	66	70	60	76	81	55	64	**1,046**
Yards	366	359	420	417	259	390	467	351	337	281	345	402	344	458	398	328	**5,922**
Average	6.0	6.1	5.8	6.0	4.4	5.6	7.4	5.3	6.4	4.3	4.9	6.7	4.5	5.7	7.2	5.1	**5.7**
Rushing																	
Attempts	25	29	35	20	19	37	37	22	17	25	33	21	27	36	30	24	**437**
Yards	123	182	93	116	131	122	197	52	55	49	112	86	108	150	227	86	**1,889**
Average	4.9	6.3	2.7	5.8	6.9	3.3	5.3	2.4	3.2	2.0	3.4	4.1	4.0	4.2	7.6	3.6	**4.3**
Passing																	
Net	243	177	327	301	128	268	270	299	282	232	233	316	236	308	171	242	**4,033**
Sacks	3	3	2	5	5	0	1	3	1	2	2	0	4	2	3	3	**39**
Yards	16	25	16	37	43	0	7	23	9	15	19	0	24	11	11	31	**287**
Gross	259	202	343	338	171	268	277	322	291	247	252	316	260	319	182	273	**4,320**
Attempts	33	27	36	45	35	33	25	41	35	39	35	39	45	43	22	37	**570**
Completions	19	22	25	32	16	23	20	29	22	24	24	26	25	26	13	25	**371**
Percentage	57.6	81.5	69.4	71.1	45.7	69.7	80.0	70.7	62.9	61.5	68.6	66.7	55.6	60.5	59.1	67.6	**65.1**
Interceptions	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	0	0	**17**
Punting																	
Number	5	4	0	4	3	5	1	4	4	5	7	2	9	4	5	5	**67**
Average	35.6	49.8	–	44.3	44.3	47.0	45.0	50.5	54.8	47.8	51.0	45.0	45.7	46.5	39.0	45.4	**46.2**
Net	34.0	44.8	–	42.3	41.3	41.2	45.0	44.5	44.8	44.2	44.0	34.0	41.7	40.0	39.0	42.6	**41.6**
Penalties																	
Number	5	5	6	6	7	7	6	6	4	6	5	7	5	4	4	2	**85**
Yards	53	59	45	42	75	63	65	36	33	51	40	43	35	39	27	25	**731**
Fumbles																	
Number	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	2	2	1	1	**20**
Lost	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	2	0	2	2	1	1	**14**
Red Zone																	
Number	4	3	6	3	3	2	5	4	3	3	1	5	2	4	3	4	**55**
Touchdowns	1	3	4	2	2	2	4	4	1	1	1	3	2	3	2	2	**37**
Field Goals	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	**10**
Touchdowns																	
Rushing	0	2	3	2	1	0	4	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	**19**
Passing	2	2	1	1	1	3	0	2	1	1	0	3	1	3	3	1	**25**
Returns	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	**1**

2020 49ERS DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME TEAM STATISTICS

	Arz	@NYJ	@NYG	Phi	Mia	LAR	@NE	@Sea	GB	@NO	@LAR	Buf	Was	@Dal	@Arz	Sea	Totals
First Downs																	
Total	29	17	13	18	22	17	17	27	21	17	14	31	12	15	20	21	**311**
Rushing	13	5	3	6	6	7	5	7	6	7	5	6	5	3	9	9	**102**
Passing	12	10	8	9	12	9	10	16	13	8	8	22	7	12	9	11	**176**
Penalty	4	2	2	3	4	1	2	4	2	2	1	3	0	0	2	1	**33**
Third Down																	
Conversions	7	5	4	4	4	4	1	9	6	2	4	4	3	6	4	4	**71**
Attempts	14	14	10	13	12	12	6	15	12	12	13	9	15	15	16	12	**200**
Percentage	50.0	35.7	40.0	30.8	33.3	33.3	16.7	60.0	50.0	16.7	30.8	44.4	20.0	40.0	25.0	33.3	**35.5**
4th Down																	
Conversions	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	4	1	**13**
Attempts	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	6	1	**20**
Time of Possession																	
49ers	31:26	27:47	20:16	29:29	36:53	22:05	21:37	30:58	36:30	27:06	25:57	34:58	27:49	25:04	32:16	27:40	**28:37**
Total Net Yards																	
Plays	78	62	49	59	63	57	49	67	63	56	61	68	62	58	80	65	**997**
Yards	404	277	231	267	436	311	241	350	405	237	308	449	193	291	350	280	**5,030**
Average	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.5	6.9	5.5	4.9	5.2	6.4	4.2	5.0	6.6	3.1	5.0	4.4	4.3	**5.0**
Rushing																	
Attempts	36	29	15	28	33	19	22	28	31	30	28	27	28	22	27	27	**430**
Yards	180	104	66	93	94	113	94	101	111	114	126	81	98	87	120	121	**1,703**
Average	5.0	3.6	4.4	3.3	2.8	5.9	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.8	4.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.4	4.5	**4.0**
Passing																	
Net	224	173	165	174	342	198	147	249	294	123	182	368	95	204	230	159	**3,327**
Sacks	2	1	2	3	2	0	2	2	1	3	2	1	2	2	3	2	**30**
Yards	6	6	14	19	8	0	15	12	11	16	16	7	13	17	17	22	**199**
Gross	230	179	179	193	350	198	162	261	305	139	198	375	108	221	247	181	**3,526**
Attempts	40	32	32	28	28	38	25	37	31	23	31	40	32	34	50	36	**537**
Completions	26	21	17	18	22	19	15	27	25	14	19	32	15	20	31	20	**341**
Percentage	65.0	65.6	53.1	64.3	78.6	50.0	60.0	73.0	80.6	60.9	61.3	80.0	46.9	58.8	62.0	55.6	**63.5**
Interceptions	1	0	1	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	**12**
Punting																	
Number	4	5	1	6	2	6	2	4	3	5	7	1	8	6	4	5	**69**
Average	47.8	44.4	54.0	51.2	42.0	48.5	45.0	54.0	51.3	41.0	49.0	68.0	49.8	47.0	44.5	53.2	**48.5**
Net	40.5	40.4	54.0	46.8	33.5	45.2	45.0	44.0	40.3	41.0	42.3	52.0	47.9	43.2	43.5	46.0	**43.8**
Penalties																	
Number	9	5	5	3	7	6	3	6	5	5	3	4	5	5	4	4	**79**
Yards	102	65	28	25	69	34	30	30	45	61	27	50	30	58	20	35	**709**
Fumbles																	
Number	2	0	4	2	1	0	2	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	2	0	**22**
Lost	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	**8**
Red Zone																	
Number	2	2	0	2	6	3	0	4	3	4	1	5	2	3	3	5	**45**
Touchdowns	2	0	0	1	3	1	0	4	2	3	1	2	0	3	1	3	**26**
Field Goals	0	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	2	**16**
Touchdowns																	
Rushing	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	1	**12**
Passing	1	1	0	1	3	2	0	4	4	1	0	4	0	2	0	2	**25**
Returns	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	**5**

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS TEAM HIGHS & LOWS

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

	Bests/Highs	Opponent	Date	Worsts/Lows	Opponent	Date
First Downs	29	at New York Giants	9/27/20	17	3 times, last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
Third–Down %	8–12–67%	at New York Giants	9/27/20	2–11–18%	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Total Net Yards	467	at New England	10/25/20	259	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Offensive Plays	81	at Dallas	12/20/20	53	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20
Avg. Per Play	7.4	at New England	10/25/20	4.3	at New Orleans	11/15/20
Rushing Yards	227	at Arizona	12/26/20	49	at New Orleans	11/15/20
Rushes	37	2 times, last at NE	10/25/20	17	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20
Rushing Avg.	7.6	at Arizona	12/26/20	2.0	at New Orleans	11/15/20
Net Passing Yards	327	at New York Giants	9/27/20	128	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Completions	32	vs. Philadelphia	10/4/20	13	at Arizona	12/26/20
Attempts	45	2 times, last vs. Was.	12/13/20	22	at Arizona	12/26/20
Completions %	81.5	at New York Jets	9/20/20	45.7	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Avg. Gain Per Passing Play	10.4	at New England	10/25/20	3.2	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Interceptions Thrown	0	5 times, last vs. Sea.	1/3/21	2	6 times, last at Dal.	12/20/20
Fumbles Lost	0	6 times, last vs. Buf.	12/7/20	2	4 times, last at Dal.	12/20/20
Turnovers	0	3 times, last vs. LAR	10/18/20	4	2 times, last at Dal.	12/20/20
Penalties	2	vs. Seattle	1/3/21	7	3 times, last vs. Buf.	12/7/20
Penalty Yards	25	vs. Seattle	1/3/21	75	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Gross Punting Avg.	54.8	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20	35.6	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Net Punting Avg.	45.0	at New England	10/25/20	34.0	2 times, last vs. Buf.	12/7/20
Time of Poss.	39:44	at New York Giants	9/27/20	23:07	vs. Miami	10/11/20

OPPONENTS

	Worsts/Lows	Opponent	Date	Bests/Highs	Opponent	Date
First Downs	12	vs. Washington	12/13/20	31	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Third–Down %	2–12–17%	2 times, last at NO	11/15/20	9–15–60%	at Seattle	11/1/20
Total Net Yards	193	vs. Washington	12/13/20	449	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Offensive Plays	49	2 times, last at NE	10/25/20	80	at Arizona	12/26/20
Avg. Per Play	3.1	vs. Washington	12/13/20	6.9	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Rushing Yards	66	at New York Giants	9/27/20	180	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Rushes	15	at New York Giants	9/27/20	36	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Rushing Avg.	2.8	vs. Miami	10/11/20	5.9	vs. Los Angeles Rams	10/18/20
Net Passing Yards	95	vs. Washington	12/13/20	368	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Completions	14	at New Orleans	11/15/20	32	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Attempts	23	at New Orleans	11/15/20	50	at Arizona	12/26/20
Completions %	46.9	vs. Washington	12/13/20	80.6	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20
Avg. Gain Per Passing Play	2.8	vs. Washington	12/13/20	11.4	vs. Miami	10/11/20
Interceptions Thrown	4	at New England	10/25/20	0	8 times, last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
Fumbles Lost	2	3 times, last at LAR	11/29/20	0	11 times, last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
Turnovers	4	2 times, last at LAR	11/29/20	0	6 times, last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
Penalties	9	vs. Arizona	9/13/20	3	3 times, last at LAR	11/29/20
Penalty Yards	102	vs. Arizona	9/13/20	20	at Arizona	12/26/20
Gross Punting Avg.	41.0	at New Orleans	11/15/20	68.0	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Net Punting Avg.	33.5	vs. Miami	10/11/20	54.0	at New York Giants	9/27/20
Time of Poss.	20:16	at New York Giants	9/27/20	36:53	vs. Miami	10/11/20

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS INDIVIDUAL HIGHS

Long Plays		Player	Opponent	Date
Longest Run (yards)	80t	Raheem Mostert	at New York Jets	9/20/20
Longest TD Run (yards)	80t	Raheem Mostert	at New York Jets	9/20/20
Longest Pass Completion (yards)	76t	Jimmy Garoppolo–Raheem Mostert	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Longest TD Pass (yards)	76t	Jimmy Garoppolo–Raheem Mostert	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Longest Interception Return (yards)	51	Emmanuel Moseley	at New England	10/25/20
Longest Kickoff Return (yards)	34	Austin Walter	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20
Longest Punt Return (yards)	21	River Cracraft	vs. Seattle	1/3/21
Longest Punt (yards)	60	Two times, most recently		
		Mitch Wishnowsky	at Los Angeles Rams	11/29/20
Longest Field Goal (yards)	52	Two times, most recently		
		Robbie Gould	at New York Giants	9/27/20

Single–Game Highs		Player	Opponent	Date
Most Points Scored	18	Jeff Wilson Jr.	at New England	10/25/20
Most Touchdowns	3	Jeff Wilson Jr.	at New England	10/25/20
Most Field Goals Attempted	4	Two times, most recently		
		Robbie Gould	at Los Angeles Rams	11/29/20
Most Field Goals Made	3	Three times, most recently		
		Tristan Vizcaino	vs. Seattle	1/3/21
Most Rushing Yards	183	Jeff Wilson Jr.	at Arizona	12/26/20
Most Rushing Attempts	22	Jeff Wilson Jr.	at Arizona	12/26/20
Highest Rushing Avg. (Min. 10 att.)	8.3	Jeff Wilson Jr.	at Arizona	12/26/20
Most Pass Completions	26	Nick Mullens	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Most Pass Attempts	45	Nick Mullens	vs. Washington	12/13/20
Most Gross Passing Yards	343	Nick Mullens	at New York Giants	9/27/20
Highest Avg. Yards/Per Att. (Min. 10 att.)	10.4	Jimmy Garoppolo	at New England	10/25/20
Fewest Interceptions Thrown (Min. 10 att.)	0	Nine times, most recently		
		C.J. Beathard	vs. Seattle	1/3/21
Fewest Times Sacked (Min. 10 att.)	0	Three times, most recently		
		Nick Mullens	vs. Buffalo	12/7/20
Most Receptions	15	George Kittle	vs. Philadelphia	10/4/20
Most Receiving Yards	184	Richie James	vs. Green Bay	11/5/20
Most Kickoff Returns	4	Jerick McKinnon	at Arizona	12/26/20
Most Kickoff Return Yards	71	Jerick McKinnon	at New York Jets	9/20/20
Most Punt Returns	4	River Cracraft	vs. Seattle	1/3/21
Most Punt Return Yards	36	River Cracraft	vs. Seattle	1/3/21
Most Interceptions	2	Jamar Taylor	at New England	10/25/20
Most Interception Return Yardage	51	Emmanuel Moseley	at New England	10/25/20
Most Tackles	15	Emmanuel Moseley	vs. Arizona	9/13/20
Most Sacks	2.0	Two times, most recently		
		Arik Armstead	at Dallas	12/20/20

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS TURNOVER BREAKDOWN

TAKEAWAYS

Date	Opponent	Turnover	Starting L.O.S.	Point of Turnover	Resulting L.O.S.	Qtr.	Result (pts)
9/13	vs Arz.	Jaquiski Tartt INT (K. Murray)	ARZ 37	ARZ 42	ARZ 26	2	Field Goal (3)
9/20	at NYJ	None					
9/27	at NYG	D. Jordan FR	NYG 47	NYG 42	NYG 42	1	Field Goal (3)
		F. Warner INT (D. Jones)	NYG 25	NYG 32	NYG 32	2	Field Goal (3)
		T. Moore FR (M. Harris FF)	SF 41	SF 19	SF 19	4	End of Game (0)
10/4	vs. Phi.	A. Al–Shaair INT (C. Wentz)	SF 39	SF 35	SF 35	1	Punt (0)
10/11	vs. Mia.	None					
10/18	vs. LAR	J. Verrett INT (J. Goff)	SF 2*	Endzone	SF 20	3	Punt (0)
10/25	at NE	F. Warner INT (C. Newton)	NE 27	NE 41	NE 38	2	Touchdown (6)
		E. Moseley INT (C. Newton)	NE 38	SF 4	NE 45	2	Interception (0)
		J. Taylor INT (C. Newton)	SF 34	SF 23	SF 31	3	Field Goal (3)
		J. Taylor INT (J. Stidham)	SF 22	SF 18	SF 18	4	Punt (0)
11/1	at Sea.	None					
11/5	vs. GB	None					
11/15	at NO	M. Harris FR (ST)	SF 13	NO 44	NO 49	1	Field Goal (3)
		M. Harris FR (T. Moore FF)	SF 42	SF 36	SF 34	4	Interception (0)
11/29	at LAR	K. Givens FR (J. Ward FF)	LAR 41	LAR 45	SF 49	1	Interception (0)
		R. Sherman INT (J. Goff)	LAR 36	SF 37	LAR 45	1	Fumble (0)
		K. Hyder Jr. FR (J. Ward FF)	SF 39	SF 36	SF 46	2	Missed Field Goal (0)
		J. Kinlaw INT (J. Goff)	LAR 27	LAR 27	Endzone	3	Touchdown (7)
12/7	vs. Buf.	F. Warner FR	BUF 1	BUF 0	BUF 3	1	Touchdown (7)
12/13	vs. Was.	J. Verrett INT (A. Smith)	WAS 42	SF 38	SF 38	2	Fumble (0)
12/20	at Dal.	None					
12/26	at Arz.	F. Warner FR (F. Warner FF)	ARZ 25	ARZ 36	ARZ 36	3	Punt (0)
		A. Witherspoon INT (K. Murray)	SF 14	Endzone	SF 20	4	Missed Field Goal (0)
1/3	vs. Sea.	None					

Regular Season Totals: 20 takeaways resulted in 35 points

L.O.S. – Line of scrimmage
* – Red zone play
(ST) – Special teams play
(TB) – Touchback

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS TURNOVER BREAKDOWN

GIVEAWAYS

Date	Opponent	Turnover	Starting L.O.S.	Point of Turnover	Resulting L.O.S.	Qtr.	Result (pts)
9/13	vs. Arz.	None					
9/20	at NYJ	N. Mullens INT (P. Desir)	SF 39	SF 45	SF 22	3	Field Goal (3)
9/27	at NYG	None					
10/4	vs. Phi.	N. Mullens INT (T. Taylor)	PHI 14*	PHI 6	PHI 27	2	Punt (0)
		N. Mullens FUMBLE (C. LeBlanc FF)	SF 45	SF 42	SF 42	4	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens INT (A. Singleton)	SF 25	SF 30	Endzone	4	Touchdown (7)
10/11	vs. Mia.	J. Garoppolo INT (B. McCain)	SF 25	MIA 44	SF 37	2	Field Goal (3)
		J. Garoppolo INT (X. Howard)	SF 25	SF 48	SF 19	2	Field Goal (3)
		C. Beathard FUMBLE (E. Ogbah FF)	SF 42	SF 31	SF 31	4	End of Game (0)
10/18	vs. LAR	None					
10/25	at NE	J. Garoppolo INT (D. McCourty)	SF 35	NE 44	NE 48	1	Field Goal (3)
		J. Garoppolo INT (J. Jackson)	NE 45	NE 2	NE 2	2	Halftime (0)
11/1	at Sea.	J. Garoppolo INT (D. Reed)	SEA 20	SEA 13	SEA 14	1	Touchdown (6)
		D. Pettis FUMBLE (C. Barton FF) (ST)	SEA 35	SF 21	SF 21	3	Touchdown (7)
11/5	vs. GB	N. Mullens INT (R. Greene)	50	GB 45	SF 38	2	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens FUMBLE (Z. Smith FF)	GB 44	SF 48	SF 47	3	Field Goal (3)
11/15	at NO	K. Webster FUMBLE (ST)	NO 41	SF 22	SF 21	2	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens INT (M. Jenkins)	NO 32	NO 24	NO 33	3	Punt (0)
		R. James FUMBLE (ST)	NO 31	SF 21	SF 22	4	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens INT (P. Robinson)	NO 18*	Endzone	NO 20	4	End of Game (0)
11/29	at LAR	N. Mullens INT (J. Fuller)	LAR 35	LAR 27	LAR 27	1	Field Goal (3)
		J. Wilson Jr. FUMBLE (S. Joseph–Day FF)	LAR 45	LAR 45	LAR 48	1	Punt (0)
		R. Mostert FUMBLE (A. Donald FF)	SF 25	SF 23	Endzone	3	Touchdown (7)
12/7	vs. Buf.	N. Mullens INT (M. Hyde)	SF 25	SF 38	SF 5	3	Field Goal (3)
		N. Mullens INT (T. White)	BUF 5*	BUF 2	BUF 2	4	Punt (0)
12/13	vs. Was.	J. Wilson Jr. FUMBLE (C. Young FF)	SF 31	SF 29	SF 26	2	Field Goal (3)
		N. Mullens FUMBLE (D. Payne FF)	SF 49	SF 43	Endzone	2	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens INT (K. Curl)	WAS 24	WAS 24	Endzone	3	Touchdown (7)
12/20	at Dal.	R. James FUMBLE (D. Armstrong FF) (ST)	DAL 35	SF 22	SF 22	1	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens FUMBLE (D. Lawrence FF)	SF 27	SF 18	SF 24	1	Touchdown (7)
		N. Mullens INT (D. Wilson)	SF 16	SF 28	SF 28	4	Field Goal (3)
		N. Mullens INT (A. Brown)	SF 49	DAL 40	SF 46	4	Touchdown (7)
12/26	at Arz.	C. Beathard FUMBLE (H. Reddick FF)	SF 48	SF 39	SF 47	2	Halftime (0)
1/3	vs. Sea.	C. Beathard FUMBLE (B. Mayowa FF)	SF 25	SF 16	SF 17	4	Touchdown (7)

Regular Season Totals: 31 giveaways resulted in 124 points

L.O.S. – Line of scrimmage
* – Red zone play
(ST) – Special teams play
(TB) – Touchback

GAME-BY-GAME TURNOVER DIFFERENTIAL

Date	Opp	Takeaways	Giveaways	Game Total	Total
9/13	Arz.	1	0	+1	+1
9/20	at NYJ	0	1	–1	0
9/27	at NYG	3	0	+3	+3
10/4	Phi.	1	3	–2	+1
10/11	Mia.	0	3	–3	–2
10/18	LAR	1	0	+1	–1
10/25	at NE	4	2	+2	+1
11/1	at Sea.	0	2	–2	–1
11/5	GB	0	2	–2	–3
11/15	at NO	2	4	–2	–5
11/29	at LAR	4	3	+1	–4
12/7	Buf.	1	2	–1	–5
12/13	Was.	1	3	–2	–7
12/20	at Dal.	0	4	–4	–11
12/26	at Arz.	2	1	+1	–10
1/3	Sea.	0	1	–1	–11

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS THIRD DOWN EFFICIENCY

49ERS THIRD-AND ...

Date	Opp	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+	Totals
9/13	Arz.	0/0	0/0	0/2	0/1	1/3	0/0	0/0	1/1	0/1	0/0	0/3	2/11
9/20	at NYJ	0/0	1/2	1/1	1/2	0/0	1/2	0/1	1/2	1/2	0/0	1/1	7/13
9/27	at NYG	2/2	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	1/2	0/0	2/2	1/1	1/1	0/2	8/12
10/4	Phi.	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/3	0/3	5/11
10/11	Mia.	1/2	0/0	1/1	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/2	0/3	2/10
10/18	LAR	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/2	0/1	2/3	1/1	0/1	0/1	0/2	5/13
10/25	at NE	1/1	0/0	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	1/2	0/0	0/0	1/3	5/9
11/1	at Sea.	2/2	0/1	1/1	0/1	1/4	0/0	0/1	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/1	6/13
11/5	GB	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/2	0/2	0/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/1	3/10
11/15	at NO	2/3	1/1	0/0	1/1	1/3	0/0	1/2	0/0	0/1	1/1	0/4	7/16
11/29	at LAR	1/2	1/2	0/1	0/0	0/1	0/2	0/1	0/0	0/0	1/3	0/2	3/14
12/7	Buf.	1/2	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/2	1/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	2/2	0/1	6/11
12/13	Was.	0/1	0/1	0/0	1/2	0/0	1/2	0/0	0/1	0/1	1/1	1/6	4/15
12/20	at Dal.	3/4	1/2	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/1	1/2	0/1	0/0	0/1	1/3	6/15
12/26	at Arz	1/1	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/0	1/2	0/3	2/9
1/3	at Sea.	0/1	1/1	1/3	0/1	0/1	1/2	0/1	2/3	0/0	0/0	1/2	6/15
Regular Season Totals:		**18/25**	**10/15**	**5/11**	**4/11**	**4/22**	**6/16**	**6/16**	**9/15**	**3/8**	**7/18**	**5/40**	**77/197**
		72.0	**66.7**	**45.5**	**36.4**	**18.2**	**37.5**	**37.5**	**60.0**	**37.5**	**38.9**	**12.5**	**39.1**

OPPONENTS THIRD-AND ...

Date	Opp	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+	Totals
9/13	Arz.	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/2	2/3	1/2	1/1	0/0	0/2	1/2	7/14
9/20	at NYJ	0/1	0/0	2/4	1/1	2/2	0/0	0/2	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/2	5/14
9/27	at NYG	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	1/1	0/2	0/2	1/2	4/10
10/4	Phi.	2/2	1/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/2	0/0	0/4	0/2	0/0	0/1	4/13
10/11	Mia.	0/1	0/0	2/3	0/0	0/2	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/2	2/3	4/12
10/18	LAR	0/0	0/1	0/0	1/2	0/1	1/2	0/1	0/2	1/1	1/1	0/1	4/12
10/25	at NE	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/2	0/1	1/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	1/6
11/1	at Sea.	1/1	2/2	2/2	0/0	1/2	1/1	0/0	1/1	0/1	1/2	0/3	9/15
11/5	GB	1/2	0/0	2/2	1/2	1/2	0/0	1/1	0/2	0/0	0/0	0/1	6/12
11/15	at NO	1/1	0/3	1/1	0/2	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/3	2/12
11/29	at LAR	3/4	0/2	0/1	0/1	0/1	1/1	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/2	4/13
12/7	Buf.	2/4	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	1/2	0/1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	4/9
12/13	Was.	1/1	1/1	0/1	0/0	0/1	1/2	0/3	0/2	0/0	0/2	0/2	3/15
12/20	at Dal.	2/2	0/1	0/0	0/1	1/2	0/1	1/2	0/0	1/2	0/2	1/2	6/15
12/26	at Arz	1/2	1/1	1/1	1/2	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/3	0/0	0/2	0/2	4/16
1/3	at Sea.	3/3	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/0	1/1	0/1	0/2	0/1	0/1	0/1	4/12
Regular Season Totals:		**20/27**	**6/13**	**11/17**	**4/14**	**6/19**	**9/18**	**3/15**	**3/20**	**2/11**	**2/17**	**5/29**	**71/200**
		74.1	**46.2**	**64.7**	**28.6**	**31.6**	**50.0**	**20.0**	**15.0**	**18.2**	**11.8**	**17.2**	**35.5**

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS RED ZONE PRODUCTION

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Date	Opp	Poss	TD	PAT	2–Pt.	FG	MFG/ BFG	INT	FUM	DWNS/ Punt	HF	GM	PTS	TD%	SCORE PCT.	PTS/ POSS
9/13	Arz.	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	10	25.0%	50.0%	2.5
9/20	at NYJ	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
9/27	at NYG	6	4	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	66.7%	100.0%	5.5
10/4	Phi.	3	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	13	66.7%	66.7%	4.3
10/11	Mia.	3	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	66.7%	100.0%	5.7
10/18	LAR	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
10/25	at NE	5	4	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	80.0%	100.0%	6.0
11/1	at Sea.	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	100.0%	100.0%	6.8
11/5	GB	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	33.3%	66.7%	3.3
11/15	at NO	3	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	10	33.3%	66.7%	3.3
11/29	at LAR	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
12/7	Buf.	5	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	21	60.0%	60.0%	4.2
12/13	Was.	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
12/20	at Dal.	4	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	75.0%	100.0%	6.0
12/26	at Arz.	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	13	66.7%	66.7%	4.3
1/3	Sea.	4	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	50.0%	100.0%	5.0
TOTALS		**55**	**37**	**32**	**0**	**10**	**1**	**3**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**284**	**67.3%**	**85.5%**	**5.2**

OPPONENTS

Date	Opp	Poss	TD	PAT	2–Pt.	FG	MFG/ BFG	INT	FUM	DWNS/ Punt	HF	GM	PTS	TD%	SCORE PCT.	PTS/ POSS
9/13	Arz.	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
9/20	at NYJ	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.0%	100.0%	3.0
9/27	at NYG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–	–
10/4	Phi.	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	50.0%	100.0%	5.5
10/11	Mia.	6	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	50.0%	100.0%	5.0
10/18	LAR	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	33.3%	66.7%	3.0
10/25	at NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	–	–	–
11/1	at Sea.	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
11/5	GB	3	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	66.7%	100.0%	5.7
11/15	at NO	4	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	75.0%	100.0%	6.0
11/29	at LAR	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
12/7	Buf.	5	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	20	40.0%	80.0%	4.0
12/13	Was.	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0.0%	100.0%	3.0
12/20	at Dal.	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	100.0%	100.0%	7.0
12/26	at Arz.	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	33.3%	66.7%	3.0
1/3	Sea.	5	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	60.0%	100.0%	5.2
TOTALS		**45**	**26**	**22**	**1**	**16**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**228**	**57.8%**	**93.3%**	**5.1**

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS BIG PLAYS

Rushes of 10–yards or more; Pass completions of 20–yards or more; Returns of 30–yards or more

9/13/20 VS. ARIZONA

CARDINALS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
11			Kenyan Drake run
20			Chase Edmonds run
		42	Chase Edmonds kickoff return
25			Kyler Murray run
11			Kyler Murray run
22t			Kyler Murray run
10			Kenyan Drake run
15			Kyler Murray run
	33		Kyler Murray to DeAndre Hopkins

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
14			Raheem Mostert run
	76t		Jimmy Garoppolo to Raheem Mostert
16			Jerick McKinnon run
	41		Jimmy Garoppolo to Kyle Juszczyk
10			Tevin Coleman run

9/20/20 AT NEW YORK JETS

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
80t			Raheem Mostert run
55			Jerick McKinnon run
	24		Nick Mullens to Kendrick Bourne
16t			Jerick McKinnon run

JETS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
13			Frank Gore run
12			Josh Malone run
		32	Josh Malone kickoff return
10			La'Mical Perine
	27		Sam Darnold to Chris Hogan
	30t		Sam Darnold to Braxton Berrios

9/27/20 AT NEW YORK GIANTS

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	20		Nick Mullens to Trent Taylor
	20		Nick Mullens to Ross Dwelley
11			Jerick McKinnon run
10t			Jerick McKinnon run
	26		Nick Mullens to Jerick McKinnon
19t			Brandon Aiyuk run
	20		Nick Mullens to Branon Aiyuk

GIANTS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
19			Daniel Jones run
	23		Daniel Jones to Darius Slayton
23			Daniel Jones run
	29		Daniel Jones to Damion Ratley
	22		Daniel Jones to Darius Slayton

10/4/20 VS. PHILADELPHIA

EAGLES

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	20		Carson Wentz to Greg Ward
	28		Carson Wentz to Miles Sanders
11t			Carson Wentz run
14			Jalen Hurts run
	23		Carson Wentz to Richard Rodgers
	42t		Carson Wentz to Travis Fulgham
		30t	Alex Singleton INT return

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
15			Jerick McKinnon run
10			Deebo Samuel run
38t			Brandon Aiyuk run
	38		Nick Mullens to George Kittle
11			Jerick McKinnon run
	20		Nick Mullens to George Kittle
	20		C.J. Beathard to Kendrick Bourne

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS BIG PLAYS

Rushes of 10–yards or more; Pass completions of 20–yards or more; Returns of 30–yards or more

10/11/20 VS. MIAMI

DOLPHINS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	47		Ryan Fitzpatrick to Preston Williams
	28		Ryan Fitzpatrick to DeVante Parker
17			Ryan Fitzpatrick run
	22t		Ryan Fitzpatrick to DeVante Parker
	70		Ryan Fitzpatrick to Mike Gesicki
	31		Ryan Fitzpatrick to Matt Breida
	32t		Ryan Fitzpatrick to Preston Williams
21			Myles Gaskin run
12			Matt Breida run

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
37			Raheem Mostert run
11			Raheem Mostert run
	20		Jimmy Garoppolo to Brandon Aiyuk

10/18/20 VS. LOS ANGELES RAMS

RAMS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
10			Jared Goff run
18			Darrell Henderson Jr. run
11			Darrell Henderson Jr. run
	31		Jared Goff to Tyler Higbee
11			Darrell Henderson Jr. run
13			Darrell Henderson Jr. run
	40t		Jared Goff to Josh Reynolds

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	35		Jimmy Garoppolo to Deebo Samuel
15			Raheem Mostert run
	44t		Jimmy Garoppolo to George Kittle
	25		Jimmy Garoppolo to Kendrick Bourne
10			JaMycal Hasty run

10/25/20 AT NEW ENGLAND

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	23		Jimmy Garoppolo to Deebo Samuel
13			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	20		Jimmy Garoppolo to Brandon Aiyuk
17			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
20			JaMycal Hasty run
16t			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
		51	Emmanuel Moseley INT return
	23		Jimmy Garoppolo to Brandon Aiyuk
	35		Jimmy Garoppolo to Brandon Aiyuk
10			Kyle Juszczyk run

PATRIOTS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
		33	Gunner Olszewski kickoff return
	20		Cam Newton to Jakobi Meyers
		31	Gunner Olszewski kickoff return
12			Damien Harris run
	21		Cam Newton to Jakobi Meyers
10			Damien Harris run

11/1/20 AT SEATTLE

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
12			Tevin Coleman run
	25		Nick Mullens to George Kittle
	33		Nick Mullens to Brandon Aiyuk
	20		Nick Mullens to Kendrick Bourne
	29		Nick Mullens to Trent Taylor

SEAHAWKS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
13			David Moore run
	46t		Russell Wilson to DK Metcalf
	35		Russell Wilson to DK Metcalf
21			Russell Wilson run
15			David Moore run

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS BIG PLAYS

Rushes of 10–yards or more; Pass completions of 20–yards or more; Returns of 30–yards or more

11/5/20 VS. GREEN BAY

PACKERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
11			Aaron Jones run
	36t		Aaron Rodgers to Davante Adams
11			Aaron Jones run
	52t		Aaron Rodgers to Marquez Valdes–Scantling
	49		Aaron Rodgers to Davante Adams
	24		Aaron Rodgers to Tyler Ervin
	34		Aaron Rodgers to Davante Adams

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
		30	Jerick McKinnon kickoff return
	43		Nick Mullens to Richie James
11			Jerick McKinnon run
		34	Austin Walter kickoff return
	47		Nick Mullens to Richie James
	36		Nick Mullens to Ross Dwelley
	41t		Nick Mullens to Richie James

11/15/20 AT NEW ORLEANS

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	22		Nick Mullens to Ross Dwelley
	27		Nick Mullens to Austin Walter
	26		Nick Mullens to Jordan Reed
	22		Nick Mullens to Brandon Aiyuk

SAINTS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
		75	Deonte Harris kickoff return
	34		Drew Brees to Alvin Kamara
18			Latavius Murray run
11			Latavius Murray run
10			Taysom Hill run

11/29/20 AT LOS ANGELES RAMS

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	33		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel
	26		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel
10			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
10			Raheem Mostert run
19			Jerick McKinnon run
	26		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel
	29		Nick Mullens to Richie James
	20		Nick Mullens to Kyle Juszczyk
	24		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel

RAMS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	30		Jared Goff to Robert Woods
	33		Jared Goff to Cooper Kupp
61			Cam Akers run

12/7/20 VS. BUFFALO

BILLS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	31		Josh Allen to Cole Beasley
	35		Josh Allen to Cole Beasley
	22		Josh Allen to Gabriel Davis
	20		Josh Allen to Cole Beasley
	23t		Josh Allen to Isaiah McKenzie
		33	Micah Hyde INT return
15			Devin Singletary run
	28t		Josh Allen to Gabriel Davis

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
16			Raheem Mostert run
12			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
18			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	20		Nick Mullens to Brandon Aiyuk
	49		Nick Mullens to Brandon Aiyuk
	22		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel
10			Raheem Mostert run
	23		Nick Mullens to Deebo Samuel

2020 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS BIG PLAYS

Rushes of 10–yards or more; Pass completions of 20–yards or more; Returns of 30–yards or more

12/13/20 VS. WASHINGTON

FOOTBALL TEAM

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
11			J.D. McKissic run
		47t	Chase Young fumble return
17			J.D. McKissic run
17			J.D. McKissic run
		76t	Kamren Curl INT return

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
11			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
14			Raheem Mostert run

12/20/20 AT DALLAS

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
17			Raheem Mostert run
	22		Nick Mullens to Richie James
10			Raheem Mostert run
	23		Nick Mullens to Richie James
10			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	25		Nick Mullens to Kyle Juszczyk
12			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	23		C.J. Beathard to Jerick McKinnon
	26		C.J. Beathard to Brandon Aiyuk
	49t		C.J. Beathard to Kendrick Bourne

COWBOYS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
		30	Rico Dowdle kickoff return
	20		Andy Dalton to Tony Pollard
	22		Andy Dalton to CeeDee Lamb
	45		Andy Dalton to CeeDee Lamb
		33	Rick Dowdle kickoff return
40t			Tony Pollard run
		47t	CeeDee Lamb kickoff return

12/26/20 AT ARIZONA

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	24		C.J. Beathard to George Kittle
	21t		C.J. Beathard to Jeff Wilson Jr.
14			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
17			C.J. Beathard run
11			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
15			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
16			Brandon Aiyuk run
23			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	27		C.J. Beathard to George Kittle
34			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
25			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	23		C.J. Beathard to George Kittle
12			Jeff Wilson Jr. run

CARDINALS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	38		Kyler Murray to Christian Kirk
10			Kenyan Drake run
11			Kyler Murray run
11			Kyler Murrary run
	45		Kyler Murray to KeeSean Johnson
30			Kyler Murray run

1/3/21 VS. SEATTLE

SEAHAWKS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	29		Russell Wilson to Chris Carson
	26		Russell Wilson to Tyler Lockett
	20		Russell Wilson to Will Dissly
11			Russell Wilson run
16			Russell Wilson run

49ERS

Run	Pass	Ret.	Description
	45		C.J. Beathard to Richie James
18			Jeff Wilson Jr. run
	41		C.J. Beathard to George Kittle
	27		C.J. Beathard to Kendrick Bourne
	21		C.J. Beathard to Kendrick Bourne

THE LAST TIME ...

TEAM TOTALS

Won in Overtime

By 49ers:	12/16/18	49ers win vs. Seattle, 26–23
By Opponent:	11/11/19	Seahawks win vs. Seattle, 27–24
	1/22/12	*Giants win vs. New York, 20–17 – NFC–C*

Won by Scoring in the Last Two Minutes of Regulation

By 49ers:	11/29/20	49ers win at Los Angeles Rams, 23–20 (last score at 0:00)
	1/5/14	*49ers win at Green Bay, 23–20 (last score at 0:00) – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	12/15/19	Falcons win vs. Atlanta, 29–22 (last score at 0:00)
	1/20/91	*Giants win vs. New York, 15–13 (last score at 0:00) – NFC–C*

Tied Game by Scoring in the Last Two Minutes of Regulation

By 49ers:	11/11/19	49ers loss vs. Seattle, 24–27 (OT) (tied game at 0:01)
By Opponent:	10/15/18	Packers win at Green Bay, 33–30 (tied game at 1:55)

Shutout

By 49ers:	10/20/19	49ers win at Washington, 9–0
	12/29/96	*49ers win vs. Philadelphia, 14–0 – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	11/21/10	Buccaneers win vs. Tampa Bay, 21–0

Won by 20–or–More Points

By 49ers:	10/25/20	49ers win at New England, 33–6
	1/29/95	*49ers win at San Diego, 49–26 – SB XXIX*
By Opponent:	10/11/20	Dolphins win vs. Miami, 43–17
	1/12/03	*Buccaneers win at Tampa Bay, 31–6 – NFC–D*

Won After Trailing by 20–or–More Points

By 49ers:	10/2/11	49ers win at Philadelphia, 24–23 (Eagles ahead 23–3 in 3rd Q)
	1/5/03	*49ers win vs. New York, 39–38 (Giants ahead 38–14 in 3rd Q) – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	12/20/14	Chargers win vs. San Diego, 38–35 (OT) (49ers ahead 28–7 in 2nd Q)

Held a 28–or–More Point Lead

By 49ers:	11/24/19	49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–8 (49ers ahead 37–8 in 4th Q)
	1/29/95	*49ers win vs. San Diego, 49–26 (49ers ahead 49–18 in 4th Q) – SB XXIX*
By Opponent:	11/5/20	Packers win vs. Green Bay, 34–17 (Packers ahead 34–3 in 4th Q)
	1/4/87	*Giants win at New York, 49–3 (Giants ahead 49–3 in 4th Q) – NFC–D*

Held a 21–or–More Point Lead

By 49ers:	10/25/20	49ers win at New England, 33–6 (49ers ahead 33–6 in 4th Q)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (49ers ahead 34–13 in 4th Q) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	11/5/20	Packers win vs. Green Bay, 34–17 (Packers ahead 34–10 in 4th Q)
	2/3/13	*Ravens win vs. Baltimore, 34–31 (Ravens ahead 28–6 in 3rd Q) – SB XLVII*

Scored 20–or–More Points in a Quarter

By 49ers:	11/1/20	49ers loss at Seattle, 27–37 (20 points, 4th Q)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (20 points, 2nd Q) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Seahawks win vs. Seattle, 26–23 (20 points, 4th Q)
	2/2/20	*Chiefs win at Kansas City, 31–20 (21 points, 4th Q) – SB LIV*

Scored 20–or–More Points in a Half

By 49ers:	1/3/21	49ers loss vs. Seattle, 23–26 (20 points, 2nd half)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (27 points, 1st half) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Seahawks win vs. Seattle, 26–23 (20 points, 2nd half)
	2/2/20	*Chiefs win at Kansas City, 31–20 (21 points, 2nd half) – SB LIV*

Held Opponent without a Touchdown

By 49ers:	10/25/20	49ers win at New England, 33–6 (2 FGs)
	12/29/96	*49ers win vs. Philadelphia, 14–0 – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	10/20/19	Redskins loss at Washington, 0–9 (3 FGs)
	1/12/03	*Buccaneers win at Tampa Bay, 31–6 (2 FGs) – NFC–D*

Touchdowns Scored by Offense and Defense

By 49ers:	11/29/20	49ers win at Los Angeles Rams, 23–20 (1 offense, 1 defense)
	1/3/98	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 38–22 (4 offense, 1 defense) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/29/20	Rams loss at Los Angeles, 20–23 (1 offense, 1 defense)
	1/13/12	*Packers loss vs. Green Bay, 31–45 (3 offense, 1 defense) – NFC–D*

THE LAST TIME ...

TEAM TOTALS

Touchdowns Scored by Offense, Defense and Special Teams

By 49ers:	10/4/09	49ers win vs. St. Louis, 35–0 (2 offense, 2 defense, 1 special teams)
By Opponent:	9/23/07	Steelers win at Pittsburgh, 37–16 (2 offense, 1 defense, 1 special teams)

Safety Scored

By 49ers:	10/28/18	Penalty on Josh Rosen enforced in the end zone at Arizona
	2/3/13	*Sam Koch ran out of bounds in end zone, forced by Chris Culliver vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	10/27/19	Bruce Irvin sacked Jimmy Garoppolo in the end zone vs. Carolina

Successful Two Point Conversion

By 49ers:	12/13/20	Nick Mullens to Kendrick Bourne vs. Washington
	1/5/03	*Jeff Garcia pass to Terrell Owens vs. New York Giants – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	10/4/20	Carson Wentz pass to Zach Ertz vs. Philadelphia
	1/14/12	*Drew Brees pass to Darren Sproles vs. New Orleans – NFC–D*

Failed Two Point Conversion Attempt

By 49ers:	11/1/20	Pass failed from Nick Mullens to Jerick McKinnon at Seattle
	2/3/13	*Pass failed from Colin Kaepernick to Randy Moss vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	Pass failed from Kyler Murray to DeAndre Hopkins at Arizona
	1/19/20	*Pass failed from Aaron Rodgers to Davante Adams vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*

OFFENSIVE TOTALS

500–or–More Total Net Yards of Offense

By 49ers:	12/8/19	49ers win at New Orleans, 48–46 (516; 162 rushing, 354 passing)
	1/12/13	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 45–31 (579; 323 rushing, 256 passing) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/15/18	Packers win at Green Bay, 33–30 (521; 116 rushing, 405 passing)

400–or–More Total Net Yards of Offense

By 49ers:	12/20/20	49ers loss at Dallas, 33–41 (458; 150 rushing, 308 passing)
	2/3/13	*49ers loss vs. Baltimore, 31–34 (468; 182 rushing, 286 passing) – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Bills win vs. Buffalo, 34–24 (449; 81 rushing, 368 passing)
	1/20/13	*Falcons loss at Atlanta, 24–28 (477; 81 rushing, 396 passing) – NFC–C*

300–or–More Net Yards Rushing by Team

By 49ers:	12/20/14	49ers loss vs. Chargers, 35–38 (OT) (355)
	1/12/13	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 45–31 (323) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/16/16	Bills win at Buffalo, 45–16 (312)

200–or–More Net Yards Rushing by Team

By 49ers:	12/26/20	49ers win at Arizona, 20–12 (227)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (285) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	10/22/17	Cowboys win vs. Dallas, 40–10 (265)
	1/4/87	*Giants win at New York, 49–3 (216) – NFC–D*

Individual 200–Yard Rushing Game

By 49ers:	9/20/09	Frank Gore (16–207–2 TDs) vs. Seattle
	1/19/20	*Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	11/22/15	Thomas Rawls (30–209–1 TD) at Seattle

Individual 150–Yard Rushing Game

By 49ers:	12/26/20	Jeff Wilson Jr. (22–183) at Arizona
	1/19/20	*Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	11/5/17	Adrian Peterson (37–159) vs. Arizona
	1/4/87	*Joe Morris (24–159–2 TDs) at New York Giants – NFC–D*

Individual 100–Yard Rushing Game

By 49ers:	12/26/20	Jeff Wilson Jr. (22–183) at Arizona
	1/19/20	*Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/1/19	Lamar Jackson (16–101–1 TD) at Baltimore
	2/2/20	*Damien Williams (17–104–1 TD) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

Two 100–Yard Rushers in the Same Game

By 49ers:	12/20/14	Frank Gore (26–158–1 TD) & Colin Kaepernick (7–151–1 TD) vs. San Diego
	1/12/13	*Colin Kaepernick (16–181–2 TDs) and Frank Gore (23–119–1 TD) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/8/53	Skeets Quinlan (11–119) & Tank Younger (12–101–1 TD) at Los Angeles Rams

THE LAST TIME ...

OFFENSIVE TOTALS

Consecutive 100–Yard Rushing Games

By 49ers:	11/12/18–11/25/18	Matt Breida (17–101–1 TD) vs. New York Giants; Matt Breida (14–106) at Tampa Bay
	1/19/14–1/19/20	*Colin Kaepernick (11–130) at Seattle – NFC–C; Tevin Coleman (22–105–2 TDs) vs. Minnesota – NFC–D; Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	10/27/19–10/31/19	Christian McCaffrey (14–117–1 TD) vs. Carolina; Kenyan Drake (15–110–1 TD) at Arizona
	12/31/83–1/8/84	*Billy Sims (20–114–2 TDs) vs. Detroit – NFC–D; John Riggins (36–123–2 TDs) at Washington – NFC–C*

Combined 200–Yard Rushing by Two Players

By 49ers:	12/26/20	201 by Jeff Wilson Jr. (22–183) and C.J. Beathard (3–18) at Arizona
	1/19/20	*263 by Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) and Deebo Samuel (2–43) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	10/22/17	208 by Ezekiel Elliott (26–147–2 TDs) and Rod Smith (8–61) vs. Dallas

Individual with 30–or–More Carries

By 49ers:	10/30/11	Frank Gore (31–134) vs. Cleveland
By Opponent:	11/5/17	Adrian Peterson (37–159) vs. Arizona
	1/8/84	*John Riggins (36–123) at Washington – NFC–C*

Individual with 25–or–More Carries

By 49ers:	9/21/17	Carlos Hyde (25–84–2 TDs) vs. Los Angeles Rams
	1/19/20	*Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	11/11/19	Chris Carson (25–89–1 TD) vs. Seattle
	1/5/03	*Tiki Barber (26–115) vs. New York Giants – NFC–WC*

Rushing Play of 80–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	9/20/20	80t, Raheem Mostert at New York Jets
	1/1/89	*80t, Roger Craig vs. Minnesota – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/9/07	84t, Chester Taylor vs. Minnesota

Rushing Play of 60–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	9/20/20	80t, Raheem Mostert at New York Jets
	1/1/89	*80t, Roger Craig vs. Minnesota – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/29/20	61, Cam Akers at Los Angeles Rams

Rushing Play of 40–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	9/20/20	80t, Raheem Mostert; 55, Jerick McKinnon at New York Jets
	1/19/14	*58, Colin Kaepernick at Seattle – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/20/20	40t, Tony Pollard at Dallas
	1/19/14	*40t, Marshawn Lynch at Seattle – NFC–C*

Individual with Two–or–More Rushing Touchdowns

By 49ers:	10/25/20	Jeff Wilson Jr. (17–112–3 TDs) at New England
	1/19/20	*Raheem Mostert (29–220–4 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/20/20	Tony Pollard (12–69–2 TDs) at Dallas
	1/12/03	*Mike Alstott (17–60–2 TDs) at Tampa Bay – NFC–D*

400 Net Yards Passing by Team

By 49ers:	11/17/19	49ers win vs. Arizona, 36–26 (408)
By Opponent:	10/15/18	Packers win at Green Bay, 33–30 (405)
	1/14/12	*Saints loss vs. New Orleans, 32–36 (435) – NFC–D*

300 Net Yards Passing by Team

By 49ers:	12/20/20	49ers loss at Dallas, 33–41 (308)
	1/5/03	*49ers win vs. New York Giants, 39–38 (356) – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Bills win vs. Buffalo, 34–24 (368)
	1/20/13	*Falcons loss at Atlanta, 24–28 (396) – NFC–C*

Individual with 50–or–More Pass Attempts

By 49ers:	10/7/18	C.J. Beathard (54–34–349–2 INTs–2 TDs) vs. Arizona
	1/6/96	*Steve Young (65–32–328–2 INTs–0 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	Kyler Murray (50–31–247–1 INT–0 TDs) at Arizona
	1/22/12	*Eli Manning (58–32–316–0 INTs–2 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–C*

Individual with 40–or–More Pass Attempts

By 49ers:	12/13/20	Nick Mullens (45–25–260–1 INT–1 TD) vs. Washington
	1/14/12	*Alex Smith (42–24–299–0 INTs–3 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	Kyler Murray (50–31–247–1 INT–0 TDs) at Arizona
	2/2/20	*Patrick Mahomes (42–26–286–2 INTs–2 TDs) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

THE LAST TIME ...

OFFENSIVE TOTALS

Individual with 30–or–More Pass Completions

By 49ers:	11/17/19	Jimmy Garoppolo (45–34–424–2 INTs–4 TDs) vs. Arizona
	1/6/96	*Steve Young (65–32–328–2 INTs–0 TD) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	Kyler Murray (50–31–247–1 INT–0 TDs) at Arizona
	1/19/20	*Aaron Rodgers (39–31–326–2 INTs–2 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*

Individual with 25–or–More Pass Completions

By 49ers:	1/3/21	C.J. Beathard (37–25–273–0 INTs–1 TD) vs. Seattle
	1/5/03	*Jeff Garcia (44–27–331–1 INT–3 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	Kyler Murray (50–31–247–1 INT–0 TDs) at Arizona
	2/2/20	*Patrick Mahomes (42–26–286–2 INTs–2 TDs) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

No Sacks Allowed

By 49ers:	12/7/20	49ers loss vs. Buffalo, 24–34 (39 attempts – Nick Mullens)
	1/5/03	*49ers win vs. New York Giants, 39–38 (44 attempts – Jeff Garcia) – NFC–WC*
By Opponent:	10/18/20	Rams loss vs. Los Angeles, 16–24 (38 attempts – Jared Goff)
	1/7/95	*Bears loss vs. Chicago, 15–44 (19 attempts – Steve Walsh) – NFC–D*

Individual 300–Yard Passing Game

By 49ers:	12/7/20	Nick Mullens (39–26–316–2 INTs–3 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	2/3/13	*Colin Kaepernick (28–16–302–1 INT–1 TD) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Josh Allen (40–32–375–0 INTs–4 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	1/19/20	*Aaron Rodgers (39–31–326–2 INTs–2 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*

Consecutive 300–Yard Passing Games

By 49ers:	12/2/18–12/9/18	Nick Mullens (48–30–414–1 INT–2 TDs) at Seattle; Nick Mullens (33–20–332–1 INT–2 TDs) vs. Denver
By Opponent:	9/16/18–9/23/18	Matthew Stafford (53–34–347–0 INTs–3 TDs) vs. Detroit; Patrick Mahomes (38–24–314–0 INTs–3 TDs) at Kansas City
	1/14/12–1/22/12	*Drew Brees (63–40–462–2 INTs–4 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D; Eli Manning (58–32–316–0 INTs–2 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–C*

Individual with Four–or–More Touchdown Passes

By 49ers:	12/8/19	Jimmy Garoppolo (35–26–349–1 INT–4 TDs) at New Orleans
	1/29/95	*Steve Young (36–24–325–0 INTs–6 TDs) at San Diego – SB XXIX*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Josh Allen (40–32–375–0 INTs–4 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	1/14/12	*Drew Brees (63–40–462–2 INTs–4 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D*

Individual with Three–or–More Touchdown Passes

By 49ers:	12/7/20	Nick Mullens (39–26–316–2 INTs–3 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	1/14/12	*Alex Smith (42–24–299–0 INTs–3 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Josh Allen (40–32–375–0 INTs–4 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	2/3/13	*Joe Flacco (33–22–287–0 INTs–3 TDs) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*

Individual with 10–or–More Receptions

By 49ers:	12/13/20	Brandon Aiyuk (10–119) vs. Washington
	1/6/96	*Jerry Rice (11–117) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Tyler Lockett (12–90–2 TDs) vs. Seattle
	1/20/13	*Julio Jones (11–182–2 TDs) at Atlanta – NFC–C*

Individual with 150–Yard Receiving Game

By 49ers:	11/5/20	Richie James (9–184–1 TD) vs. Green Bay
	1/14/12	*Vernon Davis (7–180–2 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/5/20	Davante Adams (10–173–1 TD) vs. Green Bay
	1/20/13	*Julio Jones (11–182–2 TDs) at Atlanta – NFC–C*

Individual with 100–Yard Receiving Game

By 49ers:	12/13/20	Brandon Aiyuk (10–119) vs. Washington
	1/12/14	*Anquan Boldin (8–136) at Carolina – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/7/20	Cole Beasley (9–130–1 TD) vs. Buffalo
	2/2/20	*Tyreek Hill (9–105) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

Two 100–Yard Receivers in the Same Game

By 49ers:	10/7/12	Michael Crabtee (6–113–1 TD) & Vernon Davis (5–106) vs. Buffalo
	2/3/13	*Michael Crabtree (5–109–1 TD) & Vernon Davis (6–104) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	12/21/19	Tyler Higbee (9–104) & Robert Woods (8–117) vs. Los Angeles Rams
	1/20/13	*Julio Jones (11–182–2 TDs) & Roddy White (7–100) at Atlanta – NFC–C*

THE LAST TIME ...

OFFENSIVE TOTALS

Consecutive 100–Yard Receiving Games

By 49ers:	10/18/20–10/25/20	George Kittle (7–109–1 TD) vs. Los Angeles Rams; Brandon Aiyuk (6–115) at New England
	1/14/12–1/12/14	*Vernon Davis (7–180–2 TDs) vs. New Orleans – NFC–D; V. Davis (3–112–2 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–C; Michael Crabtree (9–119–2 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D; Vernon Davis (5–106–1 TD) at Atlanta –NFC–C; Michael Crabtree (5–109–1 TD) & Vernon Davis (6–104) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII; Michael Crabtree (8–125) at Green Bay – NFC–WC; Anquan Boldin (8–136) at Carolina – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/1/20–11/5/20	DK Metcalf (12–161–2 TDs) at Seattle; Davante Adams (10–173–1 TD) vs. Green Bay
	1/19/20–2/2/20	*Davante Adams (9–138) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C; Tyreek Hill (9–105) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

Pass Play of 80–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	12/9/18	85t, Nick Mullens to George Kittle vs. Denver
By Opponent:	10/31/19	88t, Kyler Murray to Andy Isabella at Arizona

Pass Play of 60–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	9/13/20	76t, Jimmy Garoppolo to Raheem Mostert vs. Arizona
	1/22/12	*73t, Alex Smith to Vernon Davis vs. New York Giants – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	10/11/20	70, Ryan Fitzpatrick to Mike Gesicki vs. Miami
	1/19/20	*65, Aaron Rodgers to Davante Adams vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*

Pass Play of 40–or–More Yards

By 49ers:	1/3/21	45, C.J. Beathard to Richie James; 41, C.J. Beathard to George Kittle vs. Seattle
	1/12/14	*45, Colin Kaepernick to Anquan Boldin at Carolina – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/26/20	45, Kyler Murray to KeeSean Johnson at Arizona
	2/2/20	*44, Patrick Mahomes to Tyreek Hill at Kansas City – SB LIV*

Individual with Three–or–More Touchdown Receptions

By 49ers:	10/25/09	Vernon Davis (7–93–3 TDs) at Houston
	1/29/95	*Jerry Rice (10–149–3 TDs) at San Diego – SB XXIX*
By Opponent:	9/14/14	Brandon Marshall (5–48–3 TDs) vs. Chicago
	1/5/03	*Amani Toomer (8–136–3 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–WC*

Individual with Two–or–More Touchdown Receptions

By 49ers:	12/26/20	Kyle Juszczyk (2–10–2 TDs) at Arizona
	1/12/13	*Michael Crabtree (9–119–2 TDs) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Tyler Lockett (12–90–2 TDs) vs. Seattle
	1/20/13	*Julio Jones (11–182–2 TDs) at Atlanta – NFC–C*

Led Team in Both Rushing and Receiving Yards in the Same Game

By 49ers:	9/13/20	Raheem Mostert (15–56 rushing, 4–95–1 TD receiving) vs. Arizona
	1/15/94	*Ricky Watters (24–118 rushing, 5–46 receiving) vs. New York Giants – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/22/17	Ezekiel Elliott (26–147–2 TDs rushing, 1–72–1 TD receiving) vs. Dallas

100–Yard Rusher & Receiver in the Same Game

By 49ers:	10/25/20	Jeff Wilson Jr. (17–112–3 TDs) & Brandon Aiyuk (6–115) at New England
	2/3/13	*Frank Gore (19–110–1 TD), Michael Crabtree (5–109–1 TD) & Vernon Davis (6–104) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	9/21/17	Todd Gurley II (28–113–2 TDs), Robert Woods (6–108) & Sammy Watkins (6–106–2 TDs) vs. Los Angeles Rams
	2/2/20	*Damien Williams (17–104–1 TD) & Tyreek Hill (9–105) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

100–Yard Rusher, 100–Yard Receiver & 300–Yard Passer in the Same Game

By 49ers:	10/7/12	Frank Gore (14–106–1 TD), Michael Crabtree (6–113–1 TD), Vernon Davis (5–106) & Alex Smith (24–18–303–0 INTs–3 TDs) vs. Buffalo
	2/3/13	*Frank Gore (19–110–1 TD), Michael Crabtree (5–109–1 TD), Vernon Davis (6–104) & Colin Kaepernick (28–16–302–1 INT–1 TD) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*
By Opponent:	9/18/16	Fozzy Whittaker (16–100), Kelvin Benjamin (7–108–2 TDs), Greg Olsen (5–122–1 TD) & Cam Newton (40–24–353–1 INT–4 TDs) at Carolina
	1/5/03	*Tiki Barber (26–115–1 TD), Amani Toomer (8–136–3 TDs) & Kerry Collins (43–29–342–1 INT–4 TDs) vs. New York Giants – NFC–WC*

Individual with at Least One Rushing and One Receiving Touchdown in the Same Game

By 49ers:	1/3/21	Jeff Wilson Jr. (20–76–1 TD rushing, 3–12–1 TD receiving) vs. Seattle
	1/29/95	*Ricky Watters (15–47–1 TD rushing, 3–61–2 TDs receiving) at San Diego – SB XXIX*
By Opponent:	11/15/20	Alvin Kamara (8–15–2 TDs rushing, 7–83–1 TD receiving) at New Orleans
	2/2/20	*Damien Williams (17–104–1 TD rushing, 4–29–1 TD receiving) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

THE LAST TIME ...

OFFENSIVE TOTALS

Individual with at Least One Rushing Touchdown and One Touchdown Pass in the Same Game

By 49ers:	10/7/18	C.J. Beathard (54–34–349–2 INTs–2 TDs passing, 2–7–1 TD rushing) vs. Arizona
	1/12/14	*Colin Kaepernick (28–15–196–0 INTs–1 TD passing, 8–15–1 TD rushing) at Carolina – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/4/20	Carson Wentz (28–18–193 –1 INT–1 TD passing, 7–37–1 TD rushing) vs. Philadelphia
	2/2/20	*Patrick Mahomes (42–26–286–2 INTs–2 TDs passing, 9–29–1 TD rushing) at Kansas City – SB LIV*

No Turnovers

By 49ers:	10/18/20	49ers win vs. Los Angeles Rams, 24–16
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Seahawks win vs. Seattle, 26–23
	1/5/14	*Packers loss at Green Bay, 20–23 – NFC–WC*

Touchdown Scored on First Drive

By 49ers:	11/15/20	49ers loss at New Orleans, 13–27
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/5/20	Packers win vs. Green Bay, 34–17
	2/3/13	*Ravens win vs. Baltimore, 34–31 – SB XLVII*

DEFENSIVE TOTALS

Held Opponent Under 200 Net Yards of Total Offense

By 49ers:	12/13/20	49ers loss vs. Washington, 15–23 (193; 98 rushing, 95 passing)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (147; 21 rushing, 126 passing) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/4/16	Bears win at Chicago, 26–6 (147; 141 rushing, 6 passing)
	1/4/97	*Packers win at Green Bay, 35–14 (196; 68 rushing, 128 passing) – NFC–D*

Held Opponent Under 300 Net Yards of Total Offense

By 49ers:	1/3/21	49ers loss vs. Seattle, 23–26 (280; 121 rushing, 159 passing)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (147; 21 rushing, 126 passing) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/15/20	Saints win at New Orleans, 27–13 (281; 49 rushing, 232 passing)
	1/12/03	*Buccaneers win at Tampa Bay, 31–6 (228; 62 rushing, 166 passing) – NFC–D*

Held Opponent Under 50 Yards Rushing

By 49ers:	9/15/19	49ers win at Cincinnati, 41–17 (25)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (21) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	11/15/20	Saints win at New Orleans, 27–13 (49)
	1/11/98	*Packers win vs. Green Bay, 23–10 (33) – NFC–C*

Held Opponent Under 75 Yards Rushing

By 49ers:	9/27/20	49ers win at New York Giants, 36–9 (66)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (62) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	11/15/20	Saints win at New Orleans, 27–13 (49)
	1/12/03	*Buccaneers win vs. Tampa Bay, 31–6 (62) – NFC–D*

Held Opponent Under 100 Yards Rushing

By 49ers:	12/20/20	49ers loss at Dallas, 33–41 (87)
	1/19/20	*49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–20 (62) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Seahawks win vs. Seattle, 26–23 (86)
	1/12/03	*Buccaneers win vs. Tampa Bay, 31–6 (62) – NFC–D*

Held Opponent Under 100 Net Yards Passing

By 49ers:	12/13/20	49ers loss vs. Washington, 15–23 (95)
	1/4/97	*49ers loss at Green Bay, 35–14 (71) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	9/17/17	Seahawks win at Seattle, 12–9 (89)
	1/19/20	*Packers loss vs. Green Bay, 20–37 (69) – NFC–C*

Held Opponent Under 150 Net Yards Passing

By 49ers:	12/13/20	49ers loss vs. Washington, 15–23 (95)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (126) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/11/20	Dolphins win vs. Miami, 43–17 (128)
	1/19/20	*Packers loss vs. Green Bay, 20–37 (69) – NFC–C*

Interception Return for a Touchdown

By 49ers:	11/29/20	Javon Kinlaw, 27 (QB Jared Goff) at Los Angeles Rams
	1/3/98	*Ken Norton, 23 (QB Randall Cunningham) vs. Minnesota – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/13/20	Kamren Curl, 76 (QB Nick Mullens) vs. Washington
	1/12/13	*Sam Shields, 52 (QB Colin Kaepernick) vs. Green Bay – NFC–D*

THE LAST TIME ...

DEFENSIVE TOTALS

Individual with Three–or–More Interceptions

By 49ers:	10/8/06	Walt Harris (1–Andrew Walter, 2–Marcus Tuiasosopo) vs. Oakland
By Opponent:	11/20/77	Bill Simpson (1–Scott Bull, 2–Jim Plunkett) vs. Los Angeles Rams

Individual with Two–or–More Interceptions

By 49ers:	10/25/20	Jamar Taylor (1 – QB Cam Newton; 1 – QB Jarrett Stidham) at New England
	1/15/95	*Eric Davis (2 – QB Troy Aikman) vs. Dallas – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/30/18	Cory Littleton (2 – QB Nick Mullens) at Los Angeles Rams
	1/9/99	*William White (2 – QB Steve Young) at Atlanta – NFC–D*

Seven–or–More Sacks by Team

By 49ers:	10/27/19	49ers win vs. Carolina, 51–13 (7)
	1/6/85	*49ers win vs. Chicago, 23–0 (9) – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	10/21/18	Rams win vs. Los Angeles Rams, 39–10 (7)

Six–or–More Sacks by Team

By 49ers:	10/27/19	49ers win vs. Carolina, 51–13 (7)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (6) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/21/19	Rams loss vs. Los Angeles, 31–34 (6)

Five–or–More Sacks by Team

By 49ers:	11/24/19	49ers win vs. Green Bay, 37–8 (5)
	1/11/20	*49ers win vs. Minnesota, 27–10 (6) – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/11/20	Dolphins win vs. Miami, 43–17 (5)

Individual with Three–or–More Sacks

By 49ers:	10/27/19	Nick Bosa (3.0 of QB Kyle Allen) vs. Carolina
	1/9/93	*Pierce Holt (3.0 of QB Mark Rypien) vs. Washington – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	10/21/18	Aaron Donald (4.0 of QB C.J. Beathard) vs. Los Angeles Rams
	1/17/93	*Tony Casillas (3.0 of QB Steve Young) vs. Dallas – NFC–C*

Individual with Two–or–More Sacks

By 49ers:	12/20/20	Arik Armstead (2.0 of QB Andy Dalton) at Dallas
	1/11/20	*Nick Bosa (2.0 of QB Kirk Cousins) vs. Minnesota – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Benson Mayowa (2.0 of QB C.J. Beathard) vs. Seattle
	2/3/13	*Paul Kruger (2.0 of QB Colin Kaepernick) vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*

Fumble Recovered for Touchdown

By 49ers:	11/17/19	D.J. Reed Jr. recovered a Larry Fitzgerald fumble and returned it 4 yards vs. Arizona
	12/26/71	*Bob Hoskins recovered a Bruce Gossett fumble in end zone vs. Washington – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	12/13/20	Chase Young recovered a Nick Mullens fumble and returned it 47 yards vs. Washington
	1/4/97	*Antonio Freeman recovered an Edgar Bennet fumble in end zone at Green Bay – NFC–D*

SPECIAL TEAMS TOTALS

Kickoff Return for a Touchdown

By 49ers:	12/16/18	Richie James Jr., 97 yards vs. Seattle
	1/11/98	*Chuck Levy, 95 yards vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/20/20	CeeDee Lamb, 47 yards at Dallas
	2/3/13	*Jacoby Jones, 108 yards vs. Baltimore – SB XLVII*

Kickoff Return for a Touchdown on the Opening Kickoff

By 49ers:	11/10/08	Allen Rossum, 104 yards at Arizona
	12/23/72	*Vic Washington, 97 yards vs. Dallas – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	(could not find an instance when it occurred)	

Punt Return for a Touchdown

By 49ers:	9/11/11	Ted Ginn Jr., 55 yards vs. Seattle
By Opponent:	12/3/17	Tarik Cohen, 61 yards at Chicago
	1/4/97	*Desmond Howard, 71 yards at Green Bay – NFC–D*

THE LAST TIME ...

SPECIAL TEAMS TOTALS

Blocked Punt Recovered for Touchdown

By 49ers:	10/3/10	Taylor Mays recovered Michael Koenen's punt (blocked by Dominique Zeigler) in the end zone at Atlanta
By Opponent:	9/28/14	Brad Smith recovered Andy Lee's punt (blocked by Trey Burton) in the end zone vs. Philadelphia

Blocked Punt

By 49ers:	9/14/14	Aaron Lynch blocked Patrick O'Donnell's punt vs. Chicago
	1/6/90	*Spencer Tillman blocked Bucky Scribner's punt vs. Minnesota – NFC–D*
By Opponent:	9/13/20	Ezekiel Turner blocked Mitch Wishnowsky's punt vs. Arizona
	12/16/71	*Jon Jaqua blocked Steve Spurrier's punt vs. Washington – NFC–D*

Blocked PAT

By 49ers:	10/18/20	Dion Jordan blocked a PAT attempt by Samuel Sloman vs. Los Angeles Rams
By Opponent:	12/24/17	Jalen Myrick blcoked a PAT attempt by Robbie Gould vs. Jacksonville

Missed (not blocked) PAT

By 49ers:	12/26/20	Robbie Gould at Arizona
By Opponent:	1/3/21	Jason Myers vs. Seattle

Blocked Field Goal

By 49ers:	1/3/16	Dontae Johnson blocked a 48–yard attempt by Greg Zuerlein vs. St. Louis
By Opponent:	12/1/19	Marlon Humphrey blocked a 51–yard attempt by Robbie Gould at Baltimore

Blocked Field Goal returned for a TD

By 49ers:	9/27/09	Nate Clements, 59–yard return after Ray McDonald blocked a 44–yard attempt by Ryan Longwell at Minnesota
By Opponent:	12/23/12	Richard Sherman, 90–yard return after Red Bryant blocked a 21–yard attempt by David Akers at Seattle

Individual with Five–or–More Field Goals

By 49ers:	12/17/17	Robbie Gould (6–6) vs. Tennessee
By Opponent:	10/11/20	Jason Sanders (5–5) vs. Miami
	1/20/91	*Matt Bahr (5–6) vs. New York Giants – NFC–C*

Individual with Four–or–More Field Goals

By 49ers:	12/16/18	Robbie Gould (4–4) vs. Seattle
	1/24/82	*Ray Wersching (4–4) at Cincinnati – SB XVI*
By Opponent:	10/11/20	Jason Sanders (5–5) vs. Miami
	1/20/91	*Matt Bahr (5–6) vs. New York Giants – NFC–C*

Individual with Three–or–More Field Goals

By 49ers:	1/3/21	Tristan Vizcaino (3–3) vs. Seattle
	1/19/20	*Robbie Gould (3–3) vs. Green Bay – NFC–C*
By Opponent:	12/13/20	Dustin Hopkins (3–4) vs. Washington
	1/19/14	*Steven Hauschka (3–3) at Seattle – NFC–C*

Successful Onsides Kick

By 49ers:	9/21/17	Robbie Gould kick recovered by Raheem Mostert vs. Los Angeles Rams (4th Q)
By Opponent:	12/24/17	Josh Lambo kick recovered by Lerentee McCray vs. Jacksonville (4th Q)

Failed Onsides Kick Attempt

By 49ers:	1/3/21	Mitch Wishnowsky kick recovered by Nick Bellore vs. Seattle (4th Q)
By Opponent:	12/24/17	Josh Lambo kick out of bounds vs. Jacksonville (4th Q)
	1/19/20	*Mason Crosby kick recovered by Mark Nzeocha vs. Green Bay (4th Q) – NFC–C*



BRANDON AIYUK

11 **WR** 6-0 × 200 × ARIZONA STATE

3.17.98 × RENO, NV × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1B IN '20

AWARDS & HONORS

2020: Pepsi Zero Sugar Rookie of the Week (Week 3)

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- With 10 recepts. vs. Was. (12/13/20), tied the franchise's rookie single-game record for most recepts. [WR Jerry Rice – 10 recepts. vs. LAR (12/9/85); RB Earl Cooper – 10 recepts. at NO (9/7/80)].

GOLDMINE



- Though he grew up in Nevada, Aiyuk has roots in Northern California. He attended Sierra (Rocklin, CA) College from 2016-17, where the 49ers spent training camp from 1981-1997. Additionally, Aiyuk began supporting the 49ers at a young age, thanks to his mom. "My mom's been a huge 49ers fan her whole life, so that kind of bled on me a little bit when I was younger," said Aiyuk. When he got the call informing him that he would be a member of the team, Aiyuk realized a childhood dream that he wasn't sure would come true. "There were a lot of people telling me before today and all week that it was going to happen. So, it's crazy that it actually did happen."

AIYUK'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His last name is pronounced EYE-yook.
- Though he stands at 6-foot-0, Aiyuk recorded an 81-inch wingspan, equivalent to 6-foot-9.
- Aiyuk is only the second alum from a Northern Nevada high school to become a first-round NFL draft pick. Former DT Shawn Knight (Reed HS, NV) was drafted by the New Orleans Saints 11th overall in the 1987 NFL Draft.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During his time at Sierra College and later Arizona State, Aiyuk was known for his work ethic on and off the field. Ben Noonan, who coached Aiyuk at Sierra College, found Aiyuk in the weight room constantly, improving his squat from 275 pounds coming out of high school to 500 pounds by May 2017. That drive carried over to the practice field, where Aiyuk routinely stayed for 30 minutes after every practice working on routes in the Rocklin heat. "It gets up to a good 110 degrees, and then he's out there until the daylight is gone with the quarterbacks after a four-hour day," Noonan said. "And demanding that the quarterbacks stay, you know, whether their arm was falling off or not."

AIYUK'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

2021 Returns

Date	Opp	KR	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	PR	FC	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det											
Sep 19	at Phi											
Sep 26	GB											
Oct 3	Sea											
Oct 10	at Arz											
Oct 24	Ind											
Oct 31	at Chi											
Nov 7	Arz											
Nov 15	LAR											
Nov 21	at Jax											
Nov 28	Min											
Dec 5	at Sea											
Dec 12	at Cin											
Dec 19	Atl											
Dec 23	at Ten											
Jan 2	Hou											
Jan 9	at LAR											
TOTALS												

AIYUK'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2020	SF	12	11	60	748	12.5	49	5	6	77	12.8	38t	2
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**12**	**11**	**60**	**748**	**12.5**	**49**	**5**	**6**	**77**	**12.8**	**38t**	**2**

Additional Statistics:
Tackles – 3: 2020 (3)
Fumble Recoveries – 1: 2020 (1)
Punt Returns – 2: 2020 (2)
Punt Return Yards – 26: 2020 (26)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at NYJ (9/20/20); **First Start:** at NYJ (9/20/20); **First Reception:** at NYJ (9/20/20 – 8–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First TD Reception:** vs. LAR (10/18/20 – 2–yd. TD pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Rushing TD:** at NYG (9/27/20 – 19–yds.); **100–yd. Games:** 2, Last vs. Was. (12/13/20 – 119–yds.); **First Punt Return:** vs. Buf. (12/7/20 – 16–yd. PR)

AIYUK'S CAREER 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES (2)

Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
10/25/20	at NE	6	115	19.2	0	12/13/20	vs. Was.	10	119	11.9	0

AIYUK'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 10 vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Receiving Yards: 119 vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Long Reception: 49 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Receiving TDs: 1 (5 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20)
Rushes: 3 at NYG (9/27/20)
Rushing Yards: 38 vs. Phi. (10/4/20)
Long Rush: 38t vs. Phi. (10/4/20)
Rushing TDs: 1 (2 times) Last vs. Phi. (10/4/20)
Punt Returns: 1 (2 times) Last vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Punt Return Yards: 16 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Long Punt Return: 16 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)

AIYUK'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the second of two 1st–round (25th overall) draft choices by SF in 2020...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/4/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/6/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/20/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/2/20.



AZEEZ AL-SHAAIR

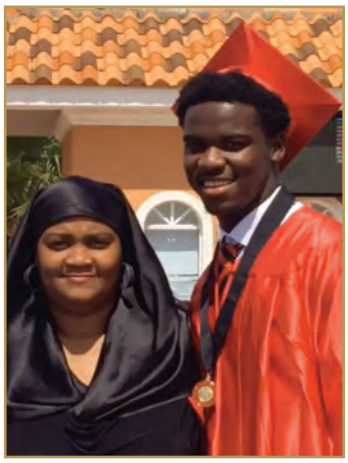
51 | **LB** | 6-2 • 228 • FLORIDA ATLANTIC

8.4.97 • TAMPA, FL • 3RD YEAR • ACQUIRED FA IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: 49ers Community Relations Rookie Player Award

GOLDMINE



- Al-Shaair grew up in a family of nine, with his mother, Naadhirah, supporting him and his seven siblings. In 2012, struggling to make ends meet, the family moved into their grandmother's home in Tampa, FL. One night, Al-Shaair awoke to the smell of smoke encompassing the house. He was able to wake up and lead the rest of his family to safety, as they watched the house burn down. The family moved from place to place before settling in a long-stay motel. Al-Shaair chose to sleep on the floor, as the family had to fit into one room. He trekked two hours by bus each day to attend school and football practice, often only eating once a day, making sure any leftover food went to his mom and siblings. His work ethic on and off the field grew in that adversity. "My mom always told me, 'What's meant for you is meant for you,'" Al-Shaair said. "All you can do is put forth the effort, and I believe that I've done that."
- While at Florida Atlantic, Al-Shaair decided to move his two younger brothers, Abdul-Lateef and Abdur-Rahmaan, into his Boca Raton apartment. Constantly worrying about whether they were eating or getting into trouble, Al-Shaair began to serve as the father figure of the household. "They were doing bad in school with their grades. I moved them here to put them in a different environment," said Al-Shaair.

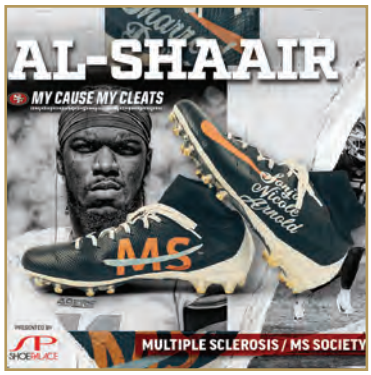


AL-SHAAIR'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His name is pronounced uh-ZEEZ, all-SHY-urr.
- Recipient of the N4A Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award, which honors any collegiate student-athlete who has overcome great personal, academic, and/or emotional odds to achieve academic success while participating in intercollegiate athletics.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Al-Shaair and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Al-Shaair representing the Multiple Sclerosis Society.



AL-SHAAIR'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.



- The 49ers LBs welcomed eight foster youth from Unity Care to Levi's Stadium in December of 2019. This group received gifts and much needed resources, like bedding and new shoes, this holiday season. The linebackers chose to support foster youth to honor teammate Dre Greenlaw who is a former foster youth.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Al-Shaair participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.
- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH , where they participated in the Community Blitz. Al-Shaair and some of his teammates visited Easter Seals Center for Rehabilitation. The players spent time painting and playing games with several seniors at the facility.



AL-SHAAIR'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	15	4	11	6	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2020	SF	16	5	34	21	13	0.0	0.0	1	0	–	0	2	1	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**31**	**9**	**45**	**27**	**18**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 10: 2019 (8); 2020 (2)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First Start:** vs. GB (11/24/19); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Phi. (10/4/20 – QB Carson Wentz); **First FF:** Regular Season – at NE (10/25/20 – FB Jakob Johnson)

AL-SHAAIR'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 9 vs. Sea. (1/3/21)
Solo: Regular Season – 7 vs. Sea. (1/3/21)
Assists: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. GB (11/5/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. Sea. (1/3/21)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 vs. Phi. (10/4/20)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 at NE (10/25/20)

AL-SHAAIR'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 5/3/19.



ARIK ARMSTEAD

91 | **DL** | 6-7 × 290 × OREGON

11.15.93 × ELK GROVE, CA × 7TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1 IN '15

AWARDS & HONORS



2020: NFLPA Community MVP (Week 10)

2020: 49ers Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Nominee, Perry/Yonamine Unity Award

GOLDMINE

- In May of 2020, Armstead donated $50,000 to Sacramento's Mercy Housing for students to be able to participate in distance learning. The donation will provide 350 Chromebooks to students, as well as one-year of pre-paid internet service for those families, many of whom have multiple students in their households. Also included in the donation were education kits consisting of learning activities, books, supplies and even healthy snacks benefiting children of all ages who remain physically at home, unable to visit their schools because of the coronavirus pandemic. "These are things that people should have access to, these are things that students in other communities do have access to, so this is just a baseline of essential needs for them to be successful in the classroom," said Armstead. "I think people need to realize that some of the things we're experiencing right now maybe the new norm, even when the virus calms down." Armstead took the time to personally deliver the Chromebooks to the recipients of the donation. "A lot of students had been disengaged before the pandemic, but even more so with school getting canceled and having to learn virtually and not having the technology and access," said Armstead. "I'm happy that I launched the foundation last year so that I could try to address some of these issues in my community."



- Armstead returned to his hometown of Sacramento during the 2019 offseason to host the second charity weekend for his foundation, Armstead Academic Project, which promotes equal opportunities through education. The festivities kicked off as teammates Ronald Blair III, Richard Sherman, Jaquiski Tartt and Ahkello Witherspoon joined Armstead for a charity gala and silent auction which raised more than $100,000. Armstead then led a youth camp the following morning, where the children were able to get hands-on lessons from the NFL players. Throughout the day, Armstead stressed the importance of hard work, sportsmanship and teamwork.

ARMSTEAD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Named the 49ers representative for the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award in 2020, which recognizes an NFL player for his excellence on and off the field.
- Named the Perry/Yonamine Unity Award recipient in 2020. The award is presented to the 49ers player who exhibits an exceptional commitment to promoting unity within the team and in their community. The Perry/Yonamine Unity Award is named for the former 49ers players and pioneers of unity and diversity, Joe "The Jet" Perry and Wally Yonamine, and is voted on by the players.
- Lists his parents, Guss and Christa, as the most influential people in his life. He also gives credit to his grandfather, Willie B. Armstead, an Air Force veteran, for instilling the value of integrity that his parents have passed along to him. "A lot of things he instilled in my dad have carried down to me. Having a family member who is more courageous than you can imagine and who served his country is a huge honor."
- Played both basketball and football at Oregon before focusing only on football in 2014.
- During Super Bowl 50's Media Day, Armstead joined Sacramento's ABC10 sports team as a reporter to learn what it is like to cover NFL players during one of the most hectic events of the year. Held at SAP Center in San Jose, Armstead interviewed former teammates, fans, media members and Miss Universe. "It's like a feeding frenzy - everyone running around, and being part of that frenzy was a unique experience," said Armstead during the event.

ARMSTEAD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- During the 2020 offseason, Armstead began implementing several installments of Story time with Arik Armstead using virtual platforms. For Earth Day, Armstead surprised a virtual classroom of 20 second-grade students with a story time, Q&A and conversations about the environment. For Mother's Day, he and his mom, Christa, read "Guess How Much I Love You" on the 49ers Instagram account. Education is at the forefront of Armstead's commitment to the Bay Area, as the defensive lineman founded the Armstead Academic Project to ensure every student, no matter their socioeconomic status, has direct access to a quality education through a positive learning environment and resources needed in order to thrive and be successful.
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Armstead and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. In choosing the foundation Arik Armstead Academic Project which focuses on education equity, "I play for all children to have the right to quality education," said Armstead.





- Members of the 49ers defensive line spent time with 25 local youth from the Fam 1st Foundation at Shoe Palace for a special holiday shopping experience on December 16, 2019. The Fam 1st Foundation is based in Oakland and focuses on underserved youth, aiming to build new generations of innovative thinkers to create solutions for the future of Oakland and beyond.
- If Armstead wasn't in the NFL, he would be playing basketball. He was a three-year starter in basketball at Pleasant Grove High School in Sacramento and played two years at the University of Oregon before focusing solely on football for the 2014 season. He entered his high school senior season listed as the number three prospect in NorCalPrep.com's Top 40 rankings for the class of 2012. "A big part of the recruiting pitch from Oregon was they were going to let me play two sports. We only lost 5 games during my time there. I wanted to go somewhere with the chance to win and be a part of something special."

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In 2017, Armstead returned to his hometown of Sacramento to hold his Annual free youth football camp. The camp was held in Elk Grove, CA and sponsors made it possible for 200 scholarships to be offered to interested kids. The kids participated in both football and conditioning drills with the players and then were allowed to ask questions to discuss not only football, but school, healthy choices, and other topics. Armstead's goal was to provide campers with a unique experience on the football field, as well as insight into the hard work and dedication that are needed to make it to the NFL. "I want the kids to enjoy themselves while also coming away learning that they can do whatever they put their mind to," said Armstead. "I want to teach them the things that helped me get where I am now like the importance of education, work ethic, and faith."
- Armstead's brother, Armond, was forced to retire before ever playing a down in the NFL. After playing collegiately at USC, Armond became an All-Star for the Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League, helping the team win the league's 100th Grey Cup. He went on to sign with the New England Patriots in 2013, but medical issues forced him to hang up his cleats. "The biggest thing he has told me through this process is, 'at the end of the day, it's just football.' Having a brother who played at this level makes everything less overwhelming."



- In April of 2018, Armstead worked with Leataata Floyd Elementary and 916 Ink to host a trip to the Imaginarium, where the young students developed their artistic abilities, while learning how to be better at communicating. The event was in conjunction with Armstead's foundation, which focuses on assisting at-risk youth, particularly through the means of education.
- Armstead and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.



ARMSTEAD'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2015	SF	16	1	19	13	6	2.0	12.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2016	SF	8	4	21	11	10	2.5	4.5	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2017	SF	6	6	16	8	8	1.5	8.5	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2018	SF	16	16	48	33	15	3.0	19.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	SF	16	16	54	32	22	10.0	73.0	0	0	–	0	2	2	1	0
2020	SF	16	16	49	29	20	3.5	25.5	0	0	–	0	3	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**78**	**59**	**207**	**126**	**81**	**22.5**	**142.5**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**6**	**3**	**1**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	8	7	1	2.0	15.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**8**	**7**	**1**	**2.0**	**15.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 1: 2020 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Min. (9/14/15); **First Start:** vs. StL (1/3/16); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at Arz. (9/27/15 – QB Carson Palmer); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – QB Kirk Cousins); **First FF:** Regular Season – at Buf. (10/16/16 – QB Tyrod Taylor); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – QB Aaron Rodgers); **First FR:** Regular Season – at LAR (10/13/19 – QB Jared Goff); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/27/19 – 2.0; QB Kyle Allen); **Multi–Sack Games:** Regular Season – 4, Last at Dal. (12/20/20 – 2.0; QB Andy Dalton)

ARMSTEAD'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (4)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB	Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
10/27/19	vs. Car.	2.0	11.0	Kyle Allen (2.0)	11/24/19	vs. GB	2.0	13.0	Aaron Rodgers (2.0)
11/11/19	vs. Sea.	1.5	12.0	Russell Wilson (1.5)	12/20/20	at Dal.	2.0	17.0	Andy Dalton (2.0)

ARMSTEAD'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 8 (2 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20); Postseason – 3 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)

Solo: Regular Season – 5 (2 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20); Postseason – 3 vs. GB (1/19/20)

Assists: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last at LAC (9/30/18); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)

Sacks: Regular Season – 2.0 (3 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20); Postseason – 1.0 (2 times) Last vs. GB (1/19/20)

Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 1 vs. GB (1/19/20)

Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 at LAR (10/13/19)

Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (5 times) Last vs. LAR (10/18/20)

ARMSTEAD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (17th overall) draft choice by SF in 2015...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/8/16...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/17/17...Signed a five–year extension through 2024 with SF on 3/16/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/16/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/25/20.



AARON BANKS

65 | **OL**

6-5 × 325 × NOTRE DAME

9.3.97 × EL CERRITO, CA × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-2 IN '21

GOLDMINE

- Originally from El Cerrito, Banks grew up less than an hour from Levi's Stadium. For Draft Day, Banks and his large family rented a house in Napa to wait for his name to be called. Learning his football path brought him right back to where it all started, the moment was not lost on him. "[It's] crazy how this journey brought me right back home," Banks said. The chorus of screams from his family upon hearing his name associated with the hometown team resonates with Banks and his excitement to return.
- At El Cerrito High School, Banks was a dual-sport athlete as a center on the basketball team and an offensive and defensive lineman on the football team. The basketball team won the North Coast Section champion with Banks in the paint and he also helped El Cerrito to its first-ever NCS football championship in 2013.
- Banks has three dogs, two huskies and a pitbull mix. The dogs are named Waffles, Pancakes and Beans.

COLLEGE

Appeared in 38 games (31 starts) in 4 years (2017-20) at Notre Dame. As a senior in 2020, started all 12 games, including an appearance in the CFP Semi-final. Named First-Team AFCA All-America and Associated Press First-Team All-America as a senior. Started all 13 games as a junior in 2019 and helped the Irish rank 13th nationally in scoring offense. Played in all 13 games (6 starts) as a sophomore in 2018. Did not see game action as a freshman in 2017.



BANKS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Was given the nickname 'The Dancing Bear' by former Notre Dame offensive coordinator Chip Long due to his energy and playing style.
- As a sophomore at Notre Dame, hosted pizza night every Thursday night in his apartment to help the offensive line bond off the field. "We have those guys every week, it's our pizza night. But it's not always at our house. We move it around a little bit," Banks said. "Pizza night has been a thing among the o-line for a long time, and it's a tradition."
- While attending El Cerrito (CA) HS, Banks, realizing that the school's weight room was limited, took it upon himself to find additional ways to train in a local gym. "Yeah, we didn't have a lot of weights," Banks said. "So myself and my little brother would go before school, at like 4:30 in the morning and go lift."

PERSONAL

- Attended El Cerrito (CA) HS where he was named American Family Insurance first team all-USA California and first team *San Francisco Chronicle* all-metro in 2016
- Majored in film, television and theatre at Notre Dame.
- Born Aaron Banks (9/3/97) in Alameda, CA.

BANKS' CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 0/0

BANKS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 2nd–round (48th overall) draft choice by SF in 2021.



NICK BOSA

97 **DL** 6-4 × 266 × OHIO STATE

10.23.97 × FORT LAUDERDALE, FL × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1 IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: AP NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year, Pepsi Rookie of the Year, *Sporting News* Rookie of the Year, PFWA Rookie of the Year, PFWA Defensive Rookie of the Year, PFWA All-Rookie Team, NFC Pro Bowl, NFC Defensive Player of the Month (October), Defensive Rookie of the Month (October), NFC Defensive Player of the Week (Week 5 and Week 8)

PRO BOWL ORLANDO 2019

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Registered 9.0 sacks in his rookie season, the 4th-most by a 49ers rookie since 1982.

MOST SACKS IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A 49ERS ROOKIE, SINCE 1982

	Player	Year	Sacks
1.	LB Aldon Smith	2011	14.0
2.	LB Charles Haley	1986	12.0
3.	DT Dana Stubblefield	1993	10.5
4.	**DL Nick Bosa**	**2019**	**9.0**
5.	DE Andre Carter	2001	6.5

GOLDMINE



- Bosa's father, John, a former member of the Miami Dolphins, encouraged sons Nick and Joey to try other sports like tennis, golf and baseball. However, Nick only had one sport in mind, and he let his parents know it. "Nick threw temper tantrums," John said. After successfully convincing his parents to let him play football, Nick gave everything he had to the sport. Even as a kid on the field, he wasn't afraid to speak his mind. Early in his football career, Cheryl watched from the sideline at practice as Nick approached a coach. "I find out later they'd put Nick with the offense," she recalled. "And he walked up to this guy, totally by himself, tugged on his shirt and said, 'I don't want to play offense. I want to play defense.'"



- Participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.

BOSA'S GOLDEN NUGGETS



- His father, John, was selected 16th overall by the Miami Dolphins in the 1987 NFL Draft. The following season, Miami chose his future uncle, Eric Kumerow, also 16th overall.
- The San Diego Chargers selected his brother, Joey, 3rd overall in the 2016 NFL Draft.
- The Bosa brothers had nicknames growing up, with Joey's being Big Bear and Nick's as Smaller Bear.
- In 2017, was the winner of the Big Ten's Smith-Brown Defensive Lineman of the Year Award, becoming the fourth-consecutive member of Ohio State to win the award, following his brother, Joey (2014-15) and Indianapolis Colts DE Tyquan Lewis (2016).

BOSA'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

BOSA'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	16	14	47	32	15	9.0	77.0	1	46	46	0	2	1	2	6
2020	SF	2	2	6	3	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**18**	**16**	**53**	**35**	**18**	**9.0**	**77.0**	**1**	**46**	**46**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**2**	**6**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	15	11	4	4.0	35.0	0	0	–	0	2	1	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**15**	**11**	**4**	**4.0**	**35.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First Start:** vs. Pit. (9/22/19); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at TB (9/8/19 – QB Jameis Winston); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – QB Kirk Cousins); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs. Cle. (10/7/19 – QB Baker Mayfield); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – QB Patrick Mahomes); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. Cle. (10/7/19 – QB Baker Mayfield); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. Cle. (10/7/19 – 2.0; QB Baker Mayfield); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 2.0; QB Kirk Cousins); **Multi–Sack Games:** Regular Season – 2, Last vs. Car. (10/27/19 – 3.0; QB Kyle Allen); Postseason – 1, vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 2.0; QB Kirk Cousins); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/27/19 – QB Kyle Allen)

BOSA'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (3)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
10/7/19	vs. Cle.	2.0	21.0	Baker Mayfield (2.0)
10/27/19	vs. Car.	3.0	25.0	Kyle Allen (3.0)
1/11/20*	vs. Min.	2.0	15.0	Kirk Cousins (2.0)

*Postseason

BOSA'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 8 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 6 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 5 (2 times) Last at Sea. (12/29/19); Postseason – 6 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 5 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 2 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 3.0 vs. Car. (10/27/19); Postseason – 2.0 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. GB (11/24/19)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NO (12/8/19); Postseason – 1 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 vs. Car. (10/27/19)

BOSA'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (2nd overall) draft choice by SF in 2019...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/23/20.



JAKE BRENDEL

64 | **OL**

6-4 × 299 × UCLA

9.10.92 × PLANO, TX × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '20

GOLDMINE

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during the 2018 season. Brendel represented the foundation, "Living for Zachary," named for former high school teammate Zachary Schraw, who passed away in 2009 on the Plano East High School football field. He died suddenly of cardiac arrest. "If there was an AED (automated external defibrillator) nearby, it could have saved Zachary's life, might have brought his heart back to life," Brendel said. "The foundation is trying to make sure the next time that happens, a life can be saved."





BRENDEL'S GOLDEN NUGGET

- Growing up, Brendel's family was involved in local musical theater. During a production of "Annie," Brendel's dad, Bill, played "Daddy Warbucks," his mom was the musical director and Lauren and Jake played two background actors. "Jake was the dancer. The kid could dance and sing," said Bill.
- Enjoys fishing, particularly for bass, bluegills and walleye.
- Spent much of his childhood participating in various sports, such as football, basketball, baseball, lacrosse, wrestling and was a competitive swimmer in the backstroke and breaststroke.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- As a senior at UCLA in 2015, Brendel and his teammates suited up to play in their senior game at the Rose Bowl. He was joined by his entire family, including older sister, Lauren. Lauren had officially made captain in the Air Force the week before, and decided to skip her ceremonial pinning in order to watch her brother play. "It was great to have her there, especially being Military Appreciation Day," Jake said. "She loved every single aspect of it." Lauren, through her various assignments in the Air Force, was forced to miss a majority of her brother's games, but knew she wanted to be there for this one. "My feeling was, I'll be pinned for major, the next promotion, and then my family can be there," Lauren said. "Senior night was a one and only type thing for Jake. I couldn't miss that ceremony."



BRENDEL'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 21/3: 2016 (1/0); 2017 (16/0); 2018 (4/3); 2019 (0/0)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 1/0: 2016 (1/0)

Additional Statistics:
Tackles – 1: 2018 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. SF (11/27/16); **First Start:** at GB (11/11/18)

BRENDEL'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by Dal. on 5/6/16...Waived by Dal. on 9/3/16...Signed to Dal. practice squad on 9/4/16...Placed on practice squad Injured Reserve List on 9/22/16...Released by Dal. on 9/29/16...Signed to Mia. practice squad on 10/11/16...Promoted to Mia. active roster on 11/19/16...Signed a one–year deal with Mia. on 4/4/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/2/18...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 11/2/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/12/18...Signed a one–year deal with Den. on 4/18/19...Waived by Den. on 8/31/19...Signed a one–year deal with Bal. on 11/27/19...Waived by Bal. on 11/30/19...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 2/7/20...Placed on the Reserve/Opt–Out List on 8/7/20... Released on 8/31/21... Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 9/1/21.



DANIEL BRUNSKILL

60 | **OL**

6-5 × 300 × SAN DIEGO STATE

1.27.94 × VALLEY CENTER, CA × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: 49ers Community Relations Youth Football Ambassador Award

2020: 49ers Community Relations Veteran Player Award

GOLDMINE

- In February of 2020, Brunskill joined current and former NFL players in Budapest, Hungary, where the group conducted two days of free football camps for men, women and children, while additionally hosting community activities. The camps are organized by American Football Without Barriers, a nonprofit foundation that was co-created by former NFL tight end Gary Barnidge. Its mission is to teach American football to those all around the globe. While abroad, Brunskill got to experience the culture of Hungary, including taking a picture with a falcon at Budapest Castle. "It was an amazing culture and I got to experience some pretty rich history over there," Brunskill said. "They don't have a big group playing, but they have a lot of fans. They're definitely coming along. It was interesting to see how many people actually cared about the NFL over there and love the game."





- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Brunskill and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



BRUNSKILL'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Walked on at San Diego State where he began his career as a tight end. Prior to his senior season, made the switch to his high school position of offensive lineman for the Aztecs and went on to start all 14 games at right tackle.
- As a member of the Alliance of American Football's (AAF) San Diego Fleet in 2019, was coached by former NFL head coach, Mike Martz.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Brunskill and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Brunskill representing Wishes for Warriors.



- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Brunskill and some of his teammates joined the students at Williamson Elementary School to talk about inclusion and anti-bullying. The players spoke at an assembly before helping the kids write compliment cards and discuss how to be kind to one another.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Brunskill and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Brunskill chose the Melanoma Research Foundation and Vietnam Veterans of America, saying, "I play for my cousins battling melanoma, and for Vietnam veterans like my uncle."



BRUNSKILL'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 30/23: 2019 (14/7); 2020 (16/16)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 3/0: 2019 (3/0)

Additional Statistics:
Tackles – 1: 2019 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Pit. (9/22/19); **First Start:** at LAR (10/13/19)

BRUNSKILL'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent with Atl. on 5/1/17...Waived by Atl. on 9/2/17...Signed to Atl. practice squad on 9/3/17...Signed to Reserve/Future contract with Atl. on 1/15/18...Waived by Atl. on 9/1/18...Signed to Atl. practice squad on 9/2/18...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 4/12/19...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/20/20...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 4/13/21.



SHON COLEMAN

78 | **T**

6-5 × 310 × AUBURN

11.25.91 × OLIVE BRANCH, MS × 5TH YEAR × ACQUIRED TR IN '18 - CLE

GOLDMINE

- Coleman was diagnosed with leukemia in the spring of 2010. After undergoing treatment at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, he was eventually cleared to return to the field in 2012. Coleman returned to the hospital in 2016 for his Draft party, where he watched the Draft with patients and medical staffers. "There's a lot of young kids that went through the same things I went through that look up to me," Coleman said. "They are also an inspiration to me. My engine is still running to let people know you can beat the odds and dreams never fade."



COLEMAN'S GOLDEN NUGGET

After defeating acute lymphoblastic leukemia, Coleman was invited to announce a draft selection in the 2014 NFL Draft. As he left the stage, Roger Goodell told him, "I know I'll see you back here in a couple of years." Two years later, Goodell's words came true, as he was drafted by the Cleveland Browns in 2016.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Coleman and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.



COLEMAN'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 23/16: 2016 (7/0); 2017 (16/16); 2018 (0/0); 2019 (IR)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 0/0: 2019 (IR)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at Ten. (10/16/16); **First Start:** vs. Pit. (9/10/17)

COLEMAN'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 3rd–round (76th overall) draft choice by Cle. in 2016...Traded to SF on 8/31/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 8/12/19...Placed on the Re–serve/Opt–Out List on 8/7/20... Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 8/31/21.



TOM COMPTON

66 | **OL**

6-6 × 315 × SOUTH DAKOTA

5.10.89 × ROSEMOUNT, MN × 9TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '20

GOLDMINE

- In an effort to give back to the community, Compton donated $75,000 to Hope Fieldhouse in his hometown of Rosemount, MN, a community center seeking to enhance and enrich the lives of children and their families within the community by providing a quality athletic facility that is purposeful, safe and fun. His donation helped contribute to the funding needed to complete the athletic center. "The first I heard about it was from my friend growing up," Compton said in April of 2019. "He reached out to me about what they were trying to get done and as soon as he told me about it, I was immediately intrigued and wanted to help out as much as I could because I think it's a great idea. I feel like that's been a need in Rosemount for a long time. Just having enough field space for youth sports is huge and especially with our weather here, having something indoors is always nice. It just made sense."



COMPTON'S GOLDEN NUGGETS



- Had a part in the movie *Sharknado 3*, playing the role of a TV reporter stationed in front of the White House.
- Drafted by Washington in the 6th round (193rd overall) of the 2012 NFL Draft, Compton was the first player from the University of South Dakota to be drafted since 1990 (RB David Elle).

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During the 2019 holiday season, Compton and his teammates, in conjunction with the NYPD, spent an evening at Dick's Sporting Goods in East Hanover, NJ to provide a shopping spree for children from Brooklyn. The players and NYPD officers spent the night picking out gifts and spending time with the children.

COMPTON'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 106/37: 2012 (0/0); 2013 (15/0); 2014 (16/9); 2015 (13/1); 2016 (16/0); 2017 (11/5); 2018 (14/14); 2019 (14/5); 2020 (7/3)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 4/0: 2015 (1/0); 2016 (3/0)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Phi. (9/9/13); **First Start:** at Dal. (10/27/14)

COMPTON'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 6th–round (193rd overall) draft choice by Was. in 2012...Waived by Was. on 8/31/12...Signed to Was. practice squad on 9/3/12...Promoted to Was. active roster on 12/5/12...Re–signed with Was. on a one–year contract on 2/27/15...Signed a one–year deal with Atl. on 3/16/16...Signed a one–year deal with Chi. on 3/11/17...Signed a one–year deal with Min. on 3/22/18...Signed a one–year deal with NYJ on 3/18/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/28/19...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 4/3/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/12/20...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 1/2/21...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 4/28/21.



ROSS DWELLEY

82 **TE** 6-5 × 235 × SAN DIEGO

1.26.95 × EL DORADO HILLS, CA × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '18

GOLDMINE



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Dwelley and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Dwelley chose the Autism Tree Project Foundation and said, "I play for Autism awareness."
- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.



- Fellow TE George Kittle partnered with the Jessie Rees Foundation to pass out JoyJars filled with toys and games at a local children's hospital. Dwelley attended the event and was joined by several of his teammates including, TE Garrett Celek, TE Daniel Helm, QB Nick Mullens and LB Fred Warner who helped him spread holiday cheer and lift the spirits of everyone they met.



DWELLEY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Dwelley became the seventh player (WR Jamal Agnew, DE Eric Bakhtiari, WR Michael Gasperson, QB Josh Johnson, WR Matt Maslowski, WR John Matthews) from the University of San Diego to make an NFL roster, and the fourth to suit up for the 49ers.
- Dwelley graduated from San Diego with a degree in industrial systems engineering. "I've always had a fascination with space." Dwelley said. "My education is definitely important to me. I'm really proud of graduating."

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- On November 26th, 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.
- The 49ers hosted a flag football clinic for local first responders and their children at the team facility in October of 2018. Dwelley and his teammates taught the children the fundamentals of the game before hitting the field for drills and games. The 100-plus guests also had the opportunity to try on equipment and participate in a photoshoot.

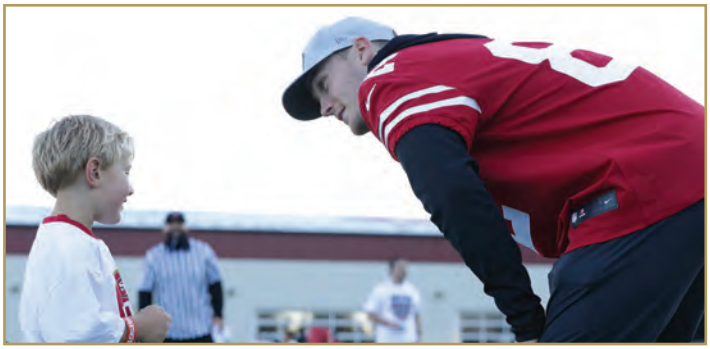
DWELLEY'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers worked alongside the humanitarian-relief organization Convoy of Hope in December of 2018, and hosted 1,500 guests in-need from Bay Area nonprofits and schools at Levi's® Stadium for a free holiday resource fair. Dwelley and his 49ers teammates distributed groceries, toys, books, shoes and other holiday offerings to the guests. The attendees also received haircuts, utilized health resources and took family portraits or professional headshots.



DWELLEY'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	16	6	15	91	6.1	25	2	0	0	–	–	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**43**	**15**	**36**	**350**	**9.7**	**36**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
2019	SF	3	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
TOTALS		**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Special Teams Tackles – 8: 2018 (2); 2019 (3); 2020 (3)
Tackles – 1: 2019 (1)
Special Teams Forced Fumbles – 1: 2019 (1)
Kick Returns – 1: 2020 (1)
Kick Return Yards – 20: 2020 (20)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at GB (10/15/18); **First Start:** at LAR (10/13/19); **First Reception:** Regular Season – vs. Oak. (11/1/18 – 8–yd. pass from QB Nick Mullens); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (11/17/19 – 4–yd. TD pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Multi–TD Game:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (11/17/19 – 2 TDs); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs. Atl. (12/15/19 – RB Kenjon Barner)

DWELLEY'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last at NYG (9/27/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 52 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 36 vs. GB (11/5/20)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 2 vs. Arz. (11/17/19)
Kickoff Returns: Regular Season – 1 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Kickoff Return Yards: Regular Season – 20 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Long Kickoff Return: Regular Season – 20 vs. GB (11/5/20)

DWELLEY'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 4/30/18...Waived by SF on 9/1/18...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/2/18...Promoted to SF active roster on 10/15/18...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/24/20...Signed a one–year contract extension through 2021 with SF on 3/5/21.



SAMSON EBUKAM

56 | **DL**

6-3 × 245 × EASTERN WASHINGTON

5.9.95 × PORTLAND, OR × 5TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE



- Ebukam was born "Nnamaka Samson Ebukam" on the banks of the Niger River just behind the Nile and the Congo as the youngest of seven siblings. The Ebukam family values education and betterment. From a young age, Ebukam watched as his father and siblings began leaving Nigeria for America in search of new opportunities. Ebukam became accustomed to living away from his family for years, until at the age of nine, his father Tobias sent for him to make the trek to America. "They had to sacrifice their own happiness just to make sure we had a better future, and for that I'm eternally grateful," Ebukam said. He would later learn English from his mother.
- With the only sport he knew being soccer, it wasn't until coach Dan Wood at David Douglas (Portland, OR) HS witnessed Ebukam's explosiveness and begged him to join the football team. Although it took his parents some convincing, the dream of college football and a free education took precedence. Receiving two scholarship offers out of high school, Ebukam fell in love with Eastern Washington and became a standout in the FCS.

EBUKAM'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Last name is pronounced EH-boo-kahm.
- Learned how to play football in high school after years of playing soccer in his hometown of Onitsha, Nigeria. "I didn't even know what basketball was," Ebukam said. "I didn't know what football was. I knew about track & field, but that was just called running."

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Ebukam beams with pride when he thinks about his journey and hometown. He founded the T&S Foundation, named after his parents Tobias and Ebukam who provided every resource to get him to where he is today. The mission of his foundation is to fulfill basic humanitarian needs for the people of Nigera and aims to aid displacement, food insecurity, climate-related issues, disease outbreaks, domestic violence and more. Ebukam partners with companies such as Adidas, Kellogg's, Baller Bellys, FIJI Water and the NFLPA to make a difference in his home country.

EBUKAM'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

EBUKAM'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2017	LAR	16	2	22	20	2	2.0	21.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2018	LAR	16	14	39	24	15	3.0	11.0	1	25	25t	1	1	3	2	11t
2019	LAR	16	5	47	26	21	4.5	32.0	0	0	–	0	4	1	2	0
2020	LAR	16	14	27	14	13	4.5	20.0	0	0	–	0	1	1	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**64**	**35**	**135**	**84**	**51**	**14.0**	**84.0**	**1**	**25**	**25t**	**1**	**6**	**6**	**4**	**11t**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2017	LAR	1	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2018	LAR	3	2	8	7	1	0.0	0	0	0	–	0	1	1	0	0
2020	LAR	2	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**6**	**2**	**10**	**9**	**1**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 15: 2017 (9); 2018 (1); 2019 (1); 2020 (4)
Special Teams Forced Fumbles – Postseason – 1: 2020 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Ind. (9/10/17); **First Start:** at Arz. (12/3/17); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Hou (11/12/17); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs. Hou (11/12/17 – QB Tom Savage); Postseason – at NO (1/20/19; QB Drew Brees); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. KC (11/19/18 – QB Patrick Mahomes); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (12/8/19 – 2.0; QB Russell Wilson); **Multi–Sack Games:** Regular Season – 3, Last vs. Arz (1/3/21 – QBs Kyler Murray and Chris Streveler); **First TD:** Regular Season – vs. KC (11/19/18 – QB Patrick Mahomes)

EBUKAM'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (3)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
11/25/19	vs. Bal.	1.5	9	Lamar Jackson (1.5)
12/8/19	vs. Sea.	2.0	18	Russell Wilson (2.0)
1/3/21	vs. Arz.	2.0	9	Kyler Murray (1.0); Chris Streveler (1.0)

EBUKAM'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 7 vs. Bal (11/25/19); Postseason – 3 (2 times) Last vs. NE (2/3/19)
Solo: Regular Season – 5 at Arz. (12/3/17); Postseason – 3 vs. NE (2/3/19)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 (2 times) Last vs. Bal. (11/25/19); Postseason – 1 at NO (1/20/19)
Sacks: Regular Season – 2 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (1/3/21)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (6 times) Last vs. SF (11/29/20); Postseason – 1 vs. Dal. (1/12/19)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (6 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/20/20); 1 at NO (1/20/19)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (4 times) Last vs. Arz. (12/29/19)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 vs. KC (11/19/18)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 25 vs. KC (11/19/18)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 25t vs. KC (11/19/18)
Interception Returns for TD: Regular Season – 1 vs. KC (11/19/18)

EBUKAM'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 4th–round (125th overall) draft choice by LAR in 2017...Signed a two–year deal with SF on 3/19/21.



DEMETRIUS FLANNIGAN-FOWLES

45 **LB**

6-2 × 210 × ARIZONA

9.4.96 × TUCSON, AZ × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2020: Thomas Herrion Memorial Award

GOLDMINE



- Took part in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.
- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.



FLANNIGAN-FOWLES' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- In 2020, named the recipient of the 49ers Thomas Herrion Memorial Award, which was established in 2005 by 49ers owners Denise and John York and is presented to a rookie or first-year player who best represents the dream of Thomas Herrion. The recipient has taken advantage of every opportunity, turned it into a positive situation and made their dream turn into a reality. The award is voted on by the coaches.
- Flannigan-Fowles describes himself as a "momma's boy." While growing up, he and his mom, Kurtisha, would regularly have "date nights" and spend time together.
- Began playing football at the age of 6, when his uncle, Harold, signed him up for flag football.

FLANNIGAN-FOWLES' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

FLANNIGAN-FOWLES' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	–	–	–	PRACTICE SQUAD		–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2020	SF	11	0	4	3	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**11**	**0**	**4**	**3**	**1**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Special Teams Tackles – 5: 2020 (5)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at NYG (9/27/20)

FLANNIGAN-FOWLES' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: 2 at NYG (9/27/20)
Solo: 2 at NYG (9/27/20)
Assists: 1 vs. Sea. (1/3/21)

FLANNIGAN-FOWLES' TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 5/3/19...Waived by SF on 8/31/19...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/1/19...Placed on the practice squad Injured Reserve List on 12/10/19...Signed a two–year deal with SF on 2/5/20.



DEE FORD

55 **DL**

6-2 × 252 × AUBURN

3.19.91 × ODENVILLE, AL × 8TH YEAR × ACQUIRED TR IN '19 - KC

AWARDS & HONORS

2018: AFC Pro Bowl, AFC Defensive Player of the Month (October), AFC Defensive Player of the Week (Week 8)

PRO BOWL ORLANDO 2019

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- As a member of the Kansas City Chiefs in 2018, registered a career-high 13.0 sacks, ranking t-7th in the NFL and t-5th in the AFC and was named to the 2019 Pro Bowl.
- Finished the 2018 season with a career-high 7 FFs, tied for the most in the NFL. His 7 FFs ranked t-2nd in a single season in Chiefs history (Derrick Thomas – 8 FFs in 1992 & Jared Allen – 7 FFs in 2005).

MOST FFs IN THE NFL, 2018

	Player	FFs
1t.	**Dee Ford, KC**	**7**
	J.J. Watt, Hou.	7
3t.	Khalil Mack, Chi.	6
	T.J. Watt, Pit.	6
5.	Justin Houston, KC	5

GOLDMINE

- Instead of spending opening night of the 2014 NFL Draft in New York City with fellow draft hopefuls, Ford was in Anniston, AL, gathered with family and friends just singing gospel and spending time together. The night was about more than Dee, as the entire Ford family was celebrating. His mother, Debbie, was recently certified as a registered nurse, while his brother had also received a new job offer.
- A multi-talented individual, in addition to playing football, Ford has a strong musical background. With his parents as his biggest role models, Ford grew up watching his mother and father as musicians with multiple gospel groups. He developed the ability to play the drums which later led to him picking up the piano. Said Ford, "Music was all I saw when I was little. Eventually it just grew into me. It became a part of me."



FORD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- When Ford was younger, his mother and father created a traveling band with Dee and his sister serving as backup singers and his cousin as a co-lead singer in the "Ford Connection."
- While at St. Clair County (Odenville, AL) High School, participated in the school's jazz band.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- Prior to San Francisco's Week 14 matchup in New Orleans during the 2019 season, the 49ers stayed in Bradenton, FL for the week. Ford stopped by the local Guitar Center and met Adam Birmingham, a local high school student who was testing out a guitar when Ford approached him. After the two talked and played music together, Ford offered to buy the guitar for him. "I was just there playing and I saw this kid," said Ford. "He was really, really good. He reminded me of myself when I first learned how to play a keyboard and he was very passionate. My message to him was to keep that passion and don't let anyone take it away from you."
- In celebration of his trip to the 2019 Pro Bowl, Ford brought more than 35 friends and family members down to the festivities in Orlando, FL. Said Ford, "I'm from down south, so there's some family that don't have a chance to come out to the Midwest. It's a real mixture of a lot of people. It'll cost a little penny, but I think the experience is worth it."

FORD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Ford and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Ford represented the Boys & Girls Club of Oakland.



FORD'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	KC	16	0	8	4	4	1.5	10.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2015	KC	14	5	23	21	2	4.0	25.0	0	0	–	0	2	0	0	0
2016	KC	15	14	38	25	13	10.0	52.5	0	0	–	0	2	1	0	0
2017	KC	6	6	13	11	2	2.0	16.0	0	0	–	0	1	1	0	0
2018	KC	16	16	55	42	13	13.0	71.0	0	0	–	0	0	7	0	0
2019	SF	11	2	13	10	3	6.5	48.0	0	0	–	0	1	2	0	0
2020	SF	1	0	3	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**79**	**43**	**153**	**114**	**39**	**37.0**	**222.5**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**7**	**11**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2015	KC	2	1	6	6	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2016	KC	1	1	3	1	2	0.5	3.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2017	KC	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Back)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2018	KC	2	2	4	4	0	1.0	9.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2019	SF	3	0	4	3	1	1.0	4.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**8**	**4**	**17**	**14**	**3**	**2.5**	**16.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Ten. (9/7/14); **First Start:** at Oak. (12/6/15); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. StL (10/26/14 – QB Austin Davis); Postseason – vs. Pit. (1/15/16 – QB Ben Roethlisberger); **First FF:** Regular Season – at Oak. (10/16/16 – QB Derek Carr); Postseason – vs. Ind. (1/12/19 – QB Andrew Luck); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. SD (12/13/15 – 3.0; QB Philip Rivers); **Multi–Sack Games:** Regular Season – 7, Last at LAR (10/13/19 – 1.5; QB Jared Goff)

FORD'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (7)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
12/13/15	vs. SD	3.0	17.0	Philip Rivers (3.0)
10/16/16	at Oak.	2.0	4.0	Derek Carr (2.0)
10/30/16	at Ind.	3.5	21.0	Andrew Luck (3.5)
11/6/16	vs. Jax.	2.0	8.0	Blake Bortles (2.0)
10/28/18	vs. Den.	3.0	19.0	Case Keenum (3.0)
12/2/18	at Oak.	1.5	6.0	Derek Carr (1.5)
10/13/19	at LAR	1.5	13.0	Jared Goff (1.5)

FORD'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 7 (2 times) Last at Sea. (12/23/18); Postseason – 4 vs. Ind. (1/12/19)
Solo: Regular Season – 7 vs. SD (12/13/15); Postseason – 4 vs. Ind. (1/12/19)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 (2 times) Last at Sea. (12/23/18); Postseason – 2 vs. Pit. (1/15/17)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (6 times) Last vs. Phi. (9/17/17)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 2 vs. Den. (10/28/18); Postseason – 1 vs. Ind. (1/12/19)
Sacks: Regular Season – 3.5 at Ind. (10/30/16); Postseason – 1.0 (2 times) Last vs. Min. (1/11/20)

FORD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (23rd overall) draft choice by KC in 2014...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/8/17...Designated Non–Exclusive Franchise Tag by KC on 3/4/19...Traded to SF on 3/13/19...Signed a five–year deal with SF on 3/13/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/3/20.



JIMMY GAROPPOLO

10 | **QB** | 6-2 • 225 • EASTERN ILLINOIS

11.2.91 • ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL • 8TH YEAR • ACQUIRED TR IN '17 - NE

AWARDS & HONORS

2017: FedEx Air Player of the Week (Week 15), Castrol EDGE Clutch Performer of the Week (Week 15 & Week 16)

2019: NFC Offensive Player of the Week (Week 14), *Sporting News* Comeback Player of the Year

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- With a 34-31 victory vs. LAR (12/21/19) Garoppolo improved to 20-5 as a starter in the NFL, becoming the 6th QB in the Super Bowl era to win at least 20 of his first 25 career starts.
- His 67.5 career completion percentage as a member of the 49ers ranks 1st in franchise history (min. 500 atts.).
- With wins in each of his 1st five starts with the 49ers [15-14 at Chi. (12/3/17); 26-16 at Hou. (12/10/17); 25-23 vs. Ten. (12/17/17); 44-33 vs. Jax. (12/24/17); 34-13 at LAR (12/31)], he became the 1st 49ers QB since the merger in 1970 to win each of his 1st five starts with the team.

MOST QB WINS THROUGH 25 CAREER STARTS, SUPER BOWL ERA

	Player	Wins
1.	Ben Roethlisberger, Pit.	22
2.	Dan Marino, Mia.	21
3t.	**Jimmy Garoppolo, NE/SF**	**20**
	Pat Haden, LAR	20
	Roger Staubauch, Dal.	20
	Kurt Warner, StL	20

HIGHEST CAREER COMP. PCT., FRANCHISE HISTORY (MIN. 500 ATTS.)

	Player	Comp. %
1.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**67.5**
2.	Steve Young	65.8
3.	Nick Mullens	64.9
4.	Joe Montana	63.7
5.	Shaun Hill	61.7

GAROPPOLO'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Is a two-time Super Bowl champion (XLIX & LI) as a member of the New England Patriots.
- Registered 13,089 yards in total offense at Eastern Illinois, joining New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton (10,298 yards; 1983-86) as the only players in EIU history to generate at least 10,000 yards in total offense.
- Following his senior season at Eastern Illinois in 2013, was named the Walter Payton Award winner. The Award is given to the most outstanding offensive player in the Division I Football Championship Subdivision.
- In addition to Garoppolo, Eastern Illinois has produced a fair share of NFL products including Mike Shanahan, former Super Bowl winning NFL head coach and father of current 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan, Chicago Bears general manager Ryan Pace, New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton and former Dallas Cowboys QB and current TV analyst Tony Romo.
- Brother, Mike, played linebacker at Western Illinois (2007-11).

GAROPPOLO'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021																	Total	Pct.
Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yds	TD	Int	Lg	Sk/Yds	Rtg	Rsh	Yds	TD	Net Yds.	Offense
Sep 12	at Det																
Sep 19	at Phi																
Sep 26	GB																
Oct 3	Sea																
Oct 10	at Arz																
Oct 24	Ind																
Oct 31	at Chi																
Nov 7	Arz																
Nov 15	LAR																
Nov 21	at Jax																
Nov 28	Min																
Dec 5	at Sea																
Dec 12	at Cin																
Dec 19	Atl																
Dec 23	at Ten																
Jan 2	Hou																
Jan 9	at LAR																
TOTALS																	

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- With a 98.1 career quarterback rating as a member of the 49ers, Garoppolo ranks 2nd in franchise history (min. 500 atts.). His 8.3 career average yds. per attempt as a 49er ranks 1st in franchise history (min. 500 atts.).

HIGHEST CAREER QB RATING, FRANCHISE HISTORY (MIN. 500 ATTS.)

	Player	QB Rating
1.	Steve Young	101.4
2.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**98.1**
3.	Joe Montana	93.5
4.	Colin Kaepernick	88.9
5.	Jeff Garcia	88.3

HIGHEST CAREER AVG. YDS./ATT., FRANCHISE HISTORY (MIN. 500 ATTS.)

	Player	Yds./Att.
1.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**8.3**
2.	Steve Young	8.2
3.	Nick Mullens	8.0
4.	Joe Montana	7.6
5.	Y.A. Tittle	7.3

- His 1,542 passing yds. in his 1st five starts with the team are the most by a 49ers QB in his 1st five starts in franchise history and ranks 4th among all QBs in their 1st five starts with a new team since the merger in 1970.

MOST PASSING YDS. BY A 49ERS QB IN 1ST 5 STARTS, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Atts.	Comps.	Pct.	Yds.	TDs	INTs
1.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**176**	**118**	**67.0**	**1,542**	**6**	**5**
2.	Nick Mullens	174	111	63.8	1,479	9	6
3.	Jeff Kemp	166	103	62.0	1,385	10	4
4.	Elvis Grbac	164	117	71.3	1,376	8	4
5.	Steve Bono	185	105	56.8	1,251	7	3

MOST PASSING YDS. IN 1ST 5 STARTS WITH A TEAM, SINCE 1970

	Player	Team	Year	Yds.
1.	Drew Bledsoe	Buffalo	2002	1,762
2.	Trent Green	St. Louis	2000	1,668
3.	Cam Newton	Carolina	2011	1,610
4.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**San Francisco**	**2017**	**1,542**
5.	Kirk Cousins	Washington	2012-14	1,503

- According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Garoppolo is 1 of 5 QBs to win their 1st seven NFL starts since the merger in 1970.
- With wins at Chi. (12/3/17), at Hou. (12/10/17) and at LAR (12/31/17), he is the 3rd 49ers QB since the merger in 1970 to win each of his 1st three road starts. QB Elvis Grbac won each of his 1st four road starts from 1995-96 and QB Jim Plunkett won his 1st three starts on the road in 1976.
- In his 1st start as a member of the 49ers, completed 26 of 37 atts. for a career-high 293 yds. at Chi. (12/3/17). According to the Elias Sports Bureau, his 293 passing yds. set the franchise record for most passing yds. by a player in his 1st start with the team.

MOST CONSECUTIVE WINS BY A QB TO START HIS CAREER, SINCE 1970

	Player	Wins
1.	Ben Roethlisberger	15
2.	Mike Tomczak	10
3t.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**7**
	Dieter Brock	7
	Daunte Culpepper	7

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- His 2,038 passing yds. through his 1st seven NFL starts ranks 5th among all QBs since the merger in 1970.

MOST PASSING YDS. IN 1ST 7 CAREER STARTS, SINCE 1970

	Player	Year	Yds.
1.	Billy Volek	2003-04	2,305
2.	Patrick Mahomes	2017-18	2,149
3.	Cam Newton	2011	2,103
4.	Kirk Cousins	2012-14	2,043
5.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**2016-17**	**2,038**

- Became just the 5th QB in the last 30 years to make his 1st regular season start in a season-opening night game (9/11/16 vs. Arz.). Packers QB Aaron Rodgers was the last (2008, win vs. Minnesota), with Chargers QB Philip Rivers (2006) and former NFL QBs David Carr (2002) and Brian Griese (1999) before him. He finished 24 of 33 for 264 yds. and 1 TD.

GOLDMINE



- As a kid in suburban Chicago, Garoppolo and his three brothers occasionally rose early to join their dad, Tony, at his job. Tony is now a retired union electrician, with his career spanning more than 40 years. Tony instilled his work ethic into Jimmy. "But it was that blue-collar mentality. When you're raised like that, you don't know any different. All I knew was hard work, and it translates over to football." In May of 2019, Jimmy and Tony went to the Silicon Valley Career Technical Education Center in San Jose to speak to and congratulate over 90 recent high school graduates who decided to pursue a career in a skilled trade. A take on national signing day for high school athletes, each person would sign papers at a table, be rewarded with a cap and announce at the podium what trade they would follow. The event encourages students to take up a skill trade, something that doesn't require a four-year university. "This can help set the path earlier in kids' lives — they want to be in trades and they can get started in high school," Garoppolo said.
- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Garoppolo and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Garoppolo representing the Cal Fire Benevolent Foundation.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Garoppolo and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Garoppolo represented Make-A-Wish Greater Bay Area, and said, "I play for the kids who inspire me with their strength and courage."
- Garoppolo continued his giving theme in 2019, partnering with Men's Wearhouse on a suit drive, asking for donations of gently used suits, shirts, jackets, ties, slacks and shoes. The professional attire for men and women were passed along to local non-profit organizations, who provided them to those looking to re-enter the workplace. Done along with résumé-writing workshops, interview preparation courses and employment training programs, the objective is to create a confident job candidate, someone who shows up for an interview feeling well-prepared and looking the part. "It's kind of related to the football mentality of, look-good, feel-good, play-good," Garoppolo said of the drive. "You go in there with a suit and you're feeling good about yourself and your confidence is up, obviously you're going to perform better."
- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Garoppolo and some of his teammates visited the Akron Children's hospital as players went from room to room to visit and meet some of the young patients.



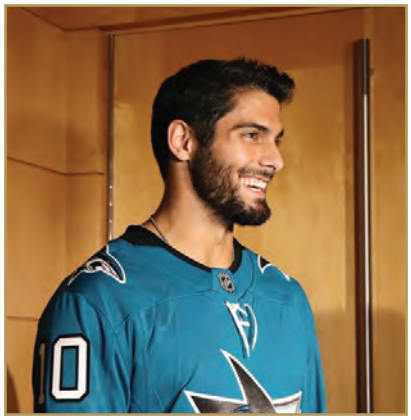


- During the 2019 offseason, members of the 49ers took part in the Second Annual Picnic on the Field, located on the Levi's Stadium field. Garoppolo and his teammates spent the day taking pictures with fans, who enjoyed music, food and games in support of the 49ers Foundation. The foundation, in conjunction with NFL Huddle for 100, partnered with Amazon to fill 1,000 backpacks full of school supplies. Fans and players joined together to assemble the packs, which were distributed throughout the community to children in need.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In May of 2016, Garoppolo, in partnership with AccessSportAmerica, volunteered at a football clinic for disabled high school students at Harvard Stadium. During the clinic, Garoppolo gave tips to participants on passing, blocking and other essential football skills. Garoppolo enjoyed the clinic so much, he returned to Harvard Stadium again in 2017 to hang out with the AccessSportAmerica students. Garoppolo said he felt honored to volunteer with AccessSportAmerica, and contribute to their efforts to inspire higher function and fitness for people living with challenges and disabilities through high-challenge sports and training.





- Garoppolo has quickly become integrated with the Bay Area and its sports franchises. Prior to Game 3 of the NHL's 2018 Western Conference Semifinals between the San Jose Sharks and Vegas Golden Knights, Garoppolo was asked to be the "honorary locker room door opener" at SAP Center in San Jose. The Sharks ask celebrities and well-respected sports figures to be the ceremonial door opener as the team heads out for final warmups and pregame introductions.
- For fans traveling to the San Francisco Zoo, they can keep an eye out for one of the zoo's snow leopards, Jimmy G, whom the zoo chose to name after the 49ers quarterback. The zoo received both a male and female snow leopard in early 2018 and quickly found a new name. You can find Jimmy G in the enclosure outside the Lion House near the Lion Fountain.



GAROPPOLO'S CAREER STATISTICS

				PASSING										RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	CMP	PCT	YDS	TD	INT	LG	SK	LST	RTG	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2014	NE	6	0	27	19	70.4	182	1	0	37	5	36	101.2	10	9	0.9	9	0
2015	NE	5	0	4	1	25.0	6	0	0	6	0	0	39.6	5	–5	–1.0	–1	0
2016	NE	6	2	63	43	68.3	502	4	0	37t	3	15	113.3	10	6	0.6	10	0
2017	NE/SF	6	5	178	120	67.4	1,560	7	5	61	8	57	96.2	15	11	0.7	8	1
2018	SF	3	3	89	53	59.6	718	5	3	56	13	97	90.0	8	33	4.1	13	0
2019	SF	16	16	476	329	69.1	3,978	27	13	75t	36	237	102.0	46	62	1.3	13	1
2020	SF	6	6	140	94	67.1	1,096	7	5	76t	11	77	92.4	10	25	2.5	9	0
2021	SF																	
TOTALS		**48**	**32**	**977**	**659**	**67.5**	**8,042**	**51**	**26**	**76t**	**76**	**519**	**98.9**	**104**	**141**	**1.4**	**13**	**2**

PLAYOFFS

				PASSING										RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	CMP	PCT	YDS	TD	INT	LG	SK	LST	RTG	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2014	NE	1	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	–	0	0	0.0	0	0	–	–	0
2015	NE	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	–	0	0	0.0	0	0	–	–	0
2016	NE	0	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	–	0	0	0.0	0	0	–	–	0
2019	SF	3	3	58	37	63.8	427	2	3	30	4	26	75.9	10	1	0.1	3	0
TOTALS		**4**	**3**	**58**	**37**	**63.8**	**427**	**2**	**3**	**30**	**4**	**26**	**75.9**	**10**	**1**	**0.1**	**3**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Fumbles–Lost – 13–5: 2016 (2–1); 2017 (1–0); 2018 (1–0); 2019 (7–4); 2020 (2–0)
Receptions – 2: 2016 (1); 2017 (1)
Receiving Yards – (–3): 2016 (3); 2017 (–6)
Tackles – 1: 2017 (1)
Fumble Recoveries – 2: 2018 (1); 2019 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at KC (9/29/14); **First Start:** at Arz. (9/11/16); **First Passing TD:** Regular Season – at KC (9/29/14 – 13–yd. pass to TE Rob Gronkowski); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 3–yd. pass to WR Kendrick Bourne); **First 300–Yd. Game:** Regular Season – at Hou. (12/10/17 – 334 yds.); **300–Yd. Games:** Regular Season – 5, Last at NO (12/8/19 – 349 yds.); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – vs. Jax. (12/24/17 – 1–yd. run); **First 400–Yd. Game:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (11/17/19 – 424 yds.)

GAROPPOLO'S CAREER 300-YARD PASSING GAMES (5)

Date	Opp	Att	Cmp	Yds	TD
12/10/17	at Hou.	33	20	334	1
12/17/17	vs. Ten.	43	31	381	1
10/31/19	at Arz.	37	28	317	4
11/17/19	vs. Arz.	45	34	424	4
12/8/19	at NO	35	26	349	4

GAROPPOLO'S CAREER HIGHS

Passes Attempted: Regular Season – 46 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 31 at KC (2/2/20)
Completions: Regular Season – 34 vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 20 at KC (2/2/20)
Completion Percentage: Regular Season – 87.5 at NYJ (9/20/20); Postseason – 64.5 at KC (2/2/20)
Passing Yards: Regular Season – 424 vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 219 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Pass: Regular Season – 76t vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 30 vs. GB (1/19/20)
QB Rating: Regular Season – 145.8 vs. GB (11/24/19); Postseason – 104.7 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Passing Touchdowns: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last at NO (12/8/19); Postseason – 1 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Rushes: Regular Season – 6 vs. Pit. (9/22/19); Postseason – 4 (2 times) Last vs. GB (1/19/20)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 20 at Was. (10/20/19); Postseason – 2 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 13 at KC (9/23/18); Postseason – 3 at KC (2/2/20)
Rushing Touchdowns: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at LAR (10/13/19)

GAROPPOLO'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 2nd–round (62nd overall) draft choice by NE in 2014...Traded to SF on 10/31/17...Signed a five–year extension through 2022 with SF on 2/8/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/26/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/5/20.



KEVIN GIVENS

90 **DL**

6-1 × 285 × PENN STATE

3.1.97 × NEWARK, NJ × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '19

GOLDMINE

- Members of the 49ers defensive line spent time with 25 local youth from the Fam 1st Foundation at Shoe Palace for a special holiday shopping experience on December 16, 2019. The Fam 1st Foundation is based in Oakland and focuses on underserved youth, aiming to build new generations of innovative thinkers to create solutions for the future of Oakland and beyond.
- Givens participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.



GIVENS' GOLDEN NUGGET

Was presented with the Jim O'Hora Award in 2018, which is presented annually to a defensive player on the Penn State football team for "exemplary conduct, loyalty, interest, attitude and improvement."

GIVENS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GIVENS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	1	0	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2020	SF	13	1	19	14	5	1.0	7.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	1	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**14**	**1**	**20**	**15**	**5**	**1.0**	**7.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Sea. (12/29/19); **First Start:** at LAR (11/29/20); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at NE (10/25/20 – QB Jarrett Stidham); **First FR:** Regular Season – at LAR (11/29/20 – RB Malcolm Brown)

GIVENS' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 1 (5 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 at NE (10/25/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 at LAR (11/29/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)

GIVENS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 5/3/19...Waived by SF on 8/31/19...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/1/19...Promoted to SF active roster on 12/28/19...Granted a roster exemption on 12/12/20...Roster exemption lifted on 12/17/20.



ROBBIE GOULD

9 | K | 6-0 • 190 • PENN STATE

12.6.82 • JERSEY SHORE, PA • 17TH YEAR • ACQUIRED FA IN '17

AWARDS & HONORS





2005: NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 9)

2006: NFC Pro Bowl, First-Team All-Pro, NFC Special Teams Player of the Month (October), NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 16)

2008: NFC Special Teams Player of the Month (December)

2015: Chicago Bears Ed Block Courage Award Recipient

2017: Perry/Yonamine Unity Award, NFC Special Teams Player of the Month (December), NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 13 & Week 15)

2018: 49ers Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award, NFC Special Teams Player of the Month (December), NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 2 & Week 15)

2019: NFC Special Teams Player of the Month (December), NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 16)

2020: NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 12)

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Became the 23rd kicker in NFL history to register at least 1,500 points in their career after scoring 14 points vs. Sea. (12/16/18).
- Became the 17th kicker in NFL history to register at least 1,700 points in their career after scoring 7 points at NO (11/15/20).
- In 2017, made 5-or-more FGs in three games [5 for 5 at Arz. (10/1); 5 for 5 at Chi. (12/3); 6 for 6 vs. Ten. (12/17)]. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, he is 1 of 3 players in NFL history to make 5-or-more FGs in three different games in a single season, joining Min. K Rich Karlis [7 for 7 vs. LAN (11/5/89); 5 for 5 vs. Atl. (12/10/89); 5 for 6 vs. Cin. (12/25/89)] and KC K Harrison Butker [5 for 5 at Hou. (10/8/17); 5 for 5 vs. Den. (10/30/17); 5 for 6 vs. Mia. (12/24/17)].
- Holds the 49ers franchise record for most consecutive FGM with 33 from 10/29/17 to 10/7/18. Started a new streak on 10/15/18 through 9/8/19 of 25 consecutive FGM.

MOST CONSECUTIVE FGM, FRANCHISE HISTORY

Player	Range	FGM
Robbie Gould	**10/29/17-10/7/18**	**33**
Phil Dawson	10/6/13-12/29/13	27
Robbie Gould	**10/15/18-9/8/19**	**25**

- Made 15 FGs in a three-game span [5 for 5 at Chi. (12/3/17); 4 for 4 at Houston (12/10/17); 6 for 6 vs. Ten. (12/17/17)]. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, Gould is the 1st player in NFL history to make 15 FGs in the three-game span.

GOULD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His last name is pronounced GOLD.
- Named the 49ers representative for the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award in 2018, which recognizes an NFL player for his excellence on and off the field.
- Ranks as the Chicago Bears franchise leader in total scoring (1,207 points), made FGs (276), made FGs of 50-or-more yds. (23) and FG pct. (85.4).
- Started The Goulden Touch Foundation in 2011 to help those in need. An avid golfer, he has hosted charity golf events through his foundation. In June of 2017, the Goulden Touch Foundation held two golfing events that benefited the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago in addition to the raising of funds in Gould's hometown of Lock Haven, PA.

GOULDEN TOUCH

- Named the recipient of the 49ers 2017 Perry/Yonamine Unity Award which is presented to the 49ers player who exhibits an exceptional commitment to promoting unity within the team and in their community. The Perry/Yonamine Unity Award is named for the former 49ers players and pioneers of unity and diversity, Joe "The Jet" Perry and Wally Yonamine, and is voted on by the players.
- Off the field, helped create Eventlify, which is aimed to change the way golf events are managed. Also hosts a podcast series titled "Kickin' It With Robbie," that features guests from all different realms of sports and entertainment.

GOULD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	Pts	XP–XPA	FG–FGA	Kick–By–Kick
Sep 12	at Det					
Sep 19	at Phi					
Sep 26	GB					
Oct 3	Sea					
Oct 10	at Arz					
Oct 24	Ind					
Oct 31	at Chi					
Nov 7	Arz					
Nov 15	LAR					
Nov 21	at Jax					
Nov 28	Min					
Dec 5	at Sea					
Dec 12	at Cin					
Dec 19	Atl					
Dec 23	at Ten					
Jan 2	Hou					
Jan 9	at LAR					
TOTALS						

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- Finished the 2017 season with a career-high 145 points. His 145 points ranks 2nd in franchise history for most points in a season.

MOST POINTS SCORED IN A SINGLE SEASON, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Points
1.	David Akers	2011	166
2.	**Robbie Gould**	**2017**	**145**
3.	Phil Dawson	2013	140
4.	Jerry Rice	1987	138
5.	Mike Cofer	1989	136

- His 39 made FGs in 2017 ranks t-3rd in NFL history for the most made FGs in a single season.

MOST MADE FIELD GOALS IN A SINGLE SEASON, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Team	Year	FGM	FGA	Pct.
1.	David Akers	San Francisco	2011	44	52	84.6
2.	Neil Rackers	Arizona	2005	40	42	95.2
3t.	**Robbie Gould**	**San Francisco**	**2017**	**39**	**41**	**95.1**
	Olindo Mare	Miami	1999	39	46	84.8
	Jeff Wilkins	St. Louis	2003	39	42	92.9

- Connected on a career-high 6 FGs (38, 48, 28, 50, 48 & 45) vs. Ten. (12/17/17), including the game-winning 45-yd. FG as time expired. His 6 made FGs tied the 49ers franchise record for most made field goals in a single game [K Ray Wersching – 10/16/83 at NO (6 for 6); K Jeff Wilkins – 9/29/96 vs. Atl. (6 for 6)].
- Made at least 1 FG in 24 consecutive games, dating from 12/11/16 to 10/7/18, marking the longest stretch of his career. He previously made a FG in 22 consecutive games (10/23/05-11/26/06).
- Ranks as the Bears franchise leader in scoring (1,207 points), made FGs (276), 50-or-more yd. made FGs (23), consecutive made FGs (26) and FG pct. (85.4 pct.).
- Between 12/18/05 vs. Atl. and 9/22/13 at Pit., Gould converted 275 consecutive PATs, the longest streak in Bears franchise history.
- Set the Bears franchise record with 26 consecutive made FGs across the 2005 and 2006 seasons [12/25/05 - 11/19/06].
- In 2015, set a Bears single-season franchise record with 33 made FGs. He broke the record of 32 made FGs, which he set in 2006.
- Converted a 58-yd. FG vs. Cin. (9/8/13), the longest made FG in Bears franchise history.
- In 2015, established a Chicago single-season franchise record with 7 made FGs of 50-or-more yds. He previously set the record in 2011 with 6 made FGs of 50-or-more yds.
- From 12/20/15 to 10/15/17, Gould made 32 consecutive FGs, the longest streak of consecutive made FGs of his career. His previous longest streak was 26 consecutive made FGs from 11/25/05 to 11/19/06, as a member of the Chicago Bears.
- In 2017, made each of his first 15 FGAs on the season, setting the 49ers franchise record for most made FGs to start a season. The previous record was held by K Wade Richey (13 FGs in 1999).
- Connected on a 40-yd. FG at Ind. (10/8/17), becoming the 31st player in NFL history to make 300 FGs in his career.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- With 3 FGM at NYG (9/27/20), he surpassed 100 FGM as a member of the 49ers. His 114 FGM ranks 5th all-time in franchise history.
- Along with his 276 career FGM as a member of the Chicago Bears, he is the 13th kicker in NFL history to reach 100 FGM for 2 different franchises.

MOST MADE FIELD GOALS, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	FGM
1.	Ray Wersching	190
2.	Tommy Davis	140
3.	Joe Nedney	129
4.	Mike Cofer	128
5.	**Robbie Gould**	**114**

KICKERS WITH 200-OR-MORE MADE FIELD GOALS WITH 1 FRANCHISE AND 100-OR-MORE MADE FIELD GOALS WITH ANOTHER

Player	200+ Franchise	100+ Franchise
Gary Anderson	Pit. (309)	Min. (109)
Morten Anderson	NO (302)	Atl. (184)
John Carney	SD (261)	NO (166)
Robbie Gould	**Chi. (276)**	**SF (114)**
Ryan Longwell	GB (226)	Min. (135)
Matt Stover	Bal. (354)	Cle. (108)
Adam Vinatieri	Ind. (336)	NE (263)

- With 2 FGM (41 & 31 yds.) at Dal. (12/20/20), became the 11th kicker in NFL history to reach 400 career FGM.
- Is just the 7th kicker in NFL history to record 200 FGM with 1 franchise and 100 FGM with another.

MOST MADE FIELD GOALS, NFL HISTORY

	Player	FGM
1.	Adam Vinatieri	599
2.	Morten Anderson	565
3.	Gary Anderson	538
4.	Jason Hanson	495
5.	John Carney	476
6.	Matt Stover	471
7.	John Kasay	461
8.	Phil Dawson	441
9t.	Jason Elam	436
	Sebastian Janikowski	436
11.	**Robbie Gould**	**400**

GOLDMINE

- In 2021, Robbie Gould pledged $200,000 to help build the Robbie Gould Youth Sports Complex in Castanea Township, Pa. The multi-sport complex will house six softball fields, six baseball fields, a football field, as well as a playground and walking trails. “It is bigger than a baseball field. It is bigger than a football field. It’s about a community coming together to do something that gives kids and families the chance to come together and have some fun,” said Gould.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Gould and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Gould represented 49ers Foundation (& 49ers PREP & 49ers EDU), saying, "I play for Bay Area youth to tackle what's possible in the classroom and on the football field."



- The 49ers worked alongside the humanitarian-relief organization Convoy of Hope in December of 2018, and hosted 1,500 guests in-need from Bay Area nonprofits and schools at Levi's® Stadium for a free holiday resource fair. Gould and his 49ers teammates distributed groceries, toys, books, shoes and other holiday offerings to the guests. The attendees also received haircuts, utilized health resources and took family portraits or professional headshots. Convoy of Hope is a nonprofit organization that directs children's feeding initiatives, hosts community outreach programs and provides disaster response resources to those in need in the Bay Area and throughout the world."
- The 49ers hosted a flag football clinic for local first responders and their children at the team facility in October of 2018. Gould and his teammates taught the children the fundamentals of the game before hitting the field for drills and games. The 100-plus guests also had the opportunity to try on equipment and participate in a photoshoot.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- In partnership with the One Love Foundation, Gould, his 49ers teammates and their significant others participated in a film-based workshop with local high school students about healthy and unhealthy relationships. The group watched a film together, and thereafter, held group discussions about the implications of the relationship behaviors depicted in the film. The One Love Foundation believes that love is a skill we can work on, and focuses on three main elements to convey their message: content, conversation and community action.
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Gould and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago provides superior pediatric care in a setting that offers the latest benefits and innovations in medical technology, research and family-friendly design.



- During all Week 13 games in 2017, NFL players had the chance to share the causes that are important to them as part of the NFL's My Cause, My Cleats campaign. "Supporting the Lurie Children's Hospital allows me to help children and families going through difficult times," said Gould. "My message to those battling illness: Tackles your fears and fulfill your dreams!"



- Following 11 seasons with the Chicago Bears, Gould formed a special bond with the city of Chicago. Despite being removed from the city for more than a year, the Chicago Cubs invited him to throw out the ceremonial first pitch and sing the seventh inning stretch in July of 2017, a tradition he's done each year since.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Started The Goulden Touch Foundation in 2011, which has partnered with several key organizations in education, social services, health and wellness, and medical research to help those in need. Annually, The Golden Touch hosts the Windy City Kicker Golf Classic in Gould's hometown area of Clinton County, PA and has raised over $285,000 for Clinton County area programs. In 2016, Gould hosted a Celebrity Golf Invitational, which raised over $940,000 for The Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago.
- In 2012, The Goulden Touch launched its annual event, "Kicking Hunger," which provides meals and raises funds for the Northern Illinois Food Bank. To date, The Goulden Touch has raised over 36,000 meals for their backpack program.



GOULD'S CAREER STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	XP	XPA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	BLK	LG	PTS
2005	CHI	13	19	20	95.0	21	27	77.8	0	45	82
2006	CHI	16	47	47	100.0	32	36	88.9	1	49	143
2007	CHI	16	33	33	100.0	31	36	86.1	2	49	126
2008	CHI	16	41	41	100.0	26	29	89.7	2	48	119
2009	CHI	16	33	33	100.0	24	28	85.7	2	52	105
2010	CHI	16	35	35	100.0	25	30	83.3	1	54	110
2011	CHI	16	37	37	100.0	28	32	87.5	0	57	121
2012	CHI	13	33	33	100.0	21	25	84.0	2	54	96
2013	CHI	16	45	46	97.8	26	29	89.7	0	58	123
2014	CHI	12	28	29	96.6	9	12	75.0	0	45	55
2015	CHI	16	28	29	96.6	33	39	84.6	0	55	127
2016	NYG	10	20	23	87.0	10	10	100.0	0	47	50
2017	SF	16	28	30	93.3	39	41	95.1	1	52	145
2018	SF	16	27	29	93.1	33	34	97.1	0	53	126
2019	SF	13	41	42	97.6	23	31	74.2	2	47	110
2020	SF	15	36	38	94.7	19	23	82.6	0	52	93
2021	SF										
TOTALS		**235**	**531**	**545**	**97.4**	**400**	**462**	**86.6**	**13**	**58**	**1,731**

PLAYOFFS

YEAR	TEAM	G	XP	XPA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	BLK	LG	PTS
2005	CHI	1	3	3	100.0	0	0	–	0	–	3
2006	CHI	3	9	9	100.0	6	6	100.0	0	49	27
2010	CHI	2	7	7	100.0	0	0	–	0	–	7
2016	NYG	1	1	1	100.0	2	2	100.0	0	40	7
2019	SF	3	9	9	100.0	7	7	100.0	0	54	30
TOTALS		**10**	**29**	**29**	**100.0**	**15**	**15**	**100.0**	**0**	**54**	**74**

Additional Statistics:

Punting – 3–81: 2005 (1–28 yds.; 28.0 avg; 9.0 net avg.); 2007 (2–53 yds.; 26.5 avg.; 26.5 net avg.)
Passing – 1–0–0–0–0 TDs: 2007 (1–0–0–0–0 TDs)
Special Teams Tackles: Regular Season – 15: 2005 (2); 2006 (2); 2007 (1); 2008 (2); 2009 (3); 2010 (3); 2013 (1); 2015 (1); **Postseason – 1:** 2010 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Cle. (10/9/05); **First FG:** Regular Season – at Cle. (10/9/05); Postseason – vs. Sea. (1/14/07); **100th FG Made:** Regular Season – vs. Jax. (12/7/08); **200th FG Made:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/28/12); **300th FG Made:** Regular Season – at Ind. (10/8/17); **First PAT:** Regular Season – at Bal. (9/26/99); Postseason – vs. Car. (1/15/06); **100th PAT Made:** Regular Season – at Ind. (9/7/08); **200th PAT Made:** Regular Season – at Min. (12/20/10); **300th PAT Made:** Regular Season – at Was. (10/20/13); **400th PAT Made:** Regular Season – vs. LAR (9/21/17); **500th Career Point:** Regular Season – at Atl. (10/18/09); **1,000th Career Point:** Regular Season – vs. Dal. (12/9/13); **1,500th Career Point:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (12/16/18); **100–Point Seasons:** 11, Last in 2019 (110); **Highest Single–Game Points Total:** Regular Season – 19 vs. Ten. (12/17/17); Postseason – 13 (2 times) Last vs. GB (1/19/20)

GOULD'S CAREER FIELD GOAL STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	1–19	PCT	20–29	PCT	30–39	PCT	40–49	PCT	50+	PCT	TOT
2005	CHI	0/0	–	9/9	100.0	9/10	90.0	3/8	37.5	0/0	–	21/27
2006	CHI	0/0	–	6/6	100.0	14/16	87.5	12/14	85.7	0/0	–	32/36
2007	CHI	0/0	–	7/7	100.0	12/13	92.3	12/14	85.7	0/2	0.0	31/36
2008	CHI	0/0	–	6/6	100.0	12/12	100.0	8/11	72.7	0/0	–	26/29
2009	CHI	0/0	–	9/9	100.0	6/6	100.0	7/10	70.0	2/3	66.7	24/28
2010	CHI	1/1	100.0	9/9	100.0	8/9	88.9	4/7	57.1	3/4	75.0	25/30
2011	CHI	0/0	–	10/10	100.0	6/6	100.0	6/10	60.0	6/6	100.0	28/32
2012	CHI	0/0	–	7/7	100.0	5/7	71.4	7/9	77.8	2/2	100.0	21/25
2013	CHI	0/0	–	11/11	100.0	6/7	85.7	6/7	85.7	3/4	75	26/29
2014	CHI	0/0	–	4/4	100.0	2/3	66.7	3/4	75.0	0/1	0.0	9/12
2015	CHI	1/1	100.0	8/8	100.0	10/12	83.3	7/9	77.8	7/9	77.8	33/39
2016	NYG	0/0	–	3/3	100.0	3/3	100.0	4/4	100.0	0/0	–	10/10
2017	SF	0/0	–	7/8	87.5	11/11	100.0	17/18	94.4	4/4	100.0	39/41
2018	SF	0/0	–	9/9	100.0	13/13	100.0	9/10	90.0	2/2	100.0	33/34
2019	SF	0/0	–	9/9	100.0	8/10	80.0	6/8	75.0	0/4	0.0	23/31
2020	SF	0/0	–	3/3	100.0	5/6	83.3	9/10	90.0	2/4	50.0	19/23
2021	SF											
TOTALS		**2/2**	**100.0**	**117/118**	**99.2**	**130/144**	**90.3**	**120/153**	**78.4**	**31/45**	**68.9**	**400/462**

PLAYOFFS

YEAR	TEAM	1–19	PCT	20–29	PCT	30–39	PCT	40–49	PCT	50+	PCT	TOT
2005	CHI	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0
2006	CHI	1/1	100.0	1/1	100.0	0/0	–	4/4	100.0	0/0	–	6/6
2010	CHI	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0	–	0/0
2016	NYG	0/0	–	1/1	100.0	0/0	–	1/1	100.0	0/0	–	2/2
2019	SF	0/0	–	2/2	100.0	2/2	100.0	2/2	100.0	1/1	100.0	7/7
TOTALS		**1/1**	**100.0**	**4/4**	**100.0**	**2/2**	**100.0**	**7/7**	**100.0**	**1/1**	**100.0**	**15/15**

GOULD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent with NE on 4/29/05...Waived by NE on 8/30/05...Signed to Bal. practice squad on 9/7/05...Waived by Bal. on 9/27/05...Signed with Chi. on 10/8/05...Signed a five–year extension with Chi. on 5/12/08...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/11/12...Re–signed with Chi. on a four–year deal on 12/27/13...Released by Chi. on 9/4/16...Signed with NYG on 10/20/16...Signed a two–year deal with SF on 3/10/17...Designated Non–Exclusive Franchise Tag by SF on 2/26/19...Signed a four–year deal with SF on 7/15/19...Signed a renegotiated contract through the 2022 season on 12/30/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/30/20.



DRE GREENLAW

57 | **LB** | 6-0 • 230 • ARKANSAS

5.25.97 • FAYETTEVILLE, AR • 3RD YEAR • ACQUIRED D-5 IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: PFWA All-Rookie Team, Thomas Herrion Memorial Award

GOLDMINE



- Since he was eight years old, Greenlaw had been living in group homes and shelters across Arkansas. Six years later, he met Brian Early, who was the defensive coach at Fayetteville High, while Greenlaw was getting treatment for an injury he suffered in football practice. After learning about Dre's situation, Brian and his wife, Nanci, began spending more time with him, and soon he became like a son. When they were informed that his group home was going to be shut down, they invited Dre to live with them and their two daughters, AJ and Camryn. The family later made his adoption official shortly after Greenlaw turned 21. "Even though it wasn't legal until July, he's always been my son," said Brian. "He's felt the same way. We're Mom and Dad to him. It's a pretty special relationship."
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Greenlaw and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Greenlaw represented the Bill Wilson Center and said, "I play for foster youth like me."



GREENLAW'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- In 2019, named the recipient of the 49ers Thomas Herrion Memorial Award, which was established in 2005 by 49ers owners Denise and John York and is presented to a rookie or first-year player who best represents the dream of Thomas Herrion. The recipient has taken advantage of every opportunity, turned it into a positive situation and made their dream turn into a reality. The award is voted on by the coaches.
- During the 2019 offseason, Greenlaw spoke to a crowd of nearly 30 Santa Clara foster youth who were honored at Levi's Stadium for graduating from High School, obtaining a GED, earning a Vocational Program Certificate, Associate Degree, Bachelor and/or a Master Degree in the 2018-2019 academic year. A former foster child, Greenlaw addressed the crowd saying, "I can survive anything. Once you get that mindset, which I know you guys have. it's just the beginning."
- Was named team captain in 2018 at Arkansas after week four of the season.
- Participated in track & field at Fayetteville (AR) HS, in addition to football.

GREENLAW'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers LBs welcomed eight foster youth from Unity Care to Levi's Stadium in December of 2019. This group received gifts and much needed resources, like bedding and new shoes, this holiday season. The linebackers chose to support foster youth to honor Greenlaw, who is a former foster youth.



- Took part in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During the 2019 offseason, members of the 49ers took part in the Second Annual Picnic on the Field, located on the Levi's Stadium field. Greenlaw and his teammates spent the day taking pictures with fans, who enjoyed music, food and games in support of the 49ers Foundation. The foundation, in conjunction with NFL Huddle for 100, partnered with Amazon to fill 1,000 backpacks full of school supplies. Fans and players joined together to assemble the packs, which were distributed throughout the community to children in need.
- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Greenlaw and some of his teammates joined the students at Williamson Elementary School to talk about inclusion and anti-bullying. The players spoke at an assembly before helping the kids write compliment cards and discuss how to be kind to one another.



GREENLAW'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	16	11	87	62	25	1.0	19.0	1	47	47	0	2	0	0	0
2020	SF	13	11	83	59	24	1.0	8.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**29**	**22**	**170**	**121**	**49**	**2.0**	**27.0**	**1**	**47**	**47**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	14	10	4	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**14**	**10**	**4**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 9: 2019 (5); 2020 (4)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First Start:** at TB (9/8/19); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at Arz. (10/31/19 – QB Kyler Murray); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (11/11/19 – QB Russell Wilson); **First FF:** Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – RB Dalvin Cook)

GREENLAW'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 13 (2 times) Last at Sea. (12/29/19); Postseason – 6 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 11 at Sea. (12/29/19); Postseason – 5 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 5 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 2 at KC (2/2/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (2 times) Last at NE (10/25/20)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 vs. Sea. (11/11/19)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 47 vs. Sea. (11/11/19)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 47 vs. Sea. (11/11/19)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
Forced Fumbles: Postseason – 1 vs. Min. (1/11/20)

GREENLAW'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 5th–round (148th overall) draft choice by SF in 2019.



DAVONTAE HARRIS

40 **CB**

5-11 × 200 × ILLINOIS STATE

1.21.95 × WICHITA, KS × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE

- In May 2020, following the killing of George Floyd, Harris advocated for and joined a civil right advisory council created by Wichita Mayor Brandon Whipple. "What I've learned over the years is that I may not be able to change the world, but I can change my community," Harris said. "This council can be as powerful and as meaningful as we make it. I feel like God has put me in this position to be in that room to push this mindset of love and positivity. So with me in the room, they don't really have a choice. I will fight for positivity, I will fight for love until the end. As long as I'm in the room, that's going to be the direction we go toward."
- In April 2019, Harris spoke at a Wichita State Black Student Union meeting addressing the hardships he had to endure from his youth through his college years.



- Harris created the Wichita Kid Foundation after being drafted by the Bengals in 2018 that focuses on mentoring and supporting Wichita communities in need with time, resources, and funding. "I wanted to change the perception," Harris said. "I wanted to change how people saw Wichita, so I created the foundation." In July of 2018, Harris and the foundation delivered school supplies to the Wichita Children's Home which serves over 1,500 children per year, giving them a place to live and transition into a more hopeful and healthy family life.

HARRIS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Harris is activley involved in his hometown community of Wichita, KS. In May 2020, Harris lobbied for and joined a civil rights council for the city.
- Was a 3-year starter and an All-American at Illinois State where he helped led the Redbirds to 2 FCS playoff runs.
- Competed in Track & Field in addition to football during his time at Wichita South HS.

HARRIS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

2020 (BALTIMORE/DENVER)

- Saw action in four games (one start) as a Raven, posting 8 tackles (7 solo), while adding 2 special teams tackles and 1 FF for the unit.
- Prior to joining the Ravens on 11/18, competed in 7 games (1 start) for Denver, recording 3 solo tackles and 1 special teams tackle.
- Made his Ravens debut, seeing 17 defensive snaps and 11 special teams at Pit. (12/2). Forced a ST fumble that set up the offense inside the red zone and led to a TD that put Baltimore ahead 7-6.
- Was claimed off waivers by Baltimore from Denver on 11/18/20.

2019 (DENVER)

- Appeared in all 16 games (6 starts) and collected 32 tackles (27 solo), 3 PD and 3 stops on special teams.
- Recorded a career-high 9 tackles (8 solo) and 1 PD at Min. (11/17).
- Collected 7 tackles (5 solo) and 2 PD vs. Cle. (11/3).
- Totaled 3 tackles (2 solo) vs. KC (10/17).

2018 (CINCINNATI)

- After originally being selected by the Bengals in the 5th round (151st overall) of the 2018 NFL Draft, appeared in 3 games after starting the season on Injured Reserve.
- Made his NFL debut at LAC (12/19).

COLLEGE

Appeared in 49 games (35 starts) at Illinois State, totaling 208 tackles (152 solo), 38 PD, 4 INTs and 3 sacks. As a senior in 2017, started all 11 games for the Redbirds and was named a first-team All-American selection by the AFCA, STATS FCS, Phil Steele, and AP FCS All-America second-team selection after recording 57 tackles, a team- high 14 PD, 4.5 TFL, 2 sacks and 2 INTs. Saw action in 12 games (11 starts) at CB for the Redbirds in 2016, earning an All-Missouri Valley first-team selection after collecting 59 tackles, 5.5 TFL, 2 INTs and led the conference with 15 PD. In 2013, started all 13 games at CB, tallying 78 tackles (54 solo) and led the team with 10 PD. As a redshirt freshman, played in 14 games and finished the season with 14 tackles (12 solo). Redshirted as a true freshman in 2013.

PERSONAL

- Graduated with a degree in business administration & management from Illinois State.
- Donated school supplies in his hometown of Wichita, KS, to the Wichita Children's Home.
- Has two brothers, Isiah and Shaquille.
- Competed in track & field in high school, where he placed third in the state in the 100-meter dash and sixth in the 200-meter dash.

INJURY REPORT

2020: Placed on Injured Reserve on 12/21/20.
2021: Placed on Injured Reserve on 9/1/21... Placed on Injured Reserve (DFR) on 1/12/21.

HARRIS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	CIN	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	DEN	16	6	32	27	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
2020	DEN/BAL	11	2	11	10	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**30**	**8**	**43**	**37**	**6**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Special Teams Tackles – 7: 2018 (1); 2019 (3), 2020 (3) **Special Teams Forced Fumbles – 1**: 2020 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at LAC (12/19/18); **First Start:** vs Ten. (10/13/19); **First FF:** at Pit. (12/2/20)

HARRIS' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: 9 at Min. (9/17/19)
Solo: 8 at Min. (9/17/19)
Assists: 2 vs. Cle. (11/3/19)
Passes Defensed: 2 vs. Cle. (11/3/19)

HARRIS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 5th–round (151st overall) draft choice by the Cincinnati Bengals in 2018... Waived by Cincinnati on 8/31/19... Signed by the Broncos on 9/1/19... Released by Denver on 11/17/20... Acquired off waivers by Baltimore on 11/18/20... Placed on Injured Reserve on 12/21/20... Placed on Injured Reserve (DFR) on 1/12/21... Signed a Reserve/Future contract with Baltimore on 2/8/21.... Waived by Baltimore on 8/16/21... Signed by SF on 8/17/21... Placed on Injured Reserve on 9/1/21.



MARCELL HARRIS

36 **LB**

6-0 × 215 × FLORIDA

6.9.94 × ORLANDO, FL × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-6 IN '18

GOLDMINE



- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Harris and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Harris and some of his teammates joined the students at Williamson Elementary School to talk about inclusion and anti-bullying. The players spoke at an assembly before helping the kids write compliment cards and discuss how to be kind to one another.
- Harris and his teammates surprised guests of the CityTeam Men's Program and House of Grace in November of 2018, at Levi's Stadium. The group believed they were just taking a tour of the stadium, but they were in fact joining the 49ers players for a night full of exciting events. The guests received a makeover and haircut, selected a new outfit from Dockers, snapped a new headshot and then shared a Thanksgiving dinner with the 49ers players.



HARRIS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Followed in his father's football career path, as Mike Harris played defensive back at the University of Florida for four years (1994-97).
- In high school, Harris participated in Nike Football's "The Opening" series, which according to Nike is "the only national camp that offers athletes state-of-the-art education in both Nike Football Training and position-specific football from respected position coaches, while improving each player who attends, and does all of this free of cost to attendees."
- Harris grew up with former Gator teammates CB Duke Dawson, who was drafted in 2nd round of the 2018 NFL Draft by the New England Patriots, and S Keanu Neal, who was drafted in the first round of the 2016 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons. All three played on the 7-on-7 team, the Rat Pak, that was coached by 8-year NFL veteran Keiwan Ratliff.

HARRIS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.
- The 49ers hosted a flag football clinic for local first responders and their children at the team facility in October of 2018. Harris and his teammates taught the children the fundamentals of the game before hitting the field for drills and games. The 100-plus guests also had the opportnity to try on equipment and participate in a photoshoot.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Harris and his fellow rookies participated in the annual 49ers Mentorship Academy in September of 2018. The Mentorship Academy, partnering with USA Football, is a three-step program designed to provide high school football players with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed and be leaders on and off the field. The rookie class invited the high schoolers to the team facility, where they shared opinions and lessons over a meal and fun competitions.



- Harris notes that his mother, Andrea Tate, is the most influencial person in his life. He maintains that since an early age, she gave him the best advice he has ever received, which is having the ability to believe in yourself and not quit something that you start. "I've been through a lot of things, but it's about pushing through and facing adversity," Harris said.
- In October of 2019, Harris and his teammates spent time with fans and members of local Silicon Valley businesses to compete in a bowling tournament as the 49ers Foundation hosted the second annual 1st and Bowl Challenge. The funds raised at the event will support the charitable programs of the 49ers Foundation and benefit Bay Area youth.



HARRIS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	SF	8	5	31	22	9	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	SF	13	4	34	18	16	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	5	2	1	3
2020	SF	16	4	29	23	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	3	2	1	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**37**	**13**	**94**	**63**	**31**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**8**	**4**	**2**	**3**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 21: 2018 (5); 2019 (7); 2020 (9)
Special Teams Forced Fumbles – 1: 2019 (1)
Special Teams Fumble Recoveries – 1: 2020 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Oak. (11/1/18); **First Start:** at Sea. (12/2/18); **First FF:** Regular Season – at Bal. (12/1/19 – QB Lamar Jackson); **First FR:** Regular Season – at Bal. (12/1/19 – QB Lamar Jackson)

HARRIS' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 9 at Sea. (12/29/19)
Solo: Regular Season – 6 (3 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last at Sea. (11/1/20)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 2 at NYG (9/27/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NO (11/15/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 3 vs. Atl. (12/15/19)

HARRIS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 6th–round (184th overall) draft choice by SF in 2018...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/3/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve/Designated for Return List on 10/17/18...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 11/1/18...Waived by SF on 8/31/19...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/1/19...Promoted to SF active roster on 10/2/19...Signed a one–year contract extension through 2021 with SF on 3/5/21.



JaMYCAL HASTY

23 | **RB**

5-8 × 205 × BAYLOR

9.12.96 × LONGVIEW, TX × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '20

GOLDMINE

- At the 2020 NFL Combine, Hasty joined Uplifting Athletes to give back by raising funds and awareness in support of the Rare Disease Community. Hasty participated in Reps For Rare Diseases, which has been used as a way for athletes to give back as supporters pledge money for each rep at the combine. Since its inception in 2015, more than 100 players have participated in this campaign through either the NFL Combine or NFL Pro Day workouts. Together, athletes from Baylor raised over $3,000 for charity.



HASTY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- First name is pronounced juh-MY-kuhl.
- Also played basketball and participated in track & field at Longview (TX) HS.

HASTY'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

HASTY'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2020	SF	8	0	39	148	3.8	20	1	7	33	4.7	16	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**8**	**0**	**39**	**148**	**3.8**	**20**	**1**	**7**	**33**	**4.7**	**16**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 2: 2020 (2)
Fumbles–Lost – 1–0: 2020 (1–0)
Kick Returns – 3: 2020 (3)
Kick Return Yards – 57: 2020 (57)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at NYG (9/27/20); **First Reception:** at NYG (9/27/20 – 9–yd. pass from QB Nick Mullens); **First Rushing TD:** at Sea (11/1/20)

HASTY'S CAREER HIGHS

Rushes: 12 at Sea. (11/1/20)
Rushing Yards: 57 at NE (10/25/20)
Long Rush: 20 at NE (10/25/20)
Rushing TDs: 1 at Sea. (11/1/20)
Receptions: 1 (2 times) Last at NE (10/25/20)
Receiving Yards: 16 at NE (10/25/20)
Long Reception: 16 at NE (10/25/20)
Kickoff Returns: 2 at Sea. (11/1/20)
Kickoff Return Yards: 36 at Sea. (11/1/20)
Long Kickoff Return: 21 vs. GB (11/5/20)

HASTY'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 4/28/20...Waived by SF on 9/5/20...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/6/20...Activated from SF practice squad on 9/26/20...Reverted back to SF practice squad on 9/28/20...Promoted to SF active roster on 10/3/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/17/20.



TALANOA HUFANGA

29 | **S**

6-0 × 200 × USC

2.1.00 × CORVALLIS, OR × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-5C IN '21

GOLDMINE

- Hufanga grew up on a small farm in Oregon where he and his family raised goats, cows, chickens, pigs, dogs and cats. The family would drive dirt bikes and tractors, but taking care of his goat was always his favorite activity. "Growing up on a farm, it's a different kind of childhood I didn't have neighborhood friends to hang out with," he said. "On the weekends it was mandatory that my brother and I were working. We weeded, cleaned the barn, fed the animals, took eggs out of the chicken coop and maintained the pig pens."
- Hufanga's father, Tevita, grew up in Tonga until the age of 18. In 2014, Tevita took Hufanga to the village of Pea on Tonga's largest island, Tongatapu, to see where their family comes from. "It just kind of humbled me in the sense that I'm grateful for everything I have," Hufanga reflected. "You go to a place like that and see how my pops was raised is very different from how I was raised. He came from living on dirt floors to where he is now, it's a different lifestyle. It made me work that much harder just to try to do what I can do and be the better version of myself because that was the best version of himself moving and creating a better life for his family." Hufanga brings that culture, enthusiasm, energy and unwavering work ethic to everything he does on and off the field.



HUFANGA'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His name is pronounced tal-uh-NOE-uh who-FAWN-guh.
- Comes from a family of football players, as brother, T.J., was a linebacker at Oregon State from 2013-14 and cousins Marlon and Tuli Tuipulotu are both defensive linemen at USC.
- Trained with fellow Trojun alum and Hall of Fame S Troy Polamalu in the coming months before being drafted in 2021.
- Plays the ukulele.

HUFANGA'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

COLLEGE



Appeared in 24 (21 starts) games in 3 years (2018-20) at USC and recorded 203 tackles, 16.5 TFLs, 12 PDs, 6.5 sacks, 4 INTs and 4 FFs. As a junior in 2020, started all 6 games and registered 62 tackles, 5.5 TFLs, 5 PDs, 4 INTs, 3.0 sacks and 2 FFs. Started all 10 games in which he appeared as a sophomore in 2019 and recorded 90 tackles, 7.5 TFLs, 3.5 sacks, 3 PDs and 2 FFs. As a freshman in 2018, appeared in 8 games (5 starts) and hauled in 51 tackles, 4 PDs, and 3.5 TFLs.

PERSONAL

- Attended Crescent Valley (Corvallis, OR) HS where recorded 44 tackles, 7 TFLs, 4 INTs, 1 FR and 1 FF as a senior in 2017 and was named the Polynesian High School National Player of the Year.
- As a senior, registered 35 recepts. for 696 yds. and 11 TDs and 39 rushes for 490 yds. and 7 rushing TDs on offense.
- Majored in communications at USC.
- Born Talanoa Hufanga (2/1/00) in Corvallis, OR.

HUFANGA'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2021	SF															
TOTALS																

HUFANGA'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the third of three 5th–round (180th overall) draft choices by SF in 2021.



JALEN HURD

14 WR

6-5 × 230 × BAYLOR

1.23.96 × HENDERSONVILLE, TN × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-3 IN '19

GOLDMINE

- Participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.



HURD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- As a running back at Tennessee, was teammates with New Orleans Saints RB Alvin Kamara, and the duo was nicknamed "thunder and lightning."
- Named Big 12 Offensive Newcomer of the Year in 2018 after transferring to Baylor.
- In August of 2015, had his jersey retired at Beech (Hendersonville, TN) HS, just two years following his senior season with the school in 2013.
- Is one of four players since 2004 to register 2,800-or-more rush yards and 1,400-or-more receieving yards in his FBS career, joining Oklahoma RB DeMarco Murray, West Virgina RB Charles Sims and Southern Mississippi RB Ito Smith.

HURD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

HURD'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	0	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
2020	SF	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Knee)			–	–	–	–	–	–
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Back)			–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

HURD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 3rd–round (67th overall) draft choice by SF in 2019...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/3/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 8/20/20.



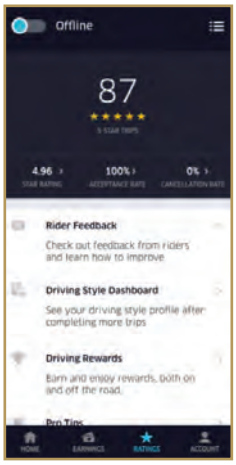
MAURICE HURST

96 | **DL**

6-2 × 291 × MICHIGAN

5.9.95 × WESTWOOD, MA × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE



- While attending Michigan, Hurst took to Uber driving to supplement his scholarship and earn money. He quickly became the self-proclaimed 'Best Uber Driver in Ann Arbor.' Growing up with a single mother who worked multiple jobs, Hurst learned the values of hardwork and dedication from a young age. His mother, Nicole, worked tirelessly to support his goals of becoming a professional football player. Hurst brings the same energy he does on Sundays to everything he does, which also led to his 4.98 Uber rating and over 82 five-star ratings. Hurst continued to drive throughout the early days of his NFL playing career.
- After reading about the hurricane devastation and distress caused in Nicaragua in 2020, Hurst lent a hand by donating food, health supplies and mattresses to 500 families affected by the storms near the Pacific coast. On November 17 of 2020, Hurst reached out to his friend and Nicaragua native, Oakland resident and logtime Raiders fan Abdel Zaharn to organize a food and supply drive. "To be able to help, that's the greatest thing in the world," Hurst said. "For me, that's part of who I am. I'm someone who wants to give back whatever ways I can and pass on some goodwill and good faith. I hope that others do the same and carry on and just be a never-ending chain."
- In the summer of 2016, Hurst took part in a summer abroad program ran by Michigan's Center for Global and Intercultural Study and PeacePlayers International, a company that aims to unify communities in conflict through sport. Hurst traveled to Israel for 16 days nad worked with Israeli and Palestinian youth ranging in ages from six through 15. "We were trying to bring together the kids in Israel through sport," Hurst said. "We talked about the history of Israel and the conflict that's going on and how it can be resolved through sport. PeacePlayers International brought the Israeli and Palestinian kids together."

HURST'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Nickname is 'Mo.'
- Father, Maurice Hurst Sr., was a CB for the New England Patriots from 1989-95.
- An avid travler, has traveled to Israel, Italy, Ireland and England throughout his life.
- Raised thousands of dollars for the ChadTough Foundation by dying his hair orange in 2017 to honor former Michigan coach Lloyd Carr's son, Chad, who died at the age of five with a rare form of cancer.

HURST'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

HURST'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	OAK	13	10	31	26	5	4.0	18.0	0	0	–	0	3	1	0	0
2019	OAK	16	4	18	11	7	3.5	39.5	1	55	55	0	3	0	2	2
2020	LV	11	3	27	14	13	0.5	5.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**40**	**17**	**76**	**51**	**25**	**8.0**	**62.5**	**1**	**55**	**55**	**0**	**7**	**1**	**2**	**2**

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. LAR (9/10/18); **First Start:** at Den. (9/16/18); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs. Cle. (9/30/18); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. Det. (11/3/19); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at Den. (9/16/18 – QB Case Keenum); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. Chi. (10/6/19 – 2.0; QB Chase Daniel); (**First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Ten. (12/8/19)

HURST'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (3)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
10/6/19	vs. Chi.	2.0	24	Chase Daniel (2.0)

HURST'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: 6 at NE (9/27/20)
Solo: 5 (2 times) Last at NE (9/27/20)
Assists: 3 at Min. (9/22/19)
Passes Defensed: 1 (7 times) Last vs. Buf. (10/4/20)
Fumble Recoveries: 1 (2 times) Last vs. Cin. (11/17/19)
Sacks: 2 vs. Chi. (10/6/19)
Interceptions: 1 vs. Ten. (12/8/19)
Interception Yards: 55 vs. Ten. (12/8/19)
Long Interception Return: 55 vs. Ten. (12/8/19

HURST'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 5th–round (140th overall) draft choice by Oak. in 2018...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List 10/6/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 10/19/20...Waived by LV on 4/15/21...Signed with SF on a one–year deal on 4/23/21.



RICHIE JAMES

13 **WR** 5-9 × 185 × MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE

9.5.95 × SARASOTA, FL × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-7B IN '18

AWARDS & HONORS

2018: PFWA All-NFC Team (KR), ESPN All-Rookie Team (KR)

GOLDMINE

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. James and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. James represented the Special Olympics Northern California, and said, "I play for athletes to feel included and part of a community." Special Olympics Northern California enriches the lives of more than 23,925 children and adults with intellectual disabilities and their communities in Northern California through sports, education, and athlete health.



JAMES' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Finished his collegiate career as Middle Tennessee State's all-time leader in recepts. (244), rec. yds. (3,261) and TD recepts. (23).
- On November 26, 2016, James became the sixth player in NCAA FBS history to have 200 yds. rushing and 100 rec. yds. in a game with 207 rushing yds. and 120 rec. yds. vs. Florida Atlantic.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- In October of 2019, James and his teammates spent time with fans and members of local Silicon Valley businesses to compete in a bowling tournament as the 49ers Foundation hosted the second annual 1st and Bowl Challenge. The funds raised at the event will support the charitable programs of the 49ers Foundation and benefit Bay Area youth.
- As a youth in Sarasota, FL, James faced a handful of hurdles growing up in a rough environment. James notes that while a majority of his classmates took a different route than he did, he was able to make it out of his tough surroundings by taking the more positive route and maintaining his focus on his craft. "I've always had that independent mindset," James said. "I've learned from being out on the streets, and what you really should be doing."

JAMES' CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2018	SF	13	2	8	126	15.8	53	1	0	0	–	–	0
2019	SF	16	1	6	165	27.5	57	1	2	–1	–0.5	–1	0
2020	SF	11	7	23	394	17.1	47	1	0	0	–	–	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**40**	**10**	**37**	**685**	**18.5**	**57**	**3**	**2**	**–1**	**–0.5**	**–1**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	3	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
TOTALS		**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

		KICKOFF RETURNS					PUNT RETURNS					
YEAR	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2018	SF	23	580	25.2	97t	1	12	10	75	6.3	23	0
2019	SF	20	428	21.4	81	0	33	11	264	8.0	32	0
2020	SF	4	73	18.3	21	0	6	6	34	5.7	12	0
2021	SF											
TOTALS		**47**	**1,081**	**23.0**	**97t**	**1**	**51**	**27**	**373**	**7.3**	**32**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

		KICKOFF RETURNS					PUNT RETURNS					
YEAR	TEAM	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	FC	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	7	112	16.0	22	0	5	3	49	9.8	26	0
TOTALS		**7**	**112**	**16.0**	**22**	**0**	**5**	**3**	**49**	**9.8**	**26**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Fumbles–Lost – Regular Season – 5–4: 2018 (2–1); 2019 (1–1); 2020 (2–2) **Postseason – 1–0:** 2019 (1–0)
Special Teams Tackles – 4: 2018 (1); 2019 (2); 2020 (1)
Special Teams Fumble Recoveries – 1: 2018 (1)
Tackles – 3: 2018 (1); 2019 (1); 2020 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Det. (9/16/18); **First Start:** vs. Arz. (10/7/18); **First Reception:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (10/7/18 – 7–yd. pass from QB C.J. Beathard); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – at LAR (12/30/18 – 9–yd. TD pass from QB Nick Mullens); **First Kickoff Return:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (10/7/18 – 32–yd. KOR); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 22–yd. KOR); **First Punt Return:** Regular Season – at GB (10/15/18 – 0–yd. PR); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 5–yd. PR); **Kickoff Return TD:** Regular Season – 1 vs. Sea. (12/16/18 – 97–yds.); **100–yd. Games:** 1 vs. GB (11/5/20 – 184–yds.)

JAMES' CAREER 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES (1)

Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
11/5/20	GB	9	184	20.4	1

JAMES' CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: Regular Season – 9 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 184 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 57 vs. Arz. (11/17/19)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last 9 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Punt Returns: Regular Season – 6 vs. Car. (10/27/19); Postseason – 3 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Punt Return Yards: Regular Season – 53 vs. Pit. (9/22/19); Postseason – 26 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Long Punt Return: Regular Season – 32 vs. Cle. (10/7/19); Postseason – 26 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Kick Returns: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last at Arz. (10/31/19); Postseason – 4 at KC (2/2/20)
Kick Return Yards: Regular Season – 113 vs. Sea. (12/16/18); Postseason – 61 at KC (2/2/20)
Kick Return Long: Regular Season – 97t vs. Sea. (12/16/18); Postseason – 22 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Rushes: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NO (12/8/19)

JAMES' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 7th–round (240th overall) draft choice by SF in 2018...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 7/27/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 8/4/20...Placed on the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 8/4/20...Activated from the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 9/3/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/18/20...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 10/17/20... Waived/injured on 8/28/21...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/2/21.



JAUAN JENNINGS

15 **WR** 6-3 × 212 × TENNESSEE

7.10.97 × MURFREESBORO, TN × 1ST YEAR × ACQUIRED D-7 IN '20

GOLDMINE

- When a deadly tornado hit Tennessee in March of 2020, Jennings turned his scheduled autograph session into a donation drop off benefiting those affected by the tornado. "Just to be able to go down there and help," said Jennings, "It means a lot because this is a place that helped build who I am today. I had just gotten to Knoxville from the Combine and to wake up and see that call about the tornado and see the devastation that's happened, it broke my heart." In addition to signing autographs and talking to young fans, Jennings organized donations to go toward the community. "A lot of people are contacting me and they're like, 'What can we do?'" Jennings said. "And I'm like, 'Just bring donations. I'll take care of the rest.' It just means a lot to be able to just come out here and help the community."



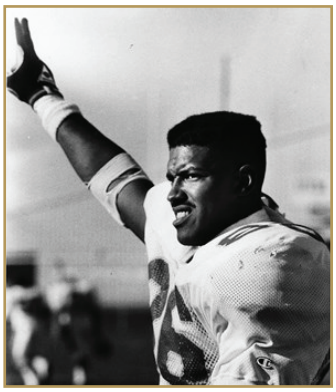
- Since childhood, Jennings has immersed himself in athletics. Coming from a family of athletes, Jennings grew up with a competitive spirit. Older sister, Alexis, played collegiate basketball at Kentucky and South Carolina, collecting Second-Team All-SEC honors as a senior with the Gamecocks in 2018-19. "We were always outside going to the playgrounds or to the local YMCA to play against people," said Alexis. "We pretty much played anything and everything. We just loved to be outside doing anything that had to do with sports."

JENNINGS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His first name is pronounced juh-WAHN.
- In addition to football, Jennings played basketball at Blackman (Murfreesboro, TN) HS.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Jennings followed in the footsteps of his father, Bennie, who was a four-year letterman on the University of North Alabama's football team from 1987-90. The First-Team All-American registered 29 catches for 456 yards and four touchdowns as a senior. His athletic prowess earned him a spot in UNA's Hall of Fame for football.



JENNINGS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

JENNINGS' CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2020	SF	–	–	–	–PRACTICE SQUAD		–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

JENNINGS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 7th–round (217th overall) draft choice by SF in 2020...Waived by SF on 9/5/20...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/6/20...Placed on the practice squad Injured Reserve List on 10/24/20...Signed to Reserve/Future contract with SF on 1/4/21.



D.J. JONES

93 | **DL** | 6-0 × 305 × MISSISSIPPI

1.19.95 × PIEDMONT, SC × 5TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-6A IN '17

GOLDMINE

- Jones decided to pop the question to his girlfriend, Kayla Fannin, ahead of the San Francisco 49ers *Monday Night Football* contest against the Cleveland Browns. Fannin and family gathered on the sidelines for pregame photos when Jones distracted his girlfriend and dropped to a knee behind her. The emotional affair was featured on the video boards across Levi's® Stadium with the aid of teammate Solomon Thomas. "I was like 'Let's do it on the field. I know some people you can talk to.' I told him 'Bro, this is your special day. You want to get it perfect,'" said Thomas. "We're going to go to the right people and get this done the right way.' And he did."



- D.J.'s father, "Big Dave," owns a BBQ and catering business which is based around his two sauces, Big Dave's Texas Red and Big Dave's All-American Hawaiian Bold Gold. Big Dave cooked for over 200 members of the 49ers family, from players to coaches and staff along with their significant others as the team finished 2019 mini-camp.





JONES' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Jones transferred to Ole Miss following two seasons (2013-14) at East Mississippi Community College (Scooba, MS), the school that was featured in the 2016 Netflix documentary "Last Chance U".
- After playing in every game of his junior season with the Rebels, Jones earned the Jeff Hamm Memorial Award as the Rebels' most improved defensive player in the spring of 2016.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Jones and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. CityTeam offers help and hope to those in need with hot meals, shelter, life transformation programs, clothing, hygiene items, learning and career help, discovery Bible studies, and more.



JONES'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Jones and some of his teammates visited the Akron Children's hospital as players went from room to room to visit and meet some of the young patients.



- The 49ers worked alongside the humanitarian-relief organization Convoy of Hope in December of 2018, and hosted 1,500 guests in-need from Bay Area nonprofits and schools at Levi's® Stadium for a free holiday resource fair. Jones and his 49ers teammates distributed groceries, toys, books, shoes and other holiday offerings to the guests. The attendees also received haircuts, utilized health resources and took family portraits or professional headshots. Convoy of Hope is a nonprofit organization that directs children's feeding initiatives, hosts community outreach programs and provides disaster response resources to those in need in the Bay Area and throughout the world.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Jones transferred to Ole Miss following two seasons (2013-14) at East Mississippi Community College (Scooba, MS), the school that was featured in the 2016 Netflix documentary "Last Chance U". During his two seasons in Scooba, Jones helped lead EMCC to a 24-0 record and back-to-back NJCAA National Championships. Prior to transferring, Jones was listed as the No. 3 junior college prospect in the country by 247sports.com and ESPN.com.
- Jones and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.



- During the 2017 offseason, Jones took on the role of weatherman for FOX Carolina News. He even sounded the part, speaking of a hot day, "Drink water. Get some fluids in you."
- After transferring, Jones immediately became one of the strongest Rebels. According to NFL.com, he benched 440 pounds, squatted 650 pounds and had a max clean of 330 pounds when he finished his time at East Mississippi Community College.

JONES' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2017	SF	9	0	10	8	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2018	SF	10	4	16	10	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	SF	11	11	23	19	4	2.0	17.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2020	SF	14	14	20	14	6	3.0	16.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**44**	**29**	**69**	**51**	**18**	**5.0**	**33.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	–	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Ankle)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Car. (9/10/17); **First Start:** vs. Den. (12/9/18); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/27/19 – QB Kyle Allen)

JONES' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 5 vs. Car. (10/27/19)
Solo: Regular Season – 4 (3 times) Last vs. GB (11/24/19)
Assists: Regular Season – 2 (3 times) Last vs. Sea. (1/3/21)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (5 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 at NO (12/8/19)

JONES' TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of two 6th–round (198th overall) draft choices by SF in 2017...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/14/19...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/23/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/2/20...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/22/21.



KYLE JUSZCZYK

44 **FB**

6-1 × 235 × HARVARD

4.23.91 × LODI, OH × 9TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '17

AWARDS & HONORS

2016: AFC Pro Bowl
2017: Bill Walsh Award, NFC Pro Bowl, 49ers Community Relations Youth Football Award
2018: NFC Pro Bowl
2019: NFC Pro Bowl
2020: NFC Pro Bowl

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Led all NFL FBs in 2015 after registering career highs in recepts. (41), rec. yds. (321) and rec. TDs (4) for a Ravens offense that set a single-season team-record in net passing yds. (4,271).
- In 2016, finished with 37 recepts. for 266 yds. and was selected to his 1st career Pro Bowl.

GOLDMINE

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Juszczyk and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Juszczyk represented the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, saying, "I play to honor my wife's mother, Virginia."
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Juszczyk and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation is a volunteer-fueled organization dedicated to finding cures for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, and improving the quality of life of children and adults affected by these diseases.





JUSZCZYK'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His last name is pronounced YOOZ-check.
- Named the recipient of the 2017 Bill Walsh Award, which was established in 2004 in honor of San Francisco's Hall of Fame Head Coach. The award, which is voted on by the coaching staff, is given to the 49er who has best represented the standard of professional excellence established by Walsh. Walsh served as the team's head coach for 10 seasons from 1979-88. In that time, he compiled a record of 102-63-1 and led the team to three Super Bowls. He was twice named Coach of the Year (1981, 1984) and was later named Coach of the Decade for the 1980s.
- Each offseason, Juszczyk likes to build at least one piece of furniture with his own hands. His most recent piece of furniture assembled was a farmhouse-style kitchen table.
- In search of his favorite pregame meal, Juszczyk settled on filet mignon with sweet potatoes and spaghetti with scrambled eggs, a meal he describes as, "The perfect combination of protein and the right carbs before a game."
- His great uncle, Rich "Dickie" Moore, played DT at Villanova University before being selected by the Green Bay Packers in the first round (12th overall) of the 1969 NFL Draft.

JUSZCZYK'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Juszczyk often promotes PLAY 60, the NFL's movement to get children active for at least 60 minutes a day. In 2013, he participated in a PLAY 60 Challenge kickoff assembly at Essex (MD) Elementary School.
- In 2015, Juszczyk hosted the inaugural Juice's Future All-Stars Camp in Burbank, OH, with all proceeds donated to benefit Crohn's disease research.



JUSZCZYK'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2013	BAL	16	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
2014	BAL	16	14	0	0	–	–	0	19	182	9.6	33	1
2015	BAL	16	11	2	3	1.5	2	0	41	321	7.8	39	4
2016	BAL	16	7	5	22	4.4	10t	1	37	266	7.2	40	0
2017	SF	14	10	7	31	4.4	12	0	33	315	9.5	44	1
2018	SF	16	14	8	30	3.8	12	0	30	324	10.8	56	1
2019	SF	12	12	3	7	2.3	6	0	20	239	12.0	27	1
2020	SF	16	15	17	64	3.8	10	2	19	202	10.6	41	4
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**122**	**83**	**42**	**157**	**3.7**	**12**	**3**	**199**	**1,849**	**9.3**	**56**	**12**

PLAYOFFS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2014	BAL	2	1	0	0	–	–	0	6	45	7.5	11	0
2019	SF	3	3	0	0	–	–	0	3	39	13.0	15t	1
TOTALS		**5**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**9**	**84**	**9.3**	**15t**	**1**

Additional Statistics:

Fumbles – Lost – 6–6: 2014 (2–2); 2017 (2–2); 2018 (2–2)
Special Teams Tackles: Regular Season – 16: 2013 (5); 2014 (3); 2015 (1); 2016 (3); 2017 (3); 2018 (1) **Postseason – 4:** 2014 (4)
Special Teams Fumble Recoveries – 2: 2013 (1); 2019 (1)
Kick Returns – 5: 2013 (2); 2014 (2); 2015 (1)
Kick Return Yards – 52: 2013 (17); 2014 (28); 2015 (7)
Tackles – 2: 2018 (2)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Den. (9/5/13); **First Start:** vs. Cin. (9/7/14); **First Reception:** Regular Season – at Cle. (9/21/14 – 9–yd. TD pass from QB Joe Flacco); Postseason – at Pit. (1/3/15 – 7–yd. pass from QB Joe Flacco); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – at Cle. (9/21/14 – 9–yd. TD pass from QB Joe Flacco); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – 15–yd. TD pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – at Pit. (12/25/16); **100th Reception:** Regular Season – vs. LAR (9/21/17 – 34–yd. pass from QB Brian Hoyer); **First Multi–TD Game:** Regular Season – at Arz. (12/26/20 – 2 TDs)

JUSZCZYK'S CAREER HIGHS

Rushes: Regular Season – 4 at NE (10/25/20)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 18 at NE (10/25/20)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 12 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (10/7/18)
Rushing TDs: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last at NE (10/25/20)
Receptions: Regular Season – 7 vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 4 at NE (1/10/15)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 76 vs. Jax. (12/24/17); Postseason – 39 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 56 at Min. (9/9/18); Postseason – 15t at KC (2/2/20)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 2 at Arz. (12/26/20); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)

JUSZCZYK'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 4th–round (130th overall) draft choice by Bal. in 2013...Signed a four–year deal with SF on 3/10/17...Signed a five–year extension through 2025 with SF on 3/15/21.



JAVON KINLAW

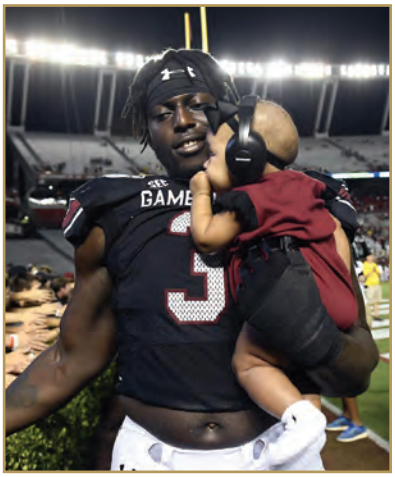
99 **DT**

6-5 × 319 × SOUTH CAROLINA

10.3.97 × CHARLESTON, SC × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1A IN '20

GOLDMINE

- Kinlaw, known for his work ethic on and off the field, found an extra source of motivation in his daughter, Eden Amara, born in April of 2019. Heading into his final season with South Carolina, Kinlaw reached new heights on the defensive line and earned national accolades. "When she was born, not that he didn't work hard before, but I saw a guy that was on a mission," South Carolina head coach Will Muschamp said. "[He] understood that there was a lot more out there for him right now in taking care of his daughter and taking care of his family." In addition to his growth on the field, Kinlaw saw the change in his mentality, too. "It's been a long journey, and I still have a long way to go. I feel like I needed it at that point and time in my life," he said. "It's helped me mature a little bit more, on and off the field. My biggest responsibility is being a good father."
- Kinlaw and his family faced financial uncertainty throughout his childhood, as they often moved from place to place in order to make ends meet. "You definitely can't give up on yourself," Kinlaw said. "I didn't really expect myself to be here. I didn't expect myself to be a collegiate athlete, but I stuck with it." Despite living in difficult circumstances at times, Kinlaw credits his childhood for his maturity. "It made me a man at a young age, [I] grew up early definitely," said Kinlaw. "It's been a long journey, just coming from the bottom and slowly working my way up. I'm really proud of myself and all that I've accomplished."



KINLAW'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His first name is pronounced juh-VONN.
- Leesa James-Exum, Kinlaw's mother, immigrated to Washington D.C. from Trinidad and Tobago in 1995.
- Played with older brother, Caleb, at South Carolina from 2017-2019.
- After not participating in Pop Warner as a kid, Kinlaw's football career began as a sophomore at Goose Creek (Charleston, SC) HS.

KINLAW'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

KINLAW'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2020	SF	14	12	33	15	18	1.5	7.5	1	27	27t	1	4	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**14**	**12**	**33**	**15**	**18**	**1.5**	**7.5**	**1**	**27**	**27t**	**1**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Arz. (9/13/20); **First Start:** at NYG (9/27/20); **First Sack:** at NO (11/15/20 – QB Taysom Hill); **First Multi–Sack Game:** at NO (11/15/20 – 1.5; QB Taysom Hill, Jameis Winston); **First INT:** at LAR (11/29/20 – QB Jared Goff); **First INT Returned for a TD:** at LAR (11/29/20 – QB Jared Goff)

KINLAW'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (1)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
11/15/20	at NO	1.5	7.5	Taysom Hill (1.0)
				Jameis Winston (0.5)

KINLAW'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: 4 (2 times) Last vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Solo: 3 vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Assists: 2 (5 times) Last at Dal. (12/20/20)
Passes Defensed: 1 (4 times) Last at LAR (11/29/20)
Sacks: 1.5 at NO (11/15/20)
Interceptions: 1 at LAR (11/29/20)
Interception Returns For TD: 1 at LAR (11/29/20)

KINLAW'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of two 1st–round (14th overall) draft choices by SF in 2020...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/18/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/27/20.



GEORGE KITTLE

85 **TE**

6-4 × 250 × IOWA

10.9.93 × NORMAN, OK × 5TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-5A IN '17

AWARDS & HONORS

2018: AP Second-Team All-Pro, PFWA NFL Most Improved Player, PFWA All-NFC Team, Bill Walsh Award, NFC Pro Bowl, Veteran Community Service Award

2019: AP First-Team All-Pro, PFWA All-NFL Team, PFWA All-NFC Team, Len Eshmont Award, NFC Pro Bowl

PRO BOWL ORLANDO 2019

PRO BOWL ORLANDO 2020

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Since entering the NFL in 2017, Kittle ranks 2nd in rec. yds. among all TEs.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN THE NFL, SINCE 2017

	Player	Recepts.	Yds.	Avg.	TDs
1.	Travis Kelce, KC	388	5,019	12.9	34
2.	**George Kittle, SF**	**264**	**3,579**	**13.6**	**14**
3.	Zach Ertz, Phi.	314	3,238	10.3	23
4.	Jared Cook, LV/NO	202	2,793	13.8	24
5.	Evan Engram, NYG	216	2,420	11.2	13

- Surpassed 3,000 career rec. yds. in 47 career games, which is tied for the 3rd-fewest games to reach 3,000 career rec. yds. by a TE in NFL history.
- His 10 career 100-yd. games are the most by a TE in franchise history and rank t-7th among all players.
- His 3,380 rec. yds. through his first 50 career NFL games are the 3rd-most by a TE in NFL history.
- Set an NFL record at the time for most rec. yds. (1,377) in a season by a TE in 2018.
- Is the 5th player and 1st TE in franchise history to record multiple 1,000-yd. seasons (2018-19).

FEWEST GAMES TO 3,000 CAREER REC. YDS. BY A TE, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Games
1t.	Mike Ditka	45
	Kellen Winslow Sr.	45
3t.	**George Kittle**	**47**
	Rob Gronkowski	47
5.	Jimmy Graham	49

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN FIRST 50 CAREER GAMES, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Rec. Yds.
1.	Mike Ditka	3,436
2.	Kellen Winslow Sr.	3,420
3.	**George Kittle**	**3,380**
4.	Rob Gronkowski	3,255
5.	Jimmy Graham	3,106

KITTLE'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- In 2019, was the recipient of the 49ers Len Eshmont Award, which is voted on by the players and is given to the 49er who best exemplifies the inspirational and courageous play of Len Eshmont, an original member of the 1946 49ers team.
- Named the recipient of the 2018 Bill Walsh Award, which was established in 2004 in honor of San Francisco's Hall of Fame Head Coach. The award, which is voted on by the coaching staff, is given to the 49er who has best represented the standard of professional excellence established by Walsh. Walsh served as the team's head coach for 10 seasons from 1979-88. In that time, he compiled a record of 102-63-1 and led the team to three Super Bowls. He was twice named Coach of the Year (1981, 1984) and was later named Coach of the Decade for the 1980s.
- His father, Bruce, was an offensive lineman at Iowa where he played in the 1982 Rose Bowl before suffering a career-ending injury in training camp with Washington in 1982. Following his football career, Bruce went on to become an assistant coach at Oklahoma University (2010-12).
- After more than five years as a criminal defense attorney, Bruce Kittle is the offensive line coach at Lipscomb Academy (Nashville, TN) HS, under former 49ers QB Trent Dilfer.
- Bruce writes George a letter prior to each game he plays that he reads on the bus on the way to the stadium.
- Kittle's cousin, Henry Krieger-Coble, signed with the Denver Broncos as an undrafted free agent TE in 2016. The two were teammates at Iowa.

KITTLE'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS (CONTINUED)

- Registered 7 recepts. for a career-high 210 yds. and 1 TD vs. Den. (12/9/18). His 210 rec. yds. are the most in a single game by a TE in franchise history and the 8th-most among all players.
- With 210 rec. yds. vs. Den. (12/9/18), became the first 49ers TE to eclipse the 1,000-yd. receiving mark and set the franchise record for most yds. in a single season by a 49ers TE. He is the first member of the 49ers to register at least 1,000 rec. yds. in a single season since WR Anquan Boldin registered 1,062 rec. yds. in 2014.
- His 210 rec. yds. vs. Den. (12/9/18) are the 3rd-most by a TE in a single game in the NFL since 1960.

MOST 1,000-YD. SEASONS, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Seasons
1.	Jerry Rice	12
2.	Terrell Owens	5
3t.	**George Kittle**	**2**
	Anquan Boldin	2
	John Taylor	2

MOST REC. YDS. IN A SINGLE GAME IN THE NFL BY A TE, SINCE 1960

	Player	Date	Opp.	Recepts.	Yds.	TDs
1.	Shannon Sharpe, Den.	10/20/02	at KC	12	214	2
2.	Jackie Smith, StL Cardinals	10/13/63	vs. Pit.	9	212	2
3.	**George Kittle, SF**	**12/9/18**	**vs. Den.**	**7**	**210**	**1**
4t.	Rich Caster, NYJ	9/24/72	at Bal. Colts	6	204	3
	Pete Retziaff, Phi.	11/14/65	vs. Was.	7	204	0

- From 2017-19, he registered 216 recepts. for 2,945 yds. and 12 TDs. His 2,945 rec. yds. became the most by a TE through his first 3 seasons in NFL history.
- In 2017, his rookie season, registered 43 recepts. for 515 yds. and 2 TDs. His 515 rec. yds. are the most by a 49ers rookie TE since the merger in 1970 and ranked 2nd among rookie TEs.

MOST REC. YDS. BY A TE IN FIRST 3 SEASONS, NFL HISTORY

	Player	Yds.
1.	**George Kittle**	**2,945**
2.	Mike Ditka	2,774
3.	Rob Gronkowski	2,663
4.	Jimmy Graham	2,648

MOST REC. YDS. BY A ROOKIE TE, 2017

	Player	Yds.	Round Picked	Overall Pick
1.	Evan Engram, NYG	722	1st	23rd
2.	**George Kittle, SF**	**515**	**5th**	**146th**
3.	O.J. Howard, TB	432	1st	19th
4.	David Njoku, Cle.	386	1st	29th
5.	Gerald Everett, LAR	244	2nd	44th

GOLDMINE

- During the 2020 NFL Combine, Kittle teamed up with Rich Eisen in support of the Run Rich Run event. Each combine, Eisen runs the 40-yard dash to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Kittle joined Eisen, with the assistance of Von, a St. Jude's patient, and Jerry Rice, in timing his 40-yard dash. George then presented a $10,000 donation to St. Jude's on behalf of him and his wife, Claire. "I'm just such a fan of Rich and that he does that every year through St. Jude's," Kittle said. "I'm a big fan of the Iowa Children's Hospital. I'm just a fan of that, any time I can give back to help kids, they deserve it."



- Kittle, along with Kansas City Chiefs TE Travis Kelce, created a TE summit near Nashville, TN. More than 45 TEs gathered to share tips, workouts and advice.
- Kittle partnered with the Jessie Rees Foundation to pass out JoyJars filled with toys and games at a local children's hospital. Kittle spearheaded the event and was joined by several of his teammates including, TE Garrett Celek, TE Ross Dwelley, TE Daniel Helm, QB Nick Mullens and LB Fred Warner who helped him spread holiday cheer and lift the spirits of everyone they met.
- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.





GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Kittle and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Kittle represented TAPS, saying, "I play for the fallen heroes and their families."



- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Kittle and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



- Kittle is an avid fan of the WWE. In May of 2017, he took time to visit the Black and Brave Wrestling Academy in Iowa, which is co-owned by one of Kittle's favorite wrestlers, WWE superstar Seth Rollins. At a pro wrestling event on the same weekend, Kittle got to live out one of his dreams and get into the ring, where he delivered a Stone Cold Stunner, a move made famous by his favorite wrestler of all-time, Steve Austin. "I felt like a kid," Kittle said.
- The 49ers worked alongside the humanitarian-relief organization Convoy of Hope in December of 2018, and hosted 1,500 guests in-need from Bay Area nonprofits and schools at Levi's® Stadium for a free holiday resource fair. Kittle and his 49ers teammates distributed groceries, toys, books, shoes and other holiday offerings to the guests. The attendees also received haircuts, utilized health resources and took family portraits or professional headshots. Convoy of Hope is a nonprofit organization that directs children's feeding initiatives, hosts community outreach programs and provides disaster response resources to those in need in the Bay Area and throughout the world.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- After posing for a photoshoot, Kittle and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.
- The 49ers joined forces with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose as part of their Community Tuesday kickoff event in September of 2018. Kittle and teammates took part in the event by serving dinner to nearly 200 residents in need, refilling beverages and bussing tables. Both the 49ers and Levi's Stadium partner with Martha's Kitchen throughout the year by donating excess food after stadium events. Martha's Kitchen's mission is to "feed the hungry with dignity, no questions asked, no judgements made."



- In April of 2018, along with several teammates, Kittle attended the eighth annual UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Prom in San Francisco.
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Kittle and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. The Pat Tillman Foundation unites and empowers military veterans and spouses as the next generation of public and private sector leaders committed to service beyond self.



KITTLE'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2017	SF	15	7	43	515	12.0	44	2	0	0	–	–	0
2018	SF	16	16	88	1,377	15.6	85t	5	1	10	10.0	10	0
2019	SF	14	14	85	1,053	12.4	61t	5	5	22	4.4	18	0
2020	SF	8	8	48	634	13.2	44t	2	2	17	8.5	9	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**53**	**45**	**264**	**3,579**	**13.6**	**85t**	**14**	**8**	**49**	**7.2**	**18**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	3	3	8	71	8.9	19	0	0	0	–	–	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**8**	**71**	**8.9**	**19**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Tackles – 9: 2017 (1); 2018 (2); 2019 (6)
Fumbles – Lost – 1–0: 2019 (1–0)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Car. (9/10/17); **First Start:** vs. Car. (9/10/17); **First Reception:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (9/10/17 – 13–yd. pass from QB Brian Hoyer); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 11–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – at Ind. (10/8/17 – 5–yd. TD pass from QB Brian Hoyer); **100–yd. Games:** Regular Season – 10, Last vs. LAR (10/18/20 – 109–yds.)

KITTLE'S CAREER 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES (10)

Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
12/31/17	at LAR	4	100	25.0	0	10/13/19	at LAR	8	103	12.9	0
9/30/18	at LAC	6	125	20.8	1	11/24/19	vs. GB	6	129	21.5	1
11/1/18	vs. Oak.	4	108	27.0	1	12/15/19	vs. Atl.	13	134	10.3	0
12/9/18	vs. Den.	7	210	30.0	1	10/4/20	vs. Phi.	15	183	12.2	1
12/30/18	at LAR	9	149	16.6	1	10/18/20	vs. LAR	7	109	15.6	1

KITTLE'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: Regular Season – 15 vs. Phi. (10/4/20); Postseason – 4 at KC (2/2/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 210 vs. Den. (12/9/18); Postseason – 36 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 85t vs. Den. (12/9/18); Postseason – 19 vs. GB (1/19/20)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 1 (14 times) Last vs. LAR (10/18/20)
Rushes: Regular Season – 2 at Was. (10/20/19)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 18 vs. Cle. (10/7/19)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 18 vs. Cle. (10/7/19)

KITTLE'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of two 5th–round (146th overall) draft choices by SF in 2017...Signed a five–year extension through 2025 with SF on 8/14/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/5/20...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 12/25/20.



TREY LANCE

5

QB

6-4 × 224 × NORTH DAKOTA STATE

5.9.00 × MARSHALL, MN × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-1 IN '21

GOLDMINE



- On Thursday, April 29, 2021, Lance's hometown of Marshall, Minnesota, celebrated "Trey Day" to honor Lance who was selected 3rd overall. Activities included a high school trivia contest with 200 participants, decorated storefronts, 50 percent off specials at restaurants and draft parties, all televised to commemorate one of Marshall's own. "It was just emotional watching (the coaches) because there were tears in their eyes," local restaurant owner Dan Fosvick said. "It was so cool to see those guys having a kid they coached go in the draft like that. It was crazy. There was so much talk about it and excitement. Nothing like this has ever happened to the town of Marshall."
- Lance's hard work extended beyond athletics as he earned a 3.9 GPA at Marshall. Not only was Lance a captain on the field and court, but he led his local Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter.

LANCE'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Father, Carlton, played football for Southwest Minnesota State and attended NFL camps with the Houston Oilers and San Francisco 49ers before playing in the CFL for the Saskatchewan Roughriders (1993) and in the World League for the London Monarchs (1995).
- Younger brother, Bryce, is a WR who is committed to play for North Dakota State in 2021.

LANCE'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021 Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yds	TD	Int	Lg	Sk/Yds	Rtg	Rsh	Yds	TD	Total Net Yds.	Pct. Offense
Sep 12	at Det																
Sep 19	at Phi																
Sep 26	GB																
Oct 3	Sea																
Oct 10	at Arz																
Oct 24	Ind																
Oct 31	at Chi																
Nov 7	Arz																
Nov 15	LAR																
Nov 21	at Jax																
Nov 28	Min																
Dec 5	at Sea																
Dec 12	at Cin																
Dec 19	Atl																
Dec 23	at Ten																
Jan 2	Hou																
Jan 9	at LAR																
TOTALS																	

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- In high school, Lance would wake up at at 5 a.m. each morning to work out at the local YMCA with his father, Carlton. "The fact that I was outworking people, that was something I enjoyed knowing," Lance said. "In my mind, I felt like, 'I know this is going to pay off one day.' There were definitely tough days. Waking up that early as a 15-, 16-year-old kid, I did not want to do it. But in my head, I felt guilty if I didn't. And once I started, I've never really stopped."

COLLEGE

Appeared in 19 games (17 starts) in 3 years (2018-20) at North Dakota State and completed 208 of 318 passing atts. (65.4 pct.) for 2,947 yds., 30 TDs and 1 INT to go along with 192 rushing atts. for 1,325 yds. and 18 TDs on the ground. As a sophomore in 2020, started 1 game and completed 15 of 30 passing atts. for 149 yds. and 2 TDs prior to their season being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Also ran for 143 yds. and 2 TDs. Started all 16 games as a freshman in 2019 and completed 192 of 287 passing atts. (66.9 pct.) for 2,786 yds. and 28 TDs, while also rushing for 1,100 yds. and 14 TDs on 169 carries. Became the first freshman to be awarded the STATS FCS Walter Payton Award as the top offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision. Also won the STATS FCS Jerry Rice Award as the top freshman player, becoming the first player to win both major FCS legacy awards in the same season. Redshirted in 2018 after appearing in 2 games and completing his only pass att. for 12 yds. and rushing for 82 yds. and 2 TDs.



PERSONAL

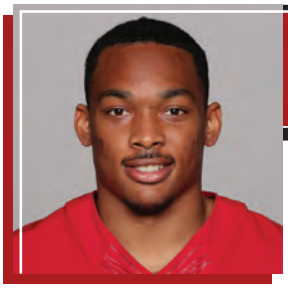
- Attended Marshall (MN) HS where he threw for 1,386 yds. and 14 TDs and rushed for 641 yds. and 10 TDs as a senior in 2018. Also recorded 54 tackles and 3 INTs at safety that season.
- Son of Carlton and Angie Lance.
- Majored in strategic communication with a minor in business administration at North Dakota State.
- Born Trey Lance (5/9/00) in Marshall, MN.

LANCE'S CAREER STATISTICS

				PASSING										RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	CMP	PCT	YDS	TD	INT	LG	SK	LST	RTG	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2021	SF																	
TOTALS																		

LANCE'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (3rd overall) draft choice by SF in 2021.



DEOMMODORE LENOIR

38 **DB**

5-10 × 200 × OREGON

10.6.99 × LOS ANGELES, CA × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-5B IN '21

GOLDMINE

- Lenoir grew up in a hard-working family that always stressed education and hard work. His father works in construction as his mother works at home, constantly reminding Lenoir of the sacrifices you make for success.
- He also attributes his aspirations to his upbringing and community that pushed him in a competitive environment. "Growing up in South Los Angeles taught me a lot," he said. "It taught me to stay focused in order to be able to go where I want to go, and that's to the NFL. You have to stay in the classroom and do what you're told to do."



COLLEGE



Appeared in 47 games (34 starts) in four years (2017-20) at Oregon and recorded 154 tackles, 27 PDs, 6 INTs, 4.0 TFLs, 2 FFs and 1 FR. As a senior in 2020, started all 7 games and recorded 30 tackles, 1 INT, 1 PD and 1 FF. Named Associated Press Second-Team All-Pac-12. Started all 14 games in 2019 and registered 47 tackles, 8 PDs, 2.5 TFLs, 1 INT, 1 FF and 1 FR and was named Associated Press Second-Team All-Pac-12. As a sophomore in 2018, started all 13 games and recorded 52 tackles, 12 PDs and 3 INTs. In 2017, recorded 25 tackles, 6 PDs, 1.5 TFLs and 1 INT.

LENOIR'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His name is pronounced dee-AH-mo-door, luh-NOOR.
- Goes by nicknames 'Demo' or 'Dede.'
- Comes from a large family, as he is the ninth child of 12.
- Was coached by D'Vah Thomas in high school, a long time friend of veteran CB Richard Sherman. With both men serving as mentors, he considers them "family."

PERSONAL

- Attended Salesian (Los Angeles, CA) HS where he was named to the *Los Angeles Times*' all-star team as a senior.
- Recorded 52 tackles, 1 INT and 2 FFs as a senior.
- On offense, racked up 663 rec. yds. and 7 TDs and threw for 595 yds. and 6 TDs.
- Born Deommodore Lenoir (10/6/99) in Los Angeles, CA.

LENOIR'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

LENOIR'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2021	SF															
TOTALS																

LENOIR'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the second of three 5th–round (172nd overall) draft choices by SF in 2021.



ALEX MACK

50 | **C** | 6-4 × 311 × CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY

11.19.85 × SANTA BARBARA, CA × 13TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

AWARDS & HONORS

2009: PFW/PFWA All-Rookie Team
2010: Pro Bowl, PFHOF All-Decade Team of the 2010s
2013: Pro Bowl, Second-Team AP All-Pro
2015: Pro Bowl
2016: Pro Bowl
2017: Pro Bowl
2018: Pro Bowl



GOLDMINE

- Mack's passion for giving back to the community has inspired his involvement in multiple charitable initiatives driven by the NFL. In 2011 and 2015, Mack embarked on week-long visits to U.S. troops at military bases in Iraq and throughout the Middle East with the NFL USO program. As both his father and cousin served in the military, he brings a personal touch to every trip and volunteer opportunity he has. "They do a dangerous job so we can enjoy our freedom and way of life. I'm lucky a lot of our soldiers enjoy watching football and I can bring a little slice of home out to them while they are serving," Mack said. His travels have brought him to multiple bases with the opportunity to have an in-depth look at the lives and duties of service men and women. Mack continues this work today. In February of 2020, he joined American Football Without Barriers and conducted a camp alongside other NFL players in Budapest, Hungary. The group conducted two days of free football camp for men, women and children while also participating in a host of community and experiential activities. Along with him on the trip was now-teammate OL Daniel Brunskill. He has also been involved with the charity TAPS, the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Inc. Throughout his career, teammates look up to Mack for his veteran leadership, work ethic and what he is able to accomplish off the field. "Alex is a amazing resource to have during times of adversity," Atlanta Falcons OL Chris Lindstrom said. "He has been through it all and understands what we need to do to be successful, and he's a great person to emulate."



MACK'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Enjoys reading with an interest in diverse genres such as historical fiction, science-fiction and fantasy books.
- Considers himself an avid traveler and has visited countries like Australia, Brazil, England, France, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand and Turkey.
- Works with children in his free time, visiting schools and reading to kids to promote literacy.
- Advanced to the state wrestling tournament as a CIF heavyweight champion in high school and compiled a 28-2 record on the mat as a senior, ranked second in the state.
- Father, Steve, played basketball at Baldwin-Wallace College from 1966-69.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In the 2013 offseason, Mack was selected to participate in the NFL's Second Annual "NFL Pro Hollywood Boot Camp" at Universal Studios, which offered a comprehensive overview of creative disciplines in the film industry including screenwriting, directing, producing and film financing. Mack took part in a mini-film comedy entitled "Et Tu Bruce," a comedic take on the story of Roman emperor, Julius Caesar. The four-day boot camp also provided a mentorship program for players serious about building a career in the film industry. While Mack is devoted to his life on the field, he takes every opportunity to expand his life skills and experiences. "Alex is one of the most unique players I've ever been around," former Browns LB Scott Fujita said. "He's got such great balance in his life. Alex is one of those guys who's very well read, he'll think nothing of just taking off and flying to Thailand in the off-season. But when he shows up to work nobody practices harder or plays harder."



MACK'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 179/179: 2009 (16/16); 2010 (16/16); 2011(16/16); 2012 (16/16); 2013 (16/16); 2014 (5/5); 2015 (16/16); 2016 (16/16); 2017 (16/16); 2018 (16/16); 2019 (16/16); 2020 (14/14)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 5/5: 2016 (3/3); 2017 (2/2)

Additional Statistics:
Fumble Recoveries – 4: 2018 (2); 2016 (1); 2013 (1); Postseason – 1: 2016 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Min. (9/13/09); **First Start:** vs. Min. (9/13/09); **100th Career Start:** at SD (10/4/15)

MACK'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (21st overall) draft choice by Cle. in 2009...Designated Transition Franchise Tag by Cle. on 3/3/14...Signed offer sheet with Jax. on 4/11/14...Signed a five–year extension through 2018 with Cle. on 4/11/14...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/17/14...Signed a five–year deal with Atl. on 3/9/16...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/31/20...Signed a three–year deal with SF on 3/18/21.



MIKE McGLINCHEY

69 | **T**

6-8 × 310 × NOTRE DAME

1.12.95 × PHILADELPHIA, PA × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1 IN '18

AWARDS & HONORS

2018: PFWA All-Rookie Team, ESPN All-Rookie Team

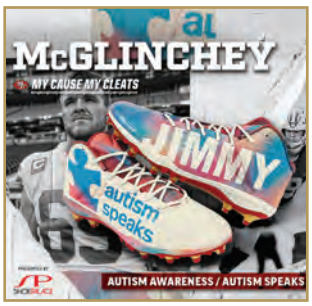
GOLDMINE



- McGlinchey was so big for his age as a child, his parents would make sure to bring his birth certificate to his basketball games. Later, at age eight, he was hoping to make his debut in youth football, but decided against it after the league's directors told his family that they would have to place him on a team with eighth and ninth graders due to his size. Embracing such a large frame as a child, McGlinchey constantly threw his weight around with his big family, which featured 22 cousins and 5 siblings. Even at his grandmother's wake, McGlinchey and his extended family engaged in a pickup football game while still dressed in their suits. As Mike puts it, "That's the way she would have wanted it."
- In July of 2020, McGlinchey surprised five families from around the Bay Area by delivering gift baskets in person, while following social distancing protocols. The gift baskets included 49ers gear and $1,000 in Visa gift cards. "With some gift cards and some 49ers gear, hopefully we'll make a couple of people's days and lives a little bit easier," said McGlinchey.



- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. McGlinchey and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with McGlinchey representing Autism Speaks.



McGLINCHEY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- McGlinchey's uncle, John Loughery, played QB at Boston College (1979-82) as did his cousin, Matt Ryan (2004-07). Ryan currently plays for the Atlanta Falcons and earned 2016 NFL MVP honors under current 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan, who was Ryan's offensive coordinator (Mike pictured top right).



- Despite being roughly six foot, eight inches tall, McGlinchey doesn't know where his large frame came from. Said McGlinchey jokingly, "My dad is about five foot, eleven inches. My mom is five foot, eight inches. So, it must have been a genetic mutation."

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.
- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. McGlinchey and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. McGlinchey and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. McGlinchey represented the charity Autism Speaks, and said, "I play for my brother Jimmy."



- McGlinchey and his teammates surprised guests of the CityTeam Men's Program and House of Grace in November of 2018, at Levi's Stadium. The group believed they were just taking a tour of the stadium, but they were in fact joining the 49ers players for a night full of exciting events. The guests received a makeover and haircut, selected a new outfit from Dockers, snapped a new headshot and then shared a Thanksgiving dinner with the 49ers players.
- McGlinchey and his fellow rookies participated in the annual 49ers Mentorship Academy in September of 2018. The Mentorship Academy, partnering with USA Football, is a three-step program designed to provide high school football players with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed and be leaders on and off the field. The rookie class invited the high schoolers to the team facility, where they shared opinions and lessons over a meal and fun competitions.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers worked alongside the humanitarian-relief organization Convoy of Hope in December of 2018, and hosted 1,500 guests in-need from Bay Area nonprofits and schools at Levi's® Stadium for a free holiday resource fair. McGlinchey and his 49ers teammates distributed groceries, toys, books, shoes and other holiday offerings to the guests. The attendees also received haircuts, utilized health resources and took family portraits or professional headshots. Convoy of Hope is a nonprofit organization that directs children's feeding initiatives, hosts community outreach programs and provides disaster response resources to those in need in the Bay Area and throughout the world.



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. McGlinchey and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the life span, for the needs of people with autism and their families.



McGLINCHEY'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 44/44: 2018 (16/16); 2019 (12/12); 2020 (16/16)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 3/3: 2019 (3/3)

Additional Statistics:
Tackles – 2: 2018 (1); 2020 (1)
Fumble Recoveries – 1: 2018 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at Min. (9/9/18); **First Start:** at Min. (9/9/18)

McGLINCHEY'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (9th overall) draft choice by SF in 2018.



ELIJAH MITCHELL

25 RB

5-10 × 200 × LOUISIANA

5.2.98 × ERATH, LA × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-6 IN '21

GOLDMINE

- Mitchell has always paired his love for football with his love for those around him on and off the field. In 2020, Mitchell led his team to a win in the final game, and dedicated the feat to the late Coach Looney, their offensive line coach who died of a heart attack during an August team workout shortly before the start of preseason camp. On what would have been coach Looney's 32nd birthday, Mitchell and the offense ran the ball for 265 rushing yards to cement the victory. "It was very important (to end the season with a win), man," said Mitchell. "We've been through so much with coach Looney, with just everything going on," Mitchell said, "and we just put it in our minds that we just wanted this year to be great, no matter what the circumstances."

COLLEGE



Appeared in 42 games (25 starts) in 4 years (2017-20) at Louisiana and recorded 527 carries for 3,267 yds. and 41 TDs to go along with 49 recepts. for 597 yds. and 5 TDs. As a senior in 2020, appeared in 10 games (9 starts) and recorded 141 carries for 878 yds. and 8 TDs and 1 recept. for 153 yds. and earned First-Team All-Sun Belt Conference honors. Appeared in all 14 games (3 starts) as a junior in 2019 and registered 198 rushes for a career-high 1,147 yds. and 16 TDs to go along with 10 recepts. for 70 yds. and 1 TD and was named First-Team All-Louisiana. Started all 13 games as a sophomore in 2018 and recorded 985 rushing yds. on 146 carries and 13 TDs and 20 recepts. for 349 yds. and 3 TDs. As a freshman in 2017, appeared in 5 games and rushed 42 times for 257 yds. and 4 TDs and added 3 recepts. for 25 yds. and 1 TD through the air.

MITCHELL'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His love for the game of football has always been palpable to those around him. "I really believe he's in love with football," UL running backs coach Jabbar Juluke said.
- Prides himself on being known as a tough, hardworking running back and earned that reputation amongst his teammates and coaches at Louisiana. "Those moments make you feel pretty good," Mitchell said. "It means that the coaches trust you with the ball when it is crunch time. It makes you feel like you are a playmaker and someone the team can count on when things get tough."

PERSONAL

- Attended Erath (LA) HS where he recorded 1,903 rushing yds. and 28 TDs his senior season. Finished his high school career with 457 carries for 4,045 yds. and 50 TDs in 3 seasons.
- Majored in general studies at Louisiana.
- Son of Milton and Penny Mitchell.
- Born Elijah Mitchell (5/2/98) in Erath, LA.

MITCHELL'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

MITCHELL'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2021	SF												
TOTALS													

MITCHELL'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 6th–round (194th overall) draft choice by SF in 2021.



JAYLON MOORE

76 | **OL**

6-4 • 311 • WESTERN MICHIGAN

1.9.98 • DETROIT, MI • ROOKIE • ACQUIRED D-5A IN '21

GOLDMINE

- While at Western Michigan, Moore played behind Chukwuma Okorafor, who was drafted himself by the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 3rd round (92nd overall) of the 2018 NFL Draft. Okorafor helped Moore's transition from defensive to offensive line. Said Moore about his time with Okorafor, "He taught me a lot. Just watching him, I feel like I'm more comfortable to have seen what he's done and where he's at now, and everything that he's taught me as far as understanding coverages, understanding spacing and just getting to the right spots at the right time."
- Moore was invited and attended the 2021 Reese's Senior Bowl in Mobile, AL. He, along with former WMU teammate D'Wayne Eskridge (pictured below), was part of the National Team. Moore and Eskridge will see each other twice a year as Eskridge was drafted in the 2nd round (56th overall) of the 2021 NFL Draft by the Seattle Seahawks.



MOORE'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Gained 25 pounds his senior season at Consortium College Prep (Detroit, MI) to transition from tight end to the offensive line. Under then-head coach P.J. Fleck, he made the transition to offensive line his senior year, leaving his impression on Fleck as a "hidden gem."
- Michigan football is in his family, as cousin Timothy Ford was a member of the Siena Heights University football program.

COLLEGE



Appeared in 36 games (26 starts) in five years (2016-20) at Western Michigan. Played in all 6 games as a redshirt senior in 2020 and blocked for a WMU offense that ranked fourth in the MAC in yds. per game (479.7). Started all 13 games in 2019 and helped the Broncos finish with a top-three MAC ranking in total offensive yds. per game (445.7). Started all 13 games in 2018 and was part of an offensive line that allowed the 2nd-fewest sacks allowed per game (1.54 avg.) in the MAC. Appeared in 5 games in 2017 as a redshirt freshman. Did not see game action in 2016.

PERSONAL

- Attended Consortium College Prep (Detroit, MI) where he played on the offensive and defensive line, as well as tight end.
- Son of Latisha Price and James Moore.
- Majored in finance at Western Michigan.
- Born Jaylon Moore (1/9/98) in Detroit, MI.

MOORE'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 0/0

MOORE'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of three 5th–round (155th overall) draft choices by SF in 2021.



TARVARIUS MOORE

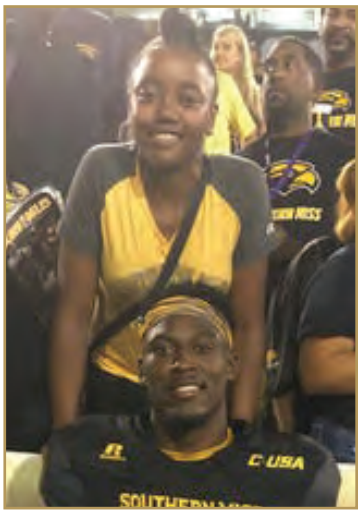
33 **DB**

6-2 × 200 × SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

8.16.96 × QUITMAN, MS × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-3B IN '18

GOLDMINE

- Prior to the start of his senior year at Southern Mississippi, Moore's younger sister, TavyAnna, passed away suddenly at the age of 16. "My sister was basically my best friend," said Moore. "After every game, no matter what, she was always the first person I'd see. Even if it was a tough loss, she would just always try to encourage me or give me some words of wisdom. For her to be my younger sister, she was kind of like my big sister at times. So, it was pretty hard. But I know she would want me to go out and do my best." Moore, who changed his Twitter screen name to "#DoIt-4Tavy" shortly before the 2017 season began, found it easier to keep his chin up his senior season because of the inspiration he's drawn from his sister. "When I think about her, it gives me the motivation to keep on going each and every day," he said. "When I'm on the field, if I'm tired or my teammates are tired, I just try to think what she would want me to do. I know she would never want me to quit or give up on anything. So I just try to find it within to go as hard as I can."



- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.

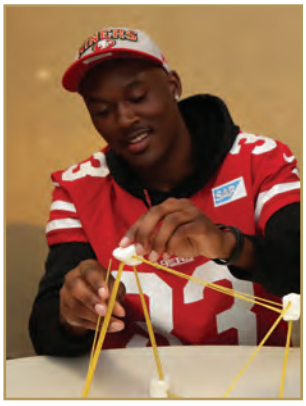


MOORE'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Coming from a town with just two stop lights, Moore is looking forward to having the opportunity to travel. "I can remember as a kid, just going to any big city was a big deal for us," Moore said. "I want to travel to as many foreign countries as I can, just to experience those different cultures."
- Moore comes from an athletic family, as his cousin, Antonio McDyess, played 17 seasons in the NBA for the Pistons, Nuggets, Spurs, Suns and Knicks. Originally drafted by the Clippers (then traded to the Nuggets) with the 2nd overall pick, McDyess averaged 12 points and 7 rebounds per game in his lengthy NBA career.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Moore and his fellow rookies participated in the annual 49ers Mentorship Academy in September of 2018. The Mentorship Academy, partnering with USA Football, is a three-step program designed to provide high school football players with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed and be leaders on and off the field. The rookie class invited the high schoolers to the team facility, where they shared opinions and lessons over a meal and fun competitions.



MOORE'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

MOORE'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	SF	16	2	19	16	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	2	1	0	0
2019	SF	16	3	15	10	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	3	0	0	0
2020	SF	16	8	49	34	15	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	1	1	3
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**48**	**13**	**83**	**60**	**23**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**6**	**2**	**1**	**3**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	1	7	7	0	2	0	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1**	**7**	**7**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – Regular Season – 22: 2018 (5); 2019 (12); 2020 (5) **Postseason – 2:** 2019 (2)

Milestones:

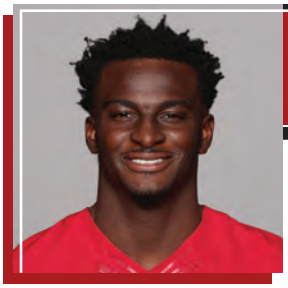
NFL Debut: at Min. (9/9/18); **First Start:** vs. Chi. (12/23/18); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs. Chi. (12/23/18 – WR Allen Robinson II); **First FR:** Regular Season – at NYG (9/27/20 – WR Darius Slayton); **First INT:** Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – QB Patrick Mahomes)

MOORE'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 11 at Arz. (12/26/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 8 at Arz. (12/26/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 6 at Arz. (12/26/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 2 vs. Sea. (12/16/18); Postseason – 2 at KC (2/2/20)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NO (11/15/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 at NYG (9/27/20)
Interceptions: Postseason – 1 vs. KC (2/2/20)

MOORE'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the second of two 3rd–round (95th overall) draft choices by SF in 2018.... Placed on Reserve/Physcially Unable to Perform List on 8/31/21.

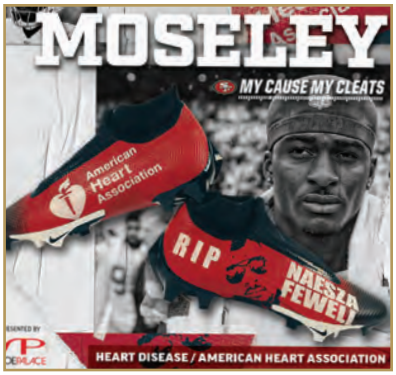


EMMANUEL MOSELEY

4 | CB | 5-11 × 190 × TENNESSEE

3.25.96 × GREENSBORO, NC × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '18

GOLDMINE



- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Moseley and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Moseley representing the American Heart Association.
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Moseley and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Moseley represented the Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research, saying, "I play for my Aunt Freda."



- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Moseley and some of his teammates visited the Akron Children's hospital as players went from room to room to visit and meet some of the young patients.



MOSELEY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- In June of 2019, Moseley returned to his high school alma mater, James B. Dudley (Greensboro, NC) HS, to share inspirational messages and knowledge with current students.
- Lists his secret talents as singing, dancing and playing the piano.
- Was considered a two-star recruit coming out of high school, but impressed the University of Tennessee coaching staff enough to play in every game of his four-year career.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.



MOSELEY'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.
- In October of 2019, Moseley and his teammates spent time with fans and members of local Silicon Valley businesses to compete in a bowling tournament as the 49ers Foundation hosted the second annual 1st and Bowl Challenge. The funds raised at the event will support the charitable programs of the 49ers Foundation and benefit Bay Area youth.
- Moseley and his fellow rookies participated in the annual 49ers Mentorship Academy in September of 2018. The Mentorship Academy, partnering with USA Football, is a three-step program designed to provide high school football players with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed and be leaders on and off the field. The rookie class invited the high schoolers to the team facility, where they shared opinions and lessons over a meal and fun competitions.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Moseley and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Unity Care provides quality youth and family programs for the purpose of creating healthier communities through lifelong partnerships. They provide safe, secure, and positive living environments; educate and support underserved youth; and prepare young people to pursue professions in which minorities are chronically underrepresented.



MOSELEY'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	SF	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	SF	16	8	43	37	6	0.0	0.0	1	3	3	0	8	0	0	0
2020	SF	12	8	47	34	13	0.0	0.0	1	51	51	0	9	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**29**	**16**	**90**	**71**	**19**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**2**	**54**	**51**	**0**	**17**	**0**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	2	14	14	0	0.0	0.0	1	9	9	0	4	0	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**2**	**14**	**14**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1**	**9**	**9**	**0**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 9: 2018 (1); 2019 (8)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Oak. (11/1/18); **First Start:** at LAR (10/13/19); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/27/19 – QB Kyle Allen); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – QB Aaron Rodgers)

MOSELEY'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 15 vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 5 (2 times) Last at KC (2/20/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 11 vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 5 (2 times) Last at KC (2/20/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. LAR (10/18/20); Postseason – 2 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NE (10/25/20); Postseason – 1 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 51 at NE (10/25/20); Postseason – 9 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 51 at NE (10/25/20); Postseason – 9 vs. GB (1/19/20)

MOSELEY'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 5/1/18...Waived by SF on 9/1/18...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/2/18...Promoted to SF active roster on 11/1/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/2/18...Signed a two–year extension through 2022 with SF on 3/15/21.



RAHEEM MOSTERT

31 | RB | 5-10 • 205 • PURDUE

4.9.92 • NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL • 7TH YEAR • ACQUIRED FA IN '16

AWARDS & HONORS

2017: 49ers Community Relations Family Service Award
2018: Perry/Yonamine Unity Award, 49ers Community Relations Family Service Award
2019: 49ers Community Relations Family Service Award

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Registered at least 1 rushing TD in each of the final 6 games of the 2019 season, the 3rd player in franchise history to do so and the first since 1995 to score at least 1 rushing TD in 6-or-more consecutive games.

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A RUSHING TD, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Range	Games
1.	Joe Perry	at GB (11/22/53) - at GB (10/10/54)	7
2t.	**Raheem Mostert**	**vs. GB (11/24/19) - at Sea. (12/29/19)**	**6**
	Derek Loville	vs. Car. (11/5/95) - at Car. (12/10/95)	6

- Rushed for 220 yds. and 4 TDs on 29 carries vs. GB (1/19/20 - NFC-C), which marked the first postseason rushing TDs of his career. His 220 rushing yds. set the franchise record for most rushing yds. in a game, regular season or postseason, and he is the only player in NFL history with over 200 rushing yds. and 4 rushing TDs in a postseason game.
- His 226 scrimmage yds. vs. GB (1/19/20 - NFC-C) (220 rushing, 6 receiving) are the most in a Conference Championship Game in playoff history.

MOST YDS. FROM SCRIMMAGE, CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

	Player	Year	Rush Yds.	Rec.Yds.	Scrim. Yds.
1.	**RB Raheem Mostert**	**2019**	**220**	**6**	**226**
2.	RB Marcus Allen	1983	154	62	216
3t.	RB Thurman Thomas	1993	186	22	208
	RB Wilbert Montgomery	1980	194	14	208

- With 5 rushing TDs in the 2019 postseason, became the 2nd-most in 49ers franchise postseason history.

MOST RUSHING TDS IN ONE POSTSEASON, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	TDs
1.	Ricky Watters	1993	6
2.	**Raheem Mostert**	**2019**	**5**

MOSTERT'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His last name is pronounced MOZE-tert.
- Winner of the Perry/Yonamine Award in 2018. The Perry/Yonamine Award is presented to the 49ers player who exhibits an exceptional commitment to promoting unity within the team and in their community. The Perry/Yonamine Unity Award is named for the former 49ers players and pioneers of unity and diversity, Joe "The Jet" Perry and Wally Yonamine, and is voted on by the players.
- Mostert met his wife, Devon, in college, as the two both attended Purdue University from 2011-14. Devon was an athlete herself, playing on the Boilermakers soccer team.
- A native of New Smyrna Beach, FL, Mostert enjoys saltwater and freshwater fishing in his free time.

MOSTERT'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

GOLDMINE

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Mostert and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Mostert represented Ocean Conservancy, saying, "I play to raise awareness to protect our ocean."



- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Mostert and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



- A two-sport athlete at Purdue, Mostert starred on the track during his senior season in 2014. He won the Big Ten title in the 60m and 200m at the conference indoor track championship in addition to winning the Big Ten title in the 100m and 200m at the conference outdoor track championship. For his efforts, he was named the Big Ten Indoor and Outdoor Track Athlete of the Championship in addition to the Great Lakes Region Track Athlete of the Year.



- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Growing up in Smyrna Beach, FL, known as the "shark-bite capital of the world," Mostert often surfed in the Atlantic Ocean. Said Mostert, "We would go out there and surf and they'd bite on people and stuff. They were usually just small sharks. But they'd mistake us for food."



- As part of the 49ers annual Thanksgiving celebrations, Mostert and his teammates visited Cityteam San Jose to serve a holiday feast to over 300 people in need. Guests enjoyed turkey along with all of the usual holiday sides, while getting to know the 49ers.
- The 49ers joined forces with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose as part of their Community Tuesday kickoff event in September of 2018. Mostert and teammates took part in the event by serving dinner to nearly 200 residents in need, refilling beverages and bussing tables. Both the 49ers and Levi's Stadium partner with Martha's Kitchen throughout the year by donating excess food after stadium events. Martha's Kitchen's mission is to "feed the hungry with dignity, no questions asked, no judgements made."



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Mostert and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. The Melanoma Research Foundation aims to eradicate melanoma by accelerating medical research while educating to and advocating for the melanoma community.



MOSTERT'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2015	MIA/BAL/CLE	11	0	0	0	–	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
2016	CHI/SF	3	0	1	6	6.0	6	0	0	0	–	–	0
2017	SF	11	0	6	30	5.0	16	0	0	0	–	–	0
2018	SF	9	0	34	261	7.7	52t	1	6	25	3.0	8	0
2019	SF	16	0	137	772	5.6	41t	8	14	180	12.9	39t	2
2020	SF	8	8	104	521	5.0	80t	2	16	156	9.8	76t	1
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**58**	**8**	**282**	**1,590**	**5.6**	**52t**	**11**	**36**	**361**	**10.0**	**76t**	**3**

PLAYOFFS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	3	0	53	336	6.3	36t	5	3	8	2.7	10	0
TOTALS		**3**	**0**	**53**	**336**	**6.3**	**36t**	**5**	**3**	**8**	**2.7**	**10**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – Regular Season – 30: 2015 (1); 2017 (8); 2018 (7); 2019 (14) **Postseason – 1:** 2019 (1)
Kick Returns – 26: 2015 (19); 2016 (2); 2017 (5)
Kick Return Yards – 629: 2015 (530); 2016 (35); 2017 (83); 2019 (–19)
Punt Return Yards – 33: 2016 (33)
Fumbles–Lost – 6–6: 2015 (1–1); 2017 (1–1); 2018 (1–1); 2019 (2–2); 2020 (1–1)
Special Teams Fumbles Recoveries – Regular Season – 1: 2019 (1) **Postseason – 1:** 2019 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Jax. (9/20/15); **First Start:** vs. Arz. (9/13/20); **First Reception:** Regular Season – at KC (9/23/18 – 8–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – 11–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – vs. Oak (11/1/18 – 52 yds.); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – 36 yds.); **First Receiving TD:** Regular Season – at Cin. (9/15/19 – 39–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **100–yd. Games:** Regular Season – 1, at Bal. (12/1/19 – 146 yds.); Postseason – 1, vs. GB (1/19/20 – 220 yds.)

MOSTERT'S CAREER 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES (2)

Date	Opp	Rsh	Yds	Avg	TD	Date	Opp	Rsh	Yds	Avg	TD
12/1/19	at Bal.	19	146	7.7	1	1/19/20*	vs. GB	29	220	7.6	4

*Postseason

MOSTERT'S CAREER HIGHS

Rushes: Regular Season – 19 at Bal. (12/1/19); Postseason – 29 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 146 at Bal. (12/1/19); Postseason – 220 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Rushing TDs: Regular Season – 2 at Sea. (12/29/19); Postseason – 4 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 80t at NYJ (9/20/20); Postseason – 36t vs. GB (1/19/20)
Receptions: Regular Season – 4 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 2 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 95 vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 6 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Receiving TDs: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 76t vs. Arz. (9/13/20); Postseason – 10 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Kick Returns: Regular Season – 5 (2 times) Last vs. Pit. (1/3/16)
Kick Return Yards: Regular Season – 159 at Sea. (12/20/15)
Kick Return Long: Regular Season – 53 at Sea. (12/20/15)

MOSTERT'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by Phi. on 5/2/15...Waived by Phi. on 9/5/15...Signed to Phi. practice squad on 9/6/15...Signed from Phi. practice squad to Mia. active roster on 9/15/15...Waived by Mia. on 10/13/15...Claimed off waivers by Bal. on 10/14/15...Waived by Bal. on 12/15/15...Claimed off waivers by Cle. on 12/16/15...Re–signed by Cle. on 3/7/16...Waived by Cle. on 9/4/16...Signed to NYJ practice squad on 9/6/16...Released by NYJ on 9/12/16...Signed to Chi. practice squad on 9/13/16...Promoted to Chi. active roster on 9/21/16...Waived by Chi. on 10/3/16...Signed to Chi. practice squad on 10/4/16...Released by Chi. on 10/21/16...Signed to SF practice squad on 11/28/16...Promoted to SF active roster on 12/30/16...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/29/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/2/18...Re–signed with SF on a three–year contract on 3/19/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/24/20...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 11/28/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/25/20.



JOSH NORMAN

26 **CB**

6-0 × 200 × COASTAL CAROLINA

12.15.87 × GREENWOOD, S.C. × 10TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

AWARDS & HONORS

2015: NFC Pro Bowl, First-Team AP All-Pro, PFWA All-NFL, PFWA All-NFC, 2015 PFWA Co-Most Improved Player

GOLDMINE



- Norman established the Starz24 Foundation and youth center in his hometown of Greenwood, S.C. The Foundation puts an emphasis on fitness and teamwork. Starz24 challenges the youth to participate and excel in areas that help develop strong interpersonal skills and awareness of the world.
- Through Starz24, Norman partnered with the city of Buffalo in 2020, his lone season with the Bills, to create the Buffalo Business Blitz. The BBB brought financial relief to small business impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- In July of 2019, Norman met with the Afghani Minister of Education to discuss education initatives.



- During the 2018 offseason, Norman traveled to Flint, Mich. to learn about and help alleviate the water crisis by distributing bottled water to the community. Distributed resources to immigrants at the U.S-Mexico border.
- Following Hurricane Maria and the Mexicio City earthquake during the 2017 season. Norman donated over $100,000 to the communities in need as well as showing his support on field with a custom pair of cleats inspired by the crest of Mexican National Soccer Team.
- In 2016 while with Washington, Norman distributed packaged food and turkeys to 2,500 families in need at the 14th annual Harvest Feast at FedExField.

NORMAN'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- One of 11 Coastal Carolina Chanticleers to ever reach the NFL.
- Member of the 2015 Carolina Panthers who were one of just six teams in NFL history to hold a 15-1 mark in the regular season. Norman played a pivotal role on the Pathers defense that helped guide the team to Super Bowl 50 which took place at Levi's Stadium.
- Founded the Starz24 Foundation that provides enrichment to children through community events and youth programs. The non-profit organization has funded 150 programs, assisted over 2,000 families and 200,000 youth worldwide, and donated upwards of $3.5 million to various chartiable causes.

NORMAN'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														



NORMAN'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2012	CAR	16	12	71	50	21	0.0	0.0	1	2	2	0	7	0	0	0
2013	CAR	7	0	4	3	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2014	CAR	14	10	47	35	12	0.0	0.0	2	60	33	0	11	1	1	0
2015	CAR	16	16	56	48	8	0.0	0.0	4	110	80	2	18	3	2	12
2016	WAS	16	16	67	52	12	0.0	0.0	3	38	37	0	19	2	0	0
2017	WAS	14	14	64	47	17	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	9	2	1	0
2018	WAS	16	16	64	40	24	0.0	0.0	3	79	–	0	9	3	1	0
2019	WAS	12	8	40	33	7	1.0	0.0	1	2	2	0	6	1	0	0
2020	BUF	9	3	24	21	3	0.0	0.0	1	16	16	1	4	1	2	7
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**120**	**95**	**437**	**329**	**108**	**1.0**	**0.0**	**15**	**307**	**80**	**3**	**83**	**13**	**7**	**19**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	CAR	2	2	6	4	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2015	CAR	3	3	9	6	3	1.0	14.0	0	0	–	0	4	0	0	0
2020	BUF	3	0	6	4	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS		**8**	**5**	**21**	**14**	**7**	**1.0**	**14.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**4**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 3: 2012 (2); 2014 (1).

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at TB (9/9/12); **First Start:** at TB (9/9/12); **First INT:** Regular Season – at Chi. (10/28/12) – QB Jay Cutler; **First INT Returned for a TD:** Regular Season – at Jax (9/13/15 – QB Blake Bortles – 30 yds.); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Chi. (9/23/19 – QB Mitchell Trubisky); Postseason – vs. Sea. (1/17/16 – QB Russell Wilson); **First Forced Fumble:** Regular Season – at NO (12/7/14); Postseason – vs. Bal. (1/16/21); **First Fumble Recovery:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (10/26/14).

NORMAN'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 11 vs. NYG (9/20/12); Postseason – 5 vs Sea. (1/17/16)

Solo: Regular Season – 8 vs. NYG (9/20/12); Postseason – 4 vs Sea. (1/17/16)

Assists: Regular Season – 5 at GB (9/23/2018); Postseason – 2 vs. Arz. (1/3/15)

Interceptions: Regular Season – 2 (2 Times) Last at Chi. (12/24/16)

Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 4 at Chi. (12/24/16); Postseason – 2 (2 Times) Last at Den. (2/7/16)

Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (6 times) Last at Chi. (12/23/19); Postseason – 1.0 vs Sea (1/17/16)

Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 2 at LAR (9/17/17); Postseason – 1 vs. Bal. (1/16/21)

Fumbles Recovered: Regular Season – 1 (7 times) Last vs. KC (10/19/20)

NORMAN'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally selected by the Carolina Panthers in the 5th round (143rd overall) of the 2012 NFL Draft... Received franchise tag from Panthers on 3/1/16... Became an unrestricted free agent after rescission of the franchise tag by the Panthers on 4/20/16... Signed with the Washington Redskins as an unrestricted free agent on 4/22/16... Released by the Washington Football Team on 2/14/20... Signed with the Buffalo Bills to a one–year contract on 3/17/20... Placed on the Injured Reserve (DFR) list on 9/12/20... Activated from the Injured Reserve (DFR) list on 10/3/20... Placed on the reserve/non–football injury list on 11/14/20... Activiated from the reserve/non–football injury list on 11/24/20... Became an unrestricted free agent on 3/17/21... Signed a one–year contract with SF on 9/6/21.



TAYBOR PEPPER

46 | **LS**

6-4 × 245 × MICHIGAN STATE

5.28.94 × SALINE, MI × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '20

GOLDMINE

- When he's not on the football field, one of Pepper's favorite hobbies is video game streaming. After signing a contract with the New York Giants in 2018, his first purchase was video game equipment. "I got a computer and two monitors," said Pepper. "I've been watching streams on Twitch since early 2012, 2011. It's my main form on entertainment, even today." At one point, Pepper was streaming on a full-time basis, garnering a few hundred views each day playing games like World of Warcraft, Skyrim and more. "More and more people are going to be exposed to technology, which means video games will be more accessible, which will increase the competition level in esports," said Pepper. Following his NFL career, Pepper has considering pursuing a career in esports. "I also would love to find a way to join an esports organization," said Pepper. "The one I have my eye on is 100 Thieves. They have some really good teams, but alongside that, they have a really awesome streetwear presence and are expanding to be more than just an esports organization. I think it'd be a cool look to have a pro athlete be a part of it."

PEPPER'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Participated in track & field at Saline (MI) HS.
- Father, Cam, was an offensive lineman at Illinois.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- An undrafted free agent, Pepper knows that the NFL can be unpredictable. While preparing for an opportunity to sign with a team, Pepper began offering lessons to local long snappers in the East Lansing and Grand Rapids areas. The lessons were a way to help make some extra income as well as extra practice before joining a team. "You just never know when you are going to get a call," said Pepper.

PEPPER'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 33/0: 2017 (4/0); 2019 (16/0); 2020 (12/0)

Additional Statistics:

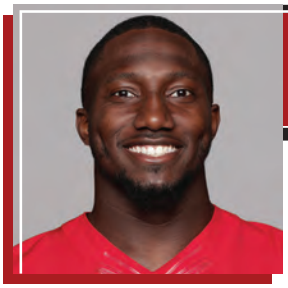
Special Teams Tackles – 2: 2020 (2)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Chi. (9/28/17)

PEPPER'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed a Reserve/Future contract with GB on 1/27/17...Waived by GB on 5/8/17...Signed a one–year deal with Bal. on 8/28/17...Waived by Bal. on 9/1/17...Signed a one–year deal with GB on 9/25/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/3/17...Signed a two–year deal with NYG on 12/31/18...Waived by NYG on 8/31/19...Signed a two–year deal with Mia. on 9/2/19...Waived by Mia. on 4/26/20...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 9/30/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/28/20...Signed a two–year extension through 2022 with SF on 2/4/21.



DEEBO SAMUEL

19 **WR** 6-0 × 215 × SOUTH CAROLINA

1.15.96 × INMAN, SC × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-2 IN '19

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Finished the 2019 season with 802 rec. yds., which is 2nd all-time for most receiving yards by a rookie in franchise history.

MOST REC. YDS. IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A ROOKIE, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Yds.
1.	Jerry Rice	1985	927
2.	**Deebo Samuel**	**2019**	**802**
3.	Brandon Aiyuk	2020	748
4.	Gene Washington	1969	711
5.	Dave Parks	1964	703

- His 57 recepts. in 2019 are 3rd all-time for most recepts. by a rookie in franchise history.

MOST RECEPTS. IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A ROOKIE, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Recepts.
1.	Earl Cooper (RB)	1980	83
2.	Brandon Aiyuk	2020	60
3.	**Deebo Samuel**	**2019**	**57**
4.	Gene Washington	1969	51
5.	Jerry Rice	1985	49

- Registered 3 games with 100-or-more rec. yds. during the 2019 season. According to the Elias Sports Bureau, his 3 games with 100-or-more rec. yds. are the most in a single season by a rookie in franchise history.

MOST 100-YD. REC. GAMES IN A SINGLE SEASON BY A ROOKIE, FRANCHISE HISTORY

	Player	Year	Games
1.	**Deebo Samuel**	**2019**	**3**
2t.	Brandon Aiyuk	2020	2
	Jerry Rice	1985	2
	Dave Parks	1964	2

- According to the Elias Sports Bureau, he became the first WR in franchise history to have 3-or-more rushing TDs in a single season. He is the first WR to have 3-or-more rushing TDs in a single season in the NFL since 2016 (WR Tyreek Hill, KC – 3 rushing TDs & WR Ty Montgomery, GB – 3 rushing TDs).

SAMUEL'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His father, Galen, gave him the nickname "Deebo" after the notorious bully in the 1995 movie *Friday* because he was always taking things away from people as a toddler. In high school, his stepmother, Precious Martin, gave him another nickname, "Sweet Feet," due to his speed.
- Lists his favorite player growing up as Reggie Bush.

GOLDMINE

- Samuel, a South Carolina native, knew he wanted to stay close to home when he went to college. Growing up with eight siblings, family has been a staple in his life. Step-mom, Precious Martin, noted that Deebo and his siblings were always hanging out at the house and encouraging each other to accomplish their goals. One of her goals was to finally get her college degree after struggling in college during her youth. Deebo, like with the other members of his family, was there to support her, often helping her with her homework. "Deebo used to help me a lot with my math courses, he's real good in math," said Martin. "They've seen me working hard as far as working and working hard at school, a lot of sacrifices I had to make and a lot of things I had to miss out with them. I think that plays a major part in my children wanting to further their education." Her goal was accomplished when both she and Deebo graduated from college.

SAMUEL'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- A retail management major at South Carolina, Samuel is passionate about fashion and his appearances in front of the camera. His fashion flair became something he was known for during his time in Columbia, usually with help from his stepmom, Precious. Martin and Samuel would often video chat while he was away from home so she could help pick out his outfits. "I love it. It makes me feel like he needs me," she said. "I can't get enough of it. I don't know if he does it more for me or more for him." Samuel was even referred to as the best dressed player at SEC Media Day. When asked about Samuel's style, a former coach remarked that his style doesn't always coincide with his personality. "Coming through here he'd always be dressed to the max. It's surprising knowing how humble he is and soft-spoken he is, but it's almost like his clothing is his alter-ego," said Steven Fusaro, who coached Deebo during his time at Chapman High. Following his football career, Samuel hopes to start his own clothing line.



SAMUEL'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	15	11	57	802	14.1	42t	3	14	159	11.4	31	3
2020	SF	7	5	33	391	11.8	17	1	7	17	2.4	10	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**22**	**16**	**90**	**1193**	**13.3**	**42t**	**4**	**21**	**176**	**11.4**	**31**	**3**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	3	3	10	127	12.7	30	0	6	102	17.0	32	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**10**	**127**	**12.7**	**30**	**0**	**6**	**102**	**17.0**	**32**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Fumbles–Lost – 2–1: 2019 (2–1)
Tackles – Regular Season – 1: 2019 (1) **Postseason – 1:** 2019 (1)
Fumble Recoveries – 1: 2019 (1)
Tackles – 1: 2020 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First Start:** at TB (9/8/19); **First Reception:** Regular Season – at TB (9/8/19 – 14–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20 – 10–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – at Cin. (9/15/19 – 3–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – vs. Car. (10/27/19 – 20–yds.); **100–yd. Games:** Regular Season – 4, Last at LAR (11/29/20 – 133–yds.)

SAMUEL'S CAREER 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES (4)

Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
11/11/19	vs. Sea.	8	112	14.0	0	12/29/19	at Sea.	5	102	20.4	0
11/17/19	vs. Arz.	8	134	16.8	0	11/29/20	at LAR	11	133	12.1	0

SAMUEL'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: Regular Season – 11 at LAR (11/29/20); Postseason – 5 at KC (2/2/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 134 vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 46 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 42t vs. GB (11/24/19); Postseason – 30 vs. GB (1/19/20)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 1 (4 times) Last vs. LAR (10/18/20)
Rushes: Regular Season – 3 vs. LAR (12/21/19); Postseason – 3 at KC (2/2/20)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 33 (2 times) Last at Sea. (12/29/19); Postseason – 53 at KC (2/2/20)
Rushing Touchdowns: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last at Sea. (12/29/19)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 31 at NO (12/8/19); Postseason – 32 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)

SAMUEL'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 2nd–round (36th overall) draft choice by SF in 2019...Placed on the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 7/28/20...Activated from the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 9/5/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/12/20...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 10/3...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/4/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/6/20.



MOHAMED SANU SR.

6 | WR | 6-2 • 210 • RUTGERS

8.22.89 • SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ • 10TH YEAR • ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE



- Sanu's mother, Aminata Koroma, left her West African home of Sierra Leone in 1975, seeking a better life in New Jersey, away from the civil war that plagued the nation from 1991 to 2002. Koroma returned to Sierra Leone in the mid-1990s, bringing Mohamed and his sister, Jabbie, with her. After a few years, Sanu returned to New Jersey with Jabbie and her husband as Koroma stayed behind to run an orphanage in her hometown. "She is well known around there," said Sanu. "She wants to give back to those who are there. Not everyone is as fortunate as I am, as blessed as I am. She's trying to give everybody the same opportunity in life that I got." Sanu is appreciative of his mother's sacrifices, and works to return the favor in any way he can. "My mom is very humble, doesn't ask for much. Whatever she does, I'm there for her," said Sanu. "She's grateful for whatever I'm there for. She's just amazing, and proud of me for accomplishing my dreams and my goals."



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Sanu and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Sanu represented former Bengals teammate Devon Still's daughter, Leah, on his cleats with an illustration of her and the words "Still Strong" written across the sides of his cleats to raise awareness for childhood cancer. During Sanu's time with the Cincinnati Bengals, Leah was battling Stage 4 neuroblastoma and celebrated being 5-years cancer free in 2020.

SANU'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Participated in football, basketball and track & field at South Brunswick (NJ) HS.
- Growing up, Sanu's favorite sport was soccer, due in part to his father, the late Samuel Sanu. "My dad actually played professional soccer back in West Africa. So, growing up that was my first love. I loved playing soccer."

SANU'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In July of 2019, Sanu hosted a football camp for local youth in his hometown of South Brunswick, NJ. The free camp was available to all boys and girls in grades 1-8 and included hands-on instruction and drills from Sanu and his fellow coaches and various souvenirs. Sanu has hosted the camp in previous years and enjoys being able to give back to the kids in his hometown. "I'm just out here to give them a good time, have some fun, and get out here and play a little bit."
- In July of 2019, Sanu hosted a football camp for local youth in his hometown of South Brunswick, NJ. The free camp was available to all boys and girls in grades 1-8 and included hands-on instruction and drills from Sanu and his fellow coaches and various souvenirs. Sanu has hosted the camp in previous years and enjoys being able to give back to the kids in his hometown. "I'm just out here to give them a good time, have some fun, and get out here and play a little bit."



SANU'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2012	CIN	9	3	16	154	9.6	34	4	5	15	3.0	7	0
2013	CIN	16	14	47	455	9.7	32	2	4	16	4.0	9	0
2014	CIN	16	13	56	790	14.1	76t	5	7	51	7.3	26	0
2015	CIN	16	4	33	394	11.9	52	0	10	71	7.1	25	2
2016	ATL	15	15	59	653	11.1	59	4	1	5	5.0	5	0
2017	ATL	15	15	67	703	10.5	25	5	4	10	2.5	4	0
2018	ATL	16	16	66	838	12.7	44t	4	7	44	6.3	24	0
2019	ATL/NE	15	12	59	520	8.8	28	2	3	11	3.7	8	0
2020	SF/DET	10	4	17	187	11.0	21	1	1	3	3.0	3	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**128**	**96**	**420**	**4,694**	**11.2**	**76t**	**27**	**42**	**226**	**5.4**	**26**	**2**

PLAYOFFS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2013	CIN	1	1	1	13	13.0	13	0	0	0	–	–	0
2014	CIN	1	1	3	31	10.3	11	0	0	0	–	–	0
2015	CIN	1	0	3	17	5.7	8	0	0	0	–	–	0
2016	ATL	3	3	11	121	11.0	22	2	1	7	7.0	7	0
2017	ATL	2	2	7	125	17.9	52	0	0	0	–	–	0
2019	NE	1	1	1	11	11.0	11	0	0	0	–	–	0
TOTALS		**9**	**8**	**26**	**318**	**12.2**	**52**	**2**	**1**	**7**	**7.0**	**7**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Fumbles – Lost – 6–3: 2013 (1–1); 2015 (2–0); 2016 (1–1); 2018 (2–1)
Tackles – 10: 2013 (2); 2014 (2); 2015 (1); 2016 (1); 2017 (1); 2018 (1); 2019 (2) **Postseason – 1:** 2013 (1)
Fumble Recoveries – 3: 2014 (1); 2018 (1); 2019 (1)
Passing Attempts/Completions – 8/7: 2012 (1/1); 2013 (1/1); 2014 (3/3); 2017 (1/1); 2018 (2/1)
Passing TDs – 4: 2012 (1); 2014 (1); 2017 (1); 2018 (1)
Passing Yards – 233: 2012 (73); 2013 (25); 2014 (79); 2017 (51); 2018 (5)
Punt Returns – 10: 2019 (10) **Postseason – 1:** 2019 (1)
Punt Return Yards – 56: 2019 (56) **Postseason – 23:** 2019 (23)
Kickoff Returns – 2: 2015 (1); 2020 (1) **Postseason – 1:** 2016 (1)
Kickoff Return Yards – 17: 2015 (2); 2020 (15) **Postseason – 9:** 2016 (9)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Bal. (9/10/12); **First Start:** at Was. (9/23/12); **First Reception:** Regular Season – vs. Pit. (10/21/12 – 5–yd. pass from QB Andy Dalton); Postseason – vs. SD (1/5/14 – 13–yd. pass from QB Andy Dalton); **First TD Reception:** Regular Season – vs. NYG (11/11/12 – 10–yd. pass from QB Andy Dalton); Postseason – vs. Sea. (1/14/17 – 3–yd. pass from QB Matt Ryan); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – vs. Cle. (11/5/15 – 25–yds.); **100–yd. Games:** Regular Season – 3, Last vs. Cin. (9/30/18 – 111–yds.); **First Multi–TD Game:** Regular Season – vs. Oak. (11/25/12 – 2 TDs); **First Kickoff Return:** Regular Season – at Arz. (11/22/15 – 2–yd. KOR); Postseason – vs. GB (1/22/17 – 9–yd. KOR); **First Punt Return:** Regular Season – vs. Ten. (9/29/19 – 2–yd. PR); Postseason – vs. Ten. (1/4/20 – 23–yd. PR)

SANU'S CAREER 100-YARD RECEIVING GAMES (3)

Date	Opp	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD
10/12/14	vs. Car.	10	120	12.0	1
10/26/14	vs. Arz.	5	125	25.0	0
9/30/18	vs. Cin.	6	111	18.5	0

SANU'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: Regular Season – 10 (2 times) Last at Bal. (11/3/19); Postseason – 5 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 125 vs. Bal. (10/26/14); Postseason – 75 at LAR (1/6/18)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 76t vs. Atl. (9/14/14); Postseason – 52 at LAR (1/6/18)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 2 vs. Oak. (11/25/12); Postseason – 1 (2 times) Last vs. GB (1/22/17)
Rushes: Regular Season – 3 vs. Min. (12/22/13); Postseason – 1 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 29 at Car. (12/23/18); Postseason – 7 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 26 vs. Bal. (10/26/14); Postseason – 7 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Rushing Touchdowns: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at Den. (12/28/15)
Passes Attempted: Regular Season – 1 (8 times) Last at TB (12/30/18)
Completions: Regular Season – 1 (7 times) Last at TB (12/30/18)
Passing Yards: Regular Season – 73 at Was. (9/23/12)
Long Pass: Regular Season – 73t at Was. (9/23/12)
Passing Touchdowns: Regular Season – 1 (4 times) Last at TB (12/30/18)
Punt Returns: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. Buf. (12/21/19); Postseason – 1 vs. Ten. (1/4/20)
Punt Return Yards: Regular Season – 23 at Phi. (11/17/19); Postseason – 23 vs. Ten. (1/4/20)
Long Punt Return: Regular Season – 14 at Phi. (11/17/19); Postseason – 23 vs. Ten. (1/4/20)
Kick Returns: Regular Season – 1 at Arz. (11/22/15); Postseason – 1 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Kick Return Yards: Regular Season – 2 at Arz. (11/22/15); Postseason – 9 vs. GB (1/22/17)
Kick Return Long: Regular Season – 2 at Arz. (11/22/15); Postseason – 9 vs. GB (1/22/17)

SANU'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of two 3rd–round (83rd overall) draft choices by Cin. in 2012...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/4/12...Signed a five–year deal with Atl. on 3/11/16...Traded to NE on 10/22/19...Released by NE on 9/3/20...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 9/18/20...Released by SF on 10/6/20...Signed to Det. practice squad on 11/6/20...Activated from Det. practice squad on 11/21/20...Reverted back to Det. practice squad on 11/23/20...Promoted to Det. active roster on 11/25/20...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 3/30/21.



TREY SERMON

28 **RB**

6-0 × 215 × OHIO STATE

1.30.99 × MARIETTA, GA × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-3A IN '21

GOLDMINE



- Sermon cites his mother, Natoshia Mitchell, as one of his biggest inspirations for the resilience she has displayed throughout her life. Mitchell endured the loss of numerous loved ones, car accidents and domestic abuse. Despite all the tragedy she faced, Mitchell became the face of strength for Sermon and his older sister, Oneisha. Her experience led her to found the nonprofit Arise By Faith, which provides resources, programs and support systems for those suffering from domestic abuse. She holds doctorate, bachelor's and master's degrees.



- At Sermon's Pro Day in 2020, he raised $6,497 for the foundation through his vertical leap, citing "My mom is by far the toughest person I know," on the fundraising page. Mitchell also took to her book entitled "When My Soul Cried" to detail all that she and her family has overcome.
- When the 49ers drafted Sermon, he was already familiar with the team's scheme having watched San Francisco's film to prepare for his role at Ohio State. "When I was making the transition to Ohio State, I was looking at a lot of outside zone," Sermon said. "The 49ers were definitely one of the teams that I looked at. Just going through the progressions and the reads because I knew when I got to Ohio State we were going to run a lot of that."

SERMON'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Has a niece, Amia, who he served as a father figure to throughout her childhood.
- Born the day before Super Bowl XXXIII, in which his hometown team Atlanta Falcons appeared, his mother looked at him and said, "This is going to be you one day."
- Drawing inspiration from his last name, he developed the nicknames 'Preacher' and 'Minister (of the End Zone)' from his teammates. Also received the nickname 'The Terminator' from public address announcers as only a 5-year old playing tackle football for the first time.

SERMON'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

COLLEGE



Appeared in 8 games in 1 year (2020) at Ohio State, rushing for 870 yds. and 4 TDs after transferring to the school from Oklahoma. Appeared in 37 games (15 starts) in 3 years (2017-19) at Oklahoma and recorded 339 carries for 2,076 yds. and 22 TDs to go along with 36 recepts. for 391 yds. and 3 TDs. Appeared in 9 games in 2019 and recorded 385 rushing yds. on 54 carries and 4 TDs to go along with 8 recepts. for 71 yds. and 1 TD. Appeared in all 14 games (12 starts) in 2018 and hauled in a career-high 947 rushing yds. on 164 carries and 13 TDs to go along with 12 recepts. for 181 yds. Appeared in all 14 games (3 starts) in 2017 and recorded 121 rushes for 744 yds. and 5 TDs with 16 recepts. for 139 yds. and 2 TDs through the air.

PERSONAL

- Attended Sprayberry (Marietta, GA) HS where ran for 1,227 yds. and 16 TDs on 166 carries as a senior in 2016.
- Earned a degree in human relations from Oklahoma.
- Son of Odell Sermon and Natoshia Mitchell.
- Born An'treyon Sermon (1/30/99) in St. Petersburg, FL.

SERMON'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2021	SF												
TOTALS													

SERMON'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the first of two 3rd–round (88th overall) draft choices by SF in 2021.



TRENT SHERFIELD

81 **WR** 6-1 × 219 × VANDERBILT

2.26.96 × DANVILLE, IL × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE

- Sherfield grew up in a tough neighborhood only two hours outside of Chicago. Raised by a single mother who gave birth at the age of 16, his family who moved around year after year, often in uncomfortable circumstances such as motels and cramped apartments with his grandparents, uncles and late stepdad (pictured below). When Sherfield reached high school, his mother came to the realization she could not afford to pay for his college. On that day, Sherfield made it his ultimate goal to earn a scholarship. Years later, he walked across the stage at Vanderbilt with a degree in medicine, health and society with a minor in corporate strategy and four varsity football letters. "It's being able to show kids back home that I'm from the same city," Sherfield said. "I grew up on the same street. In reality, there's nothing you can't do. You have to work for what you want, but I wouldn't have it any other way."



- Sherfield's dreams shifted to giving back to the community that raised him. At Vanderbilt, he served as a mentor at the local Boys & Girls Club and interned at the Martha O'Bryan Center in Nashville. He hopes to bring that experience back to his hometown to build an indoor athletic facility for the youth as he remembers traveling two hours to Chicago every weekend to practice and workout. In 2019, he raised over $1,500 for the Danville football team and started a free football camp at Danville High School. He also honors his hometown in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats initiative as in 2018 he wore cleats that read, "No more silence, end gun violence,' after he knew 14 people killed in his community due to gun violence in that year alone. Although life presented him challenges along the way, those challenges have written Sherfield's story, something he could not have faced without his single mother. "My mother taught me from a young age that you have to work for everything you want," he said. "Nothing in life is easy, so you'd better go get it."

SHERFIELD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Cites one of his biggest mentors in football is Vanderbilt legend and former 49ers WR Jordan Matthews, who also spent time with the Eagles and Bills. While Matthews helps him on the field, Sherfield says his off-the-field advice has helped him become an avid reader as well to sharpen his brain.
- Raised by his small family of his mother, grandparents and two uncles, who inspired his love for football. His whole family would drive five hours each game day to watch him play for the Commodores.

SHERFIELD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

SHERFIELD'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2018	ARZ	13	2	19	210	11.1	21	1	0	0	–	–	0
2019	ARZ	16	1	4	80	20.0	38	0	0	0	–	–	0
2020	ARZ	15	1	5	50	10.0	26	0	0	0	–	–	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**44**	**4**	**28**	**340**	**12.1**	**38**	**1**	0	0	–	–	0

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 18: 2020 (9); 2019 (8); 2018 (1)
Kickoff Returns – 1: 2019 (1)
Kickoff Returns Yards – 15: 2019 (15)
Fumble Recoveries – 4: 2020 (3); 2019 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Was. (9/9/18); **First Start:** vs. Det (12/9/18); **First Reception:** vs. Oak. (11/18/18 – 6–yd. pass from QB Josh Rosen); **First TD Reception:** at Atl. (12/16/18 – 7–yd. pass from QB Mike Glennon). **First Kickoff Return:** 15 vs. SF (10/31/19).

SHERFIELD'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 6 vs. LAR (12/23/18)
Receiving Yards: 77 vs. Det. (12/9/18)
Long Reception: 38 vs. Atl. (10/13/19)
TD Receptions: 1 at Atl. (12/16/18)
Kick Returns: 1 vs. SF (10/31/19)
Kick Return Yards: 15 vs. SF (10/31/19)
Kick Return Long: 15 vs. SF (10/31/19)
Fumble Recoveries: 1 (4 times) Last at LAR (1/3/21)

SHERFIELD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by Arz. on 4/30/18...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/26/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/2/20...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 3/19/21.



JUSTIN SKULE

67 | **OL**

6-6 × 315 × VANDERBILT

11.23.96 × CLIFTON, VA × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-6B IN '19

GOLDMINE

- Skule's father, Joshua, was an FBI agent for over 20 years, having spent a decade each in Chicago and Washington D.C. He recently retired as the Executive Assistant Director for Intelligence. He was appointed counter terrorism section chief by former FBI director Robert Mueller in 2012 and head of intelligence by former FBI director James Comey in 2016. Joshua deals with terrorism, election hacking, mass shootings and mandates from the White House on any given work day, and not even gameday is an exception. If a "significant crisis event" occurs, Joshua must be ready to take a high-priority conference call, regardless of what is happening on the field. "I'm always curious about who he's talking to when he takes those calls, but he can't say," Justin said. "When I'm playing a game, I obviously don't know what's going on with him," said Justin. "When I've been with him at my younger siblings' games, he'll get one of those calls, you just know it's important."
- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Skule and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Skule representing Turner's Heroes.



- The 49ers teamed up with the activist content company, One Community, to show a special private screening of the movie *Just Mercy* to a group of high school students from the African American Community Services Agency. The screening was followed by a group discussion led by Scott Budnick, who executive produced the movie, along with the players in attendance. The event was a part of the NFL's Inspire Change initiative, which encourages teams to support programs that reduce barriers to opportunity. The three priority areas of this initiative are: education and economic advancement, police and community relations, and criminal justice reform.

SKULE'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Last name is pronounced SKOOL.
- Played ice hockey from the time he was three up until he started high school.
- Comes from an athletic family, as his brother, Jackson, is a redshirt freshman on the offensive line at James Madison, and his father, Joshua, played football collegiately at the Naval Academy.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Skule and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Skule represented Turner's Heroes, and said, "I play for pediatric patients, real-life superheroes."



- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.
- Participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.

SKULE'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 31/12: 2019 (15/8); 2020 (16/4)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 3/0: 2019 (3/0)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First Start:** vs. Pit. (9/22/19)

SKULE'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally the second of three 6th–round (183rd overall) draft choices by SF in 2019...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 5/3/19...Waived/Injured on 6/11/21...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 6/14/21.



KENTAVIUS STREET

95 **DL**

6-2 × 287 × NORTH CAROLINA STATE

5.8.96 × GREENVILLE, NC × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-4 IN '18

GOLDMINE



- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Street and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Street representing Foster America.
- Street's grandfather, who served in the Marine Corps, gave him advice in the first grade that would last a lifetime. He told Kentavius that no matter the circumstance, he was going to have to outwork the competition. Street states that he has taken that mindset and carried it with him everywhere he goes - in the classroom, on the field, in the weight room and in the community.
- One of Street's favorite memories comes from a tightly-contested, 10-3 home victory over Notre Dame in 2016. The game was played under unique circumstances, as Hurricane Matthew had recently struck the east coast and transformed the field to a 100-yard slip and slide with a constant downpour in addition to 20-plus mile per hour winds attacking the field. "It was a battle to the very end," Street said. "It was such a fun, well-fought victory."



- Members of the 49ers defensive line spent time with 25 local youth from the Fam 1st Foundation at Shoe Palace for a special holiday shopping experience on December 16, 2019. The Fam 1st Foundation is based in Oakland and focuses on underserved youth, aiming to build new generations of innovative thinkers to create solutions for the future of Oakland and beyond.



STREET'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Street's athletic ability was featured in a viral video of his 700-pound squat at a NC State workout.
- His cousin, Kiwaukee Thomas, played eight seasons in the NFL with the Jaguars, Bills and Dolphins. After his playing career was over, Kiwaukee got into coaching, was named the head football coach at Middle Georgia State University and is now the defensive coordinator at Oklahoma Panhandle State University.
- Along with Bradley Chubb (Denver Broncos – 5th overall), B.J. Hill (New York Giants – 69th overall) and Justin Jones (Los Angeles Chargers – 84th overall), Street became the final player from NC State's starting defensive line to be drafted in 2018. It marks the first time since 2013 that a school's entire starting defensive line was selected in the same draft (LSU – 2013).

STREET'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Street and his fellow rookies participated in the annual 49ers Mentorship Academy in September of 2018. The Mentorship Academy, partnering with USA Football, is a three-step program designed to provide high school football players with the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to succeed and be leaders on and off the field. The rookie class invited the high schoolers to the team facility, where they shared opinions and lessons over a meal and fun competitions.
- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.



STREET'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	SF	–	–	–	RESERVE/NFI LIST (Knee)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2019	SF	3	0	4	4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2020	SF	15	2	10	4	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**18**	**2**	**14**	**8**	**6**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Knee)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Atl. (12/15/19); **First Start:** at Arz (12/26/20)

STREET'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. Sea. (1/3/21)
Solo: Regular Season – 3 vs. LAR (12/21/19)
Assists: Regular Season – 2 vs. Sea. (1/3/21)

STREET'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 4th–round (128th overall) draft choice by SF in 2018...Placed on the Reserve/Non–Football Injury List on 9/1/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/1/19...Activated from the Injured Reserve List on 12/14/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 1/10/20...Placed on the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 7/28/20...Activated from the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 8/4/20.



JAQUISKI TARTT

3 | S

6-1 × 215 × SAMFORD

2.18.92 × MOBILE, AL × 7TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-2 IN '15

AWARDS & HONORS

2015: Thomas Herrion Memorial Award

2019: NFL Way to Play (Week 6), NFL Way to Play (Divisional Round)

GOLDMINE



- In August of 2020, Tartt partnered with Vitality Bowls in San Jose to create the Smart Tartt Smoothie. Ten percent of the proceeds from the smoothie will go to the East Side Union High School District, which serves more than 22,000 students throughout San Jose, including a large population of underprivileged students that come from low income families. East Side Union High School District is using the donated proceeds to provide students with necessary school supplies, such as access to mobile hotspots and technology devices during a remote learning model in the fall, as well as clothing and transportation vouchers. "The partnership with Vitality Bowls came naturally, as I was already finding myself stopping in for a smoothie about five times a week," said Tartt. "The Smart Tartt is a healthy and fresh form of energy for me, and it's definitely my go-to before and after I train. I think everyone will enjoy the smoothie we developed and it's a great way to help local families with a portion of the proceeds."
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Tartt and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. The Epilepsy Foundation of Northern California is dedicated to providing information, resources, and support to the over 180,000 Northern Californians living with epilepsy. Tartt was inspired by his close friend and manager whose daughter, Aria, was diagnosed with Epilepsy at four months old. No medicine was helping and Aria would have up to 100 seizures a day. But after brain surgery, where a piece of her brain was removed, she is now seizure free. "I want to raise awareness for Epilepsy, a cause folks know little about," said Tartt. "My message to those affected by the disease: Stay strong and know that you are not in this fight alone!"



TARTT'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- First name is pronounced juh-KWAH-skee.
- Teamed with Next Level Football Camp for his inaugural camp in his hometown of Mobile, AL, on July 9, 2016. The goal of the camp was to allow one day of football training to impact the other 364 days of the year by participants being partnered with a mentor/coach from the camp.
- Named the 49ers Thomas Herrion Memorial Award winner for the 2015 season. The award, as voted on by the coaches, was established in 2005 by 49ers owners Denise and John York and is presented to a rookie or first-year player who best represents the dream of Thomas Herrion.
- Became the sixth player selected in the NFL Draft in Samford school history and holds the distinction of being the first player drafted in the second round or higher.
- Reunited with high school teammate and 49ers 2014 1st round pick DB Jimmie Ward. Both are products of Davidson HS in Mobile, AL. The pair won the Class 6A Region 1 football championship as the school's starting safeties in 2009.

TARTT'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- On November 26th, 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.



- While visiting his hometown of Mobile during his youth football camp in July of 2016, Tartt was given the key to the city. "If anybody would have told me I would be getting a key to the city of Mobile, I'd have thought they were crazy. It's a wonderful feeling."



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Tartt provided 75 backpacks full of school supplies to 7th graders at Scarborough Model Middle School of Mobile in preparation for that upcoming school year. Said Tartt, "I met with the Mayor and his team and they decided that this would be the best thing to do. Every year, I'm just trying to do something to give back to my community. It was great to see how happy the kids were."
- Tartt's young football career has been heavily influenced by his family. He played his first year of organized football in 2009 at Davidson HS in Mobile, AL, to honor his grandfather, Alfred Lewis, who passed away during the summer before his senior year. "The football coaches and my friends wanted me to come out and play, and he really wanted me to play. I really wanted to play again ever since he passed away, so I do this in his memory." Additionally, Jaquiski chose to attend Samford University at the urging of his mother, a traveling nurse who wanted to go there herself because of their pharmacy program.
- A two-time All-American and All-Southern Conference selection, Tartt was the first player in Samford school history to be invited to play in the Reese's Senior Bowl. Just the sixth player selected in the NFL draft in school history, Tartt holds the distinction of being the first player drafted in the second round or higher from Samford University.

TARTT'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2015	SF	15	8	66	57	9	2.0	22.0	1	25	25	0	3	1	0	0
2016	SF	15	6	61	38	23	1.0	10.0	0	0	–	0	3	0	0	0
2017	SF	9	9	54	37	17	0.5	3.0	1	37	37	0	3	0	0	0
2018	SF	8	8	41	32	9	0.0	0.0	1	23	23	0	2	0	0	0
2019	SF	12	12	44	31	13	0.5	2.0	0	0	–	0	2	1	2	0
2020	SF	7	7	28	19	9	0.0	0.0	1	16	16	0	4	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**66**	**50**	**294**	**214**	**80**	**4.0**	**37.0**	**4**	**101**	**37**	**0**	**17**	**2**	**2**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	14	11	3	1.0	1.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**14**	**11**	**3**	**1.0**	**1.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 23: 2015 (1); 2016 (13); 2017 (1); 2018 (1); 2019 (5); 2020 (2)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Min. (9/14/15); **First Start:** at StL (11/1/15); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Min. (9/14/15 – QB Teddy Bridgewater); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – QB Patrick Mahomes); **First FF:** Regular Season – at StL (11/1/15 – WR Tavon Austin); **First INT:** Regular Season – at Cle. (12/12/15 – QB Johnny Manziel); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (11/11/19 – WR D.K. Metcalf)

TARTT'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 13 vs. NYJ (12/11/16); Postseason – 8 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 9 (2 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16); Postseason – 5 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 (5 times) Last vs. GB (11/5/20); Postseason – 3 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 2 vs. Atl. (11/8/15)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. Sea. (11/11/19)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. Arz. (11/17/19)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (4 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 37 vs. Car. (9/10/17)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 37 vs. Car. (9/10/17)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (3 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16); Postseason – 1.0 at KC (2/2/20)

TARTT'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 2nd–round (46th overall) draft choice by SF in 2015...Placed on the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 7/31/16...Activated from the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 8/6/16...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/6/17...Signed a two–year contract extension through 2020 with SF on 4/27/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/24/18...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/11/20...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/22/21... Placed on the Reserve/Non–Football Injury List on 8/6/21.



AMBRY THOMAS

20 **CB** 6-0 × 190 × MICHIGAN

9.9.99 × DETROIT, MI × ROOKIE × ACQUIRED D-3B IN '21

GOLDMINE

- In June of 2019, Thomas was diagnosed with colitis. He quickly lost 35 pounds and was told he would not be able to play. Thomas dedicated himself to his return throughout a 34-day hospital stay. Thomas became a leader on his team and took charge in every way he could. "I don't know how he did it," former Michigan defensive coordinator Don Brown said. "I really don't. He's a special guy, now. Some guys would have missed a lot of time. Not this guy. He didn't miss a thing. That was the thing — I would walk off shaking my head: 'I can't believe this guy is functioning as well as he is. But that's who he is."
- His defensive coordinator wasn't the only coach who was impressed with Ambry's determination. "One thing that really stands out, looking back on it, was Ambry's attitude, his positive attitude, his attention to detail in terms of doing everything the doctors told him," Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh said. "Right down to the rest, the diet, the fluids he was taking in. He was so mature with the attitude that he had."

COLLEGE



Appeared in 39 games (13 starts) in four years (2017-20) at Michigan and recorded 54 tackles, 3.5 TFLs, 9 PDs, 5 FRs, 4 INTs and 1 FF. Also added 39 KORs for 808 yds. (20.7 avg.) on special teams. Elected to opt-out of the 2020 season. As a junior in 2019, started all 13 games and registered 38 tackles, 7 PDs, 3.0 TFLs, 3 INTs and 2 FRs. On special teams, recorded 19 KORs for 412 yds. (21.7 avg.). Appeared in all 13 games as a sophomore in 2018, and recorded 9 tackles, 2 PDs, 1 INT and 1 FR. Appeared in all 13 games as a freshman in 2017 and registered 7 tackles, 0.5 TFL, 2 FRs and 1 FF along with 20 KORs for 396 yds. (19.8 avg.) on special teams.

THOMAS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- After dreaming of playing together in high school, cousin Jaylen Kelly Powell joined Thomas at Michigan to be teammates on the Wolverines squad. "We've been playing with each other all our life," Thomas said of Powell. "In Little League, we played Detroit Dolphins together. We were supposed to play at the same high school together, which was (Martin Luther) King, but he went to Cass (Technical). Every time I play him I act like I don't know him."
- Won two state championships at Martin Luther King (Detroit, MI) HS, which he and his teammates cite as honoring his late high school coach, Dale Harvel.

PERSONAL

- Attended Martin Luther King (Detroit, MI) HS where he led the team to consecutive Michigan Division 2 state championships in 2015 and 2016, including a 12-2 overall record during his senior year in 2016.
- Son of Jermaine and Carmen Thomas
- Born Ambry Thomas (9/9/99) in Detroit, MI.

THOMAS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

THOMAS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2021	SF															
TOTALS																

THOMAS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally the second of two 3rd–round (102nd overall) draft choices by SF in 2021.



LAKEN TOMLINSON

75 | OL

6-3 × 315 × DUKE

2.9.92 × CHICAGO, IL × 7TH YEAR × ACQUIRED TR IN '17 - DET.

AWARDS & HONORS

2018: Bobb McKittrick Award
2020: Bobb McKittrick Award

GOLDMINE



- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Tomlinson and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.
- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Tomlinson and some of his teammates visited the Akron Children's hospital as players went from room to room to visit and meet some of the young patients.



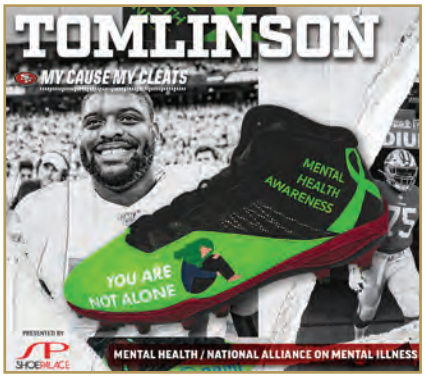


- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.
- Tomlinson and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.

TOMLINSON'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Moved to America from Jamaica when he was close to 11 years old, where was raised by his single mother in the Rogers Park section of Chicago, IL.
- In 2018 and 2020, was selected as the Bobb McKittrick Award winner, which is given annually to the 49ers offensive lineman who best represents the courage, intensity and sacrifice displayed by the longtime offensive line coach, during his 21 years of service to the 49ers. The award was established by the 49ers in 1999, and is voted on by the offensive line.
- Was on the track & field team in high school where he participated in both the discus and shot put competitions.
- Named Academic All-ACC all four years of his college career at Duke (2011-14).

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)



- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Tomlinson and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Tomlinson representing the National Alliance on Mental Illness.
- The 49ers joined forces with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose as part of their Community Tuesday kickoff event in September of 2018. Tomlinson and teammates took part in the event by serving dinner to nearly 200 residents in need, refilling beverages and bussing tables. Both the 49ers and Levi's Stadium partner with Martha's Kitchen throughout the year by donating excess food after stadium events. Martha's Kitchen's mission is to "feed the hungry with dignity, no questions asked, no judgements made."



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Growing up in Jamaica, Tomlinson always aspired to serve in the healthcare industry. After his football career, he plans to become a neurosurgeon. Tomlinson has always taken education seriously, commuting 90 minutes each day to and from school to receive a quality education in high school. He went on to graduate from Duke University with a bachelor's degree in evolutionary anthropology and psychology. While currently focused on football, Tomlinson still finds time to shadow doctors to help prepare for a career in the medical field after his retirement from the NFL. Athletes everywhere can look to Tomlinson as proof that balancing academics and athletics can be difficult but achievable. He enjoys being a role model for kids, but plans to take it a step further. "I want to improve the healthcare system in Jamaica. I believe it is the best way to directly help people in need and make a difference," said Tomlinson.
- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Tomlinson and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Tomlinson represented NAMI, and said, "I play for all those struggling with mental health."



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during a designated home game between Weeks 13-15 of 2018. Tomlinson and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. The National Alliance on Mental Illness is dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.



- In 2014, Tomlinson won the Orange Bowl–FWAA Courage Award which is presented by a select group of writers from the FWAA to an athlete that displays courage on and off the field, including overcoming an injury or living through hardship. "My mother has been the greatest influence on my life, and none of this recognition would be possible without her sacrifice, love and support," said Tomlinson as he received the award. After growing up in Jamaica and moving to the United States when he was 10, he gives all the credit for who he is today to his mother. "It means the world to me to make her proud. If not for her, I could still be in Jamaica, living a life of poverty. Every time I go home or have an opportunity to talk to my mother, she always tells me before she hangs up, 'Laken, I love you and I'm extremely proud of you and everything that you do for our family. Keep doing what you are doing. The Lord has a plan for you, Laken.'"



TOMLINSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 94/86: 2015 (16/14); 2016 (16/10); 2017 (15/15); 2018 (16/16); 2019 (16/16); 2020 (16/16)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 4/4: 2016 (1/1); 2019 (3/3)

Additional Statistics:

Tackles – 4: 2015 (1); 2017 (1); 2019 (2)
Fumble Recoveries – 2: 2018 (1); 2020 (1)
Special Teams Tackles – 1: 2019 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at SD (9/13/15); **First Start:** at SD (9/13/15)

TOMLINSON'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (28th overall) draft choice by Det. in 2015...Traded to SF on 8/31/17...Signed a three–year contract extension through 2021 with SF on 6/22/18.



JASON VERRETT

2 | **CB** | 5-10 × 188 × TEXAS CHRISTIAN

6.18.91 × FAIRFIELD, CA × 8TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2015: Pro Bowl

2020: Hazeltine Iron Man Award, Ed Block Courage Award

GOLDMINE



- Throughout his NFL career, Verrett has been involved in multiple community outreach initiatives, looking to positively impact the public. One that he frequently partakes in is the Play 60 program, which encourages kids to spend at least 60 minutes a day outside. During the events, players engage with young fans through drills, scrimmages, and more. As a professional football player, Verrett knows the importance of staying active and passes that wisdom on when he can. "Follow your heart, keep your dreams alive," he said. "That was something I did when I was younger. I just kept my dream alive, all about football. Making sure I took care of my body. All the right things to keep me going."



- Prior to the 2016 spring workouts, Verrett attempted to break a Guinness World Record. To break the record, Verrett needed to have some pretty decent speed. Evidently, he was too fast. On National High Five Day, the cornerback tried to break the world record for most high fives in one minute. In order to break the record, his attempt needed to be captured on video with a clear shot of each high five. Three hundred fans lined up to help him with the feat. Reaching every hand in 40 seconds, Verrett ran too quickly for the camera to follow him on a golf cart. Sadly, Verrett had to return to his workout and wasn't able to officially beat the previous record.
- In December of 2018, Verrett spent his time with the Vacaville Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club, providing the kids with 50 winter coats, gift cards, and a bounty of toys. "Our Christmas party brings together the best in our community, especially the kids. They never know what gifts they will receive, or if they will even receive a gift," said Anna Eaton, executive director of the club. "[they] all were especially warmed to know that a community member thought of them."

VERRETT'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Named the 49ers Hazeltine Iron Man Award winner for the 2020 season. The award is named for former linebacker Matt Hazeltine, a 13-year performer who played more seasons at linebacker than any other 49ers player. Known for his durability and dedication, Hazeltine passed away in 1987 from ALS, and Bill Walsh established the award in his honor that year. The award is given annually to the most courageous and inspirational defensive player as voted upon by the defensive coaches.
- Named the 49ers Ed Block Courage Award recipient in 2019. The Ed Block Courage Award is named after Ed Block, the former head athletic trainer of the Baltimore Colts of 23 years. Block was a pioneer in his profession and a respected humanitarian whose most passionate cause was helping children of abuse. The award is presented in his name each year to the player that exemplified a commitment to sportsmanship and courage. Ed Block Courage Award winners from each of the 32 NFL teams are honored at a banquet in Baltimore, MD.
- Is distant cousins with ESPN SportsCenter anchor Stan Verrett.
- In June of 2019, Verrett held "Feeva's Fun Fest" in Fairfield, CA, which hosted free activities such as bubble soccer, kickball, Jenga, cornhole and connect four, among others.
- Appeared on an episode of The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon prior to the 2014 NFL Draft at Radio City Music Hall. Verrett starred alongside seven other Draft hopefuls, including Odell Beckham Jr. and Teddy Bridgewater.

VERRETT'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Marvel's blockbuster Black Panther is a favorite of many, including cornerback Jason Verrett. When the film debuted in February of 2017, Verrett took 350 local students from Rodriguez High School to a screening. Verrett, a 2009 graduate of the school, acted like a superhero himself, hoping to uplift the kids who might not have been able to afford to see the film otherwise. The movie, which is

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

set in Oakland and a fictional country in Africa called Wakanda, is highlighted by an African superhero and sports a primarily African-American cast. "I just think it's great. It's Marvel, first of all, plus it's so great for young kids to be able to have a superhero they admire and draw inspiration from," Verrett said.

VERRETT'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	SD	6	4	19	18	1	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
2015	SD	14	13	47	42	5	0.0	0.0	3	68	68t	1	12	0	0	0
2016	SD	4	4	13	11	2	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
2017	LAC	1	1	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2018	LAC	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Achilles)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2019	SF	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2020	SF	13	13	60	50	10	0.0	0.0	2	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**39**	**35**	**140**	**122**	**18**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**7**	**68**	**68t**	**1**	**26**	**0**	**0**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	LAC	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Achilles)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2019	SF	–	–	–	INJURED RESERVE (Knee)			–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS		**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 1: 2016 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Arz. (9/8/14); **First Start:** vs. Sea. (9/14/14); **First INT:** Regular Season – at Oak. (10/12/14 – QB Derek Carr); **First INT Returned for a TD:** Regular Season – vs. Chi. (11/9/15 – QB Jay Cutler – 68 yds.)

VERRETT'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 11 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 11 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 3 vs. GB (11/5/20)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (7 times) Last vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 3 (2 times) Last vs. Chi. (11/9/15)

VERRETT'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (25th overall) draft choice by SD in 2014...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/15/14...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/7/16...Placed on the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 7/29/17...Activated from the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 8/4/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/23/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 9/1/18...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 3/14/19...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/3/19...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 4/13/20...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 4/1/21.



JIMMIE WARD

DB | 5-11 × 195 × NORTHERN ILLINOIS

7.18.91 × MOBILE, AL × 8TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-1 IN '14

AWARDS & HONORS

2015: Hazeltine Iron Man Award

GOLDMINE



- Ward and his teammates surprised guests of the CityTeam Men's Program and House of Grace in November of 2018, at Levi's Stadium. The group believed they were just taking a tour of the stadium, but they were in fact joining the 49ers players for a night full of exciting events. The guests received a makeover and haircut, selected a new outfit from Dockers, snapped a new headshot and then shared a Thanksgiving dinner with the 49ers players.



- Ward's family is no stranger to professional athletics. He is the cousin of former NBA player, Caron Butler. Butler, 10 years older than Ward, watched him grow up in Racine, WI, prior to Ward's move to Mobile, AL.
- While playing youth football, Ward went by the nickname 'Neko' and was teammates with former Alabama QB AJ McCarron with the Mobile Youth Football's Municipal Raiders. He played linebacker for the team that won multiple Youth Bowl Championships in Mobile.
- Growing up in Mobile, AL, Ward knew when to separate himself from others in his neighborhood. Said Ward, "From where I come from, the neighborhood that I grew up in, a lot of people don't make it out. There's a lot of stuff. They either flunk out of school, end up having a child so they have to drop out of school and raise that child, or end up going to jail. It really just made me want to do something more than what my peers were doing." Ward would later surround himself with positive influences.
- The 49ers and their families hosted 450 underserved boys and girls from the Bay Area for the first-ever 49ers Hope for the Holidays event. Each child had a once-in-a-lifetime experience traveling through Levi's Stadium and left with a brand new bike, helmet, lock, haircut, shoes, toys, glasses, backpack, dinner and more.

WARD'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Named the 49ers Hazeltine Iron Man Award winner for the 2015 season. The award is named for former linebacker Matt Hazeltine, a 13-year performer who played more seasons at linebacker than any other 49ers player. Known for his durability and dedication, Hazeltine passed away in 1987 from ALS, and Bill Walsh established the award in his honor that year. The award is given annually to the most courageous and inspirational defensive player as voted upon by the defensive coaches.
- On the day he was selected by the 49ers in the 1st round of the 2014 NFL Draft, drove three hours to New Orleans to purchase a new purse for his mother's birthday. He said, "I never really bought her anything expensive, because you're a kid. Growing up you would write a card, color a card or just buy a card or simple flowers. That's the most I ever did. She likes purses, so I just decided to get her a purse. It really didn't matter how much it cost, you just wanted to see that smile." His act of generosity shows his true character. "I'm not a selfish person. I just like to see and make other people smile too. It makes me feel better as a person."
- Was best friends growing up with 49ers 2015 2nd round draft pick, S Jaquiski Tartt. The two were teammates at W.P. Davidson High School in Mobile, AL.

WARD'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR Yds
Sep 12	at Det												
Sep 19	at Phi												
Sep 26	GB												
Oct 3	Sea												
Oct 10	at Arz												
Oct 24	Ind												
Oct 31	at Chi												
Nov 7	Arz												
Nov 15	LAR												
Nov 21	at Jax												
Nov 28	Min												
Dec 5	at Sea												
Dec 12	at Cin												
Dec 19	Atl												
Dec 23	at Ten												
Jan 2	Hou												
Jan 9	at LAR												
TOTALS													

WARD'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	SF	8	0	23	17	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	2	0	0	0
2015	SF	16	8	65	51	14	1.0	9.0	1	29	29t	1	5	0	0	0
2016	SF	11	10	64	49	15	1.0	7.0	1	8	8	0	12	0	0	0
2017	SF	7	6	32	27	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	1	43
2018	SF	9	7	23	18	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	SF	13	13	60	46	14	1.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	8	0	0	0
2020	SF	14	14	71	43	28	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	4	2	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**78**	**58**	**337**	**250**	**87**	**3.0**	**16.0**	**2**	**37**	**29t**	**1**	**32**	**2**	**1**	**43**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	17	13	4	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**17**	**13**	**4**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – Regular Season – 17: 2014 (3); 2015 (4); 2016 (2); 2018 (1); 2019 (5); 2020 (2) **Postseason – 2:** 2019 (2)
Special Teams Forced Fumbles – 2: 2016 (1); 2018 (1)
Special Teams Fumble Recoveries – 2: 2016 (1); 2017 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Dal. (9/7/14); **First Start:** vs. Min. (9/14/15); **First INT:** Regular Season – at Chi. (12/6/15 – QB Jay Cutler); **First INT Returned for a TD:** Regular Season – at Chi. (12/6/15 – QB Jay Cutler); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Cin. (12/20/15 – QB AJ McCarron); **First FR:** Regular Season – at Was. (10/15/17 – TE Vernon Davis); **First FF:** Regular Season – at LAR (11/29/20 – RB Malcolm Brown); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – QB Patrick Mahomes)

WARD'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 12 vs. NYJ (12/11/16); Postseason – 10 at KC (2/2/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 9 vs. NYJ (12/11/16); Postseason – 8 at KC (2/2/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 5 vs. Was. (12/13/20); Postseason – 2 at KC (2/2/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (3 times) Last vs. Arz. (11/17/19)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last vs. NYJ (12/11/16)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 29t at Chi. (12/6/15)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 2 at LAR (11/29/20); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 at Was. (10/15/17)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 4 at Arz. (11/13/16)
Interception Return For TD: Regular Season – 29t at Chi. (12/6/15)

WARD'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (30th overall) draft choice by SF in 2014...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/15/14...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/20/16...Placed on the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 7/28/17...Activated from the Active/Non–Football Injury List on 8/24/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/1/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/27/18...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/15/19...Placed on the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 7/26/19...Activated from the Active/Physically Unable to Perform List on 7/30/19...Re–signed with SF on a three–year deal on 3/24/20.



FRED WARNER

54 **LB**

6-3 × 230 × BRIGHAM YOUNG

11.19.96 × SAN MARCOS, CA × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED D-3A IN '18

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: NFC Defensive Player of the Month (November), NFC Defensive Player of the Week (Week 12).

2020: AP First-Team All-Pro, Len Eshmont Award, Bill Walsh Award, NFC Pro Bowl, NFC Defensive Player of the Week (Week 16).

PRO BOWL 2021

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2018, became the first NFL rookie since 2000 to begin his career with 4 consecutive games of at least 10 tackles, according to Gamebook Statistics.

GOLDMINE

- Warner credits his mother, Laura, as the number one influence in his life. He notes that his mother raised him and his siblings all by herself while making sacrifices along the way. "She taught all of us about hard work," Warner said. On draft day, Laura was by Fred's side as he was selected by the 49ers in the third round. "She was right next to me," he said. "She got the first hug."



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Warner and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Warner represented Cancer CAREPOINT, and said, "I play to honor my grandmother who passed from breast cancer.



- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Warner and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



WARNER'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- In 2020, was the recipient of the 49ers Len Eshmont Award, which is voted on by the players and is given to the 49er who best exemplifies the inspirational and courageous play of Len Eshmont, an original member of the 1946 49ers team.
- Named the recipient of the 2020 Bill Walsh Award, which was established in 2004 in honor of San Francisco's Hall of Fame Head Coach. The award, which is voted on by the coaching staff, is given to the 49er who has best represented the standard of professional excellence established by Walsh. Walsh served as the team's head coach for 10 seasons from 1979-88. In that time, he compiled a record of 102-63-1 and led the team to three Super Bowls. He was twice named Coach of the Year (1981, 1984) and was later named Coach of the Decade for the 1980s.
- Caught the attention of BYU coaches after a die-hard BYU fan and family friend sent Warner's highlight tape to the coaches and was later offered a scholarship.
- At BYU, was roommates with his younger brother Troy, who played cornerback for the Cougars and signed with the Los Angeles Rams as an undrafted free agent in 2021.

WARNER'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers LBs welcomed eight foster youth from Unity Care to Levi's Stadium in December of 2019. This group received gifts and much needed resources, like bedding and new shoes, this holiday season. The linebackers chose to support foster youth to honor teammate Dre Greenlaw who is a former foster youth.
- In October of 2019, Warner teamed up with the St. Baldrick's Foundation, a volunteer-powered charity that funds childhood cancer research grants. During the fundraiser, they assisted in shaving the heads of volunteers as a symbol of support of the cancer warriors.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- The 49ers joined forces with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose as part of their Community Tuesday kickoff event in September of 2018. Warner and teammates took part in the event by serving dinner to nearly 200 residents in need, refilling beverages and bussing tables. Both the 49ers and Levi's Stadium partner with Martha's Kitchen throughout the year by donating excess food after stadium events. Martha's Kitchen's mission is to "feed the hungry with dignity, no questions asked, no judgements made."

WARNER'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2018	SF	16	16	123	84	39	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	6	1	1	0
2019	SF	16	16	118	89	29	3.0	31.0	1	46	46t	1	9	3	0	0
2020	SF	16	16	125	79	46	1.0	11.0	2	3	3	0	6	1	2	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**48**	**48**	**366**	**252**	**114**	**4.0**	**42.0**	**3**	**49**	**46t**	**1**	**21**	**5**	**3**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	3	20	11	9	0.0	0.0	1	3	3	0	2	0	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**3**	**20**	**11**	**9**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**1**	**3**	**3**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 1: 2018 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Min. (9/9/18); **First Start:** at Min. (9/9/18); **First FF:** Regular Season – at Min. (9/9/18 – RB Dalvin Cook); **First FR:** Regular Season – at Arz. (10/28/18 – TE Jermaine Gresham); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (11/11/19 – QB Russell Wilson); **First Multi–Sack Game:** Regular Season – vs. Sea. (11/11/19 – 2.0; QB Russell Wilson); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. LAR (12/21/19 – QB Jared Goff); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – QB Patrick Mahomes); **First TD:** Regular Season – vs. LAR (12/21/19)

WARNER'S CAREER MULTI-SACK GAMES (1)

Date	Opp	Sacks	Yds	QB
11/11/19	vs. Sea.	2.0	18.0	Russell Wilson (2.0)

WARNER'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 14 (2 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20); Postseason – 7 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 11 at Min. (9/9/18); Postseason – 5 at KC (2/2/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 6 (3 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20); Postseason – 4 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 3 at Arz. (12/26/20); Postseason – 1 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 (5 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20)
Sacks: Regular Season – 2.0 vs. Sea. (11/11/19)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at NE (10/25/20); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 46t vs. LAR (12/21/19); Postseason – 3 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 46t vs. LAR (12/21/19); Postseason – 3 at KC (2/2/20)
Interception Returns for TD: Regular Season – 1 vs. LAR (12/21/19)

WARNER'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 3rd–round (70th overall) draft choice by SF in 2017...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 8/31/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 9/9/20.



K'WAUN WILLIAMS

24 | **CB** | 5-9 × 185 × PITTSBURGH

7.12.91 × MONTVALE, NJ × 7TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '17

GOLDMINE

- The 49ers hosted the third annual Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2019, featuring cancer warriors representing all cancers as they modeled apparel donated by Levi's. Williams and his teammates were paired with each of the warriors to share their stories of strength and courage with the audience and walk the runway.



- In November of 2019, the 49ers teamed up with Martha's Kitchen of San Jose to serve Thanksgiving dinner to over 300 people in need. Members of the team served food, bussed tables and refilled beverages. The team also provided toiletries and giveaways to all those in attendance.



- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Williams and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Williams represented the American Cancer Society, saying, "I play for my mom."



WILLIAMS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- First name is pronounced KAY-wahn.
- Was given the nickname "The Shark" by the 49ers coaching staff.
- In 2014, was one of five undrafted rookies to earn a spot on the Browns opening day roster. He initially joined the Browns signing with the team after a successful tryout at Cleveland's rookie minicamp.
- Enjoys reading in his free time, listing his favorite books as the biography of *Steve Jobs* and *The Art of War*.

WILLIAMS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- During the 2019 offseason, members of the 49ers took part in the Second Annual Picnic on the Field, located on the Levi's Stadium field. Williams and his teammates spent the day taking pictures with fans, who enjoyed music, food and games in support of the 49ers Foundation. The foundation, in conjunction with NFL Huddle for 100, partnered with Amazon to fill 1,000 backpacks full of school supplies. Fans and players joined together to assemble the packs, which were distributed throughout the community to children in need.



GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Williams and his teammates joined Levi's in support of breast, colon and pediatric cancer warriors at the Crucial Catch Fashion Show presented by Dignity Health in October of 2018. 49ers players and cancer warriors took to the runway to show off their attire and share their stories of strength and courage with the audience.



WILLIAMS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2014	CLE	13	4	31	23	8	1.0	6.0	0	0	–	0	8	0	0	0
2015	CLE	13	6	38	30	8	1.0	6.0	0	0	–	0	2	3	2	0
2016	Out of Football															
2017	SF	14	5	54	42	12	1.0	3.0	1	27	27	0	5	2	1	0
2018	SF	14	11	45	40	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	2	0	0	0
2019	SF	15	8	51	35	16	1.0	10.5	2	53	49	0	2	4	0	0
2020	SF	8	4	22	17	5	2.0	15.0	0	0	–	0	4	1	0	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**77**	**38**	**241**	**187**	**54**	**6.0**	**40.5**	**3**	**80**	**49**	**0**	**23**	**10**	**3**	**0**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2019	SF	3	1	15	13	2	1.0	10.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
TOTALS		**3**	**1**	**15**	**13**	**2**	**1.0**	**10.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 9: 2014 (8); 2015 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Pit. (9/7/14); **First Start:** vs. Pit. (10/12/14); **First Sack:** Regular Season – at Ten. (10/5/14 – QB Charlie Whitehurst); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – QB Aaron Rodgers); **First FF:** Regular Season – vs Ten. (9/20/15 – QB Marcus Mariota); Postseason – vs. GB (1/19/20 – QB Aaron Rodgers); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (11/1/15 – WR Larry Fitzgerald); **First INT:** Regular Season – vs. Jax. (12/24/17 – QB Blake Bortles)

WILLIAMS' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 9 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 7 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Solo: Regular Season – 6 (3 times) Last vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 7 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Assists: Regular Season – 4 at Cin. (9/15/19); Postseason – 1 (2 times) Last at KC (2/2/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 2 (4 times) Last vs. Jax. (12/24/17)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (6 times) Last at Arz. (12/26/20); Postseason – 1.0 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (3 times) Last vs. Cle. (10/7/19)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 49 vs. Cle. (10/7/19)
Long Interception Return: Regular Season – 49 vs. Cle. (10/7/19)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 2 (2 times) vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 1 vs. GB (1/19/20)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (2 times) Last at Pit. (11/15/15)

WILLIAMS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent with Cle. on 5/20/14...Waived by Cle. on 8/29/16...Claimed off waivers by Chi. on 8/30/16...Waived by Chi. on 9/1/16...Signed to a one–year deal with SF on 2/22/17...Signed a three–year extension through 2020 with SF on 9/29/17...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/10/20...Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/26/21.



TRENT WILLIAMS

71 | **T**

6-5 × 320 × OKLAHOMA

7.19.88 × LONGVIEW, TX × 12TH YEAR × ACQUIRED TR IN '20 - WAS.

AWARDS & HONORS

2012: NFC Pro Bowl
2013: Pro Bowl
2014: Pro Bowl
2015: AP Second-Team All-Pro, PFWA All-NFC Team, Pro Bowl
2016: PFWA All-NFC Team, *Sporting News* First-Team All-Pro, NFC Pro Bowl
2017: *Sporting News* First-Team All-Pro, NFC Pro Bowl
2018: NFC Pro Bowl
2020: NFC Pro Bowl, Garry Niver Award



GOLDMINE

- When Williams was young, he and his family lost his paternal grandfather, John L. Hawkins, due to Type 2 diabetes. It affected Williams deeply, saying, "Not being able to build that relationship with my grandfather, sometimes I still think about it." To honor his memory and expand the awareness and prevention of diabetes, Williams began to serve as an ambassador for the American Diabetes Association in 2014, and has done so ever since in order to help others focus on the importance of wellness in life. "As we all know, it affects a lot of Americans, not just around the world, but in America we have almost 30 million people living with the disease," Williams said. "It's almost catastrophic, and it can be without the right awareness. Obviously, I lost my grandfather at a young age to this disease, so I have a special interest in working with the ADA every year. To me, I feel like it's something that I have to do," Williams said. "I owe it to my family and to myself to do."
- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Williams and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Williams representing the DFSP Foundation.



WILLIAMS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Was the 49ers 2020 Garry Niver Award winner, presented annually by the San Francisco Chapter of the Pro Football Writers of America to a 49ers player for his cooperation and professionalism in helping the pro football writers do their jobs.
- Honored in his hometown of Longview, Texas, with "Trent Williams Day" on May 12, 2010 to celebrate his selection in the NFL Draft.
- In 2016, Williams partnered with Nike in order donate over 1,000 shoes to give to each elementary school campus in his hometown of Longview, Texas, for kids who are in need.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In May of 2017, Williams returned to his roots as he walked through the Lobo Stadium tunnel at his alma mater of Longview High School. Williams returned to Texas to partake in a ceremony held by the school for the 2006 Longview graduate in conjunction with the football team's Green-White Game in order to retire his No. 71 jersey. He became the second former player to have his jersey number retired in the school's history. "It's a surreal feeling," Williams said. "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine getting my jersey retired, especially at a high school like this that's rich in tradition in football. To know that I've done enough in my career, and I feel like I've got a lot left to do, to have my jersey retired, it's a blessing."



- Throughout his career, Williams has made it a priority to assist and help those who shaped him in his younger years. In 2015, Williams donated $25,000 to his high school alma mater to help fund EKG screening for every member of the football program. He has also donated a new locker room, new shoes for elementary students and Christmas gifts for those in need in his hometown of Longview, Texas. "This is home," his mother, Veronica, said. "Trent loves giving back to the community here. When it's involving children, that's his first love." Williams' former high school coach, John King, added, "The money he's given our football program, our athletic program, our high school, the at-risk kids throughout the district and in this community, he's never forgotten home. He's done a lot of things that haven't gotten recognition. Just a tremendous person."

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- In June of 2018, Williams hosted the 5th Life and Skills Camp, also known as Silverback football camp, at Lobo Stadium in his hometown of Longview, Texas. Williams hosted more than 100 athletes during the afternoon with assistance from Los Angeles Rams LB Travin Howard, who also attended Longview High School, as well as other volunteer coaches. Williams enjoys being able to give back to his community, and said, "This is where I grew up, the place that birthed me. Anytime I get a chance to come back and connect with the community, I love it."



WILLIAMS' CAREER STATISTICS

GAMES/STARTS – 134/133: 2010 (14/13); 2011 (10/10); 2012 (16/16); 2013 (16/16); 2014 (15/15); 2015 (14/14); 2016 (12/12); 2017 (10/10); 2018 (13/13); 2019 (IR); 2020 (14/14)
POSTSEASON GAMES/STARTS – 2/2: 2012 (1/1); 2015 (1/1)

Additional Statistics:
Fumble Recoveries – 2: 2017 (1); 2018 (1)
Tackles – 11: 2010 (1); 2011 (2); 2013 (4); 2014 (1); 2017 (2); 2020 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Dal. (9/12/10); **First Start:** vs. Dal. (9/12/10); **100th Career Start:** at KC (10/2/17)

WILLIAMS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 1st–round (4th overall) draft choice by Was. in 2010...Placed on the Reserve/Suspended List on 12/6/11...Signed a five–year extension through 2020 with Was. on 8/30/15...Placed on the Reserve/Suspended List on 11/1/16... Activated from the Reserve/Suspended List on 12/6/16...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 12/23/17...Placed on the Reserve/Did Not Report List on 7/27/19...Placed on the Exempt List on 10/30/19...Placed on the Reserve/NFI List on 11/7/19...Traded to SF on 4/25/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/4/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/6/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/20/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/28/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 1/1/21...Re–signed with SF on a six–year deal on 3/23/21.



JORDAN WILLIS

94 DL

6-4 × 270 × KANSAS STATE

5.2.95 × KANSAS CITY, MO × 5TH YEAR × ACQUIRED TR IN '20 - NYJ

GOLDMINE

- Willis comes from a family of hard workers, with that example set for him by his dad, Calvin. Calvin Willis worked in the same auto shop for over 20 years. As he grew in the business, he worked harder to provide a better life for his family. The Willis' moved multiple times throughout Jordan's childhood, including switching grade schools twice and middle schools twice, all across the greater Kansas City area. "I've got a lot of diversity," Jordan said. "Whether it was a social education when we lived in the inner city, and I had a private education as well, so I got a wide variety of different experiences." Eventually, Willis began at Rockhurst High School, an all-boys prep school in Kansas City. A natural-born leader, he used his ambition and work ethic to help those on and off the field, and was elected student-body president by his peers as a senior. "If I'm not playing football, I want to go into coaching," says Willis. "But if it was a job outside of football, I would go into politics, but I would want to go into local politics, because I would want to actually affect people."

WILLIS' GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Served as the student body president as a senior at Rockhurst (Kansas City, MO) HS.
- Comes from a large family, and is the seventh of 11 children.

WILLIS' GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

WILLIS' CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2017	CIN	16	1	25	17	8	1.0	4.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2018	CIN	16	1	20	15	5	1.0	7.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	1	0
2019	CIN/NYJ	9	0	5	3	2	1.0	1.0	0	0	–	0	0	1	0	0
2020	NYJ/SF	9	0	13	7	6	2.5	18.5	0	0	–	0	0	0	1	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**50**	**2**	**63**	**42**	**21**	**5.5**	**30.5**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Blocked Punts – 1: 2017 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: vs. Bal. (9/10/17); **First Start:** vs. Hou. (9/14/17); **First Sack:** vs. Buf. (10/5/17 – QB Tyrod Taylor); **First FR:** vs. Bal. (10/13/18 – QB Joe Flacco); **First FF:** at Jax. (10/27/19 – QB Gardner Minshew)

WILLIS' CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: 5 vs. Hou. (9/14/17)
Solo: 3 (2 times) Last at Bal. (12/31/17)
Assists: 4 vs. Hou. (9/14/17)
Passes Defensed: 1 vs. Bal. (9/13/18)
Sacks: 1.0 (5 times) Last vs. Was. (12/13/20)
Forced Fumbles: 1 at Jax. (10/27/19)
Fumble Recoveries: 1 (2 times) Last at Buf. (9/13/20)

WILLIS' TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 3rd–round (73rd overall) draft choice by Cin. in 2017...Waived by Cin. on 9/10/19...Claimed off waivers by NYJ on 9/11/19...Traded to SF on 10/27/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 11/23/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 1/1/21... Re–signed with SF on a one–year deal on 3/23/21...Placed on the Reserve/Suspended List on 6/17/21.



JEFF WILSON JR.

22 | **RB** | 6-0 × 213 × NORTH TEXAS

11.16.95 × ELKHART, TX × 4TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '18

AWARDS & HONORS

2020: FedEx Ground Player of the Week (Week 7)

GOLDMINE



- Wilson holds a close relationship with his father, Jeff Sr. His father, who played running back at the University of Texas-Arlington before the school decided to end the program, has guided Jeff Jr. throughout his athletic career and life. "He's always been a major part of my life," Wilson said. "I don't even remember him missing a single one of my games. That's the type of father he is."
- When he was 13 years of age, Wilson moved to Elkhart, TX, to live with his father, Jeff Sr. Wilson and his father used the rural surroundings to their advantage, creating a training program using the equipment they already owned. "We'd go old school," said Wilson. "We'd just hook up a tractor tire to a rope in the front yard, put a little loop around it and now I'm running with the tire. That was kind of like our little sled." The two of them would get up early every day and train, running long distances and catching passes in the yard. "That's why I love the country. There's a lot of things you can do with a lot of different things. You can have fun with it." When his little sister moved out of the house, Wilson and his dad then converted her room into a makeshift gym. "We had the cement weights," Wilson said. "It was basically a rock. If you dropped it on the ground, it would crack. We didn't have a lot of big weights, so we would have, like, three or four 25s on the bar and two to four 10s. We used to make up stuff. That was the beauty of it."

WILSON'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Has been drumming since he was two years old. His father, Wilson Sr., sang in a gospel group and Wilson backed him up on the drums.
- Grew up in Elkhart, TX, roughly 10 miles from the hometown of RB Adrian Peterson. Wilson and his dad, Jeff Wilson Sr., regularly attended Peterson's high school games, breaking down his play to emulate his style in practice.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- NFL players had the opportunity to participate in the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign during Week 14 of the 2019 season. Wilson and his teammates represented their respective causes with custom-designed cleats in an effort to raise awareness and funding. Wilson represented MADD, saying, "I play for awareness against drunk driving."



WILSON'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rsh	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rec	Yds	TD
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

WILSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2018	SF	6	2	66	266	4.0	18	0	12	98	8.2	8	0
2019	SF	10	0	27	105	3.9	25	4	3	34	11.3	25t	1
2020	SF	12	3	126	600	4.8	34	7	13	133	10.2	21t	3
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**28**	**5**	**219**	**971**	**4.4**	**34**	**11**	**28**	**265**	**9.5**	**25t**	**4**

PLAYOFFS

				RUSHING					RECEIVING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2019	SF	1	0	0	0	–	–	0	1	20	20.0	20	0
TOTALS		**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**	**1**	**20**	**20.0**	**20**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Fumbles–Lost – 5–4: 2018 (3–2); 2020 (2–2)
Special Teams Tackles – 3: 2018 (1); 2019 (2)
Fumbles Recoveries – 1: 2020 (1)
Tackles – 1: 2020 (1)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at TB (11/25/18); **First Start:** vs. Den. (12/9/18); **First Reception:** Regular Season – at TB (11/25/18 – 8–yd. pass from QB Nick Mullens); Postseason – at KC (2/2/20 – 20–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **First Rushing TD:** Regular Season – at Cin. (9/15/19 – 2–yds.); **First Receiving TD:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (11/17/19 – 25–yd. pass from QB Jimmy Garoppolo); **100–yd. Games:** Regular Season – 2, Last at Arz. (12/26/20 – 183 yds.)

WILSON'S CAREER 100-YARD RUSHING GAMES (2)

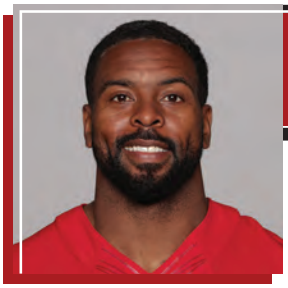
Date	Opp	Rsh	Yds	Avg	TD	Date	Opp	Rsh	Yds	Avg	TD
10/25/20	at NE	17	112	6.6	3	12/26/20	at Arz.	22	183	8.3	0

WILSON'S CAREER HIGHS

Rushes: Regular Season – 23 vs. Den. (12/9/18)
Rushing Yards: Regular Season – 183 at Arz. (12/26/20)
Long Rush: Regular Season – 34 at Arz. (12/26/20)
Rushing TDs: Regular Season – 3 at NE (10/25/20)
Receptions: Regular Season – 8 at Sea. (12/2/18); Postseason – 1 at KC (2/2/20)
Receiving Yards: Regular Season – 73 at Sea. (12/2/18); Postseason – 20 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Reception: Regular Season – 25t vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 20 at KC (2/2/20)
TD Receptions: Regular Season – 1 (4 times) Last vs. Sea. (1/3/21)

WILSON'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally signed as an undrafted free agent by SF on 5/1/18...Waived by SF on 9/1/18...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/2/18...Promoted to SF active roster on 11/24/18...Waived by SF on 8/31/19...Signed to SF practice squad on 9/1/19...Promoted to SF active roster on 9/14/19...Re–signed with SF on a one–year contract on 4/20/20...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 7/30/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 8/4/20...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 10/31/20...Signed a one–year contract extension through 2021 with SF on 1/26/21... Placed on Reserve/Physically unable to Perform on 8/31/21.



TAVON WILSON

32 | **S**

6-0 × 208 × ILLINOIS

3.19.90 × WASHINGTON, DC × 10TH YEAR × ACQUIRED FA IN '21

GOLDMINE



- Wilson was introduced to the game of football by his grandfather, Freddie Simmons. A football coach, Simmons would break down film with Wilson at a young age, going over both college and NFL tape.
- As a member of the Detroit Lions in 2019, Wilson and Detroit faced Washington the weekend prior to Thanksgiving. For the first time in his NFL career, he was heading back to the D.C. area as an NFL player. The previous four to five years, Wilson had been donating money to purchase turkeys for families in his hometown region. Wilson took advantage of the schedule and donated turkeys in person.



WILSON'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Won Super Bowl XLIX as a member of the New England Patriots and was teammates with current 49ers QB Jimmy Garoppolo.
- Wilson's wife, Samone, launched her own business in 2020 called "Sweat With Samone Fitness," which focuses on comfortable fitness apparel.

WILSON'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Tot	Sol	Ast	Sk	Yds	Int	Yds	PD	FF	FR	Yds
Sep 12	at Det													
Sep 19	at Phi													
Sep 26	GB													
Oct 3	Sea													
Oct 10	at Arz													
Oct 24	Ind													
Oct 31	at Chi													
Nov 7	Arz													
Nov 15	LAR													
Nov 21	at Jax													
Nov 28	Min													
Dec 5	at Sea													
Dec 12	at Cin													
Dec 19	Atl													
Dec 23	at Ten													
Jan 2	Hou													
Jan 9	at LAR													
TOTALS														

WILSON'S CAREER STATISTICS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2012	NE	16	4	36	25	11	0.0	0.0	4	87	45	0	6	0	2	0
2013	NE	13	0	1	1	0	0.0	9.0	1	74	74t	1	1	0	0	0
2014	NE	16	0	18	15	3	0.0	7.0	0	0	–	0	2	0	0	0
2015	NE	9	0	10	8	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	0	43
2016	DET	15	14	87	72	15	1.0	5.0	2	23	18	0	2	0	2	0
2017	DET	10	9	55	42	13	2.0	19.0	1	23	23	0	2	1	0	0
2018	DET	15	3	32	27	5	1.0	4.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2019	DET	16	13	92	65	27	1.0	2.0	0	0	–	0	5	0	2	0
2020	IND	15	2	20	17	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	1	0	1	0
2021	SF															
TOTALS		**125**	**45**	**351**	**272**	**79**	**5.0**	**30.0**	**8**	**207**	**74t**	**1**	**20**	**1**	**7**	**43**

PLAYOFFS

				TACKLES					INTERCEPTIONS					FUMBLES		
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	TOT	SOL	AST	SACKS	YDS	INT	YDS	LG	TD	PD	FF	FR	YDS
2012	NE	2	0	3	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2013	NE	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2014	NE	3	0	2	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2016	DET	1	1	7	6	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
2020	IND	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		**9**	**1**	**12**	**9**	**3**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – Regular Season – 32: 2012 (5); 2013 (2); 2014 (4); 2015 (3); 2016 (2); 2018 (4); 2019 (6); 2020 (6) **Postseason – 1:** 2020 (1)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: at Ten. (9/9/12); **First Start:** vs. Den. (10/7/12); **First INT:** Regular Season – at Ten. (9/9/12 – QB Jake Locker); **First INT Returned for a TD:** Regular Season – at Bal. (12/22/13 – QB Tyrod Taylor); **First Sack:** Regular Season – vs. GB (1/1/17 – QB Aaron Rodgers); **First FR:** Regular Season – vs. Arz. (9/16/12 – QB Kevin Kolb); **First FF:** Regular Season – at Min. (10/1/17 – RB Dalvin Cook)

WILSON'S CAREER HIGHS

Total Tackles: Regular Season – 11 (2 times) Last at Min. (12/8/19); Postseason – 7 at Sea. (1/7/17)
Solo: Regular Season – 10 vs. KC (9/29/19); Postseason – 6 at Sea. (1/7/17)
Assists: Regular Season – 7 at Den. (12/22/19); Postseason – 1 (3 times) Last at Sea. (1/7/17)
Sacks: Regular Season – 1.0 (5 times) Last at Chi. (11/10/19)
Interceptions: Regular Season – 1 (8 times) Last vs. Arz. (9/10/17)
Interception Yards: Regular Season – 74t at Bal. (12/22/13)
Forced Fumbles: Regular Season – 1 at Min. (10/1/17)
Fumble Recoveries: Regular Season – 1 (7 times) Last vs. GB (11/22/20)
Passes Defensed: Regular Season – 2 (2 times) Last at Chi. (11/10/19)
Interception Return For TD: Regular Season – 74t at Bal. (12/22/13)

WILSON'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 2nd–round (48th overall) draft choice by NE in 2012...Signed a two–year deal with Det. on 3/10/16...Placed on the Injured Reserve List on 11/27/17...Re–signed with Det. on a two–year deal on 3/13/18...Signed a one–year deal with Ind. on 8/11/20...Signed a one–year deal with SF on 3/22/21.



MITCH WISHNOWSKY

18 | **P** | 6-2 × 220 × UTAH

3.3.92 × PERTH, AUSTRALIA × 3RD YEAR × ACQUIRED D-4 IN '19

AWARDS & HONORS

2019: NFC Special Teams Player of the Week (Week 9)

GOLDMINE



- During Week 13 of the 2020 season, 49ers players wore custom cleats as a part of the NFL's annual My Cause, My Cleats campaign. Wishnowsky and his teammates highlighted their respective causes, with Wishnowsky representing the World Wildlife Fund.
- While working as a glazier, a glass installation specialist, in Australia, Wishnowsky's friends began showing him NFL games. After a couple years, he decided to leave his job and move to Melbourne to join ProKick Australia, a training academy for aspiring punters. Founded by Nathan Chapman, an Australian who once had an opportunity with the Packers, the academy has had massive success, with about 50 punters on Division I scholarships. "While Americans grow up wanting to throw the ball, we grow up trying to kick 60-yard goals," he said. "Sure, the techniques are slightly different, but the swing of your leg is pretty much the same. We have that muscle memory drilled into us from a young age."
- Prior to Week 2's matchup in Cincinnati during the 2019 season, the 49ers spent time in Youngstown, OH, where they participated in the Community Blitz. Wishnowsky and some of his teammates joined the students at Williamson Elementary School to talk about inclusion and anti-bullying. The players spoke at an assembly before helping the kids write compliment cards and discuss how to be kind to one another.



WISHNOWSKY'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- Last name is pronounced wish-NOW-ski.
- Left school at the age of 17 to take an apprenticeship as a glass installation specialist.
- Accumulated 62 punts that traveled 50-or-more yards during his career at Utah, 2nd most in the school's history.

GOLDMINE (CONTINUED)

- Wishnowsky is a naturally talented athlete, whether it is something that requires pure strength or skill. While he participated in universally popular athletics, like soccer and rugby, he enjoyed any sort of competition. When he was 12 years old, he won a major West Australian Billiards tournament. Before shifting to football in the U.S., he was a member of a local semi-pro team in the West Australian Football League. While at Santa Barbara Community College, he found that his ideal conditioning was a mix of hitting the weight room and playing beach volleyball.
- Participated in the 49ers Annual Community Day, helping pack more than 31,000 nutritious meals in collaboration with Feeding Children Anywhere. The meals, along with groceries and backpacks, were distributed to those most in need in East San Jose.



WISHNOWSKY'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	No	Yds	Avg	Net	TB	In20	Lg	Blk
Sep 12	at Det										
Sep 19	at Phi										
Sep 26	GB										
Oct 3	Sea										
Oct 10	at Arz										
Oct 24	Ind										
Oct 31	at Chi										
Nov 7	Arz										
Nov 15	LAR										
Nov 21	at Jax										
Nov 28	Min										
Dec 5	at Sea										
Dec 12	at Cin										
Dec 19	Atl										
Dec 23	at Ten										
Jan 2	Hou										
Jan 9	at LAR										
TOTALS											

WISHNOWSKY'S CAREER STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	NO	YDS	AVG	RET	YDS	NET	TB	IN 20	LG	BLK
2019	SF	16	52	2,333	44.9	24	131	41.6	2	23	65	0
2020	SF	16	66	3,093	46.9	23	183	41.6	6	25	60	1
2021	SF											
TOTALS		**32**	**118**	**5,426**	**46.0**	**47**	**314**	**41.6**	**8**	**48**	**65**	**1**

PLAYOFFS

YEAR	TEAM	G	NO	YDS	AVG	RET	YDS	NET	TB	IN 20	LG	BLK
2019	SF	3	8	349	43.6	2	0	41.1	1	4	56	0
TOTALS		**3**	**8**	**349**	**43.6**	**2**	**0**	**41.1**	**1**	**4**	**56**	**0**

Additional Statistics:
Special Teams Tackles – 6: 2019 (2); 2020 (4)

Milestones:
NFL Debut: at TB (9/8/19); **First punt inside–20:** Regular Season – at TB (9/8/19); Postseason – vs. Min. (1/11/20)

WISHNOWSKY'S CAREER HIGHS

Punts: Regular Season – 9 vs. Was. (12/13/20); Postseason – 4 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Gross Average: Regular Season – 54.8 vs. GB (11/5/20); Postseason – 46.5 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Net Average: Regular Season – 50.5 vs. Arz. (11/17/19); Postseason – 43.0 at KC (2/2/20)
Long Punt: Regular Season – 65 vs. Sea. (11/11/19); Postseason – 56 vs. Min. (1/11/20)
Inside–20: Regular Season – 4 (2 times) Last vs. Was. (12/13/20); Postseason – 2 vs. Min. (1/11/20)

WISHNOWSKY'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 4th–round (110th overall) draft choice by SF in 2019.



CHARLIE WOERNER

89 **TE**

6-5 × 241 × GEORGIA

10.16.97 × TIGER, GA × 2ND YEAR × ACQUIRED D-6 IN '20

GOLDMINE

- Woerner grew up in a busy household, as he was brother to six siblings: Rachel, Allen, Peter, Jack, Sally and Lucy. As the second youngest of seven kids, Woerner gained his competitive spirit by trying to keep up with his older brothers. Whether it was on the playground or out hunting, Woerner always pushed himself to keep up the pace set by his siblings. "People ask me, 'Who did you look up to when you were young?'" Woerner said. "I don't say some pro athlete or college athlete. I've always looked up to my big brothers. They're who I spent all my time with. Definitely, without a doubt, they're the biggest influences in my life."



- Growing up in a small town in Georgia, Woerner and his family love outdoor activities, as they all enjoy hunting wild turkey and other game in the area. "I think a lot of it was just being outside playing," he said. "Mom and Dad would make us stay outside for the whole day. We'd go inside to get water and they'd just shove us right back outside. We were always in the woods running around."



WOERNER'S GOLDEN NUGGETS

- His last name is pronounced WER-ner.
- Has caught several sharks while fishing in the ocean.
- Woerner followed in the footsteps of his uncle, Scott Woerner, a College Football Hall of Fame defensive back who helped Georgia win a national title in 1980 and was drafted in the 3rd round (80th overall) of the 1981 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons. Additionally, Woerner's father, Kent, was a fullback at Furman University.



WOERNER'S GAME-BY-GAME

2021

Date	Opp	W/L	P/S	Rec	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Sep 12	at Det							
Sep 19	at Phi							
Sep 26	GB							
Oct 3	Sea							
Oct 10	at Arz							
Oct 24	Ind							
Oct 31	at Chi							
Nov 7	Arz							
Nov 15	LAR							
Nov 21	at Jax							
Nov 28	Min							
Dec 5	at Sea							
Dec 12	at Cin							
Dec 19	Atl							
Dec 23	at Ten							
Jan 2	Hou							
Jan 9	at LAR							
TOTALS								

WOERNER'S CAREER STATISTICS

				RECEIVING					RUSHING				
YEAR	TEAM	GP	GS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
2020	SF	14	0	3	36	12.0	–	0	0	0	–	–	0
2021	SF												
TOTALS		**14**	**0**	**3**	**36**	**12.0**	**–**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**–**	**–**	**0**

Additional Statistics:

Special Teams Tackles – 3: 2020 (3)

Milestones:

NFL Debut: vs. Arz. (9/13/20); **First Reception:** vs. Buf. (12/7/20 – 15–yd. pass from QB Nick Mullens)

WOERNER'S CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 2 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)

Receiving Yards: 33 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)

Long Reception: 18 vs. Buf. (12/7/20)

WOERNER'S TRANSACTIONS

Originally a 6th–round (190th overall) draft choice by SF in 2020...Placed on the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/19/20...Activated from the Reserve/COVID–19 List on 12/29/20.

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON SERVICE

MOST SEASONS PLAYED

	Player	Seasons
1.	John Brodie (1957–1973)	17
2.	Jerry Rice (1985–2000)	16
	Jimmy Johnson (1961–1976)	16
4.	Charlie Krueger (1959–1973)	15
	Len Rohde (1960–1974)	15

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES PLAYED

	Player	Games
1.	Brian Jennings (2000–2012)	208
	Len Rohde (1960–1974)	208
3.	Jerry Rice (1985–2000)	189
4.	Leo Nomellini (1950–1963)	174

MOST REGULAR SEASON GAMES PLAYED

	Player	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Jerry Rice	WR	1985–2000	16	238
2.	Jimmy Johnson	DB/HB	1961–1976	16	213
3.	Brian Jennings	TE/LS	2000–2012	13	208
	Bryant Young	DT	1994–2007	14	208
	Len Rohde	T	1960–1974	15	208
6.	John Brodie	QB	1957–1973	17	201
7.	Charlie Krueger	DT	1959–1973	15	198
8.	Keith Fahnhorst	T	1974–1987	14	193
9.	Randy Cross	G/C	1976–1988	13	185
10.	Jesse Sapolu	G/C	1983–1997	15	182

MOST REGULAR SEASON GAMES PLAYED BY POSITION

	Quarterbacks	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	John Brodie	QB	1957–1973	17	201
2.	Joe Montana	QB	1979–1992	14	167
3.	Steve Young	QB	1987–1999	13	150
4.	Y.A. Tittle	QB	1951–1960	10	112
5.	Steve Spurrier	QB	1967–1975	9	92
6.	Alex Smith	QB	2005–2012	8	80
7.	Jeff Garcia	QB	1999–2003	5	74
8.	Colin Kaepernick	QB	2011–2016	6	69
9.	Elvis Grbac	QB	1993–1996	4	43
10.	Steve DeBerg	QB	1978–1980	3	39
	Billy Kilmer	QB	1961–1966	6	39

	Offensive Linemen	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Len Rohde	T	1960–1974	15	208
2.	Keith Fahnhorst	T	1974–1987	14	193
3.	Randy Cross	G/C	1976–1988	13	185
4.	Jesse Sapolu	C/G	1983–1997	15	182
5.	Joe Staley	T	2007–2019	13	181
6.	Steve Wallace	T	1986–1996	11	166
7.	Bruce Bosley	C/G	1956–1968	13	163
8.	John Ayers	G	1977–1986	10	148
9.	Guy McIntyre	G	1984–1993	10	145
10.	Fred Quillan	C	1978–1987	10	143

	WRs/TEs	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Jerry Rice	WR	1985–2000	16	238
2.	Brian Jennings	TE/LS	2000–2012	13	208
3.	Brent Jones	TE	1987–1997	11	143
4.	Vernon Davis	TE	2006–2015	9	139
5.	Mike Wilson	WR	1981–1990	10	136
6.	Dwight Clark	WR	1979–1987	9	134
7.	Gene Washington	WR	1969–1977	9	124
8.	Terrell Owens	WR	1996–2003	8	121
	John Taylor	WR	1987–1995	9	121
10.	Freddie Solomon	WR	1978–1985	8	114

	Running Backs	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Frank Gore	RB	2005–2014	10	148
2.	Joe Perry	FB	1950–1963	12	131
3.	Ken Willard	FB	1965–1973	9	125
4.	Roger Craig	RB	1983–1990	8	121
5.	Tom Rathman	FB	1986–1993	8	115
6.	Fred Beasley	FB	1998–2005	8	114
7.	Terry Jackson	RB	1999–2005	7	100
8.	Hugh McElhenny	HB	1952–1960	9	97
	J.D. Smith	HB	1956–1964	9	97
10.	Dexter Carter	RB	1990–1996	7	90

	Defensive Linemen	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Bryant Young	DT	1994–2007	14	208
2.	Charlie Krueger	DT	1959–1973	15	198
3.	Leo Nomellini	DT	1950–1963	14	174
4.	Roland Lakes	DT	1961–1970	10	140
5.	Cedrick Hardman	DE	1970–1979	10	139
6.	Tommy Hart	DE	1968–1977	10	131
7.	Isaac Sopoaga	DT	2005–2012	8	125
8.	Michael Carter	NT	1984–1992	9	121
9.	Dwaine Board	DE	1979–1988	10	117
10.	Justin Smith	DT	2008–2014	7	110
	Dennis Brown	DE	1990–1996	7	110

	Linebackers	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Matt Hazeltine	LB	1955–1968	14	176
2.	Keena Turner	LB	1980–1990	11	153
	Dave Wilcox	LB	1964–1974	11	153
4.	Frank Nunley	LB	1967–1976	10	137
5.	Willie Harper	LB	1973–1983	11	134
	Mike Walter	LB	1984–1993	10	134
7.	Ahmad Brooks	LB	2009–2016	8	120
	Jeff Ulbrich	LB	2000–2009	10	120
9.	Skip Vanderbundt	LB	1969–1977	9	119
10.	Patrick Willis	LB	2007–2014	8	112
	Ken Norton	LB	1994–2000	7	112

	Secondary	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Jimmy Johnson	DB/HB	1961–1976	16	213
2.	Mel Phillips	DB	1966–1977	12	147
3.	Ronnie Lott	S	1981–1990	10	129
4.	Merton Hanks	S	1991–1998	8	125
5.	Don Griffin	CB	1986–1993	8	114
6.	Tim McDonald	S	1993–1999	7	111
7.	Eric Wright	CB	1981–1990	10	110
8.	Tarell Brown	CB	2007–2013	7	100
	Bruce Taylor	CB	1970–1977	8	100
10.	Shawntae Spencer	CB	2004–2011	8	98

	Kickers	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Ray Wersching	K	1977–1987	11	155
2.	Tommy Davis	K	1959–1969	11	138
3.	Mike Cofer	K	1988–1993	6	96
4.	Joe Nedney	K	2005–2010	6	86
5.	Bruce Gossett	K	1970–1974	5	70

	Punters	Pos	Years	Seasons	Games
1.	Andy Lee	P	2004–2014	11	176
2.	Tom Wittum	P	1973–1977	5	70
3.	Bradley Pinion	P	2015–2018	4	64
4.	Max Runager	P	1984–1988	5	59
5.	Tommy Thompson	P	1995–1997	3	48

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON SCORING

ALL–TIME LEADING SCORERS

	Player	Years	Gms	TDs	Rsh	Rec	Ret	2–pt	PAT	FG	Pts
1.	Jerry Rice	1985–2000	238	187	10	176	1	4	0/0	0/0	1,130
2.	Ray Wersching	1977–1987	155	0	0	0	0	0	409/425	190/261	979
3.	Tommy Davis	1959–1969	138	0	0	0	0	0	348/350	130/276	738
4.	Mike Cofer	1988–1993	96	0	0	0	0	0	289/296	128/191	673
5.	Gordy Soltau	1950–1958	107	25	0	25	0	0	284/303	70/139	644
6.	Joe Nedney	2005–2010	86	0	0	0	0	0	154/154	129/149	541
7.	Terrell Owens	1996–2003	121	83	2	81	0	2	0/0	0/0	502
8.	**Robbie Gould**	**2017–present**	**60**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**132/139**	**114/129**	**474**
9.	Bruce Gossett	1970–1974	70	0	0	0	0	0	163/168	99/153	460
10.	Frank Gore	2005–2014	148	76	64	11	1	1	0/0	0/0	458
11.	Phil Dawson	2013–2016	64	0	0	0	0	0	130/132	99/115	427
12.	Roger Craig	1983–1990	121	66	50	16	0	0	0/0	0/0	396
13.	Ken Willard	1965–1973	125	61	45	16	0	0	0/0	0/0	366
14.	Gene Washington	1969–1977	124	59	0	59	0	0	0/0	0/0	354
15.	Joe Perry	1950–1963	131	57	50	7	0	0	6/7	1/6	351
16.	Vernon Davis	2006–2015	139	55	0	53	0	1	0/0	0/0	332
17.	Hugh McElhenny	1952–1960	97	51	35	15	1	0	0/0	0/0	306
18.	David Akers	2011–2012	32	0	0	0	0	0	78/78	73/94	297
19.	Billy Wilson	1951–1960	100	49	0	49	0	0	0/0	0/0	294
20.	Dwight Clark	1979–1987	134	48	0	48	0	0	0/0	0/0	288
	Freddie Solomon	1978–1985	114	48	3	43	2	0	0/0	0/0	288

MOST POINTS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	TDs	XPM	XPA	FGM	FGA	2pt	Pts
1.	David Akers	2011	0	34	34	(44) +	(52) +	0	(166) +
2.	**Robbie Gould**	**2017**	**0**	**28**	**30**	**39**	**41**	**0**	**145**
3.	Phil Dawson	2013	0	44	44	32	36	0	140
4.	Jerry Rice	1987	23	0	0	0	0	0	(138)
5.	Mike Cofer	1989	0	49	51	29	36	0	136
6.	David Akers	2012	0	44	44	29	42	0	131
	Ray Wersching	1984	0	56	[56]	25	35	0	(131)
8.	Jeff Wilkins	1996	0	40	40	30	34	0	130
9.	**Robbie Gould**	**2018**	**0**	**27**	**29**	**33**	**34**	**0**	**126**
	Ray Wersching	1983	0	51	51	25	30	0	126

(Led NFL) [Led Conference] + NFL Record

LONGEST FIELDS GOALS

	Player	Game	Lg
1.	David Akers	at GB (9/9/12)	63
2.	Phil Dawson	at Arz. (12/29/13)	56
	Joe Nedney	at StL (12/24/05)	56
	Mike Cofer	at Atl. (10/14/90)	56
5.	Phil Dawson	vs. KC (10/5/14)	55
	Phil Dawson	at NO (11/17/13)	55
	David Akers	at Det. (10/16/11)	55
	David Akers	vs. Dal. (9/18/11)	55
8.	Phil Dawson	at StL (11/1/15)	54
	Phil Dawson	at StL (10/13/14)	54
	David Akers	at Sea. (12/23/12)	54
	Steve Mike–Mayer	at LA Rams (11/9/75)	54
	Bruce Gossett	vs. NO (10/21/73)	54
11.	**Robbie Gould**	**vs. NYG (11/12/18)**	**53**
	Phil Dawson	at Arz. (11/13/16)	53
	Phil Dawson	vs. Arz. (11/29/15)	53
	Phil Dawson	vs. Bal. (10/18/15)	53
	Phil Dawson	vs. Car. (11/10/13)	53
	Phil Dawson	vs. Arz. (12/28/14)	53
	David Akers	at Sea. (12/24/11)	53
	David Akers	at Cin. (9/25/11)	53
	Joe Nedney	vs. Phi. (10/12/08)	53
	Ray Wersching	at Det. (9/2/84)	53
	Tommy Davis	at LA Rams (10/17/65)	53
	Tommy Davis	vs. Chi. (10/4/64)	53

ALL–TIME SCORING

Touchdowns by Rushing	1,065
Touchdowns by Receptions	1,497
Touchdowns by Interception Return	90
Touchdowns by Kickoff Return	22
Touchdowns by Punt Return	30
Fields Goals Made	1,333
Safeties	36

50+YARD FIELD GOALS, Career

	Player	No.
1.	Phil Dawson	14
2.	Joe Nedney	10
3.	David Akers	9
4.	**Robbie Gould**	**8**
5.	Mike Cofer	5

FIELD GOAL PCT., Career

	Player	Pct.
1.	**Robbie Gould, 114–129**	**88.4**
2.	Joe Nedney, 129–149	86.6
2.	Phil Dawson, 99–115	86.1
3.	Ray Wersching, 190–261	72.8
4.	Mike Cofer, 128–191	67.0

**Min. 100 atts.*

FIELD GOAL PCT., Season

	Player	Pct.
1.	**Robbie Gould, 2018 (33–34)**	**97.1**
2.	**Robbie Gould, 2017 (39–41)**	**95.1**
3.	Joe Nedney, 2005 (26–28)	92.9
4.	Wade Richey, 1999 (21–23)	91.3
5.	Joe Nedney, 2007 (17–19)	89.5

**Min. 16 atts.*

MOST TOUCHDOWNS, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Jerry Rice (WR)	187
2.	Terrell Owens (WR)	83
3.	Frank Gore (RB)	76
4.	Roger Craig (RB)	66
5.	Ken Willard (FB)	61
6.	Gene Washington (WR)	59
7.	Joe Perry (FB)	57
8.	Vernon Davis (TE)	55
9.	Hugh McElhenny (HB)	51
10.	Billy Wilson (E)	49

MOST FGs MADE, Career

	Player	FGM
1.	Ray Wersching	190
2.	Tommy Davis	130
3.	Joe Nedney	129
4.	Mike Cofer	128
5.	**Robbie Gould**	**114**
6.	Phil Dawson	99
	Bruce Gossett	99
8.	David Akers	73
9.	Gordie Soltau	70
10.	Wade Richey	54

MOST FGs ATTEMPTED, Career

	Player	FGA
1.	Tommy Davis	276
2.	Ray Wersching	261
3.	Mike Cofer	191
4.	Bruce Gossett	153
5.	Joe Nedney	149
6.	Gordie Soltau	139
7.	**Robbie Gould**	**129**
8.	Phil Dawson	115
9.	David Akers	94
10.	Wade Richey	72

MOST PATs MADE, Career

	Player	PAT
1.	Ray Wersching	409
2.	Tommy Davis	348
3.	Mike Cofer	289
4.	Gordie Soltau	284
5.	Bruce Gossett	163
6.	Joe Nedney	154
7.	**Robbie Gould**	**132**
8.	Phil Dawson	130
9.	Wade Richey	122
10.	Doug Brien	79

MOST PATs ATTEMPTED, Career

	Player	PAT
1.	Ray Wersching	425
2.	Tommy Davis	350
3.	Gordie Soltau	303
4.	Mike Cofer	296
5.	Bruce Gossett	168
6.	Joe Nedney	154
7.	**Robbie Gould**	**139**
8.	Phil Dawson	132
9.	Wade Richey	127
10.	Doug Brien	81

SAFETIES, Career

	Player	Safeties
1.	Bryant Young	3
	Charlie Krueger	3
3.	Leo Nomellini	2
4.	19 Players	1

Last: Team 10/28/18 at Arz.

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON SCORING

TOP SINGLE–GAME SCORING PERFORMANCES

MOST POINTS

	Player	Game	Points
1.	Jerry Rice (WR)	at Atl. (10/14/90) – 5 TDs	30
2.	Gordie Soltau (E)	vs. LA Rams (10/28/51) – 3 TDs, 1 FG, 5 PATs	26
3.	Tevin Coleman (RB)	vs. Car. (10/27/19) – 4 TDs	24
	Jerry Rice (WR)	at TB (11/14/93) – 4 TDs	24
	Billy Kilmer (QB)	at Min. (10/15/61) – 4 TDs	24
6.	Jeff Wilkins (K)	vs. Atl. (9/29/96) – 6 FGs, 3 PATs	21
	Gordie Soltau (E)	vs. Bal. (12/13/53) – 2 TDs, 1FG, 6 PATs	21

MOST TOUCHDOWNS

	Player	Game	TDs
1.	Jerry Rice (WR)	at Atl. (10/14/90)	5
2.	Tevin Coleman (RB)	vs. Car. (10/27/19)	4
	Jerry Rice (WR)	at TB (11/14/93)	4
	Billy Kilmer (QB)	at Min. (10/15/61)	4

MOST FIELD GOALS MADE

	Player	Game	FGM
1.	**Robbie Gould**	**vs. Ten. (12/17/17)**	**6**
	Jeff Wilkins	vs. Atl. (9/29/96)	6
	Ray Wersching	at NO (10/16/83)	6
3.	**Robbie Gould**	**at Chi. (12/3/17)**	**5**
	Robbie Gould	**at Arz. (10/1/17)**	**5**
	Joe Nedney	vs. TB (10/30/05)	5
	Jeff Chandler	vs. Chi. (9/7/03)	5
	Bruce Gossett	at Den. (9/23/73)	5

MOST FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED

	Player	Game	FGA
1.	**Robbie Gould**	**vs. Ten. (12/17/17)**	**6**
	David Akers	vs. Arz. (11/20/11)	6
	Joe Nedney	vs. TB (10/30/05)	6
	Jeff Wilkins	vs. Atl. (9/29/96)	6
	Ray Wersching	at NO (10/16/83)	6
	Tommy Davis	at LA Rams (10/17/65)	6
	Tommy Davis	at Dal. (11/20/60)	6
	Gordie Soltau	at GB (11/23/58)	6

MOST PATs MADE

	Player	Game	PATs Made
1.	Mike Cofer	vs. Atl. (10/18/92)	8
2.	Mike Cofer	at Det. (12/19/93)	7
	Mike Cofer	vs. Chi. (12/23/91)	7
	Bruce Gossett	at Atl. (10/29/72)	7
	Tommy Davis	vs. Chi. (9/19/65)	7
	Tommy Davis	at Det. (10/1/61)	7

MOST PATs ATTEMPTED

	Player	Game	PATs Att.
1.	Mike Cofer	vs. Atl. (10/18/92)	8
2.	Mike Cofer	at Det. (12/19/93)	7
	Mike Cofer	vs. Chi. (12/23/91)	7
	Bruce Gossett	at Atl. (10/29/72)	7
	Tommy Davis	vs. Chi. (9/19/65)	7
	Tommy Davis	at Det. (10/1/61)	7

MOST CONSECUTIVE FIELD GOALS MADE

	Player	FG
1.	**Robbie Gould (10/29/17 to 10/7/18)**	**33**
2.	Phil Dawson (10/6/13 to 12/29/13)	27
3.	**Robbie Gould (10/15/18 to 9/8/19)**	**25**
4.	Phil Dawson (9/14/15 to 12/13/15)	19
5.	Joe Nedney (11/26/06 to 9/30/07)	18
6.	Mike Cofer (12/4/88 to 10/1/89)	17
7.	Wade Richey (12/27/98 to 11/7/99)	16
	Gary Anderson (9/14/97 to 11/10/97)	16
9.	**Robbie Gould (12/1/19 to 9/27/20)**	**15**
	Robbie Gould (9/10/17 to 10/15/17)	**15**
	David Akers (10/9/11 to 11/13/11)	15

MOST TOUCHDOWNS, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Jerry Rice (1987), 22 rec., 1 rush	23
2.	Jerry Rice (1995), 15 rec., 1 rush, 1 fum. rec.	17
	Jerry Rice (1989), 17 rec.	17
4.	Terrell Owens (2001), 16 rec.	16
	Jerry Rice (1993), 15 rec, 1 rush	16
	Jerry Rice (1986), 15 rec., 1 rush	16

MOST FGs MADE, Season

	Player	FGM
1.	David Akers (2011)	44
2.	**Robbie Gould (2017)**	**39**
3.	**Robbie Gould (2018)**	**33**
4.	Phil Dawson (2013)	32
5.	Jeff Wilkins (1996)	30

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH FG MADE

	Player	Games
1.	David Akers (9/11/11 to 12/30/12)	32
2.	Bruce Gossett (11/29/70 to 10/1/72)	21

MOST FGs ATTEMPTED, Season

	Player	FGA
1.	David Akers (2011)	52
2.	David Akers (2012)	42
3.	**Robbie Gould (2017)**	**41**
4.	Mike Cofer (1988)	38
5.	Phil Dawson (2013)	36
	Gary Anderson (1997)	36
	Mike Cofer (1990)	36
	Mike Cofer (1989)	36
	Bruce Gossett (1971)	36

MOST PATs MADE, Season

	Player	PAT
1.	Doug Brien (1994)	60
2.	Mike Cofer (1993)	59
3.	Ray Wersching (1984)	56
4.	Mike Cofer (1992)	53
5.	Ray Wersching (1985)	52
	Tommy Davis (1965)	52

MOST CONSECUTIVE PATs MADE

	Player	PAT
1.	Tommy Davis (9/27/59 to 12/12/65)	234

MOST PATs ATTEMPTED, Season

	Player	PAT
1.	Doug Brien (1994)	62
2.	Mike Cofer (1993)	61
3.	Ray Wersching (1984)	56
4.	Mike Cofer (1992)	54
5.	Ray Wersching (1985)	53
	Tommy Davis (1965)	53

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A TOUCHDOWN

	Player	Games
1.	Jerry Rice (12/19/86 to 12/27/87)	13
2.	**Raheem Mostert (11/24/19 to 9/20/20)**	**8**
	Terrell Owens (11/8/98 to 12/27/98)	8
	Jerry Rice (12/8/89 to 11/27/89)	8
	Freddie Solomon (10/28/84 to 12/14/84	8
	Dave Parks (11/7/65 to 9/11/66)	8

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON PASSING

ALL–TIME LEADING PASSERS (BY YARDS)

	Player	Years	Gms	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yards	TD	INT	Lg	QB Rat	INT Pct.
1.	Joe Montana	1979–1992 (14)	167	4,600	2,929	63.7	35,124	244	123	96t	93.5	2.7
2.	John Brodie	1957–1973 (17)	201	4,491	2,469	55.0	31,548	214	224	83t	72.3	5.0
3.	Steve Young	1987–1999 (13)	150	3,648	2,400	65.8	29,907	221	86	97t	101.4	2.4
4.	Jeff Garcia	1999–2003 (5)	74	2,360	1,449	61.4	16,408	113	56	76t	88.3	2.4
5.	Y.A. Tittle	1951–1960 (10)	112	2,194	1,226	55.9	16,016	108	134	78t	70.0	6.1
6.	Alex Smith	2005–2012 (8)	80	2,177	1,290	59.3	14,280	81	63	75	79.1	2.9
7.	Colin Kaepernick	2011–2016 (6)	69	1,692	1,011	59.8	12,271	72	30	80t	88.9	1.8
8.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**2017–present (4)**	**31**	**883**	**596**	**67.5**	**7,352**	**46**	**26**	**76t**	**98.1**	**2.9**
9.	Steve DeBerg	1978–1980 (3)	39	1,201	670	55.8	7,220	37	60	93t	63.1	5.0
10.	Steve Spurrier	1967–1975 (9)	92	840	441	52.5	5,250	33	48	81t	61.2	5.7
11.	Nick Mullens	2018–2020 (3)	19	600	387	64.5	4,714	25	22	85t	87.2	3.7
12.	Tim Rattay	2000–2005 (6)	32	586	356	60.8	3,941	24	18	89t	81.6	3.1
13.	Frankie Albert	1950–1952 (3)	36	601	316	52.6	3,847	27	43	60	57.7	7.2
14.	Shaun Hill	2007–2009 (3)	18	522	322	61.7	3,490	23	11	61	87.3	2.1
15.	C.J. Beathard	2017–2020 (4)	19	497	291	58.6	3,469	18	13	83t	81.1	2.6
16.	Jim Plunkett	1976–1977 (2)	26	491	254	51.7	3,285	22	30	85t	62.5	6.1
17.	Elvis Grbac	1994–1996 (3)	42	430	284	66.0	3,098	18	16	81t	85.6	3.7
18.	Blaine Gabbert	2014–2016 (3)	15	449	272	60.6	2,994	16	13	75t	80.2	2.9
19.	Steve Bono	1989–1993 (5)	34	359	220	61.3	2,558	14	7	78	87.7	1.9
20.	Ken Dorsey	2004–2005 (2)	11	316	171	54.1	1,712	8	11	59	63.7	3.5

MOST PASSING YARDS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yards	TD	INT	Lg	QB Rat	INT Pct
1.	Jeff Garcia	2000	561	355	63.3	4,278	31	10	69t	97.6	1.8
2.	Steve Young	1998	517	322	62.3	4,170	36	12	81t	101.1	2.3
3.	Steve Young	1993	462	314	68.0	4,023	29	16	80t	101.5	3.5
4.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**2019**	**476**	**329**	**69.1**	**3,978**	**27**	**13**	**75t**	**102.0**	**2.9**
5.	Steve Young	1994	461	324	70.3	3,969	35	10	69t	112.8	2.2
6.	Joe Montana	1990	520	321	61.7	3,944	26	16	78t	89.0	3.1
7.	Joe Montana	1983	515	332	64.5	3,910	26	12	77t	94.6	2.3
8.	Joe Montana	1985	494	303	61.3	3,653	27	13	73	91.3	2.6
9.	Steve DeBerg	1979	578	347	60.0	3,652	17	21	50	73.1	3.6
10.	Joe Montana	1984	432	279	64.6	3,630	28	10	80t	102.9	2.3

Led NFL Led Conference

MOST CONSECUTIVE COMPLETIONS

	Player	Game(s)	Cmp
1.	Joe Montana	last 5 vs. Cle. (11/29/87) first 17 at GB (12/6/87)	22
2.	Steve Young	at Was. (11/24/96)	19

CONSECUTIVE PASSES WITHOUT INTERCEPTION

	Player	Game(s)	Atts
1.	Alex Smith	12 passes at Bal. (11/24/11) to 33 passes at Min. (9/23/12)	249
2.	Steve Young	22 passes vs. Min. (10/3/93) to 12 passes at LA Rams (11/28/93)	184
3.	Joe Montana	12 passes at Phi. (9/24/89) to 6 passes vs. GB (11/19/89)	154

CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH TOUCHDOWN PASS

	Player	Game(s)	Gms
1.	C. Kaepernick	at NO (10/17/13) to vs. Was. (11/23/14)	18
	Steve Young	at Det. (10/9/94) to vs. StL (11/26/95) note: DNP in 5 games in 1995	18
3.	Steve Young	vs. NYJ (9/6/98) to vs. StL (12/27/98) note: EQ on 11/8/98	15
	Jeff Garcia	at SD (12/3/00) to vs. Buf. (12/2/01)	15

BEST QB RATING, Career

	Player	QB Rat
1.	Steve Young	101.4
2.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**98.1**
3.	Joe Montana	93.5
4.	Colin Kaepernick	88.9
5.	Jeff Garcia	88.3
6.	Shaun Hill	87.3
7.	Nick Mullens	87.2
8.	Tim Rattay	81.6
9.	Alex Smith	79.1
10.	John Brodie	72.3

(min. 500 attempts)

AVG Yds PER ATTEMPT, Career

	Player	Y/A
1.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**8.3**
2.	Steve Young	8.2
3.	Nick Mullens	7.9
4.	Joe Montana	7.6
5.	Y.A. Tittle	7.3

(min. 500 attempts)

MOST ATTEMPTS, Career

	Player	Att
1.	Joe Montana	4,600
2.	John Brodie	4,491
3.	Steve Young	3,648
4.	Jeff Garcia	2,360
5.	Y.A. Tittle	2,194
6.	Alex Smith	2,177
7.	Colin Kaepernick	1,692
8.	Steve DeBerg	1,201
9.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**883**
10.	Steve Spurrier	840

MOST COMPLETIONS, Career

	Player	Comp
1.	Joe Montana	2,929
2.	John Brodie	2,469
3.	Steve Young	2,400
4.	Jeff Garcia	1,449
5.	Alex Smith	1,290
6.	Y.A. Tittle	1,226
7.	Colin Kaepernick	1,011
8.	Steve DeBerg	670
9.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**596**
10.	Steve Spurrier	441

MOST TD PASSES, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Joe Montana	244
2.	Steve Young	221
3.	John Brodie	214
4.	Jeff Garcia	113
5.	Y.A. Tittle	108
6.	Alex Smith	81
7.	Colin Kaepernick	72
8.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**46**
9.	Steve DeBerg	37
10.	Steve Spurrier	33

MOST INTs, Career

	Player	INT
1.	John Brodie	224
2.	Y.A. Tittle	134
3.	Joe Montana	123
4.	Steve Young	86
5.	Alex Smith	63
6.	Steve DeBerg	60
7.	Jeff Garcia	56
8.	Steve Spurrier	48
9.	Frankie Albert	43
10.	Colin Kaepernick	30
	Jim Plunkett	30

BEST COMPLETION PCT., Career

	Player	Comp. %
1.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**67.5**
2.	Steve Young	65.8
3.	Nick Mullens	64.5
4.	Joe Montana	63.7
5.	Shaun Hill	61.7
6.	Jeff Garcia	61.4
7.	Tim Rattay	60.8
8.	Colin Kaepernick	59.8
9.	Alex Smith	59.3
10.	Y.A. Tittle	55.9

(min. 500 attempts)

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON PASSING

TOP SINGLE–GAME PASSING

MOST PASSING YARDS

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Joe Montana	at Atl. (10/14/90)	476
2.	Steve Young	at LA Rams (11/28/93)	462
3.	Joe Montana	at LA Rams (12/11/89)	458
4.	Steve Young	vs. Buf. (9/13/92)	449
5.	Joe Montana	at Was. (11/17/86)	441

MOST ATTEMPTS

	Player	Game	Att
1.	Joe Montana	at Was. (11/17/86)	60
2.	Joe Montana	at Atl. (10/6/85)	57
	Tim Rattay	vs. Arz. (10/10/04)	57
4.	Jeff Garcia	at Dal. (12/8/02)	55
5.	C.J. Beathard	vs. Arz. (10/7/18)	54
	Jeff Garcia	at Car. (11/18/01)	54
	Steve DeBerg	at Atl. (12/16/79)	54
	John Brodie	at Chi. (11/13/66)	54

MOST COMPLETIONS

	Player	Game	Cmp
1.	Tim Rattay	vs. Arz. (10/10/04)	38
2.	Joe Montana	at Atl. (10/6/85)	37
3.	Jeff Garcia	vs. Chi. (12/17/00)	36
	Jeff Garcia	at Dal. (12/8/02)	36
5.	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**vs. Arz. (11/17/19)**	**34**
	C.J. Beathard	vs. Arz. (10/7/18)	34
	Jeff Garcia	at Car. (11/18/01)	34
	Joe Montana	at Pit. (9/13/87)	34

MOST TOUCHDOWN PASSES

	Player	Game	TD
1.	Joe Montana	at Atl. (10/14/90)	6
2.	Joe Montana	at Phi. (9/24/89)	5
	Joe Montana	at Atl. (10/6/85)	5
	Steve Spurrier	at Chi. (11/19/72)	5
	John Brodie	at Min. (11/28/65)	5

MOST INTERCEPTIONS

	Player	Game	INT
1.	John Brodie	at Det. (11/4/73)	6
2.	Steve DeBerg	at Dal. (10/12/80)	5
	Scott Bull	vs. Pit. (11/27/78)	5
	Tom Owen	at Cle. (12/1/74)	5
	John Brodie	vs. Bal. (11/29/64)	5
	Y.A. Tittle	vs. Bal. (12/5/59)	5
	Y.A. Tittle	at Bal. (11/30/58)	5
	Frankie Albert	vs. Pit. (12/7/52)	5

HIGHEST COMPLETION PERCENTAGE (20+ atts)

	Player	Game	Pct.
1.	Steve Young	vs. Det. (10/20/91), 18–20	90.0
2.	Steve Young	vs. NO (9/14/97), 18–21	85.7
3.	John Brodie	vs. Atl. (9/29/68), 17–20	85.0
4.	Joe Montana	vs. Atl. (9/25/83), 27–32	84.4

AVERAGE YARDS PER ATTEMPT (20+ atts)

	Player	Game	Y/A
1.	Steve Young	vs. Det. (12/19/93)	15.39
2.	Steve Young	vs. LA Rams (11/28/93)	14.44
3.	Steve Young	vs. Atl. (10/18/92)	14.25
4.	Steve Young	vs. Atl. (9/21/97)	14.00

MOST ATTEMPTS, Season

	Player	Att
1.	Steve DeBerg (1979)	578
2.	Jeff Garcia (2000)	561
3.	Jeff Garcia (2002)	528
4.	Joe Montana (1990)	520
5.	Steve Young (1998)	517

MOST COMPLETIONS, Season

	Player	Cmp
1.	Jeff Garcia (2000)	355
2.	Steve DeBerg (1979)	347
3.	Joe Montana (1983)	332
4.	**Jimmy Garoppolo (2019)**	**329**
5.	Jeff Garcia (2002)	328

MOST TD PASSES, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Steve Young (1998)	36
2.	Steve Young (1994)	35
3.	Jeff Garcia (2001)	32
4.	Jeff Garcia (2000)	31
	Joe Montana (1987)	31

MOST INTs, Season

	Player	INT
1.	Y.A. Tittle (1955)	28
2.	John Brodie (1971)	24
3.	Frankie Albert (1950)	23
4.	Steve DeBerg (1978)	22
	John Brodie (1966)	22

BEST COMP. PCT., Season

	Player	Pct
1.	Steve Young (1994)	70.3
2.	Joe Montana (1989)	70.2
3.	**Jimmy Garoppolo (2019)**	**69.1**
4.	Steve Young (1993)	68.0
5.	Steve Young (1996)	67.7

BEST QB RATING, Season

	Player	Rat
1.	Steve Young (1994)	112.8
2.	Joe Montana (1989)	112.4
3.	Steve Young (1992)	107.0
4.	Steve Young (1997)	104.7
5.	Joe Montana (1984)	102.9

FEWEST INTs, Season

	Player	INT
1.	Alex Smith (2011)	5
2.	Steve Young (1997)	6
	Steve Young (1996)	6
4.	Steve Young (1992)	7
5.	Colin Kaepernick (2013)	8
	Shaun Hill (2008)	8
	Joe Montana (1989)	8
	Steve Young (1991)	8

AVG Yds PER ATTEMPT, Season

	Player	Y/A
1.	John Brodie (1961)	9.14
2.	Joe Montana (1989)	9.12
3.	Steve Young (1991)	9.02
4.	Steve Young (1993)	8.71
5.	Steve Young (1992)	8.62

49ERS QB WINS/LOSSES AS STARTER

Player	Win	Loss	Ties	Pct
Joe Montana	100	39		0.719
Steve Young	91	33		0.734
John Brodie	74	77	8	0.491
Y.A. Tittle	45	31	2	0.592
Alex Smith	38	36	1	0.513
Jeff Garcia	35	36		0.493
Colin Kaepernick	28	30		0.483
Jimmy Garoppolo	**22**	**8**		**0.733**
Steve Spurrier	13	12	1	0.519
Frankie Albert	13	16	1	0.448
Jim Plunkett	11	15		0.423
Shaun Hill	10	6		0.625
Steve DeBerg	7	28		0.200
Elvis Grbac	6	3		0.667
Steve Bono	5	1		0.833
Nick Mullens	5	11		0.313
George Mira	4	2		0.667
Tom Owen	4	4		0.500
Blaine Gabbert	4	9		0.308
Tim Rattay	4	12		0.250
Jeff Kemp	3	2	1	0.583
Troy Smith	3	3		0.500
Scott Bull	3	4		0.429
Joe Reed	3	4		0.429
Matt Cavanaugh	2	0		1.000
Norm Snead	2	5		0.286
J.T. O'Sullivan	2	6		0.250
Lamar McHan	2	7		0.222
Ken Dorsey	2	8		0.200
C.J. Beathard	2	10		0.167
Bob Gagliano	1	0		1.000
Jimmy Cason	1	0		1.000
Jim Druckenmiller	1	0		1.000
Ty Detmer	1	0		1.000
Mike Moroski	1	1		0.500
Jimmy Powers	1	1		0.500
Earl Morrall	1	3		0.250
Trent Dilfer	1	5		0.167
Chris Weinke	0	1		0.000
Bobby Waters	0	2		0.000
Dennis Morrison	0	2		0.000
Cody Pickett	0	2		0.000
Steve Stenstrom	0	3		0.000
Brian Hoyer	0	6		0.000
	551	**485**	**14**	**0.531**

300–YARD GAMES, Career

	Player	Games
1.	Joe Montana	35
2.	Steve Young	28
3.	Jeff Garcia	14
4.	John Brodie	6

300–YARD GAMES, Season

	Player	Games
1.	Steve Young (1998)	7
2.	Jeff Garcia (2000)	6
3.	Steve Young (1994)	5
	Joe Montana (1982, '85, '87, '90)	5

STARTING QB YEARLY RECORDS

Year	Player	Record as a Starter
1950	Frankie Albert	3–9
1951	Frankie Albert	6–4–1
	Y.A. Tittle	1–0
1952	Frankie Albert	4–3
	Y.A. Tittle	3–2
1953	Y.A. Tittle	8–2
	Jim Powers	1–1
1954	Y.A. Tittle	6–4–1
	Jim Cason	1–0
1955	Y.A. Tittle	4–8
1956	Y.A. Tittle	4–3–1
	Earl Morrall	1–3
1957	Y.A. Tittle	7–4
	John Brodie	1–0
1958	Y.A. Tittle	3–3
	John Brodie	3–3
1959	Y.A. Tittle	6–4
	John Brodie	1–1
1960	John Brodie	4–4
	Y.A. Tittle	3–1
1961	John Brodie	7–6–1
1962	John Brodie	6–8
1963	Lamar McHan	2–7
	John Brodie	0–3
	Bob Waters	0–2
1964	John Brodie	3–9
	George Mira	1–1
1965	John Brodie	7–5–1
	George Mira	0–1
1966	John Brodie	5–6–2
	George Mira	1–0
1967	John Brodie	5–5
	George Mira	2–0
	Steve Spurrier	0–2
1968	John Brodie	7–6–1
1969	John Brodie	2–6–2
	Steve Spurrier	2–2
1970	John Brodie	10–3–1
1971	John Brodie	9–5
1972	John Brodie	2–3
	Steve Spurrier	6–2–1
1973	John Brodie	2–4
	Steve Spurrier	2–3
	Joe Reed	1–2
1974	Tom Owen	4–3
	Joe Reed	2–2
	Dennis Morrison	0–2
	Norm Snead	0–1
1975	Norm Snead	2–5
	Steve Spurrier	3–3
	Tom Owen	0–1
1976	Jim Plunkett	6–6
	Scott Bull	2–0
1977	Jim Plunkett	5–9
1978	Steve DeBerg	1–10
	Scott Bull	1–4
1979	Steve DeBerg	2–13
	Joe Montana	0–1
1980	Steve DeBerg	4–5
	Joe Montana	2–5
1981	Joe Montana	13–3
1982	Joe Montana	3–6
1983	Joe Montana	10–6
1984	Joe Montana	14–1
	Matt Cavanaugh	1–0
1985	Joe Montana	9–6
	Matt Cavanaugh	1–0

Year	Player	Record as a Starter
1986	Joe Montana	6–2
	Jeff Kemp	3–2–1
	Mike Moroski	1–1
1987	Joe Montana	10–1
	Steve Young	2–1
	Bob Gagliano	1–0
1988	Joe Montana	8–5
	Steve Young	2–1
1989	Joe Montana	11–2
	Steve Young	3–0
1990	Joe Montana	14–1
	Steve Young	0–1
1991	Steve Young	5–5
	Steve Bono	5–1
1992	Steve Young	14–2
1993	Steve Young	10–6
1994	Steve Young	13–3
1995	Steve Young	8–3
	Elvis Grbac	3–2
1996	Steve Young	9–3
	Elvis Grbac	3–1
1997	Steve Young	12–3
	Jim Druckenmiller	1–0
1998	Steve Young	11–4
	Ty Detmer	1–0
1999	Jeff Garcia	2–8
	Steve Young	2–1
	Steve Stenstrom	0–3
2000	Jeff Garcia	6–10
2001	Jeff Garcia	12–4
2002	Jeff Garcia	10–6
2003	Jeff Garcia	5–8
	Tim Rattay	2–1
2004	Tim Rattay	1–8
	Ken Dorsey	1–6
2005	Alex Smith	2–5
	Tim Rattay	1–3
	Ken Dorsey	1–2
	Cody Pickett	0–2
2006	Alex Smith	7–9
2007	Alex Smith	2–5
	Trent Dilfer	1–5
	Shaun Hill	2–0
	Chris Weinke	0–1
2008	Shaun Hill	5–3
	J.T. O'Sullivan	2–6
2009	Alex Smith	5–5
	Shaun Hlll	3–3
2010	Alex Smith	3–7
	Troy Smith	3–3
2011	Alex Smith	13–3
2012	Alex Smith	6–2–1
	Colin Kaepernick	5–2
2013	Colin Kaepernick	12–4
2014	Colin Kaepernick	8–8
2015	Blaine Gabbert	3–5
	Colin Kaepernick	2–6
2016	Blaine Gabbert	1–4
	Colin Kaepernick	1–10
2017	Jimmy Garoppolo	5–0
	C.J. Beathard	1–4
	Brian Hoyer	0–6
2018	Nick Mullens	3–5
	Jimmy Garoppolo	1–2
	C.J. Beathard	0–5
2019	Jimmy Garoppolo	13–3
2020	Jimmy Garoppolo	3–3
	Nick Mullens	2–6
	C.J. Beathard	1–1

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON RUSHING

ALL–TIME LEADING RUSHERS (BY YARDS)

	Player	Years	Gms	Att	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Frank Gore	2005–2014 (10)	148	2,442	11,073	4.5	80t	64
2.	Joe Perry	1950–1960, '63 (12)	131	1,475	7,344 +	5.0	78t	50
3.	Roger Craig	1983–1990 (8)	121	1,686	7,064	4.2	71	50
4.	Ken Willard	1965–1973 (9)	125	1,582	5,930	3.7	69t	45
5.	Garrison Hearst	1997–2003 (7)	73	1,189	5,535	4.7	96t	26
6.	J.D. Smith	1956–1964 (9)	97	1,007	4,370	4.3	80t	37
7.	Hugh McElhenny	1952–1960 (9)	97	877	4,288	4.9	89t	35
8.	Kevan Barlow	2001–2005 (5)	72	891	3,614	4.1	78t	24
9.	Steve Young (QB)	1987–1999 (13)	150	608	3,581	5.9	49t	37
10.	Wendell Tyler	1983–1986 (4)	48	624	3,112	5.0	40	17
11.	Delvin Williams	1974–1977 (4)	54	669	2,966	4.4	80t	20
12.	Wilbur Jackson	1974–1979 (6)	72	745	2,955	4.0	80	10
13.	Ricky Watters	1992–1994 (3)	43	653	2,840	4.3	43	25
14.	Carlos Hyde	2014–2017 (4)	50	655	2,729	4.2	61	21
15.	Charlie Garner	1999–2000 (2)	32	499	2,371	4.8	53	11
16.	Colin Kaepernick (QB)	2011–2016 (6)	69	375	2,300	6.1	90t	13
17.	Matt Breida	2017–2019 (3)	43	381	1,902	5.0	83t	6
	Tom Rathman	1986–1993 (8)	115	516	1,902	3.7	35	26
19.	Vic Washington	1971–1973 (3)	40	483	1,813	3.8	42	14
20.	Paul Hofer	1976–1981 (6)	77	416	1,746	4.2	47	16

+ does not include AAFC Statistics

MOST RUSHING YARDS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Att	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Frank Gore	2006	312	1,695	5.4	72	8
2.	Garrison Hearst	1998	310	1,570	5.1	96t	7
3.	Roger Craig	1988	310	1,502	4.8	46t	9
4.	Wendell Tyler	1984	246	1,262	5.1	40	7
5.	Charlie Garner	1999	241	1,229	5.1	53	4
6.	Frank Gore	2012	258	1,214	4.7	37	8
7.	Frank Gore	2011	282	1,211	4.3	55	8
8.	Garrison Hearst	2001	252	1,206	4.8	43t	4
9.	Delvin Williams	1976	248	1,203	4.9	80t	7
10.	Charlie Garner	2000	258	1,142	4.4	42	7
11.	Frank Gore	2013	276	1,128	4.1	51	9
12.	Frank Gore	2009	229	1,120	4.9	80t	10
13.	Frank Gore	2013	255	1,106	4.3	55t	4
13.	Frank Gore	2007	260	1,102	4.2	43t	5
14.	Roger Craig	1989	271	1,054	3.9	27	6
15.	Roger Craig	1985	214	1,050	4.9	62t	9
16.	Joe Perry	1954	173	1,049	6.1	58	8
17.	Frank Gore	2008	240	1,036	4.3	41t	6
	J.D. Smith	1959	207	1,036	5.0	73t	10

Led NFL Led Conference

MOST ATTEMPTS, Career

	Player	Att
1.	Frank Gore	2,442
2.	Roger Craig	1,686
3.	Ken Willard	1,582
4.	Joe Perry	1,475
5.	Garrison Hearst	1,189
6.	J.D. Smith	1,007
7.	Kevan Barlow	891
8.	Hugh McElhenny	877
9.	Wilbur Jackson	745
10.	Delvin Williams	669

MOST TOUCHDOWNS, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Frank Gore	64
2.	Roger Craig	50
	Joe Perry	50
4.	Ken Willard	45
5.	J.D. Smith	37
	Steve Young (QB)	37
7.	Hugh McElhenny	35
8.	Garrison Hearst	26
9.	Tom Rathman	26
10.	Ricky Watters	25

HIGHEST RUSHING AVG., Career

	Player	Avg
1.	Colin Kaepernick (QB)	6.13
2.	Steve Young (QB)	5.89
3.	Matt Breida	4.99
4.	Wendell Tyler	4.99
5.	Joe Perry	4.97
6.	Jeff Garcia (QB)	4.94
7.	Hugh McElhenny	4.89
8.	Charlie Garner	4.75
9.	Garrison Hearst	4.66
10.	Frank Gore	4.53

(min. 300 attempts)

100–YARD GAMES, Career

	Player	Games
1.	Frank Gore	39
2.	Joe Perry	20
3.	Garrison Hearst	16
4.	Roger Craig	14
5.	J.D. Smith	12
	Hugh McElhenny	12

1,000–YD SEASONS, Career

	Player	Seasons
1.	Frank Gore	8
2.	Garrison Hearst	3
	Roger Craig	3
4.	Charlie Garner	2
	Joe Perry	2

CONSECUTIVE 1,000–YD SEASONS

	Player	Seasons
1.	Frank Gore (2011–14)	4
	Frank Gore (2006–09)	4
3.	Charlie Garner (1999–00)	2
	Garrison Hearst (1997–98)	2
	Roger Craig (1988–89)	2
	Joe Perry (1953–54)	2

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON RUSHING

TOP SINGLE–GAME RUSHING

MOST RUSHING YARDS

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Frank Gore	vs. Sea. (11/19/06)	212
2.	Frank Gore	vs. Sea. (9/20/09)	207
3.	Charlie Garner	at Dal. (9/24/00)	201
4.	Garrison Hearst	vs. Det. (12/14/98)	198
5.	Delvin Williams	at StL (10/31/76)	194

MOST RUSHING ATTEMPTS

	Player	Game	Att
1.	Charlie Garner	at Dal. (9/24/00)	36
2.	Maurice Hicks	at Arz. (12/12/04)	34
	Delvin Williams	at StL (10/31/76)	34
4.	Frank Gore	vs. Cle. (10/30/11)	31
	Frank Gore	at Den. (12/31/06)	31
	Garrison Hearst	vs. Sea. (12/1/02)	31
	J.D. Smith	at Bal. (10/7/62)	31
	J.D. Smith	at Chi. (10/14/62)	31

MOST RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

	Player	Game	TD
1.	Billy Kilmer (QB)	at Min. (10/15/61)	4
3.	(13 times) Last: **Jeff Wilson Jr.**	**at NE (10/25/20)**	**3**

HIGHEST RUSHING AVERAGE (10+ Attempts)

	Player	Game	Avg
1.	Joe Perry	vs. Det. (11/2/58)	13.4
2.	Frank Gore	vs. Sea. (9/20/09)	12.9
3.	Matt Breida	vs. Det. (9/16/18)	12.5
4.	Wilbur Jackson	vs. NO (11/27/77)	11.9
5.	Hugh McElhenny	at Chi. (10/17/54)	11.4
	Carlos Hyde	vs. NYJ (12/11/16)	11.4

MOST CONSECUTIVE 100–YARD RUSHING GAMES

	Player	Game(s)	Games
1.	Frank Gore	at Phi. (10/2/11) to at Was. (11/6/11)	5
2.	Garrison Hearst	vs. NYG (11/30/98) to at NE (12/20/98)	4
3.	Frank Gore	vs. Oak. (10/17/10) to vs. Den. (10/31/10)	3
	Frank Gore	at Det. (11/12/06) to at StL (11/26/06)	3
	J.D. Smith	at Bal. (10/7/62) to at GB (10/21/62)	3
	Billy Kilmer (QB)	at Det. (10/1/61) to at Min. (10/15/61)	3

MOST RUSHING ATTEMPTS, Season

	Player	Att
1.	Frank Gore (2006)	312
2.	Roger Craig (1988)	310
	Garrison Hearst (1998)	310
4.	Frank Gore (2011)	282
5.	Frank Gore (2013)	276

MOST RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Frank Gore (2009)	10
	Derek Loville (1995)	10
	Ricky Watters (1993)	10
	Billy Kilmer, QB (1961)	10
	J.D. Smith (1959)	10
	Joe Perry (1953)	10

HIGHEST RUSHING AVG., Season

	Player	Avg
1.	Hugh McElhenny (1952)	6.98
2.	Colin Kaepernick (QB) (2014)	6.14
3.	Joe Perry (1958)	6.06
4.	Joe Perry (1954)	6.06
5.	**Raheem Mostert (2019)**	**5.64**

MOST 100–YARD RUSHING GAMES, Season

	Player	Games
1.	Frank Gore (2006)	9
2.	Roger Craig (1988)	7
3.	Garrison Hearst (1998)	6
4.	Frank Gore (2011)	5
	Frank Gore (2009)	5
	J.D. Smith (1959)	5
	Joe Perry (1953)	5

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A RUSHING TD

	Player	Game(s)	Games
1.	Joe Perry	at GB (11/22/53) to at GB (10/10/54)	7
2.	**Raheem Mostert**	**vs. GB (11/24/19 to at Sea. (12/29/19)**	**6**
	Derek Loville	vs. Car. (11/5/95) to at Car. (12/10/95)	6
4.	Hugh McElhenny	vs. Was. (9/26/54) to vs. Det. (10/24/54)	5

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON RECEIVING

ALL–TIME LEADING RECEIVERS (BY RECEPTIONS)

	Player	Years	Gms	Rec	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Jerry Rice	1985–2000 (16)	238	1,281	19,247	15.0	96t	176
2.	Terrell Owens	1996–2003 (8)	121	592	8,572	14.5	79t	81
3.	Roger Craig (RB)	1983–1990 (8)	121	508	4,442	8.7	73	16
4.	Dwight Clark	1979–1987 (9)	134	506	6,750	13.3	80t	48
5.	Vernon Davis (TE)	2006–2015 (10)	139	441	5,640	12.9	73t	55
6.	Brent Jones (TE)	1987–1997 (11)	143	417	5,195	12.5	69t	33
7.	Billy Wilson	1951–1960 (10)	100	407	5,902	14.5	77t	49
8.	Gene Washington	1969–1977 (9)	124	371	6,664	18.0	79t	59
9.	Michael Crabtree	2009–2014 (6)	79	347	4,327	12.5	60t	26
	John Taylor	1987–1995 (9)	121	347	5,598	16.1	97t	43
11.	Frank Gore (RB)	2005–2014 (10)	148	342	2,883	8.4	55t	11
12.	J.J. Stokes	1995–2002 (8)	111	327	4,139	12.7	53	30
13.	Freddie Solomon	1978–1985 (8)	114	310	4,873	15.7	93t	43
14.	Tom Rathman	1986–1993 (8)	115	294	2,490	8.5	36	8
15.	Bernie Casey	1961–1966 (6)	79	277	4,008	14.5	68t	27
16.	Ken Willard (RB)	1965–1973 (9)	125	273	2,156	7.9	62	16
17.	**George Kittle**	**2017–present (4)**	**53**	**264**	**3,579**	**13.6**	**85t**	**14**
18.	Gordie Soltau	1950–1958 (9)	107	249	3,487	14.0	54t	25
19.	Anquan Boldin	2013–2015 (3)	46	237	3,030	12.8	76t	16
20.	Earl Cooper	1980–1985 (6)	88	213	1,908	9.0	73t	12

MOST RECEPTIONS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Rec	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Jerry Rice	1995	122	(1,848)	15.1	81t	15
2.	Jerry Rice	1994	112	(1,499)	13.4	69t	13
3.	Jerry Rice	1996	(108)	1,254	11.6	39	8
4.	Terrell Owens	2002	100	1,300	13.0	76t	(13)
	Jerry Rice	1990	(100)	(1,502)	15.0	64t	(13)
6.	Jerry Rice	1993	98	(1,503)	15.3	80t	(15)
7.	Terrell Owens	2000	97	1,451	15.0	69t	13
8.	Terrell Owens	2001	93	1,412	15.2	60t	(16)
9.	Roger Craig	1985	(92)	1,016	11.0	73	6
10.	**George Kittle (TE)**	**2018**	**88**	**(1,377)+**	**15.6**	**85t**	**5**
11.	Derek Loville (RB)	1995	87	662	7.6	31	3
12.	Jerry Rice	1986	[86]	(1,570)	18.3	66t	(15)
13.	**George Kittle (TE)**	**2019**	**85**	**1,053**	**12.4**	**61t**	**5**
	Anquan Boldin	2013	85	1,179	13.9	63	7
	Michael Crabtree	2012	85	1,105	13.0	49t	9
	Dwight Clark	1981	[85]	1,105	13.0	78t	4
17.	Jerry Rice	1992	84	1,201	14.3	80t	10
18.	Anquan Boldin	2014	83	1,062	12.8	76t	5
	Earl Cooper	1980	[83]	567	6.8	66t	4
20.	Eric Johnson	2004	82	825	10.1	25	2
	Jerry Rice	1998	82	1,157	14.1	75t	9
	Jerry Rice	1989	82	(1,483)	18.1	68t	(17)
	Dwight Clark	1980	82	991	12.1	71t	8

(Led NFL) [Led Conference] + NFL Record by TE

MOST RECEIVING YARDS, Career

	Player	Yds
1.	Jerry Rice	19,247
2.	Terrell Owens	8,572
3.	Dwight Clark	6,750
4.	Gene Washington	6,664
5.	Billy Wilson	5,902
6.	John Taylor	5,598
7.	Vernon Davis (TE)	5,616
8.	Brent Jones (TE)	5,640
9.	Freddie Solomon	4,873
10.	Roger Craig (RB)	4,442

MOST TOUCHDOWNS, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Jerry Rice	176
2.	Terrell Owens	81
3.	Gene Washington	59
4.	Vernon Davis (TE)	55
5.	Billy Wilson	49
6.	Dwight Clark	48
7.	Freddie Solomon	43
	John Taylor	43
9.	Brent Jones (TE)	33
10.	J.J. Stokes	30

BEST RECEIVING AVG., Career

	Player	Avg
1.	Gene Washington	18.0
2.	John Taylor	16.1
3.	Dave Parks	16.0
4.	Freddie Solomon	15.7
5.	Jerry Rice	15.0

(min. 200 recepts.)

100–YARD GAMES, Career

	Player	Games
1.	Jerry Rice	66
2.	Terrell Owens	25
3.	Gene Washington	17
4.	Dwight Clark	16
5.	John Taylor	12

1,000–YD SEASONS, Career

	Player	Seasons
1.	Jerry Rice	12
2.	Terrell Owens	5
3.	**George Kittle (TE)**	**2**
	Anquan Boldin	2
	John Taylor	2

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON RECEIVING

TOP SINGLE–GAME RECEIVING

MOST RECEVING YARDS

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Jerry Rice (WR)	vs. Min. (12/18/95)	289
2.	John Taylor (WR)	at LA Rams (12/11/89)	286
3.	Terrell Owens (WR)	vs. Chi. (12/17/00)	283
4.	Jerry Rice (WR)	vs. LA Rams (12/9/85)	241
5.	Dave Parks (WR)	at Bal. (10/3/65)	231
6.	Jerry Rice (WR)	at Atl. (10/14/90)	225
	Bernie Casey (WR)	at Chi. (11/13/66)	225
8.	**George Kittle (TE)**	**vs. Den. (12/9/18)**	**210**
9.	Anquan Boldin (WR)	vs. GB (9/8/13)	208
10.	Jerry Rice (WR)	at Was. (11/17/86)	204

MOST RECEPTIONS

	Player	Game	Rec
1.	Terrell Owens	vs. Chi. (12/17/00)	20
2.	Jerry Rice	vs. LA Rams (11/20/94)	16
3.	**George Kittle**	**vs. Phi. (10/4/20)**	**15**
4.	Jerry Rice	vs. Min. (12/18/95)	14
5.	**George Kittle**	**vs. Atl. (12/15/19)**	**13**
	Anquan Boldin	vs. GB (9/8/13)	13
	Eric Johnson	vs. Arz. (10/10/04)	13
	Terrell Owens	vs. Phi. (11/25/02)	13
	Jerry Rice	at Atl. (10/14/90)	13

MOST RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

	Player	Game	TD
1.	Jerry Rice	at Atl. (10/14/90)	5
2.	Jerry Rice	at TB (11/14/93)	4
3.	(17 times) Last: Vernon Davis	at Hou. (10/25/09)	3

RECEIVING AVERAGE (5+ RECEPTIONS)

	Player	Game	Avg
1.	John Taylor	at Atl. (12/3/89), 5–162	32.4
2.	Jerry Rice	at Dal. (11/12/95), 5–161	32.2
3.	Gene Washington	vs. NE (10/31/71), 5–160	32.0
4.	Jerry Rice	at GB (11/4/90), 6–187	31.2
5.	**George Kittle**	**vs. Den. (12/9/18)**	**30.0**

MOST CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A RECEPTION

	Player	Game(s)	Games
1.	Jerry Rice	(12/9/85) to (12/23/00)	225*
2.	Terrell Owens	(10/20/96) to (12/21/03)	115
3.	Dwight Clark	(9/14/80 to (9/13/87)	105

** NFL Record (streak extended to 274 in '04 as member of Raiders)*

MOST RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Jerry Rice (1987)	22
2.	Jerry Rice (1989)	17
3.	Terrell Owens (2001)	16
4.	Jerry Rice (1995)	15
	Jerry Rice (1993)	15
	Jerry Rice (1986)	15
7.	Terrell Owens (1998)	14
	Jerry Rice (1991)	14
9.	(6 times) Last: Vernon Davis (2013)	13

MOST RECEIVING YARDS, Season

	Player	Yards
1.	Jerry Rice (1995)	1,848
2.	Jerry Rice (1986)	1,570
3.	Jerry Rice (1993)	1,503
4.	Jerry Rice (1990)	1,502
5.	Jerry Rice (1994)	1,499
6.	Jerry Rice (1989)	1,483
7.	Terrell Owens (2000)	1,451
8.	Terrell Owens (2001)	1,412
9.	**George Kittle (2018)**	**1,377**
10.	Dave Parks (1965)	1,344

CONSECUTIVE GAMES WITH A TOUCHDOWN RECEPTION

	Player	Games
1.	Jerry Rice (12/19/86 to 12/27/87)	13
2.	Terrell Owens (11/8/98 to 12/27/98)	8
	Jerry Rice (12/8/89 to 11/27/89)	8
	Dave Parks (11/7/65 to 9/11/66)	8

BEST RECEIVING AVERAGE, Season

	Player	Avg
1.	Freddie Solomon (1983)	21.4
2.	Gene Washington (1974)	21.2
3.	Gene Washington (1970)	20.8
4.	Jerry Rice (1988)	20.4
5.	Torrey Smith (2015)	20.1

(min. 25 receptions)

MOST 100–YARD RECEIVING GAMES, Season

	Player	Games
1.	Jerry Rice (1995)	9
2.	Jerry Rice (1989)	8
3.	Jerry Rice (1990)	7
4.	Terrell Owens (2001)	6
	Dwight Clark (1982)	6

CONSECUTIVE 100–YARD RECEIVING GAMES

	Player	Games
1.	Jerry Rice (10/29/95 to 11/20/95)	4
2.	Jerry Rice (12/10/95 to 12/24/95)	3
	Jerry Rice (9/10/89 to 9/24/89)	3
	Jerry Rice (9/11/88 to 9/25/88)	3
	Jerry Rice (11/15/87 to 11/29/87)	3
	Dwight Clark (12/11/82 to 12/26/82)	3
	Dwight Clark (9/12/82 to 11/21/82)	3

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON SCRIMMAGE YARDS

ALL–TIME LEADERS IN TOTAL YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE

	Player	Years	Gms	Touches	Yards	Avg	Yds/Gm	TD
1.	Jerry Rice (WR)	1985–2000 (16)	238	1,365	19,872	14.6	83.5	186
2.	Frank Gore (RB)	2005–2014 (10)	148	2,784	13,956	5.0	94.3	75
3.	Roger Craig (RB)	1983–1990 (8)	121	2,194	11,506	5.2	95.1	66
4.	Terrell Owens (WR)	1996–2003 (8)	121	613	8,734	14.2	72.2	83
5.	Joe Perry (RB)	1950–1960, '63 (12)	131	1,660	8,624	5.2	65.8	57
6.	Ken Willard (RB)	1965–1973 (9)	125	1,855	8,086	4.4	64.7	61
7.	Garrison Hearst (RB)	1997–2003 (7)	73	1,363	7,139	5.2	97.8	33
8.	Hugh McElhenny (HB)	1952–1960 (9)	97	1,072	6,954	6.5	71.7	50
9.	Dwight Clark (WR)	1979–1987 (9)	134	512	6,800	13.3	50.7	48
10.	Gene Washington (WR)	1969–1977 (9)	124	376	6,663	17.7	53.7	59
11.	Billy Wilson (E)	1951–1960 (10)	100	407	5,902	14.5	59.0	49
12.	Vernon Davis (TE)	2006–2015 (10)	139	447	5,655	12.7	40.7	55
13.	John Taylor (WR)	1987–1995 (9)	121	353	5,629	15.9	46.5	43
14.	J.D. Smith (HB)	1956–1964 (9)	97	1,128	5,479	4.9	56.5	42
15.	Freddie Solomon (WR)	1978–1985 (8)	114	357	5,202	14.6	45.6	46
16.	Brent Jones (TE)	1987–1997 (11)	143	417	5,195	12.5	36.3	33
17.	Kevan Barlow (RB)	2001–2005 (5)	72	1,028	4,757	4.6	66.1	27
18.	Tom Rathman (RB)	1986–1993 (8)	115	810	4,392	5.4	38.2	34
19.	Michael Crabtree (WR)	2009–2014 (6)	79	350	4,345	12.4	55.0	26
20.	Ricky Watters (RB)	1992–1994 (3)	43	793	4,290	5.4	99.8	33

MOST TOTAL YARDS FROM SCRIMMAGE IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Touches	Yards	Avg	Yds/Gm	TD
1.	Frank Gore	2006	373	2,180	5.8	136.3	9
2.	Garrison Hearst	1998	349	2,105	6.0	131.6	9
3.	Roger Craig	1985	306	2,066	6.8	129.1	15
4.	Roger Craig	1988	386	2,036	5.3	127.3	10
5.	Jerry Rice	1995	127	1,884	14.8	117.8	16
6.	Charlie Garner	2000	326	1,789	5.5	111.8	10
7.	Charlie Garner	1999	297	1,764	5.9	110.3	6
8.	Jerry Rice	1986	96	1,642	17.1	102.6	16
9.	Ricky Watters	1994	305	1,596	5.2	99.8	11
10.	Jerry Rice	1994	119	1,592	13.4	99.5	15
11.	Jerry Rice	1993	101	1,572	15.6	98.3	16
12.	Garrison Hearst	2001	293	1,553	5.3	97.1	5
13.	Frank Gore	2007	313	1,538	4.9	102.5	6
14.	Roger Craig	1989	320	1,527	4.8	95.4	7
15.	Frank Gore	2009	281	1,526	5.4	109.0	13

Led NFL Led Conference

MOST TOUCHES, Career

	Player	Touches
1.	Frank Gore	2,784
2.	Roger Craig	2,194
3.	Ken Willard	1,855
4.	Joe Perry	1,660
5.	Jerry Rice	1,365
6.	Garrison Hearst	1,363
7.	J.D. Smith	1,128
8.	Hugh McElhenny	1,072
9.	Kevan Barlow	1,028
10.	Wilbur Jackson	893

BEST YARDS PER TOUCH, Career

	Player	Avg
1.	Jerry Rice	14.6
2.	Hugh McElhenny	6.5
3.	Tom Rathman	5.4
4.	Ricky Watters	5.4
5.	Roger Craig	5.2
6.	Garrison Hearst	5.2
7.	Joe Perry	5.2
8.	Delvin Williams	5.1
9.	Frank Gore	5.0
10.	J.D. Smith	4.9

(min. 750 touches)

MOST TOUCHES, Season

	Player	Touches
1.	Roger Craig (1988)	386
2.	Frank Gore (2006)	373
3.	Garrison Hearst (1998)	349
4.	Charlie Garner (2000)	326
5.	Roger Craig (1989)	320

BEST YARDS PER TOUCH, Season

	Player	Avg
1.	Jerry Rice (1993)	15.6
2.	Dwight Clark (1982)	15.2
3.	Jerry Rice (1995)	14.8
4.	Jerry Rice (1990)	14.7
5.	Terrell Owens (2000)	14.6

(min. 100 touches)

TOP SINGLE–GAME SCRIMMAGE YARD TOTALS

MOST YARDS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Jerry Rice	vs. Min. (12/18/95)	299
2.	Terrell Owens	vs. Chi. (12/17/00)	288
3.	John Taylor	at LA Rams (12/11/89)	286
4.	Delvin Williams	vs. Was. (11/7/76)	279
5.	Jerry Rice	vs. LA Rams (12/9/85)	255
6.	Frank Gore	vs. Sea. (9/20/09)	246
7.	Frank Gore	vs. Sea. (11/19/06)	238
8.	Charlie Garner	at Dal. (9/24/00)	235
9.	Dave Parks	at Bal. (10/3/65)	231
10.	Garrison Hearst	vs. NYJ (9/6/98)	225
	Jerry Rice	at Atl. (10/14/90)	225
	Bernie Casey	at Chi. (11/13/66)	225

MOST TOUCHES IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Touches
1.	Maurice Hicks	at Arz. (12/12/04)	39
	Charlie Garner	at Dal. (9/24/00)	39
3.	Delvin Williams	at StL (10/31/76)	35
4.	Derek Loville	vs. Buf. (12/3/95)	34
5.	Frank Gore	at Den. (12/31/06)	33
	Frank Gore	at Sea. (12/14/06)	33
	Kevan Barlow	at Phi. (12/21/03)	33
	Garrison Hearst	vs. Sea. (12/1/02)	33
	J.D. Smith	at Bal. (10/7/62)	33
10.	(4x) Last: Frank Gore	vs. Det. (12/27/09)	32

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON INTERCEPTIONS

ALL–TIME INTERCEPTION LEADERS

	Player	Years	Gms	INT	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Ronnie Lott	1981–1990 (10)	129	51	643	12.6	83t	5
2.	Jimmy Johnson	1961–1976 (16)	213	47	615	13.1	63	2
3.	Kermit Alexander	1963–1969 (7)	94	36	499	13.9	66t	1
4.	Merton Hanks	1991–1998 (8)	125	31	380	12.3	67t	2
5.	Dwight Hicks	1979–1985 (7)	96	30	586	19.5	72	3
6.	Lowell Wagner	1950–1953, '55 (5)	47	25	331	13.2	40	0
7.	Tony Parrish	2002–2006 (5)	66	22	504	22.9	60	1
	Don Griffin	1986–1993 (8)	114	22	49	2.2	23	0
	Rex Berry	1951–1956 (6)	66	22	404	18.4	44t	3
10.	Dave Baker	1959–1961 (3)	38	21	294	14.0	40	0
11.	Tim McDonald	1993–1999 (7)	111	20	325	16.3	73t	3
	Dick Moegle	1955–1959 (5)	47	20	232	11.6	40	1
13.	Zack Bronson	1997–2003 (7)	84	19	346	18.2	97t	2
14.	Eric Wright	1981–1990 (10)	110	18	256	14.2	60t	2
	Bruce Taylor	1970–1977 (8)	109	18	201	11.2	70	0
16.	Carlton Williamson	1981–1987 (7)	88	17	294	17.3	82	1
17.	Tim McKyer	1986–1989 (4)	51	16	62	3.9	21t	1
18.	Walt Harris	2006–2008 (3)	46	15	151	10.1	42	1
	Abe Woodson	1958–1964 (7)	89	15	159	10.6	61	0
20.	Dashon Goldson	2007–2012 (6)	81	14	152	10.9	39t	1
	Skip Vanderbundt	1969–1977 (9)	119	14	165	11.8	37t	2
	Frank Nunley	1967–1976 (10)	137	14	136	9.7	24	0
	Dave Wilcox	1964–1974 (11)	153	14	149	10.6	35	1

MOST INTERCEPTIONS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	INT	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Ronnie Lott	1986	(10)	134	13.4	57t	1
	Dave Baker	1960	[10]	96	9.6	28	0
3.	Tony Parrish	2003	(9)	202	22.4	49	0
	Dwight Hicks	1981	9	(239)	26.6	72	1
	Kermit Alexander	1968	9	155	17.2	66t	1
	Lowell Wagner	1951	9	115	12.8	40	0
7.	Walt Harris	2006	[8]	84	10.5	42	1
	Dick Moegle	1957	8	107	13.4	40	0
	Jim Cason	1951	8	147	18.4	65t	1
10.	Tony Parrish	2002	7	204	29.1	60	0
	Ahmed Plummer	2001	[7]	45	6.4	24	0
	Zack Bronson	2001	[7]	165	23.6	97t	(2)
	Merton Hanks	1994	7	93	13.3	38	0
	Dave Waymer	1990	7	64	9.1	24	0
	Tim McKyer	1988	7	11	1.6	7	0
	Eric Wright	1983	(7)	164	23.4	60t	(2)
	Ronnie Lott	1981	7	117	16.7	41t	(3)
	Rex Berry	1953	7	142	20.3	29	(1)

(Led NFL) [Led Conference]

MOST INT RETURN YARDS, Career

	Player	Yards
1.	Ronnie Lott	643
2.	Jimmy Johnson	615
3.	Dwight Hicks	586
4.	Tony Parrish	504
5.	Kermit Alexander	499
6.	Rex Berry	404
7.	Merton Hanks	380
8.	Zack Bronson	346
9.	Lowell Wagner	331
10.	Tim McDonald	325

MOST INTs RETURNED FOR TD, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Ronnie Lott	5
2.	Rex Berry	3
	Dwight Hicks	3
	Tim McDonald	3
	Deion Sanders	3
6.	(11 Players) Last: Dontae Johnson	2

MOST INT RETURN YARDS, Season

	Player	Yards
1.	Deion Sanders (1994)	303
2.	Dwight Hicks (1981)	239
3.	Tony Parrish (2002)	204
4.	Tony Parrish (2004)	202
5.	Zack Bronson (2001)	165

MOST INTs RETURNED FOR TD, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Deion Sanders (1994)	3
	Ronnie Lott (1981)	3
3.	Zack Bronson (2001)	2
	Tim McDonald (1995)	2
	Ken Norton (1995)	2
	Tom Holmoe (1986)	2
	Dwight Hicks (1983)	2
	Eric Wright (1983)	2
	Skip Vanderbundt (1972)	2

MOST INTs BY A NON–DB, Season

	Player	INT
1.	Jim Fahnhorst, LB (1986)	4
	Keena Turner, LB (1984)	4
	Frank Nunley, LB (1974)	4

TOP SINGLE–GAME INTERCEPTION TOTALS

MOST INTERCEPTIONS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	INT
1.	Dave Baker	at LA Rams (12/4/60)	4
2.	Walt Harris	vs. Oak. (10/8/06)	3
	Ronnie Heard	vs. Arz. (10/27/02)	3
	Rod Woodson	vs. NO (9/14/97)	3
	Eric Wright	at Min. (9/8/83)	3
	Tony Leonard	vs. Cin. (10/1/78)	3
	Dave Baker	at Dal. (11/20/60)	3

MOST INTs RETURNED FOR TD IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	INT
1.	Ken Norton	at StL (10/22/95)	2
2.	55 Players	73 Times	1

MOST INTERCEPTION RETURN YARDS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Dwight Hicks	at Was. (10/4/81)	104
2.	Zack Bronson	at Chi. (10/28/01)	97
3.	Merton Hanks	vs. NO (11/22/93)	94
	Al Randolph	vs. Chi. (12/11/66)	94
5.	Deion Sanders	at Atl. (10/16/94)	93
6.	Deion Sanders	at SD (12/11/94)	90
	Kermit Alexander	at Pit. (11/24/68)	90
8.	NaVorro Bowman	vs. Atl. (12/23/13)	89
9.	Tory Nixon	at GB (10/26/86)	88
10.	Patrick Willis	at Sea. (9/14/08)	86
	Eric Davis	vs. StL (11/26/95)	86

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON SACKS

ALL–TIME SACK LEADERS

	Player	Years	Sacks
1.	Bryant Young (DT)	1994–2007 (14)	89.5
2.	Charles Haley (LB)	1986–1999 (7)	66.5
3.	Ahmad Brooks (LB)	2009–2016 (8)	51.5
4.	Dana Stubblefield (DT)	1993–2002 (7)	46.5
5.	Dwaine Board (DE)	1982–1988 (10)	45.0
6.	Aldon Smith (LB)	2011–2014 (4)	44.0
7.	Justin Smith (DT)	2008–2014 (7)	43.5
8.	Chris Doleman (DE)	1996–1998 (3)	38.0
9.	Andre Carter (DE)	2001–2005 (5)	32.0
10.	Jeff Stover (DE)	1982–1988 (7)	30.5
11.	Roy Barker (DE)	1996–1998 (3)	30.0
12.	Pierce Holt (DE)	1988–1992 (5)	29.5
13.	DeForest Buckner (DL)	2016–2019 (4)	28.5
14.	Larry Roberts (DE)	1986–1993 (8)	28.0
	Fred Dean (DE)	1981–1985 (5)	28.0
16.	Tim Harris (LB)	1991–1995 (4)	26.0
17.	Kevin Fagan (DE)	1987–1993 (7)	25.5
18.	Dennis Brown (DE)	1990–1996 (7)	24.5
19.	**Arik Armsted (DL)**	**2015–2020 (6)**	**22.5**
	Michael Carter (NT)	1984–1992 (9)	22.5

Note: Includes figures since 1982, when sacks first became an official statistic

MOST SACKS IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Sacks
1.	Aldon Smith	2012	19.5
2.	Fred Dean	1983	17.5
3.	Tim Harris	1992	17.0
4.	Charles Haley	1990	16.0
5.	Chris Doleman	1998	15.0
	Dana Stubblefield	1997	15.0
7.	Aldon Smith	2011*	14.0
8.	Dwaine Board	1983	13.0
9.	Andre Carter	2002	12.5
	Roy Barker	1996	12.5

Led Conference *Rookie Year

MOST SACKS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Sacks
1.	Fred Dean	vs. NO (11/13/83)	6.0
2.	Aldon Smith	vs. Chi. (11/19/12)	5.5
3.	Roy Barker	at StL (10/25/98)	4.0
	Chris Doleman	at NO (10/11/98)	4.0
	Dana Stubblefield	at Phi. (11/10/97)	4.0
	Pierce Holt	vs. NYG (11/27/89)	4.0
	Dwaine Board	at LA Raiders (9/22/85)	4.0

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON PUNTING

ALL–TIME LEADING PUNTERS (BY AVERAGE)

	Player	Years	Punts	Yards	Avg	Net	Lg	In20	Blk
1.	Andy Lee	2004–2014 (11)	941	43,468	46.2	39.5	82	300	4
2.	**Mitch Wishnowsky**	**2019–present (2)**	**118**	**5,426**	**46.0**	**41.6**	**65**	**48**	**1**
3.	Tommy Davis	1959–1969 (11)	511	22,833	44.7	NA	82	NA	2
4.	Bradley Pinion	2015–2018 (4)	334	14,599	43.7	39.9	65	112	1
5.	Frankie Albert	1950–1952 (3)	139	5,830	41.9	NA	70	NA	1
6.	Tommy Thompson	1995–1997 (3)	208	8,711	41.9	35.6	65	55	3
7.	Tom Wittum	1973–1977 (5)	380	15,494	40.8	NA	68	NA	9
8.	Jim Miller	1980–1982 (3)	214	8,686	40.6	31.7	80	36	1
9.	Jason Baker	2001–2002 (2)	111	4,501	40.5	34.1	64	33	0
10.	Max Runager	1984–1988 (5)	281	11,394	40.5	33.8	62	36	5

**minimum 100 punts*

BEST PUNTING AVERAGE IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	Punts	Yards	Avg	Net	Lg	In20	Blk
1.	Andy Lee	2011	78	3,970	50.9	44.0	68	28	1
2.	Andy Lee	2013	79	3,804	48.2	41.7	62	27	0
3.	Andy Lee	2012	67	3,226	48.1	43.2	66	36	0
4.	Andy Lee	2008	66	3,155	47.8	39.0	82	13	1
5.	Andy Lee	2009	99	4,711	47.6	41.0	64	30	0
6.	Andy Lee	2007	105	4,968	47.3	41.0	74	42	0
7.	**Mitch Wishnowsky**	**2020**	**66**	**3,093**	**46.9**	**41.6**	**60**	**25**	**1**
8.	Andy Lee	2014	72	3,369	46.8	39.6	71	28	1
9.	Andy Lee	2010	91	4,203	46.2	38.2	64	34	0
10.	Tommy Davis	1965	54	2,471	45.8	NA	65	NA	0

Led NFL | Led Conference | + NFL Record

MOST PUNTS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Punts
1.	Tom Wittum	vs. LA Rams (11/21/76)	11
2.	Andy Lee	vs. Sea. (9/30/07)	10
	Jim Miller	vs. Atl. (11/8/81)	10
	Jim Miller	vs. LA Rams (10/25/81)	10
	Mike Connell	at Atl. (11/5/78)	10
	Mike Connell	vs. Cin. (10/1/78)	10
	Tom Wittum	at Atl. (11/6/77)	10
	Tom Wittum	vs. Atl. (10/23/76)	10
	Tommy Davis	at Det. (10/6/63)	10

BEST PUNT AVG. IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Avg
1.	Andy Lee	vs. Sea. (9/11/11)	59.6
2.	Andy Lee	at Bal. (11/24/11)	57.6
3.	Andy Lee	at Pit. (9/23/07)	57.2
4.	Andy Lee	at StL (1/1/12)	56.8
5.	Andy Lee	at NE (12/16/12)	56.6
6.	Andy Lee	vs. Dal. (9/18/11)	55.3
7.	Klaus Wilmsmeyer	vs. Det. (10/9/94)	55.0
8.	Andy Lee	at StL (12/21/08)	54.8

**minimum 4 punts*

MOST PUNTS, Career

	Player	Punts
1.	Andy Lee	941
2.	Tommy Davis	511
3.	Tom Wittum	380
4.	Max Runager	281
5.	Steve Spurrier	230

MOST PUNTS INSIDE 20, Career

	Player	IN20
1.	Andy Lee	300
2.	Bradley Pinion	112
3.	Max Runager	84
4.	Tommy Thompson	55
5.	Barry Helton	50

**inside–the–20 became official stat in 1976*

MOST PUNTS, Season

	Player	Punts
1.	Andy Lee (2005)	107
2.	Andy Lee (2007)	105
3.	Bradley Pinion (2016)	100
4.	Andy Lee (2009)	99
5.	Andy Lee (2004)	96
	Mike Connell (1978)	96

MOST PUNTS INSIDE 20, Season

	Player	IN20
1.	Andy Lee (2007)	42
2.	Andy Lee (2012)	36
3.	Andy Lee (2010)	34
4.	Bradley Pinion (2017)	31
	Bradley Pinion (2015)	31
6.	Andy Lee (2009)	30
	Max Runager (1985)	30

**inside–the–20 became official stat in 1976*

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON PUNT RETURNS

ALL–TIME LEADERS IN PUNT RETURNS (BY AVERAGE)

	Player	Years	PR	FC	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Manfred Moore	1974–1975 (2)	21	0	309	14.7	88t	1
2.	Jim Cason	1950–1952, '54 (4)	24	NA	288	12.0	33	0
3.	Ted Ginn Jr.	2010–2012 (3)	94	48	1,113	11.8	78t	2
4.	Allen Rossum	2008–2009 (2)	27	8	307	11.4	45	0
5.	Iheanyi Uwaezuoke	1996–1998 (3)	34	14	373	11.0	36	0
6.	LaMichael James	2012–2014 (3)	23	12	251	10.9	40	0
7.	Dana McLemore	1982–1987 (6)	142	38	1,531	10.8	93t	4
8.	Jimmy Williams	2001–2004 (4)	55	18	576	10.5	89t	1
9.	Dexter Carter	1990–1996 (7)	117	56	1,213	10.4	78t	2
10.	John Taylor	1987–1995 (9)	149	55	1,517	10.2	95t	2

**minimum 20 returns*

BEST PUNT RETURN AVERAGE IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	PR	FC	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Jimmy Williams	2002	20	8	336	(16.8)	89t	1
2.	Hugh McElhenny	1952	20	NA	284	14.2	(94t)	1
3.	Ted Ginn Jr.	2010	24	18	321	13.4	78t	1
4.	Joe Arenas	1951	21	NA	272	13.0	51	0
5.	John Taylor	1988	44	7	(556)	(12.6)	(95t)	(2)
6.	Dana McLemore	1987	21	7	265	12.6	83t	1
7.	Ted Ginn Jr.	2011	38	18	466	12.3	55t	1
8.	Dexter Carter	1993	34	20	411	12.1	72t	1
9.	Bruce Taylor	1970	43	10	516	12.0	76	0
10.	John Taylor	1989	36	20	417	11.6	37	0

**minimum 20 returns*

(Led NFL) [Led Conference]

TOP SINGLE–GAME PUNT RETURN PERFORMANCES

MOST PUNT RETURN YARDS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Tony Leonard	vs. NO (10/17/76)	141
2.	Bruce Taylor	at Hou. (11/15/70)	133
3.	Dexter Carter	vs. Min. (10/3/93)	131
4.	Dexter Carter	vs. Min. (12/18/95)	126
5.	Dana McLemore	vs. LA Rams (1/2/83)	125

MOST PUNT RETURNS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Returns
1.	Tony Leonard	vs. NO (10/17/76)	9
	Ralph McGill	at Atl. (10/29/72)	9
3.	Michael Lewis	vs. StL (11/18/07)	7
	Dana McLemore	at NO (11/25/84)	7
	Tony Leonard	at Atl. (11/6/77)	7
	Tony Leonard	vs. LA Rams (11/21/76)	7
	Ralph McGill	at Phi. (11/30/75)	7
	Ralph McGill	vs. Atl. (10/12/75)	7

BEST PUNT RETURN AVERAGE IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Avg
1.	Ted Ginn Jr.	at StL (12/26/10)	32.3
2.	Dexter Carter	vs. Min. (12/18/95)	31.5
3.	Dana McLemore	vs. LA Rams (1/2/83)	31.3
4.	Abe Woodson	at GB (10/21/62)	30.3
5.	John Taylor	vs. Was. (11/21/88)	28.3
6.	Chuck Levy	at Phi. (11/10/97)	27.3
7.	Dexter Carter	vs. Min. (10/3/93)	26.2
8.	Dana McLemore	at NYG (10/8/84)	25.8
9.	Bruce Taylor	vs. NYG (12/21/75)	25.7
10.	Freddie Solomon	vs. TB (10/26/80)	25.0

**minimum of 3 punt returns*

MOST PUNT RETURNS, Career

	Player	PR
1.	John Taylor	149
2.	Dana McLemore	142
	Bruce Taylor	142
4.	Joe Arenas	124
5.	Kermit Alexander	120
6.	Dexter Carter	117
7.	Freddie Solomon	106
8.	Ralph McGill	105
	Abe Woodson	105
10.	Hugh McElhenny	99

MOST PUNT RETURN YARDS, Career

	Player	Yards
1.	Dana McLemore	1,531
2.	John Taylor	1,517
3.	Bruce Taylor	1,323
4.	Dexter Carter	1,213
5.	Ted Ginn Jr.	1,113
6.	Ralph McGill	964
7.	Abe Woodson	949
8.	Freddie Solomon	804
9.	Kermit Alexander	782
10.	Joe Arenas	774

MOST PUNT RETURN TDs, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Dana McLemore	4
2.	Kermit Alexander	2
	Dexter Carter	2
	Ted Ginn Jr.	2
	Freddie Solomon	2
	John Taylor	2
	Abe Woodson	2

MOST PUNT RETURNS, Season

	Player	PR
1.	R.W. McQuarters (1998)	47
2.	Dana McLemore (1984)	45
3.	Michael Lewis (2007)	44
	John Taylor (1988)	44
5.	Bruce Taylor (1970)	43
6.	Ted Ginn Jr. (2011)	38
	Dexter Carter (1996)	38
	Don Griffin (1986)	38
	Dana McLemore (1985)	38
10.	Dexter Carter (1996)	36
	John Taylor (1989)	36

MOST PUNT RETURN TDs, Season

	Player	TD
1.	John Taylor (1988)	2
	Freddie Solomon (1980)	2

ALL-TIME REGULAR SEASON KICKOFF RETURNS

ALL–TIME LEADERS IN KICKOFF RETURNS (BY AVERAGE)

	Player	Years	KR	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Abe Woodson	1958–1964 (7)	166	4,873	29.4	105t	5
2.	LaMichael James	2012–2014 (3)	26	738	28.4	62	0
3.	Joe Arenas	1951–1957 (7)	139	3,798	27.3	96	1
4.	Allen Rossum	2008–2009 (2)	54	1,411	26.1	104t	1
5.	Lenny Lyles	1959–1960 (2)	42	1,091	26.0	97t	1
6.	Vic Washington	1971–1973 (3)	84	2,178	25.9	98t	1
7.	Bruce Ellington	2014–2016 (3)	50	1,279	25.6	40	0
8.	Mike Holmes	1974–1975 (2)	27	671	24.9	57	0
9.	J.D. Smith	1956–1964 (9)	36	882	24.5	39	0
10.	Amos Lawrence	1981–1982 (2)	26	627	24.1	92t	1

**minimum 25 returns*

BEST KICKOFF RETURN AVERAGE IN SINGLE SEASON

	Player	Year	KR	Yards	Avg	Lg	TD
1.	Joe Arenas	1953	16	551	(34.4)	82	0
2.	Abe Woodson	1963	29	935	(32.2)	(103t)	(3)
3.	Abe Woodson	1962	(37)	(1,157)	(31.3)	79	0
4.	Lenny Lyles	1960	17	526	30.9	(97t)	(1)
5.	Joe Arenas	1956	27	801	29.7	96	(1)
6.	Abe Woodson	1960	17	498	29.3	64	0
7.	Abe Woodson	1961	27	782	29.0	98t	(1)
8.	Vic Washington	1972	27	771	28.6	(98t)	(1)
9.	Ted Ginn Jr.	2011	29	800	27.6	102t	(1)
10.	Abe Woodson	1964	32	880	27.5	70	0

**minimum 1.25 ret/game*

(Led NFL) [Led Conference]

TOP SINGLE–GAME KICKOFF RETURN PERFORMANCES

MOST KICKOFF RETURN YARDS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Yards
1.	Abe Woodson	vs. Det. (11/11/62)	210
2.	Abe Woodson	at Det. (9/23/62)	205
3.	Lenny Lyles	vs. Bal. (12/18/60)	202
4.	Maurice Hicks	vs. SD (10/15/06)	195
5.	Allen Rossum	vs. Phi. (10/12/08)	194

MOST KICKOFF RETURNS IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Returns
1.	Maurice Hicks	vs. SD (10/15/06)	9
	Allen Rossum	vs. Phi. (10/12/08)	9
3.	Maurice Hicks	at Was. (1023/05)	8
4.	(15 times) Last: Ted Ginn Jr.	at SD (12/16/10)	7

BEST KICKOFF RETURN AVERAGE IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	Avg
1.	Lenny Lyles	vs. Bal. (12/18/60)	67.3
2.	Doug Cunningham	vs. NO (10/22/67)	53.0
3.	Abe Woodson	vs. Min. (9/29/63)	51.0
4.	Allen Rossum	vs. Arz. (11/10/08)	46.5
5.	Amos Lawrence	vs. LA Rams (11/22/81)	46.0
	Abe Woodson	vs. NYG (11/17/63)	46.0

**minimum of 3 kickoff returns*

MOST KICKOFF RETURNS FOR TOUCHDOWN IN SINGLE GAME

	Player	Game	TD
1.	(22 times) Last: **Richie James**	vs. Sea. (12/16/18)	1

MOST KICKOFF RETURNS, Career

	Player	KR
1.	Dexter Carter	217
2.	Maurice Hicks	185
3.	Abe Woodson	166
4.	Joe Arenas	139
5.	Kermit Alexander	137
6.	Ted Ginn Jr.	87
7.	Vic Washington	84
8.	Carl Monroe	76
9.	James Owens	72
10.	Paul Hofer	68
	Doug Cunningham	68

MOST KICKOFF RETURN YARDS, Career

	Player	Yards
1.	Abe Woodson	4,873
2.	Dexter Carter	4,707
3.	Maurice Hicks	4,242
4.	Joe Arenas	3,798
5.	Kermit Alexander	3,271
6.	Vic Washington	2,178
7.	Ted Ginn Jr.	2,045
8.	James Owens	1,728
9.	Carl Monroe	1,660
10.	Doug Cunningham	1,613

MOST KICKOFF RETURN TDs, Career

	Player	TD
1.	Abe Woodson	5
2.	Dexter Carter	2
	James Owens	2
	Dave Williams	2
5.	(11 times) Last: **Richie James**	1

MOST KICKOFF RETURNS, Season

	Player	KR
1.	Maurice Hicks (2007)	63
2.	Maurice Hicks (2006)	57
3.	Vinny Sutherland (2001)	50
4.	Dexter Carter (1994)	48
5.	Ted Ginn Jr. (2010)	47
	Allen Rossum (2008)	47
7.	Dexter Carter (1996)	41
	Dexter Carter (1990)	41
	James Owens (1979)	41

MOST KICKOFF RETURN TDs, Season

	Player	TD
1.	Abe Woodson (1963)	3
2.	(19x) Last: **Richie James (2018)**	1

49ERS LONGEST PLAYS

LONGEST RUNS FROM SCRIMMAGE

96t	Garrison Hearst vs. NYJ	9/6/98
90t	Colin Kaepernick vs. SD	12/20/14
89t	Hugh McElhenny at Dal. Texans	10/5/52
86t	Hugh McElhenny at GB	11/18/56
83t	Matt Breida vs. Cle.	10/7/19
82t	Hugh McElhenny vs. Dal. Texans	10/26/52
80	Wilbur Jackson vs. NO	11/27/77
80t	**Raheem Mostert at NYJ**	**9/20/20**
80t	Frank Gore vs. Sea.	9/20/09
80t	Delvin Williams vs. Was.	11/7/76
80t	J.D. Smith vs. GB	12/7/58
79t	Frank Gore vs. Sea.	9/20/09
78t	Kevan Barlow vs. Pit.	11/17/03
78t	Joe Perry vs. Dal. Texans	10/26/52
78t	Joe Perry vs. GB	12/10/50

LONGEST RUNS FROM SCRIMMAGE BY QUARTERBACK

90t	Colin Kaepernick vs. SD	12/20/14
50t	Colin Kaepernick vs. Mia.	12/9/12
50	Colin Kaepernick at StL	12/2/12
49t	Steve Young vs. Min.	10/30/88
45	Y.A. Tittle at Bal. Colts	11/24/57
44t	Blaine Gabbert at Chi.	12/6/15
42	Frankie Albert at GB	11/26/50

LONGEST PASSES

97t	Steve Young to John Taylor at Atl.	11/3/91
96t	Joe Montana to Jerry Rice at SD	11/27/88
95t	Joe Montana to John Taylor at LA Rams	12/11/89
93t	Steve DeBerg to Freddie Solomon vs. Atl.	9/28/80
92t	Joe Montana to John Taylor at LA Rams	12/11/89
89t	Tim Rattay to Brandon Lloyd vs. Dal.	9/25/05
85t	Nick Mullens to **George Kittle vs. Den**	**12/9/18**
85t	Jim Plunkett to Delvin Williams vs. Was.	11/7/76
83t	John Brodie to Dave Parks at LA Rams	10/18/64
83t	C.J. Beathard to Marquise Goodwin vs. NYG	11/12/17
82t	C.J. Beathard to **George Kittle at LAC**	**9/30/18**
82	Steve Young to Terry Kirby at Atl.	10/19/97
81t	Steve Young to Garrison Hearst vs. NO	11/22/98
81t	Elvis Grbac to Jerry Rice at Dal.	11/12/95
81t	Steve Spurrier to Ted Kwalick vs. NO.	10/22/72
80t	(8x) Last time: C. Kaepernick to Brandon Lloyd at StL	10/13/14

LONGEST PUNTS

86	Larry Barnes vs. Chi.	9/29/57
82	Andy Lee vs. NE	10/5/08
82	Tommy Davis vs. Min.	9/30/62
81	Andy Lee at TB	11/21/04
81	Tommy Davis at StL Cardinals	11/25/62
80	Jim Miller at Den.	9/19/82
79	Tommy Davis at Chi.	10/14/62
76	Larry Barnes vs. Bal.	12/8/57
75	Verl Lillywhite vs. Cle.	9/30/57
74	Andy Lee vs. Bal.	10/7/07
74	Tommy Davis vs. Chi.	10/30/51
72	Jon Kilgore vs. Chi.	12/6/69

LONGEST PUNT RETURNS

95t	John Taylor vs. Was.	11/21/88
94t	Hugh McElhenny at Chi.	10/19/52
93t	Dana McLemore vs. LA Rams	1/2/83
89t	Jimmy Williams vs. Sea.	12/1/02
88t	Manfred Moore vs. Atl.	11/24/74
85t	Abe Woodson at GB	10/21/62
83t	Dana McLemore vs. Chi.	12/14/87
80t	Abe Woodson vs. Det.	11/5/61
79t	Dana McLemore at NYG	10/8/84
78t	Ted Ginn Jr. at StL	12/26/10
78t	Dexter Carter vs. Min.	12/18/95

LONGEST KICKOFF RETURNS

105t	Abe Woodson at LA Rams	11/8/59
104t	Allen Rossum at Arz.	11/11/08
103t	Abe Woodson vs. Min.	9/15/63
102t	Ted Ginn Jr. vs. Sea.	9/11/11
101t	Terry Kirby vs. Car.	11/16/97
101t	James Owens at Det.	11/2/80
99t	Abe Woodson at NYG	11/17/63
98t	Dexter Carter vs. NO	12/1/91
98t	Vic Washington at Atl.	10/29/72
98t	Abe Woodson at Det.	10/1/61
97t	**Richie James vs. Sea.**	**12/16/18**
97t	Vic Washington vs. Dal.	12/23/72
97t	Lenny Lyles vs. Bal.	12/18/60
96t	Dexter Carter at Was.	11/6/94

LONGEST INTERCEPTION RETURNS

97t	Zack Bronson at Chi.	10/28/01
94t	Alvin Randolph vs. Chi.	12/11/66
93t	Deion Sanders at Atl.	10/16/94
90t	Deion Sanders at SD	12/11/94
89t	NaVorro Bowman vs. Atl.	12/23/13
88t	Tory Nixon at GB	10/26/86
86t	Patrick Willis at Sea.	9/14/08
86t	Eric Davis vs. StL	11/26/95
83t	Ronnie Lott at KC	12/26/82
82	Carlton Williamson vs. Sea.	11/25/85
77t	Tom Holmoe vs. StL Cardinals	11/9/86
74t	Deion Sanders vs. NO	9/25/94
73	Eric Reid at Sea.	12/14/14

LONGEST FUMBLE RETURNS

99t	Don Griffin vs. Chi.	12/23/91
96t	Lee Woodall vs. Buf.	12/3/95
80t	Dwaine Carpenter at Chi.	10/31/04
80t	Dwight Hicks at Was.	10/4/81
78t	Derrick Johnson at Arz. (Mexico City)	10/2/05
75t	Clark Miller at Det.	11/14/65
73t	Skip Vanderbundt at Dal.	11/23/72
71t	Darnell Walker at Min.	10/24/99
71	Gerard Williams vs. NO	9/23/79
66t	Windlan Hall vs. Phi.	12/2/73
65t	Keena Turner at Was.	12/1/85
63t	Tommy Hart at StL Cardinals	10/24/71

LONGEST FIELD GOALS

63	David Akers at GB	9/9/12
56	Phil Dawson at Arz	12/29/13
56	Joe Nedney at StL	12/24/05
56	Mike Cofer at Atl.	10/14/90
55	Phil Dawson vs. KC	10/5/14
55	Phil Dawson at NO	11/17/13
55	David Akers at Det.	10/16/11
55	David Akers vs. Dal.	9/18/11
54	Phil Dawson at StL	10/14/14
54	David Akers at Sea.	12/23/12
54	Steve Mike–Mayer at LA Rams	11/9/75
54	Bruce Gossett vs. NO	10/21/73
53	**(10x) Last time: Robbie Gould vs. NYG**	**11/12/18**

LONGEST RETURNS OF FIELD GOAL ATTEMPT

92t	Bruce Taylor at NO	12/13/70
74t	Nate Clements at NYG	10/19/08
62t	Johnny Jackson at Dal.	10/15/89
58t	Bruce Taylor at NO	9/26/71
41t	Donald Strickland vs. Phi.	10/12/08
38	Kermit Alexander vs. Phi.	11/20/66
30	Kermit Alexander at Phi.	9/20/64

NFL RECORDS BY 49ERS

Most Consecutive Seasons Leading NFL in Passer Rating
4 Steve Young (1991–94)

Highest Single–Game Completion Percentage (min. 15 atts.)
94.7 Alex Smith at Arz. (10/29/12)

Most Seasons Leading League in Passing Touchdowns
4 Steve Young (1992–94, '98); tied with Johnny Unitas (1957–60), Len Dawson (1962–63, 1965–66), Brett Favre (1995–97, 2003), Drew Brees (2008–09, 2011–12), Peyton Manning (2000, '04, '06, '13)

Most Receiving Touchdowns in a Game
5 Jerry Rice at Atl. (10/14/90); tied with Chi. Bob Shaw vs. Bal. (10/2/50) and SD Kellen Winslow vs. Oak. (11/22/81)

Most Interceptions in a Game
4 Dave Baker vs. LA Rams (12/4/60); tied with 12 others

Most Interceptions Returned for a Touchdown in a Game
2 Ken Norton vs. StL (10/22/95); tied with 26 others

Most Seasons Leading League in Kickoff Return Avg.
3 Abe Woodson (1959, 1962–63)

Most Points in a Season, No Touchdowns, Single Season
166 David Akers (2011)

Most Field Goals Attempted in a Season
52 David Akers (2011)

Most Field Goals Made in a Season
44 David Akers (2011)

Most Receiving Yards by a Tight End in a Season
1,377 George Kittle (2018)

49ERS NFL LEADERS

RUSHING CHAMPIONS (Yards)

1953	Joe Perry	1,018
1954	Joe Perry	1,049

PASSING CHAMPIONS (Passer Rating)

1970	John Brodie	93.9
1987	Joe Montana	102.1
1989	Joe Montana	112.4
1991	Steve Young	101.8
1992	Steve Young	107.0
1993	Steve Young	101.5
1994	Steve Young	112.8
1996	Steve Young	97.2
1997	Steve Young	104.7

RECEIVING CHAMPIONS (Receptions)

1954	Billy Wilson	60
1956	Billy Wilson	60
1957	Billy Wilson	52
1965	Dave Parks	80
1968	Clifton McNeil	71
1982	Dwight Clark	60
1985	Roger Craig	92
1990	Jerry Rice	100
1996	Jerry Rice	108

49ERS NFL LEADERS

RECEIVING CHAMPIONS (Touchdowns)

1953	Billy Wilson	10
1972	Gene Washington	12
1986	Jerry Rice	16
1987	Jerry Rice	22
1989	Jerry Rice	17
1990	Jerry Rice	13
1991	Jerry Rice	14
1993	Jerry Rice	16
1994	Jerry Rice	13
2001	Terrell Owens	16
2002	Terrell Owens	13
2009	Vernon Davis #	13

RECEIVING CHAMPIONS (Yards)

1970	Gene Washington	1,100
1986	Jerry Rice	1,570
1989	Jerry Rice	1,483
1990	Jerry Rice	1,502
1993	Jerry Rice	1,503
1994	Jerry Rice	1,499
1995	Jerry Rice	1,848
2018	**George Kittle (TE)**	**1,377**

PUNTING CHAMPIONS (Average)

1962	Tommy Davis	45.6
2011	Andy Lee	50.9

SCORING

1952	Gordie Soltau	94
1953	Gordie Soltau	114
1984	Ray Wersching	131
1987	Jerry Rice	138
1989	Mike Cofer	136
2011	David Akers	166*

KICKOFF RETURNS (Average)

1953	Joe Arenas	34.4
1959	Abe Woodson	29.4
1962	Abe Woodson	31.3
1963	Abe Woodson	32.2

FIELD GOALS MADE

1960	Tommy Davis	19
2011	David Akers	44*
2017	**Robbie Gould**	**39**

PUNT RETURNS (Yards)

1960	Abe Woodson	174
1988	John Taylor	556

INTERCEPTIONS

1960	Dave Baker	10
1986	Ronnie Lott	10
2003	Tony Parrish	9#

*NFL Record #Shared NFL Lead

ROOKIE SEASON RECORDS

RUSHING ATTEMPTS

No	Att	Player	Year
1.	191	Vic Washington	1971
2.	189	Ken Willard	1965
3.	174	Wilbur Jackson	1974
4.	171	Earl Cooper	1980
5.	129	John H. Johnson	1954
6.	127	Frank Gore	2005
7.	125	Kevan Barlow	2001
8.	109	Don Lisbon	1963
9.	105	Matt Breida	2017
10.	98	Hugh McElhenny	1952

RUSHING YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	811	Vic Washington	1971
2.	778	Ken Willard	1965
3.	725	Roger Craig	1983
4.	720	Earl Cooper	1980
5.	705	Wilbur Jackson	1974
6.	684	Hugh McElhenny	1952
7.	681	John H. Johnson	1954
8.	608	Frank Gore	2005
9.	512	Kevan Barlow	2001
10.	509	Billy Kilmer	1961

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	10	Billy Kilmer	1961
2.	9	John H. Johnson	1954
3.	8	Roger Craig	1983
4.	6	Hugh McElhenny	1952
	6	William Floyd	1994
6.	5	Ken Willard	1965
	5	Dicky Moegle	1955
8.	4	Carlos Hyde	2014
	4	Kevan Barlow	2001
10.	**3**	**Deebo Samuel (WR)**	**2019**
	3	C.J. Beathard (QB)	2017
	3	Frank Gore	2005
	3	Earl Cooper	1980
	3	Delvin Williams	1974
	3	Vic Washington	1971
	3	J.D. Smith	1958

RECEPTIONS

No	Rec	Player	Year
1.	83	Earl Cooper (RB)	1980
2.	**60**	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**2020**
3.	**57**	**Deebo Samuel**	**2019**
4.	51	Gene Washington	1969
5.	49	Jerry Rice	1985
6.	48	Michael Crabtree	2009
	48	Roger Craig (RB)	1983
8.	**43**	**George Kittle (TE)**	**2017**
	43	Trent Taylor	2017
10.	40	Eric Johnson (TE)	2001

RECEIVING YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	927	Jerry Rice	1985
2.	**802**	**Deebo Samuel**	**2019**
3.	**748**	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**2020**
4.	711	Gene Washington	1969
5.	703	Dave Parks	1964
6.	625	Michael Crabtree	2009
7.	567	Earl Cooper (RB)	1980
8.	520	Terrell Owens	1996
9.	517	J.J. Stokes	1995
10.	**515**	**George Kittle (TE)**	**2017**

RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	8	Dave Parks	1964
2.	**5**	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**2020**
	5	Dante Pettis	2018
	5	Jimmy Thomas	1969
	5	R.C. Owens	1957
5.	4	Terrell Owens	1996
	4	J.J. Stokes	1995
	4	Roger Craig	1983
	4	Earl Cooper	1980
	4	Vic Washington	1971
	4	Ken Willard	1965
	4	Carroll Hardy	1955

PASSES ATTEMPTED

No	Att	Player	Year
1.	224	C.J. Beathard	2017
2.	184	Tom Owen	1974
3.	165	Alex Smith	2005
4.	78	Earl Morrall	1956
5.	53	George Mira	1964
6.	52	Jim Druckenmiller	1997
6.	51	Dennis Morrison	1974
8.	50	Steve Spurrier	1967
9.	48	Scott Bull	1976
10.	34	Billy Kilmer	1961

PASSES COMPLETED

No	Comp	Player	Year
1.	123	C.J. Beathard	2017
2.	88	Tom Owen	1974
3.	84	Alex Smith	2005
4.	38	Earl Morrall	1956
5.	23	Steve Spurrier	1967
	23	George Mira	1964
7.	21	Jim Druckenmiller	1997
	21	Scott Bull	1976
	21	Dennis Morrison	1975
10.	19	Billy Kilmer	1961

PASSING YARDS

No	Yds	Players	Year
1.	1,430	C.J. Beathard	2017
2.	1,327	Tom Owen	1974
3.	875	Alex Smith	2005
4.	621	Earl Morrall	1956
5.	331	George Mira	1964
6.	286	Billy Kilmer	1961
7.	252	Scott Bull	1976
8.	239	Jim Druckenmiller	1997
9.	227	Dennis Morrison	1974
10.	211	Steve Spurrier	1967

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	10	Tom Owen	1974
2.	4	C.J. Beathard	2017
3.	2	Scott Bull	1976
	2	George Mira	1964
	2	John Brodie	1957
6.	1	Alex Smith	2005
	1	Jim Druckenmiller	1997
	1	Bill Musgrave	1991
	1	Joe Montana	1979
	1	Dennis Morrison	1974
	1	Bob Waters	1960
	1	Earl Morrall	1956

PASSES INTERCEPTED

No	INT	Player	YEAR
1.	15	Tom Owen	1974
2.	11	Alex Smith	2005
3.	7	Steve Spurrier	1967
4.	6	C.J. Beathard	2017
	6	Earl Morrall	1956
6.	5	Dennis Morrison	1974
	5	George Mira	1964
8.	4	Jim Druckenmiller	1997
	4	Scott Bull	1976
	4	Billy Kilmer	1961

PUNT RETURNS

No	Ret	Player	Year
1.	47	R.W. McQuarters	1998
2.	38	Don Griffin	1986
3.	35	Anthony Leonard	1976
4.	30	Trent Taylor	2017
5.	23	Bruce Ellington	2014
6.	22	Brandon Williams	2006
	22	Ralph McGill	1972
8.	21	Vinny Sutherland	2001
	21	Joe Arenas	1951

PUNT RETURN YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	406	R.W. McQuarters	1998
2.	377	Don Griffin	1986
3.	293	Anthony Leonard	1976
4.	284	Hugh McElhenny	1952
5.	281	Trent Taylor	2017
6.	272	Joe Arenas	1951
7.	219	Ralph McGill	1972

PUNT RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	1	Otis Amey	2005
	1	R.W. McQuarters	1998
	1	Don Griffin	1986
	1	Dana McLemore	1982
	1	Anthony Leonard	1976
	1	Manfred Moore	1974
	1	Hugh McElhenny	1952

PUNTING ATTEMPTS

No	Att	Player	Year
1.	96	Andy Lee	2004
2.	91	Bradley Pinion	2015
3.	79	Tom Wittum	1973
4.	78	Barry Helton	1988
5.	77	Jim Miller	1980

PUNTING YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	3,990	Andy Lee	2004
2.	3,969	Bradley Pinion	2015
3.	3,455	Tom Wittum	1973
4.	3,152	Jim Miller	1980
5.	3,069	Barry Helton	1988

PUNTING AVERAGE*

No	Avg	Player	Year
1.	45.7	Tommy Davis	1959
2.	**44.9**	**Mitch Wishnowsky**	**2019**
3.	43.7	Tom Wittum	1973
4.	43.6	Bradley Pinion	2015
5.	41.6	Andy Lee	2004

**minimum of 20 punts*

ROOKIE SEASON RECORDS (CONT.)

KICKOFF RETURNS

No	Ret	Player	Year
1.	50	Vinny Sutherland	2001
2.	41	James Owens	1979
3.	41	Dexter Carter	1971
4.	33	Vic Washington	1990
5.	26	Rasheed Marshall	2005
	26	Anthony Leonard	1976
7.	24	Bruce Ellington	2014

KICKOFF RETURN YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	1,140	Vinny Sutherland	2001
2.	1,002	James Owens	1979
3.	858	Vic Washington	1971
4.	783	Dexter Carter	1990
5.	614	Bruce Ellington	2014
6.	**580**	**Richie James**	**2018**

KICKOFF RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	**1**	**Richie James**	**2018**
	1	Amos Lawrence	1981
	1	James Owens	1979
	1	Dave Williams	1977

INTERCEPTIONS

No	INT	Player	Year
1.	7	Ronnie Lott	1981
2.	6	Tim McKyer	1986
	6	Dicky Moegle	1955
4.	5	Kermit Alexander	1963
	5	Jimmy Johnson	1961
	5	Dave Baker	1959
	5	Fred Bruney	1953
	5	Jim Powers	1950

INTERCEPTION RETURN YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Year
1.	138	Alvin Randolph	1967
2.	117	Ronnie Lott	1981
3.	116	Jimmy Johnson	1961
4.	81	Todd Shell	1984
5.	77	Rex Berry	1951

INTERCEPTION RETURN TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	3	Ronnie Lott	1981
2.	**1**	**Javon Kinlaw**	**2020**
	1	**Dontae Johnson**	**2014**
	1	Tim McKyer	1986
	1	Bill Belk	1968
	1	Alvin Randolph	1966

TOTAL TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Year
1.	12	Roger Craig	1983
2.	10	Billy Kilmer	1961
	10	Hugh McElhenny	1952
4.	9	Earl Cooper	1980
	9	Ken Willard	1965
	9	John H. Johnson	1954

TOTAL POINTS

No	Pts	Player	Year
1.	105	Doug Brien	1994
2.	103	Wade Richey	1997
3.	72	Roger Craig	1983

SACKS

No	Sacks	Player	Year
1.	14.0	LB Aldon Smith	2011
2.	12.0	LB Charles Haley	1986
3.	10.5	DT Dana Stubblefield	1993
4.	**9.0**	**DL Nick Bosa**	**2019**
5.	6.5	DE Andre Carter	2001
6.	6.0	DT DeForest Buckner	2016
	6.0	LB Aaron Lynch	2014

ROOKIE SINGLE GAME RECORDS

RUSHING YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	170	Hugh McElhenny	10/5/52	Dal.
2.	134	Amp Lee	12/13/92	Min.
3.	131	Billy Kilmer	10/8/61	LA Rams
4.	125	Vic Washington	11/28/71	NYJ
5.	124	Dexter Carter	12/17/90	LA Rams
	124	John H. Johnson	11/20/54	Pit.
7.	118	Jimmy Thomas	12/6/69	Chi.
8.	108	Frank Gore	1/1/06	Hou.
9.	100	Ricky Watters	9/6/92	NYG

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	4	Billy Kilmer	10/15/61	Min.
2.	3	Ricky Watters	10/18/92	Atl.
	3	Roger Craig	12/4/83	TB

RECEPTIONS

No	REC	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	**10**	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**12/13/20**	**Was.**
	10	Jerry Rice	12/9/85	LA Rams
	10	Earl Cooper	9/7/80	NO
3.	9	Earl Cooper	9/14/80	StL
4.	8	Eight times, most recently		
		Brandon Aiyuk	**11/1/20**	**Sea.**

RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	2	11x (last: Dante Pettis)	12/9/18	Den.

RECEIVING YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	241	Jerry Rice	12/9/85	LA Rams
2.	146	Dave Parks	10/25/64	Min.
3.	**134**	**Deebo Samuel**	**11/17/19**	**Arz.**
4.	131	Aaron Thomas	11/19/61	Chi.
5.	129	Dante Pettis	12/2/18	at Sea.

TOTAL TOUCHDOWNS

No	TD	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	4	Billy Kilmer	10/15/61	Min.
2.	3	Roger Craig	12/4/83	TB

PUNT RETURN YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	141	Anthony Leonard	10/17/76	NO
2.	133	Bruce Taylor	11/15/70	Houston
3.	125	Dana McLemore	1/2/83	LA Rams
4.	122	Hugh McElhenny	10/19/52	Chi.
5.	109	Ralph McGill	10/29/72	Atl.

KICKOFF RETURN YARDS

No	Yds	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	179	Vic Washington	11/14/71	NO
2.	172	LaMichael James	12/23/12	Sea.
3.	163	Jamal Willis	10/15/95	Ind.
4.	159	D.J. Reed Jr.	9/16/18	Det.
	159	Doug Cunningham	10/22/67	NO
6.	147	Dana McLemore	12/2/82	LA Rams
	147	Vinny Sutherland	11/18/01	Car.

INTERCEPTIONS

No	INT	Player	Date	Opp.
1.	2	Chris Borland	11/16/14	NYG
	2	Tim McKyer	12/19/86	LA Rams
	2	Ronnie Lott	10/11/81	Det.
	2	Carlton Williamson	11/29/81	NYG
	2	Ricky Churchman	11/30/80	NE
	2	Jimmy Johnson	11/5/61	Det.
	2	Dicky Moegle	10/23/55	Chi.
	2	Rex Berry	10/21/51	Chi.
	2	Jimmy Powers	10/22/50	Det.

ROOKIE HIGHLIGHTS

LONG RUNS FROM SCRIMMAGE

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	89t	Hugh McElhenny	at Dal.	10/5/52
2.	82t	Hugh McElhenny	vs. Dal.	10/26/52
3.	75t	Jimmy Thomas	vs. Chi.	12/6/69
4.	74t	Dexter Carter	at Atl.	10/14/90
5.	72t	Frank Gore	at Was.	10/23/05

LONG RECEPTIONS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	83t	Dave Parks	at LA Rams	10/18/64
2.	80t	Dave Parks	vs. Min.	10/25/64
3.	79t	Dave Parks	at Min.	11/8/64
4.	78	Keith Henderson	vs. Atl.	11/12/89
	78t	Carroll Hardy	vs. Det.	10/30/55

LONG PUNTS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	86	Larry Barnes	vs. Chi.	9/29/57
2.	81	Andy Lee	at TB	11/21/04
3.	71	Tommy Davis	vs. Chi.	10/25/59
4.	70	Chad Stanley	at Jac.	9/12/99
5.	**65**	**Mitch Wishnowsky**	**vs. Sea.**	**11/11/19**
	65	Jim Miller	at NYJ	9/21/80

LONG PUNT RETURNS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	94t	Hugh McElhenny	vs. Chi.	10/16/52
2.	93t	Dana McLemore	vs. LA Rams	1/2/83
3.	88t	Manfred Moore	vs. Atl.	11/24/74
4.	76t	Don Griffin	vs. Atl.	11/23/86
	76	Bruce Taylor	at Chi.	11/8/70

LONG KICKOFF RETURNS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	**97t**	**Richie James**	**vs. Sea.**	**12/16/18**
2.	94	Doug Cunningham	vs. NO	11/22/67
3.	92t	Amos Lawrence	vs. LA Rams	11/22/81
4.	90	D.J. Reed Jr.	vs. Det.	9/16/18
5.	85t	James Owens	vs. Den.	11/18/79

100–YARD RUSHING GAMES

	Player	Game	Yards (Att–Lg–TD)
1.	Hugh McElhenny	at Dal. Texans (10/5/52)	170 (7–89t–1)
2.	Joe Perry**	vs. Bal. (10/29/50)	142 (16–49–0)
3.	Joe Perry**	vs. GB (12/10/50)	135 (9–78t–1)
4.	Amp Lee	at Min. (12/13/92)	134 (23–43–1)
5.	Billy Kilmer	vs. LA Rams (10/8/61)	131 (19–26–2)
6.	Vic Washington	at NYJ (11/28/71)	125 (27–20–1)
7.	Dexter Carter	at LA Rams (12/17/90)	124 (13–74t–1)
	John Henry Johnson	at Pit. (11/20/54)	124 (17–24t–1)
9.	Jimmy Thomas	vs. Chi. (12/6/69)	118 (6–75t–1)
10.	Billy Kilmer	at Min. (10/15/61)	115 (20–21–4)
11.	Ken Willard	at Min. (11/28/65)	113 (18–21–0)
12.	Frank Gore	vs. Hou. (1/1/06)	108 (25–28–0)
	Joe Arenas	vs. GB (12/9/51)	108 (12–14–2)
14.	Billy Kilmer	at Det. (10/1/61)	103 (16–31–2)
	Hugh McElhenny	at Chi. (10/19/52)	103 (12–25t–2)

***Player who was in his 1st NFL season, but had previous pro experience.*

LONG RETUNS OF FIELD GOAL ATTEMPTS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	92t	Bruce Taylor	at NO	12/13/70
2.	62t	Johnny Jackson	at Dal.	10/15/89

LONG COMPLETIONS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	83t	C.J. Beathard	vs. NYG	11/12/17
2.	79t	George Mira	at Min.	11/8/64
3.	68t	Tom Owen	at Chi.	11/17/74
4.	53t	Tom Owen	vs. Atl.	11/24/74
5.	50t	Harry Sydney	vs. NO	11/15/87
	50	Jim Powers	at Det.	10/8/50

LONG INTERCEPTION RETURNS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	94t	Alvin Randolph	vs. Chi.	12/11/66
2.	70t	Jason Webster	vs. Atl.	11/19/00
	70	Bruce Taylor	vs. GB	11/1/70
4.	63	Jimmy Johnson	vs. GB	12/10/61
5.	53t	Todd Shell	at NO	11/25/84

LONG FIELD GOALS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	54	Steve Mike–Mayer	at LA Rams	11/9/75
2.	52	Jose Cortez	vs. StL	9/23/01
3.	49	Jose Cortez	at NYJ	10/1/01
4.	48	Chase McLaughlin	vs. GB	11/24/19
	48	Doug Brien	at NO	11/28/94
6.	47	Chase McLaughlin	vs. Sea.	11/11/19
	47	Doug Brien	at LA Rams	9/18/94

LONG FUMBLE RETURNS

No	Yds	Player	Opp.	Date
1.	75t	Derrick Johnson	at Arz.	10/2/05
2.	34	Eric Davis	at LA Rams	12/17/90
3.	18	Ed Pine	at Min.	12/2/62
4.	17	Jamie Winborn	at NO	1/6/02
5.	16	Jack Capple	vs. Min.	10/24/65

100–YARD RECEIVING GAMES

	Player	Game	Yards (Rec–TD)
1.	Jerry Rice	vs. LA Rams (12/9/85)	241 (10–1)
2.	Dave Parks	vs. Min. (10/25/64)	146 (5–1)
3.	**Deebo Samuel**	**vs. Arz. (11/17/10)**	**134 (8–0)**
4.	Aaron Thomas	vs. Chi. (11/19/61)	131 (3–2)
5.	Dante Pettis	at Sea. (12/2/18)	129 (5–2)
6.	Clyde Conner	vs. GB (12/8/56)	125 (7–1)
7.	Monty Stickles	vs. NYG (9/25/60)	123 (8–0)
8.	Carroll Hardy	at GB (11/20/55)	122 (4–2)
9.	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**vs. Was. (12/13/20)**	**119 (10–0)**
10.	Bernie Casey	vs. GB (12/10/61)	118 (5–1)
	Hugh McElhenny	at NYG (11/9/52)	118 (4–0)
12.	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**at NE (10/25/20)**	**115 (6–0)**
13.	**Deebo Samuel**	**vs. Sea. (11/11/19)**	**112 (8–0)**
	Dave Parks	at LA Rams (10/18/64)	112 (3–1)
15.	Jerry Rice	vs. Dal. (12/22/85)	111 (7–0)
16.	Terrell Owens	vs. Car. (12/8/96)	110 (5–1)
17.	J.J. Stokes	at Atl. (12/24/95)	106 (5–1)
	Alyn Beals**	vs. LA Rams (10/1/50)	106 (7–0)
19.	**Deebo Samuel**	**at Sea. (12/29/19)**	**102 (5–0)**
	Don Lisbon	vs. Dal. (11/10/63)	102 (5–2)
	Alex Loyd	at Cle. (11/12/50)	102 (5–0)
22.	**George Kittle**	**at LAR (12/31/17)**	**100 (4–0)**

***Player who was in his 1st NFL season, but had previous pro experience.*

CAREER 100/300 YARD GAMES

CAREER 100–YARD RUSHING GAMES

No	Player	W–L–T
39	Frank Gore	31–8–0
20	Joe Perry	16–4–0
16	Garrison Hearst	15–1–0
14	Roger Craig	11–3–0
12	Hugh McElhenny	8–4–0
12	J.D. Smith	7–5–0
10	Wendell Tyler	8–2–0
10	Delvin Williams	5–5–0
9	Ricky Watters	8–1–0
9	Ken Willard	5–3–1
6	Charlie Garner	3–3–0
5	Matt Breida	3–2–0
5	Kevan Barlow	2–3–0
4	Billy Kilmer	4–0–0
4	Carlos Hyde	1–3–0
3	Wilbur Jackson	2–1–0
3	Paul Hofer	0–3–0
2	Joe Cribbs	2–0–0
2	Larry Schreiber	2–0–0
2	Maurice Hicks	2–0–0
2	C.R. Roberts	2–0–0
2	**Jeff Wilson Jr.**	**2–0–0**
2	Colin Kaepernick	0–2–0
1	Joe Arenas	1–0–0
1	Dexter Carter	1–0–0
1	Tevin Coleman	1–0–0
1	Lenvil Elliott	1–0–0
1	Keith Henderson	1–0–0
1	John Henry Johnson	1–0–0
1	Terry Kirby	1–0–0
1	Amp Lee	1–0–0
1	Gary Lewis	1–0–0
1	Verl Lillywhite	1–0–0
1	Lawrence Phillips	1–0–0
1	Jimmy Thomas	1–0–0
1	Vic Washington	1–0–0
1	Brian Westbrook	1–0–0
1	Alfred Morris	0–1–0
1	**Raheem Mostert**	**0–1–0**
1	O.J. Simpson	0–1–0
1	Steve Young	0–1–0
211		**153–57–1**

CAREER 300–YARD PASSING GAMES

No	Player	W–L–T
35	Joe Montana	26–9–0
28	Steve Young	21–7–0
14	Jeff Garcia	5–9–0
6	John Brodie	4–1–1
6	Colin Kaepernick	4–2–0
5	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**5–0–0**
5	Y.A. Tittle	4–1–0
5	Steve DeBerg	0–5–0
4	Nick Mullens	2–2–0
3	Elvis Grbac	2–1–0
3	Alex Smith	1–2–0
2	Steve Bono	2–0–0
2	Blaine Gabbert	1–1–0
2	Jeff Kemp	1–1–0
2	Brian Hoyer	0–2–0
2	Steve Spurrier	0–2–0
1	Troy Smith	1–0–0
1	Tim Rattay	1–0–0
1	George Mira	1–0–0
1	Tom Owen	1–0–0
1	J.T. O'Sullivan	1–0–0
1	C. J. Beathard	0–1–0
1	Shaun Hill	0–1–0
1	Mike Moroski	0–1–0
132		**83–48–1**

CAREER 100–YARD RECEIVING GAMES

No	Player	W–L–T
66	Jerry Rice	46–20–0
25	Terrell Owens	15–10–0
17	Gene Washington	11–5–1
16	Dwight Clark	11–5–0
12	John Taylor	10–2–0
11	Freddie Solomon	5–6–0
11	Dave Parks	2–8–1
10	**George Kittle**	**6–4–0**
10	Gordie Soltau	5–5–0
10	Billy Wilson	4–4–2
10	Bernie Casey	3–5–2
9	Vernon Davis	4–5–0
8	R.C. Owens	5–2–1
8	Michael Crabtree	5–3–0
5	Anquan Boldin	4–1–0
5	Monty Stickles	3–2–0
4	**Deebo Samuel**	**3–1–0**
4	Marquise Goodwin	2–2–0
4	Paul Hofer	2–2–0
4	J.J. Stokes	2–2–0
3	Garrison Hearst	2–1–0
3	Dick Witcher	2–1–0
3	Clifton McNeil	1–2–0
3	Ted Kwalick	0–2–1
3	Brandon Lloyd	0–3–0
2	Clyde Conner	2–0–0
2	Roger Craig	2–0–0
2	Emmanuel Sanders	2–0–0
2	**Brandon Aiyuk**	**1–1–0**
2	J.R. Boone	1–1–0
2	Isaac Bruce	1–1–0
2	Antonio Bryant	1–1–0
2	John David Crow	1–1–0
2	Eric Johnson	1–1–0
2	Hugh McElhenny	1–1–0
1	Danny Abramowicz	1–0–0
1	Jimmy Johnson	1–0–0
1	Brent Jones	1–0–0
1	Don Lisbon	1–0–0
1	Willie McGee	1–0–0
1	Jeff Moore	1–0–0
1	Renaldo Nehemiah	1–0–0
1	Ted Popson	1–0–0
1	Tom Rathman	1–0–0
1	J.D. Smith	1–0–0
1	Aaron Thomas	1–0–0
1	Ricky Watters	1–0–0
1	Mike Wilson	1–0–0
1	Arnaz Battle	0–1–0
1	Alyn Beals	0–1–0
1	Jimmy Cason	0–1–0
1	Curtis Conway	0–1–0
1	Pierre Garçon	0–1–0
1	Charlie Garner	0–1–0
1	Frank Gore	0–1–0
1	Carroll Hardy	0–1–0
1	**Richie James**	**0–1–0**
1	Jeremy Kerley	0–1–0
1	Alex Loyd	0–1–0
1	Joshua Morgan	0–1–0
1	Quinton Patton	0–1–0
1	Dante Pettis	0–1–0
1	Joe Perry	0–1–0
1	Mike Sherrard	0–1–0
1	Torrey Smith	0–1–0
1	Jimmy Thomas	0–1–0
1	Cedrick Wilson	0–1–0
316		**179–129–8**

49ERS 300-YARD PASSERS

316 – Nick Mullens vs. Buf.	12/7/20 (26 of 39)
343 – Nick Mullens at NYG	9/27/20 (25 of 36)
349 – Jimmy Garoppolo at NO	**12/8/19 (26 of 35)**
424 – Jimmy Garoppolo vs. Arz.	**11/17/19 (34 of 45)**
317 – Jimmy Garoppolo at Arz.	**10/31/19 (28 of 37)**
332 – Nick Mullens vs. Den.	12/9/18 (20 of 33)
414 – Nick Mullens at Sea.	12/2/18 (30 of 48)
349 – C.J. Beathard vs. Arz.	10/7/18 (34 of 54)
381 – Jimmy Garoppolo vs. Ten.	**12/17/17 (31 0f 43)**
334 – Jimmy Garoppolo at Hou.	**12/10/17 (20 0f 33)**
353 – Brian Hoyer at Ind.	10/8/17 (29 of 46)
332 – Brian Hoyer vs. LAR	9/21/17 (23 of 37)
398 – Colin Kaepernick vs. NO	11/6/16 (24 of 39)
354 – Blaine Gabbert vs. StL	1/3/16 (28 of 44)
318 – Blaine Gabbert vs. Arz.	11/29/15 (25 of 36)
340 – Colin Kaepernick vs. Bal.	10/18/15 (16 of 27)
335 – Colin Kaepernick at Pit.	9/20/15 (33 of 46)
343 – Colin Kaepernick at StL	10/13/14 (22 of 36)
310 – Colin Kaepernick at Arz.	12/29/13 (21 of 34)
412 – Colin Kaepernick vs. GB	9/8/13 (27 of 39)
303 – Alex Smith vs. Buf.	10/7/12 (18 of 24)
356 – Troy Smith vs. StL	11/14/10 (17 of 28)
309 – Alex Smith vs. Phi.	10/10/10 (25 of 39)
310 – Alex Smith at Sea.	12/6/09 (27 of 45)
303 – Shaun Hill at Dal.	11/23/08 (21 of 33)
321 – J.T. O'Sullivan at Sea.	9/14/08 (20 of 32)
417 – Tim Rattay vs. Arz.	10/10/04 (38 of 57)
344 – Jeff Garcia at Cin.	12/14/03 (26 of 33)
337 – Jeff Garcia at SD	11/17/02 (25 of 43)
305 – Jeff Garcia at Car.	11/18/01 (34 of 54)
332 – Jeff Garcia at Atl.	10/14/01 (27 of 41)
335 – Jeff Garcia vs. Atl.	9/9/01 (26 of 40)
402 – Jeff Garcia vs. Chi.	12/17/00 (36 of 44)
305 – Jeff Garcia vs. NO	12/10/00 (25 of 38)
323 – Jeff Garcia at SD	12/3/00 (18 of 32)
307 – Jeff Garcia at Car.	10/22/00 (25 of 39)
336 – Jeff Garcia at GB	10/15/00 (27 of 42)
336 – Jeff Garcia vs. Oak.	10/8/00 (28 of 41)
373 – Jeff Garcia at Atl.	1/3/00 (26 of 34)
303 – Jeff Garcia at Car.	12/18/99 (29 of 46)
437 – Jeff Garcia at Cin.	12/5/99 (33 of 49)
342 – Steve Young at Atl.	11/15/98 (21 of 40)
331 – Steve Young vs. Ind.	10/18/98 (33 of 51)
309 – Steve Young at NO	10/11/98 (21 of 40)
329 – Steve Young at Buf.	10/4/98 (23 of 38)
387 – Steve Young vs. Atl.	9/27/98 (28 of 39)
303 – Steve Young at Was.	9/14/98 (21 of 32)
363 – Steve Young vs. NYJ	9/6/98 (26 of 46)
336 – Steve Young vs. Atl.	9/21/97 (17 of 24)
393 – Steve Young vs. Car.	12/8/96 (27 of 41)
316 – Steve Young at Atl.	12/24/95 (31 of 44)
425 – Steve Young vs. Min.	12/18/95 (30 of 49)
336 – Steve Young at Car.	12/10/95 (31 of 45)
382 – Elvis Grbac at Mia.	11/20/95 (31 of 41)
305 – Elvis Grbac at Dal.	11/12/95 (20 of 30)
327 – Elvis Grbac at Car.	11/5/95 (26 of 37)
348 – Steve Young at Det.	9/25/95 (27 of 44)
331 – Steve Young vs. Atl.	9/10/95 (27 of 40)
350 – Steve Young vs. Den.	12/17/94 (20 of 29)
304 – Steve Young at SD	12/11/94 (25 of 32)
325 – Steve Young vs. LA Rams	11/20/94 (30 of 44)
355 – Steve Young at LA Rams	9/18/94 (31 of 39)
308 – Steve Young vs. LA Raiders	9/5/94 (19 of 32)
354 – Steve Young at Det.	12/19/93 (17 of 23)
462 – Steve Young at LA Rams	11/28/93 (26 of 32)
311 – Steve Young at TB	11/14/93 (23 of 29)
342 – Steve Young vs. Phi.	11/29/92 (24 of 35)
399 – Steve Young vs. Atl.	10/18/92 (18 of 28)
449 – Steve Young vs. Buf.	9/13/92 (26 of 37)
338 – Steve Young vs. Chi.	12/23/91 (21 of 32)
347 – Steve Bono vs. NO	12/1/91 (27 of 41)
306 – Steve Bono at LA Rams	11/25/91 (18 of 33)
348 – Steve Young vs. Atl.	10/13/91 (22 of 38)
348 – Steve Young vs. SD	9/8/91 (26 of 36)
411 – Joe Montana at GB	11/4/90 (25 of 40)
476 – Joe Montana at Atl.	10/14/90 (32 of 49)
318 – Joe Montana at Hou.	10/7/90 (20 of 28)
398 – Joe Montana vs. Atl.	9/23/90 (24 of 36)
390 – Joe Montana vs. Was.	9/16/90 (29 of 44)
458 – Joe Montana at LA Rams	12/11/89 (30 of 42)
325 – Joe Montana vs. GB	11/19/89 (30 of 42)
302 – Joe Montana vs. NO	11/6/89 (22 of 31)
428 – Joe Montana at Phi.	9/24/89 (25 of 34)
302 – Joe Montana at Sea.	9/25/88 (20 of 29)
343 – Joe Montana vs. Atl.	9/18/88 (32 of 48)
308 – Joe Montana at GB	12/6/87 (26 of 35)
342 – Joe Montana vs. Cle.	11/29/87 (23 of 31)
304 – Joe Montana at TB	11/22/87 (29 of 45)
334 – Joe Montana vs. StL Cardinals	10/18/87 (31 of 39)
316 – Joe Montana at Pit.	9/13/87 (34 of 49)
441 – Joe Montana at Was.	11/17/86 (33 of 60)
332 – Mike Moroski at NO	11/2/86 (23 of 40)
359 – Jeff Kemp vs. Min.	10/12/86 (23 of 42)
332 – Jeff Kemp vs NO	9/21/86 (29 of 44)
356 – Joe Montana at TB	9/7/86 (32 of 46)
322 – Joe Montana vs. Dal.	12/22/85 (24 of 34)
354 – Joe Montana at NO	12/15/85 (25 of 38)
328 – Joe Montana vs. LA Rams	12/9/85 (26 of 36)
306 – Joe Montana at LA Rams	10/27/85 (22 of 30)
429 – Joe Montana at Atl.	10/6/85 (37 of 57)
301 – Joe Montana vs. Cin.	11/4/84 (27 of 42)
365 – Joe Montana at LA Rams	10/28/84 (21 of 31)
353 – Joe Montana at Hou.	10/21/84 (25 of 35)
381 – Joe Montana vs. Was.	9/10/84 (24 of 40)
358 – Joe Montana at LA Rams	10/23/83 (25 of 39)
316 – Joe Montana vs. LA Rams	10/9/83 (28 of 42)
341 – Joe Montana at StL Cardinals	9/18/83 (20 of 32)
356 – Joe Montana vs. SD	12/11/82 (31 of 46)
305 – Joe Montana vs. LA Rams	12/2/82 (26 of 37)
334 – Joe Montana vs. NO	11/28/82 (27 of 42)
408 – Joe Montana at StL Cardinals	11/21/82 (26 of 39)
336 – Joe Montana at Den.	9/19/82 (26 of 37)
345 – Steve DeBerg at Atl.	9/28/80 (32 of 51)
345 – Steve DeBerg vs. Atl.	12/16/79 (29 of 54)
348 – Steve DeBerg vs. Chi. Bears	10/28/79 (26 of 41)
306 – Steve DeBerg vs. Sea.	10/7/79 (31 of 40)
321 – Steve DeBerg at Hou.	9/17/78 (20 to 32)
316 – Tom Owen at Chi.	11/17/74 (15 of 26)
320 – Steve Spurrier vs. Min.	10/14/73 (31 of 48)
315 – Steve Spurrier at GB	11/5/72 (19 of 37)
317 – John Brodie at Chi.	11/8/70 (21 of 28)
356 – John Brodie at LAN	11/9/69 (25 of 42)
301 – John Brodie vs. GB	12/1/68 (24 of 39)
324 – George Mira at Atl.	12/10/67 (20 of 34)
327 – John Brodie at Chi.	11/13/66 (28 of 54)
328 – John Brodie vs. GB	12/10/61 (19 of 29)
322 – John Brodie vs. Chi.	11/19/61 (11 of 19)
316 – Y.A. Tittle at Det.	10/16/55 (15 of 31)
371 – Y.A. Tittle vs. Bal.	12/13/53 (29 of 44)
301 – Y.A. Tittle at LA Rams	11/8/53 (18 of 32)
304 – Y.A. Tittle vs. Chi.	11/1/53 (25 of 43)
341 – Y.A. Tittle at NYG	11/9/52 (16 of 29)

49ERS 100-YARD RUSHERS SINCE 1970

183 – Jeff Wilson Jr. at Arz.	**12/26/20 (22 carries)**
112 – Jeff Wilson Jr. at NE	**10/25/20 (17 carries)**
146 – Raheem Mostert at Bal.	**12/1/19 (19 carries)**
105 – Tevin Coleman vs. Car.	10/27/19 (11 carries)
114 – Matt Breida vs. Cle.	10/7/19 (11 carries)
121 – Matt Breida at Cin.	9/15/19 (12 carries)
111 – Alfred Morris at LAR	12/30/18 (16 carries)
106 – Matt Breida at TB	11/25/18 (14 carries)
101 – Matt Breida vs. NYG	11/12/18 (17 carries)
138 – Matt Breida vs. Det.	9/16/18 (11 carries)
124 – Carlos Hyde at Sea.	9/17/17 (15 carries)
193 – Carlos Hyde vs. NYJ	12/11/16 (17 carries)
113 – Colin Kaepernick at Mia.	11/27/16 (10 carries)
102 – Carlos Hyde at Sea.	9/25/16 (21 carries)
168 – Carlos Hyde vs. Min.	9/14/15 (26 carries)
144 – Frank Gore vs. Arz.	12/28/14 (25 carries)
158 – Frank Gore vs. SD	12/20/14 (26 carries)
151 – Colin Kaepernick vs. SD	12/20/14 (7 carries)
107 – Frank Gore vs. KC	10/5/14 (18 carries)
119 – Frank Gore vs. Phi.	9/28/14 (24 carries)
110 – Frank Gore vs. Sea.	12/8/13 (17 carries)
101 – Frank Gore vs. Arz.	10/13/13 (25 carries)
153 – Frank Gore at StL	9/26/13 (20 carries)
131 – Frank Gore vs. Sea.	10/18/12 (16 carries)
106 – Frank Gore vs. Buf.	10/7/12 (14 carries)
112 – Frank Gore at GB	9/9/12 (16 carries)
107 – Frank Gore at Was.	11/6/11 (19 carries)
134 – Frank Gore vs. Cle.	10/30/11 (31 carries)
141 – Frank Gore at Det.	10/16/11 (15 carries)
125 – Frank Gore vs. TB	10/9/11 (20 carries)
127 – Frank Gore at Phi.	10/2/11 (15 carries)
136 – Brian Westbrook at Arz.	11/29/10 (23 carries)
118 – Frank Gore vs. Den. (London)	10/31/10 (29 carries)
102 – Frank Gore at Car.	10/24/10 (19 carries)
149 – Frank Gore vs. Oak.	10/17/10 (25 carries)
112 – Frank Gore vs. NO	9/20/10 (20 carries)
107 – Frank Gore at StL	1/3/10 (23 carries)
107 – Frank Gore at Phi.	12/20/09 (16 carries)
167 – Frank Gore vs. Arz.	12/14/09 (25 carries)
104 – Frank Gore vs. Chi.	11/12/09 (25 carries)
207 – Frank Gore vs. Sea.	9/20/09 (16 carries)
106 – Frank Gore vs. StL	11/16/08 (18 carries)
101 – Frank Gore vs. Phi.	10/12/08 (19 carries)
130 – Frank Gore vs. Det.	9/21/08 (27 carries)
138 – Frank Gore vs. Cin.	12/15/07 (29 carries)
116 – Frank Gore at Arz.	11/25/07 (21 carries)
153 – Frank Gore at Den.	12/31/06 (31 carries)
144 – Frank Gore at Sea.	12/14/06 (29 carries)
130 – Frank Gore vs. GB	12/10/06 (18 carries)
134 – Frank Gore at StL	11/26/06 (21 carries)
212 – Frank Gore vs. Sea.	11/19/06 (24 carries)
159 – Frank Gore at Det.	11/12/06 (22 carries)
111 – Frank Gore at Chi.	10/29/06 (12 carries)
134 – Frank Gore vs. Oak.	10/8/06 (27 carries)
127 – Frank Gore vs. StL	9/17/06 (29 carries)
108 – Frank Gore vs. Hou	1/1/06 (25 carries)
109 – Maurice Hicks at StL	12/24/05 (10 carries)
101 – Kevan Barlow vs. TB	10/30/05 (26 carries)
103 – Kevan Barlow at NE	1/2/05 (25 carries)
139 – Maurice Hicks at Arz.	12/12/04 (34 carries)
114 – Kevan Barlow at NO	9/19/04 (20 carries)
154 – Kevan Barlow at Phi.	12/21/03 (30 carries)
154 – Kevan Barlow vs. Arz.	12/7/03 (18 carries)
117 – Garrison Hearst vs. TB	10/19/03 (20 carries)
124 – Garrison Hearst vs. Sea.	12/1/02 (31 carries)
116 – Garrison Hearst vs. StL	10/6/02 (13 carries)
103 – Garrison Hearst vs. Mia.	12/16/01 (26 carries)
124 – Garrison Hearst vs. Buf	12/2/01 (25 carries)
106 – Garrison Hearst at Ind.	11/25/01 (12 carries)
145 – Garrison Hearst vs. NO	11/11/01 (17 carries)
102 – Charlie Garner vs. KC	11/12/00 (25 carries)
109 – Charlie Garner vs. Oak.	10/8/00 (24 carries)
201 – Charlie Garner at Dal.	9/24/00 (36 carries)
129 – Charlie Garner vs. Was	12/26/99 (16 carries)
107 – Charlie Garner vs. Atl.	12/12/99 (26 carries)
166 – Charlie Garner vs. Pit	11/7/99 (20 carries)
102 – Lawrence Phillips at Arz.	9/27/99 (9 carries)
107 – Garrison Hearst at NE	12/20/98 (27 carries)
198 – Garrison Hearst vs. Det.	12/14/98 (24 carries)
139 – Garrison Hearst at Car.	12/6/98 (20 carries)
166 – Garrison Hearst vs. NYG	11/30/98 (20 carries)
138 – Garrison Hearst at Was	9/14/98 (22 carries)
187 – Garrison Hearst vs. NYJ	9/6/98 (20 carries)
104 – Garrison Hearst vs. Dal.	11/2/97 (22 carries)
105 – Garrison Hearst at Atl.	10/19/97 (18 carries)
141 – Garrison Hearst at Car.	9/29/97 (28 carries)
105 – Terry Kirby at Atl.	12/2/96 (12 carries)
105 – Ricky Watters at NO	11/28/94 (26 carries)
103 – Ricky Watters vs. TB	10/23/94 (14 carries)
116 – Ricky Watters vs. NO	11/22/93 (16 carries)
135 – Ricky Watters at NO	9/26/93 (25 carries)
112 – Ricky Watters vs. Atl.	9/19/93 (19 carries)
134 – Amp Lee at Min.	12/13/92 (23 carries)
163 – Ricky Watters at LA Rams	11/22/92 (26 carries)
115 – Ricky Watters vs. NO	11/15/92 (21 carries)
104 – Ricky Watters at NE	10/11/92 (19 carries)
100 – Ricky Watters at NYG	9/6/92 (13 carries)
104 – Keith Henderson vs. Det.	10/20/91 (20 carries)
102 – Steve Young vs. NO	12/23/90 (8 carries)
124 – Dexter Carter at LA Rams	12/17/90 (13 carries)
105 – Roger Craig vs. Buf.	12/17/89 (25 carries)
109 – Roger Craig vs. Atl.	11/12/89 (17 carries)
131 – Roger Craig at Ind.	9/10/89 (24 carries)
115 – Roger Craig vs. NO	12/11/88 (22 carries)
103 – Roger Craig at Atl.	12/4/88 (23 carries)
162 – Roger Craig at Phx.	11/6/88 (26 carries)
190 – Roger Craig at LA Rams	10/16/88 (22 carries)
143 – Roger Craig vs. Den.	10/9/88 (26 carries)
107 – Roger Craig at Sea.	9/25/88 (21 carries)
110 – Roger Craig at NYG	9/11/88 (18 carries)

49ERS 100-YARD RUSHERS SINCE 1970 (CONT.)

104 – Roger Craig at LA Rams	11/1/87 (23 carries)
107 – Joe Cribbs at NE	12/14/86 (23 carries)
101 – Roger Craig vs. Atl.	11/23/86 (17 carries)
105 – Joe Cribbs vs. StL	11/9/86 (21 carries)
111 – Wendell Tyler vs. KC	11/17/85 (16 carries)
117 – Roger Craig at Den.	11/11/85 (22 carries)
107 – Wendell Tyler at Det.	10/20/85 (16 carries)
107 – Roger Craig vs. Atl.	9/15/85 (11 carries)
125 – Wendell Tyler at Min.	9/8/85 (21 carries)
117 – Wendell Tyler at NO	11/25/84 (15 carries)
108 – Wendell Tyler at Hou.	10/21/84 (23 carries)
101 – Wendell Tyler at NYG	10/8/84 (14 carries)
113 – Wendell Tyler at Phi.	9/23/84 (21 carries)
102 – Wendell Tyler vs. TB	12/4/83 (16 carries)
108 – Wendell Tyler at StL	9/18/83 (18 carries)
107 – Wendell Tyler at Min.	9/8/83 (19 carries)
125 – Lenvil Elliot vs. NO	12/7/80 (20 carries)
147 – Paul Hofer at NO	11/11/79 (17 carries)
106 – Paul Hofer at Oak.	11/4/79 (13 carries)
104 – Paul Hofer vs. LA Rams	11/19/78 (20 carries)
108 – O.J. Simpson vs. Chi.	9/10/78 (27 carries)
107 – Delvin Williams at Min.	12/4/77 (27 carries)
190 – Wilbur Jackson vs. NO	11/27/77 (16 carries)
123 – Wilbur Jackson at NO	11/13/77 (22 carries)
110 – Delvin Williams at NO	11/13/77 (25 carries)
106 – Delvin Williams vs. Det.	10/23/77 (27 carries)
104 – Delvin Williams at SD	12/5/76 (26 carries)
156 – Wilbur Jackson vs. Min.	11/29/76 (30 carries)
153 – Delvin Williams vs. Min.	11/29/76 (20 carries)
180 – Delvin Williams vs. Was.	11/7/76 (23 carries)
194 – Delvin Williams at StL Cardinals	10/31/76 (34 carries)
121 – Delvin Williams at GB	9/12/76 (25 carries)
104 – Delvin Williams at Atl.	12/14/75 (10 carries)
106 – Delvin Williams vs. Chi.	11/16/75 (12 carries)
106 – Larry Schreiber vs. Atl.	11/24/74 (20 carries)
117 – Ken Willard vs. Phi.	12/2/73 (15 carries)
104 – Larry Schreiber vs. Bal.	11/12/72 (17 carries)
125 – Vic Washington at NYJ	11/28/71 (27 carries)
129 – Ken Willard at NYJ	11/28/71 (15 carries)
105 – Ken Willard vs. Cle.	9/27/70 (22 carries)

49ERS 100-YARD RECEIVERS SINCE 1970

119 – Brandon Aiyuk vs. Was.	**12/13/20 (10 catches)**
133 – Deebo Samuel at LAR	**11/29/20 (11 catches)**
184 – Richie James vs. GB	**11/5/20 (9 catches)**
115 – Brandon Aiyuk at NE	**10/25/20 (6 catches)**
109 – George Kittle vs. LAR	**10/18/20 (7 catches)**
183 – George Kittle vs. Phi.	**10/4/20 (15 catches)**
102 – Deebo Samuel at Sea.	**12/29/19 (5 catches)**
134 – George Kittle vs. Atl.	**12/15/19 (13 catches)**
157 – Emmanuel Sanders at NO	12/8/19 (7 catches)
129 – George Kittle vs. GB	**11/24/19 (6 catches)**
134 – Deebo Samuel vs. Arz.	**11/17/19 (8 catches)**
112 – Deebo Samuel vs. Sea.	**11/11/19 (8 catches)**
112 – Emmanuel Sanders at Arz.	10/31/19 (7 catches)
103 – George Kittle at LAR	**10/13/19 (8 catches)**
149 – George Kittle at LAR	**12/30/18 (9 catches)**
210 – George Kittle vs. Den.	**12/9/18 (7 catches)**
129 – Dante Pettis at Sea.	12/2/18 (5 catches)
108 – George Kittle vs. Oak.	**11/1/18 (4 catches)**
126 – Marquise Goodwin at GB	10/15/18 (4 catches)
125 – George Kittle at LA Chargers	**9/30/18 (6 catches)**
100 – George Kittle at LA Rams	**12/31/17 (4 catches)**
114 – Marquise Goodwin vs. Ten.	12/17/17 (10 catches)
106 – Marquise Goodwin at Hou.	12/10/17 (6 catches)
116 – Marquise Goodwin at Ind.	10/8/17 (5 catches)
142 – Pierre Garçon vs. LAR	9/21/17 (7 catches)
106 – Quinton Patton vs. NO	11/6/16 (6 catches)
102 – Jeremy Kerley vs. Arz.	10/6/16 (8 catches)
102 – Anquan Boldin vs. Bal.	10/18/15 (5 catches)
107 – Anquan Boldin at NYG	10/11/15 (8 catches)
120 – Torrey Smith at Pit.	9/20/15 (6 catches)
137 – Anquan Boldin vs. Was.	11/23/14 (9 catches)
103 – Stevie Johnson at Arz.	9/21/14 (9 catches)
149 – Anquan Boldin at Arz.	12/29/13 (9 catches)
102 – Michael Crabtree vs. Atl.	12/23/13 (5 catches)
180 – Vernon Davis vs. Arz.	10/13/13 (8 catches)
208 – Anquan Boldin vs. GB	9/8/13 (13 catches)
172 – Michael Crabtree vs. Arz.	12/30/12 (8 catches)
107 – Michael Crabtree at NE	12/16/12 (7 catches)
101 – Michael Crabtree at StL	12/2/12 (7 catches)
113 – Michael Crabtree vs. Buf.	10/7/12 (6 catches)
106 – Vernon Davis vs. Buf.	10/7/12 (5 catches)
118 – Vernon Davis at StL	1/1/12 (8 catches)
120 – Michael Crabtree vs. Arz.	11/20/11 (7 catches)
114 – Vernon Davis at Cin.	9/25/11 (8 catches)
122 – Michael Crabtree at StL	12/26/10 (6 catches)
106 – Joshua Morgan at SD	12/16/10 (7 catches)
126 – Vernon Davis at GB	12/5/10 (4 catches)
105 – Michael Crabtree vs. Phi.	10/10/10 (9 catches)
104 – Vernon Davis vs. Phi.	10/10/10 (5 catches)
102 – Frank Gore at KC	9/26/10 (9 catches)
111 – Vernon Davis at Sea.	12/6/09 (6 catches)
108 – Vernon Davis at GB	11/22/09 (6 catches)
102 – Vernon Davis vs. Ten.	11/8/09 (10 catches)
125 – Isaac Bruce at Dal.	11/23/08 (8 catches)
120 – Arnaz Battle at NO	9/28/08 (7 catches)
153 – Isaac Bruce at Sea.	9/14/08 (4 catches)
131 – Antonio Bryant vs. StL	9/17/06 (4 catches)
114 – Antonio Bryant at Arz.	9/10/06 (4 catches)
119 – Brandon Lloyd vs. Sea.	11/20/05 (7 catches)
102 – Brandon Lloyd at Arz.	10/2/05 (7 catches)
142 – Brandon Lloyd vs. Dal.	9/25/05 (4 catches)
101 – Cedrick Wilson vs. Car.	11/14/04 (5 catches)
162 – Eric Johnson vs. Arz.	10/10/04 (13 catches)
113 – Eric Johnson vs. StL	10/3/04 (10 catches)
112 – Curtis Conway at NO	9/19/04 (8 catches)
127 – Terrell Owens at Cin.	12/14/03 (8 catches)
155 – Terrell Owens vs. Pit.	11/17/03 (8 catches)
152 – Terrell Owens vs. TB	10/19/03 (6 catches)
112 – Terrell Owens vs. Chi.	9/7/03 (7 catches)
123 – Terrell Owens at Dal.	12/8/02 (12 catches)
166 – Terrell Owens vs. Phi.	11/25/02 (13 catches)
171 – Terrell Owens at SD	11/17/02 (7 catches)
191 – Terrell Owens at Oak.	11/3/02 (12 catches)
132 – Terrell Owens vs. Arz.	10/27/02 (8 catches)
116 – Terrell Owens at NO	1/6/02 (2 catches)
103 – Terrell Owens at Ind.	11/25/01 (6 catches)
100 – Terrell Owens vs. NO	11/11/01 (8 catches)
125 – Terrell Owens vs. Det.	11/4/01 (9 catches)
105 – Garrison Hearst at Chi.	10/28/01 (4 catches)
183 – Terrell Owens at Atl.	10/14/01 (9 catches)
118 – Terrell Owens vs. Car.	10/7/01 (8 catches)
283 – Terrell Owens vs. Chi.	12/17/00 (20 catches)
129 – Terrell Owens vs. NO	12/10/00 (6 catches)
115 – Terrell Owens vs. StL	10/29/00 (8 catches)
112 – Charlie Garner at Car.	10/22/00 (7 catches)
176 – Terrell Owens vs. Oak.	10/8/00 (12 catches)
108 – Terrell Owens at StL	9/17/00 (6 catches)
143 – Jerry Rice at Atl.	1/3/00 (6 catches)
130 – J.J. Stokes at Atl.	1/3/00 (5 catches)
157 – Jerry Rice at Cin.	12/5/99 (9 catches)
145 – Terrell Owens at Cin.	12/5/99 (9 catches)
120 – Terrell Owens vs. StL	11/21/99 (6 catches)
115 – Jerry Rice at NE	12/20/98 (5 catches)
140 – Terrell Owens vs. NYG	11/30/98 (5 catches)
103 – Garrison Hearst vs. NO	11/22/98 (4 catches)
169 – Jerry Rice at Atl.	11/15/98 (10 catches)
120 – Terrell Owens at StL.	10/25/98 (5 catches)
110 – J.J. Stokes vs. Ind.	10/18/98 (9 catches)
162 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	9/27/98 (8 catches)
105 – Garrison Hearst vs. Atl.	9/27/98 (4 catches)
111 – J.J. Stokes vs. NYJ	9/6/98 (7 catches)
129 – Jerry Rice vs. Car.	12/8/96 (10 catches)
110 – Terrell Owens vs. Car.	12/8/96 (5 catches)
116 – Ted Popson vs. Cin.	10/20/96 (8 catches)
108 – Jerry Rice at StL	10/6/96 (7 catches)
127 – Jerry Rice at Car.	9/22/96 (10 catches)
153 – Jerry Rice at Atl.	12/24/95 (12 catches)
106 – J.J. Stokes at Atl.	12/24/95 (5 catches)
289 – Jerry Rice vs. Min.	12/18/95 (14 catches)
121 – Jerry Rice at Car.	12/10/95 (6 catches)
149 – Jerry Rice at Mia.	11/20/95 (8 catches)
161 – Jerry Rice at Dal.	11/12/95 (5 catches)
111 – Jerry Rice vs. Car.	11/5/95 (8 catches)
108 – Jerry Rice vs. NO	10/29/95 (8 catches)
181 – Jerry Rice at Det.	9/25/95 (11 catches)
167 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	9/10/95 (11 catches)
121 – Jerry Rice vs. Den.	12/17/94 (9 catches)
106 – Rickey Watters vs. Den.	12/17/94 (4 catches)
144 – Jerry Rice at SD	12/11/94 (12 catches)
165 – Jerry Rice vs. LA Rams	11/20/94 (16 catches)
147 – Jerry Rice at LA Rams	9/18/94 (11 catches)
103 – John Taylor at LA Rams	9/18/94 (7 catches)
169 – Jerry Rice vs. LA Raiders	9/5/94 (7 catches)
132 – Jerry Rice at Det.	12/19/93 (4 catches)

49ERS 100-YARD RECEIVERS SINCE 1970 (CONT.)

115 – John Taylor at Det.	12/19/93 (4 catches)
105 – Jerry Rice at Atl.	12/11/93 (6 catches)
166 – Jerry Rice at LA Rams	11/28/93 (8 catches)
150 – John Taylor at LA Rams	11/28/93 (6 catches)
172 – Jerry Rice at TB	11/14/93 (8 catches)
155 – Jerry Rice vs. Phx.	10/24/93 (9 catches)
118 – Jerry Rice vs. TB	12/19/92 (7 catches)
133 – Jerry Rice vs. Phi.	11/29/92 (8 catches)
183 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	10/18/92 (7 catches)
159 – Mike Sherrard vs. Buf.	9/13/92 (6 catches)
112 – John Taylor vs. Buf.	9/13/92 (5 catches)
125 – Jerry Rice vs. Chi.	12/23/91 (5 catches)
113 – John Taylor at Sea.	12/8/91 (7 catches)
154 – Jerry Rice vs. NO	12/1/91 (9 catches)
121 – John Taylor at LA Rams	11/25/91 (6 catches)
127 – John Taylor at Atl.	11/3/91 (2 catches)
138 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	10/13/91 (7 catches)
150 – Jerry Rice vs. SD	9/8/91 (9 catches)
118 – Jerry Rice at Min.	12/30/90 (9 catches)
104 – Jerry Rice at LA Rams	12/17/90 (5 catches)
101 – Jerry Rice at Cin.	12/9/90 (8 catches)
147 – Jerry Rice at Dal.	11/11/90 (12 catches)
187 – Jerry Rice at GB	11/4/90 (6 catches)
225 – Jerry Rice at Atl.	10/14/90 (13 catches)
132 – John Taylor at Hou.	10/7/90 (4 catches)
171 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	9/23/90 (8 catches)
125 – Brent Jones vs. Atl.	9/23/90 (5 catches)
160 – John Taylor vs. Was.	9/16/90 (8 catches)
101 – Jerry Rice vs. Chi.	12/24/89 (4 catches)
286 – John Taylor at LA Rams	12/11/89 (11 catches)
162 – John Taylor at Atl.	12/3/89 (5 catches)
117 – Jerry Rice vs. NYG	11/27/89 (7 catches)
106 – Jerry Rice vs. GB	11/19/89 (9 catches)
112 – Jerry Rice vs. NE	10/22/89 (6 catches)
103 – Tom Rathman vs. NE	10/22/89 (11 catches)
149 – Jerry Rice at NO	10/8/89 (7 catches)
136 – John Taylor at Phi.	9/24/89 (6 catches)
164 – Jerry Rice at Phi.	9/24/89 (6 catches)
122 – Jerry Rice at TB	9/17/89 (8 catches)
163 – Jerry Rice at Ind.	9/10/89 (6 catches)
171 – Jerry Rice at SD	11/27/88 (6 catches)
105 – Jerry Rice vs. Was.	11/21/88 (3 catches)
163 – Jerry Rice at Sea.	9/25/88 (6 catches)
163 – Jerry Rice vs. Atl.	9/18/88 (8 catches)
109 – Jerry Rice at NYG	9/11/88 (4 catches)
126 – Jerry Rice vs. Cle.	11/29/87 (7 catches)
103 – Jerry Rice at TB	11/22/87 7 catches)
108 – Jerry Rice vs. NO	11/15/87 (4 catches)
104 – Mike Wilson at Cin.	9/20/87 (7 catches)
106 – Jerry Rice at Pit.	9/13/87 (8 catches)
204 – Jerry Rice at Was.	11/17/86 (12 catches)
156 – Jerry Rice vs. StL	11/9/86 (4 catches)
144 – Jerry Rice vs. Min.	10/12/86 (7 catches)
172 – Jerry Rice vs. Ind.	10/5/86 (6 catches)
120 – Jerry Rice vs. NO	9/21/86 (7 catches)
100 – Dwight Clark vs. NO	9/21/86 (7 catches)
157 – Jerry Rice at LA Rams	9/14/86 (6 catches)
100 – Dwight Clark at TB	9/7/86 (7 catches)
111 – Jerry Rice vs. Dal.	12/22/85 (7 catches)
241 – Jerry Rice vs. LA Rams	12/9/85 (10 catches)
132 – Roger Craig at LA Rams	10/27/85 (6 catches)
167 – Roger Craig at Atl.	10/6/85 (12 catches)
125 – Renaldo Nehemiah vs. Min.	12/8/84 (6 catches)
105 – Freddie Solomon at Cle.	11/11/84 (5 catches)
124 – Dwight Clark vs. Cin.	11/4/84 (7 catches)
127 – Dwight Clark at Hou.	10/21/84 (5 catches)
105 – Dwight Clark vs. Was.	9/10/84 (5 catches)
103 – Freddie Solomon vs. Atl.	9/25/83 (6 catches)
121 – Freddie Solomon at StL	9/18/83 (3 catches)
104 – Dwight Clark at KC	12/26/82 (4 catches)
101 – Dwight Clark vs. Atl.	12/19/82 (8 catches)
135 – Dwight Clark vs. SD	12/11/82 (12 catches)
102 – Jeff Moore at LA Rams	12/2/82 (8 catches)
103 – Dwight Clark at StL	11/21/82 (6 catches)
127 – Dwight Clark at Den.	9/19/82 (9 catches)
109 – Freddie Solomon at Den.	9/19/82 (4 catches)
106 – Dwight Clark vs. LA Raiders	9/12/82 (6 catches)
124 – Freddie Solomon at LA Rams	11/22/81 (5 catches)
128 – Dwight Clark vs. Atl.	11/8/81 (7 catches)
109 – Dwight Clark vs. LA Rams	10/25/81 (8 catches)
135 – Dwight Clark vs. Dal.	10/11/81 (4 catches)
113 – Freddie Solomon vs. Chi.	9/13/81 (5 catches)
155 – Dwight Clark vs. NO	12/7/80 (6 catches)
104 – Freddie Solomon at GB	11/9/80 (5 catches)
148 – Dwight Clark at Dal.	10/12/80 (8 catches)
132 – Freddie Solomon vs. Atl.	9/28/80 (5 catches)
135 – Paul Hofer vs. StL	9/14/80 (9 catches)
114 – Paul Hofer at NO	9/7/80 (7 catches)
130 – Paul Hofer at Atl.	12/16/79 (9 catches)
104 – Paul Hofer at NYG	10/14/79 (9 catches)
144 – Freddie Solomon vs. NO	9/23/79 (8 catches)
107 – Freddie Solomon at Min.	9/2/79 (4 catches)
110 – Freddie Solomon at Hou.	9/17/78 (3 catches)
130 – Gene Washington vs. Dal.	12/12/77 (5 catches)
112 – Gene Washington vs. Det.	10/23/77 (4 catches)
104 – Willie McGee at Sea.	9/26/76 (5 catches)
101 – Gene Washington at Phi.	11/30/75 (6 catches)
144 – Gene Washington at LA Rams	11/9/75 (5 catches)
121 – Gene Washington at Dal.	11/10/74 (7 catches)
133 – Ted Kwalick at Det.	11/4/73 (8 catches)
101 – Dan Abramowicz vs. NO	10/21/73 (4 catches)
118 – Gene Washington vs. Min.	10/14/73 (8 catches)
119 – Gene Washington vs. Min.	12/16/72 (4 catches)
114 – Gene Washington at Chi.	11/19/72 (4 catches)
164 – Gene Washington at GB	11/5/72 (6 catches)
102 – Ted Kwalick vs. NO	10/22/72 (2 catches)
126 – Ted Kwalick vs. NYG	10/15/72 (6 catches)
140 – Gene Washington vs. SD	9/17/72 (8 catches)
160 – Gene Washington vs. NE	10/31/71 (5 catches)
112 – Gene Washington at Phi.	10/3/71 (3 catches)
131 – Gene Washington at NO	12/13/70 (5 catches)
115 – Gene Washington vs. Atl.	12/6/70 (3 catches)
119 – Gene Washington at Chi.	11/8/70 (5 catches)
126 – Gene Washington vs. NO	10/18/70 (4 catches)
145 – Gene Washington at LA Rams	10/11/70 (7 catches)

ALL-TIME RETURNS FOR TOUCHDOWNS

ALL–TIME INTERCEPTION RETURNS FOR TDs

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
11/29/20	**Kinlaw, Javon**	**27**	**at LAR**
12/21/19	**Warner, Fred**	**46**	**vs. LAR**
9/8/19	Witherspoon, Ahkello	25	at TB
9/8/19	Sherman, Richard	31	at TB
9/30/18	Exum Jr., Antone	32	at LAC
12/24/17	Johnnson, Dontae	50	vs. Jax.
12/6/15	**Ward, Jimmie**	**29**	**at Chi.**
12/20/14	Bethea, Antoine	49	vs. SD
10/13/14	Johnson, Dontae	20	at StL
12/23/13	Bowman, NaVorro	89	vs. Atl.
10/6/13	Brock, Tramaine	18	vs. Hou.
11/25/12	Whitner, Donte	42	at NO
11/25/12	Brooks, Ahmad	50	at NO
10/9/11	Rogers, Carlos	31	vs. TB
1/2/11	Brown, Tarell	62	vs. Arz.
12/12/10	Goldson, Dashon	39	vs. Sea.
10/24/10	McDonald, Ray	31	at Car.
10/4/09	Willis, Patrick	23	vs. StL
9/14/08	Willis, Patrick	86	at Sea.
12/31/06	Harris, Walt	28	at Den.
1/1/06	Adams, Mike	40	vs. Hou.
11/27/05	Spencer, Shawntae	61	at Ten.
9/25/05	Parrish, Tony	34	vs. Dal.
9/7/03	Plummer, Ahmed	68	vs. Chi.
10/6/02	Webster, Jason	37	vs. StL
11/25/01	Bronson, Zack	48	at Ind.
10/28/01	Bronson, Zack	97	at Chi.
12/3/00	Montgomery, Monty	46	at SD
11/19/00	Webster, Jason	70	vs. Atl.
10/17/99	Walker, Darnell	27	vs. Car.
9/19/99	Shulters, Lance	64	at NO
1/3/98	Norton, Ken Jr.	23	vs. Min.*
12/15/97	Hanks, Merton	55	vs. Den.
9/29/96	Pope, Marquez	55	vs. Atl.
11/26/95	Davis, Eric	86	vs. StL
10/22/95	Norton, Ken Jr.	35	at StL
10/22/95	Norton, Ken Jr.	21	at StL
9/10/95	McDonald, Tim	13	vs. Atl.
9/3/95	McDonald, Tim	52	at NO
1/15/95	Davis, Eric	44	vs. Dal.*
12/11/94	Sanders, Deion	90	at SD
11/6/94	McDonald, Tim	73	at Was.
10/16/94	Sanders, Deion	93	at Atl.
9/25/94	Sanders, Deion	74	vs. NO
11/22/93	Hanks, Merton	67	vs. NO
10/31/93	McGruder, Michael	31	vs. LA Rams
10/3/93	Davis, Eric	41	vs. Min.
9/6/92	Johnson, John	56	at NYG
1/12/91	Carter, Michael	61	vs. Was.*
1/6/90	Lott, Ronnie	58	vs. Min.*
1/9/88	Fuller, Jeff	48	vs. Min.*
11/9/86	Holmoe, Tom	78	vs. StL Cardinals
10/26/86	Nixon, Tory	88	at GB
10/26/86	Lott, Ronnie	55	at GB
10/5/86	McKyer, Tim	21	vs. Ind.
9/28/86	Holmoe, Tom	66	at Mia.
10/13/85	Williamson, Carlton	43	vs. Chi.
12/2/84	McLemore, Dana	54	at Atl.
11/25/84	Shell, Todd	53	at NO
12/19/83	Wright, Eric	48	vs. Dal.
10/16/83	Hicks, Dwight	62	at NO
9/18/83	Collier, Tim	32	at StL Cardinals
9/18/83	Hicks, Dwight	40	at StL Cardinals
9/8/83	Wright, Eric	60	at Min.
12/26/82	Lott, Ronnie	83	at KC
1/3/82	Lott, Ronnie	20	vs. NYG*
11/22/81	Lott, Ronnie	25	at LA Rams
10/11/81	Lott, Ronnie	41	vs. Dal.
10/4/81	Hicks, Dwight	32	at Was.
9/27/81	Lott, Ronnie	26	vs. NO
10/1/78	Leonard, Anthony	30	vs. Cin.
10/19/75	Allen, Nate	37	vs. NO
12/15/74	Wilcox, Dave	21	vs. NO
11/23/72	Vanderbundt, Skip	21	at Dal.
10/29/72	Vanderbundt, Skip	37	at Atl.
10/1/72	Simpson, Mike	32	at NO
12/20/70	Johnson, Jimmy	36	at Oak.
9/27/70	Phillips, Mel	35	vs. Cle.
10/26/69	Woitt, Johnny	57	at Bal.
11/24/68	Belk, Bill	6	at Pit.
11/24/68	Alexander, Kermit	66	at Pit.
9/15/68	Hindman, Stan	25	at Bal. Colts
12/11/66	Randolph, Alvin	94	vs. Chi.
11/24/66	Dowdle, Mike	27	at Det.
10/16/66	Johnson, Jimmy	35	at Atl.
11/22/59	Mertens, Jerry	30	at Bal. Colts
11/30/58	Hazeltine, Matt	13	at Bal. Colts
10/27/57	Herchman, Bill	54	vs. Chi.
12/8/56	Moegle, Dick	32	vs. GB
10/16/55	Berry, Rex	44	at Det.
10/17/54	Brown, Hardy	41	at Chi.
9/26/54	Berry, Rex	34	vs. Was.
12/6/53	Berry, Rex	29	vs. GB
10/12/52	Burke, Don	35	at Det.
10/14/51	Cason, Jim	65	at Pit.
11/5/50	Livingston, Howie	35	at LA Rams

* – Postseason

ALL–TIME FUMBLE RETURNS FOR TDs

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
11/17/19	Reed Jr., D.J.	4	vs. Arz.
11/11/19	Buckner, DeForest	12	vs. Sea.
9/7/14	Culliver, Chris	35	at Dal.
12/15/13	Hunter, Kendall	2	at TB
10/27/13	Skuta, Dan	47	at Jax.
10/20/13	Osgood, Kassim	end zone	at Ten.
12/16/12	Gore, Frank	9	at NE
9/30/12	Rogers, Carlos	51	at NYJ
10/4/09	McDonald, Ray	11	vs. StL
10/4/09	McKillop, Scott	end zone	vs. StL
12/7/08	Staley, Joe	end zone	vs. NYJ
11/25/07	Banta–Cain, Tully	end zone	at Arz.
10/8/06	Oliver, Melvin	12	vs. Oak.
10/2/05	Johnson, Derrick	78	at Arz. (Mex. City)
10/2/05	Smith, Derek	end zone	at Arz. (Mex. City)
11/28/04	Smith, Derek	46	vs. Mia.
10/31/04	Carpenter, Dwaine	80	at Chi.
10/26/03	Harris, Kwame	1	at Arz.
10/28/01	Peterson, Julian	26	at Chi.
10/24/99	Walker, Darnell	71	at Min.
10/17/99	McMillan, Mark	41	vs. Car.
10/10/99	Bryant, Junior	end zone	at StL
12/15/97	Greene, Kevin	40	vs. Den.
11/10/97	Hanks, Merton	38	at Phi.
11/17/96	Doleman, Chris	end zone	vs. Bal.
12/24/95	Rice, Jerry	end zone	at Atl.
12/3/95	Woodall, Lee	96	vs. Buffalo
11/12/95	Hanks, Merton	38	at Dal.
10/16/94	McDonald, Tim	49	at Atl.
11/14/93	Tamm, Ralph	1	at TB
10/17/93	Davis, Eric	47	at Dal.
11/1/92	Sherrard, Mike	38	at Phx. Cardinals
12/23/91	Griffin, Don	99	vs. Chi.
11/12/89	Haley, Charles	3	vs. Atl.
12/27/87	Taylor, John	26	vs. LA Rams
12/1/85	Turner, Keena	65	at Was.
10/20/85	McIntyre, Guy	end zone	at Det.
9/22/85	McColl, Milt	28	at LA Raiders
12/2/84	Johnson, Gary	33	at Atl.
10/23/83	Board, Dwaine	end zone	at LA Rams
10/4/81	Hicks, Dwight	80	at Was.
10/3/76	Elam, Cleveland	31	vs. NYJ
11/16/75	Hart, Tommy	10	vs. Chi.
10/26/75	McGill, Ralph	14	at NE
12/15/74	Belk, Bill	19	vs. NO
12/2/73	Hall, Windlan	66	vs. Phi.
11/23/72	Vanderbundt, Skip	73	at Dal.
12/26/71	Hoskins, Bob	end zone	vs. Was.*
10/31/71	Blue, Forrest	25	vs. NE
10/24/71	Hart, Tommy	63	at StL Cardinals
10/19/69	Lakes, Roland	2	vs. Atl.
10/27/68	Witcher, Dick	12	at Det.
10/15/67	Windsor, Bob	2	at Phi.
12/11/66	Alexander, Kermit	14	vs. Chi.
10/9/66	Hazeltine, Matt	22	vs. GB
11/28/65	Kopay, Dave	end zone	at Min.
11/14/65	Miller, Clark	75	at Det.
11/14/65	Wilcox, Dave	8	at Det.
10/24/65	Chapple, Jack	8	vs. Min.
9/19/65	Krueger, Charlie	6	vs. Chi.
10/14/62	Woodson, Abe	37	at Chi.
10/18/59	Hazeltine, Matt	40	at Det.

ALL–TIME BLOCKED FGs RETURNED FOR TDs
(1970–Present)

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
9/27/09	Clements, Nate	59	at Min.
10/19/08	Clements, Nate	74	at NYG
10/12/08	Strickland, Donald	41	vs. Phi.
10/15/89	Jackson, Johnnie	62	at Dal.
9/26/71	Taylor, Bruce	58	at NO
12/13/70	Taylor, Bruce	92	at NO

ALL–TIME PUNT RETURNS FOR TDs

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
9/11/11	Ginn Jr., Ted	55	vs. Sea.
12/26/10	Ginn Jr., Ted	78	at StL
9/11/05	Amey, Otis	75	vs. StL
10/10/04	Battle, Arnaz	71	vs. Arz.
12/1/02	Williams, Jimmy	89	vs. Sea.
12/27/98	McQuarters, R.W.	72	vs. StL
11/10/97	Levy, Chuck	73	at Phi.
12/18/95	Carter, Dexter	78	vs. Min.
10/3/93	Carter, Dexter	72	vs. Min.
11/9/92	Hanks, Merton	48	at Atl.
11/21/88	Taylor, John	95	vs. Was.
10/2/88	Taylor, John	77	vs. Det.
12/14/87	McLemore, Dana	83	vs. Chi.
11/23/86	Griffin, Don	76	vs. Atl.
10/8/84	McLemore, Dana	79	at NYG
12/19/83	McLemore, Dana	56	vs. Dal.
1/2/83	McLemore, Dana	93	vs. LA Rams
12/7/80	Solomon, Freddie	57	vs. NO
10/26/80	Solomon, Freddie	53	vs. TB
10/17/76	Leonard, Anthony	60	vs. NO
9/26/76	McGill, Ralph	50	at Sea.
11/24/74	Moore, Manfred	88	vs. Atl.
12/11/66	Alexander, Kermit	44	vs. Chi.
11/15/64	Alexander, Kermit	70	vs. GB
10/21/62	Woodson, Abe	85	at GB
11/5/61	Woodson, Abe	80	vs. Det.
12/16/56	Arenas, Joe	67	at Bal. Colts
10/19/52	McElhenny, Hugh	94	at Chi.
19.26/52	O'Donahue, Pat	23	vs. Dal.
10/28/51	Nomellini, Leo	20	vs. LA Rams

* – Postseason

ALL–TIME KICKOFF RETURNS FOR TDs

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
12/16/18	**James, Richie**	**97**	**vs. Sea.**
9/11/11	Ginn Jr., Ted	102	vs. Sea.
11/10/08	Rossum, Allen	104	at Arz.
11/2/03	Wilson, Cedrick	95	vs. StL
1/11/98	Levy, Chuck	95	vs. GB*
11/16/97	Kirby, Terry	101	vs. Car.
11/6/94	Carter, Dexter	96	at Was.
12/1/91	Carter, Dexter	98	vs. NO
12/20/87	Cribbs, Joe	92	vs. Atl.
12/1/85	Monroe, Carl	95	at Was.
11/22/81	Lawrence, Amos	92	at LA Rams
11/2/80	Owens, James	101	at Det.
11/18/79	Owens, James	85	vs. Den.
11/19/78	Williams, Dave	89	vs. LA Rams
12/4/77	Williams, Dave	80	at Min.
12/23/72	Washington, Vic	97	vs. Dal.*
10/29/72	Washington, Vic	98	at Atl.
11/17/63	Woodson, Abe	99	at NYG
9/29/63	Woodson, Abe	95	at Min.
9/15/63	Woodson, Abe	103	vs. Min.
10/1/61	Woodson, Abe	98	at Det.
12/18/60	Lyles, Lenny	97	vs. Bal. Colts
11/22/59	Woodson, Abe	105	at LA Rams
11/4/56	Arenas, Joe	90	vs. Det.

ALL–TIME BLOCKED PUNTS RETURNED FOR TDs
(1970–Present)

Date	Player	Yds	Opp.
10/3/10	Taylor Mays	0	at Atl.
9/25/77	Mike Baldassin	0	vs. Mia.
9/21/75	Dave Washington	15	at Min.
12/15/73	Windlan Hall	0	vs. Pit.

ALL-TIME 1,000/3,000 YARD SEASONS

RUSHING

Yds	Player	Year
1,695	Frank Gore	2006
1,570	Garrison Hearst	1998
1,502	Roger Craig	1988
1,262	Wendell Tyler	1984
1,229	Charlie Garner	1999
1,214	Frank Gore	2012
1,211	Frank Gore	2011
1,206	Garrison Hearst	2001
1,203	Delvin Williams	1976
1,142	Charlie Garner	2000
1,128	Frank Gore	2013
1,120	Frank Gore	2009
1,106	Frank Gore	2014
1,102	Frank Gore	2007
1,054	Roger Craig	1989
1,050	Roger Craig	1985
1,049	Joe Perry	1954
1,036	Frank Gore	2008
1,036	J.D. Smith	1959
1,024	Kevan Barlow	2003
1,019	Garrison Hearst	1997
1,018	Joe Perry	1953
1,013	Ricky Watters	1992

RECEIVING

Yds	Player	Year
1,848	Jerry Rice	1995
1,570	Jerry Rice	1986
1,503	Jerry Rice	1993
1,502	Jerry Rice	1990
1,499	Jerry Rice	1994
1,483	Jerry Rice	1989
1,451	Terrell Owens	2000
1,412	Terrell Owens	2001
1,377	**George Kittle**	**2018**
1,344	Dave Parks	1965
1,306	Jerry Rice	1988
1,300	Terrell Owens	2002
1,254	Jerry Rice	1996
1,206	Jerry Rice	1991
1,201	Jerry Rice	1992
1,179	Anquan Boldin	2013
1,157	Jerry Rice	1998
1,105	Michael Crabtree	2012
1,105	Dwight Clark	1981
1,102	Terrell Owens	2003
1,100	Gene Washington	1970
1,097	Terrell Owens	1998
1,078	Jerry Rice	1987
1,077	John Taylor	1989
1,062	Anquan Boldin	2014
1,053	**George Kittle**	**2019**
1,032	R.C. Owens	1961
1,016	Roger Craig	1985

PASSING

Yds	Player	Year
4,278	Jeff Garcia	2000
4,170	Steve Young	1998
4,023	Steve Young	1993
3,978	**Jimmy Garoppolo**	**2019**
3,969	Steve Young	1994
3,944	Joe Montana	1990
3,910	Joe Montana	1983
3,653	Joe Montana	1985
3,652	Steve DeBerg	1979
3,630	Joe Montana	1984
3,565	Joe Montana	1981
3,538	Jeff Garcia	2001
3,521	Joe Montana	1989
3,465	Steve Young	1992
3,369	Colin Kaepernick	2014
3,344	Jeff Garcia	2002
3,200	Steve Young	1995
3,197	Colin Kaepernick	2013
3,144	Alex Smith	2011
3,112	John Brodie	1965
3,054	Joe Montana	1987
3,029	Steve Young	1997
3,020	John Brodie	1968

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

RUSHING (BASED ON YARDS)

Year	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
1946	Standlee, Norm	134	683	5.1	—	2	—
1947	Strzykalski, John	143	906	6.3	50	5	—
1948	Strzykalski, John	141	915	6.5	—	4	—
1949	Perry, Joe	115	783	6.8	59	8	—
1950	Perry, Joe	124	647	5.2	78t	5	5
1951	Perry, Joe	136	677	5.0	58t	3	5
1952	Perry, Joe	158	725	4.6	78t	8	3
1953	Perry, Joe	192	1,018	5.3	51t	10	1
1954	Perry, Joe	173	1,049	6.1	58	8	1
1955	Perry, Joe	156	701	4.5	42	2	5
1956	McElhenny, Hugh	185	916	5.0	86t	8	3
1957	McElhenny, Hugh	102	478	4.7	61	1	15
1958	Perry, Joe	125	758	6.1	73t	4	3
1959	Smith, J.D.	207	1,036	5.0	73t	10	2
1960	Smith, J.D.	174	780	4.5	41	5	5
1961	Smith, J.D.	167	823	4.9	33	8	5
1962	Smith, J.D.	258	907	3.5	28	6	6
1963	Smith, J.D.	162	560	3.5	52t	5	13
1964	Kopay, Dave	75	271	3.6	18	0	32
1965	Willard, Ken	189	778	4.1	32	5	4
1966	Willard, Ken	191	763	4.0	49	5	5
1967	Willard, Ken	169	510	3.0	20	5	17
1968	Willard, Ken	227	967	4.3	69t	7	2
1969	Willard, Ken	171	557	3.3	18	7	13
1970	Willard, Ken	236	789	3.3	20	7	9/6
1971	Willard, Ken	216	855	4.0	49	4	15/9
1972	Washington, Vic	141	468	3.3	33	3	42/20
1973	Washington, Vic	151	534	3.5	25	8	32/15
1974	Jackson, Wilbur	174	705	4.1	64	0	17/8
1975	Williams, Delvin	117	631	5.4	52	3	21/13
1976	Williams, Delvin	248	1,203	4.9	80t	7	3/2
1977	Williams, Delvin	268	931	3.5	40	7	10/5
1978	Simpson, O.J.	161	593	3.7	34	1	39/19
1979	Hofer, Paul	123	615	5.0	47	7	33/17
1980	Cooper, Earl	171	720	4.2	47	5	23/12
1981	Patton, Ricky	152	543	3.6	28	4	35/16
1982	Moore, Jeff	85	281	3.3	19	4	37/16
1983	Tyler, Wendell	176	856	4.9	39	4	19/10
1984	Tyler, Wendell	246	1,262	5.1	40	7	5/5
1985	Craig, Roger	214	1,050	4.9	62t	9	13/8
1986	Craig, Roger	204	830	4.1	25	7	13/8
1987	Craig, Roger	215	815	3.8	25	3	8/5
1988	Craig, Roger	310	1,502	4.8	46t	9	3/2
1989	Craig, Roger	271	1,054	3.9	27	6	10/5
1990	Carter, Dexter	114	460	4.0	74t	1	39/19
1991	Henderson, Keith	137	561	4.1	25	2	30/11
1992	Watters, Ricky	206	1,013	4.9	43	9	13/8
1993	Watters, Ricky	208	950	4.6	39	10	12/8
1994	Watters, Ricky	239	877	3.7	23	6	15/8
1995	Loville, Derek	218	723	3.3	27	10	24/13
1996	Kirby, Terry	134	559	4.2	31	3	33/15
1997	Hearst, Garrison	234	1,019	4.4	51	4	15/7
1998	Hearst, Garrison	310	1,570	5.1	96t	7	3/2
1999	Garner, Charlie	241	1,229	5.1	53	4	8/5
2000	Garner, Charlie	258	1,142	4.4	42	7	16/7
2001	Hearst, Garrison	252	1,206	4.8	43t	4	10/5

PASSING (BASED ON YARDS)

Year	Player	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yds	TD	INT	Rtg	Rank
1946	Albert, Frank	197	104	52.9	1,404	14	14	—	—
1947	Albert, Frank	242	128	52.9	1,692	18	15	—	—
1948	Albert, Frank	264	154	58.3	1,990	29	10	—	—
1949	Albert, Frank	260	129	49.6	1,862	27	16	—	—
1950	Albert, Frank	306	155	50.7	1,767	14	23	52.6	8
1951	Albert, Frank	166	90	50.7	1,116	5	10	60.2	8
1952	Tittle, Y.A.	208	106	51.0	1,407	11	12	66.4	5
1953	Tittle, Y.A.	259	149	57.5	2,121	20	16	84.0	3
1954	Tittle, Y.A.	295	170	57.6	2,205	9	9	78.7	7
1955	Tittle, Y.A.	287	147	51.2	2,185	17	28	56.6	4
1956	Tittle, Y.A.	218	124	56.9	1,641	7	12	68.6	7
1957	Tittle, Y.A.	279	176	63.1	2,157	13	15	80.6	6
1958	Tittle, Y.A.	208	120	57.7	1,467	9	15	63.9	3
1959	Tittle, Y.A.	199	102	51.3	1,331	10	15	58.0	4
1960	Brodie, John	207	103	49.8	1,111	6	9	57.5	5
1961	Brodie, John	283	155	54.8	2,588	14	12	84.7	4
1962	Brodie, John	304	175	57.6	2,272	18	16	79.0	6
1963	McHan, Lamar	195	83	42.3	1,243	8	11	54.3	15
1964	Brodie, John	392	193	49.2	2,498	14	16	64.6	12
1965	Brodie, John	391	242	61.9	3,112	30	16	95.3	3
1966	Brodie, John	427	232	54.3	2,810	16	22	65.8	8
1967	Brodie, John	349	168	48.1	2,013	11	16	57.6	11
1968	Brodie, John	404	234	57.9	3,020	22	21	78.0	3
1969	Brodie, John	347	194	55.9	2,405	16	15	74.9	7
1970	Brodie, John	378	223	59.0	2,941	24	10	93.8	1/1
1971	Brodie, John	387	208	53.7	2,642	18	24	65.0	12/6
1972	Spurrier, Steve	269	147	54.6	1,983	18	16	75.9	8/5
1973	Brodie, John	194	98	50.5	1,126	3	12	43.0	N/A
1974	Owen, Tom	184	88	47.8	1,327	10	15	56.1	25/11
1975	Snead, Norm	189	108	57.1	1,337	9	10	73.0	11/5
1976	Plunkett, Jim	243	126	51.9	1,592	13	16	63.0	17/8
1977	Plunkett, Jim	248	128	51.6	1,693	9	14	62.1	17/8
1978	DeBerg, Steve	302	137	45.4	1,570	8	22	40.0	28/17
1979	DeBerg, Steve	578	347	60.0	3,652	17	21	73.1	13/5
1980	Deberg, Steve	321	186	57.9	1,998	12	17	66.7	25/13
1981	Montana, Joe	488	311	63.7	3,565	19	12	88.4	4/1
1982	Montana, Joe	346	213	61.6	2,613	17	11	88.0	5/3
1983	Montana, Joe	515	332	64.5	3,910	26	12	94.6	5/3
1984	Montana, Joe	432	279	64.6	3,630	28	10	102.9	2/1
1985	Montana, Joe	494	303	61.3	3,653	27	13	91.3	3/1
1986	Montana, Joe	307	191	62.2	2,236	8	9	80.7	9/2
1987	Montana, Joe	398	266	66.8	3,054	31	13	102.1	1/1
1988	Montana, Joe	397	238	59.9	2,981	18	10	87.9	6/3
1989	Montana, Joe	386	271	70.2	3,521	26	8	112.4	1/1
1990	Montana, Joe	520	321	61.7	3,944	26	16	89.0	7/3
1991	Young, Steve	279	180	64.5	2,517	17	8	101.8	1/1
1992	Young, Steve	402	268	66.7	3,465	25	7	107.0	1/1
1993	Young, Steve	462	314	68.0	4,023	29	16	101.5	1/1
1994	Young, Steve	461	324	70.3	3,969	35	10	112.8	1/1
1995	Young, Steve	447	299	66.9	3,200	20	11	92.3	5/4
1996	Young, Steve	316	214	67.7	2,410	14	6	97.2	1/1
1997	Young, Steve	356	241	67.7	3,029	19	6	104.7	1/1
1998	Young, Steve	517	322	62.3	4,170	36	12	101.1	3/2
1999	Garcia, Jeff	375	225	60.0	2,544	11	11	77.9	17/10
2000	Garcia, Jeff	561	355	63.3	4,287	31	10	97.6	5/4
2001	Garcia, Jeff	504	316	62.7	3,538	32	12	94.8	3/2

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS (CONT.)

RUSHING (BASED ON YARDS)

Year	Player	Att	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
2002	Hearst, Garrison	215	972	4.5	40	8	21/9
2003	Barlow, Kevan	201	1,024	5.1	78t	6	17t/6t
2004	Barlow, Kevan	244	822	3.4	60	7	26/12
2005	Gore, Frank	127	608	4.8	72t	3	32/14
2006	Gore, Frank	312	1,695	5.4	72	8	3/1
2007	Gore, Frank	260	1,102	4.2	43t	5	13/5
2008	Gore, Frank	240	1,036	4.3	41t	6	13t/9
2009	Gore, Frank	229	1,120	4.9	80t	10	11t/5
2010	Gore, Frank	203	853	4.2	64	3	21/8
2011	Gore, Frank	282	1,211	4.3	55	8	6/3
2012	Gore, Frank	258	1,214	4.7	37	8	10/5
2013	Gore, Frank	276	1,128	4.1	51	9	9/7
2014	Gore, Frank	255	1,106	4.3	52t	4	9/5
2015	Hyde, Carlos	115	470	4.1	22	3	47/24
2016	Hyde, Carlos	217	988	4.6	47	6	14/6
2017	Hyde, Carlos	240	938	3.9	61	8	13/5
2018	Breida, Matt	153	814	5.3	66t	3	21/11
2019	**Mostert, Raheem**	**137**	**772**	**5.6**	**41t**	**8**	**26/12**
2020	**Wilson Jr., Jeff**	**126**	**600**	**4.8**	**34**	**7**	**35/19**

PASSING (BASED ON YARDS)

Year	Player	Att	Cmp	Pct	Yds	TD	INT	Rtg	Rank
2002	Garcia, Jeff	528	328	62.1	3,344	21	10	85.6	11t/4
2003	Garcia, Jeff	392	225	57.4	2,704	18	13	80.1	15/8
2004	Rattay, Tim	325	198	60.9	2,169	10	10	78.1	20/10
2005	Smith, Alex	165	84	50.9	875	1	11	40.8	DNQ
2006	Smith, Alex	442	257	58.1	2,890	16	16	74.8	22/11
2007	Dilfer, Trent	219	113	51.6	1,166	7	12	55.1	N/A
2008	Hill, Shaun	288	181	62.8	2,046	13	8	87.5	12/7
2009	Smith, Alex	372	225	60.5	2,350	18	12	81.5	19/9
2010	Smith, Alex	342	204	59.6	2,370	14	10	82.1	21/9
2011	Smith, Alex	445	273	61.3	3,144	17	5	90.7	9/7
2012	Kaepernick, C.	218	136	62.4	1,814	10	3	98.3	DNQ
2013	Kaepernick, C.	416	243	58.4	3,197	21	8	91.6	20/10
2014	Kaepernick, C.	452	274	60.6	3,165	17	10	85.1	17/9
2015	Gabbert, Blaine	282	178	63.1	2,031	10	7	86.2	30/15
2016	Kaepernick, C.	331	196	57.7	2,241	16	4	90.7	29/14
2017	Beathard, C.J.	224	123	54.9	1,430	4	6	69.2	34/18
2018	Mullens, Nick	274	176	64.2	2,277	13	10	90.8	30/16
2019	**Garoppolo, J.**	**476**	**329**	**69.1**	**3,978**	**27**	**13**	**102.0**	**12/8**
2020	Mullens, Nick	326	211	64.7	2,437	12	12	84.1	26/13

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

RECEIVING (BASED ON CATCHES)

Year	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
1946	Beals, Alyn	40	586	14.7	—	10	—
1947	Beals, Alyn	47	655	13.9	54	10	—
1948	Beals, Alyn	46	591	12.8	—	14	—
1949	Beals, Alyn	44	678	15.4	—	12	—
1950	Loyd, Alex	32	402	12.6	38	0	18
1951	Soltau, Gordy	59	826	14.0	48t	7	2
1952	Soltau, Gordy	55	774	14.1	49t	7	4
1953	Wilson, Billy	51	840	16.5	61t	10	6
1954	Wilson, Billy	60	830	13.8	43	5	1
1955	Wilson, Billy	53	831	15.7	72t	7	2
1956	Wilson, Billy	60	889	14.8	77t	5	1
1957	Wilson, Billy	52	757	14.6	40	6	1
1958	Conner, Clyde	49	512	10.4	26	5	5
1959	Wilson, Billy	44	540	12.3	57t	4	6
1960	Conner, Clyde	38	531	14.0	65t	2	1
1961	Owens, R.C.	55	1,032	18.8	54	5	7
1962	Casey, Bernie	53	819	15.5	48t	6	11
1963	Casey, Bernie	47	762	16.2	68t	7	14
1964	Casey, Bernie	58	808	13.9	63t	4	6
1965	Parks, Dave	80	1,344	16.8	53t	12	1
1966	Parks, Dave	66	974	14.8	65t	5	3
1967	Witcher, Dick	46	705	15.3	63t	3	17
1968	McNeil, Clifton	71	994	14.0	65t	7	1
1969	Washington, Gene	51	711	13.9	52	3	10
	Cunningham, Doug, RB	51	484	9.5	58	0	11
1970	Washington, Gene	53	1,100	20.8	79t	12	4/3
1971	Kwalick, Ted	52	664	12.8	42t	5	4/2
1972	Washington, Gene	46	918	20.0	62t	12	13/7
1973	Kwalick, Ted	47	729	15.5	48	5	10/6
1974	Schreiber, Larry, RB	30	217	7.2	16	1	60/36
1975	Washington, Gene	44	735	16.7	68t	9	31/10
1976	Washington, Gene	33	457	13.8	55t	6	52/25
	Jackson, Wilbur, RB	33	324	9.8	32	1	53/27
1977	Washington, Gene	32	638	19.9	47t	5	52/22
1978	Solomon, Freddie	31	458	14.8	58t	2	83/42
1979	Hofer, Paul, RB	58	662	11.4	44	2	17/7
1980	Cooper, Earl, RB	83	567	6.8	66t	4	2/1
1981	Clark, Dwight	85	1,105	13.0	78t	4	2/1
1982	Clark, Dwight	60	913	15.2	51	5	1/1
1983	Clark, Dwight	70	840	12.0	46t	8	11/5
1984	Craig, Roger, RB	71	675	9.5	64t	3	11/6
1985	Craig, Roger, RB	92	1,016	11.0	73	6	1/1
1986	Rice, Jerry	86	1,570	18.3	66t	15	2/1
1987	Craig, Roger, RB	66	492	7.5	35t	1	3/2
1988	Craig, Roger, RB	76	534	7.0	22	1	7/5
1989	Rice, Jerry	82	1,483	18.1	68t	17	5/4
1990	Rice, Jerry	100	1,502	15.0	64t	13	1/1
1991	Rice, Jerry	80	1,206	15.1	73t	14	5/3
1992	Rice, Jerry	84	1,201	14.3	80t	10	5/3
1993	Rice, Jerry	98	1,503	15.3	80t	15	2/2
1994	Rice, Jerry	112	1,499	13.4	69t	13	2/1
1995	Rice, Jerry	+122	*1,848	15.1	81t	15	2/2
1996	Rice, Jerry	108	1,254	11.6	39	8	1/1
1997	Owens, Terrell	60	936	15.6	56t	8	32t/13t
1998	Rice, Jerry	82	1,157	14.1	75t	9	7t/3t
1999	Rice, Jerry	67	830	12.4	62	5	31t/19
2000	Owens, Terrell	97	1,451	15.0	69t	13	5/2
2001	Owens, Terrell	93	1,412	15.2	60t	16	9/4
2002	Owens, Terrell	100	1,300	13.0	76t	13	4t/2
2003	Owens, Terrell	80	1,102	13.8	75t	9	12/7

PUNTING (BASED ON GROSS AVG.) (MIN. 25 PUNTS)

Year	Player	No	Avg	Lg	Blck	Rank
1946	Albert, Frank	54	41.0	73	0	—
1947	Albert, Frank	40	44.0	69	1	—
1948	Albert, Frank	35	44.8	82	0	—
1949	Albert, Frank	31	48.2	72	0	—
1950	Lillywhite, Verl	26	39.1	57	0	11
1951	Albert, Frank	34	44.3	66	0	2
1952	Albert, Frank	68	42.6	70	0	5
1953	Powers, Jim	42	40.6	55	1	8
1954	Brown, Pete	49	37.5	51	0	11
1955	Luna, Bob	63	40.6	63	3	8
1956	Morrall, Earl	45	37.9	57	0	16
1957	Jessup, Bill	38	43.6	62	0	13
1958	Atkins, Bill	25	39.3	51	0	11
1959	Davis, Tommy	59	45.7	71	0	3
1960	Davis, Tommy	62	44.1	74	0	3
1961	Davis, Tommy	50	45.4	67	0	3
1962	Davis, Tommy	48	45.6	82	0	1
1963	Davis, Tommy	73	45.4	64	2	4
1964	Davis, Tommy	79	45.6	68	0	4
1965	Davis, Tommy	54	45.8	65	0	2
1966	Davis, Tommy	63	41.4	60	0	6
1967	Spurrier, Steve	73	37.6	61	1	12
1968	Spurrier, Steve	68	39.0	54	0	12
1969	Kilgore, Jon	36	40.3	72	0	9
1970	Spurrier, Steve	75	38.4	58	0	14/11
1971	McCann, Jim	49	38.7	54	1	25/12
1972	McCann, Jim	64	39.7	63	1	21/10
1973	Wittum, Tom	79	43.7	62	0	4/1
1974	Wittum, Tom	68	41.2	67	1	4/2
1975	Wittum, Tom	67	41.9	64	3	3/2
1976	Wittum, Tom	89	40.8	68	2	3/2
1977	Wittum, Tom	77	36.4	54	3	26/13
1978	Connell, Mike	96	37.3	59	1	21/10
1979	Melville, Dan	71	37.0	53	1	25/14
1980	Miller, Jim	77	40.9	65	0	10/5
1981	Miller, Jim	93	41.5	65	0	15/6
1982	Miller, Jim	44	38.1	80	1	25/13
1983	Orosz, Tom	65	39.3	61	1	25/11
1984	Runager, Max	56	41.8	59	1	17/17
1985	Runager, Max	86	39.8	57	1	26/13
1986	Runager, Max	83	41.6	62	2	10/6
1987	Runager, Max	55	39.2	56	1	22/11
1988	Helton, Barry	78	39.3	53	1	21/11
1989	Helton, Barry	55	40.5	56	1	12/8
1990	Helton, Barry	69	36.8	56	1	28/1
1991	Prokop, Joe	40	38.5	58	0	27/13
1992	Wilmsmeyer, Klaus	49	39.1	58	0	26/14
1993	Wilmsmeyer, Klaus	42	40.9	61	0	23/11
1994	Wilmsmeyer, Klaus	54	41.4	60	0	14t/7t
1995	Thompson, Tommy	57	40.6	65	0	25/13t
1996	Thompson, Tommy	73	44.1	65	2	10/4
1997	Thompson, Tommy	78	40.8	55	1	30/15
1998	Roby, Reggie	60	41.9	66	0	22/9
1999	Stanley, Chad	69	39.7	70	2	26/11
2000	Stanley, Chad	69	39.5	56	1	27/12
2001	Baker, Jason	69	40.8	64	0	23/13
2002	Baker, Jason	42	40.2	51	0	25t/13
2003	LaFleur, Bill	68	38.7	56	1	29t/16
2004	Lee, Andy	96	41.6	81	0	20/10
2005	Lee, Andy	107	41.6	58	1	25/12

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS (CONT.)

RECEIVING (BASED ON CATCHES)

Year	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
2004	Johnson, Eric, TE	82	825	10.1	25	2	35/14
2005	Lloyd, Brandon	48	733	15.3	89t	5	44/20
2006	Gore, Frank, RB	61	485	8.0	39	1	40t/21t
2007	Gore, Frank, RB	53	436	8.2	23t	1	54t/27t
2008	Bruce, Isaac	61	835	13.7	63	7	37/19
2009	Davis, Vernon, TE	78	965	12.4	73t	13	19t/10
2010	Davis, Vernon, TE	56	914	16.3	66t	7	51/23
2011	Crabtree, Michael	72	874	12.1	52t	4	24t/15t
2012	Crabtree, Michael	85	1,105	13.0	49t	9	14/9
2013	Boldin, Anquan	85	1,179	13.9	63	7	16/10
2014	Boldin, Anquan	83	1,062	12.8	76t	5	18/11
2015	Boldin, Anquan	69	789	11.4	51	4	37t/19t
2016	Kerley, Jeremy	64	667	10.4	33t	3	64/35
2017	Hyde, Carlos	59	350	5.9	18	0	43t/25
2018	**Kittle, George, TE**	**88**	**1,377***	**15.6**	**85t**	**5**	**14/9**
2019	**Kittle, George, TE**	**85**	**1,053**	**12.4**	**61t**	**5**	**17/10**
2020	**Aiyuk, Brandon**	**60**	**748**	**12.5**	**49**	**5**	**48t/30**

+ Team Record ** NFL Record*

PUNTING (BASED ON GROSS AVG.) (MIN. 25 PUNTS)

Year	Player	No	Avg	Lg	Blck	Rank
2006	Lee, Andy	81	44.8	66	0	7/6
2007	Lee, Andy	105	47.3	74	0	2/1
2008	Lee, Andy	66	47.8	82	1	4/3
2009	Lee, Andy	99	47.6	64	0	2/2
2010	Lee, Andy	91	46.2	64	0	4/2
2011	Lee, Andy	78	50.9	68	1	1/1
2012	Lee, Andy	67	48.1	66	0	4/2
2013	Lee, Andy	79	48.2	62	0	3/1
2014	Lee, Andy	72	46.8	71	1	6/2
2015	Pinion, Bradley	86	43.9	62	0	27/13
2016	Pinion, Bradley	100	44.0	65	0	29/15
2017	Pinion, Bradley	75	43.4	59	0	28/14
2018	Pinion, Bradley	68	43.7	64	1	28t/16
2019	**Wishnowsky, Mitch**	**52**	**44.9**	**65**	**0**	**22/11**
2020	**Wishnowsky, Mitch**	**66**	**46.9**	**60**	**1**	**9/5**

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

SCORING (BASED ON POINTS)

Year	Player	TD	PAT	FG	Pts	Rank
1946	Beals, Alyn	10	1	0	61	—
1947	Beals, Alyn	10	0	0	60	—
1948	Beals, Alyn	14	0	0	84	—
1949	Beals, Alyn	12	1	0	73	—
1950	Soltau, Gordie	1	26	4	44	22
1951	Soltau, Gordie	7	30	6	90	5
1952	Soltau, Gordie	7	34	6	94	—
1953	Soltau, Gordie	6	48	10	114	1
1954	Soltau, Gordie	2	31	11	76	4
1955	Soltau, Gordie	1	27	3	42	24
	Wilson, Billy	7	0	0	42	24
1956	Soltau, Gordie	1	26	13	71	6
1957	Soltau, Gordie	0	33	9	60	9
1958	Soltau, Gordie	0	29	8	53	20
1959	Davis, Tommy	0	31	12	67	9
1960	Davis, Tommy	0	21	19	78	9
1961	Davis, Tommy	0	44	12	80	8
1962	Davis, Tommy	0	36	10	66	16
1963	Davis, Tommy	0	24	10	54	21
1964	Davis, Tommy	0	30	8	54	24
1965	Davis, Tommy	0	52	17	103	4
1966	Davis, Tommy	0	38	16	86	12
1967	Davis, Tommy	0	33	14	75	10
1968	Davis, Tommy	0	26	9	53	19
1969	Willard, Ken	10	0	0	60	21
1970	Gossett, Bruce	0	39	21	102	6/4
1971	Gossett, Bruce	0	32	23	101	5/3
1972	Gossett, Bruce	0	41	18	95	13/7
1973	Gossett, Bruce	0	26	26	104	7/4
1974	Gossett, Bruce	0	25	11	58	25/8
1975	Mike–Mayer, Steve	0	27	14	69	22/9
1976	Mike–Mayer, Steve	0	26	16	74	25/9
1977	Williams, Delvin	9	0	0	54	14/10
1978	Wersching, Ray	0	24	15	69	22/9
1979	Wersching, Ray	0	32	20	92	12/5
1980	Wersching, Ray	0	33	15	78	18/10
1981	Wersching, Ray	0	30	17	81	22/13
1982	Wersching, Ray	0	23	12	59	9/4
1983	Wersching, Ray	0	51	25	126	3/3
1984	Wersching, Ray	0	56	25	131	1/1
1985	Wersching, Ray	0	52	13	91	21/11
1986	Wersching, Ray	0	41	25	116	3/3
1987	Rice, Jerry	23	0	0	138	1/1
1988	Cofer, Mike	0	40	27	121	2/1
1989	Cofer, Mike	0	49	29	136	1/1
1990	Cofer, Mike	0	39	24	111	4/3
1991	Cofer, Mike	0	49	14	91	17/8
1992	Cofer, Mike	0	53	18	107	8/4
1993	Cofer, Mike	0	59	16	107	11t/6
1994	Brien, Doug	0	60	15	105	11t/4
1995	Rice, Jerry	17	1(2PT)	0	104	19/10
1996	Wilkins, Jeff	0	40	30	130	4/2
1997	Anderson, Gary	0	38	29	125	3/2
1998	Richey, Wade	0	49	18	103	14/6
1999	Richey, Wade	0	30	21	93	21/8
2000	Richey, Wade	0	43	15	88	28/13
2001	Cortez, Jose	0	47	18	101	16/8
2002	Owens, Terrell	14	0	0	84	8t/3*
2003	Peterson, Todd	0	22	12	58	30/14
2004	Peterson, Todd	0	23	18	77	42/18

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

Year	Player	Att	Made	Pct	Lg	Rank
1946	Vetrano, Joe	7	4	.571	26	—
1947	Vetrano, Joe	8	4	.500	30	—
1948	Vetrano, Joe	8	5	.625	47	—
1949	Vetrano, Joe	4	3	.750	28	—
1950	Soltau, Gordie	8	4	.500	26	DNQ
1951	Soltau, Gordie	18	6	.333	42	9
1952	Soltau, Gordie	12	6	.500	31	5
1953	Soltau, Gordie	15	10	.667	39	2
1954	Soltau, Gordie	18	11	.611	37	3
1955	Soltau, Gordie	12	3	.250	28	11
1956	Soltau, Gordie	20	13	.650	40	3
1957	Soltau, Gordie	15	9	.600	37	5
1958	Soltau, Gordie	21	8	.381	39	9
1959	Davis, Tommy	26	12	.462	43	5
1960	Davis, Tommy	32	19	.594	40	7
1961	Davis, Tommy	22	12	.545	46	6
1962	Davis, Tommy	23	10	.435	42	15
1963	Davis, Tommy	31	10	.323	46	22
1964	Davis, Tommy	25	8	.320	*53	19
1965	Davis, Tommy	27	17	.630	*53	5t
1966	Davis, Tommy	31	16	.516	46	15t
1967	Davis, Tommy	33	14	.424	50	23
1968	Davis, Tommy	16	9	.563	38	14
1969	Davis, Tommy	10	3	.300	48	DNQ
1970	Gossett, Bruce	31	21	.677	48	5/3
1971	Gossett, Bruce	36	23	.639	48	9/5
1972	Gossett, Bruce	29	18	.621	50	15/6
1973	Gossett, Bruce	33	26	.788	54	1**/1
1974	Gossett, Bruce	24	11	.458	46	22/11
1975	Mike–Mayer, Steve	28	14	.500	54	22t/11
1976	Mike–Mayer, Steve	28	16	.571	45	16t/9
1977	Wersching, Ray	17	10	.588	50	15/5
1978	Wersching, Ray	23	15	.652	45	12/6
1979	Wersching, Ray	24	20	.833	47	2/1
1980	Wersching, Ray	19	15	.789	47	2/1
1981	Wersching, Ray	23	17	.739	48	5/4
1982	Wersching, Ray	17	12	.706	45	15/8
1983	Wersching, Ray	30	25	.833	52	5t/1t
1984	Wersching, Ray	35	25	.714	53	17/11
1985	Wersching, Ray	21	13	.619	45	22/11
1986	Wersching, Ray	35	25	.714	50	11t/5t
1987	Wersching, Ray	17	13	.765	45	12/6
1988	Cofer, Mike	38	27	.711	52	17/10
1989	Cofer, Mike	36	29	.806	47	4/2
1990	Cofer, Mike	36	24	.667	*56	26t/11t
1991	Cofer, Mike	28	14	.500	50	28/14
1992	Cofer, Mike	27	18	.667	46	21/11
1993	Cofer, Mike	26	16	.615	46	26/12
1994	Brien, Doug	20	15	.750	48	20/7
1995	Wilkins, Jeff	13	12	.923	40	DNQ
1996	Wilkins, Jeff	34	30	.882	49	4/3
1997	Anderson, Gary	36	29	.806	51	11/7
1998	Richey, Wade	27	18	.667	46	27t/13t
1999	Richey, Wade	23	21	.913	52	1**/1
2000	Richey, Wade	22	15	.682	47	28/14
2001	Cortez, Jose	25	18	.720	52	21/12
2002	Cortez, Jose	24	18	.750	45	26/13t
2003	Peterson, Todd	15	12	.800	48	DNQ
2004	Peterson, Todd	22	18	.818	51	15t/6t
2005	Nedney, Joe	28	26	.929	56	3/2

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS (CONT.)

SCORING (BASED ON POINTS)

Year	Player	TD	PAT	FG	Pts	Rank
2005	Nedney, Joe	0	19	26	97	22t/8t
2006	Nedney, Joe	0	29	29	116	7t/4t
2007	Nedney, Joe	0	22	17	73	35/17
2008	Nedney, Joe	0	34	29	121	15/9
2009	Nedney, Joe	0	33	17	84	28t/14
2010	Nedney, Joe	0	17	11	50	65t/31t
2011	Akers, David	0	34	44	166	1/1
2012	Akers, David	0	44	29	131	9/5
2013	Dawson, Phil	0	44	32	140	6t/3
2014	Dawson, Phil	0	33	25	108	19/9
2015	Dawson, Phil	0	20	24	92	24/12
2016	Dawson, Phil	0	33	18	87	30/14
2017	**Gould, Robbie**	**0**	**28**	**39**	**145**	**3/2**
2018	**Gould, Robbie**	**0**	**27**	**33**	**126**	**9/4**
2019	**Gould, Robbie**	**0**	**41**	**23**	**110**	**14/9**
2020	**Gould, Robbie**	**0**	**36**	**19**	**93**	**29/15**

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

Year	Player	Att	Made	Pct	Lg	Rank
2006	Nedney, Joe	35	29	.829	51	16/9
2007	Nedney, Joe	19	17	.895	50	5/1
2008	Nedney, Joe	33	29	.878	53	12/7
2009	Nedney, Joe	21	17	.810	51	21/9
2010	Reed, Jeff	10	9	.900	47	NA
2011	Akers, David	52	44	.846	55	14/7
2012	Akers, David	42	29	.690	63*	30/14
2013	Dawson, Phil	36	32	.889	56	14t/6t
2014	Dawson, Phil	31	25	.806	55	25/13
2015	Dawson, Phil	27	24	.889	54	10/7
2016	Dawson, Phil	21	18	.857	53	11/6
2017	**Gould, Robbie**	**41**	**39**	**.951**	**52**	**2/2**
2018	**Gould, Robbie**	**34**	**33**	**.971****	**53**	**1/1**
2019	**Gould, Robbie**	**31**	**23**	**.742**	**47**	**25/13**
2020	**Gould, Robbie**	**23**	**19**	**.826**	**52**	**17/8**

** LONGEST FIELD GOAL IN NFL THAT YEAR; ** LEADER BASED ON FIELD GOAL PCT OF KICKERS WITH 15–OR–MORE MADE; DNQ – DID NOT QUALIFY FOR THE LEAGUE MINIMUM*

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

KICKOFF RETURNS (BASED ON AVG.) (MIN. 20 RETURNS)

YEAR	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
1946	Eshmont, Len	10	264	26.4	—	0	DNQ
1947	Eshmont, Len	9	177	19.7	—	0	DNQ
1948	Hall, Forrest	13	369	28.4	—	0	3
1949	Perry, Joe	14	337	24.1	—	0	5
1950	Cathcart, Sam	14	329	23.9	62	0	20
1951	Arenas, Joe	21	542	25.8	49	0	8
1952	McElhenny, Hugh	18	396	22.0	40	0	16
1953	Arenas, Joe	16	551	34.4	82	0	1
1954	Arenas, Joe	16	362	22.6	41	0	11
1955	Arenas, Joe	24	594	24.8	42	0	7
1956	Arenas, Joe	27	801	29.7	96t	1	2
1957	Arenas, Joe	24	657	27.4	64	0	2
1958	Smith, J.D.	15	356	23.7	39	0	8
1959	Lyles, Lenny	25	565	22.6	46	0	10
1960	Lyles, Lenny	17	526	30.9	97t	1	2
1961	Woodson, Abe	27	782	29.0	98t	1	3
1962	Woodson, Abe	37	1,157	31.3	79	0	1
1963	Woodson, Abe	29	935	32.2	103t	3	1
1964	Woodson, Abe	32	880	27.5	70	0	4
1965	Alexander, Kermit	32	741	23.2	46	0	20
1966	Alexander, Kermit	37	984	26.6	56	0	7
1967	Cunningham, Doug	31	826	26.6	94	0	5
1968	Alexander, Kermit	20	360	18.0	35	0	24
1969	Smith, Noland	14	310	22.1	60	0	DNQ
1970	Tucker, Bill	25	577	23.1	43	0	16/9
1971	Washington, Vic	33	858	26.0	74	0	12/8
1972	Washington, Vic	27	771	28.6	98t	1	4/3
1973	Washington, Vic	24	549	22.9	38	0	26/10
1974	Holmes, Mike	25	612	24.5	57	0	15/6
1975	Moore, Manfred	26	650	25.0	52	0	10/5
1976	Leonard, Anthony	26	553	21.3	39	0	29/13
1977	Hofer, Paul	36	871	24.2	48	0	12/7
1978	Williams, Dave	34	745	21.9	89t	1	23/8
1979	Owens, James	41	1,002	24.4	85t	1	5/3
1980	Owens, James	31	726	23.4	101t	1	4/3
1981	Lawrence, Amos	17	437	25.7	92t	1	3/2
1982	McLemore, Dana	16	353	22.1	45	0	18/9
1983	McLemore, Dana	30	576	19.2	39	0	30/14
1984	Monroe, Carl	27	561	20.8	44	0	19/9
1985	Monroe, Carl	28	717	25.6	95t	1	4/3
1986	Crawford, Derrick	15	280	18.7	34	0	DNQ
1987	Rodgers, Del	17	358	21.1	50	0	DNQ
1988	DuBose, Doug	32	608	19.0	44	0	27/11
1989	Flagler, Terrence	32	643	20.1	41	0	18/11
1990	Carter, Dexter	41	783	19.1	35	0	21/11
1991	Carter, Dexter	37	839	22.7	98t	1	5/3
1992	Logan, Marc	22	478	21.7	82	0	9/6
1993	Carter, Dexter	25	494	19.8	60	0	18/11
1994	Carter, Dexter	48	1,105	23.0	96t	1	15/11
1995	Carter, Dexter	23	522	22.7	46	0	DNQ
1996	Carter, Dexter	41	909	22.2	71	0	21/10
1997	Levy, Chuck	36	793	22.0	59	0	22/12
1998	Levy, Chuck	22	383	17.4	30	0	DNQ
1999	McQuarters, R.W.	26	568	21.8	37	0	DNQ
2000	Williams, Kevin	30	536	17.9	33	0	DNQ
2001	Sutherland, Vinny	50	1,140	22.8	65	0	19/11
2002	Williams, Jimmy	35	765	21.9	50	0	29/18
2003	Wilson, Cedrick	37	836	22.6	95t	1	16/10
2004	Robertson, Jamal	25	560	22.4	37	0	11/5
2005	Hicks, Maurice	34	689	20.3	40	0	36/18

PUNT RETURNS (BASED ON AVERAGE) (MIN. 10 RETURNS)

Year	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
1946	Casanega, Ken	18	248	13.8	—	0	DNQ
1947	Vetrano, Joe	12	137	11.4	—	0	DNQ
1948	Cason, Jim	22	309	14.0	—	0	DNQ
1949	Cason, Jim	21	351	16.7	—	0	DNQ
1950	Cathcart, Sam	16	185	11.6	29	0	10
1951	Arenas, Joe	21	272	13.0	51	0	6
1952	McElhenny, Hugh	20	284	14.2	94t	1	5
1953	McElhenny, Hugh	15	104	6.9	25	0	7
1954	Arenas, Joe	23	117	5.1	23	0	6
1955	Arenas, Joe	21	55	2.6	7	0	17
1956	Arenas, Joe	19	117	6.2	67t	1	8
1957	Arenas, Joe	25	80	3.2	26	0	13
1958	McElhenny, Hugh	24	93	3.9	18	0	16
1959	Woodson, Abe	15	143	9.5	65	0	6
1960	Woodson, Abe	13	174	13.4	48	0	1
1961	Woodson, Abe	16	172	10.8	80t	1	4
1962	Woodson, Abe	19	179	9.4	85t	1	4
1963	Woodson, Abe	13	95	7.3	13	0	13
1964	Alexander, Kermit	21	189	9.0	70t	1	8
1965	Alexander, Kermit	35	262	7.5	40	0	7
1966	Alexander, Kermit	30	198	6.6	44t	4	6
1967	Cunningham, Doug	27	249	9.2	57	0	3
1968	Alexander, Kermit	24	87	3.6	26	0	16
1969	Smith, Noland	10	46	4.6	18	0	19
1970	Taylor, Bruce	43	516	12.0	76	0	2/1
1971	Taylor, Bruce	34	235	6.9	38	0	15/6
1972	McGill, Ralph	22	219	10.0	33	0	4/3
1973	Taylor, Bruce	15	207	13.8	61	0	1/1
1974	McGill, Ralph	20	161	8.3	47	0	20/13
1975	McGill, Ralph	31	290	9.4	34	0	18/9
1976	Leonard, Anthony	35	293	8.4	60t	1	20/9
1977	Leonard, Anthony	22	154	7.0	19	0	30/13
1978	Steptoe, Jack	11	129	11.7	28	0	DNQ
1979	Solomon, Freddie	23	142	6.2	14	0	23/9
1980	Solomon, Freddie	27	298	11.0	57t	2	3/2
1981	Hicks, Dwight	19	171	9.0	39	0	DNQ
1982	McLemore, Dana	7	156	22.3	93t	1	DNQ
1983	McLemore, Dana	31	331	10.7	56t	1	6/2
1984	McLemore, Dana	45	521	11.6	79t	1	4/2
1985	McLemore, Dana	38	258	6.8	22	0	21/9
1986	Griffin, Don	38	377	9.9	76t	1	5/2
1987	McLemore, Dana	21	265	12.6	83t	1	2/2
1988	Taylor, John	44	556	12.6	95t	2	1/1
1989	Taylor, John	36	417	11.6	37	0	5/4
1990	Taylor, John	26	212	8.2	30	0	13/8
1991	Taylor, John	31	267	8.6	24	0	9/5
1992	Grant, Alan	29	249	8.6	46	0	12/6
1993	Carter, Dexter	34	411	12.1	72t	1	5/2
1994	Carter, Dexter	38	321	8.4	26	0	14/11
1995	Taylor, John	11	56	5.1	11	0	DNQ
1996	Carter, Dexter	36	317	8.8	52	0	18/9
1997	Uwaezuoke, Iheanyi	34	373	11.0	36	0	11/6
1998	McQuarters, R.W.	47	406	8.6	72t	1	19/10
1999	McQuarters, R.W.	18	90	5.0	32	0	DNQ
2000	Williams, Kevin	26	220	8.5	25	0	DNQ
2001	Sutherland, Vinny	21	147	7.0	19	0	DNQ
2002	Williams, Jimmy	20	336	16.8	89t	1	1/1
2003	Williams, Jimmy	35	240	6.9	20	0	26/11
2004	Battle, Arnaz	31	266	8.6	71t	1	15/6
2005	Amey, Fred	11	125	11.4	75t	1	DNQ

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS (CONT.)

KICKOFF RETURNS (BASED ON AVG.) (MIN. 20 RETURNS)

YEAR	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
2006	Hicks, Maurice	57	1,428	25.1	64	0	12/4
2007	Hicks, Maurice	63	1,502	23.8	55	0	20/9
2008	Rossum, Allen	47	1,259	26.8	104t	1	6/3
2009	Robinson, Michael	18	414	23.0	40	0	DNQ
2010	Ginn Jr., Ted	47	992	21.1	61	0	33/17
2011	Ginn Jr., Ted	29	800	27.6	102t	1	3/2
2012	James, LaMichael	14	417	29.8	62	0	DNQ
2013	James, LaMichael	12	321	26.8	41	0	DNQ
2014	Ellington, Bruce	24	614	25.6	38	0	7/3
2015	Ellington, Bruce	26	665	25.6	40	0	9/7
2016	Shepherd, JaCorey	21	456	21.7	41	0	9/7
2017	Bolden Jr., Victor	19	396	20.8	34	0	DNQ
2018	**James, Richie**	**23**	**580**	**25.2**	**97t**	**1**	**7/2**
2019	**James, Richie**	**20**	**428**	**21.4**	**81**	**0**	**10/5**
2020	McKinnon, Jerick	12	239	19.9	30	0	DNQ

**DNQ – Insufficient returns to qualify for NFL rankings*

PUNT RETURNS (BASED ON AVERAGE) (MIN. 20 RETURNS)

Year	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
2006	Williams, Brandon	22	147	6.7	25	0	28/15
2007	Lewis, Michael	44	336	7.6	51	0	18/9
2008	Rossum, Allen	15	223	14.9	45	0	DNQ
2009	Battle, Arnaz	21	61	2.9	18	0	28/13
2010	Ginn Jr., Ted	24	321	13.4	78t	1	3/2
2011	Ginn Jr., Ted	38	466	12.3	55t	1	4/3
2012	Ginn Jr., Ted	32	326	10.2	38	0	11/3
2013	James, LaMichael	23	251	10.9	40	0	10t/6t
2014	Ellington, Bruce	23	188	8.2	23	0	13/7
2015	Ellington, Bruce	19	137	7.2	36	0	DNQ
2016	Kerley, Jeremy	21	158	7.5	26	0	16/9
2017	Taylor, Trent	30	281	9.4	39	0	10/6
2018	Taylor, Trent	10	78	7.8	18	0	DNQ
2019	**James, Richie**	**33**	**264**	**8.0**	**32**	**0**	**7t/3**
2020	Taylor, Trent	9	112	12.4	20	0	DNQ

**DNQ – Insufficient returns to qualify for NFL rankings*

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

INTERCEPTIONS

Year	Player	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD	Rank
1946	Casanega, Ken	8	146	18.3	68	0	—
1947	Eshmont, Len	6	72	12.0	—	0	—
1948	Carr, Eddie	7	144	20.6	56	1	—
1949	Cason, Jim	9	152	19.9	—	0	—
1950	Powers, Jim	5	42	8.4	26	0	18t
1951	Wagner, Lowell	9	115	12.8	40	0	3t
1952	Wagner, Lowell	6	69	11.5	30	0	10t
1953	Berry, Rex	7	142	20.3	29	1	8t
1954	Berry, Rex	3	69	23.0	34t	1	29t
	Brown, Hardy	3	42	14.0	41t	1	29t
	Williams, Johnny	3	28	9.3	15	0	29t
	Arenas, Joe	3	26	8.7	26	0	29t
1955	Moegle, Dick	6	50	8.3	37	0	7t
1956	Moegle, Dick	6	75	12.5	31t	1	9t
1957	Moegle, Dick	8	107	13.4	40	0	6
1958	Ridlon, Jim	4	10	2.5	3	0	14t
1959	Baker, Dave	5	75	15.0	29	0	6t
1960	Baker, Dave	10	96	9.6	28	0	2t
1961	Baker, Dave	6	123	20.5	10	0	17t
1962	Woodson, Abe	2	31	15.5	31	0	92t
	Hazeltine, Matt	2	24	12.0	12	0	92t
	Pine, Ed	2	16	8.0	13	0	92t
	Mertens, Jerry	2	0	0	0	0	92t
1963	Alexander, Kermit	5	72	17.4	38	0	25t
1964	Alexander, Kermit	5	65	13.0	24	0	22t
1965	Johnson, Jimmy	6	47	7.8	26	0	8t
1966	Alexander, Kermit	4	73	18.3	55	0	32t
	Johnson, Jimmy	4	57	14.3	35t	1	32t
1967	Alexander, Kermit	5	72	14.4	48	0	21t
1968	Alexander, Kermit	9	155	17.2	66t	1	3
1969	Alexander, Kermit	5	39	7.8	22	0	15t
	Johnson, Jimmy	5	18	3.6	18	0	15t
1970	Taylor, Bruce	3	70	23.3	70	0	46t/23t
	Phillips, Mel	3	49	16.3	35t	1	46t/23t
	Nunley, Frank	3	42	14.0	24	0	46t/23t
	Taylor, Roosevelt	3	27	9.0	19	0	46t/23t
1971	Taylor, Bruce	3	68	22.7	49	0	58t/29t
	Johnson, Jimmy	3	16	5.3	10	0	58t/29t
	Taylor, Roosevelt	3	13	4.3	13	0	58t/29t
1972	Johnson, Jimmy	4	18	4.5	15	0	20t/7t
1973	Taylor, Bruce	6	30	5.0	22	0	4t/2t
1974	McGill, Ralph	5	71	14.2	45	0	13t/6t
1975	Taylor, Bruce	3	29	9.7	15	0	54t/26t
1976	Rhodes, Bruce	3	42	14.0	30	0	43t/24t
1977	Washington, Dave	2	68	34.0	50	0	91t/37t
	Phillips, Mel	2	23	11.5	23	0	91t/37t
1978	Crist, Chuck	6	59	26.5	32	0	10t/9t
1979	Hicks, Dwight	5	57	11.4	29	0	17t/8t
1980	Hicks, Dwight	4	73	18.3	44	0	39t/17t
	Churchman, Ricky	4	7	1.8	7	0	39t/17t
1981	Hicks, Dwight	9	239	26.6	72	1	3t/2t
1982	Hicks, Dwight	3	5	1.7	3	0	21t/8t
1983	Wright, Eric	7	164	23.4	60t	2	6t/4t
1984	Turner, Keena	4	51	12.8	21	0	33t/17t
	Lott, Ronnie	4	26	6.5	15	0	33t/17t
1985	Lott, Ronnie	6	68	11.3	25	0	10t/3t
1986	Lott, Ronnie	10	134	13.4	57t	1	1/1
1987	Lott, Ronnie	5	62	12.4	34	0	7t/4t
	Griffin, Don	5	1	0.2	1	0	7t/4t
1988	McKyer, Tim	7	11	1.6	7	0	6t/5
1989	Lott, Ronnie	5	34	6.8	28	0	17t/9t
1990	Waymer, Dave	7	64	9.1	24	0	3t/2t
1991	Waymer, Dave	4	77	19.3	42	0	23t/13t
1992	Griffin, Don	5	4	0.8	2	0	15t/5t
1993	McGruder, Michael	5	89	17.8	37	1	14t/6t
1994	Hanks, Merton	7	93	13.3	38	0	4t/4t
1995	Drakeford, Tyronne	5	54	10.8	37	0	15t/10t
	Hanks, Merton	5	31	6.2	23	0	15t/10t
1996	Pope, Marquez	6	98	16.3	55t	1	4t/2t
1997	Hanks, Merton	6	103	17.2	55t	1	5t/3t
1998	Walker, Darnell	4	78	19.5	36	0	24t/11t
	Hanks, Merton	4	37	9.3	37	0	24t/11t
	Bronson, Zack	4	34	8.5	28	0	24t/11t
	McDonald, Tim	4	22	5.5	18	0	24t/11t
1999	Schulters, Lance	6	127	21.2	64t	1	6t/3t
2000	Bronson, Zack	3	75	25.0	43	0	46t/21t
	Montgomery, Monty	3	68	22.7	46t	1	46t/21t
2001	Bronson, Zack	7	165	23.6	97t	2	7t/4t
	Plummer, Ahmed	7	45	6.4	24	0	7t/4t
2002	Parrish, Tony	7	204	29.1	60	0	3t/2t
2003	Parrish, Tony	9	202	22.4	49	0	1t/1t
2004	Parrish, Tony	4	64	16.0	26	0	21t/10t
2005	Spencer, Shawntae	4	85	21.3	61t	1	19t/9t
	Adams, Mike	4	36	9.0	40t	1	19t/9t
2006	Harris, Walt	8	84	10.5	42	1	3t/1t
2007	Clements, Nate	4	74	18.5	62	0	23t/11t
	Harris, Walt	4	42	10.5	23	0	23t/11t
2008	Harris, Walt	3	25	8.3	24	0	30t/13t
	Spikes, Takeo	3	14	4.7	13	0	30t/13t
2009	Goldson, Dashon	4	39	9.8	34	0	23t/14t
2010	Clements, Nate	3	46	15.3	39	0	31t/21t
	Spikes, Takeo	3	9	3.0	6	0	31t/21t
	Spencer, Shawntae	3	0	0.0	0	0	31t/21t
2011	Goldson, Dashon	6	53	8.8	21	0	4t/2t
	Rogers, Carlos	6	106	17.7	31t	1	4t/2t
2012	Goldson, Dashon	3	21	7.0	20	0	29t/17t
2013	Brock, Tramaine	5	82	16.4	41	1	5t/5t
2014	Cox, Perrish	5	12	2.4	10	0	3t/2t
2015	Acker, Kenneth	3	45	15.0	45	0	24t/10t
	Brock, Tramaine	3	26	8.7	26	0	24t/10t
2016	Hodges, Gerald	2	27	13.5	21	0	47t/23t
2017	Armstrong, Ray–Ray	2	29	14.5	29	0	53t/28t
	Reid, Eric	2	0	0.0	0	0	53t/28t
	Witherspoon, A.	2	42	21.0	23	0	53t/28t
2018	Exum Jr., Antone	1	32	32.0	32	1	99t/46t
	Tartt, Jaquiski	**1**	**23**	**23.0**	**23**	**0**	**99t/46t**
2019	Sherman, Richard	3	65	21.7	31t	1	20t/7t
2020	Taylor, Jamar	2	8	4.0	8	0	41t/22t
	Verrett, Jason	**2**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**41t/22t**
	Warner, Fred	**2**	**3**	**1.5**	**3**	**0**	**41t/22t**

49ERS YEARLY STATISTICAL LEADERS

ALL–PURPOSE YARDS (SINCE 1950)

		Rush		Rec		Off	Punt Ret		Kick Ret		Ret	Def	Tot
Year	Player	No	Yds	No	Yds	Yds	No	Yds	No	Yds	Yds	Yds	Yds
1950	Perry, Joe	124	647	13	69	716	0	0	12	223	0	0	939
1951	Perry, Joe	136	677	18	167	844	0	0	1	32	0	0	876
1952	McElhenny, Hugh	98	684	26	367	1,051	20	284	20	284	680	0	1,731
1953	McElhenny, Hugh	112	503	30	474	977	15	104	15	368	472	0	1,449
1954	Perry, Joe	173	1,049	26	203	1,252	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,252
1955	Wilson, Billy	0	0	53	831	831	0	0	0	0	0	0	831
1956	McElHenny, Hugh	185	916	16	193	1,109	15	38	13	300	338	0	1,447
1957	McElhenny, Hugh	102	478	37	458	936	0	0	0	0	0	0	936
1958	Perry, Joe	125	758	23	218	976	0	0	0	0	0	0	976
1959	Smith, J.D.	207	1,036	13	133	1,169	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,169
1960	Smith, J.D.	174	780	36	181	961	0	0	0	0	0	0	961
1961	Smith, J.D.	167	823	28	343	1,166	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,166
1962	Woodson, Abe	0	0	0	0	0	19	179	37	1,157	1,336	0	1,336
1963	Woodson, Abe	0	0	0	0	0	13	95	29	935	1,030	0	1,030
1964	Woodson, Abe	0	0	0	0	0	22	133	32	880	1,013	0	1,013
1965	Parks, Dave	0	0	80	1,344	1,344	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,344
1966	Alexander, Kermit	0	0	0	0	0	30	198	37	984	1,182	0	1,182
1967	Cunningham, Doug	0	0	0	0	0	27	249	31	826	1,075	0	1,075
1968	Willard, Ken	227	967	36	232	1,199	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,199
1969	Cunningham, Doug	147	541	51	484	1,025	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,025
1970	Washington, Gene	0	0	53	1,100	1,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,100
1971	Washington, Vic	191	811	36	317	1,128	0	0	33	858	858	0	1,986
1972	Washington, Vic	141	468	43	393	861	0	0	27	771	771	0	1,632
1973	McGill, Ralph	0	0	0	0	0	22	186	17	374	560	0	560
1974	Jackson, Wilbur	174	705	23	190	895	0	0	0	0	0	0	895
1975	Williams, Delvin	117	631	34	370	1,001	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,001
1976	Williams, Delvin	248	1,203	27	283	1,486	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,486
1977	Williams, Delvin	268	931	20	179	1,110	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,110
1978	Williams, Dave	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	745	745	0	745
1979	Hofer, Paul	123	615	58	662	1,277	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,277
1980	Cooper, Earl	171	720	83	567	1,287	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,287
1981	Clark, Dwight	3	32	85	1,105	1,137	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,137
1982	Clark, Dwight	0	0	60	913	913	0	0	0	0	0	0	913
1983	Craig, Roger	176	725	48	427	1,152	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,152
1984	Tyler, Wendell	246	1,262	28	230	1,492	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,492
1985	Craig, Roger	214	1,050	92	1,016	2,066	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,066
1986	Rice, Jerry	10	72	86	1,570	1,642	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,642
1987	Craig, Roger	215	815	66	492	1,307	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,307
1988	Craig, Roger	310	1,502	76	534	2,036	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,036
1989	Taylor, John	1	6	60	1,077	1,083	36	417	2	51	468	0	1,551
1990	Rice, Jerry	2	0	100	1,502	1,502	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,502
1991	Rice, Jerry	1	2	80	1,206	1,208	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,208
1992	Watters, Ricky	206	1,013	43	405	1,418	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,418
1993	Rice, Jerry	3	69	98	1,503	1,572	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,572
1994	Watters, Ricky	239	877	66	719	1,596	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,596
1995	Rice, Jerry	5	36	122	1,848	1,884	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,884
1996	Rice, Jerry	11	77	108	1,254	1,331	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,331
1997	Hearst, Garrison	234	1,019	21	194	1,213	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,213
1998	Hearst, Garrison	310	1,570	39	535	2,105	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,105
1999	Garner, Charlie	241	1,229	56	535	1,764	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,764
2000	Garner, Charlie	258	1,142	68	647	1,789	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,789
2001	Hearst, Garrison	252	1,206	41	347	1,553	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,553
2002	Owens, Terrell	7	79	100	1,300	1,379	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,379
2003	Barlow, Kevan	201	1,024	35	307	1,331	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,331
2004	Barlow, Kevan	244	822	35	212	1,034	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,034
2005	Hicks, Maurice	59	308	3	12	320	0	0	34	689	689	0	1,009
2006	Gore, Frank	312	1,695	61	485	2,180	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,180
2007	Gore, Frank	260	1,102	53	436	1,538	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,538
2008	Rossum, Allen	1	1	1	4	5	15	223	47	1,259	1,482	0	1,487
2009	Gore, Frank	229	1,120	52	406	1,526	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,526
2010	Ginn Jr., Ted	2	11	12	163	174	24	321	47	992	1,313	0	1,487
2011	Gore, Frank	282	1,211	17	114	1,325	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,325
2012	Gore, Frank	258	1,214	28	234	1,448	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,448
2013	Gore, Frank	292	1,128	16	141	1,269	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,269
2014	Gore, Frank	255	1,106	11	111	1,217	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,217
2015	Boldin, Anquan	0	0	69	789	789	0	0	0	0	0	0	789
2016	Hyde, Carlos	217	988	27	163	1,151	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,151
2017	Hyde, Carlos	240	938	59	350	1,288	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,288
2018	**Kittle, George**	**1**	**10**	**88**	**1,377**	**1,387**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,387**
2019	**Kittle, George**	**5**	**22**	**85**	**1,053**	**1,075**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,075**
2020	**Aiyuk, Brandon**	**6**	**77**	**60**	**748**	**825**	**2**	**26**	**0**	**0**	**26**	**0**	**856**

BEST PERFORMANCES VS. 49ERS

SCORING

Points
36 Gale Sayers, at Chi. (12/12/65)

Touchdowns
6 Gale Sayers, at Chi. (12/12/65)

PATs
8 Rafael Septien, at Dal. (10/12/80)
8 Paige Cothren, vs. LA Rams (10/5/58)

PAT Attempts
8 Rafael Septien, at Dal. (10/12/80)
8 Paige Cothren, vs. LA Rams (10/5/58)

Field Goals
6 Neil Rackers, at Arz. in Mexico City (10/2/05)
5 Jason Sanders, vs. Mia. (10/11/20)
5 Morten Andersen, at Atl. (9/3/00)
5 Chris Jacke, at GB (10/14/96)
5 Morten Andersen, at NO (10/25/87)
5 Lou Michaels, at Bal. (9/25/66)

Field Goal Attempts
7 Morten Andersen, at NO (10/25/87)

Long Field Goal
59 Graham Gano, at Was. (11/6/11)
59 Morten Andersen, at Atl. (12/24/95)
56 Al Del Greco, at Hou. (10/27/96)
55 John Kasay, at Car. (10/24/10)
54 Josh Brown, at StL (1/3/10)
54 Jan Stenerud, vs. KC (12/6/71)

RUSHING

Attempts
35 Clinton Portis, vs. Was. (12/18/04)
Marcel Shipp, at Arz. (10/26/03)
32 Calvin Hill, at Dal. (11/10/74)
Steven Jackson, at StL Rams (12/21/08)

Yards
209 Thomas Rawls, at Sea. (11/22/15), 30 att.
192 Erric Pegram, vs. Atl. (9/19/93), 27 att.
181 Willie Galimore, vs. Chi. (9/16/62), 22 att.
175 Barry Sanders, vs. Det. (12/23/96), 28 att.
174 Rudi Johnson, at Cin. (12/14/03), 21 att.
174 Leroy Kelly, vs. Cle. (11/3/68), 27 att.

Touchdowns
4 LaDainian Tomlinson, vs. SD (10/15/06)
Gale Sayers, at Chi. (12/12/65)
Rick Casares, vs. Chi. (10/28/56)

Long
84t Chester Taylor, vs. Min. (12/9/07)

PASSING

Attempts
65 Tom Brady, at NE (12/16/12)
61 Brett Favre, at GB (10/14/96)
60 Richard Todd, at NYJ (9/21/80)
58 Glenn Foley, vs. NYJ (9/6/98)
58 Jay Schroeder, at Was. (12/1/85)

Completions
42 Richard Todd, at NYJ (9/21/80)
41 Eli Manning, at NYG (10/11/15)
37 Matt Ryan, vs. Atl. (12/23/13)
36 Tom Brady, at NE (12/16/12)
35 Dieter Brock, at LA Rams (10/27/85)

Yards
484 Kurt Warner, at Arz. (11/25/07)
471 Brad Johnson, vs. Was. (12/26/99)
460 Don Meredith, vs. Dal. (11/10/63)
447 Richard Todd, at NYJ (9/21/80)
444 Dan Fouts vs. SD (12/11/82)

Touchdowns
5 Drew Brees, at NO (12/8/19)
5 Donovan McNabb, at Phi. (9/18/05)
5 Kurt Warner, at StL (10/10/99)
5 Vince Ferragamo, at LA Rams (10/23/83)
5 Dan Fouts, vs. SD (12/11/82)

Interceptions
7 Steve DeBerg, at TB (9/7/86)
6 Steve Grogan, vs. NE (11/30/80)

Long
96t Tobin Rote to Billy Grimes, vs. GB (12/10/50)

Times Sacked
10 Phil Simms, vs. NYG (11/23/80)
10 James Harris, at LA Rams (10/11/76)
10 Bill Munson, vs. LA Rams (12/6/64)

RECEIVING

Receptions
17 Clark Gaines, at NYJ (9/21/80)
14 DeAndre Hopkins vs. Arz. (9/13/20)
14 Roy Helu Jr. at Was. (11/6/11)
13 Julio Jones, vs. Atl. (12/15/19)
12 DK Metcalf at Sea. (11/1/20)
12 Roddy White, vs. Atl. (12/23/13)
12 Reggie Wayne, at Ind. (11/1/09)
12 Tim Hightower, at Ari. (9/13/09)
12 Cris Carter, vs. Min. (12/18/95)
12 Michael Irvin, at Dal. (10/17/93)

Yards
220 Don Beebe, at GB (10/14/96)
214 Harlon Hill, vs. Chi. (10/31/54)
213 Terrell Owens, at Dal. (11/23/08)
210 Roddy White, vs. Atl. (10/11/09)
202 Paul Flatley, vs. Min. (10/24/65)

Touchdowns
4 Isaac Bruce, at StL (10/10/99)
4 Ahmad Rashad, at Min. (9/2/79)
4 Harlon Hill, vs. Chi. (10/31/54)

Long
96t Billy Grimes, vs. GB (12/10/50)

INTERCEPTIONS

Interceptions
3 Bill Simpson, vs. LA Rams (11/20/77)
3 Gene Howard, at LA Rams (11/21/71)
3 Roy Winston, vs. Min. (10/25/64)
3 Jerry Richardson, at LAN (10/18/64)
3 Donald Doll, at Det. (10/8/50)

Yards
107 Aaron Martin, at LA Rams (10/18/64)
101 Tom Pridemore, at Atl. (9/20/81)

Long
101t Tom Pridemore, at Atl. (9/20/81)

SACKS

Sacks
4.5 Kevin Greene, vs. LA Rams (12/18/88)
4.0 Aaron Donald, vs. LA Rams (10/21/18)
3.5 Michael Bennett, at Sea. (11/22/15)

PUNTING

Punts
12 Wilbur Summers, vs. Det. (10/23/77)
12 Rusty Jackson, vs. LA Rams (11/21/76)

Average
58.5 Reggie Roby, at Mia. (9/28/86) (min. 4 pts)

Long
90 Don Chandler, at GB (10/10/65)

PUNT RETURNS

Returns
8 Rolland Lawrence, vs. Atl. (10/9/77)
7 Nate Burleson, at Sea. (12/6/09)
7 Alvin Pearman, at Jac. (12/18/05)
7 J.T. Smith, at Phx. (11/6/88)
7 Robbie Martin, vs. Ind. (10/5/86)
7 LeRoy Irvin, vs. LA Rams (10/25/81)
7 Roland Lawrence, vs. Atl. (10/23/76)

Yards
184 Tom Watkins, at Det. (10/6/63)

Long
90t Tom Watkins, at Det. (10/6/63)

KICKOFF RETURNS

Returns
9 Ahmad Merritt, vs. Chi. (9/7/03)
9 Eric Metcalf, vs. Atl. (9/29/96)

Yards
222 Leon Washington, vs. Sea. (12/12/10)
208 Ron Smith, at Chi. (11/19/72)

Long
101 Percy Harvin, at Min. (9/27/09)
101 Mel Gray, vs. NO (9/21/86)

49ERS SINGLE-SEASON TEAM RECORDS

SCORING

Most Points Scored
505 (1994, 16 games)
479 (2019, 16 games)
479 (1998, 16 games)

Highest Average
31.6 (1994, 16 games)
31.0 (1953, 12 games)
30.6 (1987, 15 games)

Fewest Points Scored
198 (1963, 14 games)
208 (1960, 12 games)
209 (1982, 9 games)
213 (1950, 12 games)

Lowest Average
13.7 (2007, 16 games)
13.7 (1978, 16 games)
14.1 (1963, 14 games)

TOUCHDOWNS

Most Scored
66 (1994, 16 games)
61 (1998, 16 games)
(1993, 16 games)
59 (1987, 16 games)

Fewest Scored
21 (1960, 12 games)
23 (2005, 16 games)

Most Allowed
56 (2016, 16 games)
54 (2004, 16 games)
(1979, 16 games)
53 (1999, 16 games)

Fewest Allowed
23 (2011, 16 games)
23 (1971, 14 games)
24 (1984, 16 games)
24 (1982, 9 games)
24 (1951, 12 games)

Most by Rushing Allowed
25 (2016, 16 games)
24 (1979, 16 games)
(1955, 12 games)
23 (1956, 12 games)

Most by Passing Allowed
36 (1999, 16 games)
35 (2018, 16 games)
30 (2016, 16 games)
29 (1980, 16 games)

KICKING

Most Field Goals Made
44 (2011, 16 games)
39 (2017, 16 games)
33 (2018, 16 games)
32 (2013, 16 games)
30 (2019, 16 games)
30 (1996, 16 games)

Most PATs Made
60 (1994, 16 games)
59 (1993, 16 games)
56 (1984, 16 games)

RUSHING

Most Attempts
585 (1978, 16 games)
576 (1976, 14 games)
564 (1977, 14 games)

Most Yards Gained
2,544 (1998, 16 games)
2,523 (1988, 16 games)
2,498 (1954, 12 games)

Highest Average
5.7 (1954, 12 games)
5.2 (1998, 16 games)
5.1 (2012, 16 games)

Most Touchdowns
28 (1954, 12 games)
27 (1961, 14 games)
26 (1993, 16 games)
26 (1953, 12 games)

PASSING

Most Attempts
644 (1995, 16 games)
607 (2017, 16 games)
602 (1979, 16 games)
597 (1980, 16 games)
583 (2000, 16 games)
583 (1990, 16 games)

Most Completions
432 (1995, 16 games)
371 (2020, 16 games)
366 (2000, 16 games)
363 (1980, 16 games)
362 (2017, 16 games)

Highest Completion Pct.
70.3 (1994, 16 games)
70.2 (1989, 16 games)
69.2 (2019, 16 games)
67.6 (1993, 16 games)
67.1 (1995, 16 games)

Most Yds Gained (Gross)
4,779 (1995, 16 games)
4,584 (1989, 16 games)
4,510 (1998, 16 games)
4,480 (1993, 16 games)
4,400 (2000, 16 games)

Most Touchdowns
44 (1987, 15 games)
41 (1998, 16 games)
37 (1994, 16 games)
35 (1965, 14 games)
35 (1989, 16 games)

Highest Avg. Gain Per Att.
9.49 (1989, 16 games)
8.84 (1961, 14 games)
8.55 (1993, 16 games)

TOTAL NET YARDS

Most Yards Gained
6,800 (1998, 16 games)
6,435 (1993, 16 games)
6,366 (1984, 16 games)
6,268 (1989, 16 games)
6,195 (1992, 16 games)

FIRST DOWNS

Most First Downs
381 (1998, 16 games)
372 (1993, 16 games)
362 (1994, 16 games)
357 (1987, 15 games)
356 (1984, 16 games)

Most by Rushing
141 (2002, 16 games)
141 (1988, 16 games)
138 (1984, 16 games)

Most by Passing
231 (1995, 16 games)
223 (1998, 16 games)
217 (2020, 16 games)

Most by Penalty
45 (2018, 16 games)
34 (2014, 16 games)
34 (1978, 16 games)
32 (2020, 16 games)
31 (2019, 16 games)
31 (2011, 16 games)

FUMBLES

Most Opp. Fumbles Recovered
27 (1978, 16 games)
22 (1959, 12 games)
21 (1981, 16 games)
21 (1950, 12 games)

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Thrown
36 (1978, 16 games)
29 (1958, 12 games)
28 (1974, 14 games)
28 (1955, 12 games)

Most Intercepted
39 (1986, 16 games)
33 (1951, 12 games)
27 (1981, 16 games)

PENALTIES

Most Penalties
134 (2000, 16 games)
133 (1998, 16 games)
123 (2017, 16 games)

Most Yards Penalized
1,156 (1998, 16 games)
1,135 (2000, 16 games)
1,045 (1999, 16 games)

QUARTERBACK SACKS*

Most Sacks Recorded
60 (1985, 16 games)
57 (1983, 16 games)
54 (1997, 16 games)

Most Sacks Allowed
55 (2008, 16 games)
55 (2007, 16 games)
53 (1998, 16 games)

Fewest Sacks Allowed
20 (1982, 9 games)
22 (2002, 16 games)
24 (1991, 16 games)

**Since 1982*

Best Season, Win Percentage
.938 – 1984

Best Season, Win Total
Won 15, Lost 1 – 1984

Worst Season, Win Percentage
.125 – 1978, 1979, 2004, 2016

Longest Winning Streak
15 – 11/27/89 to 11/18/90

Longest Winning Streak at Home
19 – 12/23/96 to 10/3/99

Longest Losing Streak at Home
11 – 10/2/16 to 11/5/17

Longest Winning Streak on Road
18 – 11/27/88 to 12/30/90

Longest Losing Streak on Road
18 – 12/4/77 to 12/16/79

Longest Losing Streak
13 – 9/18/16 to 12/18/16

Most Consecutive Wins to Start Season
10 – 1990

Most Consecutive Wins to End Season
9 – 1984

Most Consecutive Losses to Start Season
9 – 2017

Most Consecutive Losses to End Season
5 – 1963

Total Shutouts by 49ers
31 – Last at Was. (10/20/19)

Most Shutouts in a Season
3 – 2001

Most Consecutive Games Scored Points
420 – 10/16/77 to 9/19/04

Largest Comeback Victory
38–35 (OT) victory vs. New Orleans at Candlestick Park, December 7, 1980 (came back from 35–7 deficit in 2nd qtr.)

49ERS SINGLE-GAME TEAM RECORDS

SCORING

Most Points Scored
- 56 vs. Atl. (10/18/92)
- 55 at Det. (12/19/93)
- 52 vs. Chi. (12/23/91)
- 52 vs. Chi. (12/19/65)
- 51 vs. Min. (12/8/84)
- 51 vs. Car. (10/27/19)

Most Points Allowed
- 61 at Chi. (12/12/65)
- 59 at Dal. (10/12/80)
- 56 vs. LAN (11/9/58)

Most Points by Both Teams
- 94 49ers 48, Saints 46 (at NO), 12/8/19
- 83 49ers 41, Vikings 42 (at SF), 10/24/65
- 81 49ers 20, Bears 61 (at Chi.), 12/12/65

Most Points Scored in 1st Quarter
- 27 vs. GB (12/7/58)
- 21 (Several times) Last: vs. Min. (12/18/95)

Most Points Allowed in 1st Quarter
- 24 at Chi. (10/29/06)

Most Points Scored in 2nd Quarter
- 28 at Min. (9/8/83)
- 28 vs. LA Rams (10/28/51)
- 24 (Several times) Last: vs. Atl. (12/4/94)

Most Points Allowed in 2nd Quarter
- 28 at Min. (9/29/63)
- 27 at NYG (10/14/79)

Most Points Scored in 1st Half
- 42 vs. Atl. (10/18/92)
- 41 at Min. (9/8/83)
- 38 vs. LA Rams (10/28/51)

Most Points Allowed in 1st Half
- 41 at Chi. (10/29/06)
- 38 at Dal. (10/12/80)

Most Points Scored in 3rd Quarter
- 21 vs. Arz. (1/2/11)
- 21 at NO (9/4/88)
- 21 at StL (9/18/83)
- 21 vs. Hou. (12/13/81)
- 21 vs. NO (10/21/73)

Most Points Allowed in 3rd Quarter
- 24 vs. StL (10/6/74)
- 21 (Several times) Last: at Den. (10/19/14)

Most Points Scored in 4th Quarter
- 28 vs. Chi. (12/22/91)
- 28 at Phi. (9/24/89)
- 28 at LA Rams (10/23/83)

Most Points Allowed in 4th Quarter
- 28 at StL (12/30/02)
- 24 at NE (12/16/12)
- 23 vs. Phi. (10/12/08)

Most Points Scored in 2nd Half
- 35 vs. Atl. (9/15/85)
- 31 at LA Rams (10/23/83)
- 30 vs. NO (10/21/73)

Most Points Allowed in 2nd Half
- 36 at NO (11/23/69)
- 35 at Jac. (9/12/99)

Most Decisive Victory
- 49 49ers 49 at Lions 0, 10/1/61

Most Decisive Loss
- 45 Cowboys 59 vs. 49ers 14, 10/12/80

TOUCHDOWNS

Most Scored
- 8 vs. Atl. (10/18/92)
- 7 vs. Car. (10/27/19)
- 7 vs. Arz. (12/7/03)
- 7 at Det. (12/19/93)
- 7 vs. Chi. (12/23/91)
- 7 vs. LA Rams (12/27/87)
- 7 at Atl. (10/29/72)
- 7 vs. Chi. (9/19/65))
- 7 at Det. (10/1/61)
- 7 vs. GB (12/7/58)
- 7 vs. Dal. Texans (10/26/52)

Most Allowed
- 9 at Chi. (12/12/65)
- 8 at Dal. (10/12/80)
- 8 at LA Rams (11/9/58)

Most Scored by Rushing
- 6 at Det. (10/1/61)

Most Allowed by Rushing
- 5 at Chi. (12/12/65)
- 5 vs. Chi. (10/28/56)
- 5 vs. Cle. (10/2/55)

Most Scored by Passing
- 6 at Atl. (10/14/90)

Most Allowed by Passing
- 5 (7 times) Last: at NO (12/8/19)

KICKING

Most Field Goals Made
- 6 vs. Ten. (12/17/17)
- 6 vs. Atl. (9/29/96)
- 6 at NO (10/16/83)

Most Field Goals Allowed
- 6 vs. Arz. (10/2/05), Mex. City

NET YARDS

Most Yards Gained
- 621 vs. Buf. (10/7/12) (311 rush, 310 pass)
- 598 vs. Buf. (9/13/92) (159 rush, 439 pass)
- 597 vs. Bal. (12/13/53) (252 rush, 345 pass)
- 590 vs. Atl. (10/18/92) (191 rush, 399 pass)

Most Yards Allowed
- 584 at Chi. (12/12/65) (183 rush, 401 pass)
- 583 at Phi. (9/18/05) (140 rush, 443 pass)
- 577 vs. LA Rams (11/9/58) (324 rush, 253 pass)

Fewest Yards Gained
- 61 at Det. (10/6/63) (71 rush, –10 pass)
- 81 vs. GB (12/10/60) (71 rush, 10 pass)
- 88 vs. LA Rams (11/21/76) (70 rush, 18 pass)

Fewest Yards Allowed
- 44 vs. Atl. (10/23/76) (83 rush, –39 pass)
- 65 at Det. (10/12/52) (40 rush, 25 pass)
- 82 vs. NO (10/21/73) (97 rush, –15 pass)

FIRST DOWNS

Most First Downs
- 36 vs. Ind. (10/18/98)
- 33 vs. Hou. (11/8/87)
- 32 vs. LA Rams (11/20/94)

Most First Downs Allowed
- 32 at NE (12/16/12)
- 32 at StL (9/17/00)

Fewest First Downs
- 3 vs. Bal. (11/22/59)
- 5 at Bal. (10/13/63)

Fewest First Downs Allowed
- 2 vs. NO (10/21/73)
- 4 at Det. (10/12/52)

Most by Rushing
- 21 vs. Det. (12/14/98)
- 20 at Min. (10/15/61)

Fewest by Rushing
- 0 at Min. (12/14/69)
- 0 at Bal. (10/13/63)

Most Allowed by Rushing
- 19 at GB (10/11/59)

Fewest Allowed by Rushing
- 0 (8 times) Last: at StL (9/26/13)

Most by Passing
- 24 at Cin. (12/5/99)
- 24 at Atl. (10/14/90)

Most Allowed by Passing
- 25 at NYJ (9/21/80)
- 23 vs. Dal. (11/10/63)

Fewest by Passing
- 1 (6 times) Last: vs. TB (10/30/05)

Fewest Allowed by Passing
- 0 vs. NO (10/21/73)
- 0 vs. LA Rams (10/10/71)

Most by Penalty
- 8 at NO (10/11/98)

Most Allowed by Penalty
- 8 vs. Oak. (10/8/00)

RUSHING

Most Attempts
- 59 at Min. (12/4/77)
- 56 vs. Det. (10/25/63)
- 56 at GB (Milw.) (10/10/54)
- 56 vs. Bal. (10/29/50)

Most Attempts Allowed
- 62 at Chi. (11/19/50)
- 59 at Dal. (10/12/80)

Fewest Attempts
- 10 at GB (11/22/09)

Most Yards Gained
- 355 vs. SD (12/20/14)
- 328 vs. Det. (12/14/98)
- 324 at Min. (10/15/61)

Most Yards Allowed
- 324 at LA Rams (11/9/58)

Fewest Yards Gained
- 5 vs. Hou. (12/7/75)
- 12 at Min. (12/14/69)

Fewest Yards Allowed
- 7 at Arz. (10/29/12)
- 7 at NO (10/1/72)

49ERS SINGLE-GAME TEAM RECORDS

PASSING

Most Attempts
63 vs. Phi. (11/25/02)
60 at Was. (12/17/86)
57 vs. Arz. (10/10/04)
57 at Atl. (10/6/85)

Most Attempts Allowed
65 at NE (12/16/12)
61 at GB (10/14/96)
60 at NYJ (9/21/80)
58 vs. NYJ (9/6/98)
58 at Mia. (9/28/86)
58 at Was. (12/1/85)

Fewest Attempts
8 vs. NO (11/27/77)
8 vs. Min. (11/29/76)
12 at Atl. (11/6/77)
12 at GB (9/12/76)
12 vs. LAN (10//28/51)

Fewest Attempts Allowed
4 vs. NO (10/15/78)
6 at NYG (10/16/77)
7 at NO (11/13/77)

Most Completions
38 vs. Arz. (10/10/04)
37 at Atl. (10/6/85)
36 at Dal. (12/8/02)
36 vs. Phi. (11/25/02)
36 vs. Chi. (12/17/00)

Most Completions Allowed
42 at NYJ (11/21/80)
41 at NYG (10/11/15)
37 vs. Atl. (12/23/13)
36 at NE (12/16/12)
35 at Arz. (11/25/07)
35 at LA Rams (10/27/85)
35 at Mia. (9/28/86)

Fewest Completions
1 at Chi. (11/13/05)
3 vs. Min. (11/29/76)
4 vs. Pit. (9/19/77)

Fewest Completions Allowed
2 vs. NO (10/15/78)
2 at NYG (10/16/77)
2 vs. LA Rams (10/10/71)

Most Yards Gained (gross)
488 at LA Rams (11/29/93)
476 at Atl. (10/14/90)
458 at LA Rams (12/11/89)

Most Yards Allowed (gross)
486 at Arz. (11/25/07)
471 vs. Was. (12/26/99)
460 vs. Dal. (11/10/63)

Fewest Yards Gained (gross)
28 at Chi. (11/13/05)
32 vs. Min. (11/29/76)
33 at LAN (11/4/51)
34 vs. GB (12/10/60)

Fewest Yards Allowed (gross)
13 vs. Chi. (9/16/62)
13 vs. LA Rams (10/10/71)
17 vs. NO (10/21/73)
31 vs. NO (10/15/78)

PENALTIES

Most Penalties
22 at Buf. (10/4/98)
16 at Atl. (1/3/00)
15 at Det. (10/16/11)
15 vs. Car. (12/8/96)
15 at Was. (11/17/86)

Most Penalties by Opponent
17 at Atl. (11/5/78)

Fewest Penalties
0 (3 times) Last: at NO (1/6/02)

Fewest Penalties by Opponent
0 (5 times) Last: at Bal. (10/26/69)

Most Yards Penalized
178 at Buf. (10/4/98)
177 at LA Rams (9/18/94)
168 at StL (10/24/71)

Most Yards Opponent Penalized
165 at Min. (10/13/66)
136 at LA Rams (10/8/78)
135 vs. StL (11/14/10)
133 vs. Cin. (10/1/78)

Fewest Yards Penalized
0 (3 times) Last: at NO (1/6/02)

Fewest Yards Opponent Penalized
0 (5 times) Last: at Bal. (10/26/69)

FUMBLES

Most Committed
10 at Det. (12/17/78)

Most Lost
6 at Min. (10/15/61)
6 at Cle. (11/12/50)

Most Committed by Opponent
8 vs. Min. (10/24/65)
8 at NYG (12/1/57)

Most Lost by Opponent
6 at NYG (12/1/57)

INTERCEPTIONS

Most Intercepted
7 at TB (9/7/86)
6 vs. NO (9/14/97)
6 vs. NE (11/30/80)
6 at Chi. (10/17/54)
6 vs. LA Rams (10/28/51)

Most Thrown
7 at LA Rams (10/18/64)
6 vs. Bal. (12/5/59)
6 at Det. (11/4/73)

Most Interception Yards
171 vs. StL (11/26/95)
163 at GB (10/26/86)

Most Interception Yards By Opponent
314 at LA Rams (10/18/64)
147 vs. Was. (12/18/04)

TURNOVERS

Most Forced by Defense
9 at Oak. (12/20/70), 4 FRs, 5 INTs
8 vs. NO (9/14/97), 2 FRs, 6 INTs
8 vs. Cin. (10/1/78), 3 FRs, 5 INTs
8 at Chi. (10/17/54), 2 FRs, 6 INTs

Most Committed
10 at Dal. (10/12/80), 5 FRs, 5 INTs
9 at Cle. (11/12/50), 6 FRs, 3 INTs

PUNTS

Most Punts
11 vs. LA Rams (11/21/76)
11 at Chi. (10/17/54)

Most Punts by Opponent
12 vs. Det. (10/23/77)
12 vs. LA Rams (11/21/76)

Fewest Punts
0 (8 times) Last at NYG (9/27/20)

Fewest Punts by Opponent
0 (2 times) Last: at NO (10/20/02)

PUNT RETURNS

Most Punt Returns
9 vs. NO (10/17/76)
9 at Atl. (10/29/72)
8 (6 times) Last: vs. StL (11/21/82)

Most Punt Returns by Opponent
9 at Det. (10/6/63)
9 vs. Atl. (10/9/77)

Most Punt Return Yards
146 vs. Phi. (9/27/59)
141 vs. NO (10/17/76)
137 vs. LAN (1/2/83)

Most Punt Return Yards by Opponent
231 at Det. (10/6/63)
166 vs. LA Rams (10/25/81)

KICKOFF RETURNS

Most Kickoff Returns
10 vs. SD (10/15/06)
9 (6 times): Last vs. Phi. (10/12/08)

Most Kickoff Returns by Opponent
10 vs. Atl. (9/29/96)
9 (6 times) Last vs. Chi. (9/7/03)

Most Kickoff Return Yards
256 at Det. (11/14/54)
248 at Det. (9/23/62)

Most Kickoff Return Yards by Opponent
260 at Dal. (11/11/65)
233 vs. NO (9/21/86)

SACKS

Most Sacks Made
10 vs. NYG (11/23/80)
10 at LA Rams (10/11/76)
10 vs. LA Rams (12/6/64)

Most Sacks Allowed
9 at Cle. (12/13/15)
9 at Bal. (11/24/11)
9 at GB (11/1/98)
9 vs. LA Rams (12/18/88)

ALL-TIME TEAM HIGHS AND LOWS

49ERS HIGHS			CATEGORY	49ERS LOWS		
56	vs. Atl.	10/18/92	POINTS	0	(13 times) last vs. TB	11/21/10
8	vs. Atl.	10/18/92	TOUCHDOWNS	0	last at Was.	10/20/19
6	at Det.	10/1/61	RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS	0	last at Arz.	12/26/20
6	at Atl.	10/14/90	PASSING TOUCHDOWNS	0	last at LAR	11/29/20
6	last vs. Ten.	12/17/17	FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED	0	last vs. Was.	12/13/20
6	last vs. Ten.	12/17/17	FIELD GOALS MADE	0	last at Arz.	12/26/20
36	vs. Ind.	10/18/98	TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	3	vs. Bal.	11/22/59
21	vs. Det.	12/14/98	RUSHING FIRST DOWNS	0	last at Min.	12/14/69
24	(2 times) last at Cin.	12/5/99	PASSING FIRST DOWNS	1	(6 times) last vs. TB	10/30/05
621	vs. Buf.	10/7/12	TOTAL NET YARDS	61	at Det.	10/6/63
59	at Min.	12/4/77	RUSHING ATTEMPTS	10	at GB	11/22/09
355	vs. SD	12/20/14	NET RUSHING YARDS	5	vs. Hou.	12/7/75
475	at LA Rams	11/29/93	NET YARDS PASSING	–10	at Det.	10/6/63
9	(4 times) last at Cle.	12/13/15	QB SACKS ALLOWED	0	last vs. Buf.	12/7/20
488	at LA Rams	11/29/93	GROSS YARDS PASSING	28	at Chi.	11/13/05
63	vs. Phi.	11/25/02	PASS ATTEMPTS	8	(2 times) last vs. NO	11/27/77
38	vs. Arz.	10/10/04	PASS COMPLETIONS	1	at Chi.	11/13/05
7	at LA Rams	10/18/64	INTERCEPTIONS THROWN	0	last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
9	at Oak.	12/20/70	TOTAL TAKEAWAYS	0	last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
10	at Det.	12/17/78	FUMBLES BY	0	last vs. Buf.	12/7/20
6	at Min.	10/15/61	FUMBLES LOST	0	last vs. Buf.	12/7/20
11	(2 times) last vs. LAN	11/21/76	PUNTS	0	(8 times) last at NYG	9/27/20
61.0	at Cle.	9/13/93	PUNTING AVERAGE	0	(8 times) last at NYG	9/27/20
22	at Buf.	10/4/98	PENALTIES	0	(3 times) last at NO	1/6/02
178	at Buf.	10/4/98	YARDS PENALIZED	0	(3 times) last at NO	1/6/02

OPPONENT'S HIGHS			CATEGORY	OPPONENT'S LOWS		
61	at Chi.	12/12/65	POINTS	0	(31 times) last at Was.	10/20/19
9	at Chi.	12/12/65	TOUCHDOWNS	0	(97 times) last at NE	10/25/20
5	(3 times) last at Chi.	12/12/65	RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS	0	last vs. Was.	12/13/20
5	(7 times) last at NO	12/8/19	PASSING TOUCHDOWNS	0	last at Arz.	12/26/20
7	vs. NO	10/25/87	FIELD GOALS ATTEMPTED	0	last at Sea.	12/29/19
6	at Arz.	10/2/05	FIELD GOALS MADE	0	last at Sea.	12/29/19
32	at StL	9/17/00	TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	2	vs. NO	10/21/73
19	at GB	10/11/59	RUSHING FIRST DOWNS	0	(8 times) last at StL	9/26/13
25	at NYJ	9/21/80	PASSING FIRST DOWNS	0	(2 times) last vs. NO	10/21/73
584	at Chi.	12/12/65	TOTAL NET YARDS	44	vs. Atl.	10/23/76
62	vs. Chi.	9/24/50	RUSHING ATTEMPTS	8	vs. StL	11/2/03
324	at LA Rams	11/9/58	NET RUSHING YARDS	7	(2 times) last at Arz.	10/29/12
456	at Arz.	11/25/07	NET YARDS PASSING	–39	vs. Atl.	10/23/76
10	(3 times) last vs. NYG	11/23/80	QB SACKS ALLOWED	0	last vs. LAR	10/18/20
486	at Arz.	11/25/07	GROSS YARDS PASSING	13	(2 times) last vs. LAN	10/10/71
65	at NE	12/16/12	PASS ATTEMPTS	4	vs. NO	10/15/78
42	vs. NYJ	9/21/80	PASS COMPLETIONS	2	(3x) vs. NO	10/15/78
7	at TB	9/7/86	INTERCEPTIONS THROWN	0	last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
10	at Dal.	10/12/80	TOTAL TAKEAWAYS	0	last vs. LAR	10/18/20
8	(2 times) last vs. Min.	10/24/65	FUMBLES BY	0	last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
6	at NYG	12/1/57	FUMBLES LOST	0	last vs. Sea.	1/3/21
12	(2 times) last vs. Det.	10/23/77	PUNTS	0	(2 times) last at NO	10/20/02
62.0	at GB	10/21/62	PUNTING AVERAGE	0	(2 times) last at NO	10/20/02
17	at Atl.	11/5/78	PENALTIES	0	(5 times) last at Bal.	10/26/69
165	at Min.	10/13/66	YARDS PENALIZED	0	(5 times) last at Bal.	10/26/69

49ERS

2021 Feature Clips



Week 1
San Francisco at Detroit

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John Lynch

49ers: How John Lynch's tough-love 'teddy bear' dad propelled him to Canton

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 6, 2021

John Lynch was on his back, gasping for air, looking up at a group of concerned teammates and coaches.

But then the scenery changed for the Pop Warner quarterback of the Torrey Pines Falcons who'd had the wind knocked out of him. The only person the middle-schooler could see was his dad, John Sr., also known as Big John, a hulking 6-foot-5 former linebacker with size-15 feet who was a 13th-round pick of the Steelers in 1969.

"My dad said, 'You know, guys, I think he just needs some space,'" Lynch said. "So everybody backs up and he said, 'Johnny,' — he called me Johnny back then — 'if you ever lay on the field again for anything other than your neck, it's going to hurt a lot worse when you get home.'"

The message stuck. Lynch, a hellacious-hitting safety, would spend the rest of his football career stubbornly trying to get to his feet when told otherwise by trainers or doctors, as if his father was, again, about to enter the picture. Yes, Big John had a huge impact on his son, the 49ers' general manager who will be enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, on Sunday in recognition of a 15-year career that included nine Pro Bowl berths with the Buccaneers and Broncos.

Lynch, 49, was a high school QB who was recruited by powers such as USC and Notre Dame. And he was a Stanford pitcher who was a second-round pick in the 1992 Major League Baseball Draft. He owes much of his ability to his mom, Cathy, a runner and golfer known as the family's best athlete. But the man who once knocked out his brother-in-law, Bears tight end John Allred, and was placed among the 10 most feared hitters in league history by NFL Films, is known more for his on-field intensity than athleticism. And that defining quality was transferred from Big John.

His dad was his Little League manager … who was ejected from multiple games (John Sr. didn't dispute the charge: "I'm still chagrined. What was I thinking? But at the time it was damn important to us.") And his dad once chartered a jet to Pullman, Wash., hours after his son verbally committed to Washington State on a recruiting trip and had pointed words for Cougars coach Dennis Erickson (His reaction when this was mentioned: "Oh my Lord.")

And his dad was livid with Stanford quarterbacks coach Ron Turner after his son, a backup QB who was never given a start, was moved to safety. (Explained John Sr.: "I used to get really pissed off at Ron Turner for not playing him and I'd give him the evil eye.") And his dad had a supporting role in what Lynch terms the best performance of his football career. That was in Stanford's upset win over Notre Dame in 1992 in which Lynch's helmet was taken away after he suffered a concussion.

Recalled Lynch of his dad's message from his seat near Stanford's sideline in an era where concussion protocols were nonexistent: "It was something like, 'Get your helmet and get back in the you-know-what game.'"

Lynch laughs as he relays such stories, but he also has reflected deeply on his influences while preparing for induction weekend. And he wants to place his dad in proper context.

Yes, Big John began taking his three children to 5:30 a.m. workouts at a San Diego gym when John was 8, Kara was 10 and Ryan was 5. But then he'd take them to Mass at St. James in Solana Beach, followed by a trip to Solana Donuts because he also was passionate about faith and fun. And, yes, he'd occasionally lose his cool with teenage Little League umpires. But the businessman who built a radio empire, selling Noble Broadcast Group for $152 million in 1996, never missed his children's sporting

events despite his grueling travel schedule: He'd regularly arrive just before those Little League games after an East Coast flight — and then take the team to a Mexican restaurant or pizza joint afterward.

"My dad was tough, but tough in a good way," Lynch said. "Tough in that he had expectations. He was also incredibly loving, as was my mom. They both taught that you have to dream big. And you have to set your goals high. And everything you did, you did your best. And they were such great examples because they always taught us that it was not just a nice thing, but it was responsibility to give back to your community. …

"But, yeah, I'd go 4-for-5 in a Little League game and he'd say, 'What happened on the fifth one?' He did it in such a way that he pulled it off. And my mom was always there to pick me up when he was a little ticked off and I had to walk home because I was 3-for-5."

Kara, 51, who runs a health and wellness company, says her dad "expected greatness" from his children but is a "teddy bear." And Ryan, 46, a former minor-league pitcher who is the co-CEO of a real-estate investment company, terms his dad — who regularly woke him for 5 a.m. backyard batting-cage sessions — a "softy." And John Sr. was warm, self-deprecating and funny during a recent 30-minute phone interview. Asked about his anticipated emotions during his son's induction speech, he cracked: "First of all, we're Irish, so we cry when they mow the lawn."

Lynch notes his dad never even spanked his children. And Big John, asked about his reaction when John was laying down on the field with the wind knocked out him, said some of his rhetoric was for effect.

"I never would have put John in harm's way," he said. "But, yeah, basically it was, 'You get your ass back in there.'"

There's no question Big John forcefully directed some of his son's steps on his path to Canton.

In eighth grade, Lynch began regularly surfing with a new group of friends. His dad noticed a change in his attitude, which included an occasionally disrespectful tone with his mom. One morning, Lynch couldn't locate the surfboard he was certain he left in the garage. He called his dad at work.

"He said, 'I've got your surfboard,'" Lynch said. "'You can have it back after high school. And you'll thank me later.'"

As a senior at Torrey Pines High School, Lynch took his recruiting visit to Washington State, a trip that preceded his visit to Stanford. During his trip, he excitedly called his parents and told them he'd verbally committed. His mom mentioned he'd yet to see Stanford. His dad was mostly silent. The next morning, his dad arrived unannounced at a brunch for recruits at Erickson's house.

"My dad walks in and asks coach Erickson and me to come into a room for a moment," Lynch said, laughing. "I mean, it's not his house. I'm like, 'Dad what are you doing here?'"

Big John explained to the coach that his son would not sign until he'd visited Stanford. Erickson ended up leaving WSU for Miami a few weeks later.

At Stanford, Lynch couldn't crack the starting lineup at QB and strongly considered turning his full attention to baseball. But head coach Dennis Green convinced him to transition to safety as a junior. This time, Lynch, who knew his dad would be irate, called his parents and explained that he'd made the decision and it was final. In other words: Dad, don't intervene.

"That was kind of symbolic of me becoming a man," Lynch said. "I was like, 'I appreciate everything you've done for me, but I've got this now.'"

If not for the position switch, Lynch wouldn't have been stunned by a knock at his house in Rancho Santa Fe in January. Hall of Fame president David Baker delivered the news that Lynch, an eight-time finalist,

had finally been voted into the Hall of Fame. In the emotional ensuing celebration, Big John raised a toast to the son he'd loved deeply, pushed hard and, finally, let go — while clinging to a long-held belief.

He said, 'Cathy and I are so proud of Johnny,'" Lynch recalled, "'although I still think he would have made it as a quarterback.' I'm like, 'Dad, give it up!'"

49ers' John Lynch enjoying 'real special weekend' at Pro Football Hall of Fame

By Cam Inman
San Jose Mercury News
August 6, 2021

John Lynch is away from the 49ers on assignment, if you will. His long-awaited entry to the Pro Football Hall of Fame is underway.

Lynch is in Canton, Ohio ahead of Sunday's formal enshrinement. That will cap a four-day detour from 49ers training camp in Santa Clara.

"It's a lot of fun. I feel like I'm playing hooky right now being here this weekend," Lynch said during a cameo in Fox's broadcast boost at Thursday night's Hall of Fame game between Dallas and Pittsburgh.

"But everybody encouraged me to come and enjoy this, so I'm going to do it," Lynch added. "It's such an honor."

Lynch didn't exactly escape the growing buzz of a 49ers quarterback competition. Fox broadcasters Troy Aikman and Joe Buck hit up Lynch on this camp's hot topic.

"Jimmy's a great kid, a great competitor, and competitors rise the occasion when they're challenged," Lynch responded. "We brought Trey Lance in, and what's gone on, Jimmy is playing his best ball since he's been with us, and Trey's been outstanding.

"So we've got a good situation right now and we'll just let it play out. We feel very fortunate to have both in our building."

Coach Kyle Shanahan and other members of the 49ers plan to fly into Canton for Saturday night's festivities, after a morning practice inside Levi's Stadium. Shanahan will return to coach Sunday's practice rather than stay for Lynch's enshrinement speech.

"I'm so happy for him," Shanahan said. "In our profession, it's what people dream about."

Before Lynch left 49ers training camp, all coaches and staff surprised him by wearing T-shirts commemorating his Hall of Fame induction, complete with his name and number (47) on the back of the black T-shirt.

"I think he felt just tremendous gratitude and a little bashful," offensive coordinator Mike McDaniel said. "He not a look at me guy and there's a lot of people wearing his name (Wednesday)."

Lynch began his 15-year NFL career as a 1993 draft pick out of Stanford by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (third round). Once a Cardinal quarterback and a minor-league pitcher (he threw the first pitch in the then-Florida Marlins organization history for the Erie Sailors), Lynch evolved into a hard-hitting, quick-thinking safety.

Lynch's tenure with the Buccaneers (1993-2003) and Denver Broncos (2004-07) earned him a spot in both franchise's ring of honors, even ahead of ex-Broncos coach Mike Shanahan, who won back-to-back Super Bowls for Denver and coached Lynch.

Kyle Shanahan, Mike's son, handpicked Lynch as his general manager in 2017 when the 49ers hired the younger Shanahan as coach.

"John's Captain America. He's the best Samaritan alive," Kyle Shanahan said Wednesday. "But when he gets on that football field, I don't think he's as nice of a guy as he is off."

Count on Mr. Nice Guy showing up in Canton all weekend.

"You try to prepare yourself but you can't," Lynch added. "It's been a real special weekend already and I can't wait for what's to come.

"You try to prepare yourself but you can't. It's been a real special weekend already and I can't wait for what's to come."

Presenting him during Sunday's enshrinement ceremony will be his son, Jake, (currently a Stanford linebacker) and Herm Edwards (Lynch's former Buccaneers position coach and now Arizona State's head coach). Because both are in their own training camps, John Lynch does not anticipate seeing them until Sunday's ceremony.

A year ago, the 49ers signed Lynch to a five-year extension that runs through 2024. Lynch noted that the 49ers have a "legitimate chance" to contend if good fortune finally comes their way, after injuries and losses marred three of the previous four seasons.

Lynch said of Shanahan: "He's been awesome from Day 1. It's time for that to transfer onto the field in a consistent manner with wins."

Lynch is winning big this weekend, to the delight of his current team.

"John is an unbelievable human being and there's not too many Hall of Famers that you even have the chance to know," McDaniel said. "I think all the players and coaches alike really feel that way."

For safety John Lynch, call to Pro Football Hall of Fame was worth waiting for

By Greg Auman
The Athletic
July 27, 2021

John Lynch has had a few years to work on his acceptance speech for the Pro Football Hall of Fame. It will be carefully balanced between his 11 years with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and four with the Denver Broncos, as he made a big enough impact to make the Ring of Honor with both teams.

He also has almost a decade as a broadcaster and four-plus years as the 49ers' general manager, including a Super Bowl appearance. But to appreciate the hard-hitting safety for who he was, don't forget Aug. 28, 2008, and the easily forgotten final act of his three-week stint with the New England Patriots.

Then 36, Lynch was trying to play one more season but knew it wasn't going to happen, so he asked Bill Belichick if he could play the entire fourth preseason game, an exhibition where starters (and future Hall of Famers) typically get the night off. He did, piling up eight tackles, down to the last few minutes of an otherwise meaningless game.

"I will tell you, I'm not sure I ever had more fun playing than in that game," Lynch said by phone Monday. "There was something liberating: I don't care. I was blitzing when zone was called, I was acting like my old buddy Junior Seau acted in a normal game. I was such a rule follower, and Bill kept looking at me. I was just lining up where I thought the ball went. Just balling out. I knew I'm not getting coached up because I'm going home."

Third quarter, the Patriots are down 13-0 to the Giants, and Lynch makes a tackle at the 1-yard line, then another at the 1 on third down, forcing a field goal. On the last drive, with three minutes left, Lynch is still making tackles.

"I think I made three of the four tackles on a goal-line stand, and I came off the field and he was cracking up," Lynch said. "He knew what I was doing. Hopefully, to people who watched me play, they knew when they watched me: That guy loved playing football."

Of course, Lynch also made plays when it meant much more. In Tampa and Denver, he was a hard-hitting leader, making a combined nine Pro Bowls, along with two first-team All-Pro selections, both in his Bucs days. Tampa Bay's defense was a huge part of the team's rise in the late 1990s under Tony Dungy and with two other Hall of Famers in defensive tackle Warren Sapp and linebacker Derrick Brooks — culminating in a Super Bowl XXXVII win in Lynch's hometown of San Diego in January 2003.

Where Sapp and Brooks were first-ballot Hall of Famers, Lynch decidedly wasn't. He had come painfully close before, as this was his eighth year as a finalist, consistently making it into the room for debate only to see others, even at his position, chosen instead.

"I knew full well it was an uphill battle, just because that position hadn't been recognized in the Hall, as much as I felt like it should have," Lynch said. "A lot of people felt that way and started recognizing it, but nothing was getting done."

Canton is just coming to appreciate the safety position — Lynch will be joined by two contemporaries in Steve Atwater and Troy Polamalu, both part of last year's class but included in the same enshrinement ceremonies. Their arrival comes after Brian Dawkins in 2018 and Ed Reed in 2019, making five modern-era safeties in four years.

"I don't know what was the first domino. Maybe Dawkins," Lynch said. "I was just happy, truly was, that a safety went in because I felt like that would start the dominoes, and here it's gone, with Kenny Easley (2017) and myself and Troy Polamalu and Steve Atwater. When you look at the playoffs every year, there's a safety who's playing well and really taking over games. I think it's the nature of the position.

You're asked to do a little of everything, and it takes a very versatile and talented player. The impact on the game is real."

Atwater, who went to eight Pro Bowls for the Broncos, remembers waiting to hear the results of the Hall selection committee, hoping that if he couldn't get in that a fellow safety like Lynch would.

"It's pretty cool that we're going to end up going in the same year," Atwater said. "We've talked about this time and time again. We were in Atlanta (in 2019), were both finalists, and I got the call from David Baker that I wasn't going to be inducted that year. I was like 'Dag-gone it,' but I was happy for the other guys who got in. I got on the bus to go over to the stadium. I didn't see John on the bus, so I assumed he got in. I was like, 'Yes, finally, John got in,' and, obviously, I found out he didn't. It's going to be special that we go in together."

Lynch, who turns 50 in September, is remembered as a feared hitter. While he has been retired only 14 years, the game has changed, with more rules now to protect players and reduce the risk of concussions. Lynch takes exception, even offense, to any question of how he would have fared in today's NFL, recalling that there was more to his game than just an outdated physicality.

"Yeah, I got fined, and I had the ire of the league a little bit," Lynch said. "But really, if you polled players, I was known as a clean player. I played within the rules, but that's how the game was taught back then. I learned from guys like Ronnie Lott. They let you know: This is your area. You let people know: They come in there, they pay a price. That was my instinct, anyhow. We weren't cheating. That was the rules then."

Lynch's future was uncertain due to neck surgeries when the Bucs unceremoniously let him go in 2004, but he made the most of four years in Denver, a second chapter much like fellow enshrinee Peyton Manning or former teammate Champ Bailey. The Broncos made the playoffs in each of the first two years, and Lynch made the Pro Bowl all four seasons, a rare player beloved in two cities.

He has stayed in football and shown his versatility, joining the broadcast booth the same year he was with the Patriots and staying there for nine seasons. He went straight to a GM job in San Francisco, guiding the 49ers to the Super Bowl in 2019, and will now work with coach Kyle Shanahan to get them back in playoff contention this season.

First, he can enjoy next week's long-awaited recognition, so he now can join Sapp, Brooks and Dungy forever in Canton. He's grateful for his old teammates, not only for how they helped him on the field in winning the Bucs' first championship, but for their lobbying efforts on his behalf to help him get a bust of his own.

"Those guys never stopped having my back and letting people know," Lynch said. "Each in their own way. Warren not as often, but when he did, he went big. And Brooks constantly, behind the scenes, calling voters. Derrick wouldn't even tell me, but I'd hear from people: 'Your guy Brooks.' I think more than anything, the fact that those guys believed in me, that I belonged, that they always stuck by me, that's the bond that we created. This is special, and it's important to me."

That will come up in his speech in Canton, and he'll put in a good word for another Bucs defender, Ronde Barber, a Hall of Fame finalist this past season.

"I think there's room for more, and a guy like Ronde Barber, he belongs. He did everything he needed to be in there, and I'll be beating that drum now, hopefully not for years to come, hopefully not long. I know he belongs."

49ers GM John Lynch, nine-time Pro Bowl safety, elected to Hall of Fame

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
February 6, 2021

John Lynch, one of the hardest-hitting defensive backs of his era, finally barged into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Lynch, 49, the 49ers general manager and Stanford alum who was a nine-time Pro Bowl safety during a 15-year career spent with the Buccaneers and Broncos was elected to the Hall of Fame on Saturday in his eighth straight year as a finalist.

Lynch is one 10 players in NFL history to be a finalist for eight consecutive years. With Lynch's election, Dolphins guard Bob Kuechenberg is the only player among that group not in the Hall of Fame.

Lynch discovered he'd finally broken through on Jan. 24. Hall of Fame president David Baker knocked on the door of his house in San Diego and delivered the long-awaited news.

Lynch's initial reaction, via video from the 49ers: "Oh my gosh … Are you serious, David?"

Later, Lynch surrounded by friends and family in his front yard, acknowledged how meaningful the honor was.

"I thought I always had great perspective that, you know what, I gave it all I had on the field and whether I made it or not, it wouldn't matter," Lynch said. "It's not going to change my life. But, my gosh, this feels life-changing right now. That's unbelievable."

Lynch waited despite a stellar bio. His nine Pro Bowl seasons tie him with Brian Dawkins and Ed Reed for the second most by a safety in NFL history. Only Ken Houston (12) has more. Dawkins, Reed, Houston along with Steve Atwater and Troy Polamalu, who both had eight Pro Bowl seasons, are all in the Hall.

Lynch is now in their company after a career in which he was a first-team All-Pro in two seasons, had three 100-tackle seasons and totaled 26 interceptions, 16 forced fumbles and 13 sacks. Lynch is the ring of honor for both the Buccaneers and Broncos and is one of seven players in NFL history to have at least four Pro Bowl seasons for multiple teams.

Lynch was part of Tampa Bay defense, which is regarded as among the best in NFL history, that led the Buccaneers to a 48-21 Super Bowl win over the Raiders in January 2003.

"Opponents knew him as a smart and physically intimidating player, while his coaches and teammates knew him to be a tremendous leader," 49ers CEO Jed York said in a statement. "Over the last four years, John's leadership has been instrumental in building a sustainable championship culture here with the 49ers."

Lynch is among the flood of safeties to gain entry to the Hall after the position was underrepresented in Canton. There were just seven pure safeties in the Hall before 2017, but Lynch is among eight who have been elected since. The group includes Kenny Easley (2017), Dawkins (2018), Reed (2019), Johnny Robinson (2019), Polamalu (2020), Atwater (2020) and Cliff Harris (2020).

At long last, John Lynch: Bucs safety earns place in Pro Football Hall of Fame

By Greg Auman
The Athletic
February 6, 2021

How do you possibly top the Bucs playing in the Super Bowl on their home field?

Adding a newly announced Bucs member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame the night before would do the trick.

John Lynch, the hard-hitting safety who set the tone for the dominating defense that led to Tampa Bay's Super Bowl championship in 2003, will be the third member of that defense to be enshrined in Canton.

"I'm humbled. I'm honored," Lynch said in a video message posted to Twitter on Saturday night, moments after he was announced as part of the Hall's Class of 2021. "I want to thank all my teammates, of all the great teams I've had the pleasure and honor to play for, going back to Torrey Pines High School. It's Stanford University, it's the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, where I was drafted in 1993 out of Stanford in the third round. I played 11 years here. We went from the Yucks to world champs."

The late Lee Roy Selmon was the first Bucs player enshrined in Canton. Lynch now follows defensive tackle Warren Sapp and linebacker Derrick Brooks, as well as former coach Tony Dungy, as the Bucs represented in football immortality.

"John was one of the greatest Buccaneers of all time, and our family is so proud of his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame," Bucs co-chair Bryan Glazer said in a statement. "He is a class act, on and off the field, and is truly deserving of this honor. It is only fitting that he will be acknowledged in front of fans for the first time as a member of the Hall of Fame Class of 2021 on the same field where he developed into an NFL legend."

When Sapp and Brooks were enshrined, they both had thanked Lynch by name in their own induction speeches.

"Derrick Brooks … without you, dude, ain't no way we turned it around," Sapp said at his induction in 2013. "And I see you right beside him, Lynch. You were the back end . . . the front, the back and the middle. My rocks that made it possible. I want to thank you, fellas."

Said Brooks in his speech a year later: "Trust me, man . . . you'll be here next year delivering your own speech."

Instead, it has been a long, difficult wait for Lynch, who has made the cut to 15 as a finalist seven straight years before this class, each time passed over for the ultimate honor. No defensive player who had been a finalist for that many consecutive years had ever not been selected for enshrinement, and he was the only finalist from 2014 and 2015 that hadn't eventually been chosen. While Lynch got the overdue nod, his former Bucs teammate and fellow finalist, cornerback Ronde Barber, missed the cut again.

"Congratulations to John Lynch on his induction into the @ProFootballHOF," Dungy wrote on Twitter late Saturday. "A class man, and a great football player. John exemplifies everything you would expect in a Hall of Famer on and off the field. I am proud to have coached him!"

Lynch has impacted other NFL teams beyond the Bucs. After 11 years and five Pro Bowls in Tampa, he spent his final four NFL seasons with the Broncos, making the Pro Bowl all four years. He's now enshrined in the Ring of Honor for both teams and has also made his mark in San Francisco, having spent the past four years as their general manager and guiding them to the Super Bowl a year ago.

Lynch was selected along with quarterback Peyton Manning, receiver Calvin Johnson, cornerback Charles Woodson, offensive lineman Alan Faneca, coach Tom Flores, receiver Drew Pearson and scout Bill Nunn.

Lynch didn't make a Hall of Fame impact immediately, starting just 10 games over his first three seasons. When Tony Dungy arrived in 1996, Lynch was at home in his defense, topping 100 tackles three times in the next four years. That defense's rise to become one of the NFL's best brought with it the best-sustained success in the franchise's history, making the playoffs five times from 1997-02, reaching the NFC Championship Game in 1999 and finally winning the Super Bowl in January 2003.

Those five playoff appearances in six years were as many as the other 38 seasons in Bucs history until this year, when Tampa Bay returned to the playoffs, and now a Super Bowl on their home field at Raymond James Stadium.

"To all the fans, thank you for always having my back and expecting greatness from me and my teammates," said Lynch, who will speak on a video call with reporters Sunday morning as part of the Hall of Fame weekend.

49ers' John Lynch: 'For everything right about our game, there's a lot still wrong'

By Cam Inman
San Jose Mercury News
June 24, 2020

Actions speak louder than words, but in John Lynch's case, the 49ers' general manager has acted by listening to his players' and staff's experiences with racial issues.

"You reach out to your team, let them know you love them, know that they're hurting and encourage conversations," Lynch said as part of the 49ers' State-of-the-Franchise online series this week.

Those conversations didn't make for easy listening.

"The Black community has been crying out a long time. But it's awoken everybody else," Lynch added. "Systemic racism, you hear that, but what does that mean? You hear the stories of people on my staff and the pain they feel — and it's hurtful."

So, now what?

"These have been an impactful couple weeks,." said Lynch, who's been embedded with his family near San Diego since the draft. "It's a mix of sorrow because you see people hurting, but it makes me excited at what can come from this. I'm committed myself to make this situation better with the platform I have."

As a 48-year-old white executive, Lynch is aware who surrounds him on that platform.

"For everything right about our game, there's a lot still wrong," Lynch said. "The fact in my role there are two people that are Black that have this role in this league that is comprised 70 percent of black players. That's not right. The same thing with (Black) head coaches. There are four. That's not right. We recognize that. It's time we do something about that."

Lynch is entering his fourth year as general manager. He is proud of how Kyle Shanahan, his assistants and players adapted to an offseason program reliant upon Zoom sessions that schooled everyone on "mundane" but vital details.

After coming minutes from winning the Super Bowl, the 49ers are "very well equipped to compete for championships," Lynch vowed.

Lynch has been a fixture in the NFL since 1993. After a Hall of Fame-worthy career as a safety, he spent nearly a decade as a Fox analyst before joining the 49ers. Speaking of his playing days, Lynch drew upon them when discussing racial tensions — or lack thereof — inside the locker room.

"I played a position where I was usually the one white guy. I was always welcomed," said Lynch, who played with Tampa Bay and Denver. "I had to earn that. But I always was welcomed, and I always felt loved, in a spot where the white guy usually wasn't in that group. That never dawned on me because that's the way it was.

"There's so much good about our game. It strips you down to your core, and it makes you realize you have so much more in common with people than the differences. You learn to celebrate the differences. That's what we need to do as a country, as a culture: listen and talk and have uncomfortable conversations."

49ers general manager John Lynch named NFL executive of the year

By Chris Biderman
The Sacramento Bee
January 16, 2020

The 49ers on Thursday racked up another award from the Pro Football Writers of America. General manager John Lynch was named the association's executive of the year.

Lynch became San Francisco's third general manager to claim the award joining Carmen Policy in 1994 and Trent Baalke in 2011.

The 49ers this season became the sixth team since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970 to play in a conference championship game a season after winning fewer than five games, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. That was made possible by a few key moves made by Lynch, Shanahan and the team's personnel department in the offseason.

"John and his staff have presented all this stuff and got us a ton of guys, and it's been great because even the big key ones that everyone knows about have made a difference," Kyle Shanahan said. "Also, we've had a lot of injuries this year too where a lot of guys have had to step up, and our depth has really been challenged this year and I think it's a credit to our personnel staff."

The team in March traded a second-round draft pick to Kansas City for pass rusher Dee Ford who helped transform the pass defense into the best unit, statistically, since 2009 by allowing 169 yards per game. Ford had 6.5 sacks in 11 games while the 49ers were the only team in the NFL to have four players with at least 6.5 sacks.

"He's kind of like the key that unlocks that whole defense as far as his speed up front," left tackle Joe Staley said after Ford had one of the team's six sacks last week against Minnesota.

Lynch also presided over the team's decision to draft Nick Bosa with the No. 2 pick in the draft. Bosa was named PFWA's rookie of the year and defensive rookie of the year earlier this week. The Ohio State alum finished with 9.0 sacks and has been arguably the team's best defensive player throughout the entire season.

Additionally, the team acquired receiver Emmanuel Sanders in a trade from the Denver Broncos in October that dramatically improved the passing game.

Sanders in 10 games had 502 yards on 36 catches with three touchdowns. He had two 100-yard performances against the Cardinals on Halloween and during one of the biggest games of the year in December against the Saints when he recorded seven catches for 157 yards, a 75-yard touchdown catch and a 35-yard touchdown pass to running back Raheem Mostert.

The 10-year veteran also hauled in a 46-yard catch to convert a third-and-16 inside the final minute Week 16 against the Rams to set up the game-winning field goal.

49ers' GM John Lynch will be the one to watch in 2019

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
December 23, 2018

Last year, after he was hired despite having zero executive experience, 49ers general manager John Lynch was asked about his nontraditional path from a Fox broadcast booth to a front office.

In response, Lynch noted his entire football career had been unique.

At Stanford, where he finished as an All-America safety, he spent his first two seasons as a never-used quarterback. In the NFL, where he finished with nine Pro Bowl selections, he didn't become a full-time starter until his fourth season.

"So," Lynch said, "there's a lot of things in my life that haven't been conventional."

Two seasons into his latest football job, Lynch's history should be comforting for restless 49ers fans: The Stanford graduate, Pro Football Hall of Fame finalist and well-respected broadcaster has enjoyed gobs of success, but it hasn't come overnight.

Now, after an early GM tenure featuring mixed results, this coming offseason would be an opportune time for Lynch to kick-start his career in the same way he did at Stanford and Tampa Bay.

The 49ers will enter year three of their down-to-the-studs rebuild with two straight seasons of at least 10 losses and significant roster holes remaining at edge rusher, cornerback, wide receiver and inside linebacker. They have just five draft picks, having traded a 2019 fifth-round selection and a seventh-rounder, but have the NFL's third-highest amount of salary-cap space.

To be clear, this pivotal offseason isn't all on Lynch: He has a joint partnership with head coach Kyle Shanahan on personnel decisions, but it's the GM who is most closely associated with their roster moves. This season, it's been Lynch's Twitter handle to which fans have directed complaints about the regime's 2017 draft.

That 10-man group began with five picks that range from disastrous to shaky: defensive tackle Solomon Thomas (first round), inside linebacker Reuben Foster (first), cornerback Ahkello Witherspoon (third), quarterback C.J. Beathard (third) and running back Joe Williams (fourth).

Foster, who slipped in the draft because of character concerns, was released in November after his third arrest and Williams was released in August without playing a regular-season snap. Meanwhile, Thomas, a No. 3 pick, has four career sacks, Witherspoon was benched twice this season and Beathard, who took over for the injured Jimmy Garoppolo, lost his job to third-stringer Nick Mullens.

Making those five selections uglier: The 49ers gave up fourth-, fifth- and seventh-round picks to trade up for Foster, Williams and Beathard, respectively.

Despite that start, however, no one is linking Lynch to Matt Millen, another successful player and broadcaster who flopped after becoming the Lions' GM with no front-office experience.

And that's because there have been finds mixed in with the flops. Most notable among those is Pro Bowl tight end George Kittle, a 2017 fifth-round pick who turned out to be one of the best selections in his draft. In addition, the 2018 haul, headlined by right tackle Mike McGlinchey (first round), wide receiver Dante Pettis (second) and inside linebacker Fred Warner (third), is encouraging.

And his second draft suggests Lynch has done a better job of trusting his instincts in his new job.
Last year, Lynch, among the hardest-hitting safeties in NFL history, initially had strong misgivings about Witherspoon, who often shied away from contact at Colorado. He became convinced Witherspoon would

change in the NFL based partly on a conversation with his college coach, but Witherspoon's finesse tackling has been an issue in his second season.

Similarly, Lynch didn't have Williams on the 49ers' draft board because he questioned his love for football after the running back "retired" before returning to Utah during his final season. However, Shanahan thought Williams was an ideal fit for his offense. And Lynch reversed course after a phone conversation with Williams hours before the 49ers drafted him.

After his first season, Shanahan said Williams needed to have more "urgency." The player hasn't resurfaced in the NFL since he was released Aug. 31.

The back-and-forth between Lynch and Shanahan regarding Williams is known because Lynch shared the story with reporters during last year's draft.

It's an example of Lynch's transparency. And it's in stark contrast to his tight-lipped predecessor, Trent Baalke, who once said of the 49ers: "When are we ever transparent?"

Lynch has generally hit the right notes when speaking publicly, but there have been exceptions. In November, for example, Lynch said in a radio interview he thought the 49ers had enjoyed "two good drafts" since he'd been hired.

Perhaps it was a momentary slip. After all, Lynch knows about genuine achievement. And in 2019, and beyond, he'll have a chance to replicate the type of success he, eventually, enjoyed in his playing career.

John Lynch adjusting to football life away from family

By Conor Orr
NFL.com
February 21, 2017

New San Francisco 49ers general manager John Lynch clearly missed the competitive drive that comes with working for an NFL team.

But he will also miss the stability a life on football's periphery provided him.

Speaking to reporters after his introductory news conference, Lynch offered a glimpse into his family life. His four kids are still in school at home in San Diego and, according to ESPN, Lynch's oldest son could remain there to round out high school.

"My wife keeps saying, 'Are you sure?'" Lynch said, via ESPN.com. "I said, 'Well, this has already started. We're in.' I've never been apart from my family, so it's been gut-wrenching already but -- sorry -- that's been tough."

He added: "As soon as we started having conversations, I knew that this was going to be a possibility, so the biggest thing was, 'Can I get my family on board?' Ultimately, we got there. At first my wife said, 'You go make this decision,' and I said, 'No, no, no, we have to make this decision.' I got them to the point where they were as excited as I was and pulled the trigger."

It's hard to imagine anyone having a crazier offseason than the new members of the 49ers thus far. Head coach Kyle Shanahan goes from watching the biggest collapse in Super Bowl history straight into a new head coaching job. In addition, he has the No. 2 pick in the draft and the challenge of breaking in a first-time general manager. Lynch goes from a broadcaster's schedule to one where he might not be able to come home at times -- ask any tenured general manager about the air mattress in their office.

While all new regimes are fascinating in their own right, nothing will be worth watching as closely as the 49ers this offseason. For Lynch, nothing will be as simultaneously exciting and difficult.

Why is John Lynch doing this? Inside new 49ers GM's crash course

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
February 17, 2017

Former NFL safety John Lynch recently detonated his idyllic life as though it was a wide receiver crossing the middle. The impact sent him to Santa Clara while his wife and four children stayed in San Diego.

The separation is temporary. His family will join the new 49ers general manager at the end of the school year. But the months apart will be arduous.

That became clear earlier this month. Lynch, 45, in a suit and tie after his introductory news conference, was asked, as he leaned against a counter in the media room at Levi's Stadium, why he'd swapped serenity for stress. All GM jobs are demanding, but Lynch's could be particularly grueling, at least initially: He has no executive experience and is in the midst of a front-office crash course.

Before joining the 49ers, the 15-year NFL veteran spent eight years as a well-respected Fox broadcaster, and his work-half-the-year gig let him stay close to family as well as football. So why accept an all-consuming job he didn't need? The GM suggested Linda Lynch had posed the same question.

"My wife keeps on saying, 'Are you sure?'" Lynch said. "I said, 'Well, this has already started. We're in.'"

His response inspired laughter. Lynch was smiling, too, but then the grin faded and his eyes pooled with tears.

"I tell you, I've never been apart from my family," said Lynch, his voice cracking with emotion he didn't anticipate. "So it's been gut-wrenching already."

His tears, of course, make his recent decision even more perplexing.

Why is John Lynch doing this?

The answer involves the craving for competition that fuels countless athletes and often can't be satisfied after the final whistle.

As a Fox analyst, Lynch quickly ascended to the No. 2 broadcast team, but he found success without a scoreboard unsatisfying. At the end of a telecast, the nine-time Pro Bowl player and four-time Hall of Fame finalist often fist-bumped his play-by-play partner and then … nothing. No anguish or elation.

"He really missed someone winning and losing at the end of a game," 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan said. "He enjoyed doing the announcing and being a part of the NFL. But the fight to go through something with a group of guys and what we go through together — it's not easy, and it's a grind for everybody, but it's worth it."

Indeed, the grind-loving competitor that lurks within the charismatic and composed Lynch has re-emerged after spending the past decade in post-playing limbo.

It's fitting that Lynch rejoined the NFL by signing his contract with the 49ers on a Sunday. During his playing career, that was typically when he transformed from mild-mannered to maniacal.

For his first five NFL seasons, cornerback Champ Bailey knew Lynch only from afar as a bone-rattling enforcer who punctuated hits with screams. In 2004, however, they became teammates with the Broncos and Bailey saw there was far more to the madman than met the eye.

Lynch is the Stanford-educated, San-Diego-bred son of a successful businessman. His father, John Lynch Sr., is the president and CEO of the Broadcast Company of the Americas, which owns three radio stations, and was the CEO of the San Diego Union-Tribune. In 2006, Lynch won the Bart Starr Award, which is given to the NFL player who best exemplifies outstanding leadership and character.

Bailey was shocked: He didn't expect the thumper to be so thoughtful.

"Man, that's what fools you about him," Bailey said. "If you meet him before you see him play, you'd never think he'd play the way he does. But, for me, I saw him play before I met him and immediately it was like, 'Dang, this is not what I expected.' I expected some nut case wanting to run through every brick wall he sees. But he wasn't. Calm, collected, he had great values, focused."

Bailey gives Lynch, who is seven years older, much of the credit for his longevity. The 12-time Pro Bowl pick also played 15 seasons — partly because he noticed how Lynch cared for his body and how his obsessive film study compensated for declining late-career skills.

"I don't really know anyone personally that would be better suited to run a team than John Lynch," Bailey said. "I believe he could be the general manager and the head coach. That's how competitive he is and how much he prepares before he does anything."

Before becoming a GM, Lynch prepared for the job by learning from his close friend, Broncos general manager John Elway. With the Hall of Fame quarterback, Lynch discussed front-office intricacies and the emptiness that was prompting him to consider an executive role.

The ultra-competitive Elway returned to the NFL in 2011 when he joined Denver's front office. During Elway's tenure, he has asked Lynch to evaluate college prospects, asked him to attend draft meetings and asked him this: Why stay in TV if you can get back in the trenches?

"I think one thing that was a common denominator (between us) was what fills up your balloon?" Elway said. "Obviously, John did a tremendous job with TV. But I think — that's what I told him — I don't know how much TV fills up your balloon, but being in this position to where you're putting a football team together, a football staff together, is very satisfying. And, obviously, it's a great challenge. The next thing to playing is being in that position."

Lynch's challenge is daunting: He's a novice who has inherited a 2-14 team with serious quarterback issues.

However, the man ranked the 10th-hardest hitter in league history by NFL Network specialized in obliterating obstacles during his football career.

At Stanford, he spent his first two seasons as a never-used quarterback, transitioned to a hybrid linebacker role as a junior and didn't start until he moved to safety his final season. The result: He left Palo Alto as a second-team All-American.

"What it really comes down to is he's extraordinarily competitive," said Tom Holmoe, a former 49ers safety who was Lynch's position coach during his senior season. "It was real early in his transition to free safety that you said, 'Oh boy, he's going to take it to the limit.'"

In the NFL, Lynch was a third-round pick of the Buccaneers whose inexperience at safety partly explained why he didn't start more than six games in any of his first three seasons.

Tampa Bay head coach Sam Wyche had been encouraged to draft Lynch by Stanford's Bill Walsh, under whom Wyche had served as an assistant with the 49ers. Lynch was a project, but Wyche was wowed by the rookie's off-the-chart intangibles, which forecast future success.

"There are players that come in and you notice their competitive spirit right away," Wyche said. "Well, with John, it just oozed out of him. He couldn't hide it. The really great players only know one speed."

Lynch earned his first Pro Bowl berth in 1997, his fifth season, and was a captain of the 2002 Buccaneers, who won a Super Bowl on the strength of one of the best defenses in NFL history. However, Tampa Bay released Lynch in a salary-cap move after the 2003 season, and the then-32-year-old underwent surgery to remove bone spurs in his neck.

It was his last significant challenge. And Lynch responded by morphing from injured and unemployed to seemingly indomitable. He signed with the Broncos and immediately had an I'm-back hit on Chiefs wide receiver Dante Hall, who was impaled by Lynch in the 2004 season opener. It set the tone for a career-ending, four-year run with Denver that featured four Pro Bowl berths.

"He absolutely came in (in 2004) with something to prove," Bailey said. "He didn't talk about it a lot, but you could see the fire in his eyes. … The guy was a presence. He knew it. He just had to prove it over again that he could play."

Now, Lynch hopes to conquer perhaps his greatest challenge.

With the 49ers, he'll attempt to resurrect a franchise while maintaining a normal life with a family that includes a 17-year-old son and daughters Lindsay, 16, Lilly, 14, and Leah, 9.

Lynch said his children and Linda, his wife of 23 years, eventually reached the point where they shared his excitement over his new job. But it will take some adjustment.

His son, Jake, might stay in San Diego and live with Lynch's parents in the fall to play his senior season of high school football. In addition, the complications of their temporary separation were clear when plane-grounding fog in San Diego prevented his family from surprising him at his introductory news conference.

Lynch, who said he's been getting little sleep, joked that he's still trying to locate his new work-life balance when asked about contacting quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

"I got chewed out for not calling my daughter before she went to bed last night," he said. "So I'm trying to get a lot of things in."

Moments later, the former NFL tough guy was fighting back tears and the moment illustrated the anguish involved in his latest task.

So, again, why is John Lynch doing this? He clearly agrees with Shanahan: It won't be easy, but it will be worth it.

The Unconventional Career Path of 49ers GM John Lynch

By Albert Breer
The MMQB
February 16, 2017

Behind John Lynch's desk in Santa Clara, there are a number of bottles of wine, each one wishing him luck in his new venture as the 49ers general manager. That he got them from agents is one surprise from his first three weeks on the job.

"I'm telling you, I didn't think agents were this nice," he said over the phone on Wednesday afternoon, laughing before conceding, "They're buttering me up."

The haul of reds hasn't been the only things to catch Lynch a little off guard with this move that set the football world back on its heels at the outset of Super Bowl week. There's the breadth of the work, which goes well beyond scouting. And related to that, there's how a GM gets pulled in so many different directions during a given day.

But there's good news here, too. With a couple weeks to spare before the Niners staff packs up for Indianapolis and the scouting combine, this very much feels to Lynch—the former player and broadcaster—like what he's supposed to being doing.

"It does," he said. "I'd caution you, one thing Monte Kiffin always said to us was that the worst three words any football player can say are, 'I got it.' I'm right at the beginning stages. We're right at the beginning stages. We're taking on challenges every day. But I can tell you, I'm not overwhelmed, each day I come in and there's a routine.

"A priest once said to me, 'Think about eating a huge steak, you can't eat it all in one bite. You gotta take one bite at a time.' And that's the way we're going through it. You can get overwhelmed in this job, particularly coming in late. I got all this to do, how do I do it? Instead, we're just going about our business each day and taking things as they come. It does feel very natural."

In this week's Game Plan, we'll look at how the 2018 quarterback crop could affect the Mitch Trubiskys and Deshaun Watsons of this year, the Redskins' Kirk Cousins quandary, how the use of the franchise tag has changed dramatically over the past five years and a lot more.

But we start with the Niners' new GM, his first few weeks on the job, and why he hardly feels like a fish out of water—despite the fact that he landed in his new role without taking the traditional path to it.

Lynch's precursor to one of 32 jobs running the personnel side of an NFL franchise is comprised of 16 years as a player and some eight-and-a-half seasons working his way up in the world of football broadcasting. He, in fact, never left pro football, having been involved for the past 24 years running. And this is where, in these stories about him, you point out where he was never a scout.

That's where we'll take our left-hand turn. Let's explain why, through his words, his start has proven Lynch to be more prepared than most of the skeptics expected, and how he already has a pretty evolved vision.

His playing experience. That's beyond just having played for Denny Green, Bill Walsh, Sam Wyche, Tony Dungy, Jon Gruden, Mike Shanahan and, briefly, Bill Belichick. It also goes past figuring, between the lines and through endless film study, what makes a great NFL player. And it goes to his first experience in the pros, and being part of the 1990s Bucs' transition from doormat to dominant force.

"There's a lot of parallels," he says, comparing those Bucs with these 49ers. "There'd been constant change, so the thought process as a rookie was 'don't get close to the guy next to you, because he may not be here in a couple weeks. Don't let your wives make friends, because they're not gonna be here.' That was the culture. Everybody talks about Tony [Dungy], and Tony was certainly integral.

"But before that, Rich McKay came in and brought some stability—we're gonna draft good winning players that have certain traits, and football character. Then Tony came in and gave it more stability—these are the schemes we're gonna play. We're not deviating in Week 1 or Week 2 if it's not working. We're sticking to them."

His TV experience. Lynch settled in Denver after his playing career and grew close to John Elway. So when Elway took the Broncos' job in 2011, he'd get after Lynch about leaving broadcasting to work for a team. To that end, in 2012, Elway had him write reports on safeties in the draft. In 2013, Lynch sat in Denver's draft meetings for a month.

Now, Lynch maintains that he followed advice he got from Mike Tomlin in Tampa: Be where you're at. He was focused on his job with Fox, and was moving up in the ranks there. Still, he knew, as he puts it, "What was missing was a scoreboard." And so Elway's poking, plus working to be prepared as a broadcaster, opened the door to Lynch subconsciously developing team-building beliefs in the course of his work.

"I wasn't out there soaking up information from organizations as I went in their buildings, I was trying to be the best broadcaster I could be," he explains. "But you're meeting with the quarterback, you're meeting with the head coach, the GM usually comes and finds you, you're meeting with coordinators on both sides, you're meeting with finest players in the league. … So it challenges your mind."

His Broncos experience. At one point, Elway discussed hiring Lynch before deciding he didn't have the right role for him. In the end, the Broncos GM may have given him something more valuable than a job—an open-door to his own experiences growing into the role without the traditional career path behind him.
Two pieces of advice stuck with Lynch. First, Elway said "hire some good people around you," which Lynch now jokes was to Elway's detriment, since Lynch's first hire was one of Elway's best people—new 49ers VP of player personnel Adam Peters. Second, Elway told Lynch that he had to learn to close his door, which seems simple, but relates to time management as a boss.

"Day 1, all I wanted to do was turn on the tape of the San Francisco 49ers to see what we have," Lynch says. "And it wasn't until 4:30 that I finally turned the tape on, because I was meeting people, meeting the trainer, going through the office. But that was very important too. That's how it is. … You also have to learn to close your door. You need your quiet time to yourself where you can just get stuff done."

His life experience. Lynch says that, at the end of his playing career, "You're always saying, 'I haven't come close to knowing it all, there's always something I can improve on.'" He took that thirst to learn into broadcasting, and he plans to take that humility into his new job, too. "I think that'll be the case 15 years from now," he says.

Early on, it's been small stuff. At the Super Bowl, both college and NFL players would approach him, and he'd wonder, Is this tampering? He's leaned on Peters and fellow new hire, and former Lions GM Martin Mayhew, for help in those areas. And he knows he has a lot to learn elsewhere. So yes, he'll delegate some. But what's as important is that he maintains that quest for knowledge in all areas.

"Part of the interview process was, 10 characteristics of a GM, go 1-10 on what you'd be strongest at," he says. "And I just followed my heart. Setting the tone and vision for a building, that was 1. Negotiating salary cap and contracts, right off the bat, I had that as 10, because I haven't done it. So listen, I'm gonna have to rely on some people. But I will learn that, because I think to be good at it, you can't just say, 'that's my guy over there.' You gotta learn it and be a part of it."

So why will this work? I don't know if it will, because these are hard things to forecast. But I do think that Lynch and head coach Kyle Shanahan have a chance, and not just because both are competitive, smart and driven football junkies. My feeling is it's more because Shanahan has a very defined vision for a football team, and Lynch has a clear-headed idea of how to build that, and they share a lot of ideals.

Getting that alignment was a stated goal of CEO Jed York's during the GM/coach search, and it looks like San Francisco has that at this early juncture. On Tuesday, Shanahan gave a lengthy, detailed presentation for the scouts on what his staff would be looking for at each position. And that adds detail to the character traits Lynch has talked to his scouts about seeking.

One that Lynch calls "critical" is football character. "You gotta live it and breathe it," he says.

The 49ers GM certainly does, and he's gotten to work in surrounding himself with others that do, too. Which is probably why none of this feels unnatural to him at all.

Paraag Marathe

The fall and rise of Paraag Marathe: How the maligned 'numbers guy' endures as 49ers front-office force

By Dan Brown
The Athletic
October 30, 2019

He's still here. Paraag Marathe, the whiz kid hired nearly 20 years ago to lead the 49ers' analytics revolution, is sitting in a gorgeous executive office overlooking the 49ers practice field on a recent autumn afternoon.

He's still here, having outlasted both of the executives who hired him, the coaches he helped hire and the pitchforks that tried to run him out of town.

Marathe, and he alone among the 49ers' top decision-makers, proved impervious to the free-swinging axe of the tumultuous early 2000s, thriving even as three general managers (Terry Donahue, Scot McCloughan and Trent Baalke) and six head coaches were cut down.
The GMs and coaches all fell. Marathe rose.

He's still here, in his 19th season, having endured the outrageous slings and arrows of sports-talk radio. For a spell a few years ago, criticism turned so vicious that one of his most famous supporters considering going incognito to defend him on the radio dial.
Go ahead, Billy from Oakland, you're on the air …

"I've never called a sports-talk radio show, but I remember hearing it and I wanted to disguise my voice and call in,'' A's executive vice president Billy Beane said in a recent phone interview. "I knew Paraag personally and I knew him professionally. He's an infectious personality and a high-energy guy."

Beane, the foremost expert when it comes to resistance to data-driven roster-making, said he's met four young intellects in his life whose smarts, personality and creativity wowed him from their very first meeting: current A's GM David Forst, former Dodgers GM and current Cleveland Browns executive Paul DePodesta, Giants president Farhad Zaidi … and Paraag Marathe.

"My first impression? I wanted to hire him,'' Beane said. "And then as time when on, I realized the more likely scenario was that he would hire me."

Not everyone was on board from the start of Marathe's 49ers career in 2000, however, especially not within 49ers headquarters. Former staffers from that era recall a near mutiny among coaches when they got a load of the newly hired Marathe and his data-harvesting staff evaluating game tape. As one former assistant coach said by phone recently: "These guys didn't even know the plays. They didn't know what a shovel pass was. They didn't know what a screen pass was. They didn't know any of that."

In those days? Critics saw Marathe as a numbers nerd whose lack of football acumen played a damaging role in plunging a proud NFL franchise into a prolonged abyss. Multiple sources interviewed earlier this month still recall, with more than a trace of bitterness, what they describe as a reckless naiveté that infuriated coaches, insulted veteran players and had NFL agents threatening to no longer do business with the 49ers. Detractors rankled at the idea that the young Stanford MBA held sway in the coaching booth, where he weighed in on replay challenges while actual NFL coaches sat idly by.

Particularly galling to several sources was the way Donahue and Marathe orchestrated a purge of high-priced veterans that essentially severed the lineage of a Super Bowl dynasty. The ensuing leadership void in the 49ers locker room left the franchise adrift for years. "That falls on the Terry Donahue and Paraag Marathe,'' one former executive said. "They destroyed the 49ers way."

And now? Marathe is the chief contract negotiator and salary-cap architect for an undefeated franchise that is stable, healthy and trending straight-arrow up. Additional sources interviewed this month described Marathe as an affable and respected NFL mind with a reputation for both diplomacy and financial creativity.

John Lynch, now in his third season as general manager, said Marathe has been instrumental in helping the front office transform the 49ers into a 7-0 juggernaut.

“I really wasn’t privy to a lot of the preconceived notions. So when people talk about ‘perceptions,’ I don’t know that,” Lynch said Tuesday. “All I know is what I know from working with him: And I would say he’s been great. He’s been invaluable to me.”
Marathe has fans outside the building, too.

“He’s one of the most talented front-office executives I’ve dealt with in my 32 years as a certified agent in the National Football League,’’ super-agent Drew Rosenhaus said by phone.

Said another high-profile agent, David Mulugheta, who represents superstar players such as Aaron Rodgers and Deshaun Watson: “From a professional standpoint, it’s refreshing. He’s super intelligent and straight forward. He does his homework. He’s someone you can trust.”

Marathe, after months of requests from The Athletic, recently sat down for an extended conversation about his evolution from mysterious numbers cruncher to franchise power broker to enduring figure in the front office. Initially hired as a draft consultant, his exalted job title these days barely squeezes onto a single business card: He is the President of 49ers Enterprises and Executive Vice President of Football Operations.

He’s not only still here, and he’s kinda everywhere. There is a football in his office, but also a soccer ball (Marathe guided an effort by 49ers Enterprises to purchase a minority ownership in the Leeds United Football Club). There’s also a cricket bat (Marathe was unanimously elected as the Chair of the USA Cricket Board last October).

Still youthful looking at 42, he’s one of a handful of people inside 49ers headquarters whose front-office career spans from Bill Walsh to Lynch.

Marathe spoke unflinchingly of his tumultuous early days and also explained why the new guard, Lynch and Kyle Shanahan, have him “probably the most excited I’ve ever been about this team.”

Mostly, Marathe helped answer the question of how, against all odds, he’s still here.

He was hired, quite literally, to figure out if a computer could do the same thing as Walsh’s brain. The 49ers wanted a data expert to analyze the value of specific draft spots and create a handy value chart. The chart would serve as a quick reference guide for potential draft-day trades for teams looking to move up or down the board — is it worth it to trade the 27th overall pick for the 48th and 61st?

Such charts had been around forever, but the 49ers figured they could get an edge with a modern deep dive from a prestigious market analyst. The team reached out to the Bain & Co. consulting company — Marathe says Walsh himself made the call — and asked for help. Internally, Bain tapped Marathe for the task because the third-year man already had a few sports-related projects on his résumé.

Marathe jumped at the chance. He’d been a 49ers fan since he was 6, back when his parents owned and operated a Round Table Pizza in Saratoga. In a way, he’d been waiting for the call. Whenever he filled out business school applications, he always answered the question about his career aspirations with: “I want a chance to run a sports team.”

Cracking the code to draft day was an ideal place to start. His analysis proved so incisive that Donahue hired him shortly after they met.

"Bill always did it on instinct, so my job was to figure out, 'How did they arrive at this chart, this curve from pick No. 1 to pick 250?' Then I had to figure out: What was a better way to do it?" Marathe said.

After he finished devising what he calls the "exchange rate" for draft slots, he went back and applied them to Walsh's old draft trades to see how the system paired up. And old school and new school matched up essentially to a "T".

"The 'aha!' moment was that we were trying to replicate the genius of his mind,'' Marathe said.

Repeating the art behind Walsh's actual draft-day triumphs, however, proved to be a challenge. And it was a bumpy changing of the guard. By the early 2000s, Walsh's influence was fading. He'd come back as kind of a quick-fix GM in 1999, then remained in the fold in lesser roles, including as a team consultant through 2004. It appeared as if ownership was nudging him toward the door, intent on starting a fresh legacy.

Donahue, who worked under Walsh as the director of player personnel, took over as full-fledged GM in 2001. But it got awkward as early as the first round of his first draft, according to an assistant coach who was in the room that day.

The 49ers wanted Andre Carter, a ferocious defensive end from Cal, with the No. 9 pick. The problem, the assistant coach said, is that Donahue had dropped too many hints in the media about the 49ers' interest in Carter. That piqued the Chicago Bears' interest, and they started making noise about swiping Carter at No. 8. According to the former assistant coach, Donahue began to panic that the 49ers would miss their guy by one pick.
The room sensed his fear.

"And then Bill Walsh stood up and said — and these were his exact words — 'Shut the fuck up. I'm taking over,'" the assistant recalled by phone.
The witness said that Walsh immediately dialed his old friend, Seahawks coach Mike Holmgren, and swung a trade that allowed the 49ers to leapfrog the Bears to No. 7, where they could safely get their man.

"And then Walsh turned around and said: 'That's the way you run a draft. You don't open your fucking mouth at all about anything that we want to do,'" the former assistant said.

Marathe also got a glimpse of Walsh's draft-day edginess, according to another former staffer who witnessed the scene. The exact details of the deal are lost to memory, but the staffer recalls Walsh reaching agreement on the parameters of a trade involving multiple draft picks. But before Walsh pulled the trigger, Marathe approached the Hall of Fame coach and handed him a printout of his data. Marathe's numbers on the sheet argued that the 49ers weren't getting proper value.

"Bill kind of glanced down at the sheet, pretending like he was really paying attention to it. Then he kind of spun the page away, pointed at (John) McVay and said, 'Make the move,'" the witness said. "It was pretty alarming. He basically scoffed in Paraag's face. … Walsh did not follow the same path that Donahue was trying to follow."

Marathe smiled wide upon hearing the story. He said he doesn't remember a thing about that exchange with Walsh, per se, but said it's typical of any NFL draft room — where pressure-packed decisions are made quickly and where sensitivity is an afterthought. It's worth noting that there's a framed photo of Walsh in his office.

"I hope that happened, and I can tell you it still happens today,'' Marathe said. "It's not, 'Let's just refer to the chart. Does it say yes or no?' It's just one more piece of information.

"If you really value a player or think this player is going to be better than his draft slot, by all means you disregard (the chart) and do what you think is right. I hope it will continue to happen that way."

Marathe repeated a similar sentiment several times over in the conversation, eager to dispel the myth that the 49ers ever planned to rely on statistics to the exclusion of all else.

“Maybe in other sports it works, but there’s so much human element to (football) that it’s never been that,’’ he said. “It’s more like, ‘Let’s add one more piece of fuel to the fire and see if it helps us.’’’

As the draft-day dustup with Walsh showed, Donahue had reason for unease. He was taking over the GM reins from someone with a pair of the most distinguished eyes in football. The stories remain legendary. Walsh discovered Jerry Rice while flipping channels in a hotel room and stumbling across a game from Mississippi Valley State. He fixated on Dwight Clark after traveling to work out a Clemson quarterback named Steve Fuller and instead got a load of the magnetic roommate who’d tagged along to catch passes. And, of course, Walsh looked at a skinny kid with a so-so arm from Notre Dame and saw the magic of Joe Montana within.

That’s a tough act to follow for anyone, and Donahue was realistic about his challenge. As a former 49ers staffer recalled: “Donahue was obviously out of his depth and obviously didn’t have the confidence that Bill did in terms of selecting players. … And so he was visualizing: ‘How can I develop an edge?’’’

Donahue, in the vein of his friend Beane, embraced the idea of a “Moneyball”-style approach to football, especially since salary-cap problems left the team with little wiggle room. By using analytics to spot undervalued assets in the draft and on the free-agent market, the 49ers could get a Silicon Valley-style edge while the rest of the NFL was still sleeping.

Donahue turned more and more to Marathe, a plan that had the full backing of the York family. This was when John York, not his son, was still in charge and the licensed pathologist loved the concept of making decisions based on proofs and statistical models. In those early days, according to sources, York often referred to Marathe as “our secret weapon.”

But “Moneyball’’ proved to be a tough sequel for football. In baseball, you can isolate performance — batter vs. pitcher. But a football play like, say, an interception might depend on the defensive line getting pressure, a free safety sticking to his assignment and a tipped pass by a linebacker.

The 49ers’ early forays into creating useful metrics were so divisive within the organization that they have taken on an air of mythology. A Marathe-led system called “ticking” still gets a rise out of those who remember the unusual method for evaluating college prospects.

“Oh, what a labor-intensive effort that was,’’ said Terry Tumey, who started as a 49ers player personnel assistant in 2001 before becoming the team’s director of football administration.

Tumey, now the athletic director at Fresno State, remains a Marathe fan and credits him for helping push the 49ers into a more sophisticated way of decision making. But he chuckles at a mention of “ticking.” The system called for analysts to watch film and make notations for every player on every play. “You’re trying to capture data that went beyond traditional,’’ Tumey said. “He was trying to get to the point where he had enough data to really evaluate a player.”

The problem? Tumey said ticking led to dubious choices like receiver Rashaun Woods, a first-round pick in 2004 who showed up with all the competitive fire of a wet rag. Looking back, a former general manager from another team still can’t believe it: “By their analytics, he was the No. 1 receiver. Throw that stuff away because he’s not even close. He was gone! … I said, ‘What in the world are you guys doing taking him in the first round?’”

But another former 49ers employee, otherwise critical of Marathe, defended the ticking system in this case. He said old-school scouting was the culprit, recalling that Bill Rees, the 49ers director of player personnel at the time, pushed hard for Woods.

Regardless, Tumey doesn’t recall hearing about ticking anymore after that Woods pick.

"The tracking system could tell you nothing about the intrinsic nature of the players. It couldn't tell you about his resilience,'' Tumey said. "It couldn't tell you about how he handled adversity. It couldn't tell you about his heart. It couldn't tell you about any of that stuff. At the end of the day, it didn't capture the true essence of the player."

Beyond that, critics said, Marathe's army of young interns lacked the football expertise to make a proper evaluation even with the on-field stuff, much to the exasperation of Dennis Erickson's mostly old-school staff. Genial offensive coordinator Ted Tollner, who had been a head coach at USC, stumbled upon a "ticking" session one day and blew a gasket.

"Ted Tollner was one of the most mild-mannered and kind coaches that I've seen. He blew up one time. I mean cussin' down the hallway,'' a former staffer said. "You just never saw Ted respond that way, but he got so animated … I think Ted walked in and said, 'What are you guys doing?' They explained, and he lost his mind because he thought, 'We're relying on these motherfuckers to save our jobs?'"

Such was the conflict during that era. Multiple sources said Marathe wasn't respectful enough of what football lifers brought to the table.

"He was definitely a smart guy. But his flaw is that he's a smart guy, too," one said. "Because he believes that he's the smartest guy."

Such resistance, though, has been a familiar phenomenon over the sports landscape as the new generation takes hold. As the influence of Beane and other statistically-minded people grows, traditionalists often grumble or push back. But there's no question as to who is winning that war. Just check out baseball's reliance on shifts and spin rates and launch angles or the NBA's evolution to positional fluidity, corner 3s and discouraging the mid-range jumper.

To Beane, the resistance to Marathe's vanguard approach seems familiar.

"Totally. Absolutely,'' Beane said. "He was one of the early adopters, especially in that sport, and those early guys face a lot more headwinds. They get beat up. … So it's been great to see his success. He blazed a trail for a lot of the guys behind him. It's a credit to his intelligence."

Marathe now oversees an entire 49ers analytics department. And in the NFL, the "ticking" system no longer looks so wild, even in retrospect.

"It was like what Pro Football Focus is doing now,'' Marathe said. "Back then, no one was really doing much with offensive line players, giving out run-blocking, pass-blocking grades.

"(Ticking) was us hiring a bunch of interns to do what PFF does today, which is go down the whole decision tree of all the things an O-lineman does — on a pass, did he successfully block his guy or did he allow pressure or a hit or a sack? On a run block, did he block at the first level or the second level? Was he successful? Did he keep his guy away from the ball?

"There are a thousand snaps per offensive lineman across the league, so it's a lot of intern work to start quantifying it and use it as another tool. There's a lot of nuance to it, so the thought was that over a thousand plays over time across all teams, it sort of averages out. It's not the answer, it's just one piece to add to it."

Marathe also dismisses the suggestion that "ticking" duped the 49ers into picking Woods, who amassed a mere seven career catches in his lone season. For one thing, Marathe said his staff never ranked receivers from top to bottom as part of an evaluation. They just compiled raw numbers. Passing their data from ticking was akin to providing a list of a player's vertical leap from the scouting combine.

"I've always looked for wherever I can add empirical evidence to help the case, that's what I want to do,'' he said. "The landscape has changed, probably because there's easier and better access to data and

information. Doing the tick thing sort of sounds like such an esoteric, surreptitious way. But now when I say, 'It's like a PFF,' you go, OK, I get it."

The current 49ers regime certainly seems to be a more receptive audience. Lynch, who also went to Stanford, has embraced analytics as part of the 49ers' overall evaluation process, and so has his head coach.

"The previous regime wasn't really using them. I figure as long as they're here, we'll see what they can bring," Lynch told ESPN Radio in March 2018. "And we found that it's been incredibly valuable. And we've tried to kind of intertwine them in our scouting process. Kyle's bought into that."

The 49ers fired Donahue and Erickson after the 2004 season, but Marathe remained unscathed by the 2-14 record that year. In fact, his responsibilities kept growing: Marathe, York and Tumey helped lead the committee that hired the next coach — Mike Nolan.

It helped that Marathe had shown himself to be smart, ambitious and forward-thinking; he was finding his footing as an NFL executive. And it also didn't hurt that he'd become personally close to Jed York, who would soon be handed the keys to the kingdom. About the same age, the two hung out socially, played poker together and found a kinship as they shared a vision for the 49ers franchise. As one former high-ranking 49ers official put it: "Paraag was best friends with Jed York — everybody knew it. So he could do no wrong."

Tumey continues to see the friendship as a positive for the organization.

"Both Jed and Paraag wanted to take this industry that was basically being run by old coaches and they wanted to be vanguards and the new renegades. 'Let us show you some new tools that can teach some old dogs some new tricks,'" he said.

"It kind of brought them together. They were the two young bucks. …. It basically made (Marathe) part of the family."

Marathe dabbled in lots of areas over the years, and to some extent it was trial and error as he learned to focus on his strengths. He spent some time in the coaching booth helping Nolan figure out when to throw the challenge flag for a replay review. This, perhaps above all else, served as a hot-button issue among fans. As the talk-show airwaves made clear during that time, it was an awkward look having an egghead making crucial football decisions while surrounded by a handful of coaches. Never mind that Nolan once said: "He's always right on it. He's probably the best I've ever been around."

To be clear, Marathe was never in charge of challenging calls. It was his job to offer recommendations to Nolan, who held the red flag. Marathe had read the NFL playing rules five times and impressed Nolan with his understanding of even the most arcane details. Nolan had gone only 2 for 5 in his challenges as a rookie coach. So he started kicking around other options.

"He talked to the coaches. Then talked to Paraag about it," a former front-office staffer during that time recalled. "And Paraag was cool with it — he was right there. Because some people don't want to do it, but Paraag was cool with it."

In the two full seasons with Marathe in the booth under Nolan, the 49ers went 10 for 20 (.500) on replay challenges. Comparing that with some notable names, Bill Belichick is 48 for 120 in his career on challenge flags (.400), Andy Reid is 57 for 122 (.467) and Pete Carroll is 39 for 85 (.458).

Marathe also tried to use analytics to teach Nolan the best time to call a timeout, with mixed success. ("Paraag loved that stuff,'' a source said. "And it was good because Mike Nolan was all over the place with timeouts. Holy smokes.")

But Marathe really found his groove as a salary-cap specialist, not only in helping the 49ers carve out a path for responsible long-term planning but for personally negotiating deals that left the 49ers plenty of

wiggle room. Gone are the days when Donahue would work the phrase “salary cap hell” into every sentence. As of Monday, the 49ers had $8.74 million in salary-cap room.

They have several of their big names signed to extensions (Jimmy Garoppolo through 2022, Joe Staley through 2021) and appear armed with the financial flexibility to work out extensions for other cornerstone pieces, such as tight end George Kittle and defensive lineman DeForest Buckner.

Above all, the 49ers seem to have a responsible vision for team-building, showing a knack for avoiding the burdensome contracts that can haunt a franchise for years. Lynch, who essentially went from television analyst to the GM job, said he told Marathe upon his hiring that he was going to need some lessons from the cap professor.

“That was one thing I was committed to when I took this job,” Lynch said Tuesday. “I said, ‘Look, Paraag, I can’t do this job and just say you’ve got got the cap. If we did that, then we couldn’t make decisions. You have to teach me this.’

“He said, ‘absolutely,’ and he’s been tremendous with that.”
Lynch said that Marathe’s mastery of the cap includes knowing the back channels that allow for creative contracts. In that regard, he reminds Lynch of Leigh Steinberg, his agent during his playing days.
“I always thought he was incredibly invaluable to have as an agent because I felt like he understood it better than anybody — the loopholes and all those things,” Lynch said. “I kind of feel the same way with Paraag. It’s a great asset.”

For all the intricacies, however, Marathe said the fundamental shift was a fairly simple concept.

“We went from looking at the cap ‘this year’ to always looking at the cap on a three-year basis. That was the big change,’’ Marathe said. “’Salary cap hell’ might have happened because we were looking just at today — You have $20 million in room now, but you don’t realize that you’re $20 million over in each of the next two years. The big fundamental change now is with every decision we make, we’re always trying to look at it on that three-year window.”

The other part of the equation is still being able to lure top talent while staying under budget. One former 49ers employee said Marathe initially alienated agents with a ferocious approach to negotiations. He said because of his youth and outsider status, Marathe tried to “win” every deal. “It was an everybody-doubts me-type of attitude. It’s like short-man’s syndrome,” the source said. The thinking goes that it’s OK to “lose” a deal every once in a while, because the give and take often pays off over the long run. An agent who feels like he got a good deal for his client is going to want to do business with that team again.

But no agent reached for this story recalls any such dynamic, not even from Marathe’s early days. And Marathe said it would have been nuts to do anything but work collaboratively with the agents, especially when 20 percent of the top negotiators represent 80 percent of the players.

Rosenhaus has made numerous deals with the 49ers over the years, including contract extensions for running back Frank Gore and linebacker NaVorro Bowman, two of the most notable players of Marathe’s tenure. He’s also worked with Marathe on a first-round pick (Anthony Davis) and a recent unrestricted free agent (Kwon Alexander).

“My first impressions were always very positive. He’s been very consistent,’’ Rosenhaus said. “He’s not trying to embarrass the player or the agent, because he has an inherent sense of fairness and equity. He has integrity: If he tells you something, you can put your trust in what he’s telling you.”

Joel Segal, one of the NFL’s most powerful agents and Buckner’s representative, said in a phone interview that he really likes Marathe and has from the start. “Even initially, Paraag was a likable guy who commanded respect,’’ Segal said. “His way is not to bully you; he’s affable but tough.”

Mulugheta, meanwhile, remains grateful for Marathe’s kindness when he was an unknown agent first starting out. Other NFL executives sometimes ignored Mulugheta in those early days, but Marathe was a

notable exception. Mulugheta also found it inspiring to be working with another minority in the NFL power structure.

“When I first got into the business, he always treated me the same. Even when I didn’t have a lot of clients, here was a guy who was responsive and returned my calls,’’ he said. “In my business, my clients are relying on me to give them the right information. And if I tell them something wrong, they’re not going to blame the executive — they’re going to blame me. Paraag is one of those people I can count on to always shoot straight. He’s someone I can trust.”

Marathe’s job title changed in 2015, a reassignment widely seen as a demotion. In 2015, after he was their team president for two years, the 49ers moved him out of that role to make room for chief operating officer Al Guido. Marathe never lost his role as the lead contract negotiator, but the change in his job description meant an increased focus on the team’s outside business interests.

As the president of 49ers Enterprises, the work essentially falls into four buckets: sports consulting (such as for Sacramento Republic FC), investments in other teams or leagues (such as Leeds United), launching new businesses (WellStrong, VenueNext) and small strategic venture capital investments.

“We have the people, we have the know-how, we have the ability to do other things,” Marathe said. “It’s a way for the York family to grow their brand, not dissimilarly from the Yankees, Cowboys and Manchester United. We have, without a doubt, one of the most powerful sports brands in the world. We’re looking at ways to extend that brand.”

He’s still with the 49ers having survived yet another round of snark during the last regime change. As the 49ers looked to replace coach Chip Kelly and GM Trent Baalke, questions arose anew about Marathe’s meddling. A Yahoo Sports column reflected upon Kelly’s firing by writing that he never stood a chance against to turn around the 49ers, arguing that doing so would mean overcoming “a jagged union of personalities and agendas. It meant working for an impetuous and involved owner in York; sitting in football meetings with head of football operations Paraag Marathe, a numbers guy whose influence over ownership was unparalleled.”

ProFootballTalk went so far as to write in 2017 that Marathe’s presence was scaring away potential GM and coaching candidates. According to the report, multiple candidates for the GM job either declined an invitation to interview or withdrew after interviewing, including Chiefs director of player personnel Chris Ballard and Patriots director of player personnel Nick Caserio.

“The impediment to attracting their preferred candidates isn’t owner Jed York; apparently,” PFT wrote, “it’s Chief Strategy Officer and EVP of Football Operations Paraag Marathe. … Put simply, Marathe has influence, along with the ear of ownership. He’s been there for 16 years, and he has transcended the bubble of accountability in which coaches and General Managers reside. And that’s precisely the kind of dynamic coaches and General Managers try to avoid.”

Lynch certainly did not avoid it. Instead, he embraced it.

“Particularly coming from a different background. I was going to need a support system,” Lynch said. “I was very confident in my ability to do it (the GM job), provided I had that. And he’s been a tremendous asset to both Kyle and I and our entire team as we’ve tried to instill our vision for this team and how we’re going to be successful. That’s been the best compliment I can pay to him.”

Paraag Marathe with wife, Jennifer, and daughters Juniper and Maren. Courtesy of San Francisco 49ers.

There’s no sign of that criticism now. Marathe is no longer talk-show fodder. He’s no longer “Senior Associate Lightning Rod,’’ as the San Jose Mercury News once called him. The 49ers are rolling, and suddenly the analytics guy is no longer the source of mystery or distrust. He can laugh a bit about the days when his Stanford Business School education was viewed as a negative.

“Back then, MBA were like the scarlet letters I wore across my chest.”

The team is robust and fun to watch, and Marathe has happily avoided the spotlight as Shanahan and Lynch get their proper due for the 49ers' renaissance.

But Marathe hasn't forgotten the criticism, either.

"Externally, I can't say it didn't hurt,'' he said. "You pay attention to stuff like that. If you try to ignore it, your mom or dad or good friend says, 'Oh, my gosh, I was driving home and Ralph Barbieri said this about you.' I didn't even know who he was, but you obviously internalize that.

"At first, it was frustrating. There was this perception that because I was this mysterious figure, that I must be in a dark, windowless office wearing a pocket protector and couldn't have any conversations with people. Any of my friends would tell you that is the opposite of who I am. … Internally, as long as I have earned the trust and respect and I'm valuable to the people I work with, then I'm good. The moment I don't, all good, I'll do something else."

It helps that there's nothing to complain about. The 49ers are 7-0 and in terms of yardage per game, they rank sixth in offense and first in defense. They have outscored opponents 207-77 this season.

It's unlikely that fans will start calling KNBR soon to praise Marathe for his long-term vision. But that's fine with him. He defers credit, too.

"It's almost exclusively about what John and Kyle have built," Marathe said. "It's the culture here. They make it a fun place to work but also have everyone held to such a high standard and accountability. Everyone looks to them for it. I've never seen anything like it. It's really awesome. It's inspiring, and I think a lot of people feel it here.

"Kyle is as smart as anyone I've ever been around and so is John, and the way they get everyone believing is a different feeling."

Beane, meanwhile, is happy that he no longer has to ponder calling into a radio show with a fake voice. He talks to Marathe often, and the conversation would actually be a killer sports-talk show: They jump from football, to baseball, to soccer, to cricket (really) and kick around trends in the sports business industry. "Whenever I talk to Paraag," Beane said, "we're both just looking for the next big thing."

"First off, he's brilliant. There are a lot of bright people, but what's incredibly rare are the people who have the quantitative mind and the creative mind. A lot of people are just one of those. To have both is rare," he continued. "But the other thing is, you genuinely like him from the moment you meet him. He's like Farhan in that regard.

"I stayed on him for a while. I figured I could hire him if the 49ers thing didn't work out."

Forget it, Billy.

Paraag Marathe is still here. It's the 49ers who are going places.

Paraag Marathe and his back story are a slice of 49ers intrigue

By Mark Purdy
San Jose Mercury News
August 7, 2017

Do you know Paraag Marathe? You don't know Paraag Marathe.

"Hey, it's the same oven!" he exclaimed.

We had just entered the front door of Mountain Mike's pizza parlor. Marathe grew up blocks away. But this was far more than Marathe's old stomping ground. This was much more.
"I don't know how long it's been since I was here," Marathe said, gazing around. "I helped my dad set up this place. I hired the first employees, I picked out this furniture. I picked this color scheme."

Yes, it turns out there is a lot that all of us don't know about Paraag Marathe. I used to think that was exactly how he and the 49ers wanted it. But as we sat down for a nearly two-hour lunch at the restaurant that this family once owned, a lot of insightful doors opened up into the team's mystery man.

Marathe's official title with the 49ers is "Chief Strategy Officer And Executive Vice-President of Football Operations." His unofficial title is "Senior Associate Lightning Rod." As basically the right-hand man of owner Jed York, Marathe has been given credit for helping the Levi's Stadium project come together and blamed for . . . well, just about everything else. Fans and various media voices have accused him of meddling in the college draft, lurking in the coaching booth on Sundays, spying on behalf of York and/or undermining the operation in just about any conspiracy theory you want to offer.

Do you know Paraag Marathe? You don't know Paraag Marathe. Through all the lightning bolts, the man himself has been polite whenever encountered but mostly silent, very rarely granting interviews. But he agreed to sit down with me when I suggested that we do the interview at one of the pizza places that his immigrant father and mother operated on Saratoga Sunnyvale Road throughout his childhood. We talked about his family's back story, one that may go against the image many 49ers fans have of him as a privileged intellectual with degrees from Cal and Stanford.

Marathe does indeed own those degrees. But his upbringing was hardly one of privilege. His parents immigrated from India and pursued the American dream from the ground up. They endured disappointment and tragedy as their two children pitched in to help the family succeed. It provides good insight into what makes Marathe tick and propelled him to the second most powerful executive on the business side of the 49ers organization–though he might argue that point, as we'll see in a few paragraphs.

Actually, Mountain Mike's was the second restaurant owned by Vijay and Seema Marathe. The first was a Round Table Pizza just up the street, in a building that's now a savings and loan. At the Round Table, Paraag would often stand behind the counter and work the cash register. Nothing unusual about that — except that he was only 12 years old at the time and slightly under five feet tall.

"I could barely see above the register," Marathe said. "It was almost like a gimmick for customers at first because I looked really young back then. It was a like a little kid was running the restaurant. But we would churn out 200 or 250 pizzas on a Friday evening and there were times I really would run the whole operation. It's crazy now when I think about it."

Marathe worked long hours at the pizza businesses while attending Lynbrook High School. That way, his father could keep his other job as an electronics engineer–a job that Vijay ultimately had to quit, anyway, because the pizza business was so labor intensive and many of the teenagers they employed didn't always show up. Marathe's dad needed to be there just in case.
"Which is why all my guilt came in," Marathe said. "It was like, why would I be with my buddies in the evening when I should be working to give my dad a break?"

It's the story of hundreds of immigrant Silicon Valley families. But this one had a new twist. After Vijay and Seema pushed themselves so hard to send their children through college, they wondered why in the heck Paraag wanted to pursue a career with a NFL team. It was a dream he'd had since he was ringing up those pepperoni specials while the 49ers games played on the projection big screen TV.

"In Indian American culture," Marathe said, "everyone's got to be a doctor or engineer . . . or maybe a lawyer. Like, working in sports, my whole family, the ones who are in India and everywhere else, they just thought this was a hobby."

Reading between the lines, you can see that Marathe was out to prove a point–both to those folks who chuckled at the kid behind the register and to the family members who were mystified why such a bright young man was so obsessed with . . . a football salary cap?

Do you know Paraag Marathe? You don't know Paraag Marathe. He's a competitive guy who, while pitching for his high school baseball team, sparked a brawl in a game when he followed his coach's orders to throw at an opposing batter. But it was Marathe's obsession with front office NFL matters that fueled his rapid rise in the 49ers organization after he joined it 17 years ago as a jack-of-all-trades numbers guy who knew finances and statistics and how the NFL dealt with both. He became expert in negotiating contract terms. Marathe eventually became Chief Operating Officer and finally team president. He and.York were considered hotshot young wizards when the 49ers went to the Super Bowl following the 2012 season.

Then came 2014. A clumsy offload of coach Jim Harbaugh led to the 49ers losing 25 of their next 32 games. And the two young wizards conjured up only loathing among the fan base. Marathe lost his president's title–but is still a major front office presence.

So what does Marathe do, exactly? If you ask around the league, the people who deal with him tend to respect him and his intelligence. Yet some of those people ask the same question. So could he please enlighten us? He could.

"The lion's share of my job," Marathe said, "is what it's been for a long period of time — chief negotiator, monitoring the salary cap and figuring out our Collective Bargaining Agreement compliance with the league. The other part of my job has evolved over time. In the beginning, I was a troubleshooter looking at things where we could make things more efficient and better. And then I was finding a location for a new stadium and doing the stuff for the Levi's project."

With Levi's complete, Marathe dipped into other branches of the 49ers multi-tentacled operation, including a stadium-technology startup and a piece of Sacramento's pro soccer team. So why do 49ers fans think he's to blame for so much of the team's recent misery? Probably because he has participated in the coaching searches that resulted in Jim Tomsula and Chip Kelly's miserable seasons — and remains involved in day to day elements of the operation under new general manager John Lynch and new head coach Kyle Shanahan.

"I'd say 75 of my job is football related," Marathe said, "because the cap goes up and up and up and now we're at $165 million and accounting for every dollar and penny takes a lot of time."

Is criticism of him fair when the team does a faceplant?

"Yes, absolutely," Marathe said. "We're measured by wins and losses . . .We haven't won and we have to get that straightened out . . . (but) I'm not the spokesperson for football. That's John and Kyle's job and they're really good at it. And that's not my job. My job is to do my job and do it so I can be useful and a utility player for them."

Which is where things get foggy. How, exactly, does Marathe define the term "utility player?" He says it means that he takes orders from Lynch and Shanahan if they need him to research a potential player's expected compensation and whether it fits into the 49ers template–or anything else they might ask.

"I support those guys in everything football," Marathe said. "I'm our chief contract negotiator and manage our salary cap and help them in all our player personnel decisions. And you'd better have your 'A' game because they're going to challenge you. It's their show and I'm here to support them . . . The only time I do something with football is because someone wants me to do it. There are certain things within game management that I've done, but only at the request of the head coach."

Out of respect for the York family and coaches, Marathe also keeps his mouth shut in public. The practical effect, however, is that Marathe becomes an empty vessel for fans and media to fill up with castigation for things that he might or might not have actually done. At some point, he surely must want to speak up and clarify whether that's true.

"Is it frustrating?" Marathe said. "That's one of the things I learned from Round Table when I was 12 years old. People were counting me out because they thought I couldn't do that job. I learned how to just focus on doing the best I can. I can't sit here and tell you that it doesn't hurt. My wife and my daughter, my in-laws and my parents do live a stone's throw away from where we are right now. They hear and read things. That hurts. I'm still human. But all I can do is know that the sun rises and sun sets– and focus on doing the best job I can."

Do you know Paraag Marathe? You don't know Paraag Marathe. He gained the best perspective, sadly, when his sister died in 2005 after years in the grip of anorexia. That was the Marathe family tragedy. As the condition of Shilpa Marathe progressed, Paraag had difficulty dealing with her situation. He considered it grim irony that his family was in the food service business while at home, Shilpa had an eating disorder that made her so thin and weak, Vijay had to carry her upstairs to bed every night.

"Because I was really into my job at the time," Paraag said, "I became good at blocking it out of my mind, compartmentalizing. I probably didn't get at peace with it until 2012, 2013, 2014 . . . and then I kind of had that moment where I felt like I had this voice because I'm in this industry where . . . no one talks about mental illness that often. And being in an immigrant family, there's no such thing as mental anxiety or mental issues. You should just do or not do. There's nothing else. And being a male, to be able to talk about anorexia . . .I felt I had a really good platform to be heard. So I started to get involved and there's a couple of boards that I joined."

The two organizations, Andrea's Voice and Project Heal, have websites to consult for those dealing with anorexia in their own families. But Marathe says the first step is "to talk about it because I kept it inside for many years."

By now, the lunch was almost over. Marathe kibitzed a bit with the restaurant's current owner, Eil Abbasi, who bought the Mountain Mike's outlet place from Marathe's parents a while ago. Looking back on it, Marathe said, his pizza experience was exhausting but invaluable.

"I honestly felt like my third parent was Round Table Pizza," Marathe said. "It was more influential in my life than anything I can think of, including school and graduate school . . . You know, I was interviewing prospective employees when I was 13 or 14 years old, hiring delivery drivers . . . Knowing I was being counted out but knowing if you keep your head down and focused on what's doing right and not listen to the noise, that's what you need."

As we wrapped up our interview, he asked: "How'd you like the pizza?"

Marathe then told one final story. Both his family's pizza places were not far from Saratoga High School, so the football team often showed up for postgame meals. One of the Saratoga High players that Marathe served was a frosh-soph wide receiver named Kyle Shanahan.

Shanahan is the new 49ers' head coach. Does he know Paraag Marathe? Shanahan didn't then. He does now. After lunch at Mountain Mike's, maybe we all do.

Kyle Shanahan

Kyle Shanahan took the 49ers from 2-14 to the Super Bowl. He's rewarded with 6-year deal

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
June 15, 2020

The 49ers are rewarding their head coach that inherited a 2-14 team and took it to the Super Bowl three seasons later.

The team on Monday agreed to a six-year contract extension with Kyle Shanahan, putting him under contract through 2025, a league source confirmed to The Sacramento Bee. The new deal will make Shanahan one of the five highest-paid head coaches in the NFL, per ESPN, which was first to report the news.

Shanahan, 40, signed a six-year contract with the 49ers when he was hired in 2017, becoming the fourth coach in four seasons while the club struggled to find consistency in the wake of Jim Harbaugh's departure after 2014. The new deal replaces the three years remaining on Shanahan's initial contract and comes with a substantial raise, though the financial figures have not been disclosed.

Shanahan – with the help of general manager John Lynch, who was hired at the same time – has turned the 49ers from a team that had the No. 2 pick in the draft when he was hired to having a 10-point fourth-quarter lead in Super Bowl LIV that was squandered to Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs.

Shanahan also serves as the offensive coordinator and helped Jimmy Garoppolo develop into a winning quarterback after acquiring him from the New England Patriots midway through 2017. Garoppolo helped San Francisco go 13-3 during his first full season as a starter after his 2018 campaign was derailed by a Week 3 ACL tear. Garoppolo is 21-6 as the team's starter, including the playoffs.

The 49ers in 2019, while earning the top seed in the NFC playoffs, ranked third in scoring (29.6 points per game) and eighth in yardage (374.2). The defense finished second overall, allowing 284.4 yards per game.

San Francisco's turnaround speaks for itself. But Shanahan has also done well developing relationships within the organization that was wrought with turmoil before he arrived. Shanahan and team CEO Jed York recently sat down "and quickly figured out what each meant to the other," according to ESPN's report, leading to the new contract.

York had famously been at odds with Harbaugh previously and stuck with general manager Trent Baalke as the two clashed. Baalke at the end of 2016 was fired following the coaching hires of Jim Tomsula and Chip Kelly, who went 7-25 combined. Neither lasted beyond their first seasons. Shanahan is the team's first coach to receive a contract extension since Steve Mariucci in 1999.

The 49ers have turned into a destination franchise in large part because of Shanahan's coaching style and the locker room culture he instilled with Lynch and the front office.

"This was a preferred destination of mine just because of the familiarity with Kyle and the offense," new left tackle Trent Williams said in the spring after being acquired in a trade from Washington to replace Joe Staley. "Obviously being an ascending team, I feel like I'd fit right in."

Shanahan has been described by his players as a "genius" and has been lauded for his relatability. Earlier this month he took a strong stand against racism and police brutality that received a slew of praise from his players on social media.

"There's different parts of this country, but a lot of white people, if they don't see it, they don't think it's happening," Shanahan said. "They associate racism with slavery and stuff (from) a long time ago. And

they're in certain parts where if they don't see it, they don't think it's happening. And that's the problem. Racism's all over (the country). And it's what Black people deal with every day. And white people are very sheltered to that and very ignorant. And I think that's the message that's been missed."

Is 49ers' Kyle Shanahan the coolest coach ever?

By Ron Kroichick
San Francisco Chronicle
January 30, 2020

On the eve of the NFC Championship Game, at the team hotel in Santa Clara, head coach Kyle Shanahan delivered a memorable speech.

The 49ers were preparing to play Green Bay, an opponent they had steamrolled 37-8 in November. Shanahan, known among his players as a smooth and confident public speaker with anecdotes at the ready, did not disappoint.

He told the story of a UFC fighter who, faced with a rematch against a foe he previously had beaten, decisively won again. Shanahan also explained how he had talked to a Navy Seal about not letting the enemy reach the water's surface.

Shanahan's essential message, through these colorful yarns: Don't take the Packers lightly and don't let them come up for air. The next day, the 49ers jumped ahead early and won 37-20.

"They were some crazy analogies, but he made the point," wide receiver Kendrick Bourne said.

The larger point: Shanahan, a onetime 49ers ball boy who returned as an Xs-and-Os wizard with unproven leadership ability, quickly figured out how to connect with his players. And this, maybe even more than his much-lauded play-calling acumen, helps explain why San Francisco will play Kansas City in Sunday's Super Bowl.

Shanahan's people skills were an open question when the 49ers hired him in February 2017. Even general manager John Lynch has since acknowledged that he wondered how Shanahan would turn out as a leader and communicator.

But nobody really knew three years ago, when Shanahan and Lynch took over the team. Shanahan, after nine seasons as offensive coordinator for four teams (Houston, Washington, Cleveland and Atlanta), had a reputation as a creative, borderline-brilliant play caller … with a smug, know-it-all personality.

One not-exactly-objective person disputed this reputation. Mike Shanahan, a two-time Super Bowl-winning head coach and Kyle's father, insisted he knew his son could handle the human demands of being a head coach.

"I could see as a kid that he connected right away with everybody," Mike Shanahan said in a phone interview this week. "So I was surprised he had that reputation. Those opinions that he didn't relate well (to players), I kind of laughed. I thought he was just the opposite. That's the way he's been his whole life.

"But when you're in a situation and you're young, sometimes those are the perceptions. … He's a lot better than I was at relating to almost everybody in the room. He always had a natural ability to relate to everybody, whether they were white or black, anyone."

Kyle Shanahan's career arc, in a way, began in Santa Clara. Twenty-five years ago, as the 49ers of Steve Young and Jerry Rice rolled to the franchise's fifth Super Bowl championship, he was an eager, curious 14-year-old ball boy prone to wearing a Deion Sanders T-shirt all day and night.

The 49ers are going to the Super Bowl and the San Francisco Chronicle is going with them. Subscribe to our Sporting Green newsletter for daily 49ers updates here.

Shanahan roamed the practice field, did laundry, ran errands. Sometimes, he hung out with Sanders or tackle Harris Barton. During training camp, Shanahan shared a room with his dad, then the team's offensive coordinator, and offensive line coach Bobb McKittrick.

A quarter-century later, Shanahan roams the field in a decidedly different role. If the 49ers win Sunday, this would be their first Super Bowl title since that 1994 season, when Mike Shanahan called the plays and Kyle fetched footballs.

The younger Shanahan's duties now stretch a bit deeper. And they include a forthright and direct manner with his players, many of whom pointed out how this distinguishes Shanahan from some peers in a cold, cutthroat business.

"He's the most honest coach I've been around," said wide receiver Jordan Matthews, who also has played for the Eagles, Bills and Patriots. "That's one of the things I appreciate about Kyle. It's not like my situation here has been roses and rainbows."

The 49ers signed Matthews on Oct. 4, cut him Oct. 26 and signed him again Dec. 11.

"But, every single time," Matthews said, "he never hesitated to tell me, 'Here's the deal, here's what's going on. Here's why we're having to let you go. Here's why we're bringing you back.' And I appreciate that about someone."

Matthews made another salient point on Shanahan's uncommon candor with the media about player injuries. That resonates loudly in the locker room, where players often feel pressure to return even if they're not physically ready.

"If a coach comes out (publicly) and says, 'Hey, it's going to take some time,' then it's like, 'OK, now I have the space to breathe and get healthy,'" Matthews said. "So if this injury takes longer to come back from than we expect, it's not like I've got the fans and media down my throat about getting back out there."

Shanahan's honesty is a thread running through his three years with the 49ers. In his initial interview with chief executive officer Jed York, he bluntly told York the roster needed an overhaul. Shanahan then did exactly that — and guided his team to the Super Bowl in his third season.

York, in an interview last week with Bay Area reporters, described Shanahan as being "very, very direct." And, yes, York meant it as a compliment.

This all traces to Shanahan's teenage years, in many ways, when he routinely joined his dad at work. That meant playing catch with Young or Rice, and learning from some of the best players ever. Shanahan later was a wide receiver at Duke and Texas before pursuing coaching.

His simmering intensity as a player, and earlier in his coaching career, has since morphed into a more balanced approach.

"I truly believe the locker room reflects the personality of your head coach," said guard Mike Person, who also played for Shanahan in Atlanta. "When we're on football, Kyle is always focused on talking ball. But he's such a laid-back personality, I think it rubs off on us in a good way. Everyone enjoys being around each other. We're not constantly looking over our shoulder."

Matthews suggested Shanahan's coaching style has persuaded some players to consider coaching as a career option after their playing days. That's unusual, because most NFL players see the long hours of coaching and want no part of it.

Shanahan, contrary to his pre-49ers reputation, is changing perceptions.

"I think he's the coolest coach ever," guard Laken Tomlinson said.

Now that's high praise.

Kyle Shanahan at 40: The 49ers coach reflects on the forces that shaped him, including that damn wrought-iron fence

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
December 12, 2019

Nothing changes your career path quite like being impaled by a sharp, unforgiving, wrought-iron fence. Today, Kyle Shanahan looks like the smartest guy in the NFL, one whose beautiful mind was on full display Sunday while directing the 49ers to beat Saints coach Sean Payton at his own game and on Payton's own turf. But 18 years ago, on a warm summer night in Denver, the thought that kept running through that mind was this: I am such an idiot.

Shanahan, 21 years old at the time, had gone to retrieve a ball for his black lab, Magic. He went to hop the fence that surrounded his parents' home, something he'd done hundreds of times and something a 6-foot-3, 185-pound University of Texas athlete could do with a bit of momentum and a casual swing of the legs.

Not this time. Shanahan's hand slipped and his left thigh plunged down on the decorative tip of the fence. He braced for his fall, expecting his head to strike the ground. But he never got there; the spear point snagged him and left him suspended in mid-air.

The metal, like a hook, was in so deep that Shanahan had trouble extracting himself. His parents, Mike and Peggy, were in Greeley, Colo., because Mike's Denver Broncos were spending training camp there. So Kyle called out to the only person inside the house, his friend, Zach Zucker.

"Kyle was literally hanging from the top of the fence. He was hanging by his leg," Zucker recalled in a phone interview. "So I'm in a complete panic. I ran out to him as he's trying to get himself off the fence. I pick him up, put him in the car and drive as fast as I possibly can to the nearest hospital. And yeah, man, that was that was one of the scariest moments of my life. I didn't know what the heck to do."

Doctors soon were plucking chips of black metal from deep in Shanahan's thigh. The gash was so extensive it required a two-hour surgery, three layers of stitches and left a nine-inch scar.

Until then, Shanahan had put all his efforts on becoming an NFL wide receiver. He had transferred from Duke to Texas the previous year and was slated to be the No. 3 receiver in a high-profile offense that featured Chris Simms at quarterback, Roy Williams at receiver and Cedric Benson at tailback.

Would he have been drafted? Maybe, maybe not. He had had a strong spring practice, was in line to get plenty of snaps and was intriguing enough to at least be invited to a training camp if not make an NFL roster. The fence incident changed all that. It forced him to take everything he had used to become a receiver — his singular focus, his hyper-competitive nature, all of his energy — and shift it to Plan B.

He joined the UCLA coaching staff a year and a half later and five years after that became the NFL's youngest offensive coordinator with the Houston Texans. Now he has the 49ers on the verge of sealing a playoff berth for the first time since 2013.

There's a perception around the NFL that Shanahan is a savant when it comes to calling plays. His players don't disagree and they rave that the adjustments he makes at halftime are football-genius level. But they also recognize that the 49ers' success this season begins with how hard their head coach grinds.

Tackle Joe Staley, who is nearing the end of his 13th season with the 49ers, says he's been on teams in which the playbook doesn't vary from Week 1 through Week 17.

"We might have run a couple of different plays, but we weren't adding anything," he said. "We weren't attacking anything differently. And it's completely the opposite here. Every week is a brand-new game

plan. So there's no way to get a bead on what we're doing. He's doing so many different things all the time."

Those game plans seem to be growing more expansive as the season grows in importance.

The plan Shanahan used against the Saints began with endless cups of coffee and an 18-hour cram session with his top offensive lieutenants, Mike McDaniel and Mike LaFleur, in Bradenton, Fla., during the 49ers' stay between the Ravens and Saints road games. When they arrived home from New Orleans, the trio immediately were back in the lab, and they have an even bigger plan in store for the Falcons, the team they all were a part of before joining the 49ers in 2017.

"The amount of plays we had installed today was insane," fullback Kyle Juszczyk said on Wednesday, his eyes widening for emphasis. "It might have been a season high. Those guys just absolutely grind. And they don't back off even though we're 14 weeks into the season. If anything, it seems like they've been working harder recently."

One of the NFL's sharpest minds and most diligent workers wasn't exactly a star student. Asked the subjects at which young Kyle Shanahan excelled, his mother laughs. None? Her son was one of those kids who never studied until the night before a big exam.

He lost his homework. He routinely misplaced his wallet. He couldn't find his keys. The Ph.D. play caller was more absent-minded professor away from the football field.

"He was a moron," said Zucker, his high school friend. "It's funny because at work he's so prepared and there are certain things he's great about. But other things? I mean, the kid lost his cell phone, his keys every two seconds."

When Kyle was still in grade school, Peggy warned him he'd never get into college if he didn't take his schoolwork more seriously. He looked up and explained that he wasn't worried. He was planning to get a football scholarship. They regularly had so many similar exchanges in the years that followed that it became a running joke, a smile spreading across the son's face as he spoke, a mix of adoration and exasperation in the mom as she heard the familiar rationale.

He may have been a B- student, but he was an A+ arguer.

"He ended up being right," Peggy Shanahan said. "He got a scholarship — to Duke, no less — without studying at all. Of course, it was because of football. Yup, it just kind of worked out for him."

When Kyle was young, he cared about two things. One was clothing. Peggy said she never had to lay an outfit on his bed for school. He wouldn't let her. In fact, Kyle knew precisely what he was going to wear two weeks before his first day of kindergarten.

"I mean, he was so picky," Peggy said. "I couldn't even dry his shirts. Because they had to just fit in a certain way and if I dried them, then they might fit a little bit different. I had to hang them up. I mean, it was just weird. And he's still that way."

His other obsession was football.

You might think someone who moved from town to town as a kid, who enrolled at a different school every few years, who barely saw his father some weeks, might end up resenting his dad's profession. For Kyle, it was the opposite. He gobbled up X's and O's and talked for hours about how he wanted to be part of the sport.

Was he good?
Maybe not immediately. His friend when the Shanahans lived in Los Angeles, KC Freer, remembers 10-year-old Kyle being their team's "mayday" quarterback.

"That means if we were up by enough, we would put the backup, backup quarterback in," Freer said. "To be fair, he did play some other positions. But that was the one I remember."

Freer didn't recall the story to be mean — they've been close friends for three decades — but to illustrate a point: Kyle wanted so badly to be an NFL player that by the time he was finished with high school the one-time "mayday" quarterback had colleges asking him to attend for free.

"It's a pretty good combination when you're smart at something and then you also outwork everyone," Freer said. "It's tough to beat."

In 1995, a new kid enrolled at sprawling Cherry Creek High outside of Denver. Zucker, a linebacker on the football team, remembers the first time he saw Kyle Shanahan, whose dad had just been hired as the Broncos head coach. He looked like a California skater.

"Kyle came in and we were doing speed camp for football and just getting started on the offseason," he said. "And funny enough, he had a red hat on with the 'S' on it for Saratoga. He came from Saratoga High. It looked just like the one he wears today. And you could hardly see his face. He had it pulled down so low. That's the first memory I had of Kyle."

The years in Denver ended up being the most formative for Kyle's career, although he didn't know it at the time. He spent his Sundays literally a step or two from his father; he was the guy who made sure the head coach's communication cords — there were no WiFi connections then — didn't get tangled up on the sideline. During the spring and summer, he would work out with Terrell Davis, Ed McCaffrey, Rod Smith and the other Broncos players. And Mike Shanahan allowed his son to invite his friends along, too. No one took it easy on the boys.

Pickup games were treated with the gravity of overtime at the Super Bowl. While Davis, a future Hall of Fame running back, was serving as quarterback in one of the games, he fired a pass that Zucker thought was intended for someone else.

"So I ducked and I didn't catch the ball and we didn't win," Zucker recalled. "I'm telling you, I got more shit that day than I did my whole life."

Another one of Kyle's high school teammates got a black eye after taking a Brian Griese pass to the face. The coach's son didn't escape the rough stuff, either. During a 1-on-1 drill, a defensive back struck Kyle in the face so hard it drew blood.

"I tried to hold it together out there, then I went inside and didn't want to show my face," Kyle recalled. "It was so embarrassing. My dad wouldn't have it. He made me go out there and I had to walk around with a busted up face."

At the time, Kyle was intent on sharpening his skills and becoming an NFL receiver. He wanted to be the next McCaffrey. It turned out to be the ideal lesson for what turned out to be his actual career. He learned the practice-field patter, what a championship team looked like, who were the winners and who were the loafers.

Mostly, he realized that an NFL player would be able to sniff out a fraud from a mile away. His last name might allow him to step into the NFL coaching ranks. But he'd still have to work harder than everyone else to accelerate through them.

"I knew what I was getting into before I got into it," Shanahan said. "That's why I worked so hard and stuff — I wanted to make sure I did know what I was talking about. If you ever get around a group of NFL guys and you don't know what you're talking about, I can't imagine how insecure you'd be. Because it's at a very high level, it's very intense and that's why I never wanted to get into coaching until I absolutely knew that I put in the work, I put in the hours. I never wanted a player to ask me something I couldn't help them with. Knowing what their expectations were before I got into it was what helped me be so ready."

After the surgeons cleaned out his wound and stitched up his thigh, Shanahan was told it would take a full season to recover from the fence gouging. That was unacceptable, and he pushed himself to be back on the field in 18 days.

But it was still too late. He had missed Texas' version of training camp, never fully regained his speed that year and slipped down the depth chart. He finished the season with just seven catches. He got an invitation to attend the NFL scouting combine when he left Texas but didn't go. By that point, he had already changed course, already was speeding ahead.

Shanahan, known in NFL circles for his youth and precociousness, for his energy and swagger, turns 40 on Saturday.

"I guess I have to change everything," he said.

Don't worry. He's only joking. He's not going to retire the red, wide-brimmed hat that's become his signature, turn the music he blasts at practice to a more reasonable volume or start wearing a sensible pair of brown loafers. After all, what other gig would allow him to marry his two lifelong passions?

"I love that I come to work and I'm almost in my pajamas every day," he said. "I don't have to come in dressed in a suit. I sit in a chair every morning, get a cup of coffee and turn out the lights and watch film, then I walk out onto the field and coach guys. I think it's pretty cool that I'm in a line of work where you can be yourself."

Sometimes, the grass really is greener on the other side of the fence.

What 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan learned from his first football job

By Ali Thanawalla
NBC Sports Bay
July 21, 2019

Kyle Shanahan is the son of two-time Super Bowl-winning head coach Mike Shanahan and widely is considered one of the brightest young minds in football.

But before the younger Shanahan could help build some of the best offenses at the NFL, he got his start in coaching at UCLA as a graduate assistant at the ripe age of 23.

"Back then, I was right out of college, so everything I wanted to show, I would put cleats on and try to demonstrate it," Shanahan told ESPN's Nick Wagoner. "You are still wanting to play, and it's neat because you are close in age to all those guys, so you can relate with them a lot more. But you're learning so much more, so you can help bring stuff to the table to them that you don't always have that connection as you get a lot older."

During the 2003 season, Shanahan spent time around running back Maurice Jones-Drew, tight end Marcedes Lewis and quarterback Drew Olson.

But Shanahan only spent one season with the Bruins before being hired by Jon Gruden to be the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' offensive quality control coach in 2004.

"But I also didn't know as much then," Shanahan told Wagoner. "I was a GA and just getting into it. But I think you start to realize when you can help people and teach them stuff, and you can answer questions that help people, it doesn't matter whether you're a GA, a head coach, a quality control, a coordinator or whether you're talking to a walk-on or Maurice Jones-Drew or Marcedes Lewis. If you can say something that helps people and makes sense to them, they will respect you and listen to you.

"That's why I don't think appearance or age or whatever matters. It's if you know what you're talking about. That's why I don't think you have to be a guy who MFs people if you know what you're talking about. And I feel like I've always taken that from a young age and tried to be consistent with it."

Before taking the 49ers head coaching job in 2017, Shanahan spent two seasons in Atlanta and built the Falcons into an offensive juggernaut. He hasn't been able to replicate that success in Santa Clara just yet, but the 49ers are trending upwards.

At just 39 years old, Shanahan has plenty of time left to leave his mark on the game of football.

49ers' Kyle Shanahan rebuilding with time on his side

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
September 2, 2018

Last year, in the first 29 minutes of his first regular-season game as an NFL head coach, the 49ers' Kyle Shanahan twice decided to go for it in fourth-down situations, and both times it backfired.
He is not a patient man. Just ask him.

Shanahan recently discussed harnessing his ultra-aggressive tendencies when queried about his team's patient rebuilding process.

"I think it's hard to fight against your natural personality," Shanahan said, smiling. "And I'm not patient. If I'm a gambler, I'm either going to win or lose very fast when I'm in Vegas. It's going to be one or the other: I'm not going home even. That's my personality, but that's why I wanted to come here."

Shanahan came to the 49ers because he and general manager John Lynch were given six-year contracts and a pledge from CEO Jed York upon inheriting a 2-14 team 19 months ago: You will be given the necessary time to fix this mess.

Time, of course, is a luxury rarely afforded in the NFL. Consider: More than half the league's head coaches (17 of 32) have been in their position less than three full seasons.

And Shanahan thinks the lack of job security on the sideline and in front offices often leads to errors. That is, decisions are made that can keep coaches and GMs employed another year, but can damage their franchises in the years to come.

"I didn't want to come somewhere where we had to gamble a ton just so we could try to prove to (ownership): 'Hey, look at what we're doing, trust us, we're good and keep us around,'" Shanahan said. "I think that's a lot of the NFL. And I think that's why people are scared to go to a place that doesn't have a quarterback just sitting there ready to go. That does have a loaded roster.

"Those are hard things because perception can take over. I think that leads people to make a lot of bad decisions. And I felt if got an opportunity to make those (calls) I just really wanted to work with people to try to make the best decision possible. Not the one that will buy us more time."

The latest evidence of the new regime's patient approach was provided last week. The 49ers, a trendy playoff pick who have a gaping hole at edge rusher, one of the NFL's most important positions, pursued Raiders' All-Pro edge rusher Khalil Mack … to a point.

On Saturday, Lynch said the 49ers "aggressively" looked into adding Mack, whose 10.5 sacks last year are more than any player on the 49ers has collected in his career. But the 49ers also established "some parameters." The Bears acquired Mack, 27, in a trade in which they surrendered two first-round picks and then signed him to a six-year, $141 million contract, making him the highest-paid defensive player in league history.

It was too much for the 49ers, who plan to keep strengthening their work-in-progress roster through the draft and by using what is currently the NFL's second-most salary-cap space ($41.9 million), according to the NFL Players Association.

"We're trying to build this thing such that when we get there, we want it to be sustainable," Lynch said Aug. 23. "We don't want to make it a one-year thing and (it's over). I think with the cap money we had available (this offseason), you could have gone and potentially built this as much as you could. But is that lasting? Is that sustainable? We wanted to build this such that we could get there and stay there."
The 49ers' recent draft highlighted their long-term approach.

They used the No. 9 pick on rookie right tackle Mike McGlinchey, despite already having a capable right tackle in Trent Brown. However, Brown was in the final year of his contract, and questions about his passion made the 49ers leery of giving him a big-money extension.

During the draft, the 49ers traded Brown and a fifth-round pick to the Patriots for a third-round pick. The deal allowed them to trade their other third-round pick to move up 15 spots in the second round and select Dante Pettis, the wide receiver Shanahan coveted. Pettis won't start this season, but he's the heir apparent to Pierre Garcon, 32, and McGlinchey is in line to eventually replace left tackle Joe Staley, 34. The picks, which might negligibly improve the 49ers in 2018, reflect how Shanahan and Lynch can make decisions with time on their side.

"We have both things in mind: Who's going to help us now, and who is going to be here long term?" Lynch said. "You draft a kid like McGlinchey because you know you're going to have a player on the line that's a cornerstone for years to come. I think we're mindful of both those things in how we're operating." Shanahan and Lynch aren't without urgency. Their 53-man roster includes only 11 players they inherited last year, including just four on offense. This offseason, they handed out big-money contracts to three players, all of whom are 27 or younger: running back Jerick McKinnon, who tore his ACL on Saturday, center Weston Richburg and quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo.

The unexpected addition of Garoppolo, a potential franchise quarterback they acquired last year for a second-round pick, is the major reason Shanahan says he feels "we're further along than I anticipated when we got here."

However, the 49ers probably aren't there yet. The offensive weapons around Garoppolo aren't overwhelming, the team has depth issues, most notably in the secondary, and the 49ers have no proven edge rushers.

Those shortcomings probably can't be addressed until 2019, meaning Shanahan must keep harnessing his aggressive tendencies.

And he sounds prepared to do just that. He doesn't have much patience, but he knows he has the time to do this right.

"We can be aggressive if it's the right decision, but we don't have to do it for the wrong reasons," Shanahan said. "And that's what made me so excited to come here."

Of Will Ferrell, Jerry Rice and Drake: How Kyle Shanahan is rebuilding 49ers culture

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN
September 5, 2017

To find the ultimate answer for creating a successful culture on a NFL team, why not go to a guy with an economics degree from the Ivy League?

Luckily, the San Francisco 49ers have fullback Kyle Juszczyk (Harvard, '13).

"You didn't know that Will Ferrell is the key to building a football franchise?" Juszczyk said with a grin creeping across his face. "I thought everyone knew that."

Juszczyk, of course, was joking. Well, sort of. The real answer to building a culture that can lead to sustained success in a league full of parity is far more complicated. It's an answer the 49ers are currently seeking under first-time head coach Kyle Shanahan and general manager John Lynch.

Believe it or not, Ferrell is part of the equation, and so are Jerry Rice and Drake. In San Francisco, it requires striking a balance between pulling from a rich tradition and finding ways to evolve.

For Shanahan, it also means mixing in various things he picked up during his years around his father, Mike, when Mike was the head coach of the Denver Broncos. Those are things Kyle carried through a collegiate playing career at Texas and through 13 seasons as an NFL assistant.

"I think the most important thing is getting the right people," Shanahan said. "Everyone can talk about the culture and what you're trying to build, but you have to get the right people who are capable of being a part of the culture that you want because it's got to be natural. It's got to be real. It can't be fake, so what we try so hard to do is get people in here where football means everything to them. It means just as much to them as it does to me and it does to everyone in this building, to where our No. 1 priority in everything we do is to win on Sunday."

Majoring in football

Sitting in his spacious office at the SAP training facility on a recent afternoon, Shanahan has his shoes off and feet up on the desk as he ponders the origins of his culture-building philosophy. It's clearly something he has thought about a lot.

When Shanahan says he wants people who care as much as he does, he offers examples. For instance, when he was playing at Cherry Creek (Colorado) High, anytime he suffered an injury, he ditched class so he could go to the Broncos training facility for treatment so he could play in the next game.

"I obviously grew up in a football house, and it's not like my dad told me to be that way," Shanahan said. "It's just playing high school football was the most important thing in my life, and when I got to college, playing college was, and then when I got into coaching the pros, being successful as a coach was the most important thing. Every decision I made was that way."

Take when Shanahan sat out his redshirt season at Texas after transferring from Duke. In December 2000, the Longhorns held a scrimmage for the redshirt players in the midst of bowl practices. In one of Shanahan's classes, the final was scheduled for the day of the scrimmage.

A seemingly meaningless practice or an important final? The decision for the seven teammates Shanahan had in the class was easy: take the final.

"I was the only guy who showed up to the scrimmage," Shanahan said. "They were like, 'Don't you have a

final?' I was like, 'Yeah, I'll just take an F. I'm here for football, and there's no way I'm missing a

scrimmage to go to this class.' I had a B in the class, and I ended up getting a D-minus because I skipped a final. They thought I was crazy. I wasn't doing it to show off to the coaches. I was doing it because I came to Texas to play football. I'll be all right with my grades, but I came here because that was how my mindset was. That's how it is in coaching, and that's how I expect players to be."

Shanahan and Lynch have driven that message home from the day they arrived in the Bay Area in January. When the Niners approached free agency armed with nearly $100 million in salary-cap space, they didn't intend to spend money for the sake of spending. Shanahan wanted players who wouldn't be changed by big paydays. He wanted players who would set examples for younger players about what is required of them if they want to get a big payday.

Much of that money was spent on players such as Pierre Garcon, who Shanahan already knew would be the same guy, regardless of the extra zeros on his check. Lynch dug deep to make sure players he had never coached had his same ethos, which they found in Juszczyk.

Niners CEO Jed York immediately was on the same page in that regard.

"I go back to something that Bill Parcells told me a long time ago. He said, 'Jed, this is kind of a cheat sheet for owners. If your coach can't explain how they're going to use a player, don't sign the check,'" York said. "I think that's so true. You look at some of the guys we brought in, and either they have a connection directly or indirectly in the past, and Kyle knows how he wants to use people. He knows what they do well. And when you have that mentality, it helps set that tone from the beginning. Right now we're trying to build a foundation, and that doesn't mean we're not trying to win, but you can't consistently win unless you have a strong foundation. If we can get that done, the sky is the limit. Whether it's this year or in the future, we want to make sure that we have that foundation built, and I think Kyle and John have done an unbelievable job of identifying, 'This is what we want 49ers football to be about, and we're going to find people to fit that mold.'"

'There's not a bear in the building'

Early in the Niners' first preseason game against Kansas City, Shanahan's first game as a head coach, cornerback Rashard Robinson was on the wrong end of a long completion to Chiefs receiver Tyreek Hill. Soon after, he missed a tackle that would have forced Kansas City to kick a field goal. Robinson was upset as he returned to the sideline, until he heard a familiar bit of 49ers' jargon.

"There's not a bear in the building," Juszczyk said. "It's an obscure reference, but it makes sense when it comes to football. Just summing it up, there's no need to panic out there. There's not a bear in the building. Jump offsides, you have a bad play, whatever happens out there, there's no need to panic. Nothing is worse than a bear actually being in the building. That's not what we're dealing with."

Even for the most fervent fans of Will Ferrell movies, the bear in the building might not immediately jump to mind. It's a reference to the 2008 movie "Semi-Pro," in which Ferrell plays an ABA basketball owner/coach/player named Jackie Moon. During one scene, Moon is forced to wrestle a bear, which eventually escapes into an arena full of people. Once the bear breaks free, Moon shouts into a microphone, "EVERYBODY PANIC!"

Early in his tenure as coach, Shanahan showed the clip to his team. It's one he picked up from Atlanta coach Dan Quinn when he was the Falcons' offensive coordinator. Quinn, whom Shanahan notes is a big proponent of culture, likes to find ways to keep it light while offering an important message.

Shanahan has also been known to make frequent references to the Catalina Wine Mixer, a fictional helicopter leasing event in the movie "Stepbrothers," again with a lesson for his players to not let a moment get the better of them.

"Some things you have to realize it's just not that big of a deal," defensive tackle Earl Mitchell said. "It's

not the Catalina Wine Mixer. Those are the two big messages: There's not a bear in the building, and it's not like we're at the Catalina Wine Mixer."

When the Niners turned the ball over five times in a preseason loss to Denver, both of those phrases were tossed around liberally on the Niners' sideline.

"You start fumbling, and guys are coming to the sideline, and everyone is freaking out," Shanahan said. "Everyone wants to freak out after the game, and like, 'We suck. We can't do anything,' and it's like, guys, there's not a f---ing bear in the building. We had five turnovers. They had zero. Go look at the stats. It's probably 0 percent win percentage. Let's not reinvent the wheel. Let's not panic. Let's learn how to not have five turnovers, and then we'll talk about how to play football after that. It kind of brings perspective to everybody."

'If Jerry Rice wants to practice, go ahead and practice'

For four straight years, Shanahan has made it a point to find a young running back and ask him if he knows who Marcus Allen is. He has yet to get a positive ID. As a lifelong student of the game, it drives Shanahan crazy.

So when Shanahan and Lynch took over the Niners, one of their top priorities was to make sure that every player on the roster knows about the franchise's storied past.

"I think of San Francisco like people think of the Yankees," Shanahan said. "Just me growing up, that's what the Niners were just throughout the '80s and early '90s. They were the team, and I know my generation saw them that way. I don't know how all the players now feel. Half these guys don't know a lot of players that would surprise the hell out of you if you ask them. You want people to understand the expectations of something like that and the standard that they set.

"You want players to understand that and respect it and grow from it. But that's about where it ends. You have to do everything else on your own. You just want people to understand the importance of where you're at."

Lest any of the Niners forget, Shanahan and Lynch have made sure that there are visual cues almost everywhere you look. Levi's Stadium now has banners of current and former stars, with other pieces recognizing great moments in team history. On the walk into the locker room, the wall to the right is adorned with a mural featuring Joe Montana, Ronnie Lott, Patrick Willis, Roger Craig and Steve Young, with the words "It won't be easy, but it will be worth it" underneath it. Shanahan also changed how the lockers are arranged, eschewing the usual position group formation and mixing players from all facets of the team.

Along with that, any time there's an opportunity to bring one of the franchise's legends into the building, the Niners haven't hesitated. Before one training camp practice, Young and Rice spoke to the team. During that day's workout, the 54-year-old Rice appeared in shorts, a T-shirt, cleats and receiver gloves and went through individual drills with the receivers. When team drills started, Rice lined up about 5 yards behind the play and ran through every rep, offering an example of what went into making him the most prolific receiver in league history.

"It's almost like a cheat sheet," Lynch said. "This is the way it should be. And these guys know when we walk by those Super Bowl trophies that they don't come free. You've got to go earn them, but why not take advantage of guys like that, and why not invite them? And if Jerry Rice wants to practice, go ahead and practice. That's good for us. And Steve Young up here, I've always respected Steve. The stories they told, I think, better than we ever could, they told them what the 49er way is, and it was awesome."

To be sure, Shanahan and Lynch are well-aware that they can't use the past as a crutch.

"Our past is something that we want to celebrate, but we can't rest on what people did in the past," York said. "We have to build our own present and make our own future, and I think that's what Kyle and John

understand. I think it's really important that those guys know this is what Bill Walsh was about, this is what the great 49er teams were about, and that's part of their fabric, but they've also made it their own. I think that's the thing that's important. You can't be Bill Walsh. You can't be George Seifert, you can't be somebody else, but that's a part of their fabric, and I think it makes it a lot easier for me to communicate with those guys because the 49ers run in their blood."

Age as an advantage

In addition to his duties as Shanahan's administrative assistant, Nick Kray is known as DJ Kray Kray, the man responsible for the practice music. Kray has his own pop-up tent near the practice field where he spins a variety of cuts -- mostly hip hop -- during every workout. Behind closed doors, Kray handles plenty of other daily tasks, including putting together the aforementioned video clips.

Kray's musical stylings aren't limited to the practice field, either. Before every team meeting, music is playing. The artist most often heard? Drake. More often than not, that comes at the request of Shanahan, not because he's actively trying to relate to his players but because he genuinely likes it.

"I play Drake because I like Drake," Shanahan said. "That's still what I listen to. I'm still close with the music. Now it's starting to be different, but I still know the main guys. I don't know some of the weird stuff. But Drake is what I would be playing because that's what I like."

At 37, Shanahan is older than every player on the Niners' roster, but he's close enough in age that it's not that difficult for him to relate to his team. Veterans such as Mitchell and center Daniel Kilgore emphasize that Shanahan sets a standard of what is expected of each player, and so long as those players meet that standard, there is time for fun.

But Shanahan has long viewed his relative youth as an advantage when it comes to connecting with players of all backgrounds. He is quick to point out that none of that matters unless he can first earn every player's respect as the coach. That's why he emphasized being able to provide answers to any and all questions. If not, players will pick up on it right away.

"I think that's been one of the first things that kind of jumped out to me is just, like, he understands the younger culture and the lingo," Juszczyk said. "I think he can use it to his advantage to be able to get the point across. It's not just the same old banter that you have earned from older coaches your whole career. He kind of puts it into our perspective and understands it a little bit better."

Plenty to prove

The idea of measuring culture is nearly impossible. For now, Shanahan will only allow that he is happy with his team's work ethic. The real tests will come after the Niners go through a losing streak. Shanahan knows that such tests are on the way.

For a team that was 2-14 a year ago, fixing everything in one offseason is almost impossible. These Niners still have plenty of holes, but there seems to be a genuine belief that things are headed in the right direction, especially once they get the right people in place.

"We want 53 guys who realize this is what I do to support my family, this is what I do for a living, and this will come over everything -- except, obviously, your family and life-and-death decisions," Shanahan said. "But [otherwise] this is the No. 1 important thing in my life."

In other words, 53 players who are willing to skip the final.

'I could feel the pole coming out of my leg': Freak injury sped up Shanahan's career

By Matt Barrows
Sacramento Bee
August 25, 2017

Kyle Shanahan's dog needed to go to the bathroom. It altered the trajectory of his career.

It was about 5 p.m. on a summer day in 2001. Shanahan was a 21-year-old receiver at the time, one day from joining his University of Texas teammates for the upcoming season. He was at his parents' house in Denver when he took his dog out in the backyard and went to jump over a four-foot-high fence with decorative, iron prongs at the top.

Shanahan, 6-3 and 185 pounds, had been training furiously all year and was in prime physical condition. He'd leaped the fence hundreds of times. But this time, his hand slipped as he went to propel himself and he came crashing down.

"I thought I was going to hit my head on the ground and I just stopped," Shanahan recalled.
He found himself dangling upside down, his left thigh impaled on one of the fence's spear points. His father, Mike, was the Denver Broncos' head coach at the time and already was at the team's training camp in Greeley, Colo. His mother wasn't home.

"No one was out there," he said. "So I had to reach to the ground and push myself off it. It was nasty. I could feel the pole coming out of my leg. And I was so upset because I knew right then, 'Man, I've just messed this up for myself.' Because I was going to training camp the next day."

In 2008, Shanahan became the youngest coordinator in the NFL at age 28 when he was picked to run the Houston Texans' offense. In February, at age 37, the 49ers made him the NFL's second-youngest head coach behind the Los Angeles Rams' Sean McVay. Everything about him and San Francisco's new regime smacks of energy and youth.

But he never would have gotten such a quick start at coaching if his hand hadn't slipped that summer afternoon.

Shanahan's dream at the time was to play in the NFL and it was realistic. A strong spring earned Shanahan the role of No. 3 receiver on a loaded Texas squad that featured Roy Williams and B.J. Johnson at receiver, Major Applewhite and Chris Simms at quarterback and Cedric Benson at tailback.

"I've never seen a guy work as hard as he did to prepare himself," said Darryl Drake, Texas' wide receivers coach at the time who now has the same job with the Arizona Cardinals.

"He wasn't the fastest guy in the world, he wasn't the most gifted guy, but he understood the game," Drake said. "He had a great feel for the position. He was a guy that I was counting on – and we were counting on – to have a big-time role."

Shanahan said when he removed himself from the fence he found he couldn't walk. So he crawled to the back door.

"And I promise, it didn't hurt that bad," he said. "It was like the worst deep thigh bruise you could ever have. There wasn't a lot of blood, but I could see my muscle. And I could see it twitch."

He got a friend to drive him to the hospital. His initial instinct was to have it stitched up and to play through any pain. But it quickly became clear that the wound was too deep, too ripe for an infection – there were paint chips from the fence inside – and that he needed to have surgery.

He called the Broncos' team doctors and soon underwent a two-hour procedure that required three layers of 21 staples to close. Shanahan has a white, nine-inch scar to remind him of the event.

Today he freely talks about the incident and even offers to reenact how it happened using a chair in a Levi's Stadium office as a prop. When it's suggested to him that he has the same proud wound an ancient Greek warrior might have picked up in battle, he frowns.

"It's not really bad-ass," he said. "I was walking my dog. But it was gruesome."

At the time, he was crushed.

Doctors told Shanahan he wouldn't play that season. They were wrong. He missed only one game and was back on the field in 18 days. But he lost his prime spot in the rotation, never regained his former speed or quickness and finished the year with seven catches.

Drake says he doesn't know where Shanahan ultimately would have been drafted but that he had the ability to play in the NFL.

"It was devastating," he said. "Not only for him but for me personally because he's a guy that I loved dearly and wanted to see him go out and show what I knew he was capable he was doing."

Shanahan had an invitation to the scouting combine after his senior season but didn't go. He stopped lifting weights. His NFL aspirations slipped away.

"I went through depression for a while over it," he admits. "My whole life, my whole world was playing (football). It was tough on me. It took me a long time to get over it."

A few months into 2003, he got a job on UCLA's coaching staff. Six months later, he was hired by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He's been in the NFL since.

"I always knew I would eventually coach," he said. "But the work I put into the scholarship to Texas – I lived and died for playing at the time. I had aspirations to try to play in the NFL. I knew when it was all done and I'd made my run – whenever that was – that I would coach. But I always joke with players; I say it sarcastically: 'If I never had this injury I'd probably taking one of your guys' job.' Then they all laugh at me. Because obviously I wouldn't have."

Jon Embree

Super Bowl pits 49ers' Embree coaches against Chiefs' Embree coach

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
January 31, 2020

Natalyn Embree's youngest son, Connor, is a defensive assistant coach for the Chiefs, who will face the 49ers on Sunday in Super Bowl LIV.

Natalyn is really proud of Connor.

And she's really rooting for his team to lose.

"It is two against one," Natalyn explained, laughing. "And I have to side with the paycheck on this one."

Welcome to the game inside the Super Bowl: the Embree Bowl.

Connor will share the field at Hard Rock Stadium with his dad, Jon, the 49ers tight ends coach, and his older brother, Taylor, a 49ers offensive assistant.

The odds of this happening are astronomical.

And the pre-kickoff emotions figure to be indescribable.

Before this season, Jon, 54, had spent 10 years in the NFL with Kansas City, Washington, Cleveland, Tampa Bay and the 49ers and had never been a part of a team that won a playoff game.

He wasn't sure a day like Sunday would ever come. And he never imagined he'd share it with his sons.

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The 49ers are going to the Super Bowl and the San Francisco Chronicle is going with them. Subscribe to our Sporting Green newsletter for daily 49ers updates here.

"To be able to have an opportunity to coach in a Super Bowl, it's like, 'Holy cow,'" Embree said. "And then to be able to share it with your son is unbelievable. And then going against your son? It's surreal."

It's also been fodder for more trash talking, a language that's long been spoken in their hyper-competitive home.

"I just hope I'm the happy one on Sunday," Connor said, "and they're asking me if they can take pictures with the ring."

Said Taylor: "Someone in the Embree household is going to have a ring. And, hopefully, it's two of them and not one."

The winner — or winners — won't just get a ring. They will sport an "Embree Bowl" T-shirt designed for the occasion. Sunday will technically be "Embree Bowl II": The 49ers beat the Chiefs in a preseason game in August at Kansas City, with Jon and Taylor winning a shirt.

Before they were preparing to square off in the Super Bowl, the Embrees, along with much of the rest of America, watched it together at home.

Unlike most, however, their family room served as a stage to re-enact the big game. Taylor, now 31, and Connor, 28, would dive off the couch for a football thrown by the other — before they began diving on each other.

“Watching football in our house was a contact sport,” Jon said. “It would turn into, ‘You guys go in the basement. I’m trying to watch the game.’”

The tone was set by Jon, a former NFL tight end who used sports to teach life lessons such as preparation and perseverance.

Actually, it wasn’t just sports. Games of tag resulted in broken furniture. Games of who-can-get-out-of-the-car faster resulted in bruised feelings. Connor estimates Taylor still owes their parents several hundred dollars for Xbox controllers busted after video-game losses.

On the topic of video games: There is a story, now part of family lore, in which Taylor, perhaps in fifth grade, bet Jon that he couldn’t sink a long putt on “Tiger Woods Golf.”

Jon told Taylor he’d have to run around their neighborhood naked if he lost the bet. Jon drained the 60-footer ... and he did allow Taylor to wear his sneakers.

“I knew there was no way he was letting me out of it,” Taylor said. “As soon he sunk the putt, I knew I’d better stretch and run the fastest 100 I’ve run in my life because this is happening.”

Said Jon, who called neighbors to alert them of Taylor’s all-skin sprint: “I guess I’d probably get arrested now. ... That might explain why he’s not a fan of Tiger like I am.”

Jon and his sons competed in everything: pool, cards, basketball, tennis, golf, darts, bowling and throw the wad of paper in the trash can. And they weren’t alone. Daughter Hannah Embree, 23, was an accomplished high school tennis player who reached the Colorado state finals in doubles. And Natalyn plays the sport in a competitive USTA league.

As for the boys, they became most passionate about football. And those life lessons served them well as they maximized their potential.

Taylor recalls one high school recruiting website labeled him a half-star recruit — a ranking he didn’t know existed — before he became a four-year starter at UCLA who finished eighth in school history in receptions.

A half-star? Connor, ever competitive, notes he was a no-star. Still the undersized walk-on (5-foot-10, 179 pounds) at Kansas earned a scholarship and ranked fourth in the Big 12 in punt-return average in 2013.

Jon is proud of their grit. He says “no one wanted” Connor, who earned the nickname “Tonka” as a kid because of his toughness. And he says many thought Taylor only earned a scholarship because Jon had previously coached at UCLA.

He’s more proud of this: They both earned college degrees in 3½ years.

“You can find a million reasons why you can’t — find the one reason you can,” Jon said. “I say that all the time. And they found the one reason why they could be successful. And they held on to that. And they’re running with it.”

Taylor, like Connor, also broke into the NFL coaching ranks with the Chiefs, whose offensive coordinator, Eric Bieniemy, is a close friend of Jon. That connection helped them get their foot in the door after they’d both served as graduate assistants at their alma maters.

They are now hoping to enjoy a coaching career that could rival that of their dad’s.

Jon Embree's latest success story is 49ers All-Pro tight end George Kittle, a 2017 fifth-round pick who has credited Embree for much of his unexpected success.

In the college ranks, Embree coached two winners of the Mackey Award, given to the nation's best tight end, at Colorado (Daniel Graham) and UCLA (Marcedes Lewis).

Embree began his NFL career with the Chiefs with Tony Gonzalez from 2006-08. And the tight end, a first-ballot Hall of Famer, had the most catches and yards during any three-season stretch of his 17-year career with Embree.

"Jon Embree is the NFL's best tight ends coach, I think, ever," said Gonzalez, who already had seven Pro Bowl seasons before Embree joined the Chiefs. "Look at his track record. Everywhere he's gone. Just look it up. And see all the Pro Bowlers and All-Pros that he puts out.

"He challenged me. I challenged myself, too. At that point I was pretty self-motivated. But that's why we worked so well together. I loved being coached by Jon Embree."

Jon doesn't plan to coach indefinitely. And the countdown on his career is the biggest reason Natalyn is rooting for the 49ers on Sunday, noting Connor has many years remaining to reach another Super Bowl.

"So I got the sympathy vote," Jon said, smiling. "Hopefully they don't put the final shovel of dirt on me before the final seconds tick off the clock."

The Embrees are big on laughter. And love.

Jon, Taylor and Connor desperately want to win Sunday. If not, though, there will be some solace because the winning team includes family.

"I would be pissed, but so proud of Connor," Taylor said. "I've always been very proud of him. He's tough, man. He never breaks."

Theirs is a football family.

And that's because Jon Embree's sons watched him work and decided to follow him, never imagining their paths would meet at a game that guaranteed at least one Embree would be a champion.

"I strive to be like my dad — not just as a coach, but as a person. He's taught me everything I know in life," Connor said. "I know he's proud of us. And I'm so proud of him. I'm so proud of my brother. I'm proud of our last name."

49ers' tight end screamer: Embree urges Kittle, Dwelley to push limits

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
November 28, 2019

Before George Kittle was a record-breaking tight end, a 250-pound freight train who flattens defensive backs, he didn't know he was so powerful.

And neither did Kyle Shanahan.

The 49ers head coach thought the rookie fifth-round pick was a promising prospect in 2017.

But Kittle's position coach seemed certain he was Superman.

Jon Embree screamed when Kittle ran out of bounds, wanting him to steamroll somebody. And Embree routinely hollered when Kittle was taken to the ground, apparently believing brick walls were no match for him.

"Sometimes I thought, 'Man, there was no way Kittle could get through that tackle' and Jon would yell at him that he should have broken it," Shanahan said. "For a while, I thought Jon was just being crazy."

Last year, Kittle, who had 737 receiving yards at Iowa, set an NFL record for tight ends with 1,377 yards because he bought into Embree's belief in him: Kittle, running full speed everywhere but out of bounds, led the league with 870 yards after the catch, the most by any player since ESPN started tracking the statistic in 2006.

"Embo started saying that my rookie year and I was like, 'You're crazy. What do you mean by that?'" Kittle said. "And then definitely last year I caught one and I just literally ran in a straight line and a guy just totally whiffed me. I was like, 'Oh, that's what he means.' Just run. And make them tackle you."

Some coaches are termed quarterback whisperers. Embree, in his 17th season coaching the position he played, is a tight end screamer.

Among the unsung influencers during the 49ers' 10-1 start is Embree, 54, who has played a massive role in developing Kittle and his backup, Ross Dwelley.

Kittle, among the league's best blocking tight ends, has followed his breakout Pro Bowl season with team highs in catches (52) and yards (670) despite missing two games.

Kittle has invoked Embree during postgame interviews this season, smiling while explaining Embree is the coach who told him self-protective defensive backs would take "creative angles" if he just ran with abandon.

And during a recent one-on-one interview, Kittle, one of the team's loudest and liveliest personalities, spoke without the wisecracking that peppers his typical sessions with reporters. He was earnest and sincere. He wanted to properly convey Embree's impact.

"He's just helped me so much: I was terrible my rookie year," Kittle said. "I mean, I was an OK player. But he helped me just understand the game. The basics of it. The basics of this offense. He does such a good job of breaking things down to make it easy to understand."

Dwelley, who wasn't drafted and was playing in the Pioneer League at the University of San Diego two years ago, was recently termed "one of the better football players on our team" by Shanahan.
Dwelley filled in capably at a foreign position when fullback Kyle Juszczyk was sidelined for four games. Then, when Kittle was out, Dwelley had two touchdown receptions Nov. 17 in a win against Arizona, something Kittle has never done in the NFL.

Who saw this coming? Embree was the only NFL coach to put Dwelley through a private workout at USD before last year's draft.

"He's kind of the reason I'm here," Dwelley said. "He saw something in me. So I'm just trying to do everything I can for him."

Embree was fired as Colorado's head coach in 2012, two seasons after inheriting a moribund program transitioning to the Pac-12. Otherwise, the tight end who played two seasons with the Rams has enjoyed consistent success in a career that began with 14 college seasons.

Embree coached two winners of the Mackey Award, given to college football's best tight end, at Colorado (Daniel Graham) and UCLA (Marcedes Lewis) before he entered the NFL.

Embree began his NFL career with the Chiefs working with Tony Gonzalez from 2006-08. And the Hall of Fame tight end had the most catches and yards during any three-season stretch of his 17-year career during their time together.

In 2010, Embree's lone season with Washington, Pro Bowl tight end Chris Cooley matched the best yardage total of his nine-year career. In 2013, Embree's only season in Cleveland, tight end Jordan Cameron had the only Pro Bowl season of his six-year career. With Tampa Bay (2014-2016), Cameron Brate, undrafted from Harvard, had 57 catches, 600 yards and eight touchdowns, an NFL-best among tight ends, in their final season together.

The biggest reason for Embree's success? His son, Taylor, a 49ers assistant coach, has the answer. In 2017, when Shanahan and Kittle thought Embree might be mad, Taylor realized he was working his magic.

"My dad," Taylor said, "believes in people more than they believe in themselves."

Taylor, 31, is in his third season with the 49ers as an offensive quality control coach and he's worked alongside his dad for much of his tenure. Embree's other son, Connor, 28, is a defensive assistant with the Chiefs.

Neither Taylor nor Connor were coveted recruits, but each had Division I success.

Connor was a 5-foot-10, 179-pound walk-on at Kansas who earned a scholarship and ranked fourth in the Big 12 in punt-return average in 2013. For his part, Taylor recalls seeing a recruiting website that gave him a grade he didn't know existed.

"I was half a star," Taylor said, laughing. "I was like, 'How am I half a star?'"

Taylor became a four-year starter at UCLA who finished eighth in school history in career receptions.

So, yes, long before Embree was developing Kittle and Dwelley, he was raising two sons who benefited from their dad's belief in them. And they weren't alone: Embree is a lot of people's biggest booster.

"One of Jon's things that he always tells me," said his wife, Natalyn, "is never say you can't do something."

Taylor terms his dad his players' "toughest teacher and biggest cheerleader." And Taylor experienced both sides growing up.

Jon once grounded Taylor for having a "C" on his report card and Taylor, whose friends were getting poor grades without consequences, thought he was overly strict and unfair. Years later, Taylor saw his dad's eyes fill with tears for one of the few times in his life when he graduated from UCLA as an all-academic Pac-12 selection.

“I treat my own players like my own kids: We’re going to have fun, but it will also be hard,” Embree said. “I knew when I had kids, I wanted them to be good in school, I wanted them to be good people and I wanted them to be competitive people.”

Jon and Natalyn, who still plays tennis in a USTA league, raised three children in a home filled with competition.

Jon, for example, would play tag with his kids, which sounds sweet and endearing. But it was closer to dangerous and chaotic.

“If someone was chasing you, and you were going around the corner,” Jon explained, “then maybe you’d throw a chair in their way to slow them down.”

Said Natalyn, laughing: “Oh, we lost a couple barstools, for sure.”

Taylor, Connor, and Hannah, 23, who recently graduated from Kansas, grew up playing a variety of sports, often pitted against their dad. Basketball. Pool. Cards. Who could throw that ball into that trash can?

The purpose was to have fun. And impart life lessons. Success doesn’t come easily. Hard work is rewarded. Adversity can be overcome.

It was not a participation-trophy home.

“I think it’s important early to learn how to lose and how to bounce back from that,” said Jon, who made it clear he didn’t help Taylor and Connor get their current NFL jobs. “I wasn’t going to let them win. Yeah, when they were 3? OK. But once they got around fifth, sixth grade, you’ve got to beat them. OK, you lost? Do you go out and practice or do you go play video games?”

Kittle says the team’s tight ends joke around with Embree once their work is done. But the work is no joke.

Last year, Dwelley, then a rookie on the practice squad who wasn’t known for his blocking ability, was constantly hearing it from Embree as he struggled to contain defensive linemen such as DeForest Buckner and Arik Armstead.

“He would coach his ass off when I was on the scout team last year,” Dwelley said. “At first, I was like, ‘Dang, why is he coaching me so hard? It’s just scout team.’ Then I would go home and watch the film and be like, ‘OK, he just wants me to be the best player I can possibly be.’”

Dwelley has since risen from the scout team to become a key member of a 10-1 team. Still, Dwelley noted that his biggest cheerleader isn’t necessarily his most vocal.

“Coach Embo isn’t the guy to be like, ‘You did amazing,’” Dwelley said. “You just kind of do your thing.”

And, with some intense prodding, many have ended up doing it better than they ever thought possible.

Mike McDaniel

Mike McDaniel details his enhanced role with the 49ers and a cohesive partnership with Kyle Shanahan

By David Lombardi
The Athletic
June 10, 2021

Some 17 years ago, 49ers offensive coordinator Mike McDaniel wasn't far from graduating from Yale, and he was doing what many Yale students do: exploring the business world.

McDaniel investigated opportunities in investment banking. He even locked down a summer internship. And it was then that McDaniel decided he wouldn't take the well-traveled career path of an Ivy League graduate.

"It registered to me," McDaniel said on a Zoom call with reporters Wednesday. "To ultimately be satisfied in my career, I had to be passionate about it.

"And unfortunately, there wasn't that much that I was passionate about besides football."

That's how McDaniel's internship in business ultimately turned into one under Mike Shanahan. After graduating in 2005, McDaniel — a Denver-area native — scored a summer internship with the Broncos, where Shanahan was coach. McDaniel aimed to make himself indispensable, mainly through the grunt work of overlaying film with play calls, and the Broncos asked him to stay for the entire season.

The following year, Denver offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak left to become the head coach of the Texans. He brought McDaniel along to Houston, formally beginning his coaching career. Kubiak also hired his former boss' son, Kyle Shanahan, to be the Texans' wide receivers coach. McDaniel's first job was simple: assist Shanahan.

The partnership worked well then, and it continues to do so now. Fifteen years later, McDaniel remains Shanahan's right-hand man. Both are now with the 49ers holding much loftier positions. Shanahan, of course, is entering his fifth season as head coach. McDaniel, who served as the run-game coordinator over the past four years, is now the offensive coordinator.

Beginning in 2017, McDaniel and pass-game coordinator Mike LaFleur essentially split the role of Shanahan's top offensive lieutenant. But LaFleur, a longtime friend of former 49ers defensive coordinator and new Jets head coach Robert Saleh, left in January to be New York's offensive coordinator.

Right around then, Shanahan retained and promoted the 38-year-old McDaniel to his current post.

From a practical perspective regarding football operations, not a whole lot will change. Shanahan still holds play-calling responsibilities. He'll still rely on McDaniel to craft a significant chunk of game plans early in the week, and he'll still lean on McDaniel's input before calling shots at critical moments.

But outside of game day, McDaniel's new title will mean new exposure. Unlike lower-level assistants, NFL offensive coordinators hold regular news conferences. Wednesday marked McDaniel's first time taking questions in front of the banner. The session ran nearly 25 minutes — well over twice as long as the typical presser for a coordinator.

That was largely due to the fact that McDaniel paused to absorb questions. He took time to address each one with delicate thoughtfulness. This was all certainly new to McDaniel, but it was clear he took satisfaction in every opportunity to answer as comprehensively as possible.

Naturally, the conference ended up being a look at McDaniel's longtime working relationship with Shanahan and an informative peek into the processes of the 49ers' offensive brain trust.

And it was all told just the way one might expect a Yale history major to tell it.

“One of the things that I think Kyle isn’t totally known for and should be is: He is about as collaborative of a coach as you can possibly have,” McDaniel said. “He hires people that he trusts and he values their opinion. On game day he has an unbelievable ability to do two things at once: To have a narrative in his head, but then also accept whatever input from the coaching staff.

“Being with him for 14 years, it’s a tremendous advantage for me because I can feel as a play caller exactly where he’s going. And in the other times where he’s torn between two things, I’m able to shoot some ideas from the hip. And he understands that he’s ultimately accountable for whatever play call comes out of his mouth. So, he doesn’t sit there and say, ‘Oh, you told me this play would work and it doesn’t work.’ He understands that he is accountable for it all.

“He really engenders an atmosphere where guys feel like they want to put in the work and have an idea of different ways that they can help him call the game.”

McDaniel’s distinguishing contributions come in the realm of detail. Since 2017, he’s earned acclaim for designing an intricate running game that — at least when the 49ers have been healthy — has rolled to great success. The destruction of Green Bay in the January 2020 NFC title game, during which the 49ers averaged 6.8 yards per carry, is the brightest example.

McDaniel has crafted a concoction of Shanahan’s traditional outside-zone concepts and a growing repertoire of inside-zone and gap-scheme action. But McDaniel isn’t just versed in the running game — he played receiver at Yale, and his first two NFL position coach jobs under Shanahan were as the wide receivers coach for Washington and Cleveland.

So McDaniel has been able to incorporate the full spectrum of experience into his play designs, and that’s one reason he’s so popular with versatile 49ers weapons who are active in the running and passing games. After re-signing with the 49ers in March, fullback Kyle Juszczyk — a fellow Ivy League product — said that McDaniel “was a huge influence” on his decision to return.

“Absolute BEST in the game!!” Juszczyk tweeted after McDaniel’s promotion to offensive coordinator. “Nobody gets more out of his players than McDaniel! Most creative run scheme out there! So deserving of this promotion!!”

McDaniel detailed how he helps Shanahan beyond in-week play design duties. It’s a process that extends to Sundays, when Shanahan will turn to McDaniel during the heat of the battle, searching on the coaches’ headset for the intricate advice that will put a play over the top.

It’s a collaborative environment, and McDaniel enjoys partaking in it — even if the final call isn’t his. “There are a lot of times when Kyle will say, ‘Hey, we need to do something out of shotgun, or we need more motions or we need less motions, or we need more audibles,’” McDaniel said. “He’ll be attempting to get that kind of abstract vision, and I’ll put the details on it.

“We’re very comfortable in our working relationship, and he relies on my opinion. But he also makes it very clear that his expectation is that my opinion is informed and that it adds value to him. And that’s really all that we’re focused on here moving forward.

“Because no one cares about a cool idea that’s independent. An idea is cool if it’s applicable to defense, it’s applicable to the talents of your particular players and it fits within everything that you’re trying to do. Because at the end of the day, there are no standalone plays. Everything’s got to be tied together and serve a purpose so that it can fit the desired ends.”

The 49ers staff is striving to apply that cohesive approach to all of its current projects before the 2021 season kicks off.

There's the intrigue of the crowded backfield and the beefed-up offensive line, which McDaniel hopes to leverage into even more run-game success. There's an eclectic collection of talent at the back end of the wide receiver group, which McDaniel is also optimistic about harnessing come training camp.

And, of course, there's the 49ers' fascinating quarterback situation, which features starter Jimmy Garoppolo and rookie Trey Lance, whom the 49ers invested massive resources to acquire this offseason.

During the recently concluded offseason program, many of the team's coaches actively interacted with Lance on the practice field. Shanahan was there. So were McDaniel and quarterbacks coach Rich Scangarello. Pass-game specialist Bobby Slowik was also heavily involved.

Lance, by all accounts, has been very receptive to all the coaching.

"Everybody is very hands-on," McDaniel said. "That's why it's important to have rapport and be on the same page as an offensive coaching staff, so multiple people can speak to one player and not get the wires crossed."

That rapport has been built over a decade and a half now, starting when McDaniel was a rookie coach with the Texans in 2006 (coincidentally, new 49ers defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans was a rookie player for Houston that year) and continuing through stops with Shanahan in Washington, Cleveland and Atlanta.

McDaniel spent two seasons away from the NFL in 2009-10 when he was the running backs coach of the United Football League's Sacramento Mountain Lions, but he rejoined Shanahan after that and has been working under him since.

And that helps explain why McDaniel is so comfortable with his current role, which is so reliant on a synergistic approach. A reporter asked McDaniel if Shanahan planned to give him bits and pieces of play-calling responsibility, but the new offensive coordinator shook his head.

McDaniel has previously mentioned one of his ultimate goals is to become a head coach. But his current sights are set on the present. He sees his new title as a natural extension of all that time working with Shanahan. It's simply an opportunity to foster further evolution of the 49ers offense.

"I think one of the best aspects that the San Francisco 49ers have going is we have one of the best play callers to have done it," McDaniel said. "He's done it for multiple teams for years. And it's a real gift of his. So I don't think that that does the 49ers good, to try to work me in selfishly as the play caller."

49ers' Mike McDaniel, an Ivy League grad, no longer questioned about career choice

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
June 9, 2021

About a decade ago, when Mike McDaniel was a modestly compensated running backs coach in the short-lived United Football League, the Yale graduate often fielded variations of the same question: Shouldn't you be doing something else with your degree?

McDaniel, a history major, explored some investment-banking opportunities, but knew it wasn't a career fit. So his answer to those who questioned how he was using his Ivy League education: He was pursuing a passion that didn't pay much.

"I realized for me to ultimately be satisfied in my career, I had to be passionate about it," McDaniel said. "And, unfortunately, there wasn't that much that I was passionate about besides football."

Eleven years since he left the Sacramento Mountain Lions, there doesn't appear to be much unfortunate about McDaniel's career choice. In January, McDaniel, 38, head coach Kyle Shanahan's longtime lieutenant, was promoted to offensive coordinator, meaning he's out-earning many of his Yale classmates. McDaniel's move up the ladder came with a pay raise, but it didn't come with many changes in his job description.

Shanahan remains the offensive play-caller, meaning McDaniel's primary duties involve game-planning. He previously was the run-game coordinator, and he presumably will assume some of the duties of pass-game coordinator Mike LaFleur, who left in the offseason to become the Jets' offensive coordinator. The arrangement isn't unusual. The past two Super Bowl champions, the Buccaneers and Chiefs, employ play-calling head coaches who are assisted by their coordinators. In the NFC West, the Rams have offensive coordinator Kevin O'Connell, but head coach Sean McVay calls plays.

"It's really not that different," McDaniel said of his 2021 role. "… It's really business as usual. It's a very collaborative situation that Kyle Shanahan really creates on his coaching staff. And in that process, you have a voice and you're part of all different phases. So now maybe I lead some collaboration among the coaching staff a little bit more, but it's really not that different, to be honest."

McDaniel has spent 14 of the past 16 seasons with Shanahan, the interruption coming in 2009-2010 when McDaniel was in the UFL. His extensive history with Shanahan, which includes stops with five teams, has allowed him to understand his boss' game-day rhythms and suggest play calls.

"On game day, he has an unbelievable ability to do two things at once," McDaniel said. "To have a narrative in his head, but then also accept whatever input from the coaching staff. That's something that being with him for 14 years, it's a tremendous advantage for me because I can feel as a play-caller where he knows exactly where he's going. And then, other times where he's torn between two things, you're able to shoot some ideas from the hip that you believe in."

However, McDaniel doesn't anticipate his game-day role regarding plays to expand beyond offering the occasional suggestion. He was asked whether there was a plan to have him call plays, in a preseason game or during a drive in a regular-season game.

"I think one of the best aspects that the San Francisco 49ers have going, is we have one of the best play-callers to have done it," McDaniel said. "He's done it for multiple teams for years. And it's a real gift of his. So I don't think that that does the 49ers good to try to work me in selfishly as the play-caller. We're very comfortable in our working relationship, and he relies on my opinion. But he also makes it very clear that his expectation is that my opinion's informed and that it adds value to him."

McDaniel doesn't have play-calling responsibilities, but he has no complaints. He's still doing what he loves, while no longer fielding questions about what he's doing with his Ivy League degree.

“I didn’t go into college thinking that the end game was coaching football,” McDaniel said. “But when I started investigating other avenues, it was an easy decision and something I never looked back on.”

DeMeco Ryans

Here's why expectations are sky-high for the 49ers' 'Mufasa,' king of the defense

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
June 30, 2021

Good luck finding someone with a bad word to say about new 49ers defensive coordinator DeMeco Ryans.

"He's been successful in everything he's done," head coach Kyle Shanahan said.

"He is built for this juncture," added offensive coordinator Mike McDaniel, who, alongside Shanahan, was on the Houston Texans' coaching staff when Ryans was drafted with the 33rd overall pick in 2006. The middle linebacker was named the league's defensive rookie of the year.

Being built for his new role is what made hiring Ryans to replace Robert Saleh, now the head coach with the New York Jets, an easy call for Shanahan. There wasn't an exhaustive search outside the building for Saleh's replacement. There wasn't much of a search at all. Shanahan was comfortable with promoting Ryans from the outset when it was clear Saleh would land a head coaching job elsewhere last winter.

Shanahan over the last three seasons has seen how Ryans handled his job as inside linebackers coach on the practice field and in meeting rooms (there are cameras set up in each position room for Shanahan to stay privy). He's seen how Ryans helped developed All-Pro linebacker Fred Warner move from a hybrid slot defender at BYU to signal-caller of the defense as a rookie. That was in 2018, Ryans' first season as a position coach after spending just one season as a quality control assistant.

Shanahan even has Ryans address the team with important speeches, like earlier this month, when he talked about staying on task during the dead time between the offseason team activities the start of training camp in late July. Ryans is a relatable figure as a 10-year veteran who is six years removed from a successful playing career.

"It's been fun for me to watch him in it and just for him to continue to flourish and get better each day," Shanahan said. "I'm pumped about DeMeco and I think he's going to show everyone how good he is."

Said Warner: "The passion, the enthusiasm, such a smart mind and he's able to really teach guys. That's the biggest thing is that teaching aspect. I know we're going to be firing this season. I love his demeanor and what he expects of us."

Being built for the defensive coordinator job started as far back as Ryans' college years, at Alabama in 2004 and 2005. Then-defensive coordinator Joe Kines used to call on Ryans to give out play calls while going over film.

"He really got me interested in coaching," Ryans said in a phone interview with The Bee. "He'd go, 'Okay, DeMeco, give us the call.'

"All those little things kind of added up and as I was going through my career. It was just always in my nature to help those guys (teammates) to be a coach on the field. And also, as I study, I need to know what the defensive line is doing, what the secondary is doing.

"For me, it was a puzzle and how do I put that puzzle together and try to teach young guys that as well, to help them."

Ryans would also get after his teammates for not picking up after themselves in the locker room. Former Crimson Tide running back Kenneth Darby began calling Ryans "Coach" when Ryans told Darby to clean up his trash. It was "out of respect for the janitors," Ryans said.

Ryans was later given the nickname “Mufasa,” after the character from the movie “Lion King” who was known for his wisdom and calming influence. That one came from Chip Kelly when he coached Ryans with the Philadelphia Eagles (before Kelly would eventually become head coach of the 49ers in 2016).

A FUTURE HEAD COACH?

Kelly in a questionnaire during his time in Philadelphia was asked which one of his players would mostly likely serve as a coach. His answer, of course, was Ryans, who has since received similar praise from Shanahan and Saleh. Both have said they expect Ryans to become a head coaching candidate soon.

Becoming a head coach is one of Ryans’ stated goals, though he didn’t put the cart in front of the horse during his interview for this story. “All that stuff, if it comes, it’ll come. But I’m just focused on being on being the best defensive coordinator I can be right now,” he said.

Earning his stripes to garner head-coaching consideration won’t be easy.

Ryans inherits a defense that will look considerably different than the second-ranked unit that helped the 49ers reach the Super Bowl after the 2019 season.

Gone is defensive tackle DeForest Buckner who was traded to the Indianapolis Colts before last season. Star pass rusher Nick Bosa, who won defensive rookie of the year, is coming off an ACL tear last September, though he’s expected to be cleared during training camp.

Fellow defensive end Dee Ford’s status is unclear after missing 15 games in 2020 with a back injury. Future Hall of Fame cornerback Richard Sherman remains a free agent after anchoring a secondary that allowed the fewest passing yards per game since 2009 while earning second-team All-Pro recognition in 2019.

The good news for Ryans: He inherits a defense that ranked fifth in the NFL in yardage last season despite constant injuries and turnover. And with experienced players like defensive lineman Arik Armstead, safeties Jimmie Ward and Jaquiski Tartt, and resurgent cornerback Jason Verrett surrounding Warner, the defense isn’t due for a major overhaul. The thought inside the building is the return of Bosa and the improvement of second-year player Javon Kinlaw, the 2020 first-round pick replacing Buckner, could lead to a return to contention.

The Cover-3 scheme modernized by Seahawks coach Pete Carroll will largely remain in place. But under Ryans there’s expected to different looks from Saleh’s approach. The 49ers in 2019 ranked fourth in the NFL in blitz rate, 20.9 percent, according to Pro Football Reference, relying heavily on the four-man pass rush to pester quarterbacks into throwing into the maximum of seven defenders in coverage.

“You will see some wrinkles, you will see my brand of football on it,” Ryans said. “Our D-Line is going to attack. ... We’re going to let our D-Line just get off the ball and attack, and we’re going to clean up things behind them, but we will be a more, I feel like aggressive, attacking defense.”

A CLEAR LEADER

Ryans retired from playing in 2015 after tearing both Achilles tendons (left in 2010, right in 2014). He spent a year working as a radio analyst covering Texans games but missed the competitive aspect of being part of a team.

“I really had that yearning and desire to get back with a team,” he said. “No matter if it was NFL or high school coaching, just wanted to be in involved with a team and be able to assist in any way I could.”

It led to a reunion as a quality control coach under Shanahan during his first 49ers season in 2017. Shanahan was a wide receivers coach with Houston on the same staff with Saleh, who was a quality control intern, when Ryans was drafted. McDaniel had the title of offensive assistant. It was clear to all three that Ryans would be a leader as soon as he was walked in the building.

“At every stage,” said McDaniel, “he was an extension of the coaching staff from the jump, which was super impressive. ... I think he has an unbelievable rapport with the players and really through this whole process, we saw him his first year as a position coach and just continue to grow and grow. So, I know the whole team was excited to have him as the coordinator for the defense.”

Ryans credits Saleh for his development as a coach. The two bonded both inside Texans headquarters and away from the football field. Ryans was a guest of Saleh’s for Thanksgiving dinner and the two would strengthen their relationship on the golf course, which continued when they both joined San Francisco.

But there was also a roadblock that nearly thwarted Ryans’ quick ascent up the coaching ranks. The 49ers early in the 2018 offseason tapped former linebacker Ken Norton Jr. to coach inside linebackers. Norton had the job for a week that winter before taking an offer to become the defensive coordinator for the rival Seattle Seahawks, leaving the opening that Ryans would fill and hold for three seasons before replacing Saleh as defensive coordinator.

Who knows what would have happened if Norton stayed, possibly preventing Ryans from his promotion that led to the coordinator job. But Ryans, a man of Christian faith, believes Norton leaving was part of the path laid out for him.

And if Ryans eventually becomes a head coach like many expect, Norton leaving for Seattle will become an even more notable pivot point in Ryans’ coaching career.

“I’m strong in my faith and I just truly believe that God has a way of working things out the way he wants them,” Ryans said. “For me, it’s not like I was kicking down a door to get a job or anything like that. I was just grinding, trying to figure out this coaching thing and be the best at it, and it happened that way. Kyle came to me, like, ‘Hey, you’re going to be the inside linebackers coach.’ I said, ‘Great, thank you for the opportunity. I’m grateful for it.’”

DeMeco Ryans takes over 49ers defense promising less gray, more gas

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
June 4, 2021

Robert Saleh knew how to play to the crowd.

His initial press events as 49ers defensive coordinator in 2017 were peppered with slogans and catchphrases — "extreme violence" and "all gas, no brake," for example — that caught the ear. Saleh, who is now the Jets head coach, always was the first coach or player to emerge from the locker room on game days, his freshly shaved head prominent as he ran up and down the stadium steps. He became even more conspicuous when games began with fiery fist pumps and cheerful chest bumps that became irresistible to television cameras.

His successor will coach from the sideline, too. But DeMeco Ryans promises to be more low-key. His greatest asset — from his high school days in Bessemer, Ala., through his playing career with the Houston Texans — always has been his incredible calm.

"He was not a rah-rah guy," said the Houston Chronicle's John McClain, who's been covering Houston football since Bum Phillips coached the Oilers and who says Ryans was one of his favorite players to cover.

"When he said something, people paid attention because he didn't say a lot," McClain said in a phone interview. "But he was always there for the young guys and the younger players praised him. Older players did, too, so when he became a coach it didn't surprise me at all."

On Wednesday, Ryans held his first news conference as 49ers defensive coordinator. At 36, he's the NFC's youngest coach in that position and just started coaching in 2017. Only 34-year-old Titans defensive coordinator Shane Bowen — who works under defense-minded Mike Vrabel — is younger.

Still, Ryans came off in the 16-minute video news conference as if he'd been running defenses for decades. For one, he played at the University of Alabama and was an NFL linebacker — and the unofficial spokesman for the defense — for 10 seasons. That is, he's not going to suddenly start sweating in the spotlight.

More than that, he has natural presence and command. He's had that all his life.
McClain noted Ryans — always patient and always available — was the go-to guy for media who covered the Texans. After games, there'd be a cluster of reporters around his locker so thick it would spill across the lockers adjacent to his.

"And sometimes players will ask you to get out of the way or tell you to get out of the way," McClain recalled. "But I used to notice the guys around him would kind of just slide out of the way and listen to him talk while they dried off and put on their pants. And if we were in the way, they'd wait until he was through. And to me, I thought that was kind of an ultimate sign of respect."

Asked about their new defensive coordinator this week, 49ers players cited Ryans' recent playing career as an advantage.

"It's been fun so far being out there with a guy that's obviously played in the league and knows a lot about the ins and the outs of football," cornerback Jason Verrett said. "It's relatable for us."

Ryans will coach in a player-friendly manner as well.

During his Wednesday news conference, he struck all the usual coordinator notes about wanting to play physically and aggressively.

"You will see some wrinkles, you will see my brand of football on it," Ryans insisted. "Our D-line is going to attack. Our linebackers and secondary, they're going to play with base fundamentals. We're going to play off our defensive line. We're going to let our D-line just get off the ball and attack, and we're going to clean up things behind them."

Of course, that also was Saleh's mantra. He constantly spoke about removing what he called "gray areas" in his players' minds so they can operate faster, more instinctively. This season, Ryans is shooting for even less gray, even more gas.

"He's trying to make it way more simple for us with some of the calls, and I feel like it's working," said safety Jimmie Ward, the longest-tenured 49er. "It's like we're able to play fast, even faster than last year if it can get any faster."

The 49ers made some moves in the offseason to bolster that effort.

They signed defensive end Samson Ebukam, who's known for his burst off the line of scrimmage but who noted on Wednesday that his previous team, the Rams, required him to think before he reacted.

"And over here, it's just attack, don't read," he said.

The team also hired Darryl Tapp as an assistant defensive line coach. The longtime pass rusher played under defensive line coach Kris Kocurek for two seasons in Detroit and was teammates with Ryans in Philadelphia in 2012. Kocurek is well-known for his practice-field demeanor — exhorting his players fly off the snap with the exuberance of a Marine Corps drill sergeant — and Tapp has a similar energy (See below). So if Ryans isn't quite as animated on the sideline as Saleh was, there are plenty of options to fill that vacuum.

That Ryans is now a defensive coordinator doesn't surprise McClain or those who covered him when he played for the Texans. Even as far back as his high school days, anyone who's been close to Ryans has predicted he'd become a fine coach.

That includes Kyle Shanahan.

Ryans played in Houston during a very good period. The Texans, still a young franchise at the time, finally started to win. And they had a talented coaching staff under Gary Kubiak, a former quarterback and assistant coach under Mike Shanahan in Denver.

The list of names on that Texans staff ought to be familiar to 49ers fans. It included offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan, offensive assistants Mike McDaniel and Matt LaFleur, offensive line coach John Benton, linebackers coach Johnny Holland (who is now working under Ryans as the 49ers linebackers coach), defensive assistant Saleh and assistant special teams coach Richard Hightower.

McClain describes it as a loose, open and friendly atmosphere. Which is what the 49ers want in Santa Clara.

"That's the thing about DeMeco — he was here at a really good time for media and coaches," he said. "And we got to know him pretty well. And you couldn't find anybody that would say anything bad about him. He wasn't one of these guys who did (the media session) once a week. If one person wanted to talk to him on a Friday, he was happy to do it. If it was 30 (people) on a Monday, he would do it. And that's one reason he got great publicity here."

Brandon Aiyuk

Finally, a dynamic punt returner? 49ers' Brandon Aiyuk is willing

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
July 31, 2021

The 49ers are one of two NFL teams without a punt-return touchdown since 2011 and haven't employed an effective and explosive returner since Ted Ginn, who last played in Santa Clara in 2012.
That could change for the 49ers this season — if they choose to use wide receiver Brandon Aiyuk in a role in which he excelled in college.

Last year the 49ers had Aiyuk focus almost exclusively on offense as a rookie, which was understandable given the pandemic wiped out the offseason program and Aiyuk's season was bookended by hamstring and ankle injuries.

"I don't even know if my body was in position to add on extra hits at returner," Aiyuk said. "So I'll handle what I have to handle at practice and we'll see what happens with that."

Aiyuk said he "loves returning punts." He led the Pac-12 in punt-return average (16.1 yards) as a senior at Arizona State and averaged 11.7 yards on 25 runbacks in his two seasons there. Last year Richie James was ousted as the 49ers' primary punt returner when he lost two fumbles. His replacement, Trent Taylor, signed with the Bengals in the offseason. Aiyuk did field two punts late in 2020 and averaged 13 yards.

The 49ers will have to determine whether they're willing to increase the injury risk for one of their top offensive players. And Aiyuk indicated the 49ers wanted him to feel comfortable in the offense before he took on any potential special-teams duty. On that front, Aiyuk said his head no longer is swimming.

"I feel I got to a point this offseason where I can get to the line of scrimmage and I can start thinking about what the plan is going to be for running routes or releasing," Aiyuk said. "Instead of getting to the line and, 'Am I running this or am I running this?' And really not even paying attention to the defense and seeing the coverage because you're worried about if you have the right play. … (I'm able) to play football now instead of having to think."

Cuddly, kind of: High-decibel defensive line coach Kris Kocurek is known for his intensity, profanity and deep affinity for his players.

Asked how he would describe his position coach, defensive tackle Kentavius Street had a ready answer: "Imagine a teddy bear with spikes on it, that's Kris Kocurek."

Injury report: Wide receiver Jalen Hurd (knee) missed his second straight practice after head coach Kyle Shanahan said he had a "maintenance day" Friday. The 49ers did not provide a reason for his absence.

Linebacker Dre Greenlaw did not practice because of a blister on his foot. Defensive tackle Maurice Hurst returned from a minor ankle injury.

Jerry Rice expects 'big things' from 49ers rookie Brandon Aiyuk

By Nick Wagner
ESPN
November 10, 2020

A little more than halfway through his rookie season, San Francisco 49ers receiver Brandon Aiyuk has flashed plenty of potential even if it hasn't always showed up in the numbers.

With the Niners ravaged by injuries, especially at the skill positions, there's plenty of reason to believe Aiyuk will be one of the top reasons to watch the 49erss over the final seven games. Don't believe it? Take it from legendary wide receiver Jerry Rice.

"He's going to get much better," Rice told ESPN. "I think, as he gets older, he's going to continue to develop, and I'm expecting big things from him, to be honest with you. Because I think he has everything where he's got the route running, where he's got the hands, that awareness on the football field, and he's one of those guys that he knows he's a playmaker and that he could put points on the board at any time."

That's high praise from perhaps the greatest to ever do it. Thus far, Aiyuk has appeared in seven of nine games, missing one with a lingering hamstring injury and one because of close contact with wideout Kendrick Bourne, who had tested positive for COVID-19.

Aiyuk has 28 receptions for 371 yards and two touchdowns in addition to four carries for 69 yards and two more scores. With Deebo Samuel working his way back from a hamstring injury and tight end George Kittle out for about eight weeks with a fractured foot, all eyes turn to Aiyuk to pick up the slack.

In his two most recent games, he was up to the task, ringing up 14 catches for 206 yards and a score. That left coach Kyle Shanahan impressed and ready to put more on Aiyuk's plate. In fact, before Aiyuk was added to the reserve/COVID-19 list last week, he was in line to be prominently featured in the offense against Green Bay.

Those opportunities eventually went to Richie James, who finished with career highs in catches (nine) and receiving yards (184) to go with a touchdown. It's not hard to envision Aiyuk having numbers every bit as good or better had he been able to play.

"I've been very proud of Brandon these last few weeks," Shanahan said. "Just like we did to Deebo his rookie year, we're putting a little bit more pressure on him earlier than I would like to. You don't like to put all that on a guy coming in and especially a guy who missed most of training camp and didn't have an offseason. What I've loved about him is the pressure that he's had, you don't get to learn, you think you do good from, the standard of your whole life and then you get into a meeting with us on Monday and you have no idea how we see it. A lot of guys don't react totally the right way. Just us challenging Brandon and putting that pressure on him, I see a guy who's responded in the right way."

Despite not having a full offseason program and training camp to get acclimated because of the COVID-19 pandemic and then a hamstring injury, Aiyuk has taken to Shanahan's playbook quicker than expected. He has also endeared himself to veteran teammates through his attention to detail and willingness to learn.

Recounting a recent chat with Aiyuk, quarterback Nick Mullens said the rookie wideout has grown and adapted as the season has gone along. Mullens said Aiyuk has begun to understand what it means to be a pro.

"It's a funny conversation," Mullens said. "He was telling me about how in college you kind of know what opponent you're going to get that week so you might not have to practice as hard because you already know that you're better than them. But, once you get to the NFL, you realize any team can beat any team at any week. And so, he's starting to figure that out, figuring out that the way you practice is the way that

you play each and every single week. And so, he's balling out in the games, but he's balling out in practice too. And that just comes with rookie maturation, and it's really cool to watch."

For Aiyuk, that maturation includes a better understanding of how to take care of his body, especially when things like treatment aren't on the team's schedule. In the classroom, Aiyuk has also taken to the lessons of receivers coach Wes Welker, who hammers home the idea of going into every game with a plan.

Early in the season, Aiyuk said he would go into a game and get caught up in what the route or his job was on certain plays. He didn't pay much attention to what the defense was doing and didn't understand how to attack it.

Now, Aiyuk said things have slowed down.

"When I'm lined up where I'm supposed to be and in the right spots, I think it just plays out a lot better that way," Aiyuk said.

With so many injuries around him, it's reasonable to expect Aiyuk's role will continue to grow. Which means more opportunities to get involved in the offense in unique ways and set himself up to be an offensive centerpiece for years to come.

"You can tell he's really starting to come in into his own," Rice said. "I'm expecting big things from him -- he's going to continue to grow and get better."

49ers believe they have another Emmanuel Sanders in Brandon Aiyuk

By Nick Wagner
ESPN
June 1, 2020

Seek out a scouting report on San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Brandon Aiyuk and you're likely to get a lot of similar descriptions.

Aiyuk's ability to gain yards after the catch is a staple, as are his wingspan and route running. But the biggest common denominator has to do with what he could become.

"I still feel like I haven't even scratched the surface of what I can do as a football player and at the receiver position," Aiyuk said. "I just think that for me, the ceiling is limitless. I don't think there's a ceiling to my game."

The 49ers fell in love with Aiyuk during the pre-draft process after a senior season at Arizona State in which he posted 1,192 receiving yards, averaged 31.8 yards per kickoff return and averaged a whopping 10.5 yards per reception after the catch.

That home run ability caused Niners coach Kyle Shanahan to view Aiyuk as one of the two best receivers in the draft, along with Oklahoma's CeeDee Lamb. In fact, San Francisco liked Aiyuk so much it considered taking him with the No. 13 overall pick. That choice was eventually traded for No. 14 and became defensive tackle Javon Kinlaw.

But as Aiyuk continued to slip closer to the Niners' second first-round pick at No. 31, they decided to get aggressive. They moved up in a trade with the Minnesota Vikings and selected Aiyuk at No. 25, the highest pick they've used on a wideout since Michael Crabtree in 2009. The idea is to pair Aiyuk with emerging star wideout Deebo Samuel, who, like Aiyuk, is known for his ability to evade and run through tacklers.

In Aiyuk, Shanahan sees a player who can help fill the void left by Emmanuel Sanders, the veteran wideout acquired in the middle of last season who departed for the New Orleans Saints in free agency. Although Aiyuk specializes in taking short passes and turning them into long gains, Shanahan said he believes Aiyuk can play any of the team's receiver positions and, like Sanders, has the ability to be a threat at all levels of the field.

"It didn't matter where you put him and it didn't matter what the play was, and that's what we got a little bit with Emmanuel when we traded for him, and that's what I think we're getting with Brandon," Shanahan said.

"This guy wants to be great. I want someone like that. And I think he has the tools to be great. I think he has the mindset to be great, and I promise you schematically we're going to give him every chance to do that."

Aiyuk's journey to the 49ers as a first-round pick was far from traditional. Coming out of McQueen High School in Reno, Nevada, Aiyuk had played all over the field, including running back, but most of his film was of him playing cornerback. In 2016, Aiyuk landed at Sierra College in Rocklin, California, the former home of the 49ers' training camp.

There, Sierra coach Ben Noonan recognized Aiyuk's potential as a wide receiver, even though he was mostly recruited as a defensive back. Noonan said it seemed like every time Aiyuk got his hands on the football, whether that was as a returner or on defense, he managed to turn it into a touchdown.

"It's like the dude always ended up in the end zone," Noonan said. "It's just like we have got to get the ball in this guy's hands a lot."

It wasn't until the fourth game of his freshman year that Aiyuk broke into the starting lineup, but by the final game of the season, he had emerged as a star. In that last game, Aiyuk started at wide receiver and cornerback -- assigned to cover the opponent's top receiver. Aiyuk finished with six catches for 121 yards and two touchdowns and, according to Noonan, held his man to one catch for 20 yards.

That performance jump-started an offseason in which Noonan saw Aiyuk devote himself to football. Noonan found Aiyuk in the weight room constantly, improving his squat from 275 pounds coming out of high school to 500 pounds by May 2017. That work ethic carried over to the practice field, where Aiyuk routinely stayed for 30 minutes after every practice working on routes in the Rocklin heat.

"It gets up to a good 110 degrees, and then he's out there until the daylight is gone with the quarterbacks after a four-hour day," Noonan said. "And demanding that the quarterbacks stay, you know, whether their arm was falling off or not. And then the other thing that gives you perspective on his personality and work-ethic type of kid he was: He insisted on being on special teams."

In a game against Santa Rosa College during his sophomore season, Aiyuk showed off his special-teams abilities with a 76-yard kickoff return for a touchdown and four punt returns for 110 yards (with a pair of touchdowns called back for penalties) to go with six catches for 82 yards and two more touchdowns.

"It was the most dominant junior college game I'd ever seen by anybody," Noonan said.

By that point, Aiyuk began drawing attention from top programs, including Arizona State. Herm Edwards had just taken over as the Sun Devils coach and needed a wideout with some experience. Aiyuk spent his first year in Tempe biding his time behind N'Keal Harry, whom the New England Patriots selected with the 32nd pick of the 2019 NFL draft.

While Aiyuk's production was limited to 33 catches for 474 yards and three touchdowns as a junior, Edwards saw his NFL potential and physical gifts. Aiyuk has almost 10-inch hands and an 81-inch wingspan, which is almost unheard of for a player who's 6 feet tall. For the sake of comparison, former Detroit Lions wideout Calvin Johnson had an 82-inch wingspan and was 6-foot-5.

"All those things were, you check the boxes, and then I just think his competitive attitude," Edwards said. "He loves to compete, you know. I mean, everything is about trying to compete and win. I mean he's about that. That's his DNA."

Replacing Sanders from a production and leadership standpoint is probably too big of an ask for Aiyuk as a rookie, but Edwards believes he can be a difference-maker as a returner or a wideout with a limited route tree. The lack of a full offseason to get acclimated won't help Aiyuk's cause, but Edwards has faith.

"He never stops learning, and that's the one thing that good football players understand," Edwards said. "No coach in the history of coaches has ever given a player talent. They give them information. He's an information gatherer. He's not naive, by any stretch of the imagination.

"You have to be very disciplined and very focused, and he understands those things."

Azeez Al-Shaair

How did an undrafted rookie with an autumn ACL tear make the 49ers roster? Meet linebacker Azeez Al-Shaair

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
September 5, 2019

When Azeez Al-Shaair arrived for Florida Atlantic's pro day on March 26, some of the NFL scouts on hand tried to talk him out of participating.

The linebacker, after all, had surgery Nov. 6 to repair a torn ACL and damaged meniscus. Unless your name is Adrian Peterson, going full bore in a workout four and a half months after such a serious procedure wasn't just risky, it was considered close to impossible.

Al-Shaair, however, had been running for weeks, had clearance from the Birmingham, Ala. doctor who performed the surgery and decided he would not — could not — deny himself a chance to impress NFL teams.

"I think people were nervous because, to my knowledge, there was only one other person in football who was able to do stuff like that that early," Al-Shaair recalled this week. "To me, it was like, 'OK, Adrian Peterson is Adrian Peterson. He's a freak and everything like that.' But at the end of the day, it came from his mind, from his work ethic. So I just believed, 'Why can't I do that, too? Why can't it be me?'"

"Teams were trying to steer me away from doing it, saying, 'You don't have anything to prove,'" he continued. "To me, I had everything to prove."

Al-Shaair didn't run the 40-yard dash or take part in the broad jump, but he performed linebacker drills, and to the surprise of the scouts, looked fluid and comfortable.

Some of the teams that had scratched Al-Shaair from their draft list — they were certain he'd have to sit out his rookie season — began to reassess. The most optimistic thought he might be a candidate for an injury designation that would allow him to begin playing at midseason.

It turns out even those teams were underestimating Al-Shaair.

Five months after the workout, the Tampa native made the 49ers' 53-man roster, and on Sunday he'll suit up for a game being played just four miles from his alma mater, Hillsborough High School.
How does an undrafted rookie, one who played for a lightly regarded football program and who was coming off an autumn ACL tear, make it into an NFL Week 1 lineup?

For one, he had a dedicated advocate inside 49ers headquarters.

Chris Kiffin, the team's pass-rush coach, worked closely with Al-Shaair at Florida Atlantic in 2017, the linebacker's best season. Kiffin had been an assistant at Ole Miss for five years before becoming the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Florida Atlantic where his brother, Lane, was the head coach and their father, Monte, was an advisor.

One of the first things he noted at his new job was that his inside linebacker clearly was superior to the ones he had watched at Ole Miss, an SEC school.

"He had all the physical traits, obviously," Kiffin said of Al-Shaair. "At that level he was night-and-day better than everybody else. But what really stuck out — not just to me but my brother, my dad — was the leadership."

Kiffin recalled the first game of the season, a loss to Navy. A lightning storm in South Florida caused a delay so long that the fourth quarter lasted more than three hours. The contest didn't end until 1:47 a.m. When it was over, the crowd, the band — even the cheerleaders — had gone home. The only people in the stands were the cleaning crew.

"And we take the bus back to the office and we walk upstairs to get our laptops, and he's already sitting up there watching film," Kiffin said. "For him at that age to have the leadership and the want-to and drive that he did — it was just remarkable."

Al-Shaair has exceptional maturity because he was forced to grow up faster than his peers.

His parents divorced when he was in second grade. When he was 15 and living at his grandmother's home, a kitchen fire started when an older sister, running late for work, forgot to turn off the stove. Al-Shaair smelled the burning grease, gathered up his two younger brothers and a two-year-old niece, then watched from outside as black smoke rose to the heavens and the home burned to the ground.

After that, Al-Shaair and his seven siblings began a nomadic lifestyle, at one point sharing a $370-a-week extended-stay hotel room on the outskirts of Tampa. Al-Shaair took a city bus to Hillsborough High, a trip that would take up to two hours because he had to drop off his little brothers at their school first.

Al-Shaair strikes a unique balance between supreme confidence and humility. Many rookies treat themselves to new rides upon reaching the NFL. Al-Shaair's only ride: A silver bicycle he pedals from the Santa Clara Marriott to the 49ers facility each morning at 6 a.m. He's always ridden a bike, he says, so why stop now?

On the field, he's anything but quiet. Al-Shaair is the type of player you notice almost immediately. He's fast and aggressive, and he delivered such a big hit in the 49ers' preseason opener — cutting down Cowboys running back Mike Weber for a 5-yard loss — that the starters on the 49ers sideline sprang to their feet in appreciation during what had been a dull and meaningless game.

That's what Al-Shaair did weekly at Florida Atlantic. He plays and practices with a passion and a ferocity so great that it initially turned off his college teammates because they thought he was too serious, too intense. The reason he worked so hard, the reason he watched game film at 3 a.m., the reason he took things so seriously — and so personally — was that he was working for his family. His younger brothers lived with him in his apartment during college.

By the time Kiffin arrived on campus for the start of Al-Shaair's junior season, the linebacker had won over teammates. It was clear he was the defense's central figure. Everyone gravitated around him.
"People can see that it's all real. It's not for show. That's who he is," Kiffin said. "He's the alpha male of his family. Raising his brothers and things like that — it's all he knows. He's the one in charge. His role now, to be the fifth linebacker — it's probably hard for him not to be the alpha male of the entire team, but I think that's what helps him make it."

Al-Shaair led his team with 14 tackles in that 2017 opening loss to Navy and he had 10 more against Wisconsin the second week. A torn ligament in his elbow in the third game forced him to sit out the fourth and he played the rest of the season with a bulky brace on his left arm.

Still, he ranked third in the nation in tackles that season and by the end of his junior year had become Florida Atlantic's all-time leading tackler. He was considered a third- or fourth-round pick going into his final season. Then he tore his ACL during a bye-week practice in mid October.

Despite the injury, Kiffin was pushing for the 49ers to draft Al-Shaair in April. When they took another linebacker, Dre Greenlaw, in the fifth round, Kiffin knew that wasn't going to happen, and he spent the final two rounds worrying that another team would snatch his former pupil away.

None of the other teams did, which has become Al-Shaair's new, great motivation.

When players return to their hometowns, they invariably say they are on a business trip, that they are wary of being distracted by family and the trappings of home. For Al-Shaair, the trip to Tampa is extremely personal. After all, the Buccaneers passed on him in the draft. So did the Bengals in Week 2, the Steelers in Week 3, etc.

“Every game is like that,” he said. “When I get up in the morning it’s something I have attached to me. I’ll have it for the rest of my career. ‘Undrafted free agent’ will be before anything I do. That’s something I hate seeing. I hate hearing that name, that word, that phrase. Because I know who I am. I know my worth. I know the player I am and the player I want to be.”

49ers' undrafted rookie Azeez Al-Shaair has plenty of motivation

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 23, 2019

Azeez Al-Shaair has an imaginary backpack.

At least the 49ers rookie linebacker did Thursday while sharing his life story: It includes extreme poverty, a devastating fire, a crushing knee injury, and the day in May when he realized he'd have to barge through the NFL's back door to realize his dream of supporting his mom and seven siblings.

How did he feel when, less than two years removed from ranking third in the nation in tackles at Florida Atlantic, he wasn't one of the 254 players selected in the NFL draft?

Al-Shaair offered a half-smile, picked an invisible object from the air with his right index finger and thumb and placed his hand over his right shoulder.

"It's like, you know, another thing to add to my bag of things that I've been through in my life," he said.

It's stressful work trying to beat the odds as an undrafted rookie, but Al-Shaair was stress-tested by a childhood in Tampa, Fla., in which he was often unsure where his family would be sleeping the next night.

His parents divorced when he was in second grade. But even before that, a journey had commenced that included Section 8 housing, extended-stay motels and the homes of friends and relatives. His mom worked multiple jobs, but stability was beyond their grasp.

"It was living on people's couches, being on the floor," said Al-Shaair, the fifth of eight children. "We've pretty much been everywhere. Thank God we've never actually had to sleep on the street. But it was like any day, you never knew."

It's not known if Al-Shaair will make the 49ers' 53-man roster given their crowded linebacker corps. But it appears he will stick in the NFL, somewhere.

He was a sure-fire draft pick, but his stock plunged when he tore his ACL and MCL in practice in October. This summer, he's offered compelling evidence that injury won't be the end of him. He's had nine tackles, a fumble recovery, a pass breakup and a tackle for loss that registered on the Richter scale while playing 84 snaps in two preseason games.

In the exhibition opener, Al-Shaair had a textbook read-and-react stop on a screen pass that was a reminder that he was a USA Today Freshman All-American before ranking 24th and third in the nation, respectively, in tackles as a sophomore and junior. Al-Shaair, 6-foot-1 and 227 pounds, sprinted from the middle of the field to de-cleat running back Mike Weber for a 5-yard loss, a shot that sent the 49ers sideline into hysterics.

Charlie Partridge, his head coach for two seasons at FAU, isn't shocked Al-Shaair is making a strong case nine months after his surgery. Last year, Al-Shaair was one of five NCAA athletes honored with the Wilma Rudolph Student-Athlete Achievement Award. It recognizes those who have overcome significant hardship to achieve academic success.

"You knew if anyone was going to make it after being undrafted, after a knee injury, all those things — Azeez is going to be one of those guys," said Partridge, the assistant head coach at Pittsburgh.

Partridge met Al-Shaair on a recruiting trip to Tampa during the linebacker's senior year. He spoke with Al-Shaair and his mom, Naadhirah Lennon, at the local Boys & Girls club because they didn't have a home to host him and were going through a particularly difficult time.

A year earlier, they had been living at Al-Shaair's grandmother's house when it burned to its foundation. The fire started when one Al-Shaair's sisters, running late for work, left a pot on the stove. Al-Shaair, his two younger brothers and a niece were sleeping on the floor in a back room of the unfurnished home when he smelled smoke and rushed the others to safety.

"We just stood there," Al-Shaair said, "and had to watch the house burn down."

Despite Al-Shaair's circumstances, Partridge was struck by his gratitude during their first meeting. Al-Shaair told him about the cafeteria worker at Hillsborough High who would slip him sandwiches for his younger brothers. And Al-Shaair spoke so passionately about his family and his desire to help them that Partridge quickly sensed he needed to explain something: He couldn't send all his scholarship money, some earmarked for food and rent, to his family.

Al-Shaair, then a rail-thin 180 pounds, wasn't going to reach the NFL if he didn't take care of himself.

"I told him 'You can't develop the way you need to develop to accomplish the big goal if you send all of that money home,'" Partridge said. "He looked at me like I just put a knife through his heart. It struck me that he was going to send every single dime home. The motivation to take care of his family has always been number one."

Al-Shaair, who is married, was asked if the typical pressure undrafted rookies feel to make it in the NFL is particularly intense for him given his background.

"I came from nothing," he said, "and I've got nothing to lose."

This may not be quite true because Al-Shaair does have plenty at stake.

But he is making a point that he is unafraid.

He wants to have a long prosperous career that will change his family's fortunes. But he knows about poverty and pain. And he understands he might not be done attacking adversity.

His bag might become heavier. But he's confident it can't drag him down.

"I've still got space in there," he said, looking over his shoulder. "God knows there's another thing that's going to pop up."

Arik Armstead

49ers' Arik Armstead seizing media platform in 2020 to spread word on social injustices

By Cam Inman
Bay Area News Group
August 22, 2020

Arik Armstead took a seat in front of a microphone after 49ers practice, advised reporters to hold tight and insisted on having the first word.

So Armstead launched into what he said will be a routine before his media sessions this season. He's reserving that time to speak out against social injustices and hopefully create unity through dialogue.

"We have to think about why this is happening and what biases and stereotypes are we continuing to allow to be a part of society," Armstead, a sixth-year defensive lineman said. "How can we stop spreading hate and start spreading love in a society were everything is divided black and white, rich and poor, gay/straight, immigrant/citizen?

"How can we knock down those walls instead of dividing our people and bring people closer together?"

Friday's opening pitch was about America's rise in hate crimes, and Armstead cited the New York Times and FBI in stating that hate crimes were at its highest point in 16 years, such as those against Asians in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and against Latinos because of immigration strife.

"I challenge all of us to continue to spread love and understanding to people who don't look like us and maybe have a different language than us," Armstead said. "That's what I wanted to shed light on today. Let's talk football."

Armstead's ensuing media session did just stick to football, and the most relevant aspect of that end is his back feels fine and not so tight after missing the first four sessions of training camp.

"My plan throughout the season is to continue this and bring up different topics, new things each time, things I've been reading and educating myself on and try to create dialogue and educate people with this platform and opportunity."

Armstead was the 49ers' 2015 first-round draft pick, and, in the ensuing years, the Elk Grove native supported Colin Kaepernick and other teammates during protests against social inequality and police misconduct.

"I'm trying to find ways to push the needle and educate people with my platform," Armstead said. "That's my responsibility and my duty as a citizen, to be a better part of society, add value to society and the people around me.

"Playing in the NFL gives me a platform. People look up to me and care about what I say, so I decided to use that voice for good and positive things, and to continue to push that needle and try to educate people with my voice."

San Francisco 49ers defensive end Arik Armstead during the second half of an NFL football game against the Los Angeles Rams Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo/John Locher)
Richard Sherman, perhaps the most outspoken of all 49ers on myriad topics, is all in favor of Armstead's approach.

"It's one of the most important things in the world, especially during this time," Sherman said. "It's past due time to arrest Breonna Taylor's killers but that hasn't happened. It's time for everybody to speak up and put pressure on things they see is wrong. It's been too long of everyone casting a blind eye.

“These are wild times,” Sherman added, “and the more we can speak up and shed light on it, the better the world will be for our kids.”

Armstead capped off his media session with advice on how to eliminate stereotypes and create a more harmonious society:

“It’s simple encounters you can have with people walking down a street, in a store, saying hi, going out your way to be polite and nice, knocking down that invisible wall that may be there when someone doesn’t know you,” Armstead said. “People can be pleasantly surprised. ‘That’s a nice person.’ Showing genuine care or want to learn about other people instead of being so self-absorbed. Try to show interest in other things you don’t have experience on.

“Those are simple ways you can knock down walls and create unity.”

49ers' Arik Armstead raises over $100K for equal opportunity education

By Jennifer Lee Chan
NBC Sports Bay Area
June 8, 2019

Over the weekend 49ers defensive lineman Arik Armstead raised over $100,000 at his Charity Gala to provide the underserved youth of his hometown with equal opportunity education programs.

Proceeds from the weekend will fund the Armstead Academic Project which provides multiple resources for young students in the Sacramento area where Armstead grew up. Not only does the organization fund supplies for students and schools in need, but they also provide interactive programs for students to work in smaller groups.

Armstead is not just a talking head. He has done his research and cited several statistics that he is trying to change: Two-thirds of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of fourth grade will end up in jail or on welfare. 85 percent of all juveniles who interface with the juvenile court system are functionally illiterate.

One of Armstead's programs is a creative writing workshop to help build the confidence of the participants. Armstead not only funds these programs, but he is also actively involved as a positive voice and role model. Last year some of the stories written at Armstead's workshop were even published as a collection.

Armstead's cause was supported by several of his teammates, including Richard Sherman, DeForest Buckner, Ahkello Witherspoon, Ronald Blair, Jaquiski Tartt and Sheldon Day. Former teammate and current Raiders tackle Trent Brown, as well as Panthers linebacker and Sacramento native Shaq Thompson also attended.

Several pieces of autographed sports memorabilia from Bay Area players were up for silent auction including signed jerseys from Steph Curry, Jimmy Garoppolo, Jerry Rice and Roger Craig. It was during the live auction where things got a little heated.

Sherman donated a painting of his likeness which he autographed on site. He drove the price up by bidding for the item himself which got the crowd motivated and riled up.

Another painting that featured Buckner and Armstead together as both Oregon Ducks and 49ers was an item that also had a flurry of bidding. Both players got up on the stage to help inspire bidders to open their wallets.

The following day Armstead hosted nearly 200 children in his youth football camp held at Pleasant Grove High School where he was a member of the football team. The campers went through both offensive and defensive drills while Armstead went from group to group giving one-on-one coaching.

At the conclusion of the camp, Armstead spoke to the group and gave awards to campers who stood out both as teammates and with their work ethic.

Armstead hopes to continue to raise awareness of how literacy affects the population in a positive way while providing opportunities for those with little or no resources.

Aaron Banks

Basketball feet, football power: 49ers rookie Aaron Banks began his athletic rise on the El Cerrito hardwood

By David Lombardi
The Athletic
June 25, 2021

East Bay native and Notre Dame product Aaron Banks picked up the phone on the second day of April's NFL Draft.

"Hey, this is John Lynch from the 49ers," the voice on the other end of the line said. "Are you ready to come back to the Bay Area, buddy?"

Celebratory yells and screams followed. For several seconds, Banks didn't have a chance to give Lynch an audible answer. That's how wildly the offensive lineman's extended network of family and friends, huddled around him at a house in Sonoma rented for the occasion, reacted the second Lynch's words crackled through the phone.

Kenny Kahn, Banks' football coach at El Cerrito High School for three years, was among the elated throng that was making all that noise.

"Aaron playing for the San Francisco 49ers is a dream come true," Kahn said in a phone interview last week. "I'm an '80s baby, so it's hard not to love Bay Area teams and what they did then, the A's, the 49ers. So to see Aaron, a Bay Area kid, wear the red and gold is something special.

"You have a kid who has a good head on his shoulders, great support. And people want to see him do well. Him coming home is one of the greatest things."

For Kahn, it's even better than the summer 2013 moment when he met Banks, who was an incoming freshman at El Cerrito playing on the school's summer basketball team.

And that was a good memory.

"Whenever a freshman kid first comes up to talk to me, it's always, 'Coach Kahn, I want to play football for the Gauchos,'" Kahn said. "And I see this 6-5, 330-pound specimen and I just can't make words come out of my mouth.

"I'm just giving him the eye test. I'm grabbing his arm. I kind of start grunting, and my assistant head coach Donny Davis was next to me and I literally started doing the Ric Flair 'wooo!'"

Banks' father, Lamont, is a former football player, and his mother, Teresa, is a former bodybuilder. Even as a teenager who hadn't yet hit the gridiron, Banks looked the part.

Given his size, it didn't take Banks long to start dominating much smaller competition on the football field. But it was Banks' ability to move his massive frame that truly differentiated him. He fielded 30 college scholarship offers, eventually choosing a Notre Dame program that valued his spatial-blocking capabilities.

The 49ers, also enamored of Banks' dexterity, were willing to select him with a premium second-round pick — even though coach Kyle Shanahan's regime hadn't selected an offensive guard in four-plus drafts up until that point.

Banks' agility is rooted in his AAU background on the hardwood.

“A lot of people don’t realize this, but when Aaron came to El Cerrito, he didn’t play football,” Michael Booker, Banks’ high school basketball coach, said in a recent phone interview. “He was a basketball player. He was a big kid as a freshman, but his footwork was incredible. His skill on the basketball court — he was cerebral, he knew where to be, he knew how to use his body, knew how to position it to be the scorer, to play defense.

“He wasn’t a dump truck. He had really quick feet. He was really agile, and he could really move. That was really surprising for a kid that big.”

Banks consistently scored in the double digits for El Cerrito. His top performances came against his best competition. Booker said Banks was one of the best big men at the Torrey Pines Holiday Classic basketball tournament in late 2015. El Cerrito knocked off host Torrey Pines, Lynch’s alma mater, in that tournament. The Gauchos advanced to the 2016 Northern California Division II championship game, where they lost narrowly to San Mateo’s Serra High.

In that contest, Banks more than held his own against Serra 7-footer Jack Wilson, who later played at Oregon State and Idaho.

“Aaron was just abusing him and going to work on him,” Booker said. “He was really intuitive in terms of playing the game. He knew where the other people should be. He knew all the positions, from the point guard to the five-spot. In fact, he would tell people where they should be. And defensively, he anchored us. So we could do a lot of things defensively that a lot of high school teams couldn’t do, because he could quarterback that.”

Banks’ mastery of nuances carried over to the football field, where the intricacies of timing and footwork are vital to the success of trench play — especially in the type of outside-zone system the 49ers run.

“Once he learned how to play offensive guard and tackle, he wanted to be a long snapper, he wanted to play defensive tackle and defensive end, he wanted to learn everything and play everything,” Kahn said.

“He always had a knack for learning and getting better. He’s a savant in that sense.”

When Banks first joined El Cerrito’s football team in 2013, the program was coming off an illustrious 2012 season that finished with a 13-1 record. The Gauchos’ only loss had come in their final game, a 31-28 defeat at the hands of Marin Catholic — led by future Cal and NFL quarterback Jared Goff — in the North Coast Section Division III title game.

A number of future college Division I players from that El Cerrito team, including defensive back Adarius Pickett (who’d play for UCLA and is now in the CFL), linebacker DJ Calhoun (who’d play for Arizona State) and receiver Marquis Pippins (who’d play for Weber State), remained with the Gauchos when Banks enrolled as a freshman.

“He got to come into that,” Kahn said. “I think with the basketball background and being able to step right in and play in football, he was learning with that baptism-by-fire mentality. He’s always shown he’s an incredible competitor. He looks at it as: The opponent helps facilitate your growth.”

Banks’ football highlight reel at El Cerrito showcases an early look at the skill set that would sell the 49ers several years later.

“We thought that this is a guy that was quick enough to attach to defenders on the second level,” 49ers offensive coordinator Mike McDaniel said earlier this month. “He had a lot of skills. And yeah, we like that he’s big. He’s just gonna have to run fast while being big and we felt like he was a candidate to do that.” Long before Shanahan’s staff nabbed him, Banks’ play in high school drew the hot pursuit of a former 49ers head coach.

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh, two years after he finished his four-season stint with the 49ers, returned to the Bay Area to pursue two high-profile recruits in fall 2016. One was Antioch High running back Najee Harris, who went on to star at Alabama before the Steelers picked him in the first round of the 2021 draft. The other was Banks. Harbaugh made headlines by announcing Antioch's homecoming queen at one of Harris' games and by volunteering on the sidelines for one of Banks' games.

"Those were two of your top Bay Area recruits," Kahn said. "Harbaugh was working the chain gang at an El Cerrito football contest followed by him announcing homecoming royalty at Antioch football. I thought it was hilarious. It showed both humility and a great way to show I'm willing to do everything and anything so you'll play for the Michigan Wolverines. And Michigan was a big option for Aaron at that point in time."

Along with Oregon and Notre Dame, the Wolverines were one of three finalists in Banks' recruitment. But the lineman ultimately opted to join the Irish. Banks entered as a freshman when 49ers right tackle Mike McGlinchey, his new teammate and likely neighbor on the right side of the 49ers' front (Banks projects as the starter at right guard), was a senior at Notre Dame.

"The family, the faith and (former Irish offensive line) coach Harry Hiestand had a big impact on him at the time," Kahn said.

Banks' four seasons at Notre Dame set the table for this past April's Bay Area homecoming — the joyous scene on the other end of the line of that draft-day phone call with Lynch.

The mass of family members and friends gathered at the draft house in Sonoma and bubbled with excitement, ready to explode whenever Banks was picked. They were eager to celebrate one of their own, who'd earned respect with the helpfulness and modesty he'd shown on his rise through the football ranks.

"If there was a freshman kid having a hard time, it was hard not to take Aaron's help or listen to him," Kahn said. "A lot of times in high school, you see kids who have that level of success start to big league people, but he was always humble, appreciative and supportive of other people. He was accessible.

"So to witness that, it couldn't have happened to a better person. El Cerrito is like a small town with a big-city feel. That's the beauty of the Bay Area, right?"

Of course, the fact the 49ers picked Banks only added to the electricity of the moment. With the ties between franchise fandom and the coaches who developed Banks — Booker's family has even had 49ers season tickets since 1979, Bill Walsh's first year as coach — this process culminated in fitting fashion.

Kahn couldn't help but note the 49ers will wear jersey patches honoring their 75th anniversary this season, which he deems an apt coincidence. Kahn wore No. 75 when he played at El Cerrito High, as did the late George Austin, a longtime fixture around the school who coached Banks in his 2016 senior season before dying in summer 2017.

"You see Aaron's phone light up, you start to see Roger Goodell do his slow walk to the podium, you hear Aaron talking to Lynch and Shanahan," Kahn said. "It was that starstruck 'my dreams are coming true' moment. Just to see him wrapped around his family, close friends, high school football coaches.
"It was a special moment. I've been joking that it was my Woodstock because you don't see that happen every day. And I'll never see it again, right?"

Meet Aaron Banks, the 49ers' hometown protector here to 'bully bullies'

By Jacob Hutchinson
KBNR
June 8, 2021

Sometimes your trip home lasts longer than you expect. That was the case for Aaron Banks.

Banks became the man after the man on April 30. Selected 48th overall, he followed the 49ers' slightly more high-profile pick, Trey Lance. He was brought in as one of the men who will be tasked with protecting that franchise-altering investment for the long haul.

The call

The whole Banks clan was on hand that Friday night in Napa, not too far from where Aaron had grown up, in El Cerrito. They'd rented a house to watch the draft, and Banks invited those closest to him and those who'd helped him get to that point; his immediate family, girlfriend, high school football coaches and close friends.

While the celebration wasn't expected to be abbreviated, there was an expectation that it would have to be cut short at some point. Banks had his bags packed in the garage for whichever team picked him and sent him flying to some new part of the country. He'd have to report to wherever that was within three days.

There were a couple of times when he thought he got the call, which instead turned out to be people figuring out how to get to the house. His heart raced, then dropped, and he got back to waiting.

"Please don't call," he texted back.

But eventually the call did come in. Suffice it to say, it wasn't welcomed with golf claps.

General manager John Lynch and head coach Kyle Shanahan both got a kick out of their struggle to hear Banks through the roar that came from a room full of overjoyed friends and family.

It's hard to ask people to contain themselves at a time like that; especially when most of the room, including the majority of Banks' old coaches, were 49ers fans.

"We tried our best to not just mess that up for him," Aaron's father, Lamont, told KNBR. "But once we were shut off… man."

Aaron being drafted by the 49ers meant those bags could stay packed. He popped a bottle of champagne in the backyard and had time to breathe with those who mattered most to him. A surprise bonus came from the owner of the home, who was watching the draft with his son — both 49ers fans — who realized that the Aaron Banks they just watched get drafted was the same Aaron Banks who was renting their house.

The owner called Lamont to ask if he could stop by and congratulate them. The homeowner and his son got some autographs and he gave the Banks family a wine tasting, donated some pork from his pork farm next door, and extended their stay for another three days to allow them to soak in the moment.

"It was like a once in a lifetime moment," Lamont said. "To see my family, and see my son just, in a pick, move to another level, to another high. His life is gonna change, and what a dude that deserves it."

Lamont was not a 49ers fan. He's trying to come around to it, though. When the pick came in, the lifelong Raiders fan said he said reached into his pocket for his Raiders mask and had a moment with it, briefly lamenting that his team, which had traded up five spots with the 49ers from 48 to 43, had wasted its chance to draft his son.

“Raiders, it was your pick, but I think I gotta put you back in my pocket,” he said.

Lamont says he’s softening his stance though, and always respected the success of the 49ers. He’s already bought a 49ers hat, and that’s a real step.

At a family birthday when Banks’ kids were younger, his older brother, Ronnie, brought a haul of 49ers gear to his house for a birthday party. Ronnie could stay, but Lamont said he told him, “the gear has to go.” That gear’s no longer off limits.

Homecoming

That return home can be tricky to navigate. Players who get drafted where they grew up have to face a layer of pressure that’s impossible to prepare for. It’s a burden of your newly-earned wealth being very public, and the inevitable ask for favors.

Aaron’s former and now current teammate Mike McGlinchey warned him.

“There’s a little pressure that comes with that and there’s a lot of people that you know that are still close to you and you gotta learn how to be a pro and manage all that,” McGlinchey said on KNBR on May 4. “I know for me, if it was me in Philadelphia, it’d be a whole different story. So it’s definitely something that’s a really cool blessing for him but it’s also something that’s going to present a challenge, and he’s gonna have to learn to be a pro and be a grown man pretty quick.”

Aaron, though, has said he’s not concerned about those potential distractions.

“I haven’t thought twice about it,” he said. “When I can help some of my family, I will, but if I can’t, I’m gonna say no. I don’t think that has been on my mind at all.”

Aaron is one of four kids: his older sister, Dalisia, 28, his older brother, Lamont Jr., 25, himself, 23, and his younger brother, Franklin, 20.

He has myriad people to thank for getting to this point; his parents, Lamont and Teresa, his high school football coach Kenny Kahn, his offensive line partners and offensive line coach at Notre Dame, Harry Hiestand — but in talking to Banks, his father and Kahn, it’s clear much of it comes back to his sister.

Anyone with sisters knows how tough they can be, and Dalisia reigned supreme over her younger three brothers. With both parents often busy, she was in charge. And she could hold her own.

“She was the alpha,” Aaron said. “Huge shout out to her. My parents were often pretty busy. Coming up, she did a great job of stepping in, taking care of us when she had to.”

“[She] ruled in my house until she was maybe 13, 14,” said Lamont. “It took three of them to take her down. She ruled, which was the best thing in the world for them because they were the boys that didn’t actually get into a whole lot of stuff because she was always on their butts. Plus, she’s heavy-handed.”

“She kind of instilled in them boys that they’re not going to be any punks. They were tough on each other, but being tough on each other made them stronger. And they felt that and they always had confidence because of it.”

Aaron was humbled early. His father, a former football player, and mother, a former bodybuilder, made sure their kids, who were extremely competitive with one another, were active. That meant literally 1,000-2,000 jump ropes and/or a couple hundred free throws every night before bed.

Get in trouble? You’d be jumping rope “for a while.”

Part of that routine came from the fact that the Banks children were so large for their age growing up that they weren't allowed to play in football until they got older. That's where basketball and jump rope came in, laying the groundwork for Aaron to be agile and crafty with his footwork.

Lamont described his kids as a goofy bunch. When he had to bring them with him to work on his contracting jobs, he'd leave them with masking paper and tape to come back to now-mummified children, wrapped up and sometimes sliding around the room in rolling chairs.

That dynamic set the foundation for Aaron. It was a competitive, but goofy family that prioritized work ethic.

Lamont said he rarely had to worry about his son. In high school, Aaron was proactively helping other students who found themselves in trouble. He was part of a program at El Cerrito called the Culture Keepers, which sought to provide help to students who were struggling, via mindfulness practices.

That allowed students to feel like they could get help and reach out to their peers without the fear or uncomfortability of talking to a school administrator. As his high school football coach Kahn — who will start as principal at Redwood High School next year in Castro Valley — put it, it was difficult not to accept help from Aaron.

"It's really hard [to say no] when the biggest, most physical athlete on campus is giving you that olive branch and saying, 'Hey, let's take a walk, let's talk about it, tell me what's going on. How are you feeling?'" Kahn said. "He's such a supportive person in so many capacities."

That continued at Notre Dame, where Lamont said his son quietly built a bond with a young, neuroatypical fan, spending time with him on the sidelines, giving him autographs, gloves and other memorabilia.

Kahn's bond with Banks continued while he was at college. His son, Theo, was the first baby Aaron — a bit hesitantly, asking Kahn, "you're trusting me with this?" — ever held. Whenever he got home from school, Kahn said Aaron always checked in with his family.

He said Aaron has a relationship with him and his wife, and that Theo, bless his heart, brags that Aaron is his best friend.

"He'd show up, grab some sandwiches, watch a movie or two," Kahn said. "I remember watching the women's NCAA tournament when Notre Dame went off a couple years back. It was just fun to have him at the house hanging out. He always wants to stay connected to the people who put on for him."

And as a protector, well, Kahn does not recommend poking the "Dancing Bear" — the nickname his college offensive coordinator Chip Long gave him. He took a page out of the Zach Randolph book.

"I wouldn't mess with his quarterback or his backfield," Kahn said. "Because, when I talk about him not being a bully, he'll bully bullies."

Room full of alphas

It was at Notre Dame where Lamont says his son became the man he is. He enters the NFL with a draft class of four other Notre Dame senior offensive linemen in Liam Eichenberg (Round 2, Pick 42 – Miami), Robert Hainsey (Round 3, Pick 95 – Tampa Bay) and Tommy Kraemer (undrafted free agent – signed with Detroit).

That group learned from McGlinchey's class as freshmen, and will be challenged to match what that group has already accomplished in the NFL. Banks came into Notre Dame under a group of seniors that were, as Long called them, "a group of alphas."

There was McGlinchey, Quenton Nelson (arguably the best interior offensive lineman in the NFL), Alex Bars (starting right guard for the Bears), Sam Mustipher (starting center for the Bears) and Hainsey, who was starting as a freshman.

All Aaron had to do was take over for Nelson, who, again, might be the best interior offensive lineman in the NFL. But he'd spent that first year being able to learn from Nelson and Bars, so, when Bars got injured against Stanford in Week 5 and his opportunity came, he wasn't harrowed by the pressure of slotting into a starting spot as a redshirt freshman on an undefeated team.

After a game during their freshman year, Lamont said he met Nelson and asked a favor of the now three-time All-Pro guard.

"I said man, would you please look out for my son?'" Lamont said. "He says, 'Man, I'm gonna take him, and I'm going to show him as much as I can. And you can best believe' — and he put his arm around Aaron's shoulder — 'I got him.' And you know what? I knew that kid was telling me the truth. And he never failed him."

It's that part of Banks' experience that he, and everyone around him, could feel shaping him. Those offensive line rooms were especially close-knit, in part due to the culture of Notre Dame and the way Hiestand hand-picked his offensive linemen, but also because they all came in at the same time and grew together.

"Them dudes were down for each other and that's what makes the difference," said Lamont. "To me, that's why my son became the man that he is."

That's not a gimmick. As the 49ers went through the draft process, McGlinchey, who was one of the few 49ers players still around the team facility at that time, was stumping for his Notre Dame teammates.

Kyle Shanahan said McGlinchey begged the 49ers to grab another golden domer, and was understandably ecstatic to see that come to fruition. Asked if he was really campaigning for his teammates to the extent Shanahan said he was, McGlinchey told KNBR: "Absolutely."

"It wasn't just Banks, it was the rest of the Notre Dame haul, too," McGlinchey said. "I was excited about all four of those guys with Liam Eichenberg, Tommy Kramer and Rob Hainsey. The four of those guys, I played with, I knew them, I know what is coached at that school, I know what they look like, I know who they are as workers, I know who they are as teammates. And I think the sky's the limit for all of them and especially for Aaron. And so I made sure that we were going to get one of them."

Not the right fit? 'That criticism is crazy to me'

That's all well and good. Aaron Banks, the local kid, comes home and gets to play with his former Notre Dame teammate on a team that's ready to compete now and for the future. Everything looks bright.

But it's all got to happen on the field, and there has already been some criticism of Banks, or at the least, his fit with the 49ers. That criticism seems only slightly insane given that he hasn't even had a day of training camp under his belt, but hey, if you don't get your takes in early, you can't claim you were right later.

The criticism of Banks is that he isn't a good zone blocking fit, and would fit better in a power or gap system. Again, he's yet to start training camp, let alone play a preseason snap, let alone play in a regular season game.

Those critiques seem tethered more to the fact that the 49ers have had Mike Person and Daniel Brunskill at right guard, who weren't as massive as Banks, and had solid short-area quickness in zone runs. Basically, the criticism goes, Banks, at 6'6″ and a listed 325 pounds, is very large, and very large guys tend to not move as well as smaller guys.

Some of that, too, is based on scheme. Notre Dame started to run more zone blocking runs under under offensive coordinator Tommy Rees in 2020 than under Long. Long said he thinks some of the criticism may stem simply from the fact that Banks was asked to gap block often in his offense.

But you don't get the nickname "Dancing Bear" for being heavy on you feet. Long gave him the nickname in practice one day as a compliment to his agility for his size and flexibility. At that time, Banks was playing tackle, too, and proficiently.

It is patently impossible to watch Banks' tape and come to the conclusion that he doesn't move well, or is incapable of fitting into a zone system.

If you have questions about Banks' athleticism, let's amend that. He was a back-to-back North Coast Section champion at El Cerrito in basketball, and helped El Cerrito to its first-ever NCS football championship in 2013, too. You see him in the clips below working in the post, showing off baby hooks with either hand, up-and-unders, spinning out of the low block, facilitating off the dribble, and blocking a couple of shots.

When you see his high school football tape, you feel simultaneously awed and bad for the kids he was facing. He played both offensive and defensive tackle, and it's on the defensive side where you really see that explosiveness and short area quickness.

But there are a couple plays on this reel at offensive tackle that are pure bulldozer material. In the first clip, he sends a kid to his back with ease, and that kid stays there for… a while.

The second play is etched in Lamont Banks' mind. As he remembered it, his son drove another player for about 25 yards, but it was a fuzzier memory for Aaron.

When draft day rolled around and media were looking for tape of Aaron in high school, Kahn obliged. And there it was, just as Lamont remembered it; Aaron Banks literally driving another player straight back from his own 38-yard-line to the other team's 42. Only a mere 20 yards (0:48 mark in the video below).

Still, there's that criticism out there, and even if Banks is perfect from the moment he sets foot on the field, there will be new critics with new criticism. It's the name of the game when you're playing professional sports.

McGlinchey was criticized as harshly as anyone last season, and acknowledged his role in that, in what was an immensely difficult season for the 49ers behind the scenes.

But criticizing a player who has yet to take the field? McGlinchey said he can't understand that especially for a guy he described as a "nasty player," who has obvious, above average athleticism.

"Just because someone's size is what it is, doesn't mean he isn't a scheme fit," McGlinchey said. "Kyle Shanahan is as good — and so is John — at identifying talent and things that fit within our ballclub. If people truly believe that about Aaron Banks, they're obviously not watching film, they're obviously not watching football and they obviously don't really know what they're looking for because no matter how big he is, no matter how he looks, Aaron can move. Aaron is an exceptional athlete. You watch him in space, you watch him coming off the ball, he's a perfect fit for what we do and the more he's coached here and the better that he gets to unleash his athletic ability and fine tune that technique, he's going to be a force for us.

"To critique a guy and question an offensive coach who has proven time and time again that he's always right, is pretty astounding to me. I don't know how people could do that… That criticism is crazy to me."

One area that Aaron excelled at Notre Dame was as a blocker in the screen game. Long told KNBR that he would actively look for Banks in practices and games and try to run screens to his side.

“He’s one of the best screen offensive linemen I’ve ever seen, being able to get out in space and stay on defenders and he’s just so massive and so talented, with his athleticism,” Long said. “Every time I’d try to run a screen I’d always go, ‘Where’s Banks? Run it to him,’ because he’d always be able to get it going.”

To some extent, Aaron said he understands the criticism. People who haven’t seen him play will see his size and assume, as a bigger player, that he won’t move as well.

He shot back at that criticism, but made clear he’s not concerned with those opinions.

“Obviously coach Shanahan had a vision and saw something he liked and I hate to say it like this, but sometimes people who write these articles haven’t played the game, and aren’t in and out of the facility every day to see what these coaches see,” Banks said. “I don’t give a damn what these people say, if they’re talking bad or talking good. If it’s not going to make me better, or help me be a better player, or do whatever I need to do on the field, then it doesn’t matter.”

We’re still about three months away from the start of the NFL season and Banks’ debut, but Kahn said his growth as a person and player, and homecoming is already meaningful to other kids growing up in the Bay.

“It’s awesome to see in the Bay Area so many Black and brown men continuing to grow,” Kahn said. “Because I think that’s a hard narrative sometimes that we have to push and so to see Aaron on the platform that he is now, I think, is a message to so many young Black and brown kids that hard work, potential, taking in advice, coaching and mentorship, actualizing potential, anyone can do it… it’s different for every person, but he’s such a beacon of light.”

Nick Bosa

49ers' Nick Bosa, after emerging from 'dark places,' aiming for Week 1 return

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
July 29, 2021

Nick Bosa noted Thursday he has felt “on the top of the world” and his mind also has traveled to “some dark places” in his brief NFL career.

The question that’s crucial to the 49ers’ season: How is the Pro Bowl defensive end currently feeling?

“Right now,” Bosa said, “I’m feeling pretty close.”

Bosa, speaking publicly for the first time since he suffered a torn ACL in his left knee in September that included cartilage damage — a “big injury,” he acknowledged — struck mostly positive notes as he discussed his current rehab and his ability to play in the season opener Sept. 12 at Detroit.

“Everything right now is trending toward that,” Bosa said. “So I’m hoping to ramp it up as I go and be ready to give it all I’ve got Week 1.”

However, Bosa, 23, also provided details that help explain why the 49ers are bringing him along slowly this summer. Bosa will participate only in individual drills for at least the first week of training camp. After suffering his injury more than 10 months ago, Bosa said he was still experiencing knee soreness after workouts before camp, but he has emerged from his first two practices feeling better than expected. Bosa has appeared explosive during drills and the only noticeable sign of his injury is a black sleeve that has covered his left knee.

“Since I’ve been out here, it’s responded amazing,” Bosa said. “We’re going to take it slow. But I’m very encouraged.”

The anticipated quarterback competition between Jimmy Garoppolo and rookie Trey Lance is the biggest story of the season. But Bosa’s ability to return from his injury ranks second. In 2019, the rookie No. 2 pick resembled a generational talent as he was named the NFL’s Defensive Rookie of the Year and became the 49ers’ first rookie since Patrick Willis to be voted to a Pro Bowl. Bosa was a two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Week and his four postseason sacks rank second among rookies in NFL history.

His dominant start, however, was followed by his devastating injury in the first quarter of a Week 2 win against the Jets on Sept. 20.

“You come off 2019 and you’re on top of the world and then start off well in your next season and it’s all taken away really quick,” Bosa said. “And it was tough. Mentally, it’s really rough. When your body feels terrible, your mind kind of goes to that place.”

But “as my body started to feel better, my mind followed. And then once you’re walking around, working out — I mean, all I really know how to do is work hard. So once you get (through) the initial pain of it, then there’s really no other option than to come back better.”

Instead of living in relative isolation in Santa Clara during the middle of the pandemic, Bosa spent the rest of the 2020 season in Southern California with his older brother and best friend, Joey, the Chargers’ Pro Bowl pass rusher. Nick Bosa also cited the support he received from his mom, Cheryl, as he dealt with the biggest physical setback of his football career. Bosa tore his ACL as a senior in high school and had surgery for a core-muscle injury in his final year at Ohio State.

“My mind did go to some dark places — especially when football’s a really big part of your life,” Bosa said. “And now it just makes you appreciate your family more. I have a girlfriend now. So she definitely occupies my mind a lot, which kind of helped me through this year.”

The next step for Bosa will come when he joins team drills and lines up against Pro Bowl left tackle Trent Williams. Their head-to-head tussles last year were the highlight of training camp.

“You won’t really know how it responds until you take a real rep and have a big offensive lineman pushing on you and all of that stuff,” Bosa said. “We’re trying to simulate it as much as possible right now. My body’s responding really well, so once I get out there and go against Trent a few times, I think it’ll be a pretty quick confidence boost.”

Nick Bosa will begin 49ers camp quicker than he was before his knee injury

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
July 27, 2021

Nick Bosa didn't just pass his physical on Tuesday, the 49ers defensive end is quicker than he's ever been.

That bears repeating: Bosa, who had nine sacks and 45 quarterback pressures in 2019 and was subsequently named the NFL's defensive rookie of the year, is firing out of his stance faster than he did that season.

That's due to both his intensive rehabilitation from the Sept. 20 ACL tear that scuttled his 2020 season and a strict new diet that trimmed his body fat to around 9 percent. The 49ers defensive end is still approximately 265 pounds, his weight when the 49ers drafted him No. 2 overall two years ago, but there's more lean muscle — perhaps an additional five pounds worth — and less fat, which is evident in his appearance.

Nearly everything Bosa and his older brother, Chargers defensive end Joey, do in the offseason — 10-yard bursts, shuttle runs, etc. — is timed. And in the last few weeks Nick Bosa's times have been faster than they've been in the past, Bosa confirmed through a team spokesman.

And that, of course, is excellent news for a defense that goes from solid to elite when it has quick-twitched defensive ends firing off the edges. A repaired and improved Bosa could give the team three players with top get-offs: Bosa; newcomer Samson Ebukam, who once recorded a 1.53-second 10-yard split, which is exceptional for a pass rusher; and Dee Ford, who also passed his physical on Tuesday.

Ford has been dealing with a back injury since the start of last season, one that has migrated to different points in his back and neck and that general manager John Lynch referred to as a "moving target." With that in mind, Lynch clearly tried to manage expectations about Ford's availability.

"We feel like we have a good handle on (the back injury) now — he does — but now I think it's a cautiously optimistic approach, wait and see," Lynch said during a Tuesday news conference to kick off training camp. "You always have to advance him along and see how he does. We're hopeful but cautious. Those things are touchy."

Ford's teammates have provided a far rosier assessment.

Fred Warner, for example, has been working out alongside Ford recently.

"Dee, he's great," the linebacker said on KNBR last week. "He looks great — he's back. I've seen him plenty and he's been working his tail off."

Safety Jimmie Ward said Tuesday his secondary would benefit from the return of the missing defensive ends.

"I've got Dee Ford and Nick Bosa back, and we didn't have them last year," said Ward, who said the defensive line, including a restocked interior unit, was giving him "vibes of 2019" when the 49ers had the top defensive front in the league.

Of course, it might be a while before Bosa and Ford are testing themselves against offensive tackles Trent Williams and Mike McGlinchey in a practice.

Kyle Shanahan said they, along with receiver Jalen Hurd, who also tore his ACL last year, would be eased back into the mix. They could take part in some individual drills early in training camp but probably wouldn't be put in team situations for a week or longer.

Still, Shanahan and others clearly are optimistic about Bosa.

“Saw him yesterday,” Shanahan said. “Got to talk to him for about a half an hour and catch up. He feels good. Obviously we are going to ease him in. We are going to see him move a little bit for the first time in person tomorrow. But he looked great and felt a lot better having him back in the building.”

Bosa has shown he doesn’t need an extensive warm-up.

He missed most of his final season at Ohio State with an abdominal injury, pulled a hamstring early in the spring of his rookie season with the 49ers, then suffered a bad ankle sprain a little more than a week into training camp. Nearly all of his initial offseason was a washout, but he was still able to tally two sacks in the opener against the Buccaneers.

Bosa’s ACL tear came 18 snaps into Week 2 last season. The injury was the first big boulder to dislodge in what became an avalanche of misfortune for the team in 2020. A closer examination of Bosa’s knee that week brought more bad news: Not only was his ACL torn, he’d damaged the meniscus in the knee, which would lengthen his recovery time and threaten to spill into the 2021 season.

Then better news began to trickle in.

Dr. Neal ElAttrache, the Los Angeles-based surgeon who has worked on everyone from Kobe Bryant to Tom Brady to Jimmy Garoppolo, emerged from the operating room in late September saying the procedure went exceedingly well. That seemed to be confirmed when, immediately after surgery, Bosa was able to flex the quadriceps of the injured knee.

He seemed to be ahead of schedule from the jump, something that was confirmed as the weeks and months passed. The big issue with Bosa was making sure he didn’t push the reconstructed joint too far. The 49ers have been monitoring him every step of the way, and perhaps his early and steady progress is why the team didn’t make any big moves at defensive end beyond signing Ebukam in free agency.

“He’s pretty good about documenting his workouts and sending them our way,” Lynch said. “So even though he hasn’t been here the entire time — he’s been here sporadically; he’s come out for a week or so — you never have to question his work ethic. He has a special routine that he’s developed.”

Friend and teammate George Kittle agreed with Shanahan that Bosa looks good, and he told the defensive end to be ready for some wicked blocks the first day he’s back in an offense vs. defense situation.

“Kyle didn’t like that joke,” the mischievous tight end said.

“I have zero worries about Nick Bosa,” Kittle continued. “He’s an incredible football player that trains at a very, very high level. He works out with Joey Bosa every single day who I’m pretty sure is also a pretty decent football player.”

49ers rookie Nick Bosa benefiting from developing bond with Joe Staley

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
July 30, 2019

When 49ers rookie defensive end Nick Bosa took the practice field Monday, it dawned on him just how long it had been since he strapped on his football pads.

“Every day you get the butterflies. It’s that kind of sport,” Bosa said. “You’re going full speed against another grown man, so it’s nerve-wracking. But once you get that first hit, the first play, those all go away and it starts to be fun.”

Bosa’s final season at Ohio State ended on Sept. 15 with a core muscle injury. After the 49ers selected Bosa with the No. 2 overall pick in the 2019 NFL Draft, he sat out the bulk of the 49ers’ offseason program due to a mild hamstring strain.

Bosa comes to the NFL with a greater knowledge of his craft than most rookies. His father, John, was a first-round pick of the Miami Dolphins in 1987, and his older brother, Joey, was the No. 3 overall selection of the Chargers in 2016.

The first three days of practices have been highlighted by Bosa’s interactions with 49ers’ six-time Pro Bowl left tackle Joe Staley.

Bosa beat Staley badly on three occasions in the first practice. Staley got the better part of Bosa on Day 2.

“He would tell you (Saturday) was his first day back, so he’s just getting his feet under him, getting his hands right, getting his feet right,” Bosa said. “I definitely got him a couple of times and he’s definitely going to come back strong on me, I’m sure.”

And on Day 3, with Staley taking a veteran day off, those two still managed to spend time together during a special-teams period on Monday to go through run-game technique.

“We’ve built a really good relationship. He’s a super nice guy,” Bosa said of Staley. “I don’t usually be nice to offensive linemen, but it’s hard not to be nice to him. He’s such a good dude and he’s been a really good influence on me. It’s good to go against one of the best who ever did it. Any reps I can get against him are good reps for me.”

Bosa’s most notable play in practice Monday was his final play on 11-on-11 when swing tackle Shon Coleman, filling in for Staley, was seen pancaking him at the end of a run play to that side. Bosa pointed out that before that occurred, he got the would-be tackle.

“I actually tagged up the running back and Shon wanted to keep pushing me back,” Bosa said.

How Nick Bosa went from 'one of the darkest moments' of his life to a top NFL prospect

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
March 2, 2019

Nick Bosa's junior season with Ohio State was off to a promising start.

The talented defensive end logged four sacks in his first three games of 2018 as he hoped to solidify himself as the best defensive player in the country. Doing that, of course, would also help cement his future in the NFL, when he was widely expected to be the first prospect drafted in 2019 even before the season began.

But then on the third play of the second half against TCU in September, Bosa felt a sharp pain in his abdomen and hit the deck, requiring attention from the medical staff. It didn't take long for him to realize his college career might be over sooner than expected.

"I knew my season was in jeopardy and I had a doctor confirm that. It was tough, but it had to be done," Bosa told reporters at the NFL scouting combine Saturday in Indianapolis.

He required months of rehab in order to rejoin his teammates and complete a bid for the College Football Playoff. But Bosa roughly a month later elected to sit the remainder of the season out in order to focus on preparing for the NFL draft when his professional future, and millions of dollars, would be on the line.

"When it happened, when I got home from that TCU game I was lying in bed, I could barely get it. It was one of the darkest moments of my life so far," Bosa said. "For me to talk to my family and let them bring me up and let me know that my life is still good and I still have amazing blessings and a bright future, that's what helped me get through it."

The story of the combine from the 49ers' perspective has been the rise of Oklahoma quarterback Kyler Murray, whose height was questioned heading into the week despite having supreme athleticism that help him win the Heisman Trophy last season.

Murray was measured at 5-foot-10 1/8, 207 pounds and 9 1/2-inch hands. Those marks are widely considered strong enough to clear the thresholds for quarterbacks, and the buzz has been increasing that Murray will be the first player taken in the draft April 25 either by the Arizona Cardinals or a team they trade the top pick to.

Of course, that scenario means the best defensive player could fall to the second pick owned by San Francisco. And it's widely believed that Bosa would be the selection to help solve the team's longstanding issues at defensive end.

Bosa – who measured at nearly 6-foot-4, 266 pounds and had 29 reps on the bench press – is headlining a talented group of defensive-line prospects which could allow the 49ers to trade down to acquire a different pass rusher while accumulating more draft picks.

"I would tell you that it's a great year to be looking for D-linemen in general," general manager John Lynch said this week. "This is as strong of a class as the last eight years at the defensive line."

Bosa is planning to be a full participant in combine workouts Sunday despite only recently getting back to top capacity. He told reporters he had scheduled meetings with the teams holding the top eight picks of the first round, including Arizona.

"I've been training at full speed for a couple months, but actually feeling like myself, not feeling soreness after, probably a few weeks," he said. "The toughest part is the beginning. It's such a unique injury in that it's literally the muscle used to breathe, to cough, to go to the bathroom. It's your core muscle, it's

something different than I've dealt with before. It's really gradual, small steps. Once you get through it, I'm feeling better than I've ever felt right now."

Bosa logged 17 1/2 sacks and 29 tackles for loss over three seasons at Ohio State. He's a stout, powerful prospect and a mirror image of his brother, Joey, who has 28.5 sacks in 33 games since being taken with the No. 3 pick by the Chargers in 2016.

Nick Bosa was widely expected to be a top NFL prospect dating to his high school days. But the groin injury, on top of a partially torn ACL that ended his high school career early, might cause concerns about his durability.

Injuries have been such a pressing issue for 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan and Lynch over the past two seasons that the club fired its head athletic trainer Jeff Ferguson and strength coach Ray Wright. The 49ers recently hired Ben Peterson run the club's medical and training staffs under one title in order to create more continuity than the previous staffers. Peterson's evaluation of Bosa could wind up deciding if Bosa wears a 49ers helmet next fall.

Injuries aside, Shanahan said this week he's had trouble in the past identifying defensive linemen in the past (which includes 2017 first-round pick Solomon Thomas, who hasn't become a difference-making player with San Francisco during his two seasons).

"I've asked some of the best D-line coaches that I could ever imagine, and they say he's a slam dunk, and he doesn't make it," Shanahan said. "And then it's got another direction, too. Every story can contradict anything you say is the right answer … That's why we over talk it, over think it, over do everything because you have to because there are so many variables."

Other pass rushers – such as Josh Allen (Kentucky), Brian Burns (Florida State), Montez Sweat (Mississippi State) and Clelin Ferrell (Clemson) – could fill San Francisco's needs.

Allen is widely considered a top-five prospect and is expected to test extremely well Sunday. He measured 6-foot-4 7/8 and 262 pounds with 33 1/2-inch arms, half an inch longer than Bosa's. Allen logged 17 1/2 sacks last season for the Wildcats despite spending more time in coverage as a linebacker.

Still, most evaluators believe there's a sizable talent gap between Bosa and Allen – and perhaps Bosa will tap into his disappointment from last fall to motivate him to make his mark early on in the pros.

"(My season) just got torn away from me," he said. "It's something that I'll always think back to."

Dee Ford

Dee Ford and Nick Bosa, the 49ers' bookend best friends — 'It's a beautiful situation, man'

By Tim Kawakami
The Athletic
August 1, 2019

When you see Dee Ford jogging from station to station during 49ers training camp, nine times out of 10, Nick Bosa is right behind him, always keeping a respectful distance but also looking like he's attached by an irreversible NFL gravitational force.

When Ford is on the field stretching, there's Bosa right behind him, not exactly copying everything he does but not exactly not-copying Ford, either. When Ford is lined up in a drill, there's Bosa glancing over from his spot for clarity or confirmation. When Ford and Bosa are temporarily out of a drill, Bosa habitually wanders over to Ford for a quiet word or two.

"Me and Nick? Yeah, it's a beautiful situation, man," Ford said after a recent practice. "There's a lot of chemistry. That's my guy."

It's pretty simple: Bosa wants to put together a pass-rushing career just like Ford is crafting right now and that common ground fused them almost from the start of their 49er careers in the spring.
They do not have similar backgrounds. Ford grew up in rural Alabama; Bosa grew up in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., with a superstar older brother. There's more than a six-year age difference. Ford's been through five seasons in the AFC West cauldron with the Chiefs, registering a career-high 13 sacks last season. Bosa was a star at Ohio State but missed most of 2018 with a core-muscle injury.

But from almost the moment they met at 49ers headquarters, after Ford was acquired in March and Bosa was drafted in April, the potential bookend pass rushers figured out that they were going to get along just fine. Which maybe was what you would've predicted or maybe it wasn't.

"Just when he showed up," Ford said. "First impression, just good vibes. He's a good person. Just from Day 1, man."

The interesting thing I found out from Bosa this week: He sort of planned this from afar, at least his role as a pupil learning from a proven alpha sack man, even before he ended up with the 49ers. While Bosa was preparing for the draft last winter and spring, he had an idea of where he might go — to the 49ers with the No. 2 overall pick — and, once they acquired Ford from the Chiefs, how this dual attack might flourish.

Go to the 49ers. Play with Ford. Chase the QB together. Form the backbone of a great defense and maybe win a lot of big games. Wouldn't that be pretty great?

"Even before I got drafted by the Niners, I had an idea that it was possible that I'd end up here," Bosa told me earlier this week. "So in free agency, they picked him up. Everybody's texting me like, 'Aw, man, they're not going to take you now!' I was just thinking to myself, what if they do take me? We get to play together.

"(With the Chiefs last year), he was in the same division as my brother (Joey, a Chargers defensive end). Last year, I got to watch pretty much every one of my brother's games and I got to watch (Ford). I only watch pass rushers when I watch football. So I watched him and Justin Houston for the Chiefs, and I just love what he does technique-wise. Speed. He uses great power.

"And just to be able to see it in practice situations, just to see how it works … obviously, I'm just a rookie and I'm going to take everything I possibly can from him because he's a vet. He just signed a second contract. He's where all of us want to be. Coming off a huge year. So he's a great role model as a person and obviously as a player."

In practice, the 49ers defensive line has occasionally overwhelmed the first-team offensive line using the defense's new "Wide 9" scheme that emphasizes aggression and a full-out attack-the-QB mode. That offense-defense dynamic could change — the defense almost always gets up to speed more quickly than the offense during training camp.

But the 49ers have poured a lot of resources into this defensive line and are especially focused on unleashing a real pass rush after several years of generating very little outside pressure. So they gave Ford a five-year, $85-million contract ($17 million a year with almost $20 million guaranteed) and also gave up a 2020 second-round pick to the Chiefs to facilitate the deal. And then the 49ers drafted Bosa No. 2 overall.

Will this be the newest duo to terrorize passing offenses? Maybe yes, maybe no. But there's a better chance of it if the two outside rushers have elite skills and also understand each other, share information and feed off of each other, like Ford said was definitely the case with him, Justin Houston and Tamba Hali in their Chiefs days.

You get a look at Ford and Bosa on the field together in this camp and you can see that this is already happening.

"Yeah, we play the same position," Bosa said. "We do the same things. I mean, he's just somebody who's really easy to get along with. Really nice dude."

Of course, Bosa came to the 49ers with a little more of a cloud than most top draft choices. Everybody knows about the pre-draft controversy when it was discovered that Bosa had "liked" a few photos on social media that contained racist or homophobic comments when he was younger.

Kyle Shanahan and John Lynch talked to him, checked with his Ohio State teammates and former coaches and drafted him believing that Bosa wouldn't only be OK in the 49ers locker room, he'd probably end up as one of the most popular guys among his teammates.

So I asked Ford what he thinks now of Bosa's social media history.

"Don't matter to me," Ford said. "Who I meet, you can be whatever you want to be on social media. It's social media. Who you are with me when I meet you in person? That's the person I judge. That's the person I want to be around.

"You could be anything you want to be on social media. There's no ceiling. But you can't fake who you are as a person."

The locker room decides these things, I've always believed. Are you genuine? Are you considerate of your teammates? Do you respect the leaders of the team? Do you work hard? The locker room has pretty much already decided on Bosa —and, as several team sources acknowledged, it sure helps that everybody who watches Bosa in practice knows that he's going to help this team enormously.

So Bosa has already bonded with Ford. He's also won praise from senior 49er Joe Staley and generally is viewed as a quiet, deferential and slyly funny potential superstar, which is about as good a start as you can get in an NFL locker room.

"I like to see that Nick knows how to handle himself and he's one of the guys," Shanahan told me this week. "We love him. Thought the team would like him. But to come in and have everyone embrace him … it's not like they're trying to go out of their way to do that just because he's the first pick. I mean, guys want to bring the first pick in and make him feel at home.

"But it's very natural for him. The guys like him. He's one of them. He's completely himself. It's not like he's going out trying to talk too much or too little. He's been the same guy every day. And I think our team really enjoys him."

Bosa is only 21, but probably because he's spent so much time around his brother at NFL camps and because Ohio State is like a mini NFL franchise, he doesn't sound like a rookie when he talks about how the 49ers defensive line is going to operate.

He actually sounds like a budding defensive coordinator.

"It's great when you have chemistry with your interior guys who are on your side, with Buck and Armstead and Solly and all the guys," Bosa said. "Just knowing what your teammate's going to do, give a little hand signal, whatever it is. Just knowing maybe what move they're going to use so you stay in your rush lane, you don't let the quarterback escape the pocket, stuff like that.

"The biggest thing is keeping double-teams off me. Hopefully, they double (Ford) for a week or two. And then double Buck, double Armstead. And maybe come around and double me once I start making plays. But, I mean, we're stacked. It's going to be tough (to defend)."

Bosa didn't say this bombastically. He said it with a matter-of-fact tone and a slight grin, like he was just telling the truth as he sees it with a little splash. There's humor there, definitely. And I'd heard that he and Ford share that kind of deadpan sensibility.

"Who said that? Dee said that?" Bosa said with a sly grin. "Yeah, it's kinda dry. Sarcastic. We're similar. We're both kind of quiet, but when we do have something to say, it means something."
Yes, I can confirm that it was Ford who told me this, by the way.

"He has a different sense of humor," Ford said. "That's what I like. He's different, man. He's Nick, you know what I mean? Like any other guy, but he's humble and he's ready to learn. And he looks up to me. So it's definitely going to be a fun time, period."

Bosa picked a perfect mentor. Ford has his bookend partner. They have to do it together in games, but they're off to a very comfortable start. Shanahan and Lynch are loving this whole development and they can see it just about every moment of every practice.

Why Dee Ford fits mold of the 49ers' prototypical 'leo' edge rusher

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
March 14, 2019

The 49ers on Wednesday announced the signing of defensive lineman Dee Ford to a five-year extension after acquiring him in a trade from the Kansas City Chiefs for a second-round draft pick in 2020.

Repeat, the 49ers announced the signing of defensive lineman Dee Ford.

During his five seasons in Kansas City, Ford was an outside linebacker in a 3-4 defensive scheme. All indications are Ford will be the “leo” in the 49ers’ 4-3 defensive alignment.

His job: Get after the quarterback.

Ford did his job exceptionally well last season, recording 13 sacks and forcing seven fumbles. Outside of defensive tackle DeForest Buckner, the 49ers lacked a consistent pass rush. The 49ers, as a team, generated just seven takeaways on the season – the worst mark in the history of the National Football League.

Coach Kyle Shanahan hired Robert Saleh to implement the Seattle-style defense with the 49ers. It’s a 4-3 defense with essentially 3-4 personnel. The leo position is based on the elephant edge-rusher spot that George Seifert used with the 49ers in the 1980s and ‘90s.

Ford fits the height-weight prototype to play the leo position. The 49ers had little consistency at that position in the first two seasons with Saleh as defensive coordinator. Last year, Solomon Thomas mostly started at leo, but he either left the field on passing downs or moved inside to defensive tackle in nickel situations.

Ford is likely being counted upon to be an every-down leo – the pass-rusher the 49ers have lacked since Aldon Smith’s departure.

Here is how Ford height and weight compare to a list of players Saleh cited in 2017 as prototypical edge rushers at the leo position:

Dee Ford 6-foot-2, 252 pounds
Chris Clemons 6-3, 260
Cliff Avril 6-3, 260
Yannick Ngakoue 6-2, 246
Dante Fowler 6-3, 255
Vic Beasley 6-3, 246
Von Miller 6-3, 250
Khalil Mack 6-3, 252

Jimmy Garoppolo

Bill Belichick still roots for Jimmy Garoppolo — just not this week

By Cam Inman
San Jose Mercury News
October 19, 2020

Three Octobers ago, Bill Belichick traded Jimmy Garoppolo to the 49ers.

Rather than express any seller's remorse, Belichick spoke Monday about how "happy" he is for Garoppolo, who returns to face New England on Sunday for the first time since that 2017 Halloween deal.

"I'm glad that it's worked out for him in San Francisco. I hope it doesn't work out on Sunday," Belichick said Monday on a conference call with Bay Area media. "But otherwise, I'm happy he's had an opportunity to play for a great coach and a great organization and play on a great team.

"He deserves that. He's certainly worked hard and earned it. I'm happy for him and his family."

Belichick and his Patriots coaching staff have yet to study how Garoppolo and the 49ers (3-3) bounced back Sunday night in a 24-16 win over the Los Angeles Rams.

But Belichick knows what a "quality player" Garoppolo is. He believes that last year's run to the Super Bowl reflects that, as does the 49ers' confidence in the quarterback by way of the five-year, $137.5 million contract Garoppolo signed in 2018.

Belichick refrained from rehashing the 2017 trade that netted the Patriots a second-round draft pick, which they parlayed into multiple ensuing trades that netted them a handful of players, including Jarrett Stidham, New England's current backup to Cam Newton.

Belichick was expansive, however, when explaining what attracted them to Garoppolo, selected with a 2014 second-round pick out of Eastern Illinois.

"We liked his personal characteristics, his intelligence, his toughness, his work ethic, his playing skill," Belichick recalled.

"He came from a situation where we thought he'd need some development, and I think he did. But he worked very hard to improve, particularly playing under center, dropping back under center, his mechanics, and turning his back on a defense. Things like that you don't do all the time when you're in shotgun all the time, like he was in college. Reading coverages and seeing things at this level that are a lot different from college."

Garoppolo started only two games with the Patriots in his 3 1/2 seasons as Tom Brady's backup, both coming at the beginning of the 2016 season while Brady served his "Deflategate" suspension. Garoppolo did not finish his Week 2 start after sustaining a shoulder sprain.

"He handled that well. He showed a lot of toughness and leadership in the opportunities he got to play for us or practice," Belichick added. "When Tom wasn't able to practice sometimes during the week, he'd step in there and did things at a very high level.

"Everybody here had a lot of confidence in him. It's one of those situations where you're just not able to keep all the players based on how the system is set up. It's understandable."

Even after the trade, Belichick has kept in contact "every now and again" with Garoppolo via text.

"Just congratulations, things like that. 'Keep things going,' " Garoppolo recalled on Super Bowl Opening Night in Miami in late January. "Coach and I, we had a great relationship. Great guy. Very honest. Very straightforward. I always appreciated him for that."

Garoppolo called it "an honor" to exchange texts with the six-time champion Belichick.

Sunday's win over the Rams gave Garoppolo a needed momentum boost for his upcoming return to New England.

"It'll be cool to get back to the old stomping grounds and see some familiar faces," Garoppolo said after the win. "We'll enjoy this one (Sunday night) and get on film for the Patriots (Monday). This will give us a little momentum, but next week will be another dogfight."

Of Garoppolo's 268 passing yards Sunday, 226 came after the catch, according to NextGen Stats. The short-passing game worked to perfection from a production standpoint as well as a safety measure to keep the Rams and NFL sack leader Aaron Donald from hitting Garoppolo, who lasted only the first half of the previous game in his return from a Sept. 20 ankle sprain.

As he approaches his trade's third anniversary, Garoppolo is still learning to mesh with coach Kyle Shanahan, having joined a winless club in 2017 and missing most of 2018 with a knee injury.

"It almost felt like last year felt like our first year together," Shanahan said. "Coming off his injury, he had a heck of a year getting us all the way to the Super Bowl. Now we're here. It's like we've been with each other for four seasons but it just feels like one full one.

"You always want more time with that. You get closer and learn more about each other through all the experiences you go through. This year is a different year. He played a heck of a game last night. I know he's pumped to go to New England. I haven't been there for a while, either. I'm looking forward to watching him there."

Garoppolo's deep-ball accuracy remains his biggest wart. Panned for overthrowing Emmanuel Sanders with the Super Bowl on the line, Garoppolo has a 16.4 passer rating this season on attempts of at least 15 yards, completing 4-of-15 for 104 yards with no touchdowns and two interceptions, according to The Associated Press.

Garoppolo's counterpart on Sunday will be Cam Newton, New England's surprise successor to Tom Brady. Newton struggled in Sunday's loss to the Denver Broncos (157 yards, two interceptions), and his timing was understandably off after missing the previous loss at Kansas City while on the NFL's COVID-19 reserve list.

Belichick said of Newton: "It's all good. He's been impressive. Glad we have him. He's earned everybody's respect and trust here. That's not easy to do over a short period of time. He's done a good job of it."

Will 49ers' Jimmy Garoppolo hit his prime in 'Year 2' of Shanahan system?

By Cam Inman
San Jose Mercury News
October 19, 2020

Everyone expects more from Jimmy Garoppolo this season. More than last season. You know, the one that ended in the Super Bowl, and ended without a trophy.

They'll say Garoppolo is destined for the Year 2 bounce in head coach Kyle Shanahan's system, an improvement curve that Atlanta's Matt Ryan rode in 2016 to NFL MVP honors and a Super Bowl berth.

Even Matt Schaub enjoyed a career year in his second season under Shanahan's tutelage, with the 2009 Houston Texans.

What does Garoppolo expect after last season, when he threw for the fourth-most yards in 49ers history and came within seven minutes of a Super Bowl ring, all on a rebuilt knee?

"It was a good stepping stone, especially coming back from the ACL injury, first full season as the starter and I think it was a step in the right direction. Now this season, just got to keep it rolling," he said.

"… Can't get caught too much in it. But it's always in the back of your mind."

It's at the forefront of his bosses' minds. They're invested in him. They passed on Tom Brady for him. Twice. They are all about Year 2, before getting to Year 3.

The clock on Year 1 apparently did not start with Garoppolo's 5-0 December debut in 2017, nor with his 2018 three-game cameo before his left-knee ruptured.

Shanahan is not selling that hard, but he notes that Garoppolo and really most of his supporting cast should improve, because of their familiarity and continuity in a very demanding system.

"The history of quarterbacks in this system, it shows right around now is when they really hit their stride, and Jimmy's already done that," general manager John Lynch said Sunday. "We're excited to see where this goes. Proud of him as well for how he's prepared himself to lead our team."

Garoppolo was voted team captain for a second straight year, and his teammates' support was underscored with left guard Laken Tomlison's recent rebuttal to his quarterback's critics.

"How dare you doubt my dude like that? Are you crazy?" Tomlinson said. "That's my dawg right there. Jimmy is a leader to all of us out there. It's all nonsense, honestly."

Garoppolo appreciated how Tomlinson (and others) stuck to the 49ers' "I've Got Your Back" motto.

"Whenever your teammates can back you up like that, say something nice in your favor, it's always nice to hear," Garoppolo said. "What goes on in that locker room, what we see on a daily basis from each other, just the time that we put in, the work that we put in, I think that goes a lot further than everything else."

Garoppolo took the cliché road and said there is no added pressure this year, that what he's succeeded or failed in the past is behind him and it's time to seize his current opportunity.

Garoppolo's ability to pass in crunch time may not have emerged with the Super Bowl on the line, but it worked great last season against the Arizona Cardinals, this Sunday's opening opponent.

Cardinals coach Kliff Kingsbury, to no surprise, vouched for Garoppolo's credentials: "Both times we played Jimmy, he was awesome and played as good as anybody played against us all year. I'm a big fan of his and he's a special talent."

Garoppolo passed for four touchdowns in four games, including in each of the 49ers' down-to-the-wire wins last season against Arizona. He totaled 741 yards and completed 62 of 82 passes with two interceptions in those wins (28-25, 36-26).

"We're playing the best team in the NFC," Kingsbury added. "They were 10 minutes away from winning the Super Bowl, so we know we have a huge challenge."

‘Jimmy was kind of like Ferris Bueller’: Inside 49ers QB Jimmy Garoppolo’s early football career

By Jon Greenberg and David Lombardi
The Athletic
January 7, 2020

Jimmy Garoppolo showcased nerves of steel during the 49ers’ dramatic December stretch to close the regular season.

“Now,” the 49ers quarterback said after beating the Seahawks to the win the NFC West, “the real tournament starts.”

We’ve learned plenty about Garoppolo throughout the course of this season. No longer a relatively unknown commodity, Garoppolo has 16 consecutive professional starts under his belt for the first time. He threw for nearly 4,000 yards, averaging 8.4 yards per attempt, the highest average in the NFL of any quarterback who started 16 games, leading the 49ers to the No. 1 seed in the NFC.
Now a critical new test awaits.

How will Garoppolo handle the NFL playoffs? This is where legacies are made or broken, especially for starting quarterbacks. Over three playoff runs, Garoppolo won two Super Bowl rings while working under Tom Brady. But now it’s his show. What can we expect?

Just 10 years ago, he finished a two-year run as a starting high school quarterback in suburban Chicago with a first-round loss in the playoffs. He wasn’t All-State. He didn’t put up big numbers. But he had a presence about him. The people close to him saw the potential for him to do big things in college.

So how did he get to this place, as one of the highest-paid quarterbacks in football, starting for a 49ers team with Super Bowl dreams? You’d have to go back to a freshman special teams practice in 2006.
Never highly touted: Under-the-radar through high school

Garoppolo’s journey as a quarterback started at Rolling Meadows High School in Rolling Meadows, Ill.
Colin Buscarini, Rolling Meadows offensive lineman: In eighth grade, he was a running back.

Tony Taibi, Rolling Meadows wide receiver: Jimmy was an unbelievable baseball player too, so growing up he was able to pitch and he always had a gunslinger mentality. Throwing came natural to him. Jimmy was an all-around athlete — basketball, baseball, obviously football, he ran track. Seeing the type of athlete he was and how well-balanced he was, you knew he could succeed at football.

Buscarini: We were 15, 16 and he looked like he was 25. Just far more developed.

Dan Urban, Rolling Meadows freshman team offensive coordinator: When Jimmy showed up to freshman football, it was like, “Holy cow, we’ve got a nice athlete here.” Already 6 feet tall, already had the voice of a man. He clearly stood out. We had already heard there was going to be a younger Garoppolo, because one of his older brothers was already on varsity. We started off thinking he’d be an athlete playing everywhere — running back, tight end, receiver, different spots.

We were having a punting tryout, seeing what kids could kick. Jimmy was fielding punts, just shagging them. When he was doing that, he started throwing them back. And he started making some throws back to where the punters were. And Anthony Bradburn, the other freshman coach, looked at me and said, “Did you see Jimmy throw that? I think he should be our quarterback.” That’s when he and I started talking about Jimmy being our quarterback.

In the second half of the season opener that season, Urban and Bradburn put Garoppolo in at quarterback for the first time in an organized football game.

Urban: I remember the first pass play I called, Jimmy rolls out. He scrambles around on the play and throws this 30-yard, line-drive pass on a backside post route, on a rope. And it bounces off the kid’s

chest. He doesn't even catch it. And I look at (Bradburn), and I go: "Holy crap, Jimmy is going to be our quarterback the rest of the year now. That throw was ridiculous." It was his first pass. From that point on, quarterback was a long-term option for Jimmy. He had the tools.

That Monday, I made it a point to meet with Jimmy. "Jimmy, we're gonna move you to QB. This is not just for the freshman team. I want you to be a quarterback because this is long-term. If you commit to this, you have the tools to make good things happen in the future. You have more tools than I did at your age."
Charlie Henry, Rolling Meadows offensive coordinator: He played defense his sophomore year because he was too good of athlete not to play on varsity, and we had a senior quarterback. In hindsight, we may have been better off (his junior year) had we started Jimmy as a sophomore.

Marty Maciaszek, sportswriter, Daily Herald: His junior year, you would probably classify it as average. Nothing out of the ordinary. There were some good moments, some bad moments. His senior year, he really started to break out.

Henry: When Jimmy took over as the quarterback his junior year, we were a pretty average football team. Between that junior and senior year, Jimmy really set out to improve his game. He spent time with Jeff Christensen outside of school.

When Garoppolo started as a junior, he had an elongated pitcher's release — much different from the compact one that his future college coach, Dino Babers, would call "the fastest release of any guy I've ever seen" outside of Dan Marino. Garoppolo began putting in extra work with Christensen, a Chicago-area quarterback specialist.

Christensen: It was 102 degrees outside. (Jimmy) just wanted to get his reps in for a full hour-and-a-half. I recently found that film and watched it, and it looked like Jimmy was 12 years old. But even then, watching the ball come out of his hand, it was really impressive.

He's kind of a good-looking guy, so he could've been at the pool. He could've been doing all that stuff in the summer. Instead, he wanted to get his work in, and he's been the same type of kid ever since. Jimmy has zero entitlement in his body. His two older brothers beat on him like a rag doll for 10 years growing up, so he's just a worker. And that's what college coaches want: A guy who shows up and knows how to get to work. Who gets knocked down and can get up.

Garoppolo's skills as a pitcher augured an ability to throw a football. As a Little Leaguer, he was feared on the mound.

Buscarini: As a fellow overgrown Italian child, it was definitely men against boys. This is just house league baseball, so we're in T-shirt jerseys, and Jimmy is on the mound, 6-1, throwing heat. It's like what are we doing? Get this kid on a travel team. There were kids up there swinging the bat and the ball is already in the mitt.

But with a late start, Garoppolo was never even the most touted QB in his high school conference, the Mid-Suburban League in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. That was Miles Osei, who started as a sophomore at nearby rival Prospect, and wound up playing at the University of Illinois.

Brent Pearlman, Prospect High School coach: Those two were kind of battling back and forth to be the two premier players in the conference.

Miles Osei, Prospect quarterback: Our conference was very strong then and still is now. We obviously knew each other. It was fun to compete and try to outdo one another.

Buscarini: My roommate Peter Bonahoom, he went to Prospect and he played at Illinois with Miles, even to this day we argue who was the better quarterback: "Miles was better at high school. No, Jimmy was better in high school." It's the back-and-forth banter of the old days. Let me throw on my letterman's jacket and chest him up.

Henry: In that game against Prospect, against Miles Osei, we were five wide receiver for most of the game, and Jimmy led us in carries. He led us in rushing. We won 46-38 or something like that.

Garoppolo passed for 323 yards and a touchdown while running for 103 yards and two more scores in a 46-38 win. Osei combined for 375 all-purpose yards and three touchdowns.

Osei: I remember there were a lot of points scored. It was kind of a battle of who had the ball last. It was fun. It was frustrating at times to see him run around and do his thing.

Pearlman: He made a couple of those plays where I was thinking he should not have made that play, but he did. He would scramble around and find a guy. You just wouldn't expect most high school quarterbacks to do that.

Buscarini: He and Tony Taibi were on the same wavelength, doing what could work under (Rolling Meadows coach) Doug Millsaps. There were so many third downs where people were running around back and forth and Jimmy hits one for 17 yards on third-and-16, and it's like, "We're still alive, boys."
Henry: Jimmy hit two big throws against Barrington to his best friend, Tony Taibi. And we're like man, this kid. We can throw the ball around. He did scramble a lot, run around a lot, but in the long run, it was his arm.

Taibi: I'll never forget, there was one play, it was the Barrington play. (Jimmy) said if they're giving me five yards of cushion or less, he's like, "Tony, just run right past them." As I did, boom, Jimmy threw me a 50-yard bomb. We scored a touchdown. Jimmy, he's just a smart guy. He plays off his feet and he can make those plays.

Henry: Part of the reason he was undervalued is that we played in rain every Friday night for the last six weeks. We played his playoff game on Halloween night. The field was standing water from hash to hash. Mud, it was awful. And we played a team that didn't really throw the ball, so we were at a disadvantage.

Taibi: I think we had two dry games. Every other game was muddy and disgusting. Nowadays every field is turf. Ours was still grass. A lot of the fields we played on were grass. It was a disaster. The fact that Jimmy still threw up those numbers he did was unbelievable because we were playing with soaked balls pretty much 75 percent of the season. It's tough making cuts in those conditions and I can only imagine Jimmy throwing the ball with a wet, heavy ball.

Rolling Meadows felt like it had a team to make a run in the 2009 state playoffs, but it came to an abrupt ending with a 16-6 home loss to nearby Lake Zurich in the opener. Garoppolo threw four interceptions and went 9-for-25 for 154 yards.

Maciaszek: Looking back, in his last game of his senior year, a playoff game where he threw four interceptions, I don't know if that turned people off. His coach said people were coming in. I remember him saying Purdue and some other Big 10 schools, other D-I schools in the area, had started to show more interest. Then it just kind of went away.

Garoppolo completed 56 percent of his passes and threw for 1,888 yards and 16 touchdowns his senior year. He added 563 rushing yards and another seven touchdowns. That was good enough to put him on the Daily Herald's All-Area team, but he was only special mention in the Chicago Tribune's All-State team. He went 0-2 in the playoffs as a high school quarterback.

Struggle and the turning point: Humble, blue-collar roots

Garoppolo, short on scholarship offers, ended up attending Eastern Illinois, located in the small town of Charleston, population 20,000. Notable Eastern Illinois football alumni include former coach Mike Shanahan (father of Garoppolo's 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan), Saints coach Sean Payton and former Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo.

Maciaszek: I will say one thing I do remember when I went over to the school on the day he committed to Eastern, I remember his mom was there, he was there and I think the biggest thing is some people would've taken it the wrong way, "Why am I being disrespected? Why am I not being looked at like I should be?" They were the exact opposite. They were looking at it as a great opportunity, a chance to really make something there. I certainly couldn't have told you this is what it would've led to. I think the attitude he took from it trickled down from his parents and it had a lot to do with him taking the right path.
Garoppolo took over the Eastern Illinois starting job as a true freshman in 2010. Over his first two years there, Garoppolo was sacked over 50 times. He threw 27 interceptions as a freshman and sophomore. The Panthers went a combined 4-18.

Mike Bradd, Eastern Illinois play-by-play announcer: At first, we were learning how to spell his name. The coach at the time, Bob Spoo, decided to take Jimmy's redshirt off and start him after the third or fourth game.

John Wurm, former Eastern Illinois safety and Garoppolo's housemate: One of his first times playing, we had so many injuries a third-string tight end was playing right tackle. I just remember Jimmy running for his life and he was loving it. It was the biggest fire I'd ever seen in my life, and he was having fun. He was taking hits out there, and he was playing better.

It's a different kind of mindset. You don't see a quarterback who loves getting hit, not worrying about having a fourth-string right tackle in. He was like: "Oh, it looks like I'm gonna have some hits today. Can't wait!'"

Bradd: It was a pretty rough start at first. First of all, the team wasn't very good. They had a game against Tennessee Tech, and Bob pulled Jimmy. He may have had five interceptions. I remember there being a lot of debate about whether they should go with Jimmy or go back to the older quarterback.

Wurm on Garoppolo's benching: The thing I remember is him being on one, but in a quiet way, where you knew something was going on with him. You could tell he was pissed off and upset, but he wouldn't show it. He was keeping it in. It's a struggle. There's nothing worse in college football than when you're having a two-win season. They threw him into the fire. But, we all knew the future was bright.

Bradd: And I remember Bob came out the very first thing the next week and said "Jimmy's gonna be the starter, we have faith in him." And I always thought of that as the turning point.

The house on 7th St.: From FCS anonymity to NFL stardom

Wurm: The cool thing about Jimmy: Most quarterbacks don't live in an all-defensive house. Normally, the quarterback lives with the O-line and receivers. But Jimmy lived in a house with five of us, and we were all defensive guys. So every day it was competition. We'd come home and we'd be talking shit about practice. I think it was special he never wanted to live with anyone else.

Adam Gristick, former Eastern Illinois linebacker: We competed so much at practice. All the defensive guys in the house, we'd come home and give it to him all the time. We could kick their ass the whole practice, no questions asked, it didn't matter what would happen, Jimmy would never admit that we had a better day than him. We always used to bust his balls. It was good banter, everyone ganging up on Jimmy.

Four of the housemates lived upstairs, but Garoppolo and Wurm lived in the house's decaying basement. That's where they played Xbox and critiqued each other's game. Wurm said that Garoppolo spent three-to-four hours a day "stretching his hips" there, eliminating one of his key weaknesses early in college. That allowed him to better evade pressure in the pocket as an upperclassman.

Garoppolo would also frequently cook his signature dish of chicken, rice and spinach leaves in the basement's tiny kitchen.

Wurm: Oh my God, we'd call it the VIP down there. Our house got so trashed. There were four or five steps to get down there, and those damn steps kept breaking. It was almost like you were going down to a crawl space. There were times when you had to jump downstairs. We had the smallest little bathroom ever. It just felt like you weren't going to where someone would live. It was like, "are people supposed to go down there?"

To paint you a picture just walking into our college house, our main bathroom was straight to the back. At one point we had no wall or door. We just had a big bedsheet over the main bathroom to the house.

Gristick: I don't think there was a window in his room. There might've been a 12-by-6 window. It was a damn dungeon. Jimmy lived in some rough spots in Charleston. Our house the first summer, a different place, Jimmy was upstairs, in the damn sauna. This hot-box cupboard, no air conditioning. It sucked.

Wurm: That's because it was first come, first serve, and Jimmy had last pick. He didn't even go up there half of the time, it was so hot. Just think about it: Jimmy slept on the couch in his first house in college. He didn't even get to sleep in his room. That's where he came from: His first house with the boys he got last pick. Tough love.

Gristick: But Jimmy and Wurm lived in the basement of the main house together. It was their own world down there sometime.

Wurm: It was a shit show. But it was the best four years of my life, I'll tell you that.

That house was a staple for us, us going through back-to-back 2-9 seasons and then turning the campus around. Getting people excited about football again, and then dominating on the field. We wouldn't even have to throw parties. People would just come over to our house. I think it was special. Half of the campus would know to come to the football house.

Eastern Illinois hired Babers as its new coach ahead of the 2012 season. The Panthers surged behind Babers, who unlocked Garoppolo's potential over his junior and senior seasons with an aggressive pass-to-set-up-the-run offensive system that he brought from Baylor.

In 2013, the Panthers finished 12-2. Garoppolo threw for 5,050 yards and 53 touchdowns during his record-breaking 2013 season. One of Eastern Illinois' losses came to Northern Illinois (defensive back Jimmie Ward, now Garoppolo's teammate with the 49ers, intercepted the QB) and the season-ender came against Towson in the snow during the FCS quarterfinals.

Gristick: You couldn't see any turf. There were six inches of snow all over the field. We're still pissed to this day: There's not a team in the country that could have beaten us in a dome. In good conditions, Jimmy was unstoppable. He's untouchable in domes.

Roy Wittke, Eastern Illinois assistant coach: (The season) was like watching a video game. Instead of measuring yards after contact for running backs, you had to measure yards before contact. Because defenses were so adamant to try to stop Jimmy's passing, our backs were always in the secondary before they even got touched.
Bradd: It was so easy to score. You were almost disappointed when they didn't get a touchdown. Even with Tony Romo, this team didn't have that easy of a time on offense. Jimmy did whatever he wanted. Third-and-25? No problem. It was so easy for him. There were times I think he knew before he snapped the ball if it was going to be a big gain or a touchdown.

Clint Bays, Eastern Illinois equipment manager: You'd go from the locker room joking around with him, and he'd put on the helmet and just turn into Superman.

Urban Meyer, Ohio State coach who saw Garoppolo's film of Eastern Illinois smashing San Diego State 40-19, speaking in 2013: I think I just saw one of the best quarterbacks I've ever seen, and nobody knows what his name is.

Gristick: Being a part of that was the moment where us as a team, and everybody that was close to him said, “Shit just got real.” Urban Meyer just said he was one of the best quarterbacks he’s ever seen. That changed the game. To get validation from one of the best coaches of all time was insane. That’s when everyone was like, “Oh my God, I think we’re underestimating this dude a little bit. He’s the real deal.”

To this day, I’ll say he was the best QB in the country that year: If you talk about his draft class, it was (Johnny) Manziel, Blake Bortles, (Teddy) Bridgewater, Derek Carr. I’d put him above all those guys. We literally had the best quarterback in the country at an FCS school.

Garoppolo invited all five of his housemates to that 2014 NFL Draft in New York, where the Patriots drafted him in the second round. Everyone, including Garoppolo’s brothers, crammed into a single hotel room. Many slept on the floor. Because only immediate family is allowed with potential draftees into the green room, Garoppolo also listed his housemates as siblings, all sharing his last name.

Jimmy Garoppolo poses with his “brothers,” his college roommates at Eastern Illinois, at the 2014 NFL Draft. From left to right: Jerone “Juice” Williams, Pete Houlihan, Garoppolo, Gristick, Wurm and Niko Foltys.

Wurm: It blew (NFL commissioner) Roger Goodell’s mind. “Jimmy has eight brothers? Because he has three and he brought five more. What? He’s one of nine brothers? What’s going on here?”

One of us was Juice Williams. He’s like a 6-6, 330 black dude. Obviously not Jimmy’s brother. But he was “Juice Garoppolo.” It was so funny. Roger Goodell came up, introduced himself and he was so stunned by that. We kept rotating name tags, because they only allowed a certain number of us in at once.

Once Jimmy explained to him, “these guys are my roommates and brothers, they’re just as excited as me to be here and I want them to be part of it,” Goodell thought it was the most incredible thing ever. He was like, “have ’em all be back here, I don’t want them to keep switching name tags.”

Goodell said, “I’m gonna hang around until you get picked.” And he was a man of his word. He actually hung around our table most of the day because he was so intrigued by that. He said, “you’re the only guy to ever bring your roommates as family.”

Now, nearly six years later, Garoppolo makes it a point to keep a physical tie to Eastern Illinois.
Gristick: He still wears that damn Eastern Illinois book bag from 2013. $130 million and he’s still wearing a book bag that’s six years old.

Bays: His old Nike backpack, the one he had, blew out. So his dad called me. I didn’t have any more because we don’t buy extras at Eastern. We don’t have the money that the 49ers have. I just said, “Well, mine’s sitting in the closet, I’ll just ship it out to Jimmy.” I think that’s a great story that he wants to remember EIU and his old backpack. I’m glad he still does that to keep himself humble and remember where he came from. Because we are a blue-collar university and Jimmy fit right in with that.

Garoppolo ultimately had the original 2013 backpack patched up, so now he’s back to carrying around his original, slightly tattered Eastern Illinois backpack to all 49ers’ football functions.

‘Feels Great, Baby’: Quiet confidence as a teammate

Taibi, on the dynamic in high school: The summer before our senior year, we did a lot together. A lot of hills, a lot of throwing. I was his receiver in high school, so a lot of route running, a lot of communication, pinpoint accuracy drills. A lot of just time spent together, where I’m going to be when I’m coming out of my route, how we’re going to do things, studying the playbook.

Wurm, on the dynamic in college: Even during practice, Jimmy would sneak over and say “Wurm, when you sit up in your stance or take two steps this way, I know you’re about to do this. … Wurm, when you’re two or three feet off the hash in this direction, I know what coverage you’re in.” He would think of the craziest stuff. He’s involved in both sides of the ball. Why is the quarterback helping the safety out?

Then there was the incident before Eastern Illinois crushed San Diego State. Babers wanted to surprise his team, many of whom had never seen the ocean before, with a trip to the beach. So the coach told Garoppolo ahead of time, but warned his quarterback to not spill the beans.

Babers: We go to the beach, we get there, the bus stops. All of a sudden, the offensive linemen start pulling off their clothes, and they've all got Speedos on. And I'm like, "What the hell — what are they doing wearing Speedos underneath their clothes? I'm like, Garoppolo — what the heck?"And Jimmy goes: "Coach, I had to tell the offensive line, they're my guys. I had to tell them we were going to the beach!"

Gristick: I remember I was pissed off at the O-line. "Guys, we're about to play an FBS opponent in two days, we've gotta save some energy here!" And they did not give a hell. They were out there wrestling in the ocean. And we went out there and kicked (San Diego State's) ass, so it kind of worked out. But initially, it was like, guys, relax, we've got a game in two days!

Bays: Jimmy was kind of like Ferris Bueller. Everybody just loved Jimmy. Whatever group or clique on a roster, or position group, everybody loved Jimmy.

Garoppolo's agents recently filed trademarks for "Feels Great, Baby." Those were the quarterback's famous words to Erin Andrews in a postgame interview after a Week 9 win over Arizona this season.

Wurm: "Feels great, baby." That was like our language. We'd walk in and be like "hey baby!" That's how we would talk to each other in the house. We'd call each other "baby." It was like a natural thing. I don't know how the hell it started, but it did.

Erik Lora, Garoppolo's leading receiver at Eastern Illinois: People are just recognizing who he is. He's a funny guy. He knows what to say and when to say it. He's a funny character. "Feels great, baby" sounds exactly like something he would say: short, sweet and to the point.

Taibi: When he comes home in the offseason, he's always hanging out with us. He hasn't changed a bit. I'll tell you that, straight up. He's the same guy.

Buscarini: You know the classic good-looking quarterback who slicks back his hair, drives a convertible, takes a girl and drives off? That's not Jim. Jim was very humble, very nice. Great-looking dude, very nice, very popular, all that jazz. But you could talk to him. He wasn't above anyone. I know his family. I know his brothers. They're just a very humble family.

Gristick: He made an Instagram post about quiet confidence a few weeks ago ("Beware the quiet man," it read). In Jimmy's mind, he truly believes he's the best quarterback in the country and I think he's believed that for a long time.

When he got to school his freshman year, Jimmy wrote down every single passing record at the school in a notebook. He didn't tell anybody about that. He wrote those down freshman year and he broke every single one. That quiet confidence about him is a pretty cool dynamic to study.

I just want to know what's in his brain sometimes. How does he do what he does? When he wrote that, it struck me like damn, I think he's just extremely confident in his mind. He doesn't let it get out because he doesn't want to be labeled as arrogant or cocky. But I think that's his superpower.
Garoppolo to the NFL playoffs: A full-circle journey

Maciaszek: Jimmy is a great example, in my opinion, of you don't know how kids are going to develop from high school to college, what's going to happen physically and mentally. Will they get in the right situation? Going to Eastern was a great situation for him. Maybe if he would've, say, gone to play D-I, he could've sat around on the bench and maybe none of this happens. He made the most of it and a lot of kids don't and that's the difference.

Buscarini: This guy started as a sophomore outside linebacker, and now he's going to throw the rock. "Yeah, we're going to play quarterback, we'll see how the dice rolls." And it looks like he hit Yahtzee.
Taibi: Being one of his best friends, I'm just so proud. I hope he keeps going and wins 10 more championships.

Henry: Sometimes you hear those guys get interviewed after games, it's like lip service. But Jimmy, he means it. He appreciates everything that is going on around him. I hear it when I hear Richard Sherman and George Kittle talking about him. "He's our leader and we'll go to bat for him and he doesn't get as much credit as he deserves." He is the same kid. I think that's how he's always been. I absolutely do think that he is that same kid that we saw 10 years ago in high school.

Bradd: The more I think about it, thinking about what we saw in the first couple of games Jimmy played to where he was by the time he left. Man, it's just amazing how far he came.

Wurm: He's seen the fire. He's been through it. He loved it, loved every second of it.

Lora: It's his presence that allows that team to be as competitive as they are and win. People forget that the underlying purpose of football is to win. You can say he's a game manager, you can say he's a gunslinger. It doesn't matter how you categorize him. That's an opinion. What is a fact is he's a winner.

And no matter what you want to categorize him, stop trying to make a reason or excuse why he's not a top 10, top 5, and just enjoy what he's doing. He's winning. He's brought back a franchise with history and tradition and given them excitement. He's given them an opportunity to be themselves again. That's why he's a max player. That's why he's making all that money. And that's why he's worth it.

Five Top Candidates for NFL Comeback Player of the Year

By Damichael Cole
The MMBQ
July 24, 2019

Every NFL season, injuries and disappointments rob some of the league's brightest players from productive years. And every year, a player will emerge from a lackluster season to silence skeptics. Last year that player was Colts QB Andrew Luck. Concerns about Luck's shoulder injury started to surface after a sprain in 2015 against the Titans. Luck missed two games but continued to play in 2016, despite lingering issues. After the season, he opted for surgery on a labrum tear and missed the entire 2017 season.

Many questioned if Luck would ever be the same. A setback during the recovery process even led to the quarterback seeking treatment in Europe.

In 2018, he responded by throwing for 4,593 yards and 40 touchdowns while compiling a career-best 98.7 passer rating. Luck lead the Colts to a 10–6 record—their best since 2014—and a playoff berth, and the QB won the NFL's Comeback Player of the Year award.

Here are the top candidates for the CPOTY award in 2019:

Jimmy Garoppolo, QB, 49ers: Garoppolo was traded to San Francisco at the trade deadline in 2017 and brought the 49ers home, starting and winning the team's five last games. That made the team a trendy playoff pick ahead of the 2018 season—until Garoppolo suffered a torn ACL three games in.

Garoppolo is practicing with a brace, but has shown promising signs in his progression. One of the last hurdles in his recovery was throwing the deep ball, which he'll need with players like Deebo Samuel, Dante Pettis and Marquise Goodwin at receiver. The 49ers have made it a focal point to surround Garoppolo with weapons.

"The receivers make my job so easy," Garappolo said during training camp in June. "When you have the speed of Quise and Dante and those guys, their ability to separate from the defense makes it easy. Just put it out there far enough and don't underthrow them."

Jimmy Garoppolo Talks 49ers Training Camp, Brian Urlacher And Other Greats

By Andy Frye
Forbes
July 22, 2019

San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo first made his name known to most NFL fans as a superb backup. Drafted by the New England Patriots in 2014, many saw Garoppolo as just a future successor to Tom Brady. But during that rookie year Garoppolo played six games and posted an impressive 101.2 quarterback rating, and in doing so was instrumental not only to winning critical season games but also to the Patriots return to a Super Bowl championship, their first in 10 years.

After helping the Pats win Super Bowls XLIX (in 2014) and LI (in 2016), New England decided to hold on to Brady and traded Garoppolo for a draft pick. After missing much of last season after a knee injury, Garoppolo is set and ready to play, as 49ers camp starts later this week in Santa Clara, California.

I caught up with Garoppolo recently to hear his take on his role as San Francisco's quarterback, and who inspired him as a young player.

Andy Frye: The San Francisco 49ers are a legendary club with some very big name quarterbacks. Do names like Steve Young and Joe Montana add pressure to your role?

Jimmy Garoppolo: I think excitement is the better word for it. There is something special though about playing here, with that tradition behind you. I think the fan base that's here, and also the greatness they are accustomed to seeing over the years— we're trying to get back to that. But this organization is a tremendous one and we have the right people in place to start to do that.

AF: You were born in 1991 and thus didn't grow up watching Joe Montana. But who were some of your football idols early on?

Garoppolo: I didn't even play quarterback until my junior year of high school, so I was into all kinds of positions, growing up. Oddly enough, I was a linebacker before then, so I loved watching Brian Urlacher. He was my guy. He was a monster at linebacker and everyone wanted to play like him.

But once I got into quarterbacking I looked to quarterbacks more. I did watch Brett Favre when I was very young—he was the man when I was a little kid. Then when I got older and started to play it was Peyton Manning and Tom Brady obviously, and Aaron Rodgers. Those guys all make it look easy, when playing football is one of the hardest things.

AF: NFL stars and ex-players are known for their efforts to help their community. You're currently involved with Men's Wearhouse's Suit Drive.

Garoppolo: I think it's important to give back, and I think a lot of men on and off the field have a general attitude of "look good, feel good, play good." So when I got approached and heard about this effort called the Men's Wearhouse Suit Drive, I thought helping less fortunate people was a good thing, but also sort of follows that mentality.

Anyone can donate a used suit at any Men's Wearhouse location. It's something that translates to the workforce—helping men and women who want to get back out there and put on their best look, and feel confident going into a job interview.

Before signing with San Francisco, Garoppolo made his mark filling in as a sub when Tom Brady was injured.

AF: Tell us about your routine during the offseason, and what a big league quarterback gets to eat (or not) to stay fit.

Garoppolo: The eating part was always kind of easy for me. I tend to eat pretty ell, even though I have a sweet tooth that gets me in trouble occasionally. But, getting a good night's sleep is a big part of being able to function at the highest level. The physical stuff like running and working out will never change. But being in a good routine, especially this time of year, going into training camp is essential.

Training camp is a grind. You've got to be in good physical shape and the best mental shape to handle everything that is thrown at you.

AF: What kind of music are you listening to while working out, gearing up for the season?

Garoppolo: For me it's a mix. Sometimes it's a little country or maybe some OAR. But when I'm ramping up and it starts getting intense, a little rock and a little rap gets thrown in there. It all depends on the mood and whatever you are doing at the time.

Jimmy Garoppolo calls learning from Tom Brady on Patriots 'invaluable'

By Dalton Johnson
NBC Sports Bay Area
July 17, 2019

Jimmy Garoppolo spent three-and-a-half seasons as Tom Brady's backup quarterback in New England. Over that span, the 49ers' current QB appeared in only 17 games, starting two.

Still, he learned plenty behind the six-time Super Bowl winner.

More than anything, Garoppolo witnessed the immense amount of preparation Brady put into his game every day. Garoppolo recently told The Ringer's Kevin Clark that it was "invaluable" to watch the legendary signal-caller as his backup.

"I can barely put it into words. What you learn is playing the game within the game, that's a big part of Tom," Garoppolo said. "I don't even know if he told me that [directly], but he would always talk about the game within the game."

The story has been told time and time again. Brady beat the odds years ago as a sixth-round draft pick who ran the 40-yard dash in quicksand. Garoppolo emphasized that sweating the small stuff made Brady a Patriots legend and an all-time great.

"The little details and how he ties them all together -- that's what separates you," Garoppolo said.
The two QBs have remained friends after Garoppolo was traded to the 49ers on Halloween in 2017. They were even seen together at the Kentucky Derby this year.

As much knowledge as Garoppolo soaked up from Brady, the 49ers hope it shows in a healthy year this season.

Jimmy Garoppolo Q&A: 49ers QB talks Tom Brady, 2019 pressure, and his future in San Francisco

By Cody Benjamin
CBS Sports
June 13, 2019

In a league where the last two decades have been defined by recurring Super Bowl appearances from names like Tom Brady and Ben Roethlisberger, most quarterbacks are under tremendous pressure to live up to expectations and prove their worth as "franchise" material.

No starting QB might be under more pressure entering 2019, however, than Jimmy Garoppolo.

Nearly two years after he was acquired via trade by the San Francisco 49ers and anointed "the guy" with a $137.5 million contract, the 27-year-old signal-caller has just eight starts to show for what's now the seventh largest annual salary in the NFL. Not only is the former Tom Brady backup still tasked with emerging from the shadow of one of the greatest QBs to ever play the game, but he's set to open Year Three of the Kyle Shanahan regime with only 12 touchdowns, eight picks and a torn ACL under his belt in San Fran.

Aside from Carson Wentz and Derek Carr, he's the only QB among the top 10 highest-paid at the position to start zero playoff games. Despite two Super Bowl rings he won behind Brady, he's also the only player in the top 30 highest-paid players across all positions to never appear in the postseason. With a potential 2020 out in his big-money deal, it's essentially now or never for Garoppolo to justify Shanahan and Co. keeping him around as the Niners' long-term leader under center.

And yet the Illinois-turned-California star is not sweating it. While promoting a partnership with Men's Wearhouse for the company's annual Suit Drive, which collects gently used professional attire to distribute to more than 150 nonprofits across the nation, Garoppolo spoke with CBS Sports about everything from Brady and 2019 expectations to his future in San Francisco.

CBS Sports: What inspired you to be a part of Men's Wearhouse's annual Suit Drive?

Jimmy Garoppolo: Yeah, it's their 12th year with it, and it seemed like a good match. It's kind of that football player mentality -- look good, feel good, play good. It's for a good cause, you know, helping people who don't have as much. I donated a suit to Men's Wearhouse for it, and it's something great to be a part of.

CBS: How much does something like this help you declare your platform is bigger than just football?
JG: People always get tied up with athletes as if they just do football, just do basketball, but there's more to it. Any chance you get, you want to help people who are less fortunate. It's a great thing to do.

CBS: On the field, how much motivation do you get knowing you're one of the highest-paid quarterbacks with only 10 starts under your belt -- that you've got to go out and prove you're worth it?

JG: There will always be motivation. You're motivated by yourself more than a ton of pressure, but that pressure is a good thing, too. We've had good OTAs so far, and the summer before training camp will be important. Every OTAs, every training camp, you're always making personal goals, and there's an opportunity to go out and do some exciting things.

CBS: What were some of your personal goals for this offseason?

JG: Well, getting my knee back to normal is a big one (laughs). Obviously that was No. 1 this offseason, and that's been great.

CBS: You've also spoken recently about working with QB coach Tom House this offseason. How much has that impacted your preparations for 2019?

JG: Those guys are awesome down in L.A. We were working on mechanics, the throwing motion. Nothing drastic, but if you could better your game by 1%, you want to do it.

CBS: It's been six years since the 49ers made the playoffs, but you're also known for going 5-0 at the end of your first season in town. How close is this team to breaking that streak, replicating 2017's finish and getting into the postseason?

JG: Like I said, there's opportunities. This season's going to show us a lot. It's our job to make that happen. And that's what all the preparation is for. You can't just throw your helmet out there and expect to win.

CBS: You've got quite a few new weapons this year -- Tevin Coleman, Deebo Samuel, Jalen Hurd, Jordan Matthews. How much do you think they can elevate your game in 2019?

JG: Yeah, those guys have been tremendous. Whether it's providing more competition on the practice field, all that stuff, for those new guys, it's not the easiest offense in the world to learn, so for them to pick it up so quickly has been pretty impressive. Now we've just got to take this into training camp.

CBS: Plenty of people still know you from your days in New England. Have you kept in touch with Tom Brady over these last two seasons, and did you connect while rehabbing?

JG: Yeah, we'll shoot each other a text here and there, just saying hi, seeing how it's going. Whether I have a question for him, he's always been awesome for whatever it is. He's really down to earth and just experienced so many things in this league. He's been awesome in that way.

CBS: You've been in San Francisco for a few years now. Even being limited on the field, what have you learned about carrying the label of being a San Francisco 49ers quarterback -- what has that meant to you?

JG: Oh yeah, it's been awesome. The people out here in the Bay Area, initially they were so welcoming, and since then, they've still been so welcoming. The Bay is a special place. And then there's a weight with that. There's a standard to it. A standard to be the best quarterback I can be for this team.

The Time Jimmy Garoppolo Called His Own Number against the Jaguars

By Joe Fann
49ers.com
September 6, 2018

It's still a bit surreal to think about the San Francisco 49ers five-game winning streak to close the 2017 season. In just five weeks with Jimmy Garoppolo under center, San Francisco pulled itself out of the cellar in the NFC and back into the national conversation. San Francisco missed the postseason and pundits still found ways to work Garoppolo and the 49ers into their takes of varying temperatures.

Garoppolo threw for 1,560 yards and seven touchdowns last season with the 49ers, but it was his 1-yard touchdown run against the Jacksonville Jaguars that may have left the biggest impression on his teammates.

"That play in particular is probably my favorite Jimmy story," said 49ers nose tackle Earl Mitchell. Garoppolo opened San Francisco's 44-33 win in Week 16 against the Jaguars with a statement drive. The 10-play, 79-yard march through the teeth of Jacksonville's top-ranked defense culminated in Garoppolo's 1-yard touchdown run as he powered across the goal line on a QB sneak. Fans roared as the quarterback spiked the ball to the Levi's® Stadium grass. Jubilation on the 49ers sideline was mixed with a shade of confusion.

That's because the 49ers had never practiced that play. In fact, Shanahan's playbook was void of a QB sneak all together. So how on Earth did Garoppolo end up keeping it himself? He called his own number, of course, and here's why.

On the previous play, Kyle Juszczyk caught a 17-yard pass and took it all the way to Jacksonville's 1-yard line. Garoppolo's initial thought was that his fullback had scored.

"I was borderline celebrating, and then I saw that he was just short," Garoppolo recalled.

What felt like "just short" was a full yard in reality. Juszczyk hobbled back to the huddle after getting banged up on the reception. After a quick hesitation, he pivoted and ran back to the sideline to get looked at by the training staff. Mitchell – yes, the 49ers 310-pound nose tackle – came sprinting into the game to play fullback in front of Carlos Hyde.

This wasn't completely random. Mitchell practiced with the 49ers offense each Friday during goal line work. There were three-to-five plays each week that included Mitchell, but that package was never utilized up until this point.

"All of a sudden Earl was running in," Garoppolo said. "I looked up at the play clock, and it was already down to 16 or 17 seconds. The comms system goes out at 15 seconds. I remember seeing Kyle (Shanahan) on the sideline super animated getting people in, yelling at coaches or whatever it was. Then he looks at me, and once he started to call the play, I hear, 'I-right' and then this beep goes off and the sound goes out."

It's important to remember that at this juncture, Garoppolo was barely through the 101 course of Shanahan's offense full of minute complexities and nuances. Calling timeout was one option, but that was never in the cards.

"We were rolling, so in the back of my head, I was thinking, 'We're on the 1-yard line, we can get this in right now,'" Garoppolo said.

Instinct took over, and the quarterback went with his gut.

"I went, 'I-right, QB sneak on one,' or something like that," he said.

Blank stares washed over the other 10 players in the huddle. The fact that Garoppolo butchered the formation didn't help sell his teammates on his moment of ingenuity. Former 49ers tight end Logan Paulsen was the first to speak up. Paulsen, a player lauded for his football IQ, attempted to help set Garoppolo straight.

"I don't remember exactly what it was, but Logan goes, 'Whoa whoa whoa. Jim, we can't do that,'" Garoppolo laughed as he mimicked Paulsen's voice. "It's funny if you know Logan because he's such a detailed and smart dude. He was all concerned about the formation, and I thought, 'Why does it matter what formation we're in for a QB sneak?'"

The quarterback was far less playful in the moment. He remembers interrupting Paulsen firing back.

"I said something to the effect of, 'We're running the (expletive) play!'" Garoppolo yelled, now impersonating himself. "Everyone just kind of looked at me like, 'OK, we're running it!'"
Mind you, this all transpired within 10 seconds. San Francisco broke from the huddle, hurried to the ball and snapped it with five seconds left on the play clock. The execution ended up being the easiest part of the entire ordeal. Jacksonville's defensive line was fairly spread out with the nose left relatively uncovered. The quick count also helped catch the Jaguars before each player was completely set.

"I put my leg back, got in a sprinters stance and just stayed low," Garoppolo said. "Earl gave me a pretty good push I remember."

Garoppolo shared that he ran sneaks all the time in high school and at Eastern Illinois. The New England Patriots – Tom Brady specifically – are also fond of the play. That's why Garoppolo's spike drew obvious parallels to his former mentor. Brady has never been shy about using the same celebration with equivalent gusto.

But Garoppolo made it clear that his spike had been in the making long before he made it to the NFL. "Since I was a little kid, I've always thought the spike was pretty sweet," he said. "I told myself that whenever I scored my first rushing touchdown in the NFL I was going to spike the hell out of the ball. So I had to."

Shanahan was there to greet Garoppolo on the sideline with a high five and one question: "What did you call?" The quarterback responded with "I-right QB sneak" in an "I totally made it up" sort of way.
Externally, the 49ers have been tabbed as a potential breakout team since January. Internally, John Lynch and Shanahan decided that Garoppolo was indeed the team's quarterback of the future and showed their commitment by signing him to a five-year contract extension. At the time, it was the largest deal in league history.

Excitement continued to build around the 49ers throughout the offseason. Media outlets around the country shared their own angle as to how San Francisco captured lightening in a bottle and reignited the

slumbering army of 49ers Faithful. But it was Garoppolo's in-the-heat-of-battle decisiveness that sold some 49ers players on their quarterback.

"It's a great example of him being a leader and taking control," Mitchell said. "I think at that moment, you knew he was the right guy to lead this team into the future."

While some had already bought into the Jimmy G craze, many naysayers expected the Jaguars to swiftly and definitively terminate the bandwagon's late-season joy ride. Jacksonville strutted into Levi's® Stadium fresh off of a 45-7 pounding of the Houston Texans. Even the rosiest of 49ers fans never expected their team to hang 40 points on the Jags.

Joe Staley said he learned something about Garoppolo during that Christmas Eve contest. Staley, who was another initial skeptic of Garoppolo's play call, shared his admiration for how the quarterback took the reins in the situation.

"I'm much more analytical," Staley said. "I like to be in the right play. But sometimes in football, you've just got to say 'screw it' and make the play happen."

Garoppolo quite literally did just that. His thoughts on the play are best summarized as all's well that ends well.
"Thankfully we got in," Garoppolo joked. "If not this would be a completely different feeling telling this story."

It's a fun anecdote to reflect on. Now the task at hand is to recreate last season's magic. The secret is out, though, and Garoppolo won't be sneaking up on anybody in 2018. The pressure that comes with hope and expectation isn't likely to faze the quarterback. He'll have a prime opportunity to showcase his mettle in Week 1 on the road against the Minnesota Vikings, one of this year's Super Bowl favorites.

Up close with Jimmy Garoppolo: Just one of the guys while being 'the guy'

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
September 5, 2018

Jimmy Garoppolo is a White Sox fan. This tells you a lot.

In the Arlington Heights, Illinois, neighborhood where he and his three brothers grew up, the Cubs are king.

"It's split probably 80-20 Cubs to Sox," he estimates.

They are the trendy team throughout most of Chicagoland, the team of white-collar workers, rich kids from Lake County, people who can afford to leave work and watch a game in the middle of the day. Vince Vaughn loves the Cubs. So do John Cusack, Bette Midler, Bill Murray and, well, it's a long list. The Cubs have a lot of celebrity fans.

The White Sox, meanwhile, are Chicago's other team, the team of hard hats and regular Joes. Their celebrity fan: George Wendt, who played a character on "Cheers" who rarely left his stool at a sports bar. They also are the perfect fit for Garoppolo.

He may look like he should be starring as a handsome young doctor on "All My Children" or modeling merino wool cardigans in a Banana Republic catalog. Or even leading an adoring crowd through "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" at Wrigley Field.

But that's merely a trick of the eye. That's not him at all.

Instead, Garoppolo is the son of an Italian-American electrician, someone who's faithful to his working-class roots, whose housemates and buddies always have been defensive players and who, despite his pretty-boy looks and his quarterback status, doesn't carry an ounce of conceit.

"Having three brothers, especially two older ones, you start putting yourself on a pedestal, they're going to take you down real quick," Garoppolo said.

That authenticity was quickly embraced when he arrived with the 49ers midway through the 2017 and his cool confidence helped rally the team to five straight wins at season's end.

Nine months later, he's suddenly the face of the franchise, someone fans and club executives alike believe can lift the region's most beloved team back to the great heights from which it's fallen. The front entrance to Levi's Stadium is dominated by a pair of huge banners. Joe Montana is on the left, Garoppolo on the right. The slogan: "Faithful Then, Faithful Now."

No, the expectations aren't subtle. In fact, they're 50-feet tall.

Garoppolo, quiet as a kid, never considered himself for that role. In fact he didn't even see himself as a quarterback.

When he was a teenager, he wanted to be like Mike, his next-oldest brother. "Mike was a linebacker," he told The Athletic in a sit-down interview last week. "And I was built similarly to him — a little skinnier — and I thought, 'You know what, that's the path I want to take.' He got a scholarship to Western Illinois and I kind of saw my path going similarly to that."

Jimmy's coaches knew that, of all the Garoppolo boys, he was the best athlete of the bunch. He was the pitcher in baseball, the defensive stopper in basketball — it didn't matter if it was the opposition's center or shooting guard, Jimmy would shut him down — and was capable of playing any position on the football field.

On the first day of youth football, when Jimmy was 12, his coach stood before his new crop of players and asked if any was interested in being the quarterback. One hand eventually, tentatively was raised. It belonged to Jimmy's best friend, Dan Lowry, who lived a couple of blocks from the Garoppolos.

Jimmy says he might have become a quarterback sooner but didn't want to usurp the position from his buddy. Lowry laughs and says he has a slightly different recollection.

"I probably would have been OK with him taking it," Lowry said. "I just remember the coach saying, 'Hey, has anyone played quarterback before?' And nobody really raised their hand. 'Well, does anyone want to give it a try?' And I was, 'Well, I'll give it a shot.'"

So Lowry was the quarterback in middle school. Jimmy played defensive end and halfback, albeit one with a powerful right arm. They began each game the same way, with Lowry pitching the ball back to Jimmy, who then would send it 40 yards downfield.

"I'd literally throw the ball as far as I could and the receiver would run a post," Garoppolo said. "It worked every time."

Said Lowry: "I think he actually had more touchdown passes than I did."

When they started at Rolling Meadows High two years later, there was a thought that Jimmy would play quarterback for the freshman team. But the plan was put on hold when he broke his finger in the opening game. On a sack? On a quarterback keeper? After his hand struck a helmet on a follow-through?

"Tackling, actually," Garoppolo said. "I was still playing linebacker, too. Not the safest thing in the world." Both Garoppolo and Lowry were promoted to varsity as sophomores. Rolling Meadows had a three-year starter at quarterback that year, so Garoppolo played outside linebacker. It wasn't until the following year — Garoppolo's junior season — that he finally made the switch.

During 7-on-7 sessions that summer, a man named Jeff Christensen introduced himself as a quarterbacks coach and gave Garoppolo his card. Garoppolo took it, said thank you, but was puzzled. That guy's a what?

"I'd never even heard of quarterback coaches," he said. "I didn't really know who the guy was or anything. I was immature. I didn't know any better."

Garoppolo's dad, Tony Sr., convinced his son to give Christensen, who had played at Eastern Illinois and spent four years in the NFL, a try. Christensen started showing Jimmy clips of NFL quarterbacks with perfect form — Tom Brady was a regular on the playlist — and they began chipping away at Garoppolo's elongated pitcher's motion, eventually replacing it with the clipped, ball's-out-in-a-snap delivery for which he is known today.

Because he'd never been a quarterback, Garoppolo was a blank slate for Christensen to mold. The protégé embraced the toil and by the end of his senior season was one of the best prep quarterbacks in the Chicago area.

Hard work was natural for Garoppolo. Other changes were not.

He loved lifting weights, for example, and wanted to get as bulky as his brother, Mike, who is built like a refrigerator. Quarterbacks, however, weren't allowed to lift like linebackers. They also weren't allowed to hit. His new position, Garoppolo learned, required a new, measured temperament.

"That was one of the weirdest things when I first became a quarterback," he said. "It's different because you don't hit anybody. You just take hits. Whereas on defense, you can hit or be hit. And quarterback's really the only position where you're like that. I don't know, that was a weird thing for me to accept at first, I guess."

Another adjustment came after he realized just how much a quarterback's success rests on what he does before he even walks on the field.

He remembers watching Brady come to the sideline during games in 2014, Garoppolo's rookie season, and being astounded as the veteran, who was in his 15th season at the time, and offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels flipped through photos of formations as if they were shuffling a deck of cards. Brady's memory and recall were legendary, and Brady and McDaniels would chatter away on the sideline in what seemed like a foreign language.

"He would come to the sideline and before he even looks at the pictures, he'd say, 'That last third down was Cover 1,' or something like that," Garoppolo said. "And I can remember as a rookie thinking, 'How the hell does he know that?'"

Garoppolo watched and mimicked Brady in how he prepared and how he managed his time. He realized that being an NFL quarterback meant becoming so familiar with your own system and players that when you drop back you're only looking at what the defense is doing. Knowing where your players are should be automatic.

Which is what made the recent offseason so challenging. He went from being fluent in one offense to having to learn an entirely different one. And not just that. The one-time linebacker needed to climb inside the head of Kyle Shanahan, perhaps the sharpest offensive mind in the game.

"One of the biggest things this offseason was trying to think the way he thinks, especially when it comes to play-calling and how he views the situation compared to how I was taught in New England," Garoppolo said. "There's different ways to look at any situation. We've gotten on the same page more and more and it's starting to show now."

Shanahan wasn't always happy with the progress, or at least feigned displeasure in order to push the quarterback harder. After Garoppolo went 10 for 12 in a preseason game in Houston, Shanahan said he had to resist sending his $137.5 million quarterback onto the field for another series because he didn't like the way he had gone through his progressions.

"Sometimes, he doesn't go through them right and he still makes some plays," Shanahan said. "We're hard on him about that stuff."

Other things have come much more easily.

Shanahan and general manager John Lynch said one of the telltales they looked for after trading for Garoppolo last year was how he meshed inside the team's locker room. If there was no fit, there would be no deal. Shanahan would look hard at signing Kirk Cousins, who was heading for free agency at the time and who happens to be Garoppolo's Week 1 counterpart.

Instead, the chemistry was nearly instantaneous and better than they could have hoped.

Garoppolo, after all, is the son of a man who played defensive tackle in high school. His oldest brother, Tony Jr., was a guard, Mike was a linebacker and Billy, the youngest, played cornerback.

The rank and file of the 49ers locker room — those are Garoppolo's people.

"I think being one of the guys while still being 'the guy' is a big part of being a successful quarterback," Garoppolo said.

During training camp, he played video games with tight end George Kittle and backup lineman JP Flynn to let off steam. He and safety Adrian Colbert have a two-locker combination in the middle of the locker room that has become a popular spot during down times in the day.

“He’s friends with everybody,” Colbert said. “(Safety Jaquiski) Tartt comes over here all the time. Spoon (cornerback Ahkello Witherspoon) comes over here all the time. He talks to everybody. And that’s what you want in a leader, somebody who will have the same connections with his O-line as he has with the DBs.”

Lynch and Shanahan also are undoubtedly pleased not to have seen much of Garoppolo away from the team facility. He turned down magazine shoots, award shows, nearly every endorsement opportunity — he will wear Jordan Brand cleats this year, he disclosed — as well as sit-downs with most national writers. He’s not philosophically opposed to that sort of publicity. He just hasn’t had time in his first year as a starting quarterback.

He also hasn’t been spending much of his newfound wealth. He did buy a house in the South Bay, which included his favorite purchase so far.

“I have a pool at my house,” he said. “I was really happy about that one, really excited.”

How many months can you use a pool in Chicago?

“Three for real,” he said. “If it’s four or five, you’re pushing it a little bit.”

And of course, he’s still rooting for the Sox, which has been difficult of late considering they are more than 20 games back in the AL Central and especially since the Cubs finally won a World Series two years ago. “At least we won in ’05,” he noted. “Up until that point, it was tough.”

As backups to greats, Steve Young, Jimmy Garoppolo looked before leaping

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
September 3, 2018

You can learn a lot by watching.

Just ask Steve Young.

And Jimmy Garoppolo.

Young, the 49ers' Hall of Fame quarterback, and Garoppolo, the 49ers' current quarterback, are the lone members of a fraternity: QBs who spent more than three seasons earning a Ph.D. in what it takes to be great while backing up the QBs widely regarded as the best in NFL history.

Young's education was almost all observational. That is, Joe Montana was not his mentor. And Garoppolo gets it because he lived it: Tom Brady wasn't helping Garoppolo work on his footwork. "Yeah, they're not coaching you," Garoppolo said when told of Young's dynamic with Montana. "That's how it is. Especially at the quarterback position because there's only one of you. And I never wanted to be a bother to Tom, especially when I was really young. I don't want to be that guy asking a million questions. Without being annoying, you observe as much as you can."

Garoppolo evidently watched well. He went from caddying for Brady to carrying the 49ers last year, leading a 1-10 team to a 5-0 finish after he was acquired via trade in October.

How did a novice with two career starts look so Brady-esque down the stretch?

Young, who was the NFL's MVP in 1992, his second season after serving his four-season apprenticeship, says seeing had something to do with what Garoppolo achieved.

"Seeing it empowers you because now you know," Young said. "You can't lie to yourself, 'Oh, it's going pretty well.' No, it's not. You know how well it has to go. I can't tell you the empowerment of seeing what greatness looks like."

The similarities between Young and Garoppolo go beyond being caddies to the QBs who have won nine Super Bowls between them.

They also played for two of the best head coaches in NFL history, Bill Walsh and Bill Belichick, and their teams won two Super Bowls as they stood on the sideline: Young made 10 starts from 1987 through '90, and Garoppolo made two starts in 3½ seasons before he was traded.

There is an obvious difference: Unlike Young, who had the burden of replacing Montana in the Bay Area, Garoppolo is roughly 3,100 miles removed from Brady's shadow.

That doesn't mean Garoppolo isn't facing gigantic expectations entering the regular-season opener at Minnesota on Sunday.

He's 7-0 as a starter, making him one of seven QBs since 1970 to win his first seven starts. And his 2,038 passing yards in his first seven starts ranks fourth over the past 49 seasons.

He now has to live up to a $137.5 million contract and a standard of perfection that's impossible to sustain. Again, Young points to Garoppolo's NFL upbringing to explain why he shouldn't be overwhelmed.

"Now the expectations are huge, and that's good," Young said. "He knows how good you have to be. He's watched it — so that's nice. It's not going to be, 'Oh, Jimmy, the expectations are too high.' He's like 'No, I

know how good you have to be. You can expect me to do whatever you want, but I know how good I have to be. I've witnessed it.'"

Head coach Kyle Shanahan was a ball boy when his dad, Mike, was the 49ers' offensive coordinator (1992-94). Shanahan knows Montana wasn't tutoring Young, and he notes that's hardly uncommon in starter-and-backup relationships among QBs. But he doesn't dismiss a reason for why Garoppolo looked unflappable last year despite having a supporting cast and knowledge of the playbook that were extremely limited.

"Tom Brady did not teach Jimmy how to play football at all," Shanahan said. "But you learn so much by watching. I'm sure Steve is the same way, just watching the pressure that was on Joe: how he handled it every day, the expectations, the standard of not to just be good, but if you don't win a Super Bowl, that's considered a failure. For guys like (Young and Garoppolo), I think you know the expectations where they would shell-shock other people."

Of course, Garoppolo has had plenty to do with his own early career success.

He's a second-round pick out of Eastern Illinois who won the Walton Payton Award, given to the best offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA). Last year, his first throw in his first practice with the 49ers created a memory for Shanahan and general manager John Lynch, who were wowed by the way the ball came out of his hand.

Like Young, an All-American at BYU who entered pro football with the USFL after signing a then-record $40 million contract, Garoppolo doesn't lack natural talent.

But he acknowledges he entered the NFL deficient in other areas.

In college, his video study didn't go much beyond examining the coverages the upcoming opponent employed. In the NFL, he marveled at Brady's mastery of the minutiae, from how a free safety with an injured left ankle could be exposed, to his encyclopedic knowledge of the upcoming cornerbacks.

"The amount of time you put into it is so important, and one thing that really stuck out to me was Tom's film study," Garoppolo said. "He would know the opponent inside and out in the first couple of days of preparation. Whereas in college, you're watching throughout the whole week and you think you're watching, as opposed to what I'm doing now.

"I look back at college and it's like — what the hell was I thinking? I could have done so much better. It's one of those things you don't really learn until you see someone do it."

Said Young: "More than anything, there's a standard of preparation, of anticipatory throwing in game situations, of mastering the data and seeing it live and in person. It's semantical, right? You didn't learn from Tom, but you learned everything from watching Tom."

Last year, Garoppolo won his first start 33 days after he was traded. During that month, he learned part of an offense that had no correlation to what he knew in New England. For example, Garoppolo says the term "rub" has opposite meanings in each offense.

Garoppolo learned enough to flourish, and Shanahan learned during that crash course that his new QB could match his intensity when it came to studying X's and O's.

"I think that's how Tom is, and I think that's how Belichick is: They are hard on everything," Shanahan said. "They hold everyone accountable week in and week out, and that's why it's exhausting for a lot of people. I think I'm very similar to that. So I think it's neat that Jimmy can handle the urgency and demand that I have. And I think that's from being in an organization like that."

Garoppolo can be excused for exhaustion when it comes to his relationship with Brady and his past with the Patriots. In fact, he goodnaturedly feigned surprise when the topic of this story was broached.

When asked if he thinks the credit Brady receives for his development diminishes what he has accomplished, Garoppolo apologized for the cliche, while noting he took it upon himself to prepare each week as if he was the starter.

It's something he did well: Niners linebacker Cassius Marsh, who spent part of last season with Garoppolo in New England, says Garoppolo had reached a point where he resembled Brady's equal. "He would shred our defense every day," Marsh said. "He'd shred the first team every day, and it looked no different than when Tom was on the field. He's a much better athlete than Tom; he's super disciplined and works hard."

Garoppolo hadn't reached a point where he became satisfied with his progress. He says his desire to replace the Patriots' QB was crucial to his development.

"I would never say I got comfortable in New England, especially having Tom in front of me — I was always chasing to be the starter," Garoppolo said. "I think it benefited me, having that mind-set." Young understands. His competition with Montana elevated him, and his observation of Montana allowed him to understand what greatness required.

Will Garoppolo be great? Young envisions a bright future based on what Garoppolo has seen. "Witnessing sucks," Young said, "but it's totally empowering."

A perfect match? Jimmy Garoppolo and the Bay Area's instant embrace

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN.com
September 5, 2018

It took all of about one minute and seven seconds last season for a large number of Bay Area fans to embrace San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo.

That's how long it took for Garoppolo to enter the game against the Seattle Seahawks, run for 4 yards, complete a pass for 8 and then evade pressure to throw his first touchdown as a 49er, a 10-yard strike to Louis Murphy.

Now, he's got a snow leopard named after him.

That three-play sequence on Nov. 26, 2017 capped an 11-point defeat. That part, the Niners' 10th loss of the season anyway, is mostly inconsequential. But Garoppolo's quick cameo immediately gave Niners fans something they desperately craved: Hope. Hope that the 49ers were on the path back to respectability and that Garoppolo would be the guy to end the team's nearly two-decade search for another franchise quarterback.

In the ensuing months, the Bay Area's love for Garoppolo has been readily apparent despite Garoppolo's attempts to maintain a low profile. And now that Garoppolo has had time to do something other than bury his head in a 49ers playbook, he's taking advantage of the chance to return the love to his new home. "It's exciting," Garoppolo said. "… (I'm) really getting to know certain areas of the Bay a lot better. It's cool. I never got to do that last year. I was pretty much (at the facility) 24 hours a day. It's nice to get out and experience some of it."

After replacing C.J. Beathard as the starter in December, Garoppolo led the Niners to five straight wins to close last season. That was enough for the Niners to show Garoppolo how much they care about him, in the form of a five-year, $137.5 million contract in February.

The Bay Area's instant love for Garoppolo can be seen and experienced in myriad ways, big and small, from San Francisco to San Jose and points in between. It's also grown exponentially, considering all that's happened since he took his first snap with the team.

To wit, within Garoppolo's first month as the starter, La Rocca's Corner Bar in the North Beach neighborhood of San Francisco began advertising that Garoppolo would be at their bar looking for a date, a clever effort to capitalize on both Garoppolo's burgeoning popularity and his movie star good looks.

In April, the San Francisco Zoo took things a step further, naming one of its resident snow leopards after the 49ers quarterback. "Jimmy G" the snow leopard followed in the footsteps of a hippopotamus named for former Giants pitcher Brian Wilson in 2011, a rhinoceros named for former 49ers guard Alex Boone in 2013 and a pair of Bongo calves named for the Giants' Madison Bumgarner and Hunter Pence in 2014.

Those other players all had spent at least a couple of seasons with their Bay Area teams before an animal was named after them, but Garoppolo has perhaps the most fitting animal namesake. After all, the snow leopard is known for its rarity, having first been photographed in the wild in 1971. One could argue a franchise quarterback has been equally elusive for the 49ers.

Garoppolo's popularity has extended to some of the Bay Area's other pro teams. After 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan opened the locker room doors for the San Jose Sharks at a playoff game, Garoppolo said he hoped to get to a game, too. The Sharks wasted little time reaching out to make it happen with defenseman Brent Burns taking to Twitter to invite Garoppolo to a game with the added bonus of a promise of providing Garoppolo with oil for his growing beard.

With left tackle Joe Staley and former Niners lineman Zane Beadles in tow, Garoppolo was the honorary door opener for Game 3 of the Western Conference Finals against the Las Vegas Golden Knights. He even showed up on the scoreboard to fire up the playoff crowd.

"It's weird," Staley said of constant attention Garoppolo draws. "It honestly is. It's like 'Gosh, I don't even want to hang out with you.' Because (all the cameras) are everywhere. Everybody is watching him but he's a good dude."

Garoppolo's offseason adventures even have other celebrities getting in on the clamor. On May 12, Niners tight end George Kittle had a connection for tickets to a Bellator mixed martial arts event in San Jose and brought Garoppolo, receiver Trent Taylor and Shanahan and his son.

At the event, Garoppolo, Kittle and Shanahan found themselves sitting near 50 Cent and eventually posed for a photo with him, a photo the rapper later sent out to his more than 10 million Twitter followers. Even movie star Jeremy Renner, a diehard Niners fan, couldn't help but jump on board. At the NBA Finals, Renner told the San Jose Mercury News he hadn't yet met Garoppolo but was looking forward to it.

"Finally we got someone," Renner said. "Finally!"

Of course, with Garoppolo's escalating fame comes an increasing amount of attention when he goes out. Asked during the team's offseason program if he'd spent much time out with Garoppolo, center Weston Richburg joked that he wasn't "high profile" enough to hang out with his quarterback. And with Garoppolo's every move being documented by cameras, a night out can turn into an appearance on TMZ, as it did outside a bar in San Jose following the Bellator event.

While Garoppolo is enjoying settling into his new home, he's also made it clear that he isn't too big on going out and creating a scene. Garoppolo is just as content to spend a night playing the popular video game Fortnite or to watch NBA games somewhere with his teammates.

But still …

"It's wild," Kittle said. "He likes to have a fun time but he's super professional and he understands that. So we are also really good in that we usually go out in a big group and we are all about protecting the team. It's just weird because I have never really experienced that before. You look around the corner and there's a guy with his camera out and you're like 'Oh yeah, Jimmy is over there.'"

Jimmy Garoppolo is Superman in Disguise

By Joon Lee
Bleacher Report
July 24, 2018

Ten hours after Bill Belichick called to tell him he'd been traded to the Niners, Jimmy Garoppolo almost died. The Patriots had received a better offer from the Browns—multiple high-round draft picks—but Belichick believed San Francisco offered more possibilities for the young quarterback; he settled for a second-rounder. When a report surfaced that Tom Brady played a role in the exit of his own protégé, Garoppolo felt grateful that he didn't have to answer questions in public, high-tailing straight outta Boston.

"Parts of it were true, parts of it I knew weren't true, parts I didn't know if they were true or not," Garoppolo says now. "I appreciated that Coach Belichick put me in the best situation—you hear those horror stories about guys finding out from … Twitter.

"It was a bye week, and he had planned on going home to Illinois for his 26th birthday. He was planning a post-Super Bowl trip with the guys. He was planning to soak in more as Brady's backup—sure, he'd only started those two games for the Pats during the Deflategate suspension, but deep down, he felt he was better than the greatest of all time, that he could one day beat out Brady for the starting job in New England. Hell, he'd even planned on moving to a new place at the Seaport District in Boston for the 2018-19 season, because Jimmy's a planner. "Everything went a little sideways on that plan, but it worked out," he tells Bleacher Report. "I planned every scenario that I could think of in my head." Jimmy plans and plans, then plans some more.

All of a sudden, it was 5:30 on Halloween morning, and Jimmy—the linebacker turned quarterback who used to wear K-Swiss sneakers into the ground and spit Weezy verses from Tha Carter III in his '91 Buick Century—was rushing to the airport to catch the Niners' private plane to the Bay. He was running on not enough sleep, a suitcase full of unfolded clothes and his iPhone blowing up in the backseat of a limousine merging onto I-95.

That's when the unexpected nightmare began. Another car exited the highway, skidded off the side of the ramp, turned straight toward Jimmy's door—straight toward the man who is now the third-highest-paid player in the National Football League.

Jimmy stared at the headlights outside his window. For a young man whose superpower is self-confidence, whose only insecurity is the temporary absence of perfection, Jimmy Garoppolo, once more, didn't know what could possibly happen next.

He is hard to miss, Jimmy is, with that Superman chisel and all, a comparison he's heard multiple times. "I thank my parents for the good looks," he says with a laugh, a denim jacket over his pink T-shirt, with fresh-out-the-box Tinker Hatfield Jordan 3s hovering across the parking lot this June evening. "It's the Italian tan, I guess." Garoppolo is one of those people who immediately make you conscious of what you're wearing, whether you have bags under your eyes or whether there's a stain on your shirt.

At the front door of Fleming's steakhouse here in Santa Clara, hopeful eyes dart toward him instantly. The mood of Niners fans has shifted dramatically in the eight months since the trade for their present and future QB. And as our waiter says after whisking Jimmy into a private back room, delivering a New York strip, medium-plus: "You know how they say a good quarterback makes everybody better? You literally proved that."

"I tried," Jimmy says with a laugh.

People take a glance up and down at Jimmy and see the ever-white smile, the comic-book jawline, the Italian tan and a photogeneity that makes even an unflattering fan selfie impossible to take. They watch a mic'd-up video of him leading the Niners on a game-winning drive and leave comments like this: "Tom Brady really birthed his son and alley-ooped him to the 49ers."

"Baby Brady," another commenter says.

"I've said that stuff since I was a little kid," Jimmy says. "Creepy when you put it all back to back like that. He rubbed off on me, I guess."

Because the Patriots prevented reporters from talking to Garoppolo's family and friends, the perception of the San Francisco 49ers star has been shaped by assumptions, infatuations and the scarce public information known about him. (His Wikipedia page does not have a "Personal Life" section, just stats and stats and dollar signs.) Fans and haters alike wonder out loud: Is Jimmy Garoppolo really that perfect? That humble? The second coming of Brady, on and off the field? Or is he more like Graduation-era Kanye: Dude, you really still trying to convince us you're some kind of underdog?

Spend the weekend with Jimmy Garoppolo, though, talk to Mom, Dad, the three brothers, the coaches, the GM, and then help him find a new house with that record-setting contract—five years at $137.5 million with a signing bonus of $7 million, a guaranteed roster bonus of $28 million and a base salary of $6.2 million just for this season alone—and you'll find that the monotonous march up Mount Perfection is more tumultuous than it looks, that things don't ever really go according to plan…especially when you're not just Tom Brady's mysterious backup on the Patriots anymore.

The first time Jimmy Garoppolo had the chance to play quarterback, he turned it down. Jimmy didn't start playing football until sixth grade, but he was already 6'2" by then, so he started off at tight end and linebacker. On offense, he soon became a running back. Jimmy liked the ball in his hands. Jimmy likes control.

His Pop Warner head coach, Bob Viti, frequently called a play usually saved for desperation time in Madden: the half-back pass, wherein the quarterback—who was Jimmy's best friend growing up, Dan Lowry—would hand off the ball to Jimmy, who would chuck it down the field. Coach Viti liked to call this play because it was always—always—a touchdown. It led Coach Viti to approach his star running back about a position change, to QB. But every time the coach asked, the answer from 11-year-old Jimmy was no.

"He never told me why," Viti says.

This is why: Jimmy had lived a few streets away from Dan Lowry his entire life—Jimmy's family has lived in the same house, on the same cul de sac, in the same suburb of Arlington Heights, Illinois, since before he was born—and simply did not want to take away his best friend's job. Yes, Jimmy was that humble. "I didn't know about quarterbacking," Jimmy says. "Nobody in my family had ever done it."

Jimmy grew up the third of four sons to Denise and Tony Sr., who left for work as an electrician before 6:30 in the morning to put enough food on the table to feed his boys but clocked out at 4:30 to make sure he could coach their sports teams.

"[Jimmy] really just flowed with the way everything went," Denise says. "So on vacations, he really never caused any kind of a problem. My other sons were more boisterous. Jimmy wasn't."

Those around him say he's always been that level-headed. But he was still a linebacker until 2008, his junior year at Rolling Meadows High, when he gave up track and baseball to play quarterback and point guard. Jeff Christensen, a former NFL QB and private coach, saw Jimmy's long release—the remnants of pitching in Little League—and began playing him tapes of other gunslingers. Naturally, 16-year-old Jimmy gravitated toward the quarterback who had just set all the passing records, who had just lost his first

Super Bowl in four attempts before turning 31, the QB who was the star on most of the game tape: Tom Freaking Brady.

“It wasn’t even like I was a Patriots fan,” Jimmy says, “but seeing him do that, it was flawless. I was like, ‘OK, that’s how I should throw.’”

By his senior year, Jimmy felt comfortable under center, finishing high school with 3,136 passing yards and 25 touchdowns in 19 games at quarterback. Christensen, recognizing his student’s potential, called up the offensive coordinator at Eastern Illinois. And even though there was barely enough data or game tape to put together a firm scouting report, EIU trusted Christensen and gave Jimmy a scholarship.

His routines had been sharpened. He almost exclusively ate chicken, spinach and rice for every dinner. He listened to YouTube motivational speeches at the gym. He memorized Tha Carter III by Lil Wayne, front to back, after he learned it was stuck in the CD player of his Buick. And he listed off workouts to his dad: lifting, stretching, throwing repetition drills. Tony Sr. would nod along, listening to his son’s low-key bravado.

“You think you worked hard?” Tony Sr. would ask.“I think I put in some good work,” Jimmy replied.

“There’s always someone working harder than you,” his father would tell 18-year-old Jimmy, then walk away.

The words still leave Jimmy shaking his head.

“He’d just sneak it in,” Jimmy says now. “I would just be like, ‘What the fuck, man?’”

Eastern Illinois wanted Jimmy Garoppolo to transfer. He’d expected to redshirt as a freshman in 2010, throwing out fake signals from the sideline with a headset not connected to anything at all. By the fourth game, he was starting. “Nobody told us there was an NFL quarterback sitting there,” the offensive coordinator, Sterlin Gilbert, says now.

As an assistant at Baylor, Dino Babers had watched Robert Griffin III win the Heisman, and he believed another mobile quarterback would fit the new offensive scheme he brought to EIU as head coach in 2012. But Babers wanted to watch Garoppolo throw a bit, getting a first glimpse at spring ball. It took five passes for the coach to be sure.

“This guy shouldn’t be here,” Babers said.

“That’s exactly what I’m saying,” a staffer told him at the EIU stadium, which seats 10,000.

“No, he shouldn’t be here, as in, he shouldn’t be at I-AA,” Babers said. “There’s a whole bunch of coaches who should be fired for missing this guy. He’s really, really good.”

Jimmy didn’t own a car in college, so he would walk 30 minutes from his place to the football facility and still be the first one there, hours before the rest of his teammates. The day after a game, Jimmy was at the facility by 7 a.m., breaking down tape. If there was a 6 a.m. workout, Jimmy would be there by 5:30, lifting weights. And he was still in routine by sundown, cooking up chicken on a George Foreman Grill—yes, with a side of spinach and rice. His teammates called him “Leaves.”

Jimmy had started keeping a small journal in his dorm room, jotting down the school’s passing records—single-season and career, held entirely by Eastern Illinois legends Tony Romo and Sean Payton—during freshman year. Two seasons later, as a junior, he’d already broken some.

“And, obviously, he got the girl attraction,” says John Wurm, an EIU linebacker and Jimmy’s current best friend. “It was ridiculous. Jim never led a girl on, though, or dated a girl.”

"I definitely got attention just by being next to him," says Jerone Williams, an EIU D-lineman known as Juice to his buddies.

"Pretty small school," says Niko Foltys, Jimmy's former roommate and teammate. "Word gets out."
"Jim's the most laid-back, cool dude you'll probably ever meet," says Pete Houlihan, an EIU cornerback and former roommate. "On the football field? Complete opposite."

"Historical schools … put these guys on pedestals, and it was unfathomable to us that Jimmy could play with those guys," says Adam Gristick, another former roommate and now the linebackers coach at EIU. "Jimmy was the guy from day one."

Jimmy's squad—Wurm, Juice, Niko, Pete and Gristick—would keep him in check with nightly games of Super Smash Bros. on the Nintendo 64. (He played as Samus.) They would make fun of his white K-Swiss sneakers, a pair of which he bought before every year of college, and called him "Swagless Swiss." ("My freshman year, I bought some Vans and they asked me if I was a skater," Jimmy says. "I was just like, 'I don't know what I'm doing. Somebody help me.'")

For the 2014 NFL draft, Jimmy invited his roommates to New York City, registering all five of them as his brothers. The night before, the group came over to his hotel room, which featured a king-size bed, a wheel-in cot and a lumpy couch. Gristick, the 227-pound linebacker, sat down on the couch, only for Jimmy to give him a gentle nudge. "Hey, Gristick, you're in my bed," Jimmy said. "That's where I'm sleeping tonight." Yes, Jimmy had ceded the bed and the cot to his older brothers, and yes, Jimmy Garoppolo is still that kind of guy.

On Day 1 of the draft, Roger Goodell approached the Garoppolo table in the green room. Juice Williams, who is 6'7", black and clearly not Italian, looked up at the commissioner. "Eight brothers, huh?" Goodell said with a laugh. (The NFL disputes this.)

On Day 2, when Jimmy expected to be selected, he walked into the bathroom of Radio City Music Hall and felt a tap on his shoulder. It was former Patriots Pro Bowl linebacker Willie McGinest, who was there to announce the team's pick."

Garoppolo, right?" McGinest asked."

Yes, nice to meet you," Garoppolo said.

"I've got a feeling I'm about to call your name here in a bit," McGinest said, 40 minutes before the Pats' second-round pick.

"I thought he was BS'ing with me, being a nice guy," Jimmy says now.

Three picks before New England went on the clock, Jimmy received a call on his iPhone—location: Massachusetts. "Oh, it's the Patriots!" he thought. He took the call and Bill Belichick was on the line."

Everyone was making noises, and I couldn't hear half the things," Jimmy says. "It didn't matter what was being said. I made sure to say, 'Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Yes, sir.'"

The first time Jimmy Garoppolo met Tom Brady was during a predraft visit. They shook hands, exchanged pleasantries, then disappeared into other meetings. Over the next three-and-a-half seasons in Foxborough, he mostly tried to stay out of the GOAT's way. "I was going to watch and literally absorb everything I could from him without being an annoyance," he says. "I didn't want to ask a ton of questions. I didn't want to ruffle any feathers. You have to play the politics a little bit."

As Jimmy's oldest brother, Tony Jr., says: "You gotta look up the ladder and see who's done it well, and I think he just tried to duplicate as much as he could at what Tom did, and that's not going out too late on the weekend and getting in trouble."

Brady and his backup did, however, develop a competitive relationship. After practice, the two quarterbacks would often play the bucket game, which requires landing a football into a trash can in the back corner of the end zone. “There would be days where one of us would win and you wouldn’t talk to the other for a little while,” Jimmy says. “We’d be fine the next day, but it was one of the best things for me. We would push each other and we got two Super Bowls out of it.”

Jimmy spent most days at Gillette Stadium and did not keep any food in his home. During the offseason, Brady would call once a week to check in on his progress, ask him how he’d been working to get better. In the three full seasons with Jimmy backing him up, Brady produced arguably the best stretch of his career, completing 65.1 percent of passes, throwing for 97 touchdowns against 18 interceptions and posting a QB rating of 103.1…all at ages 37 to 39. (Through the Patriots and the agent he shares with Garoppolo, Brady declined to comment for this story.)“

The competitiveness between the two of us was very similar. If I’m playing my best friend in one-on-one basketball, if we are both into it, by the end, we are going to hate each other,” Jimmy says. “That’s how it is. All the good competitors have that. We got along, but there were always times where we wanted to kill each other. It was a healthy, competitive relationship.”

While Jimmy certainly learned a lot on the field, he received the most advice from Brady off it. He has not adopted Brady’s notoriously stringent diet (“Let me tell you, avocado ice cream is not bad,” Jimmy admits), but he picked up tricks of a modern celebrity life, from the finances to the locker room and, of course, the women. “I can’t tell you that,” Jimmy says with a wide smile, when pressed about veteran dating tips from the husband of one of the world’s most famous supermodels. “That’s top-secret stuff.”

And in New England, you try to not piss off the other GOAT, either. Belichick was a supporter, to be sure, but he and Garoppolo kept it strictly professional. “There was no BS’ing around,” Jimmy says. “I related to him in that way, as crazy as it sounds. He’s different than he is with the media. He has dry humor—he would say some stuff that was borderline mean. He would put up a lowlight clip every once in a while, and it was always your worst throws from practice. He would put it up there, and you already knew what was about to happen. Any position, there are so many people on the outside hyping you up and saying good things, that everyone needs to be brought back down.” (Belichick also declined to comment for this story.)

Jimmy knew he could be a starting quarterback in the NFL, and by the end of his first season, he was itching for that opportunity. Sometimes, Jimmy would joke with his buddy Wurm, a Browns fan, that he’d become the signal-caller in Cleveland. “Maybe I’ll be in Ohio in no time,” Jimmy would tell his best friend. Part of him hoped that the chance would come in New England. His confident side thought he could—maybe one day—beat out Brady on the depth chart. It was, after all, the one best-laid plan he could control: Only Jimmy Garoppolo was going to steal Tom Brady’s job.

“I’ve always had that mindset,” Jimmy says. “I knew that [Brady] was better than me in my first day in the NFL. Naturally, you’re the rookie and he’s the veteran, but you have to have that mindset, that you want to be the starter.”

“Even when I was a little kid, my brothers, whenever we would play, I would literally always think I was going to win. I wouldn’t, but I would always think that. It’s like when I go to New England, when I first got there, I thought in my head, ‘I’m better than this dude.’”

“But in your head, you believe you’re better than Tom Brady?” I ask.

“It was always a quiet confidence,” Jimmy says. “I would never speak that.”

I ask again: “But you believed that you were the best dude there?”

“Yeah, you believe in yourself,” Jimmy says. “That’s the best way to put it.”

I check his confidence one more time: “So you’re going up to Tom Brady and saying, ‘I’m better than you’?”

“I’m not stupid. You have to pick your battles, but I had belief in myself that I could do certain things, and it’s always worked out pretty well. It will always be in me, that drive that comes from my dad telling me that someone is always working harder, that I’m always in last place and I need to catch up to someone else.”

Last offseason, San Francisco’s flashy new GM and head coach, John Lynch and Kyle Shanahan, had looked at every scenario to acquire a franchise quarterback. Colin Kaepernick was not going to come back, that much was decided. For Shanahan, none of the attention on the Niners’ protesting quarterback would affect his next decision.

“I did not think about any of the [Kaepernick] stuff,” Shanahan tells B/R. “You’re going to go through a lot of tough times regardless of how good you are. I want someone who can execute the system, has the skill set to manage a win, and I don’t really put anything else into that.”

Shanahan brought with him a dynamic offense, and in clip after clip of QBs who could shine in his complex playbook, Jimmy’s quick release and quicker decisions kept popping up. So Lynch asked about Brady and Jimmy before last season, but Belichick rebuffed on both. Shanahan had expected to wait a year and go hard after Kirk Cousins this offseason and contemplated spending a first- or second-round pick in the quarterback-heavy 2018 draft if all else fell through. But when Belichick came to him at the trade deadline in October, asking if he wanted Garoppolo for a second-round pick, the team jumped at the opportunity.

Even after the trade, however, Lynch and Shanahan emphasized a very specific—and surprising—point to the Niners brass: Just because the franchise had given up a second-rounder for Jimmy...didn’t mean he was immediately the franchise QB.“

A lot of people would say if you’re going to trade a second-round pick, you’ve gotta be committed to this being your guy,” Lynch says. “This was not the way we wanted to talk about it. We had an opportunity to possibly have our guy, but we wanted him to come in. That was worth the risk.”

Shanahan adds: “It would be irresponsible to get someone like that and then commit to him long-term without seeing more of him, especially when you’re in the position we thought we were going to be in, with free agency and Kirk becoming available and the draft.”

Lynch quickly became convinced the Niners had found their man, but it took Shanahan three Garoppolo wins, including a 381-yard, one-touchdown, 72.1-completion-percentage performance against Tennessee, to be finally sold. By the end of the season, five wins, a 67.4 completion percentage and a 96.2 passer rating later, there was not even a decision to be made. Everyone wanted Clark Kent in California for a long time to come.

“I didn’t want to play around with the franchise tag because it’s just a distraction that you don’t need,” Jimmy says. “There are so many things that go into it outside of football. Now that we have this set in stone for years, it’s done, and there’s nothing to worry about.”

The pressure is certainly on now, especially with Jimmy’s newly minted bank account balance. “His first interception last year, he didn’t know the system and had every excuse in the world,” Shanahan says. “But when you get paid like that, you don’t know how people are going to react, and the first interception is going to be different.”

Lynch, who played in New England for his final season, has noticed the Brady influence. “That mindset, that you’re not going to just sit back and learn from Tom and say, ‘I’m going to beat out Tom,’ that works both ways,” Lynch says. “Having a guy as talented as Jimmy around—Tom is Tom Brady, and I don’t

know if he ever thought about it, but it probably made [Brady] better. That's what the great ones do. Every little thing, they draw from it, and I can see that with Jimmy."

Shanahan now has exactly what he wanted out of a franchise star: someone who isn't going to wait around for an opportunity—someone who's going to go out and get what he wants.

"I know New England wanted to keep him there and keep him on ice before Tom eventually retired … but what was exciting for me was that New England knew he wasn't going to re-sign there," Shanahan says. "He wanted to start and he wanted to play. He forced their hand. ... It would've been cool to play for Belichick and do that stuff and be in that system once Brady retires, but he didn't want to wait. That's the guy you want."

Two years ago, Jimmy and his squad from Eastern Illinois reunited in Vegas, as college buddies do, just another pack of sentimental bros waiting in line at the club. The trip gave them an opportunity to remember back after wins on game days, when EIU fans would come over to their place to party, like that time a cowboy riding a horse ended up on their front lawn.

This past March, the roommates returned for another guys trip, and this time, fans were waiting in line to get a photo with Jimmy. He opted out, because one photo turns into hundreds, and the line never stops. The former roommates hit up 1 OAK, where Lil Uzi Vert was scheduled to perform. When Uzi finally hit the stage, he performed one song before coming over to the EIU squad's table, finishing the rest of his set with the spotlight squarely on the quarterback."

That was probably the one big moment for me," says Wurm. "I realized, 'Wow, Jimmy really is the biggest celebrity in here.'"

In college, Jimmy and Wurm watched Entourage together—every season, three or four times—and Jimmy never really related to Vincent Chase, the show's movie-star protagonist. But now he's got talk-show hosts screaming about him in the morning, cornerbacks talking shit about him in the afternoon and the paparazzi following him around at night. Brady and Gisele Bündchen once organized a double date with Garoppolo and a model friend of theirs, but the relationship did not work out. "It's crazy to think about it, not expecting to be in Vinny's situation, but it's slowly turning into that," Jimmy says. Five weeks later, the paparazzi will catch Jimmy on a date with an adult film star, not unlike his Entourage counterpart.

In May, TMZ had posted a video of Jimmy outside a San Jose bar with a young woman. It's the type of attention he's still getting used to, even if he makes his friends read the thirsty Instagram comments. "You're not even sure if it's a real person," Jimmy says. "You just pretend they aren't. … The comments are the weirdest part. The DMs are even crazier." When TMZ claimed he had a girlfriend two months before, friends congratulated Jimmy on the relationship. "It was news to me," he says.

Oh, Jimmy Garoppolo did not die, by the way. As the swerving car crossed the median of the Massachusetts interstate and kept barreling toward him on the morning after the trade, Jimmy's limo driver bailed into a ditch. "Could you imagine that story," the driver said to Jimmy, "if we got hit leaving here?"

"Holy shit, what just happened?" Jimmy asked.

What does someone do right after he almost dies, 10 hours after being traded out of Tom Brady's shadow? If you're as ambitious as this guy, you put on your noise-canceling Bose headphones, turn up the country music and study your new team's playbook, right there on your iPhone. "I had texts going off every second, but I couldn't respond," Jimmy says. "It was my chance."

Now, with a signing bonus to spend, he's deciding between a Tesla or a Maserati and looking to rent a new place. He doesn't have enough time or experience with the area to buy a home just yet, because he doesn't do a whole lot with his time other than play football. He likes to golf, but he's more engrossed by locker room matches of Fortnite. He's figuring out what to do with all the endorsement offers, as both Nike

and Adidas try to sign him as a face for their football brands. He used to be the quiet one who passed on the quarterback job. Now, when one of the richest guys in the NFL returns to his childhood home in Arlington Heights, his unwavering, deep tenor voice shakes the walls like an audible call aiming for the back corner of the end zone.

So when Jimmy goes pad-hunting in San Jose with his family on a Saturday afternoon in June, his dad asks the real estate agent about the vibe of the gated community.

“It’s very quiet here,” says Jimmy’s brother Mike.

“Seems like it,” Jimmy says.

“Once someone finds out you’re here, it’s gonna change,” says the real estate agent.

He’s pretty famous, Jimmy is, with the NFL’s second-highest-selling jersey this offseason and, for a hot minute, its biggest contract ever. He’s not just talented and charming, you know. Technically, he’s still undefeated as a starter. “Don’t jinx me,” Jimmy says.

Some gray hairs have started coming in on the sides of his head, though. Turns out, perfection doesn’t last forever. So what else could Jimmy Garoppolo want? Well, exactly what you’d expect if Superman were the quarterback of your favorite team.“

Super Bowls. That’s every football guy’s dream. That’s why we play the game. We’re just trying to do it one day at a time.” Sure enough, Jimmy pauses and laughs before looking dead ahead. “I know it sounds super Patriots cliché, but it really is true—like what the hell? Try to get better every day.”

"A Bit of Brady": How Jimmy Garoppolo Copied the G.O.A.T. – Then Escaped His Shadow

By Jenny Vrentas
The MMQB
July 24, 2018

Jimmy Garoppolo is standing at the 40-yard line, play sheet in hand. It's June, mid-minicamp in Santa Clara, Calif., and the quarterback with the perfect record, swarthy good looks and $137.5 million contract is serving after-practice detention.

The punishment is self-imposed; six false starts by the offense left him no choice. Garoppolo called over left tackle Joe Staley during the third team period and informed him they would all be staying late.

So thirty-some 49ers players surround the quarterback in the black No. 10 jersey, long after the defense has gone inside, tuning their ears to the Chicago accent piercing the late-afternoon breeze. Garoppolo announces a play, then the corresponding cadence, a code of numbers and colors that refers to either a specific command or, well, nothing at all. Tense in their stances, the guys are waiting to hear their QB bark the word that means "go."

It's a pretty good approximation of what the rest of the Bay Area has been doing since the trade that shocked the NFL: hanging on every last thing Garoppolo does. Has there ever been so much hype surrounding a team coming off a 10-loss season? Has there ever been a veteran passer with seven starts to his name who's carried greater expectations?

Right now, Garoppolo is just trying to make sure every offensive player is used to his cadence—he hasn't even been here a full calendar year, after all. It's tedious work, running through infinite combos of the same words. But for these 20 minutes, Garoppolo gets to control the tempo.

Ever since he left his Foxboro apartment at 5 a.m. last Halloween and boarded a plane to northern California, Garoppolo has been living in a sort of time warp. He was transported, in just a few short months, from being Tom Brady's rarely used backup to being the highest-paid player in the NFL (for five weeks, at least). In this new world, a sloppy mid-summer practice is now a headline, and never mind the two banners that adorn one corner of Levi's Stadium. Printed on one, under a photo of Hall of Famer Joe Montana, are the words "FAITHFUL THEN." On the other, under a photo of Garoppolo: "FAITHFUL NOW." No pressure, Jimmy.

After spending most of his career under the radar, Garoppolo, 26, has tried to limit his time in the newfound spotlight. He's turned down multiple offers to pose for magazine covers, including from the outlet that inspired his Jimmy GQ nickname. (Like Brady, his idol and former teammate, Garoppolo has looks that created a buzz in some circles long before he ever made his first NFL start.) Through a 49ers spokesperson, he declined an interview request for this story, citing a desire to play more games and further prove himself on the field first. The biggest headlines he's made since agreeing to a five-year contract extension in February were when cameras found him while on a mid-summer date in Los Angeles with an adult film star.

"He doesn't have to be the star. Really, he doesn't," says his mother, Denise Garoppolo. "It's just coming to him."

As a middle-schooler in the Chicago suburbs, Garoppolo had no interest in playing QB, preferring to hit and be hit as a linebacker and running back. On the basketball court, his parents had to beg him to shoot; he was more interested in passing to his friends.

Two of Garoppolo's three brothers, Mike and Billy, are relocating with him to the Bay Area, to help him keep pace with his rapidly accelerating life. And his parents will fly in for every home game. Last fall, the

football world was taken by surprise when Garoppolo became the face of the 49ers. For the past five years, the family has been getting used to the thought of Garoppolo being the face of any franchise.

When Dino Babers ran into Tony and Denise Garoppolo in a hotel lobby on the eve of the 2013 season opener against San Diego State, it was just the second time the Eastern Illinois coach had spoken to the parents of his star senior quarterback. Tony, an electrician and second-generation Italian-American, and Denise, who worked at a natural foods store, assumed this could be their son's final year of organized football, and so they'd made a point of attending as many games as possible.

Babers was glad to bump into them, as he had a request: "Listen, agents are going to start contacting your son. I want you two to handle all this stuff so he can focus on the season."

Tony stopped him. "That's very nice, but you don't have to say those things—"

"Mr. Garoppolo!" Babers interrupted. "Your son is going to the NFL."

This wasn't false modesty; they simply didn't know. Within a few days' time, that would change. Eastern Illinois was a two-TD underdog at San Diego State, but Garoppolo led the Panthers to a 21-point victory, throwing for 361 yards and three touchdowns. After watching film of Garoppolo dissecting the Aztecs, the coach of SDSU's next opponent, Ohio State's Urban Meyer, announced to the nation, "Eastern has really one of the best quarterbacks I've ever seen."

In the three years before, just a handful of scouts had trickled through the FCS program's campus. Then came Garoppolo's senior season, when 31 teams sent eyes to tiny Charleston, Ill. Sean Edinger, the team's strength coach, recalls a Jaguars scout commenting that Garoppolo's hands were too small and his release too quick. As for the Patriots?

"They came one time," says Babers, now the head coach at Syracuse. "Didn't even stay for the whole practice. But that's classic. If you're on the outside, you think they're not interested. And then—Bam!"

As a case study in the making of a franchise quarterback, Garoppolo is something of an anomaly. The first time he played the position was on the freshman team at Rolling Meadows (Ill.) High, after coach Doug Millsaps saw how the ball came out of his hand when he threw. In the class of 2009, seven QBs across the state of Illinois received scholarships from FBS programs; Garoppolo wasn't one of them. Millsaps recalls personally driving Garoppolo's tape to Northwestern and begging the head coach to offer him. No luck.

It wasn't until his throwing coach, Jeff Christensen, a former Eastern QB who spent a few years in the NFL in the 1980s, called in a favor from EIU's offensive coordinator, Roy Wittke, that Garoppolo even got a look from a college program. Wittke had coached Tony Romo, a four-time Pro Bowler, at Eastern Illinois, and Garoppolo was the first quarterback he'd seen since who bore a resemblance to his former star, from his humble Midwestern manner to his quick release and excellent balance. When Rolling Meadows' coaches described the responsibilities Garoppolo took on before each snap, Wittke gave him an offer.

Garoppolo was EIU's starter just four games into his true freshman season; the team struggled, winning just four games over his first two seasons. When Babers was hired in 2012, some members of the athletic department wanted to make a change at quarterback. After watching Garoppolo throw five passes, Babers concluded that his quarterback shouldn't be at Eastern—he should be at an FBS school. The quickness of his release, Babers likes to say, is second only to Dan Marino.

Babers brought with him from Baylor a spread system that put a premium on quick decision-making, and by Garoppolo's senior season the QB was given the freedom to change plays at the line of scrimmage. But this wasn't a check-with-me situation where he'd pick the better of two plays. If he saw a bad defensive look, he could choose something else entirely. The third game of that season included a 63-yard TD pass—a play that was made before the snap. Illinois State's defense had been in a zero blitz,

with six men rushing against the Panthers' five-man protection. Garoppolo slid the protection and, noticing a nickel safety playing man coverage over star receiver Erik Lora, used a subtle pre-snap hand signal to convert Lora's route to a fade. Pitch-and-catch for an easy score in a 57-24 win.

The passing records Garoppolo eventually broke at Eastern belonged to Romo and Sean Payton, but all along he was being modeled after another QB. In the film room, offensive coordinator Sterlin Gilbert often pointed to Brady's unflappability. Since high school, Christensen had worked with Garoppolo to replicate Brady's impeccable mechanics. Garoppolo himself, meanwhile, wasn't exactly shy about his adulation for the Pats' All-Pro. Nine months before New England drafted him, Garoppolo tweeted: "Happy birthday to my boy Tom #livingLegend #Brady."

"Brady was his idol," says Babers. "Even when he was picking agents, he was so excited he was going to meet Brady's agent [Don Yee]. And that's the agent he picked."

Four years later, Garoppolo's new Niners teammate, Richard Sherman, assessing the QB from a defensive perspective, sees a guy "doing his best impression of Tom." The veteran corner, who signed with San Francisco this offseason, is referring to Garoppolo's quick release and reads, and his ability to neutralize the pass rush by speedily getting the ball out of his hands.

Staley, too, has watched enough TV to know that he's sometimes hearing a bit of Brady in the 49ers' huddle. "[Jimmy] does have a lot of the same sayings," Staley points out with a smirk. "Like, 'Whatchoo say now, 1-0? . . . Let's go now, c'mon, 1-0.' I'm always calling [Jimmy] out on that, like, 'Hey, that's not your saying—that's Tom's saying! Get something else!' "

Kyle Shanahan and Bill Belichick met at the scouting combine in Indianapolis in March 2017, less than a month after Belichick's Patriots roared back from a 28-3 deficit to defeat Shanahan's Falcons in Super Bowl LI. They had a lot to talk about: the game . . . Shanahan's first head coaching job, with the 49ers, which he'd accepted that February . . . and a certain backup Patriots quarterback. San Francisco, at the time, had literally zero QBs on its roster. But when Shanahan inquired, he got the same answer Belichick gave everyone else: Garoppolo, in no uncertain terms, was not available.

Belichick's insistence on holding on to his backup, after his then-39-year-old starter had just won his fifth Super Bowl, only served to stoke other teams' desires. Part of the Garoppolo mystique has always been this implicit endorsement from Belichick, who is notoriously hard to please and who is wary of using high draft picks on QBs. (In 24 drafts with the Browns and Patriots, Belichick has never selected a passer with a top-60 pick.)

Three years earlier, the Garoppolos had been unsure if they'd even attend the NFL draft—they didn't want Jimmy to be uncomfortable if he slid deep into Day 3—but Gil Brandt, the former Cowboys personnel man who's in charge of draft invites, assured them they didn't have to worry. Ultimately the clan all flew in, and on the night before Garoppolo was announced at No. 62 he slept on their "hotel suite's couch. He let his brothers have the beds.

At a press conference the night Garoppolo was picked, Belichick uncharacteristically referenced Brady's age and contract in discussing the Pats' pick. Back in New York, one of Garoppolo's brothers had come running out of the green room to find Jimmy's EIU buddies in the audience, screaming, "He's going to New England!" At 22, Garoppolo was going to be sharing a quarterback room with his idol.

And how did that work out? "I think they had a competition amongst themselves, and Jimmy gave Tom a little push. But it's not like Tom Brady is some average quarterback," says Tony Garoppolo. "He wasn't going anywhere. Jimmy knew that. At the same time, he took the opportunity to learn from [Brady]. Tom was a mentor to him. We couldn't ask anything more."

In the quarterbacks room in New England, Brady would spend most of his time working one-on-one with offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels. Jerry Schuplinski, the assistant QBs coach, would work mainly with the backups: Garoppolo and, before he was traded last September, Jacoby Brissett. "The standard

was always to Tom's [level of] knowledge," Brissett says. The two groups would break down film separately, then come together to share their notes. (The three QBs still have an ongoing group text chain, Brissett says.)

In 2016, when Brady served his four-game Deflategate suspension, Garoppolo got his chance to start, and in the days leading up to the season opener at Arizona he and Brissett hunkered down until 8:30 or 9 each night, going through the game plan and reads and checks. There was one run-to-pass check they spent extra time getting right, and it resulted in a 37-yard touchdown pass to Chris Hogan in the Patriots' 23-21 win.

Millsaps, Garoppolo's coach from Rolling Meadows, was at that game, and he saw Belichick afterward. Belichick, he says, told him how much he appreciated the QB—Garoppolo had the mentality of a linebacker and had helped them on the scout team en route to Super Bowl XLIX. "He was really happy," Millsaps says, "which you don't see on TV."

It all seemed like a glimpse into a post-Brady future—until Garoppolo's run ended prematurely with a right shoulder injury in a Week 2 victory over Miami. Even then, he was sharp in that game, too, and Belichick continued to dole out praise. Later that fall, in response to a question about Brady, he noted, "when we put Jimmy in there, it's really seamless." Even if no one knew when the Patriots would anoint Brady's successor, most felt they knew who that successor would be.

Nate Solder, a fixture on New England's offensive line for seven seasons, saw it the same way: "I thought it was a Brett Favre-Aaron Rodgers situation."

"Looking back," Tony Garoppolo says, "we should have realized something would happen." On Oct. 30, 2017, the Patriots were 6-2; Brady had already tossed 16 touchdowns, showing no signs of slowing down. "With Tom playing as well as he was, do you have [Jimmy] sit for another few years?" Tony asks. "By then, it would be too late for Jimmy."

As the trade deadline approached, all was quiet. Any rumblings of a move had died down after the draft. That's when Belichick reconnected with Shanahan, offering Garoppolo in exchange for the 49ers' 2018 second-round pick. "It was almost too good to be true," says Shanahan's father, Mike, the longtime NFL head coach who fielded a call from his stunned son after the proposal was made. (Mike, too, had played quarterback at EIU, and he'd attended the same suburban Chicago high school as Tony Garoppolo.) It took no more than 10 minutes for Kyle and 49ers GM John Lynch to decide to accept the offer.

Only a day earlier the 49ers had gotten clobbered in Philadelphia, falling to 0-8. Now they were pulling off the exceedingly rare midseason trade for a young franchise QB. "I'd watched him play," tight end Garrett Celek says of Garoppolo, "and I thought, Man, when Brady is done, this guy is going to be good. When we traded for him, I was like, Sweet. I mean, they had to have known what they were losing."

It would seem they did. Garoppolo had become something of a weekday legend in Foxboro. "One of the more enjoyable [parts] of practice was watching Jimmy rip 'em downfield on a tightrope [on the scout team]," says former Patriots center Bryan Stork. When the backup prodded the offense in his thick Chicago accent—"Let's go fellas!"—Stork couldn't help but think of the old Bears Superfans skit on SNL. In games, even in the preseason, Garoppolo brought a "whole next-level kind of competitiveness," recalls Matt Patricia, then the Patriots' defensive coordinator. And the team responded.

The surprise in New England when the trade went down echoed that respect. On one hand, a move had to be coming: Garoppolo's rookie contract was set to expire after the 2017 season, and he hadn't yet signed an extension. The Patriots could either franchise him, thereby paying their backup more than their legendary starter, or they could swap him before his contract expired. But Belichick had just traded Brissett, a move that suggested they had long-term plans for Garoppolo. So what changed?

ESPN reported in January that Patriots owner Robert Kraft had mandated that Belichick trade Garoppolo. (The team denied the story but has not commented on specifics. Belichick, through a spokesman,

declined to be interviewed for this story.) But even longtime players and staff members have no idea what went into the decision, and Belichick never addressed the trade with his team.

One thing is for certain, though: The coach didn't go through his normal process. Which is to say, he didn't milk the asset for every last drop. The Browns, as has been widely reported, were willing to offer more for Garoppolo than what the 49ers exchanged. Was Belichick's hand forced? Was he determined to place Garoppolo where he'd have the best chance of success?

"Bill really, really liked Jimmy," says Denise. "Not like they were warm and fuzzy—but they both knew it was there."

Many around the NFL believe the move came from Belichick's respect for Kyle and Mike Shanahan (he and Mike had ascended the coaching ladder concurrently, and Mike defended him to the NFL during the Spygate scandal) and from his belief that Garoppolo would thrive under Kyle's tutelage. And "if that is true," says the elder Shanahan, "it's the biggest compliment you could receive as a coach."

Last December, following the trade, a sort of weekly ritual began: After each of Garoppolo's starts for the 49ers, he received a text from the coach who had traded him, congratulating him on another win.

On Dec. 3, 2018, Garoppolo made his first start with the 49ers, at Soldier Field, just 30 miles from where he grew up . When Mike Shanahan describes what makes Garoppolo's potential so high, he focuses on both the QB's quick release and his ability to spot seams. And the very first completion Garoppolo made in red-and-gold provided a clue of what was to follow: On third-and-10 he sliced a 15-yard zinger to Marquise Goodwin, beating two converging defenders.

Among the 50-odd friends and family in attendance for the 15–14 victory that day was Tony Garoppolo, celebrating his 61st birthday and wearing binoculars around his neck. Millsaps had just been released from the hospital two days earlier, but he was there, too, as was Lora, the old EIU teammate, and a group of Garoppolo's college roommates from the old brick house on Seventh Street where they'd gather after games and make Jimmy John's runs. (The "Italian Night Club" sandwich for Garoppolo, obviously.)

The quarterback has what Babers, his old college coach, describes as "this weird charisma" that seems to cross all barriers. During that 2013 trip to San Diego, knowing it would be many of his players' first chance to see the Pacific Ocean, Babers scheduled a surprise detour to Mission Beach after their Friday walk-through. He only told Garoppolo, and instructed him to keep it a secret from the rest of the players. But when the buses pulled up, the entire offensive line hopped out and started stripping down to their Speedos. "Garoppolooooo!" Babers boomed. "C'mon coach, those are my hoggies," the quarterback replied. "I had to tell them." At Eastern, his housemates were all defensive players. In New England, he developed a friendship with Alyssa Silva, a Patriots fan living with a rare neuromuscular disorder, after she interviewed him for a feature on her blog. ("No one had really heard of the quiet leader that was Jimmy Garoppolo," she says). His best buddies on the Patriots were Stork and fellow lineman Cam Fleming ("probably the most diverse/random group of three you've ever seen," says Stork), who started a ritual of Papa Gino's pizza and pool each Friday night before a game. During the week of Super Bowl LI in Houston, Garoppolo piled into a six-passenger car with seven linemen for a taco run. As guard Joe Thuney conversed in Spanish with their female driver, Solder, sitting in the front seat, quickly discerned that they were talking about Garoppolo, whom the driver—like so many women—had taken a liking to. "We made fun of him because he was viewed as this ladies' man," Solder says, "but we know he's a goofball—an offensive lineman at heart."

It's been the same in San Francisco. Garoppolo and three teammates—Celek, tight end George Kittle and guard JP Flynn—have assembled what they call "the Dream Team." Only this is no nod to the 2011 Eagles; the Dream Team is their squad name in the popular multiplayer video game Fortnite. "Jimmy is the guy that saves everybody," Celek says. In the game, "there's a thing called the storm, and it hurts you every second you're in it. And he always runs into the storm, hurts himself, but saves all of us."

If this all sounds too good to be true, then the same could be said of Garoppolo's five wins in five starts for the previously 1-10 team he joined in the middle of last season. And he seems determined to make sure this idyllic image holds up. Note the offseason throwing sessions at San Jose State. And the time spent with Celek watching a Brady-Rob Gronkowski highlight reel, discussing the possibilities of being creative within their playbook. ("I have never talked so much with a quarterback about every route, which is awesome," says Celek.) And the extra 20 minutes spent on his cadence on the next-to-last day of the Niners' offseason program.

Watching this all puts into perspective what Garoppolo accomplished last season. Some of Shanahan's play calls are eight or nine syllables long, and there are 100 different cadences. Yet the QB became conversant enough in this complicated language to win every game. On his first day with the 49ers he stayed at the facility until midnight with QBs coach Rich Scangarello, learning the offensive formations. Just a few weeks later he was leading a two-minute march against the playoff-bound Titans as an NFL Films microphone caught him advising his receivers on how to get open against Tennessee's safeties. Gilbert, Garoppolo's old EIU coordinator who's now at South Florida, watched the tape in his office and recognized the Brady-like demeanor he'd so often held up as an example.

"I've been around here a couple offseasons where we've just been like, Man, I hope this year goes well," says Staley, a 49er since 2007. "But now we're working for something. Have a bad play and it's like, We have to get this right." The last time he felt like that? "Probably [Jim] Harbaugh's last year," he says, back in '14. "But even then, there was some stuff going on that was just like, all right, this is going off the rails a little bit. It wasn't so much the QB situation or anything like that, but [now] you can see the light at the end of the tunnel."

Now the question being asked across the Bay is: How can you measure improvement from 5-0? From a completion percentage north of 67? From a passer rating of 96.2? "I don't know how you live up to that," says Kyle Shanahan. "Does that mean we have to have 600 [yards in] these first five games to improve? I don't know what the numbers will be. I think we'll be a better offense. I feel pretty confident in that."

On the final day of minicamp Garoppolo is again lingering on the field, this time for some extra red-zone reps, after some misfires in practice. A few throws later, he's satisfied that he and his receivers have gotten the timing right. As he finally heads inside he passes Celek, who pauses mid-sentence in a conversation with a reporter. "I was telling her all your deepest and darkest secrets," Celek says to his quarterback.

"Just the good ones, right?" Garoppolo jokes. He flashes his cover-model grin and excuses himself, letting that air of mystery linger. While he still can.

Robbie Gould

How 49ers' Robbie Gould is navigating offseason workouts, home schooling children

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
April 9, 2020

49ers kicker Robbie Gould is one of many NFL players trying to navigate an uncertain offseason that includes being stuck at home, home schooling children and preparing physically for the upcoming campaign.

It's all a bit hectic, particularly because there's no light at the end of the tunnel.

"Right now, the biggest problem for us is, when's everything going to start back up?" Gould, 37, said in a phone interview from his home northwest of Chicago this week. "You're normally training with a certain perspective to have yourself ready at certain stages of the spring and the summer — mini camps, training camp — and you just don't know when that's going to happen."

The league this week announced it was delaying the start of the offseason conditioning program because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that's forced people to stay home. This week would have marked the normal start of conditioning programs for teams that hired new coaches like Carolina, Dallas, Cleveland, Washington and the New York Giants with all other teams, including the 49ers, starting next week.

Instead, the league and the NFLPA are working out ways to handle the offseason proceedings as all team facilities have been closed until further notice. It includes doing the three-day NFL Draft starting April 23 virtually with executives and decision-makers operating from their home offices.

The quarantine orders from state governments haven't dramatically impacted offseason life for all players. Tight end George Kittle has been regularly working out in Nashville with his wife, Claire, which they've documented on social media. As has receiver Deebo Samuel, who's been working out in his home state, South Carolina.

Gould has three children ranging from 1 to 6 years old, which has forced the veteran kicker to get creative when it comes to daily scheduling and his workouts.

Once Illinois announced its statewide lockdown last month, Gould built out a home gym in a storage area in his basement to complement his kicking work. He purchased a squat rack, free weights and free-motion cable machine. He does his morning workouts with a trainer virtually through video conference on an iPad, which has gone well given the unusual circumstances.

"The nice part is, I've been able to train the way that I need to," he said. "It's just a matter of finding the places to kick. But the nice part is, before I left (the Bay Area) ... I've had the ability to kind of pick up where I left off and what I wanted to do based on being in the backyard, having fun with my kids kicking out there, or having them shag for me."

Gould doesn't have goal posts at his house to kick through. Instead, he targets landmarks like trees. His backyard has some 60 yards to work with.

Perhaps the harder part is being a parent and dealing with home schooling. Fortunately for Gould, his wife is a former elementary school teacher who's helped with much of the work with Gould's oldest son, Griffin, 6, who will likely miss the last couple months of his kindergarten school year. Gould's other son, Gavin, 4, is in preschool while Grayson will turn 2 later this year.

Gould said Griffin and Gavin partake in his morning workouts as their gym class. The rest of the day is typically a combination of home schooling, reading books, doing math, using the ABC Mouse app, and

trying to find activities to keep the kids interested while having to follow directions, like baking. There's usually a family walk in the afternoons, weather permitting, followed by dinner and Disney movies.

The good news is Gould has been given time with his family after spending much of the last three seasons away. He's lived in a hotel near team headquarters since signing with San Francisco in 2017 while his family has stayed in their home outside Chicago.

"I've spent three of the last four years away from my family," he said. "And for me that's the most important thing. Whether it's kicking, whether it's going to a grocery store, whether it's working out in the basement, those are things that I find to be able to spend time with them. And I think they enjoy it too."

Another challenge for Gould has been trying to put what's happening in perspective, including keeping the kids away from their friends.

"I think it was probably 10 days ago, they were like, 'When's spring break over?' They don't understand this whole COVID pandemic conversation," Gould said.

"It's trying to teach your kids what it's about, why they can't go to school probably for the entire year. Coming up with conversations to tell them what a pandemic is and why they can't be getting out of their house and going to school and going to karate — these are all things that they have to get adjusted to too and it's just about finding a routine."

It remains unclear when the 49ers will be able to get all their players back at team headquarters. The most likely scenario would be training camp that starts at the end of July. Though it would take wide-ranging coronavirus testing before teams could safely reconvene. Testing has been hard to come by during the early stages of the pandemic and has been reserved only for those experience significant symptoms.

Whenever Gould and his teammates hit the field again, it will be without star defensive lineman DeForest Buckner, who was traded last month to the Indianapolis Colts for the No. 13 pick in the draft.

Buckner, a team captain and winner of the team MVP Bill Walsh Award in 2019, received a four-year extension worth up to $84 million with the Colts. San Francisco elected to trade Buckner rather than pay him while fellow defensive lineman Arik Armstead received a five-year, $85 million deal on the eve of his free agency.

Gould, who stayed away from the team last offseason before inking a four-year contract worth up to $19 million, understands Buckner's situation is part of the business.

"I'm happy for DeForest. He got a long-term deal, he earned that, he deserved that," he said. "And when you have success as a team, if you look across the National Football League, you can't keep everybody. The more success you have, there will always be difficult decisions. Every year they have difficult decisions. And as guys make more plays, as guys have more success as the team has more success, that's what just truly happens."

Special team: 49ers kicker Robbie Gould and his brother, Chris, sharing the NFL experience

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 17, 2019

Robbie Gould ended practice with a boot Saturday.

The 49ers kicker drilled a 55-yard field goal in a two-minute situation to cap the last of two joint practices with the Broncos.

Gould's teammates greeted the faux game winner by celebrating on the field, but one person wasn't so happy about Gould's success: his younger brother, Chris.

Don't misunderstand. The brothers, separated by three years, aren't at odds, but they don't share allegiances.

Chris Gould, 33, is the Broncos' assistant special teams coach and he will be on the opposite sideline from Robbie, 36, when the 49ers meet the Broncos on Monday night in their second preseason game.

The outcome of the game is meaningless — to most. However, Robbie has a different scoreboard in mind: He's 1-2 in NFL games against his brother, who also has an edge in another category.

"His first year (in Denver), he won a Super Bowl. So he's got one more ring than me," Robbie said. "I'm just hoping we can win Monday so I can get it to (2-2)."

Yes, the brothers are competitive. There are memories of Chris, after backyard losses, furiously chasing Robbie around in Lock Haven, Pa., when they were growing up.

But the siblings, who also have a younger sister, Lindsay, have always been close. And their bond is a reason they are sharing an NFL experience.

Chris was also a kicker, but not at the level of Robbie, who ranks second in NFL history in field-goal percentage and just signed a four-year, $19 million contract that made him the league's second-highest player at his position.

Chris kicked at the University of Virginia and played in the Arena Football League with the Chicago Rush (2010-11) and Arizona Rattlers (2012). However, Chris never realized his NFL dream as a player. And Robbie helped Chris, the little brother he terms a football junkie, enter the league as a coach.

Robbie connected Chris with Joe DeCamillis, the Bears special teams coach from 2013-14 when Robbie was with Chicago. Chris would visit his brother at training camp and they would study video with DeCamillis, who was impressed by Chris' knowledge and passion.

The relationship fast-tracked Chris' coaching career. He'd served as a volunteer coach at Elmhurst College, a Division III school in suburban Chicago, when he was in the Arena League. And Chris was in his third season as a special teams quality control coach at Syracuse in 2015 when DeCamillis, then with the Broncos, brought him on staff as a low-level assistant.

From there, Chris has done the rest. He was promoted to Denver's assistant special teams coach in 2017. And it's notable that he's been retained by two new head coaches in his five seasons with the Broncos, a time during which the majority of their coaching staff has been overhauled.

Of course, Chris would have preferred to kick in the NFL. But when asked if he ever felt pressure to follow in his brother's footsteps, he focuses on the support he's received from Robbie. During his stint in the Arena League in Chicago, Robbie insisted Chris live with him and his wife to help make ends meet so he could keep kicking.

“I’ve always wanted the best for him and he’s always tried to help me as much as he could,” Chris said. “He’s been a really good brother. He let me live with him and his wife — he took care of me because you don’t always make the most money in the Arena League. So I didn’t feel any pressure. I just wanted to become the best football player I could be at the time and I’ve always had his support.”

Robbie is as adept at talking up his brother as he is at kicking field goals.

He terms him one of the NFL’s top “up-and-coming assistants,” and notes Chris’ expertise has helped in the latter stages of his career. When he was handling kickoff duties, for example, Chris would detail kick-return schemes and that information informed the placement of Robbie’s kicks.

They talk football as equals, although Robbie has a habit of terming Chris a “kid” when discussing him: “The kid eats, sleeps and drinks football,” he said at one point.

Robbie explained. He knows his brother is all grown up — and he’s aware he trails him in titles.

“I think he’ll always be my kid brother,” he said. “He’ll be my kid brother with one extra ring than I have.”

Inside Robbie Gould's Candidacy for the 2018 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award Presented by Nationwide

By Joe Fann
49ers.com
December 11, 2018

Robbie Gould continues to be an absolute stud for the San Francisco 49ers. He's missed just one field-goal attempt this season, and his 25 makes rank tied for sixth among all NFL kickers. But Gould's stellar on-field performance has been matched by his ongoing philanthropic efforts. It's that work in the community that has earned him the organization's nomination for the NFL's 2018 Walter Payton Man of the Year Award presented by Nationwide.

There are 32 total nominees league-wide, and the winner will be announced at NFL Honors on the eve of Super Bowl LIII in Atlanta. A donation of $250,000 will be made to the United Way in that player's honor. In addition, every nominee will have a chance at receiving $25,000 for a charity of their choice in the "Man of the Year Charity Challenge."

Here's how you can help Gould win that money. Head to Twitter and compose a tweet with "#WPMOYChallenge" and "Gould" to cast a vote for the 49ers kicker. Each use, even within the same tweet, will count as an additional vote. Voting is open now and will run until Jan. 13.
"I think it's important to give back to the community because the game of football and life in general has given me a lot," Gould said. "I was raised in a family where giving back and being part of a community that comes together and helps each other out is really important."

Gould has been a staple in the award-winning efforts of the 49ers community relations team. You'll find Gould at each of the team's Community Tuesday's. In addition, here's a look at the work Gould has done on his own, headlined by his nonprofit organization The Goulden Touch.

Gould founded The Goulden Touch, 501c3 nonprofit organization, in 2011 with a mission to help those in need. In his hometown of Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, Gould has contributed over $650,000 to a variety of organizations.

On March 26, 2018, Gould and his foundation, The Goulden Touch, opened the Ace Hardware Robbie Gould Patient and Family Library at Lurie Children’s Hospital following a financial commitment of over $2 million.

Earlier in March, Gould took part in the Children’s Miracle Network’s Children’s Hospitals Week in Orlando, where he visited with patients and helped the organization raise funds as a guest auctioneer. During his time in Orlando, Gould connected so deeply with one family that he hosted them at the 49ers vs. Giants game on Nov. 12.

In addition to being a mainstay at 49ers Community Tuesdays, Gould was also selected as one of five players to direct the team’s social justice contributions, resulting in a joint 2.35-million-dollar grant with Google.org to the National Center for Youth Law to support the Santa Clara Youth Justice Initiative.
To aid in education, he gives annual scholarships to enable students to attend Lock Haven University and has supported the Ross Library.

Gould also donated $150,000 to the construction of Goulden Touch Field, a turf soccer and football field in the West Lawn neighborhood of Chicago, which serves over 12,000 children.

In order to fund these charitable projects, Gould has been hosting the Robbie Gould Celebrity Golf Tournament since 2010, raising and donating more than $2 million in just the last three years. The Lock Haven version of his golf tournament, which started in 2011, raises nearly $100,000 for the area each year.

D.J. Jones

49ers' D.J. Jones: the unsung hero of a mighty defense

By Scott Ostler
San Francisco Chronicle
November 6, 2019

If you are a member of the 49ers' mighty defense, where everyone is an instant rock star, it's not easy to be anonymous. D.J. Jones is pulling it off nicely.

Nick Bosa is the 49ers' newest D hero, but everyone is getting famous. Even defensive coordinator Robert Saleh is an overnight celeb, lighting up the 49ers' sideline.

It was Saleh who stated that his defense, above all else, would stop the run. It is Jones, a nose tackle, who quietly is making that happen. Jones plays mostly on first and second downs, busting up the party in the trenches while his glam teammates cavort in the spotlight.

In the defense's defining moment, a goal-line stand in Los Angeles that sparked a victory over the Rams, Jones stuffed back-to-back runs from the 49ers' 1-yard line.

David Oliver "D.J." Jones has emerged as a vital cog in the 49ers' defense, yet he is not even the most famous Dave in his immediate family. That would be his father, owner of Big Dave's All-American BBQ in Greenville, S.C., and creator of legendary Q sauces, including Big Dave's All-American Hawaiian Bold Gold.

Big Dave's little son, D.J. (6-foot, 321 pounds), is super comfortable flying under the radar. Which is fortunate, because he didn't hit the books in high school (a regret), so he had to slog through two seasons of JC ball before becoming an unsung guy for two years at Mississippi.

The 49ers drafted Jones in the sixth round in 2017, No. 198 overall. He made the team as a long shot, then broke into the starting lineup in the final four games last season. His percentage of defensive snaps played: 13 as a rookie, 22 last season, 41 this season.

Yet, Jones' only real fame came two hours before a home game against the Steelers this season, when he dropped to one knee near the 49ers' bench and proposed to his girlfriend, Kayla Fannin.

Jones also received a bit of recognition recently for his surprising speed, when he chased and sacked Carolina quarterback Kyle Allen, as well as when he ran down a ball carrier in the open field.

"Everybody was texting me, 'You're fast!'" Jones said with a smile. "A lot of people already knew. That's just something I can add to this defense. We're already fast."

Where does his speed come from?

"At a young age, my father put me in track," Jones said. "I didn't just do shot put, I didn't just do discus. They put me on the relay teams. All my cousins are fast, all of 'em are country, from Perry, Ga., and that's all they know how to do is run. I had to keep up with them."

Jones' father was a college defensive tackle who got a tryout with the Dolphins, but a back injury ended his NFL dream.

"A lot of my dad's old teammates tell me he could run, so I guess I got that gene," Jones said. "I was 300 pounds in high school, or 290s, (but) I was running track, I played tight end, running back, played 7-on-7" football, with no interior linemen.

Jones also played basketball in high school. Solid rebounder. Could dunk.

Speed is good, but strength has been Jones' calling card. As a senior, he was rated the 14th-strongest player in college football. Maybe it's the 'cue. Jones was raised in the kitchen, where Dad cooked the meat and sauced it up, and Mom made the side dishes. Big Dave was the Cowboys' executive chef in the early '90s.

"Oh, man, you have no idea," D.J. Jones said, when asked if he ate a lot of BBQ. "Every day after school, I was in the restaurant, making a collage of food. Every day was barbecue, every day was good eats."

So he knows his way around a smoker?

"I leave the sides to my mom and my three sisters, but when it comes to the meats, I got 'em."

Even so, Jones doesn't see his future in 'cue. He believes his true talent lies in music, as a producer of rap, laying down beats.

"Everybody says they have an ear for music, but I honestly think I have an ear," Jones said. "When I hear talent, I know it. ... It's something that's near and dear to my heart."

Favorite rapper?

"My favorite rapper of all time, like Coach (Kyle) Shanahan's, is Lil Wayne. I put Andre 3000 No. 2, and the list goes on from there."

Quick marriage update: D.J. and Kayla haven't set a date, but it will be in 2021. They met back in South Carolina after Jones spotted a photo of Kayla on his sister's phone. "I asked, 'Who's that?' ... I just knew she had to be mine."

In other family news, Big Dave has a new sauce.

"Look out for the Game Changer," said D.J., the game changer.

Get the impression that D.J. looks up to Big Dave?

"He's been through it," Jones said of his dad. "He's now 60. He's got some years on me, and I'm going to listen to him as long as he's here. He's always preached to me, 'Stay hungry and stay humble.' That's what I'm going to do."

Hungry in the motivational sense, of course.

49ers nose tackle D.J. Jones won't be running on empty this season

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 20, 2018

Last year, before the 49ers drafted Mississippi nose tackle D.J. Jones in the sixth round, an unnamed SEC offensive assistant told NFL.com that Jones had resembled a "different player" as his senior season progressed.

"I just thought," the coach said, "he looked like he kind of ran out of gas later in the year."

Then, as a rookie, Jones played in nine of the 49ers' first 10 games (missing one with an injury) before the team chose not to dress him for the final six games.

So why was Jones making a habit of sputtering down the stretch? It appears the chronic condition was tied to his conditioning.

On Saturday night, after Jones' standout performance in a preseason loss at Houston, he joked that the south Texas heat the 49ers endured during joint practices with the Texans earlier in the week was nothing compared to what he experienced this offseason in Greenville, S.C.

Jones said he'd wait until midday, when the temperature spiked, to begin three-hour workouts at his high school that included lifting and running around the track and up and down the bleachers. Jones, who is listed at 6 feet and 321 pounds, said he hadn't run so much before and shed 20 pounds while following what he termed "The D.J. Jones Workout, man."

"I feel way better," Jones said. "A lot better. I feel faster, stronger. I can breathe better, actually."

Crowds arrive early on opening day of the Golden Gate International Exposition. Feb. 18, 1939.

And it seems Jones can exhale if his rookie-season finish made him wonder about his chances of making the 53-man roster. On Saturday, two days after finishing a strong training camp, he had three tackles and forced a fumble, while earning the highest grade among 49ers defenders, according to Pro Football Focus.

It appears Jones is in line to eventually replace Earl Mitchell, who will turn 31 in September, and cement himself as one of the 49ers' recent late-round finds. In their past two drafts, the 49ers also have selected tight end George Kittle, wide receiver Trent Taylor, safety Adrian Colbert and promising rookie defensive tackle Jullian Taylor in the fifth round or later.

For his part, Jones concedes it wasn't until months after he was drafted — when he was observing the 49ers' final six games as a healthy scratch — that he understood his work ethic needed upgrading.
"I took that as a signal that I needed to work," Jones said. "If I was inactive, that means someone else was better than me. So I felt like I needed to work that much harder. Nothing against anyone I'm going against, but when I'm on the field, I feel like I'm the best one out there. So I need to show that to these coaches so they can put me on the field."

Jones is a big man with a big personality. Last year, he had a guest spot as a weatherman for Fox Carolina News and advised viewers to "get some fluids in you" as he outlined the steamy forecast. His dad, Dave, also known as "Big Dave," owns a catering business that is headlined by his barbecue sauces ("Big Dave's All-American Hawaiian Bold Gold" is one). D.J. is a big fan, but notes he didn't enjoy any sauce this offseason while he was slimming his body.

"It's still good," he said, careful to not hurt Big Dave's sales, "but I cut it out."

Jones, whose mammoth weight-room numbers include a 440-pound bench press, has the strength to perform the primary duty of most nose tackles: take on the blocks of two offensive linemen, freeing up the linebackers behind him to amass the tackles and glory.

On Saturday, though, Jones had a modest moment in the spotlight when his tackle helped force a fumble by running back Lavon Coleman. It actually appeared a hit by linebacker Mark Nzeocha did more to jar the ball loose, and even Jones was initially clueless.

“I didn’t even know I forced the fumble,” he said. “I had to get to the sideline and people had to let me know I did it.”

So perhaps Jones was fortunate in that case. But after he ran, and ran, to avoid running out of gas, he might say this: Good things come to those who work.

Kyle Juszczyk

Why fullback Kyle Juszczyk says 'there's no better fit' for him than the 49ers

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
March 18, 2021

Many NFL players dream of hitting free agency. It's a chance to test the open market and have multiple teams bid for your services. It can often drive up a player's price, which is welcome news to the player and his bank account. Just ask left tackle Trent Williams, who early Wednesday morning landed a six-year, $138 million deal with the 49ers as multiple teams coveted him.

But San Francisco's fullback Kyle Juszczyk didn't need to hit the open market. The unrestricted free agent knew where he wanted to land from the outset. So he agreed to a new five-year deal with San Francisco on Sunday evening, hours before the league's negotiating window opened Monday morning. It would have allowed Juszczyk to field offers from other teams like the New York Jets, who hired San Francisco's former passing game specialist Mike LaFleur as offensive coordinator, and potentially drive up his asking price from the 49ers.

"Honestly, there's no better fit in the league for me than San Francisco, just to be completely honest," Juszczyk said on a Zoom call Wednesday. "Kyle (Shanahan) ... he puts together the perfect system for me to play in. And for me to go anywhere else, have to uproot my life, really, sell my house in California, find a new spot, have all new teammates, (and) begin the whole process over again ... this late in my career, there was a certain part of me that didn't want to do that. And so if I could get that number I was happy with in San Francisco, I was just going to roll with it and just continue in a place that I'm so happy to be in."

The number was a five-year contract worth up to $27 million with $10 million in guarantees. It made Juszczyk, who turns 30 in April, the highest paid fullback in history for the second time since 2017. If he plays out the life of his deal, the five-time Pro Bowler will have made $50.5 million over his 13-year career.

Paying a fullback that kind of money is a complicated decision that not many agree with. A number of teams have axed the position altogether, and some would prefer only to have fullbacks signing minimal contracts and not getting eight figures guaranteed.

Shanahan, of course, is an exception. He made adding Juszczyk a priority when he first got hired in 2017 by making him a key member of the team's first free agent class weeks after he was hired. Four years later, that belief hasn't changed.

Juszczyk's versatility makes him emblematic of Shanahan's offense. He can line up outside, catch deep passes downfield, play in the slot, rove as an H-back and line up in the backfield as a traditional fullback. For a team that wants to run the ball effectively as the foundation of its scheme, to set up play action and make things easier on the quarterback, Shanahan has come to view Juszczyk as an essential piece.

"I don't think it's a secret. I think we use the fullback more than anyone in the league," Shanahan said at the 2019 owners meetings in Phoenix. "I'm always going to use the fullback. I believe in it strongly."

Shanahan is considered one of the game's premier offensive minds. But he has zagged against the trend of a league becoming more pass happy. He had no problem calling just eight pass attempts, and 42 runs, during the 37-20 thumping of the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Championship Game after the 2019 season. The 49ers went to the Super Bowl that year running the ball at the second-highest clip in the league, only behind the Baltimore Ravens, who ran quarterback Lamar Jackson 176 times.

For Shanahan, using a fullback is all about dictating things to the defense.

"If you put three receivers out there, then (the defense) can run certain blitzes and stunts where you cannot run the ball," Shanahan said. "And they can force you to pass and they can force you to do things. When you have a fullback out there, it doesn't matter how many guys they have in the box, which is nice because if they put a lot of guys in the box it makes it easier to throw."

The agreement of Juszczyk's new contract was finalized Sunday, but the parameters came together Saturday, when 49ers CEO Jed York was celebrating his 40th birthday with a party attended by general manager John Lynch and Shanahan, which led to a series of Tweets indicating alcohol might have been flowing.

FaceTime calls were made, of which Juszczyk wasn't willing to share too many details from out of respect for his bosses. But he said the celebratory mood was emblematic of the reasons he wanted to stay with the 49ers.

"They were very stoked, I was stoked," Juszczyk said. "They were at Jed York's 40th birthday party, so the phone got passed around, a lot of congratulations, a lot of cheers, and all those sort of things.

"Honestly, it's so cool to be a part of that, to get FaceTimes from your owner and your GM and your head coach, and speak with their families and be comfortable. It's like I'm speaking to my own family, you know? It's not one of those awkward conversations that's just, 'Yes, sir. Yes, sir. We're going to do great.' It's just real conversations and real genuine joy. That's why I feel so connected to this program."

49ers fullback Kyle Juszczyk runs on 'drive from within'

By Matt Kawahara
San Francisco Chronicle
February 1, 2020

When 49ers fullback Kyle Juszczyk was a sophomore at Cloverleaf High in northeast Ohio, former teacher and coach Dave Ward said his player would arrive for football film sessions, quietly reach into his gym bag and take out a stack of notecards.

“He was taking notes on every player that would affect his play the next night,” Ward said. “He was making notes about steps they’d take, tendencies they had, tells they had.”

When Juszczyk was a senior, the team held a banquet. And Juszczyk, former Cloverleaf coach Kevin Gault recalled, showed up carrying a full filing cabinet drawer.

“He’d taken notes on every player he’d played against,” Gault said, “and he passed them down to the underclassmen. They were better than the scouting reports we had.”

Now in the NFL, Juszczyk’s cerebral approach is a gift that keeps giving — allowing the 49ers to use the versatile so-called “offensive weapon” in a variety of alignments and formations as a linchpin of the running game that has helped carry them to the Super Bowl on Sunday.

How extensive are Juszczyk’s responsibilities in the offense from week to week? Before the NFC Championship Game against the Packers, 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan said coaches need to be mindful at times of not overloading Juszczyk in the game plan.

“We put a lot on him — and we haven’t put too much on him yet,” Shanahan said. “He’s been able to handle it each time. I’ll say that’s because of his Harvard education. But he’s a hell of a football player who doesn’t get nervous about anything. And he works very hard throughout the week to understand everything.”

Juszczyk’s contributions aren’t exactly unsung — he was voted to the Pro Bowl for the fourth time this season — but they can go unquantified. Juszczyk does not have a rushing attempt or a catch in these playoffs. This season, he totaled three carries for 7 yards and 20 receptions for 239 yards.

Given the 49ers’ affinity for two-back sets, though, Juszczyk has been on the field for 90 of 126 offensive snaps in the postseason. And he has often been lead blocker for a rushing attack that gained 471 yards in wins over the Vikings and Packers.

Last week, Juszczyk, a former high school wildcat quarterback who had 22 touchdown catches at Harvard, was asked if he ever feels unfulfilled playing 50 snaps in a game without touching the ball.

“No,” Juszczyk said. “Because usually we’ve won that game.”

Those who knew a younger Juszczyk might recognize the resolve.

Gault met Juszczyk long before coaching him. As a third-grader, Juszczyk began showing up to Cloverleaf practices “every day” to watch his older brother. So Gault made him a manager.

“He wasn’t like a normal third-grader,” Gault said. “He was just such a mature kid.”

When Juszczyk reached high school, Gault said, Cloverleaf football would hold training sessions at 6 a.m., five days a week, in the offseason. Juszczyk also played basketball and was a thrower in track and field. But he didn’t skip the early morning workouts.

Basketball “game day or not, he was there at 6 o’clock in the morning,” Gault said.

Ward taught Juszczyk at age 12 and describes him as having “a sense of determined purpose.” A few years later, Ward said, Juszczyk visited his classroom carrying several early college recruiting letters.

“He said, ‘Hey Coach, you got a minute? I got some stuff in the mail and I’m not sure exactly how we should go with this.’”

Ward, an influential figure for Juszczyk who officiated the fullback’s wedding last summer, said that began a custom of weekly visits while Juszczyk was at Cloverleaf that expanded into “just talking about life stuff.”

“He was already there so this has nothing to do with me, but we’d talk about integrity, what it means to be a man as far as being a husband and a father, what your word means, those kinds of things,” Ward said.

By his senior year, Juszczyk had grown from a 135-pound freshman to nearer his current listed size (6-foot-1, 235 pounds) and was playing multiple positions on offense as well as linebacker. Going into that year, Cloverleaf had never made the playoffs. In its regular-season finale, Cloverleaf faced undefeated Highland High with a playoff spot on the line.

In double overtime, with Cloverleaf in position to try a game-winning field goal, Gault called a direct snap to Juszczyk to place the ball in the middle of the field.

“He says, ‘I’m going to score, coach,’” Gault said. “We said, ‘No you’re not.’”

Juszczyk took the snap and ran for the winning 16-yard touchdown.

“I shook my head and said, ‘I’ll be damned, he’s going to succeed no matter what,’” Gault said.

In a bit of foreshadowing, Juszczyk’s versatility caught the eye of Harvard head football coach Tim Murphy, who works with the program’s tight ends and H-backs.

“You could see his physicality, you could see his athleticism,” Murphy said. “You could envision he would make a sort of perfect H-back for us.”

Juszczyk received few Division I offers and said other schools wanted him to play linebacker. At Harvard, Juszczyk moved around the offense, lining up as an in-line tight end, a fullback, in the slot and out wide. Murphy said players who fill that role at Harvard often don’t grasp the full skill set until their junior season.

“He took to it right away,” Murphy said. “He was such a perfectionist — a tough, physical kid, but also a perfectionist — that he mastered all of those positions for us at a very young age.”

While Juszczyk spent his first four NFL seasons with Baltimore, the lineage to the 49ers is clear. According to Sharp Football Stats, the 49ers this season used a fullback on 26 percent of their offensive snaps, most in the NFL. But Juszczyk played nearly 37 percent of the offensive snaps and said he views his hybrid capacity with the 49ers as “the same thing I really did in college.”

Juszczyk said Shanahan’s game plans “count on me to make a lot of adjustments,” and acknowledged “there are tougher weeks than others.”

“But after a day or two of getting to absorb it, usually I don’t have a problem with it,” he said.

In attending Harvard, where he majored in economics, and adopting a fullback position that has phased out of many NFL offenses, Juszczyk said he “actually did” see a route to an NFL career.

“I wasn’t going to tell people that early on,” Juszczyk said. “I just wanted to get my foot in the door in any way possible. … I (thought), as long as I can get eyes on me, I know that I can show something that someone in the NFL is going to say, ‘This guy can be valuable for us.’”

Those words would likely resonate with Ward, who will be on hand in Miami on Sunday to see Juszczyk play in his first Super Bowl.

“Kyle’s drive from within was what set him apart from a lot of people,” Ward said.

“I always thought he had a vision in his head that maybe only he could see at that point. And he was always working toward that, quietly.”

Could 49ers fullback Kyle Juszczyk lead a renaissance for the position?

By Rusty Simmons
San Francisco Chronicle
January 6, 2020

Midway through the third quarter of the 49ers' NFC West-clinching victory over Seattle last month, Kyle Juszczyk lined up in the slot, raced toward the right sideline and caught a 49-yard pass.

Four snaps later, he lined up in the backfield of an offset I-formation, darted to his right and wiped out a linebacker with a lead block that sprung Raheem Mostert's 2-yard touchdown.

The sequence showcasing Juszczyk's versatility is a good example of why the 49ers fullback may have sparked a surge of teams employing a fullback, and it could lead a renaissance for the position that once verged on extinction in the NFL.

"It's a cyclical league, but I think there actually has been an uptick in fullback play this season," Juszczyk said days after being selected to his fourth straight Pro Bowl — despite missing four games with a knee injury. "Some of the top offenses in the league feature a fullback regularly, and I think as teams see the success you can have with that position, I think you're going to start seeing that come back — especially as defenses get lighter and smaller inside."

The league was trending the other way when Juszczyk arrived. When Baltimore nabbed him in the fourth round in 2013 out of Harvard, he was the first of only three fullbacks selected in the entire draft.

By 2016, the NFL had gotten so close to eliminating the fullback, with a drift toward spread offenses with four- and five-receiver sets, that the Associated Press stopped including fullbacks on the All-Pro ballot.

Even though he had established himself as the game's best fullback when he entered free agency in 2017, Juszczyk was courted by only Buffalo, Cleveland, Philadelphia and San Francisco. Seeing how he could be featured in Kyle Shanahan's offense, Juszczyk signed a four-year, $21 million deal with the 49ers — the largest contract for a fullback in NFL history.

Still, only five teams used a fullback on at least 15% of snaps this season, according to Sharp Football Stats. The 49ers led the way with 26%, but Juszczyk is right that the position is enjoying a resurgence.

Fourteen of the league's 32 teams list a fullback on the depth chart. The teams with fullbacks represented eight of the league's top 10 in total yards, points, rushing yards and third-down conversions.

Baltimore and San Francisco finished the regular season among the top five in all four of those important offensive categories. Partly because of Juszczyk, their "offensive weapon," the 49ers finished second in points and rushing yards, fourth in total yards and fifth in third-down conversions.

"'Juice' means a great deal to us and is a huge part of our offense," said running back Matt Breida, one of three 49ers who followed Juszczyk's blocks for at least 500 rushing yards this season. "He's the best fullback in the league, and he's more than a fullback. He can do it all: play tight end, fullback, quarterback.

"He does a lot of things out of the backfield and causes a lot of confusion to the defense. As teams see that, they're going to try to copy it more often."

Trying to mimic the 49ers' offense might be easy enough. Finding someone with such a versatile skill set as Juszczyk isn't so simple.

In Harvard's up-tempo, no-huddle spread offense, Juszczyk was listed on the roster as a tight end, but he did more than inline block. He caught passes out of the slot and split out wide, lined up in the backfield in short-yardage situations and even quarterbacked some wildcat plays.

"That's my favorite part of playing football: being able to do so many different things," Juszczyk said. "Really, since Pee-Wees that's been my theme. That's what I've always done: excelled in a lot of different areas."

At 6-feet-1 and 240 pounds, Juszczyk knew he didn't fit the towering NFL tight end mold. He saw fullback as his avenue to get noticed by professional decision-makers and accepted an invite to the Senior Bowl at the position.

By his second season, Juszczyk was a starter in Baltimore. In his third season, he began a five-year streak of catching at least 20 passes. In his fourth season, he garnered his first of four straight Pro Bowl selections.

On the 49ers' first touchdown against Seattle in Week 17, Juszczyk was the lead blocker on Deebo Samuel's 30-yard end-around, clearing out two Seahawks defenders on the same block as Samuel turned the corner and spun his way into the end zone. When Juszczyk caught the 46-yarder in the third quarter, NBC analyst Cris Collinsworth shouted: "Who in their right mind runs these kinds of routes with their fullbacks?"

In a Week 3 victory over Pittsburgh, Juszczyk made a diving 27-yard catch and turned a short dump-off pass into a 22-yarder by stiff-arming Minkah Fitzpatrick completely out of the camera frame.

"That's what everyone's going to notice, definitely, because the plays he made in the pass game were very impressive," Shanahan said. "The diving catch, I thought there was no way he was getting to that, and somehow he did. Then, the one he made down the seam, throwing the safety out of the way and stuff — those were two extremely impressive plays, and he played even better in the run game.

"He was one of our best players in the run game. He does that a lot, but when he makes some plays like that in the pass game, I think he gets a little more credit and it's deserved."

For 49ers, Offense Still Gets Plenty of 'Juice'

By Doug Williams
NBC Sports Bay Area
May 17, 2019

Niners head coach Kyle Shanahan loves players who can perform in multiple roles. It's one reason why he and general manager John Lynch recently drafted wide receiver Jalen Hurd, because he has the skill set to play wide receiver, tight end or running back.
It's also why he loves fullback Kyle Juszcyk.

In a league where fullback mostly has disappeared from offensive schemes, Jusczcyk still has a job in Shanahan's offense. And, as the 49ers ramp up their offseason program in preparation for the 2019 season, fullback will be a key role again for a scheme that has added running backs and wide receivers to its skill-position stable.

This week, Gregg Rosenthal of NFL.com projected the starters for every NFC West team, and San Francisco stands out as the only one with a fullback.

Wrote Rosenthal: "Give Shanahan credit for zigging while the rest of the league zags. Kyle Juszczyk is the only fullback to make a team's projected-starters list in this entire exercise. He's been one of the 49ers' better offensive players the last two seasons."

Juszczyk, 28, has played six seasons in the NFL and has been selected for the Pro Bowl the past three seasons (the first with Baltimore in 2016 before he signed with the 49ers).

Though he rarely carries the ball out of the backfield – just 15 carries over the past two seasons, for a combined 61 yards and no touchdowns – he's a big part of the passing game as both a blocker in protecting the quarterback, and as a receiver. He averaged 10.8 yards on his 30 receptions in 2018 and had 31 catches in 2017 for a 9.5-yard average.

But as one writer pointed out in 2018, "Juice" is not a throwback as a fullback to an earlier time, but a "unicorn" in that he's a special player who is perfectly suited to Shanahan's system of offense, capable of running deep routes out of the backfield or lining up anywhere he's needed.

"Kyle is a great player," Shanahan said late last season. "He's as good of a fullback as there is or probably has been."

Last season, he had 56- and 35-yard receptions while not lined up at fullback, but as a slot receiver. He has the speed to do that, while also having the size for breaking tackles once he gets into the secondary.
When Shanahan entered this offseason, he knew the 49ers needed major upgrades at almost all positions. But Juszczyk's spot was exempt.

"We're looking to improve at every position except quarterback and fullback," said Shanahan.
In 2019, Shanahan's "unicorn" should again play a high-impact role in the 49ers offense.

Why Kyle Juszczyk is More of a Unicorn Than the Last of a Dying Breed

By Joe Fann
49ers.com
November 7, 2018

Fullbacks are going extinct. You know it. I know it. Kyle Juszczyk knows it.

It's no secret that the NFL has been steadily devaluing fullbacks for years now. But is that because the position has become obsolete in today's pass-first, high-scoring game? Or is it because there's a deficiency of fullbacks who possess an invaluable skill set for a modern offense?

According to Pro Football Focus, only five fullbacks have played at least 100 snaps this season and only two have reached the 200 mark. Juszczyk is far and away the leader at 379 while playing a career high 64 percent of snaps for the San Francisco 49ers in 2018. He's posted 21 receptions for 255 yards and a touchdown and has more receiving yards than Kenyan Drake, LeSean McCoy and Ezekiel Elliott. That's big time usage, even in an offense like Kyle Shanahan's that is predicated on the presence of a fullback.

"Every game, if the other team has a fullback, he'll come up to me, and it's usually the exact same conversation," Juszczyk said. "It's, 'Damn, man, they've got you doing everything. You've got it good.' Literally every single time. There's not much I can say. I just grin."

But Shanahan isn't a conservationist striving to protect football's equivalent to the Bengal tiger. Juszczyk provides a legitimate mismatch, and Shanahan utilizes him as such. That's why Juszczyk is far more of a unicorn than the last of a dying breed.

"Kyle is a great player," Shanahan said. "He's as good of a fullback as there is or probably has been."

Juszczyk's aptitude at the position stems from a robust résumé as a high school football player. He earned all-state honors in Ohio at linebacker. He also played tight end while dabbling at wide receiver, quarterback and running back for good measure. Most colleges recruited Juszczyk as a linebacker, but he preferred to play offense. Harvard gave him that opportunity, and he signed with the Crimson to play tight end.

He went on to be a two-time All-American and three-time All-Ivy League selection. Juszczyk's 125 career receptions rank sixth in program history, and his 22 receiving touchdowns are the third-most of any Harvard player. And yet, despite all of the production and accolades, he had no future in the NFL as a tight end.

"Rarely does anyone want to be a fullback," Juszczyk said. "You become a fullback by necessity. I was a tight end who was too short. That's what my agent told me during the pre-draft process."

Juszczyk made the position switch prior to the Senior Bowl. A week in Mobile, Ala., was a baptism by fire. His physicality as a former high school linebacker served him well at fullback.

"I'd never pass blocked from the backfield in my entire life," Juszczyk said.

But he held his own and even earned strong praise from acclaimed NFL Network draft analyst Mike Mayock after one standout rep. Juszczyk stood up the linebacker who came barreling down on him and ultimately planted him on his back.

"In reality, I got kind of lucky because the guy kind of tripped. But it looked great," Juszczyk said laughing about the play, clearly not arguing with the outcome or the subsequent attention it earned him.

He still faced an uphill battle, though, even after a strong week at the Senior Bowl. A 6-foot-1 tight end had no chance at making an NFL roster. A 6-foot-1 fullback's odds weren't much better. Fullbacks were already becoming a niche in 2013. That's part of the reason why he was snubbed an invite to the NFL

Scouting Combine. But Juszczyk kept the proper mindset, and his confidence never wavered. He didn't need all 32 teams to fall in love with him. All he needed was one.

"I figured I'd be able to find my spot somewhere," Juszczyk said. "My goal was that once I got my foot in the door, at some point I'd be able to showcase my receiving skills."

His transition to fullback mirrored his move to full-time tight end in college. Juszczyk was accustomed to the "fun stuff" in high school – being the star player, constantly having the football in his hands and making regular visits to the end zone.

Harvard head coach Tim Murphy provided him with a bit of a wake-up call upon his arrival in Boston.

"You can't play unless you block," Murphy told Juszczyk. "You need to become a better blocker, otherwise I'm not going to leave you in for the pass plays."

Juszczyk wasn't thrilled about that reality, but he embraced it all the same in order to get to the carrot that dangled in front of him. The NFL posed a similar challenge. The Baltimore Ravens wouldn't have used a fourth-round pick on him if they weren't intrigued by his proficiencies as a pass catcher. But those abilities were immaterial if Juszczyk couldn't excel in the grunt work mandated of a fullback.

"I wasn't going to make the team if I couldn't block," he said. "Once you're able to block, then you're on the field more. And when you're on the field more, then you get more opportunities to catch passes."

It was really that simple in Juszczyk's mind. Survival had always been objective No. 1. The goal was that everything else would ideally fall into place thereafter.

He continued to evolve his game during four seasons with the Ravens, emphasizing different aspects of his skill set each season. Juszczyk started for Baltimore in 2014 in offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak's scheme. His role shifted drastically in 2015 under Marc Trestman – a coach whose system was void of a fullback all together. In order to retain his roster spot, Juszczyk had to prove capable of being the team's third-down back. He did so admirably and racked up a career high 41 receptions and four touchdowns that season. Another successful campaign in 2016 resulted in his first trip to the Pro Bowl.

Juszczyk entered free agency the following offseason and signed a lucrative four-year deal with the 49ers – the richest in league history for a fullback. General manager John Lynch justified that price tag by noting that the 49ers envisioned Juszczyk as an "OW" (offensive weapon). Comprehensive inconsistencies for the 49ers offense in 2017 limited Juszczyk to just 21 receptions on the year. He still managed his share of big plays and earned a second straight Pro Bowl nod. Juszczyk's leaping 28-yard reception despite double coverage against the Houston Texans was the type of highlight-reel play seldom seen from a fullback.

His knack for explosive plays has continued in 2018. Juszczyk hauled in a career long 56-yard catch-and-run against the Minnesota Vikings in Week 1. Two weeks later he was on the receiving end of a 35-yard touchdown pass from Jimmy Garoppolo. What's most impressive is that Juszczyk wasn't lined up at fullback on either play which illustrates his deployment as the 49ers "OW." He was lined up in the slot right against the Vikings and at tight end on the left side of the formation against the Chiefs.

Jerick McKinnon's season-ending ACL tear and various nagging injuries to Matt Breida have only increased Juszczyk's snap count. The fullback has spent most of this season as the 49ers primary third-down back.

"The more injuries you have, the more you keep him out there because you don't have the option to mix up personnel groups as much," Shanahan said. "But even without that, you want him out there because

he does a lot of good things in the run game and pass game. Any time you have a fullback on the field, it limits what the defense does."

Juszczyk will tell you that he's grown fond of all the responsibilities encompassed in his job description. He still prefers catching passes and scoring touchdowns, but he's also found genuine enjoyment in the dirty work. Juszczyk works weekly with 49ers run game coordinator Mike McDaniel on the minutia of the position – improving his technique and hitting his blocks at the perfect angle. There's a certain satisfaction in springing Breida for big runs, and Juszczyk deserves ample credit for the running back's breakout sophomore campaign.

The trivial cliché of "the more you can do," while admittedly overused, is literally Juszczyk's calling card. It's what earned him a college scholarship, a spot in the NFL and a big-money second contract.

"We're looking to improve at every position except quarterback and fullback," Shanahan told reporters last winter when detailing the team's offseason plans.

That kind of job security contradicts the notion that fullbacks are going extinct. Or maybe it means that the 49ers have found a player who supersedes the outdated threshold of his traditional blue-collar position. You be the judge.

With Kyle Juszczyk and Kyle Shanahan, the fullback is alive and well in San Francisco

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN.com
September 4, 2018

Widely regarded as one of the NFL's brightest offensive minds, San Francisco 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan's concepts and schemes are considered among the most detailed and creative in the league. So it was only fitting that one of his first orders of business upon taking the Niners job in January 2017 was identifying and signing … a fullback?

Yes, one of the league's foremost offensive play callers prioritized adding a player at the one position that many believe is headed toward extinction. That perception didn't prevent Shanahan and general manager John Lynch from signing fullback Kyle Juszczyk to an eye-opening $21 million deal over four years with $10.5 million guaranteed.

At the time, Juszczyk's contract was worth more than double the next highest-paid fullback on the list and made him one of the 10 highest-paid running backs in the league.

But Shanahan’s love for fullbacks isn’t universal. He has an affinity for fullbacks like Juszczyk, who are capable of doing more than slamming into would-be tacklers down after down in hopes of creating a running lane for the tailback.

“The negative can be you can have a fullback in all the time and they know you’re in two-back all the time there’s only a couple of eligible [receivers] they have to worry about so it’s a lot easier to cover people,” Shanahan said. “But, that’s the advantage with someone like ours that just because our fullback is in, you don’t know whether we’re in two-back or one-back, which I think puts pressure on defenses.”

In other words, it’s about options. With Juszczyk in the game, Shanahan can call just about anything in his playbook without allowing the defense to make substitutions. If the defense stays in base, it can create mismatches in the passing game. If the defense goes smaller with an extra defensive back, the Niners can power up and run it.

Having those options at his disposal last season, Shanahan used more two-back formations than any team in the league. The Niners played 391 snaps with two running backs on the field. The league average was 138.7. Of those 391 snaps, Juszczyk was on the field for 385 of them, most among fullbacks and 62 more than New England's James Develin, who had the second-most.

As you might expect given those numbers, the Niners finished with the most yards in the league (2,146) with two backs on the field, narrowly edging New England's 2,144. Jacksonville was next and well behind at 1,282.

Juszczyk finished with 33 catches for 315 yards on the season but it wasn't until late in the year, especially when Jimmy Garoppolo took over at quarterback, when things began to click. In Garoppolo's five starts, Juszczyk had 17 catches for 195 yards, twice setting game highs in receiving yards in a three-game span.

“He’s not your average fullback," Garoppolo said. "He’s more agile, he can run routes from the backfield, he can run routes split out. That’s a rare thing to find in a fullback. … And he has good hands on top of all of that. It’s just a unique position that he’s in and he takes advantage of it.”

Indeed, Shanahan doesn't hesitate to alter the way in which traditional fullbacks are used. Juszczyk lined up all over in 2017, even spending 26 snaps as the slot receiver. He was targeted 42 times in the passing game, most among fullbacks with 25 of those targets coming outside the numbers and 12 between the

numbers and hash marks. His 152 routes run were also most among fullbacks. Juszczyk caught 79 percent of those passes.

And, if the preseason and training camp were any indication, Shanahan and Juszczyk were just scratching the surface of what they can do together. Now in Year 2 with Shanahan, Juszczyk says he feels "unbelievably more comfortable," relating it to his days at Harvard where it took some time to adjust to his new surroundings and scheme.

"From X's and O's, Kyle throws a lot at you," Juszczyk said. "Everybody knows it's a complex offense. … There's a lot of layers to it and that first year, you've got to start at ground zero. Where this year, as soon as we came back from OTAs, we weren't really starting from day one. We were able to pick up from where we left off and I feel like we're already ahead of the curve compared to where we were at the end of last season."

Juszczyk already figured to have an even bigger role in the Niners' offense in 2018 before running back Jerick McKinnon suffered a season-ending ACL injury. With McKinnon lost for the year and backups Alfred Morris and Matt Breida having little track record as productive pass catchers, Juszczyk could be in for even more work.

That would come in addition to his many other jobs, which include operating as the lead blocker in the running game -- a fullback is imperative in Shanahan's outside zone scheme to help wipe out strong safety blitzes and pick up other would-be run pressure so receivers can stay wide and block corners -- and could mean more work as a pass protector on third down.

In other words, Juszczyk's value won't necessarily show up in numbers.

Finding players wearing as many hats as Juszczyk around the league has become increasingly difficult. In fact, some teams don't even bother carrying a fullback, as nine teams didn't have one after Saturday's roster cuts to 53-man rosters.

Niners defensive coordinator Robert Saleh has noticed the shift in fullback usage, pointing out that the teams that have players capable of doing a lot make it particularly tough on defenses because the game has changed and many defensive players rarely even see two-back sets on a regular basis.

"The art of defending a two-back run game is becoming harder to teach," Saleh said.

Those that still do have a fullback generally aren't looking for the traditional type who might only serve as a means to help the running game. Like everything else in the NFL, the position has evolved.

"It's well documented that there's not as many fullbacks in the league as there used to be, so I think in order to stick around you have to be able to do those things, you have to be able to do multiple things," Juszczyk said. "And I think the age of the stiff, muscled up, road grader. I think there are times for that in the game, but I don't think a lot of teams are going to use a roster spot on that so you have to be able to show you can do some other things. You've got to find a way to stick around."

Javon Kinlaw

49ers' Kinlaw, big man with small ego, good-naturedly explains growing pains

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 19, 2020

Ask the 49ers for their initial impressions of rookie defensive tackle Javon Kinlaw and a theme emerges.

Let's see if you can pick up on it.

"Oh, man, he's just a specimen," guard Laken Tomlinson said.

Pass rusher Nick Bosa: "He's one of the biggest humans I've ever seen in person."

And running back Jerick McKinnon: "He has a big upper body. Big lower body. Big quads. Everything on him is just big."

Kinlaw, the No. 14 overall pick, is listed at 6-foot-5 and 319 pounds on the 49ers' roster, but maybe they are using his measurements from middle school?

Kinlaw should be measured in square feet. He weighed 10 pounds, 8 ounces at birth and noted Tuesday that's he always been bigger than his peers. However, the man with gas-hose arms (34 ⅞ inches) and oil-drum thighs figured he'd finally blend in when he met his NFL teammates at training camp last month.

"Honestly, coming in, I thought I was going to be like another guy," Kinlaw said. "But I'm coming in and I'm looking like, 'OK, dang, I'm the biggest guy.' But just because I'm big that doesn't always mean (much) because everyone is strong. Everybody is big. It's all about technique."

As Kinlaw hinted, he has yet to have an outsized performance during the first four practices of training camp. He hasn't consistently flashed while working with the second team, although there have been moments when it's clear why the 49ers coveted him.

On Tuesday, for example, he twice faced Tomlinson, the 315-pounder who's one of the 49ers' strongest players, in a one-on-one pass-rushing drill. The result, which probably registered on the Richter scale, had Tomlinson giving up significant ground against Kinlaw's bull-rush.

Right guard Daniel Brunskill has likened blocking Kinlaw to "hitting a wall." However, Kinlaw also has hit a wall during steamy practices against an offense that stretches out defenses with outside-zone runs.

"Like every rookie, it's just a different feel when you get on the practice field, especially when you go against an offense like ours who moves at such a fast pace, who make you run as a defensive line," defensive coordinator Robert Saleh said. "It's not a power game that you've got to play. It's more of a speed game. For him, he's like every rookie. It's the fourth day of camp. Legs are probably getting a little bit heavier. But we're excited to have him."

Kinlaw's assessment of his performance?

"I'd be lying if I thought it was good," he said. "But I'm making improvements. That's the main thing."

Say this: Kinlaw has made great strides as an interview subject.

On Tuesday, his first meeting with the media since his buttoned-up Q&A session on his draft night in April, Kinlaw was funny, engaging and displayed a humility not often displayed by college All-Americans and first-round picks.

His thoughts on facing Tomlinson?

“I’ll tell you what, the other day he wore me out,” Kinlaw said. “I’m used to playing bully ball in college, but it’s like everyone here is strong. And then they’re playing with good pad level. … (I’m going after Tomlinson) and his head is below my sternum.”

When asked if defensive line coach Kris Kocurek has eased him in by limiting him in individual drills, Kinlaw laughed: “Coach put me in the fire off the rip. He threw me in the fire since Day 1. … It isn’t a limiting thing.”

And his impressions of the profane and high-decibel Kocurek? “He’s a mad man,” Kinlaw said, smiling.

George Kittle

Me and my robot: George Kittle and his unique offseason training partner

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
Feburary 18, 2021

George Kittle has a sweet, new, 75-acre spread outside of Nashville that will have a little bit of everything: A weight room, an indoor field, an outdoor field and a recovery room.
Oh, and a football-throwing robot.

He's actually been working with that last item for a while. The 49ers tight end first came across the device, called the Seeker and produced by Monarc Sport, when he was a junior at Iowa and the machine was in its infant stages. Back then, there were wires and motors hanging off of it, and the interface was through a laptop computer.

Today, it's portable and sleek, there's a touchscreen and GPS-like tracking, and it can throw — including some wicked fastballs — to all corners of a football field. Kittle liked it so much, he became an investor. Perhaps it's no coincidence that a handful of NFL tight ends, including the Chargers' Hunter Henry, the Steelers' Eric Ebron and the Lions' T.J. Hockenson are among the early adopters. Hockenson, who also played at Iowa, will be training with Kittle in Nashville this offseason.

"I don't have to drive somewhere," Kittle said during a call from his new offseason home. "I don't have to wait on a quarterback to show up and get warmed up. I can get out of bed and go downstairs and just turn it on. And I can catch 150 footballs before breakfast."

Kittle initially got a Seeker to augment his training. But it became essential when the pandemic hit last year. Gyms closed, local fields were off limits, social distancing was encouraged. Kittle was living in a neighborhood home in Nashville at the time with his wife, Claire, his parents and his sister. He lifted weights in a makeshift gym in the garage and caught passes in the backyard.

Kittle made the throwing sessions a family affair. Unlike a traditional JUGS machine, which is fed footballs one at a time, the Seeker can fire six in one clip and discharge them in 10 seconds. But the balls still must be loaded into the magazine, which is where Kittle's family came in. It was as if the Kittles were manning the cannons on the side of the frigate during the Napoleonic Wars.

"We got pretty efficient at it," he said. "We got 150 footballs in under 30 minutes a couple of times. We were flying. And that was really fun."

Kittle said his favorite program is called the gauntlet, one in which he's standing still and the Seeker fires passes to various points on his body.

"It's randomized," he said. "I'm in a stationary spot, but I can get a ball that's three feet above my head and a ball that's on my toes, a ball that's on the right side of my knee, a ball that's in my stomach, that's at my face. It's just an entire array."

His new home will give him the space to experiment with other features, including a route-running mode. If the 49ers tight end wants to work on breaking to the outside and catching passes just before the sideline, the Seeker can handle that, too.

During the 2011 scouting combine, soon-to-be 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick edged out Cam Newton by throwing a football 59 mph. Now and then, strong-armed NFL passers like Patrick Mahomes and Aaron Rodgers might launch passes that exceed 60 mph.

The Seeker is capable of producing 100 mph passes, although Monarc Sport co-founder Igor Karlicic said the company has dialed back the maximum speed to 75 mph for safety's sake.

"We were actually training with Danny Amendola one day in Austin and he was asking to receive passes at 61 (mph)," Karlicic said. "And 61 is terrifying. If you're standing right in front of it 30 yards away and you're anticipating a 61 mph, it's sensational. And Danny wanted it in stride, in a route at 61 mph and it was really next level. We're in awe of what these athletes are doing and we're trying to enable what their unique minds come up with."

Kittle said his Seeker is usually throwing passes at 50 to 55 mph, but he'll crank it up past 60 mph before he calls it quits for the day.

"And that's for hand strength right at the end," he said. "The 60-plus (mph) is very seldom. But it's fun sometimes just to see who can do it."

Both Karlicic and Kittle said the goal isn't to replace the quarterback. Kittle, after all, is best friends with fellow Nashville area resident C.J. Beathard, and the ultra-gregarious tight end always prefers to train with others. Beathard, in fact, also was an early investor in the device.

But Kittle also noted that human quarterbacks aren't always available on a whim and that their arms will get tired over time. If Kittle is working out on his new outdoor field with buddies like Hockenson, 49ers tight end Charlie Woerner and Packers tight end Robert Tonyan, it might be tough for any flesh-and-blood quarterback to deliver the 150 passes that Kittle tries to get in a day.

The Seeker also enables a second person to determine the placement of the throws, a function that allows Kittle to engage the prankster side of his personality.

"It's fun," he said. "If I want to mess with my boy Rob Tonyan, I can throw at his feet four times in a row, then two at his face and just have a good time with it."

The Saints recently became the first NFL team to get a Seeker and the company last week delivered one to Northwestern, the alma mater of Karlicic and co-founder Bhargav Maganti. Iowa, SMU, Oklahoma, LSU and Virginia are among the other programs that have one. Some of these teams have agreements with Monarc. Otherwise, the device costs $62,500.

Karlicic noted that the Seeker can produce left- and right-handed passes, can launch a ball end over end and, with the velocity up to 75 mph, can mimic punts and kickoffs. There's a video of receiver Mohamed Sanu, who was briefly with the 49ers in 2020, setting up his Seeker in his front yard so he can catch punts in his backyard.

What it can't do is feather passes between linebackers and defensive backs, put nuance into the spiral or perfectly mimic the characteristics of specific quarterbacks. Well, it can't do those things yet. Developing a robotic Tom Brady or Russell Wilson is the ultimate goal, Karlicic said.

"That's the dream, right?" he said. "If you're somewhere down the roster on the Seahawks, how valuable would it be to immediately be able to emulate that chemistry with Russell Wilson, your starting quarterback? To be able to get those reps when Russell himself isn't going to be wanting to throw them? Absolutely. That's really what we're trying to do."

How George Kittle transformed from 200-pound Iowa tweener to All-Pro tight end

By Scott Dochterman
The Athletic
October 18, 2020

Once a year, usually when the leaves turn colors and the temperatures fall, the Krieger family gathers at a log cabin in southeast Iowa and its number of attendees approach the population of many nearby communities.

Bub and Lucky Krieger had 10 daughters — no sons — and almost all of them and their children return to a site called “Kamp Krieger” every year for a day of fellowship. For Bub and Lucky’s grandchildren, Kamp Krieger often was filled with day-long battles of whiffle ball that included some of the region’s best athletes.

Among the cousins smacking the plastic ball include San Francisco 49ers tight end George Kittle and former Los Angeles Rams tight end Henry Krieger-Coble. They were Iowa football teammates for four seasons. There’s Brad Carlson, who is the University of Iowa’s career leader in home runs and former all-state baseball brothers Jesse and Levi Ney. Older than all of them is Jess Settles, the Big Ten freshman of the year in 1994, who scored 1,611 points in his Iowa men’s basketball career.

“They just love it, and they play it every time they get together,” said Settles, now a basketball analyst with Big Ten Network. “And they talk a lot of trash. They just smash the ball around.

“At the last one, they got the H-O-R-S-E game going and the shooting competitions, and I had to humble all of them in that. The old gray mare isn’t what she used to be, but she’s still got it.”

Settles brought that up on Twitter in the spring, and immediately Kittle, his younger cousin by 20 years, responded.

“Jess I’m pretty sure you won the first game and lost the next four,” Kittle wrote. He ended his tweet with a pair of laughing emojis.

It’s a tight-knit extended family despite its size held together by the patriarch and matriarch. Bub Krieger, who died in 2011, gave up a pro football career with the Chicago Cardinals in 1940s to run his 160-acre family farm near Mount Union, Iowa. Lucky Krieger, now 97, still lives on the farm. They empowered their daughters to succeed in all facets and definitely in sports.

Kittle’s mother, Jan, was an All-American basketball player at Drake, where she also played softball. Krieger-Coble’s mother, Amy, played softball at Iowa. Every sporting event became a family reunion of sorts when the grandchildren had games. Settles coached Krieger-Coble’s high school basketball team in Mount Pleasant. The family traveled to watch Kittle’s older sister, Emma, play volleyball in high school and college at Iowa and Oklahoma.

It was the same way for a while with Kittle, the San Francisco 49ers’ charismatic All-Pro tight end. As an eighth-grader, his middle school football team played at Mount Pleasant. And the Krieger caravan came to watch him.

“He was just lanky and not a lot of muscle on him,” Settles said. “But he had good hands, he had good quickness. It was just kind of fun to sitting there in the bleachers with Henry and the family, because we basically show up to any event in the area if one of 150 family members is playing in it. It’s kind of a family tradition.”

Family matters to the Krieger family, of which Kittle is a product. So does Iowa, a place where Kittle partially grew up as a youth and then as a man in college. His path to NFL fame wasn’t easy. He was a low-level recruit who wasn’t offered a Division I scholarship until Iowa’s Kirk Ferentz offered him on signing day in 2012.

It took a lifestyle change to elevate Kittle from a mid-level college player three years into his Iowa career to set him on an NFL course. Yet he remained true to himself and those around him to become the star he is today.

“One of my greatest joys as a coach is seeing George be himself and having fun living life and having fun playing football,” said Iowa assistant LeVar Woods, who served as tight ends coach for Kittle’s final two seasons.

Family, football and fun

One constant in Kittle’s five years at Iowa, was his devotion to his family. Before every home game, Kittle would leave one of the Iowa team buses and immediately search for his parents. Once he found them, he gave Jan and Bruce a hug and kiss before tapping the 12-foot bronze Nile Kinnick statue on the way into the stadium.

Also apparent was Kittle’s attraction to fun. One summer day, he was eating in downtown Iowa City when he noticed a wedding party taking pictures.

“Someone screamed at me, ‘Hey Kittle, come take a photo with us for our wedding,’” Kittle said. “So I was in between a bunch of bridesmaids. I enjoyed it. I had no idea who any of them were, but it was fun.”

Kittle was into traditional golf and frisbee golf, often shot pool in the colder months and tried to bowl but was terrible at it. During his junior year, former teammate and current pro wrestler Steve Manders (aka “The Cornbelt Cowboy”) turned Kittle into a WWE fan. Just hours after the Hawkeyes’ Outback Bowl appearance on Jan. 1, 2017, Kittle attended a WWE event in Tampa, Fla., that night.

No matter the environment, Kittle was friendly and outgoing. Settles — and others — have called Kittle “the life of the party.” It didn’t matter if it was a family reunion or an upscale greeting, Kittle was comfortable in any environment. That included dinner with his coaches.

“One of the first times I had the tight ends over when I became tight ends coach, my wife left saying, ‘Who is that skinny kid? He’s a really nice kid. He kept talking to me the whole time. Who is that guy?’” Woods said. “‘That’s George Kittle.’ And the rest is history.

“Now I think everyone sees how he’s able to connect with people and talk with people and leave people with a great impression. Whereas other guys are a little bit more quiet when they’d come over to the coach’s house, a little bit more reserved. George was not that way.”

Kittle’s outgoing personality also was on display his first fall at Iowa. As he approached Hillcrest dormitory where the majority of freshman athletes reside, he saw women’s basketball player Claire Till climb on her moped. She was tall, wore long, black hair and flashed a smile that stopped Kittle at the moped rack.

“She had a helmet and a pink Hawkeye on the front of her moped,” said Claire’s mother, Shelley Till, who is a women’s basketball analyst with Big Ten Network. “And he was giving her crap and said, ‘Oh, hey, nice helmet.’ And she just kind of looked back at him and said, ‘Thanks,’ and made a smirk and drove away.

“According to him, he was really interested in her the moment he saw her, and she wanted nothing to do with him. He will laugh and say that he was in the friend zone for a good eight months.”

They became friends and Kittle regularly asked her out. Claire always shot him down. Finally, on Feb. 3, 2013, a few hours after the women’s basketball team lost a two-point home heartbreaker, they reached a crossroads moment.
“She knew he liked her,” Shelley said. “It’s Super Bowl Sunday and the 49ers are in the Super Bowl, not that he was a 49ers fan at the time, but it’s just the irony of the story. So he’s texting her and so she’s like, ‘Fine, I’m hungry. If you want to take me out for sushi.

"So, he left from watching the Super Bowl and took her out downtown in Iowa City to dinner on Super Bowl Sunday. That was kind of their first official going out together/doing something together where she finally said, 'Yeah, OK. I'll let you take me out to dinner.' It just happened to be she pulled him away from the Super Bowl. So that must mean he really liked her."

Throughout Kittle's Iowa tenure, the university ranked either No. 1 or No. 2 in Princeton Review's annual party school rankings. Kittle helped enhance those rankings. He was active in the Iowa City party scene and it impacted his football trajectory. He wasn't completely immersed in Iowa's rigorous offseason training, and it prevented him from seeing the field.

"I think this is well-documented, and George would say all these things to your face, that he struggled early on just adapting to college and college life," Woods said. "The aspect of being a Big Ten football player he struggled with early on and the kind of the commitment it takes off the field to do that.

"There's a turning point. He documents it as a conversation he had with (former Iowa linebacker) Pat Angerer as a time when he made a decision, and I think it's kind of a perfect storm for him."

Angerer and Kittle are two of Iowa's biggest personalities over Ferentz's tenure. Both are engaging and personable. Their college career paths followed a similar wavelength. Angerer was a well-known partier and barely saw the field in his first three seasons at Iowa. In his final two seasons, Angerer developed into an on-field ass-kicker and second-team All-American in 2009, a year when Iowa finished 11-2.

Kittle, a lifelong Iowa fan, knew of Angerer's exploits and also was aware the linebacker considered quitting midway through his career. Angerer told him the difference was he cut down on the partying and threw his life into football. At the time, Kittle saw his career circling the drain and heeded Angerer's advice.

"After my freshman year, I got up to about 225 pounds and I got stuck there," Kittle said. "Leading up to the TaxSlayer Bowl, the HawkSlayer Bowl (a 45-28 loss to Tennessee on Jan. 2, 2015), I got stuck about 225. That was the offseason where I just figured some stuff out."

Wheel routes

In a family filled with well-known and successful athletes, Kittle had one trait none of his cousins did.
"We were all fortunate to have good hands," Settles said. "We had a passion. Good work ethic. We had that motor that you can't really teach. But we always came up short for probably one main reason and George finally got it, which is world-class speed. That blows my mind because we don't have the speed gene in our family."

When Kittle arrived at Iowa, he weighed 200 pounds and looked like a wide receiver. Ferentz wasn't sure exactly which position Kittle would play. Defense was a possibility, but the plan was set for him to grow as a tight end.

"George was incredibly fast," said Woods, who coached linebackers when Kittle arrived before shifting to tight ends coach in 2015. "I remember telling staff on defense, and I kind of got laughed at a little bit by one of the coaches when I said that George Kittle might be one of the top five fastest guys on this football team. Because he would run down on scout kickoff to service that kick return team, and we couldn't block the guy. He was certainly skinny and wiry like everyone talks about but he was incredibly fast, incredibly athletic and explosive."

Kittle was fifth on the depth chart as a redshirt freshman in 2013, yet his speed allowed him to reach the field for a few offensive plays per game. He grabbed five passes for 108 yards running one primary pattern, and the defense quickly caught up.
"It's, '46 is in. He's running a wheel route,'" Kittle said. "And I ran a wheel route every time."
"It was always funny," Iowa tight end Jake Duzey said. "They probably knew what was coming but George was faster than the guy anyway."

Through the end of 2014, Kittle played sparingly but brought a new dedication to the field for 2015 spring practice. Krieger-Coble, his cousin, was ahead of him, as was Duzey, both of whom had pro potential. Woods' shift to tight ends allowed Kittle to hear a fresh perspective and a new voice. But the challenge remained the same. It started with run blocking, which former strength coach Chris Doyle impressed upon him on his first day at Iowa.

"I'll never forget it," Kittle said. "It just kind of changed my mindset on the whole thing. I was not a physical player coming into college at all. It's hard to be a good run blocker if you're not physical. When he said that, it kind of changed my whole mindset."

Still, he had to prove it.

"From a run-blocking standpoint, I don't know if a lot of guys really respected George coming off the ball at the time," Woods said. "Whether we're talking about defensive ends or linebackers, I think everyone kind of viewed George as not dominant. Some of that had to do with (the fact) he's a little bit light and then also some of it had to do with maybe not finishing his blocks as much. But I think that changed that spring going into his junior season."

Kittle's fundamentals, along with his growing size and strength, led to dramatic improvement. His explosiveness off the ball coupled with his ability to bring his elbows and knees to drive defenders became apparent. And he put it on full display against stalwart defensive end Drew Ott.

"That spring, going into his junior year, there were a couple of pictures I have burned in my brain of George Kittle," Woods said. "As an offensive staff, we were watching and we were rewinding it. And no one could quite believe it. He was going up against Drew Ott in a 9-on-7 inside run drill, and George comes rolling off the ball and basically — he didn't put Drew on his back — but put Drew off the field. And then he came back and did another one in the same practice. I think that sort of let everyone know this is real, what we're seeing out of George Kittle."

It wasn't an aberration. In his first game against Illinois State, Kittle earned his first pancake block when he drove a defender more than 10 yards off the ball. He did that consistently over his next two seasons, including to his teammates, too.

"I was on scout team and I had to go against George," said current Iowa defensive end Chauncey Golston. "I would try to go as hard as I possibly could and I would just see my cleats. I could just feel my cleats like just sliding in the ground going back."

In 2015, Iowa won its first 12 games, and Kittle caught a team-high six touchdown passes. Krieger-Coble and Kittle combined for 55 catches that year. On Krieger-Coble's senior day, each scored a touchdown. Kittle said playing alongside his first cousin "is still the most fun I've had in football."

"Henry Krieger-Coble has some of the best hands I've ever seen in my life at any level," Woods said. "George is a little bit different in the fact that he could frickin' fly, and he's a matchup nightmare. Some of the things that George has learned and refined, I think more so came with improving his hands, and his hand-eye coordination. He had the physical tools to run and separate from defenders, but just refining some of those things."

Entering his senior season, Pro Football Focus named Kittle, standing 6-foot-4, as college football's best tight end. He maintained his speed and he carried his weight well. In the seventh game that year, a midfoot sprain cost Kittle two games and rendered him ineffective for most of the rest. He struggled to walk but he refused to sit out of the regular-season finale against Nebraska. Kittle caught two touchdown passes that day.
Kittle finished with 47 catches for 737 yards and 10 touchdowns at Iowa. He started 18 games and played in 49.

'He made Claire laugh'

From their Super Bowl sushi dinner onward, Kittle and Claire began to date. They endured one big breakup that coincided with Kittle's major party phase. They reconciled when Kittle became more serious with football and in life. He may have changed his lifestyle but not his personality.

Kittle and a few football friends traveled to Claire's home in Dubuque, Iowa and ate the family completely out of food during one Independence Day weekend. During Claire's final three years of college, she traveled with Kittle to his parents' condo on South Padre Island every May.

"I saw right away that he just he made Claire laugh," Shelley said. "To me, the greatest thing that I noticed right away is they did start out as friends first. And quite frankly, that's why she didn't want to date him because they were such good friends. She didn't want to mess that up.

"I definitely knew she was smitten. But she tried to fight it for a while. But that's good. You've got to make him earn it."

Claire graduated three months after her basketball career concluded prematurely because of knee surgery. She opted to remain in Iowa City for fall 2016 as Kittle finished his final season with the football program. They grew closer.

For the 2017 NFL Draft, Claire's parents joined Kittle's parents and several family members at the Kittles' Coralville home. The 49ers selected Kittle in the fifth round, and Claire moved to California a few months later.

On an off day during training camp in 2018, Kittle and Claire walked down the Twin Lakes State Beach outside of Santa Cruz, Calif. He knelt on the beach. She gasped. Kittle proposed. They married on April 10, 2019, in a small family ceremony.

"If I would put it in a sentence, they make each other better," Shelley said.

Finishing strong

Just 25 miles from Settles' hometown in the mid-1990s, requests often would flood sporting goods stores for his No. 4 Iowa basketball jersey. Settles was a Big Ten star before a back injury derailed two of his seasons and ended his NBA hopes. At the time, Settles' fans would ask for any Iowa basketball artifact just so they could tie themselves to the affable local hero.

Fast forward 25 years. At a mall in Coralville, Iowa, Settles walked in one of the state's largest sporting goods stores and saw a rack full of Kittle jerseys and T-shirts.

"I thought, I've got a couple of my nephews. I've got my daughter," Settles said. "They might not have them back in (stock). I don't want to bother Jan with it. I bought the whole rack.

"I take, let's say, 15 of them up to the cash register. And the lady goes, 'Oh, you're getting some gifts for some people?' I typically don't do this, but I said, 'Yeah, George is my cousin, I want to take care of the family with these.' And man, her face lit up like you wouldn't believe.

"Then the kid next door came over and said George is the starting tight end on his fantasy team. We have this 10-minute conversation about George. So that's kind of what it's become with this celebrity that he has now."

Kittle remains the toast of Iowa City. He has returned on bye weeks to watch games from the sidelines. He recorded a football hype video that resembled a WWE promotion. He watched Claire's younger brother, Riley Till, play basketball at Iowa and received standing ovations from the crowd.

When the 49ers played at Seattle in last year's regular-season finale, Kittle invited Woods and his son, Mason, to join him on the sidelines just two days after Iowa's Holiday Bowl victory in San Diego. Kittle still

sends texts to Iowa City-based reporters and treats his extended family members as he did during their whiffle ball tournaments.

“Nothing has changed,” Settles said. “You’re just one of the crew.”

Amid his status as one of the nation’s most interesting and energetic pro athletes, Kittle provides plenty of lessons from his Iowa days. He grew as a player and a person. His persistence was rewarded. He didn’t let adversity hold him back. All of those intangibles resonate.

“George Kittle loves life, and George Kittle loves football,” Woods said. “Those are the things that I think you take away from George. It’s not how you start; it’s how you finish. And it doesn’t necessarily matter where you come from, but it’s what you end up doing with it.”

Security and Super Bowls: What motivated 49ers' Kittle in striking a deal

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 16, 2020

Bad news for NFL defensive backs: George Kittle has 75 million reasons to continue running over them with no regard for his body and, of course, theirs.

On Saturday, a day after signing a five-year extension that made the 49ers' tight end the NFL's highest-paid player at his position, Kittle discussed how the money provided security.

He meant security for himself, his wife, parents and sister, but also the sense of security he'd feel on the field knowing a devastating injury wouldn't devastate him financially. The man who just signed for $30 million fully guaranteed after earning $1.88 million in his first three seasons expressed his sense of relief in a way that was quintessentially Kittle.

"I can just go out there and play football and run through someone's face," Kittle said. "And I'm really excited about that."

Given the punishment, Kittle, 26, has already absorbed in his brief, 45-game career, the first-team All-Pro understandably had zero interest in remaining one of the biggest bargains in the NFL for another season.

But there were some roadblocks on the way to his $75 million extension.

The 49ers didn't have to work out a deal — Kittle had another season left on his contract — but they recognized it was right to reward the player who has the most receiving yards (2,945) by a tight end in his first three seasons in NFL history.

And Kittle and his agent, Jack Bechta, were willing to be flexible to get it done. For example, general manager John Lynch indicated Kittle's contract was structured so his salary in 2021 wouldn't be too onerous in regard to the salary cap. Due to the loss of NFL revenue this season because of the pandemic, the salary cap, $198.2 million this season, could drop to as low as $175 million next season.

"They were going to get what they deserved, but there was a spirit of, 'Hey, can you work with us?'" Lynch said. "In particular in (2021), we needed their assistance. … It's certainly not a back-loaded contract, but there's some creative things that were done within the contract to make it such that it behooves everybody."

Managing next season's smaller cap will be particularly challenging because the 49ers have a host of key players who will be unrestricted free agents. In the end, Lynch suggested, Kittle wanted a deal that would provide for security and Super Bowls.

"George wants to win championships, and he knew there was an element to that as well," Lynch said. "He didn't give in on anything, but he did work with us to make it good for everybody."

Free beer, wrestling and Super Bowl memories: Inside George Kittle's garage

By Tory Zawacki Roy
ESPN.com
August 1, 2020

Inside the bright sunlit garage of George Kittle's offseason Nashville home is a makeshift gym comprising the usual suspects: a bench in the center, plates, bands and mirrors strung up against the walls.

The interior of his garage -- Kittle's personal air-conditioned bubble, perfect for pandemic social distancing -- is adorned with flags from the University of Iowa, the 2019 Pro Bowl and the United States of America. They're an expression of who the San Francisco 49ers tight end is.

Then, there's the unmistakable crown jewel:

"I've got a StairMaster if you wanna work out," Kittle says, not kidding.

Mixed in with dozens of bottles of Gatorade in the corner of the garage is the occasional Bud Light or Bud Light Seltzer box. And there are plenty more throughout the house.

"You guys want a beer to take home or anything?" Kittle asks the masked and gloved members of the camera crew who have arrived to film the interview. "You guys like seltzer? I get it for free."

That's George Kittle. He is incredibly authentic while simultaneously generous with his time, and with his stuff. Like everyone else, he's just trying to stay safe and keep busy during the pandemic while also, in his case, maintaining his mantra on the field: cero miedo.

Wrestling and the Super Bowl

Underneath the rack station in the corner of the garage are folding chairs from WrestleMania 35 -- literally, Kittle's actual seats from the event -- which he attended in New York last year. On the cushions are collages of the faces of some of its stars, like Ronda Rousey and Dave Bautista.

It's a nod to Kittle's love of WWE, one he professes regularly on Twitter. But one wrestler is missing, the one who inspired Kittle's mantra and his first-down celebration: Mexican superstar luchador, Pentagon.

The gesture is simple, and Kittle encourages everyone in the room to try it: Extend your arm and put three fingers in the air -- your middle finger, ring finger and pinkie -- form an "O" with a closed circle of your thumb and pointer finger. Then swing it down.

If it seems familiar, that's because, of Kittle's 85 catches last season, 53 of them went for first downs. Sitting in the garage and shaking out his first haircut of the pandemic, Kittle recalls exchanging gifts and mutual respect with Pentagon at WrestleMania 34 in New Orleans.

When asked about his gift from Pentagon, Kittle jumps out of his chair quickly to go get it. Two minutes later, he returns to the garage with a bright red and gold luchador mask.

"This is his mask, but he customized it," said Kittle, who gave Pentagon a jersey. "There's a dragon on the side. It's in the 49ers colors. He threw up the number 85 on there for me. It's definitely one of my favorite items that I own."

"Don't ask my wife, but I definitely walk around the house in this thing."

For Kittle, cero miedo -- "zero fear" in English -- isn't just a flashy gesture to annoy his opponents after a first down. It's his attitude. It's an audacious mindset that enables Kittle to see only the positive, especially in how his 2019 campaign ended: the 49ers 31-20 loss to the Chiefs in Super Bowl LIV. A loss, he says, that could be considered the "lowest of lows."

Still for Kittle, there's always an upside.

"The fact that I got to meet The Rock was pretty special," he says.

The pregame introductions for Super Bowl LIV had The Rock, former WWE superstar Dwayne Johnson, introducing players to the crowd and the TV audience with some swagger and some trash talk -- WWE style.

"Straight from the People's Champion himself," Johnson began, while gesturing for Kittle to join him on stage, "allow me to introduce you ... to the People's Tight End."

Kittle pauses to remove the hair tie from the man bun that's been sitting on top of his head, and shakes out his hair again.

"I felt like a little kid meeting a superhero," he says. "That was one of the coolest things about the whole Super Bowl. I took his one bottle of tequila that he had. It was delicious."

The season ahead

George Kittle demonstrates the "cero miedo" sign from his garage in Nashville. Justin Fredericks/ESPN
This offseason hasn't been the best of times for anyone, but Kittle's personal gym -- StairMaster included -- has been a haven during quarantine, his own bubble of safety and isolation where he immunized his body and his mind for the field.

It's a big year for Kittle, who, after back-to-back seasons of 1,000-plus receiving yards, is due for a new contract in the spring.

This week, as he finds himself more than 2,000 miles away in Santa Clara, contemplating what could be a complicated football future, he's already prepared to face whatever comes next.

"When you're playing football, you have to have that zero fear," Kittle says. "Because if you're scared, you're going to maybe not reach out for a ball, because there's a safety in the middle of the field. Or you might not want to make a play because you're going to be hit really hard.

"You have to have zero fear."

The Secret to George Kittle's Creative Destruction

By Kevin Clark
The Ringer
December 19, 2019

George Kittle decided to be a badass one day and never stopped. It happened in the summer of 2017 when his tight ends coach, Jon Embree, told him to stop getting tackled. Everyone agreed this was ludicrous, including 49ers head coach Kyle Shanahan. "He'd say, 'You can't go out of bounds there, they can't tackle you.' And I'd say, 'OK, Jon, we get it, but this is kind of ridiculous. You're going to lose him if you keep saying that when it's impossible.'"

Embree did not relent. Kittle was, at best, skeptical. "One of the first things he said was never run out of bounds. 'Turn upfield. They will get out of your way. If they don't get out of your way, run them over,'" Kittle said. "So I said to him, 'Well"—he paused—"they are going to tackle me?" But Embree persisted. Again, everyone was quite confused.

"Jon never wavered, because he was doing it to the right guy," Shanahan said. "George, at some point, thought, 'You're right, they can't tackle me.'"

That "some point" has an exact date: August 19, 2017, in a preseason game against the Denver Broncos. "I turn upfield, and there's a guy standing there. I said, 'Screw it, I'm just gonna run,' and the guy just kind of fell over," Kittle said. "I ended up in the end zone, and I probably should have been pushed out of bounds. So I thought, 'Wow, I get it. If you just run at people they just kinda tend to get out of your way.'"

The NFL is one of the most competitive places in human history. Each of its teams is worth a billion dollars. Coaches spend hundreds of hours each week looking for an edge. No sport is as scrutinized or overanalyzed. And sometimes, the league changes when a fifth-round draft pick from Iowa says, "Screw it, I'm just gonna run."

The guy standing in Kittle's way in that Broncos game was cornerback Chris Lewis-Harris, whom Kittle trucked right before brushing off a shove from safety Orion Stewart. The names and numbers of the players keep changing, but the play is usually the same: Kittle charging straight ahead and a defender failing to reckon with this fact. I explain that this moment in August 2017 sounds a bit like a superhero origin story. "Learning how it all works," Kittle said. "Like Spider-Man jumping off a building."

"Yeah. It does," Kittle continues as he nods. "And it clicked even more my second year. They do get out of your way. It's pretty fun."

It's outrageous to think that Kittle decided to start breaking tackles and then became the best at it. It's as if Steph Curry had decided to start launching 3-pointers only a few years ago because a coach told him he might be good at it. Kittle is not only good at avoiding tackles—he is the absolute best in the NFL.

Kittle plays with a frantic energy that has made him the league's best tight end. Last season, he set an NFL record for receiving yards by a tight end. He blends athleticism and destruction so seamlessly that he's earned comparisons to Rob Gronkowski, including from the man himself. This year, Kittle is a major part of the offensive engine of the 11-3 Niners, one of the best teams in the league. It is a triumph of self-belief and also a triumph of being 250 pounds, 6-foot-4, and running over 20 mph.

"George, at some point, thought, 'You're right, they can't tackle me.'" —Kyle Shanahan

"I just had the sense that people were going to struggle to tackle him," Embree said. "There is something in him that makes people not want to tackle him." Well, he was right: According to Pro Football Focus, Kittle had more yards after the catch last season than any wide receiver or tight end the site has ever tracked. In the past two seasons, Kittle has averaged 8.8 yards after the catch per reception. This is not only the most—it's 1.6 yards per play more than anyone else. Since Kittle entered the league in 2017, no player has more yards after the catch above expectation, according to Next Gen Stats.

"His mind-set is not, 'I'm going to score,' or, 'I want to get as many yards as possible.' It is, 'I want to destroy whoever is in front of me,'" receiver Dante Pettis said. "That's why he stiff-arms and runs people over. He wants to destroy whoever is in the path."

Niners tackle Mike McGlinchey can speak for everyone: "I have never seen anything like it."

Kittle can make defenders look like they've never attempted a tackle before. When they miss, they sometimes react as if it is the most frustrating thing in the world—perhaps because it is. The last decade of football has featured smaller defensive players, adjusting to faster, spread offenses. Strict limits on tackling in practice, and practice time, has led to, at least anecdotally, worse tackling. Kittle has taken these trends and run them over. He said he wants to run in a way that forces defensive backs into "creative angles." This is code for an angle in which Kittle will destroy them.

Creative angles led Kittle to a 2018 game against the Broncos. "All of their DBs took creative angles. I don't think I really got hit at all, and I had like 200 yards," he explains. Kittle talks about owning defenders in a nonchalant tone, the way most people describe ordering something from Amazon. "You can tell if a guy is running full speed at you at a downhill angle. Yeah, he's going to bring it on me, and I'll lower my shoulder, and we'll see who wins," Kittle said. But the Broncos, despite being dunked on twice already in this story, are not Kittle's Washington Generals. He does this to everyone. This brings him to this season's Saints game in Week 14, which has become his most famous moment on the field. "In the Saints game, I caught the ball, turn upfield. I run at the guy, and he slowed down instead of coming at me. So I knew he was just going to try to push me out of bounds and not be very physical at it. So you run at him and then just kinda run past him. He's lucky he got my face mask."

McGlinchey said that Saints game was "Peak George." If Kittle's broken-tackle story started against Denver in 2017, it was perfected in New Orleans. On a fourth-and-2, with 39 seconds left and the Niners scrambling to get in position for a game-winning field goal attempt, Kittle not only converted the first down but gained 39 yards, most of which came after the catch. Kittle said he knew the Niners still had timeouts, so he could stay in bounds—that, of course, is all he needed to know. "[The safety] slowed down, and I knew I was going to bring some pain." He was such a force on the play that Saints safety Marcus Williams grabbed Kittle's face mask in a bid to bring him down, leading to a 15-yard penalty. The Niners calmly kicked a field goal to win 48-46 in one of the best games of the year.

"He got lucky he held on," Kittle said of Williams. "'Cause I was going to throw him to the ground."

Watching the play from the backfield was quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo. "Once I saw he had about 2 yards on the guy, it was over, so I just wanted to get him the ball as fast as possible," he said. "I literally saw him turn it up the field, and I know it sounds crazy, but in my head, I said, 'Oh, that's game.'"

On September 22, 2007, Iowa lost 17-13 at Wisconsin. Pat Angerer, a sophomore linebacker, didn't play despite a long list of Hawkeyes injuries. The coaches burned a freshman's redshirt instead of playing Angerer. He was devastated. "The next day, I looked in the mirror and said, 'It's not their fault, it's not his fault, it's your fucking fault.' I took ownership of where I was at in life and on the field," said Angerer, who eventually developed into an All–Big Ten selection and a second-round pick in 2010. This game—played by a forgettable Hawkeyes team five years before Kittle even stepped foot on campus—helped change the course of the NFL in 2019.

In 2015, Angerer was back at Iowa working out in the Hawkeyes weight room when Kittle, then a junior, approached him. Even though he played a different position, Kittle was in the same scenario that Angerer had been in. The Hawkeyes had played Tennessee in a bowl game a few months prior, and younger players got reps ahead of Kittle. He felt uncertain about his career and asked Angerer what changed for him. "I stopped being an asshole," Angerer told him. "I quit getting drunk and getting in fights downtown. I made Iowa football the most important thing in my life." Kittle said that was the moment when he started to focus on football. "Whether it was the partying stuff, or whatever, just chilled out on that," he said.

Embree said he likes players who have been on a "journey." If they've struggled or failed at some point in their careers, they can handle his coaching style. "And the pressure of trying to not get cut," Embree said, which he finds crucial to motivating players. Kittle has been on a journey. I asked him what he considers to be the biggest moments in that journey, and he pointed to Angerer's advice, Embree's directive, and his first day on Iowa's campus, when strength coach Chris Doyle told him that if he couldn't run-block, he would never play at Iowa.

"I didn't see this as a seminal moment," Doyle told me. "It was just, 'Hey, George, you're going to have to be a better run blocker if you're going to be a tight end, like the guys who came before you. Dallas Clark, C.J. Fiedorowicz. I don't think he quite understood what it was going to take."

Doyle said he'll never forget Kittle's weigh-in as a freshman on June 8, 2012. "He was 200 pounds," Doyle said. "When he left, he was 6-4, 250." Doyle said Kittle was offered a scholarship to play at Iowa based on his potential—he was undersized, and his high school didn't feature him a lot in the passing game. Kittle's father, Bruce, is a former Iowa captain who taught George at an early age how to block and worked in pads with George as early as elementary school. But it wasn't until Iowa that it all came together. Once Kittle became an adept run blocker, and after the conversation with Angerer, he finally learned to love contact. "I used to be so soft in high school. I avoided contact. I played free safety in a Cover-1 and was back all the time. It was my decision to change that," Kittle said. "I realized if I kept playing soft, I was never going to see the field. I have choice words for my 18-year-old self."

In his first start in 2015, against Illinois State, he started hitting people. And he loved it. "I had a base block of a guy who was an [FCS] All-American the year before. I drove him 15 yards back and planted him on his back, and I said, 'Well, I'm just going to do that every single time now.'" He learned at that moment how much he enjoyed inflicting damage. He thought that very few players played physically for the entire game, and there was an inefficiency that he could exploit.

"I might get got once or twice. But you're going to get got the whole game," Kittle said.

Embree said Kittle loves wrestling, and Embree previously coached a wrestling fan in Browns tight end Gary Barnidge. "If you like wrestling, you like contact and physical things, and I wanted to play into that," Embree said. "If you're saying, 'Hey, this is cool, this [wrestler] flipping,' then it's about unleashing that. Unleashing the wrestler and bringing it out on the field. You have to give guys the latitude to be who they are. When you see George with the ball, he's being who he is."

Embree thinks three plays describe Kittle: Denver in 2017, the Saints catch from this season, and a 2018 Rams game in which Kittle briefly carried one Ram on his back and stiff-armed cornerback Marcus Peters. "Now, I think, 'Just run through them, and they'll avoid you.' It's OK. They don't have to tackle me," Kittle said. "I'm going to make them tackle me, and if they want to tackle me, I'm going to make it as hard as I possibly can on them to see if they want to keep tackling me." 49ers fullback Kyle Juszczyk said he marvels at how often Kittle approaches what appears to be a "nice collision" and keeps running without receiving much of a hit. And when there is contact, he's OK with that.

"There are times when a receiver flinches before he's about to be hit. George never does that," said tight end Garrett Celek. "He never flinches. He's never afraid to put himself in a vulnerable position to make a play. George is a savage."

Bruce Kittle, a former assistant at Oklahoma, told me he did not see his son progressing this quickly. "He's almost a completely different guy from OTAs in 2017 until now. No one saw this coming." I heard George's mom, Jan, through the phone, so Bruce corrected his previous statement that no one saw this coming. "Except his mom," Bruce said.

You'll often hear about Kittle's relentless positivity. It's mostly true, except I did see him get upset once in our limited time together, when a 49ers employee brought up Game of Thrones, a show he adores. "I completely ignore Season 8 ever happened—worst season in the history of television. That was awful," Kittle said. He said he was pissed off just talking about it.

Kittle has a lot of takes. “I’m a Lord of the Rings junkie. Sam and Frodo are the two best, their whole journey, everything they go through. Love Aragorn. I just like the mystical part of it—the huge battles,” said Kittle, whose father read him the books at least three times. “I’m a diehard Harry Potter guy. Not really the movies. The books are the best.”

Kittle’s wife, Claire, loves Madam Secretary, but he doesn’t. After a back-and-forth about popular television shows, we get to Homeland. “Oh, Homeland,” Kittle said, exasperated. He brings up the show’s main character, a CIA agent named Carrie Mathison, played by Claire Danes. “Everytime I watch an episode I say, ‘OK, she should be fired. I can’t get through it.’”

Given Kittle’s strong opinions about television, it should not be much of a surprise that Garoppolo said Kittle often says things that have nothing to do with football on the sideline. “There are times I say, ‘What the hell?’” Garoppolo said with a smile. Fellow tight end Ross Dwelley said Kittle could not stop speaking in a faux-Canadian accent on the sideline for a time because of his love of a viral YouTube video from Pardon My Take. “He does it a lot. He really thinks he’s Canadian,” Dwelley said.

Kittle has a massive tattoo of Heath Ledger’s Joker on his arm. (He loved the most recent Joker starring Joaquin Phoenix. “Super dark and depressing. I don’t know if I can ever watch it again, but it was incredible.” He says he thinks Mark Hamill was a great Joker, and he stores the classic Batman cartoons on his phone for road trips.) He slaps the tattoo when he’s on the field to get focused. He plans to get an even bigger, Halo-themed tattoo on his back in 2020. He’s become fanatical, he said, about his routine in the past few years and has to spend his nights on Friday and Saturday flipping a switch to get focused for the game. “I headbutt a wall, I puke, and the Joker tattoo is kind of a switch for me. I slap it before plays. I’m big into the visual parts,” Kittle said.

At Iowa, he used to put a piece of red tape on his arm as a “reset” button that he’d hit after a mistake. He thinks that football is 90 percent mental and that everyone who makes the league is talented, so the difference between greatness and mediocrity is in a lot of small edges, most of them mental. He spends three hours by himself the night before games. He meditates, he takes a salt bath, and he visualizes—his father, Bruce, said George has been doing that since about fifth grade. Bruce said it’s easier to, say, go into New Orleans in front of a loud crowd and dominate if you’ve already been there in your head.

SomeSome marriages seem to be created in the football heavens. It seems impossible for anyone but Andy Reid to coach Patrick Mahomes and that perfectly designed Chiefs offense. It boggles the mind that Drew Brees was ever coached by someone other than Sean Payton, who masterfully maps out the Saints’ efficient offense. Kittle and Shanahan are in that category: No one creates space like Shanahan, and no one does more with space than Kittle. Shanahan uses play-action effectively, and Kittle is open on a surprisingly regular basis for such a dominant player.

“I always mess with him that he can improve so much more on his routes, and he can, but most of the time, it doesn’t matter with George,” Shanahan told me. “He’s proven me wrong on that. It’s like, ‘Yeah, I could run a better route here, but just give me the ball in my hands because I care what happens after the catch.’ A lot of times, that doesn’t work out, but with George, it does. He’s willed his way into a lot of situations. The harder it gets, the more clutch he ends up being.”

Shanahan was looking for a pass-catching tight end in 2017 when he saw Kittle on tape. “He didn’t do that a lot in college, but he looked good when he did,” Shanahan said. “We couldn’t believe how good of a run blocker he was. Then we realized that everyone was calling him a run blocker because he didn’t have the passing stats. We were impressed with how all-around he was.”

“He’s willed his way into a lot of situations. The harder it gets, the more clutch he ends up being.” —Kyle Shanahan

Kittle, Shanahan said, “allows us to do stuff in the run game we haven’t done before because of how much he can handle on his own, whether it’s gap schemes or outside zone schemes.”

Having a huge person running very fast on the field is not an accident for the Niners. They have exploited a trend: As the league has gotten smaller, they’ve emphasized size.

“Defenses are always trying to compensate for the offenses, which means smaller, faster linebackers. There are three-receiver sets; teams are spreading the ball out. We put two running backs out there a ton, 22 personnel, two tight ends. Those linebackers have to match up with us in smaller spaces, and we feel like that gives us an advantage to push us around,” the team’s fullback, Juszczyk, said. “As the game progresses, I think it wears teams down. With George, it’s basically pick your poison. Guys good at the run game and blocking like that usually can’t run routes like that.” The Niners proved their commitment to size when they signed Juszczyk to the biggest-ever deal for a fullback in March 2017.

This dovetails nicely with the Kittle family’s size and offensive line background. Bruce said he was influenced, in part, by his former Hawkeyes coach Kirk Ferentz’s mentor, longtime offensive line coach Joe Moore. Bruce cites Moore’s famous quote: “There is no greater joy in life than moving a man from point A to point B against his will.”

This, of course, has shown up in George. I asked him the best he’s ever felt on a football field. “My senior year against Nebraska,” Kittle said. (He tells me that he has “choice words” for Nebraska football in general, but did not expand.) “We were winning 33-10, all the seniors on the field. We ran eight plays, ran [two tight ends, two running backs] and we ran 23 breeze—which is an inside run zone—toward me eight plays in a row, down the field, at 8 yards a pop, through their face. And on play nine, we ran power load, and I pancaked two guys on the play. That was one of the most satisfying moments for me. We completely physically broke them the entire game. One of my favorite parts was that their defensive end had a big curly mustache, because he thought he was really cool, and I put him on his back like three times. So that was very fun for me.

“I enjoy football,” he said. He talked a bit about the lessons his dad taught him about enjoying the game. Bruce, George said, taught him that “football is its own living, breathing organism. You don’t cut corners and you don’t cheat football, because it will always come and get you. Football is the ultimate truth.”

We know that George does not cut corners to get where he is going. He runs directly through people.”

49ers' George Kittle: Big numbers, big personality, soft spot for Dad's wisdom

By Ron Kroichick
San Francisco Chronicle
October 19, 2019

Peer past his outsized personality, obsession with professional wrestling, exhilaration rumbling downfield after catches, transcendent numbers in two-plus NFL seasons and fiendish tattoo on the inside of his left forearm.

There's another thing you should know about 49ers tight end George Kittle: He savors the long, weekly letters he receives from his dad.

They're e-mails, actually, and Bruce Kittle sends them every Saturday to a 49ers public-relations staffer, who prints the note, slides it into an envelope and leaves it for George. This typically serves as his pregame reading Sunday morning, on the bus ride to the stadium.

Bruce Kittle, a former Iowa offensive lineman, college football coach and criminal defense lawyer, covers a wide range of topics and tones. He offers strategic advice and real-life motivation, occasionally tied to movies the Kittles once watched together or books they read (Bruce read three "Lord of the Rings" books to George when he was 6).

"My dad is a terrific writer and incredible storyteller," George said in an interview this week with The Chronicle. "So whether he's trying to teach me a lesson in my life as a husband or future father, or something I can apply on the field, I pick up a couple things in every letter. …

"It means everything to me — it's my relationship with my dad. I'm not living at home with him like I did in high school, so it's fun to have that connection with him."

These ties to an uber-athletic family — Kittle also is close with his mom Jan (onetime college basketball and softball player) and sister Emma (former college volleyball player) — provide insight into the roots of his rise to prominence. He entered the league in 2017 with little hype, as a fifth-round draft choice who had only 48 catches in four years at Iowa, but now he counts as one of the NFL's top tight ends and a central character in the 49ers' 5-0 start.

Kittle, after making 88 catches last season and setting a league record for most receiving yards by a tight end (1,377), hasn't slowed this year. He already has 31 catches, putting him on pace for 99; his 162 catches since the start of '17 are tied for third-most among tight ends (with Atlanta's Austin Hooper), behind only Philadelphia's Zach Ertz and Kansas City's Travis Kelce.

Or, for historical context, consider this: Kittle reached 2,000 yards receiving in his 33rd career game, faster than all tight ends in NFL history except for Hall of Famers Mike Ditka and Kellen Winslow.

These numbers begin to convey Kittle's impact on the 49ers, but his gregarious demeanor carries similar clout. He's loud and upbeat, a source of perpetual energy during the grind of a long season.

Take his reaction to the Sept. 22 victory over Pittsburgh, for example. The 49ers posted a brief video on Twitter showing Kittle — with stringy, sweaty hair spilling onto his face — mimicking Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in shouting/singing, "Can you smell … what the Niners are cooking?!"

Johnson, a Hayward native, retweeted the video, praised the 49ers for their strong start and included the hashtag #peoplestightend. Kittle, a huge WWE fan, retweeted Johnson's post and added, "Am I dreaming."

Just another day in George Kittle's wild and crazy life.

“I would say his personality is extremely fun,” wide receiver Jordan Matthews said. “Most dudes who have George’s kind of personality, they’re unpredictable or inconsistent. They’re up one moment, down the next.

“This dude is never down. When it’s time to lock in, he’s locked in. And when he kicks it with the guys, we have a good time. … I know he’s a wrestling fan, but there ain’t nothing fake about him.”

Kittle, 26, does emit a good-natured, genuine vibe, as he did during a session with reporters this week. He talked about watching video of the 49ers’ loss to Washington two years ago, when he was a rookie, and called his performance “awful.” Asked why, Kittle jokingly blamed fellow tight end Garrett Celek’s lack of leadership. Later in the conversation, Kittle made fun of his own sloppiness, pointing to the mess strewn around his locker.

This sense of humor disappears on Sundays, when he adopts what he called his “alter ego.” That was the inspiration for the tattoo depicting The Joker, as played by Australian actor Heath Ledger in The Dark Knight.

“You have to kind of get in the mindset,” Kittle said. “Football is a violent sport. While I might be a happy, goofy guy six days a week, I kind of flip the switch when Sunday comes around.”

The alter ego surfaces most vividly in Kittle’s zest for run blocking, or the way he sheds prospective tacklers after making a catch. He memorably broke tackles and dragged defenders on a 45-yard catch-and-run in the second quarter of last Sunday’s 20-7 victory over the Rams in Los Angeles.

Then, afterward, Kittle — who stands 6-foot-4, weighs 250 pounds and obviously has some speed — quipped of gaining yards after the catch, “I like to YAC. It’s my favorite thing to do out there.”

That’s clearly one of his strengths, in the grand tradition of Bill Walsh’s West Coast offense. Kittle led the NFL last season with 870 yards after the catch, ahead of Carolina running back Christian McCaffrey (855). Kittle’s total was the most by any player since ESPN started tracking the statistic in 2006.

Matthews pointed out that receivers intent on running after the catch usually aren’t as sure-handed as Kittle, because they might prematurely think about running … and drop the football. But not Kittle.

“George is going to catch the ball and secure it, and then he turns into freaking Rambo,” Matthews said. “It inspires everybody else: Let me get the pill and I’m going to run just like that.”

Kittle compared his rampages to playing “backyard ball” as a kid, and the innocent joy of scampering on grass and trying to evade tackles. He wasn’t especially good at gaining yards after the catch in college, but he’s since adopted tight ends coach Jon Embree’s reminder: You don’t have to let the defense tackle you.

And, as Kittle pointed out, he did play running back in fifth, sixth and seventh grades. “My dad was the offensive coordinator, so I got the ball a lot,” he said, smiling.

Another thing Bruce Kittle instilled in George was the importance of blocking. So it’s no coincidence the younger Kittle is a reliable blocker, an important responsibility given head coach Kyle Shanahan’s emphasis on the running game.

This lifts Kittle into a lofty conversation: Could he soon become the game’s best all-around tight end? Ertz and Kelce are known more for their pass-catching skills, as illustrated by their gaudy numbers.

Kittle, who earned his first Pro Bowl appearance last season, might offer a more complete package, as quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo acknowledged. “He’s willing to do whatever you ask of him,” Garoppolo said, “and for a guy with his talent to do that, it’s impressive.”

49ers tight end George Kittle recalls his greatest catch, which came far away from the gridiron

By Daniel Brown
The Athletic
September 6, 2019

He spotted her a few times around campus when they were freshmen, and soon George Kittle had a crush on Claire till before he'd even said hello.

Claire was a bruiser on the basketball team, so they had that in common. George aimed to be just as rugged in his role as a tight end for the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Fate, or maybe it was a similar class schedule, finally brought them together in the student parking lot. Kittle saw Claire wearing a pink helmet that day as she prepared to climb aboard her moped.

Recognizing his chance, George racked his brain for an opening line full of wit, wonder and sophistication.

"Hey, nice pink helmet,'' he said.

Claire turned, glanced at George and mumbled a half-hearted "thanks." Then she hit the throttle as her moped sped into the distance.

"And that was my first interaction with her,'' Kittle says now. "I was like, 'Damn, I blew that.'"

We are sitting in an office at the 49ers facility on Monday, just days away from Week 1 of what will be Kittle's first season as a full-fledged NFL star. He shocked the league a year ago with a Gronkian output of 1,377 receiving yards, a league-record for tight ends.

Claire is here in the office, too, albeit without her pink helmet. Looking back, she had underestimated George Kittle as badly as some college coaches and NFL talent evaluators would soon do. And in both cases, Kittle simply kept working until he proved he was worthy of a long-term deal.

This will be George and Claire's first season as a married couple. They were wed on April 10, a day so stormy in Iowa City that they scrapped plans for a rooftop ceremony. Instead, they got married inside the jewelry store where he'd bought her engagement ring.

The vows took place a few months after Kittle engineered a half-baked proposal that was all at once awkward, awesome, hilarious and hampered by injury.

"It was very George Kittle-ish,'' Claire said.

Claire is here because she is part of his story now in a way that goes beyond her new last name. She's been there from the start of his career. A native of Dubuque, Iowa, she understood the Midwestern work ethic that Kittle used to reach the big time. And she knows what it will take for him to stay.

Claire, who is 5-foot-11 and still scrappy strong, now plays the same role for Kittle that she once did for the Iowa women's basketball team.

She is his center.

"He's a very transparent guy. So you can tell when something is kind of wrong,'' Claire said. "But we grew up together, essentially. And if you just know someone so well, it becomes easy to pick up and see how he responds to certain things. Trial-and-error is how I have learned."

Or, as George Kittle and his sophisticated wit put it:

“She’s always very quick to call me on my BS, if I ever have any.’’

The moped debacle was the receiving equivalent of getting jammed at the line. Kittle tried to recover quickly, but he found himself matched up against the most dreaded zone defense of all.

“I was in the Friend Zone,’’ Kittle says now. “And I was there for six months.”

He paused.

“But I worked my way out of it. I was chipping away. She didn’t even know it. She just thought I was being really friendly. But I was working, working, working.”

Metaphor alert! This is also Kittle’s football journey, a slow start followed by a stealth road to stardom. As a freshman at Iowa, he had five catches (not including Claire). As a sophomore, he had one catch. As a junior, it was 20 and as a senior, it was 22.

And as with the 49ers last season he had [checks notes] 88. That’s a team record for tight ends.

Most receptions in a season by a 49ers tight end
• 88 – George Kittle, 2018
• 82 – Eric Johnson, 2004
• 78 – Vernon Davis, 2009
• 68 – Brent Jones, 1993
• 67 – Vernon Davis, 2011

This is what can happen when you keep chipping away. This also why Mrs. Kittle now hears from strangers around the country about how they own her husband, too.

“Oh, yeah, I hear from the fantasy football people all the time,’’ Clarie said with a laugh. “I just say, ‘It’s great. He should be on your team.’ I get random DMs from people that I don’t even know. I don’t understand fantasy people, so I’m like, ‘Heck, yeah. Go for it.’’’

Not everyone is so crazy about Kittle’s prolific numbers, however. Take Carolina Panthers running back Christian McCaffrey. Last season, Kittle led the NFL with 860 yards after the catch. No tight end had led the league in that category, according to statistics kept since 2010. YAC is generally the domain of running backs, which makes sense. If a running back catches the ball, it’s often in the flat with room to run.

McCaffrey finished second to Kittle last season with 855 yards after the catch, which led to some playful trash-talking when they crossed paths at the Pro Bowl. Hall of Fame receiver Art Monk once told Roger Craig, “stay out of my category” after the 49ers running back led the league in receptions.
Kittle got the same treatment.

“McCaffrey is upset that I beat him. He let me know that,’’ Kittle said, smiling wide. “He was upset. But I was very happy.”

Part of Kittle’s success when it comes to YAC is the way the 49ers offense is designed. The tight end pointed to his 85-yard touchdown catch against the Denver Broncos last season when he sprang wide open, caught the ball in space and needed just one cut to go the distance. As a general philosophy, the 49ers coaching staff urges receivers to catch the ball and get vertical as soon as they can — don’t try to get fancy.

Part of his success is a mindset, Kittle said. 49ers tight ends coach Jon Embree has instructed Kittle to just skip any notion of juking defenders, instructing him instead to barrel ahead with his 6-4, 250-pound frame. Embree told him: “Run a straight line and guys will get out of your way. You’ll be surprised.”

"Which is very true. It's really weird,'' Kittle said. "You just try to make guys tackle you. Don't let guys tackle you."
Most yards after catch in a single NFL season

(Since 2010)

1. 870 – George Kittle, 49ers, 2018
2. 855 – Christian McCaffrey, Panthers, 2018
3. 816 – LeVeon Bell, Steelers, 2014
4. 788 – Matt Forte, Bears, 2014
5. 768 – Saquon Barkley, Giants, 2018

The trouble is, Kittle did try some fancy moves when it came to his proposal. After six years of dating, he figured he had to do something spectacular. Kittle's elaborate plan required a team effort. He enlisted an entire 49ers photo/video crew for the ruse at a Santa Cruz beach. Kittle told Claire that they were both required to get all dressed up for part of a promotional photoshoot featuring 49ers and their significant others.

Plausible, right? But remember that part about Claire calling George on his BS? That made this bluff difficult. And she started asking questions. Nosy questions. Something drastic had to be done, so George simply asked his mother, Jan, to look into Claire's face and lie.

Claire: "And if you know his mom, she's like a saint to other mothers."

George: "She would never lie.''

Claire: "She would never tell a white lie, ever."

George: "So I was really impressed.''

What Mama Kittle did was poke her head into the bathroom where Claire was getting ready for the photoshoot. She softly told Claire that she should be prepared for a letdown.

"She's like, 'I know that you might think that it's going to happen today, that he might propose you, but I just need to let you know that the ring isn't even here yet. They tried so hard to get it here,'" Claire recalled. "So I fully believed her because she has never done anything like that before."

The other threat to the proposal plan was the injury report. Kittle got hurt in the 49ers exhibition opener on Aug. 9, 2018, one day before he planned to head for the beach with a diamond ring in his pocket. He dislocated his shoulder and sprained his MCL on the play, which was less than ideal. Who wants "doubtful" on the ledger when you're about to ask for someone's hand in marriage?

Kittle spent the early hours of Aug. 10 at the 49ers facility working diligently on his rehabilitation work. Forget about popping pads, this was about popping the question.

"Literally, I was in the hot tub practicing getting down on a knee,'' he said. "I was like, 'OK. This is going to be OK.'"

Once they made it to the beach, they orchestrated the fake photoshoot with Montana-esque precision.
Led by team photographer Terrell Lloyd, the crew picked just the right time to distract Claire on the beach. That bought time for Kittle to ease down onto his bended, aching knee.

"I was on my knee for probably 45 seconds before she realized that I was down there,'' Kittle said. "I still didn't know what I'm going to say. I was just thinking, 'Please turn around.'"

Claire laughs while sitting there as Kittle tells the story. She only needs to correct him every few seconds.

Claire: “Your whole thing was that you wanted to say more than four words and you literally ended up saying four words. So, it’s fine.”

George: “I think I said, ‘It’s been long enough’ —

Claire: “He said, ‘Claire Bear’ —

George: “’Claire Bear, I think it’s been long enough. Will you marry me?’ … That was more than four!”

Back when he was in the friend zone, George tried to win points by going to Iowa women’s basketball games. An arena security guard, well aware of why Kittle was such a fan, helped get him courtside seats with an ideal view of the Hawkeyes bench.

“Like, right across from our bench,’’ Claire said, rolling her eyes.

Kittle was initially attracted to Claire because she was willowy tall with a smile that could pop the cornfields. But he really fell for Claire after seeing that she approached basketball as if it were a combat sport. A McDonald’s All-American nominee in high school, Claire was a defensive role player for the Hawkeyes. She averaged a career-best 14 minutes per game as a sophomore, when she also totaled 2.9 rebounds and 2.7 points per game.

“If she didn’t foul out, then I was disappointed,’’ Kittle says now. “Because she’s 5-11, and she played the ‘5’ in the Big Ten. Those are some big girls down there scrapping. Claire definitely made a name for herself as a bruiser. And I love that.

“She was heart, effort. All that stuff. People don’t like it when you’re in their grill 24/7. That’s what she did really well. Like she’s in my grill all the time, too.”

Claire’s fight these days is to get her husband to broaden his horizons. She wants them to travel more. Kittle left the country for the first time in his life in January (he went to Toronto for a Super Bowl promotional gig) and then did it again for their honeymoon in Cabo San Lucas.

“I love to travel,’’ Claire said.

“I don’t like traveling much,’’ Kittle said. “She’s making me better.”

Kittle is still so travel-averse that he nearly called an early end to their week-long honeymoon. The problem? The hotel weight room, oddly enough, wasn’t up to NFL training standards.

“We were in Cabo for seven days. And I started freaking out after like three days. I’m like, ‘I gotta! … I gotta!,’” Kittle said. “I feel like I have to prepare. Being at Iowa for a long time kind of instilled in me: If you’re not getting better, you’re getting worse.”

Claire urged him to calm down — it’s a vacation! — but also worked out with him whenever he got antsy. Well, mostly worked out with him.

“When he was running in the sand up a hill,” she said, “I just watched.”

Most receptions by a TE since 2017

- 186 – Travis Kelce, Kansas City
- 190 – Zach Ertz, Philadelphia
- 131 – George Kittle, 49ers
- 122 – Jared Cook, Raiders
- 116 – Rob Gronkowski, Patriots

There are things Kittle needs to get better at, such as playing in the red zone. Of his 88 catches last season, only five went for touchdowns. The 49ers were a lousy red-zone team overall and much time was spent during training camp trying to make better uses of Kittle's talents near the goal line. If this guy once busted out of the friend zone, he can certainly find the end zone.

"I want it so that every time he's going against a guy that he's better than, that he beats (that guy),'' coach Kyle Shanahan said early in camp. "I want him to be more consistent in his route running, I want him to keep improving. … Just the consistency of beating man-to-man coverage, catching the ball, and trying to be the best."

A year ago, Kittle was the first 49ers player to record a 1,000-yard season since Anquan Boldin in 2014. Now, he goes into this season as a happily married man who, at some level, is still looking to impress that woman in the pink helmet.

He's enjoying a new stat — LAC (life after catch).

"She's been there with me from the start,'' Kittle said. "We've kind of built up together. She always does a fantastic job of making sure I'm keeping my head straight."

Does George Kittle ever have a bad day?

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN.com
August 19, 2019

It takes George Kittle a full 14 seconds to answer what seems like an easy question.

Two days before the 49ers would end their offseason program this spring, the tight end is lounging in a sleeveless hoodie and athletic shorts, his feet propped on the desk of a PR staffer. One of the breakout stars of the 2018 NFL season has been riffing about his whirlwind rise to fame, his love of professional wrestling, his recent wedding and an upcoming trip to the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach.

Then, a simple question brings him to a screeching halt: Have you ever had a bad day?

Kittle takes his feet off the desk, leans down and thinks about it longer than you'd expect. Finally, he looks up and says, simply: "No."

Sure, he acknowledges, there's been the occasional disappointment, a minor injury here or there, but nothing reaching the level of a full-fledged bad day. In the end? "I'm just grateful I get to play football every single day of my life," Kittle says. "So I'm never really in a bad mood."

Go ahead and groan. The notion of a Ripken-like streak of non-bad days -- that'd be 9,000 and counting for the 25-year-old -- seems impossible. But Kittle might be one of the few who can say it and mean it. Those closest to him struggle to answer the same question. His dad, Bruce, can't remember even one ... maybe that time a girl didn't like him back early in elementary school? Mom Jan says George was disappointed to miss Iowa's 2016 game against Michigan with an injury ... but stops short because the Hawkeyes won, leaving George feeling just fine. Kittle's wife, Claire, draws a blank. College coaches such as Iowa's Kirk Ferentz and Chris Doyle and high school coach Greg Nation? Stumped, stumped and more stumped.

Only close friend and former Iowa teammate Steve Manders manages anything close to a real answer. He points to a rough spring practice between Kittle's sophomore and junior years, when the Iowa coaching staff laid into Kittle for not being serious enough about football. Manders tried telling him later that anybody can have a bad practice, but Kittle jumped out of his chair and vowed to cut back on the partying and go all-in on football. "The lightbulb kind of hit on, and ever since then it just took off and he never looked back," Manders says. "He just kind of created his own destiny."

Now, entering his third season in professional football, Kittle has become one of the league's most unlikely rising stars. The 2017 fifth-round pick had 48 catches in four years at Iowa -- then last year exploded for 88 receptions and 1,377 yards, an NFL record for receiving yards by a tight end in a season. It also included 855 yards after the catch, the most of any player since ESPN started tracking the stat in 2006. Combine that game-breaking ability with a fun-loving, larger-than-life personality and it's little wonder Kittle is already drawing comparisons to another exuberant tight end: Rob Gronkowski.

Like Gronk, Kittle enjoyed every second of his breakout season, which included wearing a Deion Sanders Falcons jersey for a postgame interview with Prime Time himself, crushing the local Panda Express every Monday with receiver Trent Taylor and safety Adrian Colbert (he ordered the same thing every time: orange chicken, chow mein, fried rice and crab Rangoon, unless the honey walnut shrimp looked strong that day -- "when it's good, it's really good"), and the week he finally followed through on a promise to Claire to dress nicer on game days ... by switching from wrestling T-shirts to a Hawaiian shirt adorned with toucans.

49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo had a locker near Gronkowski in New England and now finds himself in the line of vision of the Stone Cold Steve Austin figure that sits atop Kittle's locker. He doesn't shy away from the idea that Kittle has some Gronk-like traits.

"It's one of those things that's contagious," he says. "Both of them are the guy in the room that is picking everyone up, getting everyone laughing and feeling good and everything. I'm glad we've got a guy like that."

EVERY SATURDAY DURING the season, a letter for George Kittle arrives at 49ers headquarters. The next day, Kittle makes reading it his top priority. The letters are from his father, usually three or four pages long with a mix of notes about the upcoming opponent, observations from the previous week's game, a photo or two and what Bruce calls "significant" (and often vulgar) trash-talk. The letters are themed-things like staying focused on the moment and savoring the opportunity to play football -- and usually feature a cameo from comic book heroes like Batman or Spider-Man.

"That dude is Ric Flair on the football field. When the lights come on and he comes out of the locker room, he flips that switch and he's in that same place until the end of the game. And then he goes back to being George Kittle."

On the team bus, George works his way through the week's letter, feeding off every word. Bruce, a big proponent of sports psychology, has taught George the importance of having an alter ego. There's George, and then there's Football George, agent of on-field chaos -- and the bus ride gets him where he needs to go in more ways than one. "That's kind of like the first step to my switch," Kittle says. "I read that and I know, 'Hey, it's game day, lock in.'"

George has kept every letter since his father began writing them eight years ago, storing them in his nightstand. His favorite came last season before a Thursday night game against the Raiders. That letter emphasized the importance of ending the Bay Area rivalry on a high note before the Raiders move to Las Vegas. Kittle finished with four catches for 108 yards and a TD, including a one-handed grab, in a blowout win.

Bruce's letters began as a somber remembrance of former Oklahoma linebacker Austin Box. In 2011, Bruce was Oklahoma's tight ends and tackles coach when Box died of a painkiller overdose. In the aftermath, Bruce found out that Box's dad had written his son a letter before every game since Austin was in seventh grade. He decided to do the same for George. George calls Bruce his best friend, and the letters remain integral in keeping them connected when distance gets in the way.

On the way to the field, Kittle puts his helmet on, delivers a head-butt to a wall -- no, really -- and the transformation is complete. George is a die-hard Batman fan but considers his game-day self to be more like the Dark Knight's archenemy. "I don't try to channel all the Joker, obviously, because he has some issues," Kittle says, unleashing a diabolical laugh of his own. "Creating a little bit of chaos is just kind of what I try to do. I'm just trying to be the most outgoing, craziest person on the field."

In an October loss to Green Bay, Kittle delivered a crushing block on a rushing play, planting a Packers defender on the ground. When he got back to the huddle, he was laughing so maniacally that center Weston Richburg turned to him and asked, "What the f--- is wrong with you, dude?"

Kittle says his favorite thing to do in football is move a man from point A to point B against his will. "That dude is Ric Flair on the football field," says Nation, his high school coach. "When the lights come on and he comes out of the locker room, he flips that switch and he's in that same place until the end of the game. And then he goes back to being George Kittle."

KITTLE'S STARDOM HAS always felt like a genetic fait accompli; sports are woven into the Kittle fabric. Bruce played at Iowa and was a co-captain of the 1981 squad that went to the Rose Bowl. Jan was a standout basketball player at Drake who was also on the softball team. Sister Emma played volleyball at Iowa and Oklahoma. Cousins Jess Settles, Henry Krieger-Coble and Brad Carlson are, respectively, one of the top 10 scorers in Hawkeyes basketball history; a standout tight end at Iowa who has spent time in the NFL; and Iowa's career home run king.

That tight family bond is also at the heart of Kittle's unrelenting loyalty to the many friends he considers family. Kittle's first move after he received his signing bonus in 2017 was to pay for the medical expenses

of a friend's mother in Oklahoma. More recently, Kittle sent a signed Pro Bowl jersey to his tight ends coach at Iowa, LeVar Woods, thanking him for his help.

In the offseason, Bruce, Jan and Emma all moved from Iowa to Nashville to be close to George and Claire's offseason home. The move was hard on Jan because it meant leaving their farm and many family members behind. "He called me and he goes, 'Mom, you have always told us that wherever we are together as a family, that's what home is, and we're all gonna be together, so it's going to be OK,'" Jan says. "He always sees the positive. Sometimes you want to say, 'Come on, George,' but he really does."

Before their departure, the Krieger family reunion took place with 113 of a possible 128 relatives attending. And after the extended Kittle family arrived in Nashville, George and Claire threw an impromptu housewarming party to celebrate the move. On short notice, 70 people from all over the country showed up, including current and former NFL players, as well as friends from as far back as George's ninth-grade basketball team in Iowa.

"We're all just hanging out, like very low-key in our backyard," Claire says. "And he's hopping around to everybody, talking to them, laughing. It's just everybody has a good time when he's around, honestly."

FOR A GUY who has never had a bad day, Kittle's offseason contained a bunch of very good ones. From his first Pro Bowl to the Super Bowl -- he was a pitchman for a credit card company -- to the U.S. Open to his honeymoon, Kittle lived the fantasy offseason of a 20-something NFL player, with a truly epic week sandwiched in the middle of it all.

It started with WrestleMania -- his second straight year attending; Kittle is a huge wrestling fan -- and ended with his wedding, which he calls the best day of his life.

Kittle and Claire met in 2012 as freshmen at Iowa. Claire was on the basketball team and one day was getting ready to hop on her moped to head across campus. She had just pulled on her bright pink helmet when Kittle walked up and said, "Nice helmet." A few months later, Kittle and Claire were inseparable; by last year, they were engaged and Claire was planning a 2020 wedding, before they made a very George Kittle decision: Why wait?

Just two days after George, Bruce and Manders got back from WrestleMania in New York City, the Kittle and Till families pulled together the type of intimate, family-only wedding Claire had often dreamed about. They reserved space at M.C. Ginsberg, a custom jewelry store in Iowa City owned by some of Claire's family friends. A local florist came through with a small bouquet; Bruce, an ordained minister, would marry the happy couple; and Jan, a photographer, would handle photos and videos. The day before the wedding, however, a little bit of Football George spilled into Everyday George.

Kittle had been wanting to get a tattoo of his alter ego -- the Heath Ledger version of the Joker -- and he wanted to do it at Neon Dragon Tattoo in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, his preferred purveyor of ink. With scheduling conflicts both ways, the day before the biggest day of his life was the only option.

While Claire's brother Riley and Bruce were in favor, Claire, Jan and Emma hated the idea. But Kittle was insistent, and he spent seven hours in the chair while the Joker, complete with bold, red lips, took over most of the inside of his left forearm.

The next morning, surrounded by their inner circle -- just seven other people attended -- Claire married George with his left forearm covered in saran wrap under his long-sleeved white shirt to prevent the tat from bleeding through.

"He's so goofy," Claire says. "At first, I thought he was joking -- he has a lot of ideas that are out there and he doesn't actually go through with them. So at first, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, that's the worst idea you've ever had. I hate that.'

"But then after he had explained to me all of the meaning behind it and then seeing it in person, it's actually really cool. So I do really like it now. That's just George."

Manbuns! The return of Jimmy G! It's been an exciting summer for 49ers tight end George Kittle

By Lindsay Jones
The Athletic
August 6, 2019

If you want to talk to George Kittle, get ready to wait in line.

After a recent training camp practice in Santa Clara, Kittle was swarmed — by the children of 49ers staffers, by fans screaming for autographs and hoping to pose for selfies — while teammates holler across the field long after practice is finished.

With apologies to Travis Kelce, if there's anyone ready to assume the mantle of the NFL's most popular tight end in the wake of Rob Gronkowski's retirement, it just might be the 49ers' Kittle.

Consider Kittle's qualifications: In 2018, just his second year in the NFL, he led all tight ends with 1,377 receiving yards, and was third in catches, with 88, and plays in a tight end-friendly offense that should see him repeating, if not exceeding, those numbers in 2019. He's also just beginning to tap into his social media star potential, thanks to a post-college California glow-up and an Instagram-worthy life with his new wife Claire, whom he married in a surprise ceremony in April.

In our latest edition of the training camp Q+A series, we chat with Kittle about how he plans to build off his breakout season, his advice for the league's rookie tight ends, and just what is up with his new ponytail.
I have to imagine this training camp experience is a bit different for you, coming off a Pro Bowl season, than last year. How have you handled everything that's come with being a star player around here?
It's going great, it's always great when you get back into it, get to play football, see the guys. But it's fun too because we're taking a lot of big steps forward, offensively and defensively, got a lot of young guys that have been stepping up already, so that's been fun to see.

How do you build off of what you were able to do in 2018?

Growth, that's really the key word. My rookie year was a struggle. It's a very dense playbook, so just being able to get reps, get used to the speed of the NFL game – it's a lot different than college. It was kind of just getting thrown into the fire, that's how my rookie year was. So you take that and your second year try to learn from it, improve on that, and once you get comfortable, the playbook kind of takes off from there. This offense has been great for me, it's similar to what I had at Iowa, a lot of the techniques are the same thing, so I've been improving on those the last three years and really just trying to get better every day.

What are the steps you're hoping this offense can take in Year Three of this system and with this coaching staff, and with Jimmy back healthy?

Our biggest thing is we have to score when we're in the red zone. That's something we struggled with the last two years. I love Robbie Gould, but I'd rather him kick less field goals and more extra points. So that's one thing we've really got to focus on, staying on the field, finishing when we get down to the red zone.

You must be a big part of that. I saw you had a touchdown today in team drills. What's your chemistry been like so far in this camp with Garoppolo in the red zone? [Note: Kittle had five touchdowns in 2018, which tied for seventh among tight ends. The 49ers had the worst red zone offense in the NFL last year, scoring touchdowns on just 41% of drives inside the 20-yard line.]

Really good. One thing I love about Jimmy is he just gives guys a chance to make plays, whether that's me, Dante, Deebo, Marquis, he's giving us the opportunity, and if you take advantage of that opportunity, he keeps feeding you and keeps feeding you. That's all you can ask for.
How do you fit in this new generation of tight ends? With Rob Gronkowski retired now, is there an opportunity for someone else to become the next great tight end in this league?

Well, Gronk is never gone [laughs]. My big thing is, I just like watching tight ends succeed, that's just good for the position group. Now, whether that's Kelce, (Eagles TE Zach) Ertz, (Colts TE Eric) Ebron, (Bucs TE) OJ Howard, (Austin) Hooper in Atlanta. It doesn't matter who it is, as long as it's not against me.

I'm based in Denver, so I've been watching former Iowa Hawkeye and the Broncos' first-round draft pick Noah Fant a decent amount this preseason. How much are you watching him and fellow Hawkeye, Lions first-round pick TJ Hockenson, in their rookie camps? What sort of advice are you able to give them about what their rookies years are going to be like, especially for Noah, who is learning a very similar offense to the one you're playing in?

I try to check in with them at least once a week because your rookie year is tough. You go from a whole college season to bowl prep to combine to rookie minicamp and you really only get a month off. It's a long year. So I just try to keep up with them, if they have any questions. They're both very mature, and I'm sure they're going to be just fine.

OK now I have to ask about your hair, and this poll going on on social media between you and [49ers assistant coach] Katie Sowers about who has the better mini-ponytail. How did this start?

It's a little competition. We're kind of twins. I'm not really sure yet. I'm just letting mine go, and she thinks I'm copying her. I'll let mine get longer than hers and then I'll be winning.

Is this your first foray into the world of the manbun?

This is the longest my hair has ever been in my life. Hard-core experimenting. If my wife didn't like it, I would have cut it already. But she's on board.

A lesson in selflessness: Tight end George Kittle's impact on 49ers goes beyond numbers

By Chris Biderman
Sacramento Bee
July 28, 2019

Setting an NFL record for tight ends in 2018 isn't going to George Kittle's head. The feeling is quite the opposite for the 49ers' budding star entering his third season. He would prefer the ball end up in a teammate's hands.

"Those are my favorite plays," he said.

It's an odd sentiment from someone who had 1,377 receiving yards while leading the NFL in yards after the catch (870) and being one of two tight ends to finish in the top 35 in the category.

Kittle quickly became San Francisco's most dynamic offensive player, which is undoubtedly something his opponents will account for when trying to defend coach Kyle Shanahan's dynamic passing game.

Still, Kittle is a tight end at heart, which is why he felt in his element in a run-centric offense at Iowa. He never had more than 314 yards on 22 catches in a season with the Hawkeyes. Kittle preferred to block, like his father, Bruce, an offensive lineman at the same school in the early 1980s.

"I think I've said it a bunch of times, there's nothing better than to move a man from point A to point B against his will," Kittle said. "And so when you do that, and you can do it multiple times, it's a blast. So there are things that I don't think I'll ever let go away from me. The run game is something I take a lot of pride, because it's a way to separate yourself from other people."

NFL observers would say Kittle's speed that allows him to escape from secondaries downfield is what separates him from other tight ends. But his 49ers teammates might say it's Kittle's unselfishness that sets him apart, particularly coming off one of the best seasons in history for a player at his position.

"He's so selfless and that's why he ate like that," receiver Marquise Goodwin said. "Because he didn't worry about getting the ball, he just worried about getting open and being productive for the team. He had the right mindset. That's why I think he was blessed with that opportunity (to set the record).

"I can't say enough good things about him. I can't wait to see what he does this year."

Goodwin, and other 49ers receivers, could benefit from the way defenses approach Kittle in 2019. His speed and size combination should cause defenses to double team, or at least focus their coverage, which could create favorable situations for San Francisco's young group of wideouts.

Dante Pettis, entering his second season, figures to be a far more prominent part of the passing attack following his 467-yard, 27-catch, five-touchdown rookie year, particularly now that his role will be elevated following the offseason departure of veteran Pierre Garçon.

"it makes the defense just look at everybody and be like, okay, we know this dude (Kittle) gets the ball," Pettis said. "... We know we have to do something to stop him. And so just to have defenses game plan for someone like that is very helpful for everybody else on the team, because then they're not worried about me for instance, they're worried about him, or they're not worried about the run game or something like that.

"And then the fact that he's pretty selfless like that. He's just like, yeah, I'll run my routes. I'll block whenever. If I get the ball, I get the ball. It's pretty cool."

Kittle last season was named a team captain well before he put up his record numbers, which was a strong indication from the coaching staff and front office that Kittle's habits and work ethic were recognized to set the tone for the rest of the team.

And now that Kittle has the numbers to back that up, his credibility as a team leader can't be questioned, even though he doesn't turn 26 until October. Though Kittle's coach isn't necessarily buying the idea he doesn't want the ball in hands.

"I think it's great. I'm sure he's not telling the whole truth. Everybody would much rather have the ball," Shanahan quipped. "George is a football player, and that's what you want. Football players don't care. I mean, they're as competitive as can be and if they believe in themselves, they want to help the team win.

"That's exactly how (Atlanta Falcons receiver) Julio (Jones) was. If he's getting double teamed, he's not yelling at us for not getting him the ball, he's telling other guys they've got to make plays to help get him open. That's how good football players are and that's how good teams are. When your better players act like that, I think it teaches younger guys how they should be."

Kittle credited his offseason workout program in 2018 for his breakout. He dealt with nagging injuries during his rookie year and spent the spring working on ways to prevent injury. He continued that this offseason, adding three straight weeks of yoga to his regimen to add to his flexibility.

He also spent time studying the league's other elite tight ends, such as Travis Kelce of the Chiefs and Eagles star Zach Ertz.

"I just like watching them to see what they do, because everybody does something a little bit different, whether it's at the top of the route, whether it's a release, how they use their hands or something in the run game that might work for them," Kittle said. "I try to pull stuff from them because Ertz and Kelce are considered two of the top guys in the league, if I can learn anything from them, hopefully I can get up there, too."

It wouldn't be surprising if those tight ends spent their offseasons studying Kittle's tape, too.

How 49ers' George Kittle will benefit from offseason yoga sessions with sister

By Jennifer Lee Chan
NBC Sports Bay Area
July 27, 2019

Along with speed and strength training, 49ers tight end George Kittle practiced yoga with his sister, Emma, as part of his offseason workout program in Nashville, Tenn.

"I actually hit about three straight weeks of yoga, which was really fun," Kittle said this week as 49ers training camp opened. "Slightly more flexible. Can't you tell I'm limber now?"

Kittle believes that increased flexibility could help as a preventative measure in regards to injuries during the season.

"[It's better] the more flexible you can get, because sometimes when you get tackled, you land in awkward positions and stuff like that," Kittle said. "I have learned that when you're more flexible, stuff like that doesn't happen sometimes, where you just kind of tweak something. Hopefully, that will help me to stay healthy."

While yoga was a new addition to Kittle's offseason program, he has practiced with his sister for a few years.

"It's just something that I've done in the past that I feel has worked for me," Kittle said. "My sister is a yoga teacher, so it makes it pretty easy for me. It's in house.

"I wanted to add something. I don't like to do the same thing over and over. If you stay the same, you're not getting better. So I just tried to add something in, and I think that helped me out a little bit."

"We've been doing yoga together since he was a senior at Iowa," Emma said. "At this point, it's pretty easy to see what's going on with his body. Based off how he is feeling in a particular day, we modify our sessions accordingly."

Emma worked alongside Josh Cuthbert, her brother's strength coach, and Jeremy Holt, who worked on his speed. With the combined regimen, Emma noticed that after a few weeks, her brother's flexibility had increased.

"I definitely saw a change in George's body over our time together in Nashville," Emma said. "Three weeks is kind of quick to notice a big change in flexibility, but he left for camp saying he felt better than he ever had before."

"George's strength and speed coaches were great about including me in their workouts. George's entire training process was coordinated between the three of us to make sure we maximized our time with him."

Emma teaches a sports performance variation of yoga, but the challenges for many of her clients are still about them taking their speed down several notches.

"George's biggest challenge in his yoga practice is probably the same as every other athlete I work with — making time to slow down and be in a relaxed environment," Emma said. "But one of his skills is being present in everything he does. He's a pro, so he is always locked in.

"There are so many benefits for any athlete who incorporates yoga to their training routine. Finding ease in stressful situations is what I focused on with George. We did a lot of breathwork and long prop supported holds. Slowing down movements is a great way to enhance mobility and also target core strength and stability."
It all sounds like serious work, but the two still enjoyed their time training together. "He's still my little brother, so we laugh a lot during our sessions," Emma said.

Richard Sherman, George Kittle welcome LGBTQ 49ers fans to new team group

By Jim Buzinski
OutSports.com
May 29, 2019

San Francisco 49ers' Richard Sherman and George Kittle are part of an official team announcement on the formation of a group for fans who identify as LGBTQ+.

"Forty-Niner faithful — you've helped us pioneer a group of dedicated fans for over 70 years. We're proud to announce 49ers Pride, the official community of 49ers fans who identify as LGBTQ+ and allies," Sherman, a cornerback, said in the team's video announcing the group.

"As we prepare for the upcoming football season, we want to celebrate the passion of all the faithful, no matter how they identify," said Kittle, the team's starting tight end. "If your team is the Red and Gold, you belong in the 49ers family."

The group is the first in the NFL specifically team-sanctioned for LGBTQ fans and it was a great move to have players part of the announcement. There are no openly gay players on the 49ers or anywhere in the NFL, though the 49ers do have an openly gay assistant coach, Katie Sowers. Having two name players participate gives the formation of the group more meaning.

The 49ers do have a historic legacy in the gay sports movement. Dave Kopay was a running back on the team from 1964-67 and came out after he retired and became and LGBTQ sports icon. An exhibit on Kopay is part of the 49ers' Hall of Fame at their stadium in Santa Clara.

49ers Pride is the first NFL team-sponsored group that officially recognizes its LGBTQ fans. The Chargers have held viewing parties in Los Angeles for that fan base and other teams have done one-offs.

49ers' George Kittle enjoying spotlight but staying grounded

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
February 18, 2018

When George Kittle was a blocking tight end at Iowa and an under-the-radar rookie with the 49ers, he told himself he'd never turn down an autograph request.

Then Kittle had more receiving yards than any tight end in NFL history in 2018.

And now those autograph requests are piling up like his statistics in his breakout season.

"It's really, really hard" to sign everything, Kittle said in a phone interview. "I'm not going to lie: It's a difficult thing because it doesn't run out. People keep showing up. And they keep showing up.

"I have a little bit of a timer in my head, but I usually don't notice (it's time to go) until my wrist gets a little tired. The Pro Bowl was wild. There were just so many fans."

Life obviously has changed for Kittle, whose early offseason has made it clear the 2017 fifth-round pick has moved from relative anonymity to NFL celebrity. A year ago, before his record-breaking 1,377-yard season, Kittle was a project who had collected 1,252 combined receiving yards in his four-year college career and first NFL season.

Now, that second season has led to a series of firsts.

In the past three-plus weeks, Kittle has played in his first Pro Bowl, appeared in his first commercial (an online-only spot for Visa), made his first trip outside the United States (he went to Canada on behalf of NFL International) and realized a quirky dream by inking his first deal with Skittles.

Kittle served as a brand ambassador for Visa and Skittles during Super Bowl week in Atlanta — meaning he signed short-term promotional contracts tied to the event. He then traveled to Toronto, where he met with fans and sponsors on Super Bowl Sunday as part of his 36-hour visit.

The two-week tour — from Orlando to Atlanta to Toronto — was filled with interviews, glad-handing and, naturally, autograph requests. And it provided Kittle, a 25-year-old with an engaging personality, a glimpse into a future that could include long-term endorsements and other off-the-field opportunities.

In his tongue-in-cheek, 15-second Visa commercial, Kittle has so much extra time after using the tap-to-pay credit card that he takes up painting and produces a brilliant self-portrait. (Said Kittle of his acting chops: "I took drama in eighth grade. So I'm ready.")

As part of his work hawking candy, Kittle sported a red shirt with the company logo and enthusiastically punctuated each of his many interviews on radio row in Atlanta with his go-to line: "You can't spell Skittles without Kittle."

"Watching George grow and come out — we're all getting to see his personality," said Kittle's agent, Jack Bechta. "It's very natural. He's very outgoing. He's very gregarious. He's a guy you always just want to throw in a room and you can trust that he's just going to be himself and have fun."

Bechta's agency, JB Sports, arranged for its client to finally connect with Skittles, which is among a list of Kittle's passions that include pro wrestling and Panda Express.

As a junior in high school, Kittle sported custom cleats that included the phrase "Taste the Rainbow," which is part of Skittle's long-running advertising campaign. More recently, he'd taken to hounding the company on social media.

"Well, I tweeted them pretty often: 'What's up? I'm wearing your T-shirt,'" Kittle said. "Like I said, I've been plugging it for a while."

Kittle also wants to send this message to 49ers fans: He's not ditching hard work and going Hollywood.

Last year, he was voted one of five team captains midway through his second season, which was partly a nod to his commitment and drive. He credited last year's offseason work in Tennessee for much of his 2018 success, and he returned to Nashville after the Super Bowl to begin preparing for the 2019 season.

Kittle noted he started training last year during Super Bowl week, meaning he's a week behind.

"The whole thing has just been fun," Kittle said. "But right now, I'm happy it's over and I can work out and do football things. That is one thing I am thankful for: It's a two-week thing, and it's back to the grind. And I love the grind."

Kittle's agency had another promotional opportunity lined up, but Kittle declined it to begin his six-day-a-week program that includes speed, agility, strength and route-running work with a group of NFL players that includes 49ers quarterback C.J. Beathard.

Kittle is living with Green Bay tight end Robert Tonyan until he returns to Santa Clara for the start of the 49ers' offseason program in April.
49ers' George Kittle slowed only by Kyle Shanahan's play...
"George and his family are aware of the fact that what butters his bread is being successful on the field," Bechta said. "He's also grounded to the fact that he's had one great year. And one great year doesn't make a great player. And now the challenge for him is can he do it again with popularity, noise and opportunity being thrown at him? That's the challenge."

Beyond proving 2018 wasn't a fluke, Kittle, who will earn a $645,000 base salary this season, won't lack for financial motivation: He is eligible to sign what could be a massive contract extension after the 2019 season. How much more might he earn? Kansas City's Travis Kelce — whose 1,336 yards last year would have been the NFL record for tight ends were it not for Kittle — will make $8.75 million next season.

As part of his offseason improvement plan, Kittle plans to connect with 2019 Hall of Fame inductee Tony Gonzalez, the Cal alum who is widely recognized as the best tight end in NFL history. Niners tight ends coach Jon Embree, who was Gonzalez's position coach for three seasons with Kansas City, is coordinating a meeting between the tight ends.

In the meantime, Kittle will work to stay ahead of less heralded players at his position.

When asked about guarding against an overinflated ego given the attention he's receiving, Kittle said he stays humbled by the prospect of losing his starting job.

He pointed to last year's midseason win over the Raiders, which he briefly left because of a cracked rib. In Kittle's absence, undrafted rookie Ross Dwelley had his first NFL reception. The lesson that was reinforced for the record-breaking tight end from humble beginnings: His job is never safe.

"That was awesome and I love Dwelley," Kittle said. "But it's like, 'Hey, I can't let those opportunities go away.' And I've learned that. I always think about it. So that keeps me pretty grounded."

Tight end George Kittle wins 49ers' Bill Walsh Award

By Eric Branch
SF Gate
December 31, 2018

The first day of George Kittle's offseason went as well as his regular season did.
On Monday, a day after he set the NFL's season record for yards by a tight end in a 48-32 loss to the Rams, Kittle was named the 49ers' winner of the Bill Walsh Award, voted on by the coaches. It is given to the player who best represents Walsh's standard of professional excellence.

Kittle finished with 1,377 yards on 88 receptions and had five touchdowns. His reception total ranks 19th among tight ends in NFL history. And his yards per reception (15.6) ranks seventh among tight ends with at least 40 receptions in a season.

However, it's his record-breaking yardage total that had the 49ers celebrating near the end of Sunday's game.

Monday, head coach Kyle Shanahan detailed how much it meant to Kittle's teammates for him to get the record. Kittle needed 9 yards to pass Kansas City's Travis Kelce when the Rams had the ball with about three minutes left. Shanahan called two timeouts in an effort to get the ball back and exhorted the defense. Safety Antone Exum responded by blitzing on his own.

"I said, 'Hey, guys, if you can stop them here, we will throw the ball and get Kittle 9 more yards,'" Shanahan said. "We can get it for him if you guys stop them. To say that to the guys and to just watch Exum blitz on his own. Just do whatever they could. Because once I said that to them you could see it in their eyes. And everyone on the bench was yelling for it."

The defense made the stop. And Kittle broke the record with just more than two minutes left on a 43-yard touchdown catch. The team captain said seeing his teammates' excitement made the moment even more special.

Exum "was supposed to cover the post," Kittle said. "He walked down next to (linebacker) Elijah (Lee). Elijah was like, 'What are you doing?' He was like, 'I'm just going to be a baller.' … It worked."
More awards: Defensive tackle DeForest Buckner received the Len Eshmont Award, the team's most prestigious honor which is voted on by the players and given to the player who best exemplifies inspiration and courage.

Buckner, who was voted a team captain, had a career-high 12 sacks. Left tackle Joe Staley likened his work ethic to that of former 49ers running back Frank Gore.

Buckner "has the same kind of hunger and desire to get better that I saw with Frank," Staley said. "The way that he works on the practice field. He's one of the hardest workers, and a super competitor."

Other award winners included left guard Laken Tomlinson (Bobb McKittrick Award for offensive linemen), cornerback Richard Sherman (Ed Block Courage Award, which also takes into account sportsmanship) and quarterback Nick Mullens (Thomas Herrion Memorial Award for first-year players). Buckner also won the Hazeltine Iron Man Award for defensive inspiration.

Injury update: Tomlinson sustained a torn medial collateral ligament in Sunday's game. He will not require surgery, and faces a three-month rehabilitation.

The 49ers initially feared Tomlinson had sustained a torn anterior cruciate ligament, which would have sidelined him for the start of the 2019 season.

49ers' George Kittle might have surprised observers, but not his family

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
December 30, 2018

George Kittle's parents, Bruce and Jan, both two-sport Division I athletes, quickly realized their oldest child had athletic gifts.

Based on his memories of touch-football games, Bruce recalled the kid "had nice hands. Could run a pretty good route. Wasn't afraid to mix it up."

That scouting report isn't surprising, considering the youngster grew up to be the 49ers' Pro Bowl tight end, right? But here's the thing: Bruce was describing his daughter, Emma, George's older sister, his first opponent and one of an endless parade of accomplished athletes in their family.

"Back in the day, I was able to kind of dominate George," said Emma, a former volleyball player at Iowa and Oklahoma who is three years older than her only sibling. "I was taller, way faster and just reached above him. It was great."

George evidently learned from those beatdowns: In 2018, Emma's little brother often has treated linebackers and safeties in the same way his sister used to abuse him.

Kittle, 25, set the NFL record for most receiving yards by a tight end, finishing with 1,377. He needed 100 yards Sunday to break the league record set by New England's Rob Gronkowski in 2011 and finished with 149 to pass not only Gronkowski, but Kansas City's Travis Kelce who had 62 against the Raiders and finished with 1,336.

Few saw this coming.

Crowds arrive early on opening day of the Golden Gate International Exposition. Feb. 18, 1939.
Kittle was the seventh tight end on the depth chart early in his career at Iowa. He was a fifth-round pick in 2017 after he had just 48 catches in college. And he had a rookie season (43 catches, 515 yards) that didn't suggest second-year stardom.

But George's family is accustomed to seeing him rapidly ascend great heights. They have bonded over the years on summer trips from Iowa to Colorado, where they have scaled some of the more than 50 mountains in the state that are at least 14,000 feet.

One of those, Quandary Peak, was no problem for George.

"I've seen George do the craziest stuff with his body: I have this vivid memory of George running up a mountain and running down it," said Emma, who sprained both ankles trying to catch him. "When I think about those memories I'm like, 'Oh, my God, you're such a freak.' He's just built to perform.

"So, yes, some of (this season) has been surreal. But at the same time, we've been waiting for him to do it. We've been waiting for other people to see it."

The belief George would have huge success was rooted in the history of a family used to making history.

Bruce was a wrestler and offensive tackle at Iowa, where he was a co-captain on their 1981 team that reached the program's first Rose Bowl in 25 years. Jan is a member of the Iowa High School Sports Hall of Fame in basketball and softball. She played both sports at Drake, where the basketball team reached the Elite 8 of the NCAA Tournament in 1982.

Spotlight on: WR Kendrick Bourne. Who guessed that the 2017 undrafted free agent would lead 49ers receivers in catches this season? Correct answer: no one. Bourne's 37 catches are a nod to his

development, but also a reflection of injuries to Pierre Garcon, Dante Pettis and Marquise Goodwin, none of whom will play against the Rams. Bourne figures to have a role in 2019, but a strong performance in a leading role will further cement his status.

Injuries: 49ers — TE Garrett Celek (concussion) is out. Rams — RB Todd Gurley (knee) is out.

Things to watch

Rams DT Aaron Donald needs 3.5 sacks to break Michael Strahan's record set of 22.5 in 2001. Donald had four sacks in a 39-10 win over the 49ers on Oct. 21.

The 49ers have a league-low seven takeaways and are poised to break the record of 11 held by three teams. Their two interceptions are two fewer than the league record held by the 2009 Lions.

The 49ers promoted DL Ryan Delaire and WR Max McCaffrey from the practice squad to the 53-man roster Saturday. They placed Pettis (knee) and RB Matt Breida (ankle) on injured reserve.

Jan is one of 10 sisters, seven of whom played a college sport. One sister, Barbara, was a basketball player who was the first female to receive a full athletic scholarship at Indiana.

George's cousin, Jess Settles, was an Iowa Mr. Basketball who was the Big Ten Freshman of the Year at Iowa. Another cousin, Brad Carlson, is Iowa's career home run leader.

On Sunday, George will reunite with his cousin, Henry Krieger-Coble, a tight end on the Rams' practice squad.

There is more. Plenty more. In fact, the family has so many big-time athletes that George can't keep track of some details. He recently couldn't recall how he was related to Xavier Nady, a Cal alum who had a 12-year major-league career (Nady is a second cousin).

George played several sports growing up, but football was the passion he shared with his dad, who was also an assistant coach at Iowa (1982-1985) and Oklahoma (2010-2012). They packed a football for every family vacation.

"We'd be on the roadside for an hour playing football," Bruce said, "and would forget about the trip."

George didn't just get his dad's genetics. He got his time.

Bruce, a criminal defense lawyer, worked for a firm in Madison, Wis., when George was born. But he switched to careers that were less demanding — and less lucrative — to spend time with his children.

He earned a master's in divinity at Chicago Theological Seminary and worked as a pastor. He was an assistant law professor and later used his degree at several nonprofits: He provided legal services to inmates in state prisons and served as a mediator between criminals and the victims of their crimes.

"Sometimes he was making almost no money," George said. "But he said, I'd rather hang out with you guys than make a bunch of money. That's one of the biggest things I learned from him: Family is more important than really anything else."

Bruce's career change allowed him to coach his children in youth sports, with Jan also leading many of Emma's teams.

At Northwest Junior High in Iowa City, Bruce led an undefeated team that allowed six points during George's seventh- and eighth-grade years (Bruce terms these the "dynasty years").

George laughed when recalling his dad's video sessions and their middle linebacker, who wore a wristband covered with play calls. Bruce adds the Vikings also had playbooks, which, he notes, his wife thought was "a little over the top."

"We had four different (defensive) fronts," Bruce said. "We played three different coverages. We did go man-free if we needed to. We played a three-deep (zone) and a two-deep and had a pretty good blitz package, as well. (Opponents) didn't have any idea what was happening."

Years later, the same has appeared true of teams trying to cover Kittle. He's been wide open on the two longest touchdowns by a tight end in franchise history, 82- and 85-yard scores he finished by outracing the secondary.

His long catches have led to his glamour-guy numbers this season. But he's also hailed as a hard-nosed blocker, a reflection of the old-school education he received from his dad.

Bruce, who coached tackles and tight ends at Oklahoma, doesn't discuss catches or touchdowns when talking about his son's achievements. In college, Bruce was proudest of the fact that George never missed a workout, allowing him to add about 60 pounds of bulk. This season, he's proudest that his son was voted a captain by his teammates.

George has strayed in one area: Bruce jokes about his son recently purchasing a Gucci backpack. But that horror has been offset by the lunch-pail mentality George still packs despite his newfound fame.

49ers' Joe Staley in no hurry to leave — or retire
"In run blocking, when he climbs to the second level, that's hard," Bruce said. "People don't appreciate the level of athleticism it takes to keep your hips down and hit a Mike 'backer coming over."

Bruce's career change led to more family time — and plenty of moving vans. George has lived in three states, six towns in Iowa and he attended three high schools as a sophomore.

The myriad moves helped foster the Kittles' closeness. They banded together navigating new experiences, and their bond is symbolized on their bodies: They each have a tattoo of a bear paw.

"It's about our tribe," Bruce said.

It's also a nod to their outdoor activities, which include their regular treks up 14,000-foot mountains.

The rocky terrain is hard on feet and ankles. And that's why George, now a professional athlete, will join his family in Colorado this summer but won't sprint up Quandary Peak.

He'll rejoin them at the summits when his career is over, after he's done adding to the family legacy by reaching great heights.

George Kittle's breakout season fueled by 'angry mindset,' love of the game

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
December 25, 2018

George Kittle, who was used primarily as a blocker during his college career at Iowa, has quickly turned into one of the NFL's top playmakers at tight end.

On Dec. 9, Kittle set the 49ers' all-time single-season record for receiving yards from a tight end. He has 79 catches for 1,228 yards entering Sunday's season finale against the Los Angeles Rams. Eric Johnson holds the club record for receptions from a tight end with 82 in a single season.

Kittle, a second-year player, was named last week to the NFC Pro Bowl team.

Where Kittle has made his biggest mark is in yards after the catch. According to Pro Football Focus, Kittle has 772 yards after the catch this season, which ranks behind only Carolina running back Christian McCaffrey's 835.

Among tight ends, Kittle is 229 yards ahead of Travis Kelce of Kansas City and 408 yards in front of Philadelphia's Zach Ertz, who ranks third in yards after the catch.

Recently, former 49ers quarterback and NBC Sports Bay Area analyst Jeff Garcia drew a comparison between Kittle and Hall of Fame receiver Terrell Owens. Garcia said Kittle, like Owens before him, runs "angry."

The typically mild-mannered Kittle said he flips a switch when he steps onto the field to play.

"I play the game angry," Kittle said on The 49ers Insider Podcast. "And I love playing the game, so it's kind of half and half. I'm angry, and I'm having the best time of my life at the same time."

Kittle said he never wants to give any defensive player any breaks. If Kittle is going to come down short of the end zone, he wants that player to earn the tackle and pay the price.

"I decide, if you want to tackle me, you're going to have to tackle me," Kittle said. "I'm not going to let you tackle me. I'm going to do everything I can to go through you, go around you, avoid you, anything.

"But you have to decide that you want to tackle me. And I think with an angry mindset that makes it a little bit easier and a little bit harder on them."

Kittle's single-season receiving total ranks 13th in 49ers history. Jerry Rice occupies eight of those spots, while Owens had three 49ers seasons with 1,300 yards or more. Split end Dave Parks had 1,344 yards receiving in 1965.

In Iowa's run-first offense, Kittle's best college season came as a senior in 2016 when he caught 22 passes for 314 yards and four touchdowns in nine games. The 49ers selected him in the fifth round of last year's draft.

Why 49ers' George Kittle is defined by more than just his WWE, Panda Express addiction

By Nick Eilerson
San Jose Mercury News
December 7, 2018

It is too early to function. The sun isn't even up, not even close. Garrett Celek, the San Francisco 49ers' veteran tight end, barely wills himself into his car, his body aching from yet another loss two days earlier. Santa Clara lies completely still on this mid-November morning as Celek's white Lexus SUV begins to roll forward.

But then up ahead … movement. Tons of movement.

The SUV's headlights reveal a large man flailing next to the apartment complex's exit gate. His hips rock back and forth in an apparent attempt at rhythm. His arms swing wildly from side to side. All the while, his gaze remains fixed on Celek's face.

George Kittle is doing the Fortnite floss dance.

Beaming like he just won the Super Bowl, Kittle hops into the passenger seat and serenades his groggy teammate with some song or another. It doesn't matter which one. What matters is that Kittle will spend yet another day shining his inextinguishable light upon a 49ers season largely mired in darkness.

"When I was first getting to know him I probably thought it was fake at first how happy he was all the time," Celek said. "But then I realized, 'No, this is how this guy is 24/7.'"

Few NFL players have shot out of obscurity the way Kittle has over the past year. A fifth-round pick out of the University of Iowa, Kittle was the ninth tight end selected in the 2017 Draft. In his sophomore season, he ranks third among tight ends in catches (62) and receiving yards (893), trailing only the Chiefs' Travis Kelce and the Eagles' Zach Ertz.

Facing the Denver Broncos' 23rd-ranked pass defense on Sunday, Kittle has a chance to become the first 49ers tight end to reach 1,000 receiving yards in a season. The 25-year-old's Pro Bowl-caliber season remains one of the few bright spots for a 49ers squad tied with the Raiders for the league's worst record (2-10).

Kittle's sprint toward superstardom counts as a surefire boon for this San Francisco franchise, but that's not really what teammates and coaches value most about the guy. To understand why Kittle was voted a team captain after his rookie season, you have to go back to the maniac crushing Fortnite dance routines before the crack of dawn.

Meet 'Stone Cold Kittle'

Everybody around the 49ers organization understands Kittle's ultimate professional ambition. He talks about it incessantly; studies film whenever he can; obsesses over every not-so-subtle nuance of the sport.

Kittle wants to be a WWE wrestler.

"It's pretty much the coolest thing in the world," he said.

Like just about everything else in his life, Kittle does nothing to hide this obsession. A Stone Cold Steve Austin action figure lords over his locker. The 49ers' PA announcer belts out "Stone Cold Kittle" after third-down conversions and touchdowns from the team's exuberant tight end. His end zone celebration is a nod to Austin's habit of smashing two beers over his head, and his wristy third-down flourish comes

from Pentagón Jr., an independent wrestler who wears skull face paint underneath his elaborately fiendish mask.

This past April, Kittle attended one week of WrestleMania in New Orleans, where he spent eight hours a day watching independent wrestling shows before he practically had to be dragged away.

Last year Kittle lived out one of his fantasies when he climbed into the ring of a pro wrestling event in Iowa and executed a Stone Cold Stunner, a finishing maneuver made famous by his all-time favorite wrestler, Steve Austin. There were barely over 100 people in the gym, but it felt more like 100,000.

“When I hit it and I came up and the whole crowd erupted, I felt like I scored a touchdown,” Kittle said. “It was one of the best feelings ever.”

Not all of the man’s obsessions are so badass. Any mention of food prompts a spirited eulogy on the wonders of Panda Express. Kittle adopts the demeanor of a caffeinated chemist explaining the periodic table when asked about the proper order at this fast-casual Chinese eatery.

“You sample the honey walnut shrimp because when it’s good it’s fantastic but when it’s not good it’s okay,” Kittle explains at warp speed. “So if that’s good then you get three entrees and you get that on the side with the chow mein and fried rice split 50/50. And the two other entrees are orange chicken and SweetFire, or honey sesame if they have it because it’s seasonal.”

Lest you think he spends his free time alone, tucking into a heaping pile of sesame chicken with nothing but chopsticks to accompany him, understand that Kittle does not do well by himself. He loves going to early-week matinees at theaters in Santa Clara — they didn’t have the whole recliner seating thing back at Iowa — and he always makes sure to bring a crew.

“He’ll buy like 10 tickets to a movie before asking anybody, and it will be a movie that I hate,” said 49ers backup quarterback C.J. Beathard. “And people end up going.”

Starting quarterback Nick Mullens didn’t want to see Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, and he really didn’t want to see the horror flick A Quiet Place. Yet somehow he wound up seeing both.

“He’s a hard guy to say ‘no’ to,” Mullens said.

Suddenly it’s not all that hard to perceive why players voted Kittle an offensive captain alongside 34-year-old tackle Joe Staley in October.

“I can never catch him where he’s like, ‘Man I don’t want to be bothered today,’” 49ers cornerback Richard Sherman said. “He’s always got a smile; he’s always kooky. You’re just like, ‘Bro, one of these days I’m gonna catch you when you don’t want to talk.’ But I haven’t found that day yet.”

Growing at Iowa

Watching George Kittle burst downfield, it’s easy to forget he’s a tight end. The way he jab steps linebackers out of their cleats, the way he wiggles past safeties and wheels toward the end zone — no wonder he ranks ahead of pass-catching tailbacks like Todd Gurley and James Conner in yards after catch.

It turns out Kittle is a wide receiver disguised in a newly acquired tight end’s body. He spent high school running go-routes as a fleet-footed wideout before heading to Iowa at about 6-foot-2, 180 pounds.

“He was skin and bones,” said Cole Croston, a teammate at Iowa who now plays tackle for the New England Patriots. “But he was doing things as a freshman that most people don’t do.”

Even as a baby-faced newcomer too twiggy to even think about suiting up for a game, Kittle wasn’t shy about flaunting his skill set.

In the gym, Kittle's athleticism manifested in several agility records. On the practice field, he and Beathard, another scrawny Iowa freshman, regularly lit up the Hawkeyes' formidable defense as members of the scout team.

Still, it took three years for Kittle to get in an actual game. Coaches pegged him as a tight end, but the kid simply wasn't big enough. And even after he grew two inches and added 50 pounds to his frame — thanks in part to a late growth spurt, eight Gatorade protein shakes a day and plenty of Budweiser — Kittle kept staying out late off the field and missing assignments on it.

"They couldn't count on me," Kittle said. "I just didn't understand the mental side of football and how important it is."

At some point in his redshirt junior season, something clicked. Kittle started treating college like a job rather than a party. He drew plays over and over on a whiteboard. He started to relish blocking drills. He prioritized sleep.

Instead of partying he poured his fun-loving energy into games, like the time he almost broke the ribs of tight end coach LeVar Woods while picking him up and celebrating a teammate's touchdown against Northwestern.

"They sort of broke the mold when they made George," Woods said.

Flipping a switch

About 15 minutes before kickoff every Sunday, George Kittle heads to the bathroom to puke his guts out. That's not something most athletes would be willing to admit, but Kittle hesitates only slightly before slapping the table and repeating himself. Who cares what people think about it?

"It just kind of happens," he said. "It's really weird."

Then, before he makes his way back onto the field, Kittle straps on his helmet, jogs into the tunnel and head-butts a wall. At that point San Francisco's ever-gregarious tight end flips into angry mode.

"That's my switch," Kittle said.

When he's not snaring catches in traffic and bouncing off would-be tacklers, he's using all that newfound bulk to bully defensive linemen in the trenches, often yelling indiscriminately but never trash talking.

It's a beautiful way to make a living, whether your team is 2-10 or 10-2.

"I literally wake up and I'm like, 'Okay well, I'm playing in the NFL and I'm living in California,'" Kittle said, "So there could be a lot worse than what I'm doing."
On Tuesday morning, Garrett Celek steers his SUV toward the gate again. As usual, there's Kittle, waiting and dancing. He hops aboard and launches into a falsetto Canadian accent while reliving his latest conquest playing Halo 3.

Celek shakes his head and laughs, then ponders what dance moves might lie ahead next fall, when a healthy Jimmy Garoppolo promises to lend more stability to the 49ers' offense. Kittle has proven he can produce with a rotating cast of serviceable quarterbacks, but imagine what could happen when two stars combine.

"Once he gets that relationship down," Celek said, "he's going to explode."

How George Kittle Became A Major Building Block For The 49ers

By Vincent Frank
Forbes.com
December 11, 2018

Tight End George Kittle entered the NFL in relative obscurity as a fifth-round pick of the San Francisco 49ers back in 2017. Playing at Iowa during his college career, the 6-foot-4 pass catcher didn't have a great track record of success in that role. In fact, he gained just 737 yards in four seasons with the Hawkeyes.

Despite this, 49ers general manager John Lynch and head coach Kyle Shanahan saw something in the athletic tight end. His measurables showed up well on tape — as evidenced by the fact that Kittle ran a 4.52 40-yard dash at the combine.

Even then, he was an unknown. How would Kittle's overall game translate to the NFL? Could he have success in Shanahan's tight end-friendly offense? We got an inkling of what the tight end could do as a rookie. Despite struggling with injuries, he caught 45 passes for 515 yards in 15 games. Kittle also boasted a strong 68.3 catch rate.

The tape told us a story of a mismatch waiting to happen. Too physical to be covered by defensive backs, Kittle's athleticism made it hard for opposing linebackers to go up against. Flush with great route-running skills and a plus-level blocking ability, there were signs that Kittle would emerge as a sophomore.

No one could have envisioned what we've seen thus far this season. Kittle is coming off a 210-yard performance in a surprising win over the Denver Broncos this past Sunday. It's a performance that saw him break the franchise record for most receiving yards in both a game and during a single season. In fact, Kittle was a mere four yards short of breaking the NFL single-game receiving mark for a tight end.

His outing was brilliant. But in no way was it an exception to the rule. Kittle had been making highlight-reel plays on a never-ending loop for the 49ers. It was just lost on the national media due to this team's bottom-feeding status in the NFC West. But now, we simply can't overlook what the young tight ends brings to the table.

Kittle heads into Week 15 having caught 69 passes for 1,103 yards and four touchdowns. He has five catches of 40-plus yards this season — besting every tight end in the NFL. In fact, only Antonio Brown and Tyreek Hill have put up more catches of 40-plus yards in the NFL. Kittle has also gone for 70-plus yards nine times in 13 games. He's about as consistent as they get from a pass-catching standpoint.

More than the basic stats, the tape tells us a story of a young man that's going to be a major building block for the 49ers moving forward. This 85-yard touchdown against the Broncos is a prime example of that. The play design ran Kittle open on an intermediate route. Nick Mullens made a pass that pretty much every quarterback in the league could complete. But it's what Kittle did after the catch that stands out. He legitimately looked like a wide receiver in racking up 70 yards after the reception. That's what makes this tight end a major mismatch. And it's something we've seen repeated over and over again.

“He was open every play, man. It was crazy. Every receiver was open," Mullens said during media availability after Sunday's win. That's the thing. When receivers are doing what they're actually supposed to be doing on the field, Shanahan puts them in a great position to succeed. Kittle has done that on a consistent basis as a sophomore.

Moving forward, this is going to be an absolutely huge element to San Francisco's offense. It's getting to the point where opposing defenses might have to start shading their No. 1 cornerback in Kittle's direction. Simply put, linebackers stand no real chance of covering him. And only the league's best free safeties can hang with Kittle one-on-one. This will open things up big time in the passing game once Jimmy Garoppolo returns from the torn ACL he suffered back in Week 3.

If defenses have to force their top corner into coverage against a tight end, the likes of Dante Pettis will eat big time on the outside. We saw first hand just how dynamic of a threat the rookie receiver is out on the boundary. His ability to create separation at the line is second-to-none in the NFL. This touchdown Sunday against the Broncos magnifies that in a big way.

The ability of Kittle to create mismatches enables San Francisco to head into the offseason thinking bigger picture. Do they really need a true No. 1 receiver with arguably the game's best all-around tight end? Will Kittle's success lead to progression from a rookie receiver in Dante Pettis who has stepped up big time recently?

We don't know the answer to these two questions. What we do know is that Kittle is a true building block for the 49ers. That's no small thing as the team closes up shop on what has been an otherwise lost season by the Bay.

‘He acts like a WWE wrestler’: 49ers’ George Kittle has gone into second season as if sprung from the top rope

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
October 15, 2018

George Kittle’s week of preparation at Iowa began with a trip to the local arts and crafts store.
As a redshirt freshman and a member of the scout team, his job was to mimic the upcoming opponent during practice. Kittle, however, took the role a step further by taking markers and colored tape from his shopping bag and altering his all-black practice helmet so that it looked like that of the next foe. Consider it the gridiron version of method acting.

“Nebraska was my favorite because I did my whole helmet in white duct tape,” Kittle said of his various masterpieces. “I was going to do my face mask in red duct tape but it was a little too much.”

The elaborate process speaks to the mundane life of a redshirt freshman. Kittle didn’t get to play in games or even travel with the team that year. There was plenty of toil but no glory.

“The week of practice was like my game,” he said. “I got — what? — three and a half practices a week where it was really high effort, high intensity. It was fun for me.”

It also says plenty about what’s percolating inside the 49ers’ tight end. Kittle was colorful as a rookie last year but his personality — gregarious, brash, mischievous and most of all BOLD — has come alive even more in Year 2.

“It’s a personality now where I say, ‘Oh, that’s just George,’” said long-time friend C.J. Beathard, who also was a member of that Iowa scout team. “It’s like he’s got his own category of personality. There’s ‘happy’ and then there’s ‘George.’ He’s like a kid in a grown man’s body.”

Said Kyle Shanahan: “He acts like a WWE wrestler and I don’t think that’s an act. I think that’s who he is 24-7, which is fun to watch. But you’ve always got to watch out for him. He’s pretty rowdy all the time.”
Kittle indeed has entered his second NFL season as if sprung from the top rope. He entered Monday’s Week 6 game against the Packers with the third-most receiving yards among the league’s tight ends and his 82-yard catch-and-run touchdown in Week 4 remains the longest offensive play in the NFL this season.

His blocking, a sacrosanct discipline at Iowa, has been just as conspicuous. In last week’s game against the Cardinals, for example, he engaged a defender at the Arizona 13-yard line and didn’t stop churning his legs until they were in the end zone, at which point Kittle drove him into the turf.

“My favorite quote ever was, ‘Moving a man from Point A to Point B against his will is the greatest feeling to ever feel,’” Kittle said last year. “And so I take that to heart. Just being able to do that and bury somebody is a pretty good feeling.”

It wasn’t always like that.

Kittle played wide receiver in high school in a system that didn’t even utilize a tight end. He arrived at Iowa in 2012 with the necessary height for his new position, but he weighed about 200 pounds. That put him at an 80-pound deficit against some of the senior defensive linemen he’d try to block in practice.

“He would jump in there and get his tail handed to him,” Greg Davis, the team’s offensive coordinator at the time, recalled in a recent phone interview.

No one seemed too worried about the mismatch.

"Over years of doing this, you always find yourself having to look around and ask players, 'Hey, have you gotten your reps?'" Davis said. "That wasn't George. He never hid. He was right back up (saying), 'Give me another chance! Give me another go!' He was that kind of guy."

Kittle remembers the daily battles a little differently. Yes, there were plays that ended with him on the ground, he said. But the roughest moments came when he got the better of his older, established teammates.

"It was fun going against those guys every day," Kittle said. "And whenever you put a good block on them they'd swing on you and try to fight you and tell you not to go so hard and stuff like that."

Kittle may not have had the size and strength to be a dominant blocker at that age, but he already was well-versed in technique. After all, he and his sister grew up with blocking sleds in their backyard.

Their father, Bruce, is a former Iowa offensive lineman who was co-captain of Iowa's 1982 Rose Bowl team and who also coached offensive linemen at Oklahoma.

He was George's childhood coach and had him working on sleds and blocking dummies when he was 10 years old. Bruce Kittle wanted his son to be an offensive lineman the way mothers dream about their kids becoming doctors.

"On the first day of practice my dad convinced — true story — convinced the kids that offensive line was the best position on the football field," George said of his fifth-grade team. "And so he had little kids fighting over the positions. All of them wanted to play offensive line."

All except George.

He liked having the ball in his hands and always was faster than the boys on his team. He played running back that year.

Another roadblock to his dad's dream: George's physique looked nothing like an offensive lineman's. At first he was small. Then in high school he grew tall and skinny. When he went off to college, no one would have guessed he'd be a future NFL draft pick.

"He was real long, kind of gangly," Bruce said by phone of his son. "He had big hips but he didn't have very much meat on him. He was pretty scrawny looking when you saw him."

There also was the matter of George's energy and enthusiasm.

He loved practice. He loved his teammates. He loved to stick it to the upperclassmen during the week. And he loved college life, perhaps a little too much.

"He really enjoyed his redshirt year to the point where, somewhere around the building, he was classified as a social butterfly. You know, life of the party," Davis said. "To the point where I called him in and I said, 'George, you really have a gift. You can really run, you'll be a matchup nightmare and you are tough. But are you really serious about being a great football player?'"

There was nothing too troubling in the reports Davis heard. It was typical college-guy stuff. But there was a concern that so much of the young tight end's energy — as abundant as it was — was being spent off the practice field. After their meeting, it never became an issue again.

"But I don't know if he ever changed," Davis said. "I think he just kept it off my desk."

Later in the season, Kittle had another meeting with an Iowa coach about his energy. This time head coach Kirk Ferentz wanted to tap into it.

Iowa had lost four games in a row and hated rival Michigan was next on the schedule.

Ferentz wanted more intensity in practice that week and called on Kittle, Beathard and the rest of the scout-team players to provide it. He showed them film clips of previous squads that had doctored their helmets and asked if the current group could do the same.

Kittle and the others took the assignment and ran with it, not just re-creating Michigan's unique helmet with rolls of maize and blue duct tape but altering the jerseys and pants as well. To the Iowa starters, it was like waving a red cape in the face of a bull.

"It was really fun," Kittle recalled. "We definitely got in a lot more fights that week with the defense. We talked a lot of smack the whole time."

Did Iowa beat Michigan that week? No, they lost 42-17. But the practice was as rowdy and electric as Ferentz was hoping for and everyone has fond memories of that season's makeshift fashion shows. Well, maybe everyone but the Iowa equipment staff.

"They hated it," Kittle said. "Because the tape wouldn't come off. They were like, 'Hey, we're not doing this anymore. You have to take it off yourselves because we're not going to do it anymore.'"

The 49ers Star Tight End in the Making with a WWE-sized Persona

By Joe Fann
49ers.com
October 26, 2018

George Kittle can find the humor in his rookie miscues. Self-deprecation has always been a strong suit of his. Still, those first-year mishaps and growing pains are easier to laugh about now that the San Francisco 49ers second-year tight end is in the midst of a Pro Bowl-caliber season.

But Kittle will be the first to tell you that nobody was laughing when he had six missed assignments (M.A.'s) in last year's road game against the Arizona Cardinals.

"Oh fudge," Kittle grimaced. "I got a few plays backwards. I almost got Brian Hoyer killed."

Think of M.A.'s like the demerits you used to accumulate back in grade school. Accruing too many blemishes on your record would result in a subsequent punishment – a trip to the principal's office, a shorter lunch, or *gasp* no recess. A seat on the bench is the football equivalent for too many M.A.'s. Kittle knows he was lucky to not get pulled from the lineup amid his egregious performance in Arizona. For some context, Kittle had been thrown into the deep end as a Day 1 starter. He was barely keeping his head above water in his efforts to master Kyle Shanahan's "dense" playbook. Never mind trying to grasp all of the nuances that Shanahan is famous for, Kittle's focus was consumed entirely by the basics of his job description.

"Coach Shanahan threw me into the ocean and expected me to swim," Kittle said.

Back to the Hoyer play. Kittle smiled and shook his head as he began to tell the story, already picturing the punch line. Shanahan called a running play to give Carlos Hyde the ball up the middle. However, Hoyer liked the look the defense was showing and checked to a pass at the line of scrimmage. Kittle missed that check. He was in the middle of asking Joe Staley a question about his alignment on that particular play call and never heard Hoyer.

The tight end took a step down on the snap, ready to pull up the middle and pave a running lane for Hyde. Simultaneously, he saw Staley set, indicating to Kittle that he'd missed the audible to a pass play. Panic washed over him like he'd overslept his alarm ahead of an early morning flight.

"I was supposed to set Chandler Jones who, you know, is a pretty good defensive end," Kittle said facetiously.

He tried to trip Jones to no avail as Arizona's star defender zoomed past him into the backfield.
"He just got a free shot at Hoyer," Kittle said, laughing guiltily. "I think Hoyer's head touched his feet. He got crushed."

The story has increased comedic value primarily because such mental lapses feel like a distant memory. Kittle, a 2017 fifth-round pick out of Iowa, shared that he's had just one M.A. so far in 2018. The tight end has been an undeniable bright spot in an otherwise frustrating season for San Francisco.

Kittle has posted 32 receptions for 527 yards and two touchdowns through seven games of his second NFL season – numbers that place him firmly in the mix among the league's upper echelon of tight ends. "That's huge production. That's something the 49ers can look at and say, 'OK we've got something here,'" said future Hall of Fame tight end and current "Monday Night Football" color analyst Jason Witten.

There are three primary contributing factors to Kittle's ascension in Year 2.

The first is his ongoing mastery of Shanahan's offense. Kittle spent the offseason in Nashville, Tenn., with Trent Taylor and C.J. Beathard. Taylor and Kittle worked out together on a daily basis and then ran routes

for Beathard three times a week. Beathard would come to each throwing session with a detailed game plan based on what he felt needed the most work.

Kittle's evolution continued during the team's offseason program and throughout training camp. He no longer has to stop and process his responsibilities after each play call. Instead, he's able to spend that time pre-snap observing the defense, diagnosing the coverage and formulating his plan of attack.

"Now I know all of the little details for any specific play – my motion points, when I need to bluff, how I show my hands and all of these other little details," Kittle said. "The game has slowed down for me, and that's helped out a lot."

The second is Kittle's improved health, which has been a welcomed change from his rookie year. He battled a nagging hamstring injury throughout the summer of 2017 followed by an ankle injury that lingered for most of his first season. Kittle earned plenty of tough guy points for gutting through and playing 15 games as a rookie despite never being 100 percent.

The tight end has still had his share of ailments this season – a dislocated shoulder during the preseason and a minor knee injury – but Kittle still says he's far healthier now than at any point last year.

"Being healthy is fun," Kittle laughed as he literally knocked on a wooden box nearby.

Added Shanahan: "I think he's taken better care of his body throughout this offseason – what he does day in and day out, how physical he plays throughout a game and what he does Monday through Saturday just to get his body back ready to play on Sunday. It's been a complete credit to him, just how well he's taken care of himself."

The third – and most compelling – factor in Kittle's emergence is his approach to the game. His persona is a bit of a juxtaposition: A hyper-competitive professional athlete who is also a gigantic kid who never seems overly concerned about anything. Kittle is the class clown of the 49ers locker room, and no amount of Tom Rinaldi tear-jerkers could kill his vibe. His baseline is goofy and escalates rapidly to eccentric. The 6-foot-4, 250-pound tight end isn't macho and has no insecurities in telling anyone who will listen about the latest Pokémon he caught on his Nintendo DS.

And yet, on the football field, Kittle's objective is to physically impose his will on an opponent. He'll mercilessly plant someone into the turf to finish a block and laugh about it on his way back into the huddle.

"I like to play angry, and I don't think there are a lot of guys who like to play angry," Kittle said of his mindset. "You have to have a switch that you can flip when you get on the field. I'm a goofy dude. I don't usually take things too seriously, but when I step on the field it's a whole different aspect to me."

Kittle is also a conversationalist during games. He'll chat with anyone during a break in the action. The tight end referenced a recent chat with Aaron Donald during the 49ers Week 7 home game against the Los Angeles Rams.

"You didn't get in?" Donald asked him while the tight end's 10-yard touchdown was being reviewed.
"I had to get in because my fantasy coaches need me to get more points," Kittle replied.

(Side note: When people tell you that nobody cares about your fantasy team, just remember that Kittle does.)

During the same game, Kittle kindly asked Ndamukong Suh "how he got so big."

"He just laughed at me," Kittle said.

But even when things get contentious, Kittle isn't one for trash talk save for an occasional passive aggressive comment. Like on this running play in the red zone where Kittle blocked Cardinals defensive

back Antoine Bethea for 15 yards all the way across the goal line. Bethea eventually threw Kittle down at the end of the play out of frustration. Kittle got up and casually inquired about “how his ride went.”

Kittle’s ability to seamlessly navigate between ruthless aggression and timely humor makes him a one-of-a-kind personality in the NFL. Shanahan compared the young tight end to a WWE wrestler.

“I don’t think it’s an act,” Shanahan joked. “I think that’s who he is 24/7 which is fun to watch. He’s pretty rowdy all the time.”

Kinder words have never been spoken as far as Kittle is concerned. He’s long been an avid fan of professional wrestling (and all other levels of wrestling for that matter) and has even done some training at the same gym as WWE Superstar Seth Rollins.

Kittle and Rollins have discussed their respective mindsets and found common ground despite participating in vastly different arenas. Extreme levels of concentration are required in both WWE and the NFL. Failure to do so can have painful consequences (just ask Hoyer). They each agreed, though, that the need for ultimate focus and attention to detail doesn’t have to come at the cost of showmanship and entertainment.

“I’m a high-energy guy,” Kittle said. “I try to be infectious with my energy. I’m all about the excitement. Football is easy when you’re having fun.”

Both of Kittle’s signature celebrations have ties to wrestling. His touchdown dance is an ode to “Stone Cold” Steve Austin’s affinity for smashing two beers above his head. This year, Kittle added a unique “first down” signal after each catch that moves the chains. The tight end puts his thumb and pointer finger together with his other three fingers extended like a basketball player would signal a three-pointer. Then he reaches his arm out and flops his wrist down. According to Kittle, he picked it up from Pentagón Jr., an independent wrestler who dons a luchador mask. The signal means “no fear.”

It can all sound a bit silly and gimmicky, but anyone who knows him will tell you that Kittle is as genuine as they come. That’s a quality that commands immediate respect. Players recently voted Kittle as one of two offensive captains along with 12-year veteran Joe Staley, which tells you everything you need to know about how his work ethic and overall trajectory are perceived by his teammates.

Kittle’s unique flair and increased production are starting to turn heads around the country as well. Esteemed national scribe Chris Wesseling recently tweeted that Kittle would be an All-Pro pick at tight end if it were up to him.

Witten has also taken notice and was eager to meet Kittle ahead of the 49ers Week 6 primetime game against the Green Bay Packers on “Monday Night Football.” Kittle sat down with Witten and the rest of ESPN’s broadcast team during production meetings at the 49ers team hotel.

“I really admire the way he’s playing,” Witten said. “He really jumps out at you when you’re watching the tape. He can be a game changer.

“He’s a mismatch, and Kyle is using him really well. He just needs to keep doing it because I think he’s on the verge of taking that next step and joining that top tier of tight ends.”

What’s wild is that the numbers indicate he might already be there. Here’s how Kittle stacks up against NFL tight ends: 32 receptions (fourth), 527 yards (third), 16.5 yards per catch (second; minimum 10 receptions), 368 yards after the catch (first), seven catches of at least 20 yards (tied for second), two catches of at least 40 yards (tied for first) and 22 first downs (tied for third).

Kittle is on pace for 1,205 receiving yards this season – a staggering number for a tight end. In fact, no

NFL tight end has reached the 1,200-yard plateau since Jimmy Graham in 2013 (1,215). It's a milestone that Witten, an 11-time Pro Bowler, two-time All-Pro and sure-fire Hall of Famer, never accomplished. The production coupled with Kittle's intangibles – work ethic, toughness, aggression, athleticism, etc. – make Witten believe the league's best up-and-coming tight end resides in San Francisco.

"He's not a guy who is reading his own press clippings," Witten said. "That mindset combined with his versatility allows him to have a really high ceiling."

Don't mistake Kittle's natural humility for a lack of self-belief. He understands that greatness is a realistic benchmark.

"Yeah, I one hundred percent do," Kittle said. "I feel like I have the assets and the mindset to get there." It's still too soon to mention Kittle's name in the same sentence as Rob Gronkowski, Zach Ertz, Travis Kelce and Graham. Those are all established Pro Bowlers who have exhibited the consistent production needed to be considered elite.

But Kittle is well on his way, and he's sure to savor the ride. He'll make sure the rest of us do, too.

Trey Lance

The Choice: Trey Lance's 'no-brainer' choice vs. racial inequality

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
September 2, 2021

The memory of that May morning remains fresh and painful in Angie Lance's mind.

Their two sons -- Trey, attending North Dakota State and a future No. 3 overall draft pick of the 49ers, and Bryce, a senior at Marshall (Minn.) High School -- were home during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each member of the family learned separately of George Floyd's murder by police officer Derek Chauvin just 150 miles away in Minneapolis. The video showing Chauvin kneeling on Floyd's neck attracted immediate national attention.

"I've never watched the video," Angie said. "I can't bring myself to watch it, but everybody in the house had watched it. And it was very somber in our house and I was just waiting."

As Angie recounted the experience, her husband, Carlton, who is Black, removed his glasses and wiped tears from his eyes.

Angie, who is white, knew how she wanted to address the tragedy the first time she saw her sons after Floyd's murder. She wanted to emphasize to her biracial sons that the rules are different for them.

Whatever you do, always just do whatever you're told;

Remember, when you go somewhere, take your hood down;

Get a receipt;

If you're pulled over, keep your hands on the steering wheel and ask, "Can I get my wallet?"

Said Angie: "I just wanted to remind them again and again and again. But I couldn't say anything. I was kind of frozen."

That conversation eventually took place, Angie said. Carlton expressed faith that the system would provide justice. The Lances prayed for Floyd's family, everyone whose life has been impacted by racial inequality and for healing throughout the United States.

The Lance family was forced to confront many uncomfortable issues.

Trey and Bryce Lance were raised in the predominantly white rural farming town of Marshall.

"Obviously, I grew up differently than 90 percent of the people that I was around," Trey said. "Me and my brother just grew up differently. Our household was different, and I knew that obviously from an early age. I can see that my skin color is different than everyone else's."

"I think I thought about it, but it was just something that I got used to at such an early age that it wasn't ever anything that I didn't feel I can't handle."

Said Bryce: "At AAU basketball tournaments, we witnessed a lot more diversity, mixed people that looked like me and Trey. We knew we were different, but we didn't feel out of place at Marshall. Our dad did a great job reinforcing that culture into us. The people we surrounded ourselves with were in full support of us, so we didn't feel out of place."

Trey ended up back in Fargo, which is only marginally more diverse than Marshall.

He was coming off an incredible season in leading NDSU to the national championship with a 16-0 record. He threw 28 touchdown passes, rushed for 14 more and did not throw an interception. He became the first freshman to win the Walter Payton Award as the best offensive player in NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (formerly I-AA).

It was supposed to be only the start.

But that's not how it turned out, as COVID-19 forced many plans to change.

During the pandemic, Lance took part in peaceful protests in Fargo after Floyd's murder. Lance's participation gained widespread attention.

Trey Lance participates in a peaceful Black Lives Matter protest in Fargo, North Dakota
“He is by far one of the top-three most recognizable people in the city — could put him No. 1, probably,” WDAY sports director Dom Izzo said.

The Bison scheduled one game for the fall of 2020 after the pandemic pushed the NDSU football season to the spring.

It amounted to a showcase for Lance against Central Arkansas. Lance already was considered a top pro prospect, and it was a foregone conclusion he would declare for the 2021 NFL Draft after the game.

In his final time suiting up for the Bison, Lance wanted to make a statement -- regardless of how unpopular it might be with the NDSU fan base. So, the night before the game, Lance tweeted a photo of the cleats he'd wear.

“BLM,” for Black Lives Matter, was written on the cleats, along with “204,” for the number of days at that point since Breonna Taylor had been fatally shot by police in Louisville, Ky. The names of other individuals who died during police incidents also were written on the cleats.

The next day, Lance took a knee during the playing of the national anthem at the FargoDome. Then-49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick began that form of protest against racial inequality and police brutality in 2016.

“That made some people mad,” Izzo said. “There's no doubt about it, and maybe some that still maybe will not root for him in the NFL because of what he did. I don't think he loses any sleep about that whatsoever. That's the man he is.”

Lance said he felt the support of his family, teammates and coaches. He wouldn't allow others to prevent him from doing what he believed was right.

“I don't really believe in athletes just sticking to sports,” Lance said. “I guess I don't really understand that. For me, I was standing up for what I believe in, and it really wasn't even a hard decision at all, to be honest. It was kind of a no-brainer for me.”

At that point, Lance already was virtually assured of being a first-round NFL pick. He was one of the most popular athletes in NDSU history despite his short career.

His father said watching his son use his platform to step outside the boundaries of sports filled him with a great sense of pride.

“I cried when he took that stance because I knew what it took,” Carlton Lance said. “People gave him some flack for it or whatever. They will never know what it took for him to do that, to take that stance for people he did not know.”

The Choice: Trey Lance's parents exemplify son's NFL dreams

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
August 19, 2021

Carlton Lance chased his NFL dream as a defensive back from the Canadian Football League to 49ers training camp in Rocklin to the London Monarchs of the World League of American Football.

When his playing career came to an end, he returned to Marshall, Minn., where he attended Southwest Minnesota State and met Angie.

In 1988, Carlton moved to the remote part of the upper Midwest from Fort Myers, Fla., to run track and play college NAIA football.

He returned to settle down with Angie.

“While Carl left and traveled the world to play football, I was teaching,” Angie Lance said. “I was a teacher for 10 years. We kept in touch during that time and dated during most of that time.

“And, then, when he stopped playing football, he came back to this part of the country.”

This part of the country is located 150 miles southwest of Minneapolis. Marshall is surrounded by fields of corn and livestock. Schwan’s Company, one of the nation’s largest frozen-food companies, is headquartered in this town of 13,000.

It's also where Carlton and Angie raised two sons, Trey and Bryce, who are following their own football aspirations.

Instilling small-town values

The 49ers selected Trey, the team’s quarterback of the future, with the No. 3 overall pick in the 2021 NFL Draft. Bryce is beginning his freshman season as a wide receiver at North Dakota State, where his brother was the starting quarterback for one memorable season.

“We were 30 when Trey was born,” Angie said, “so we probably hadn't put a lot of thought into what type of parents we wanted to be.”

Angie said their focus was on raising their children to be faithful, healthy, happy and kind.

“As long as everything we do is geared toward those four things, I think we’re going to be in a really good place,” she said.

Their personalities and parenting styles play well off each other. Angie supplies unconditional support. Carlton, who was inducted into the SMSU Athletics Hall of Honor, is brutally honest in his assessment of any situation. He says what needs to be said, and not much more.

“My mom was the type that was going to tell us that she loves us and we played great even if we didn’t,” Trey said. “My dad was realistic with us.”

The car rides home from youth games were all about the bottom line for Carlton. His biggest takeaways from watching his sons play sports centered on effort, the elimination of mental mistakes and never backing down from a challenge.

“The boys would get in the car,” Angie said, “and Carl would ask, ‘How do you think you did?’ And, first of all, I would say, ‘Oh, you did great! I thought you did great! It was fun. Did you have fun? Great.’

“And then Carl would say, ‘How do you think you did?’ And the boys would say, ‘I thought I did good.’ And Carl would wait, and he'd say, ‘Well, do you want to know what I think?’ ”

Carlton dealt from a position of tough love. He believes and preaches that no accomplishment comes without hard work.

It was something Trey heard from an early age.

“I coached him in middle school and volunteer-coached him in high school,” Carlton said. “So once he got to that age, that's when I started talking to him about competing and understanding what competing was."

Mom’s life-changing talk

After one particularly uninspired workout with his dad at the YMCA, Trey, who was entering the ninth grade, was more than a little discouraged when he got home and went to his room.

His mother entered and offered some straight talk of her own. She sat on the floor and provided a soft yet firm touch to help chart the path for her son’s future in what's remembered as a seminal moment along his athletic journey.

“The two of us had a talk,” Angie recalled. “I said, ’Is that really something that you were thinking, that you would like to do is play Division I sports?' ”

Trey answered, yes, he wanted to be an athlete at the top level of college. Angie pressed him.

“And, so, Trey, I just have to ask you: Is that a wish? Because wishes aren't going to get you anywhere,” Angie said. “Is that a dream? Because dreams are fun. You know, they really are. Dreams are a lot of fun.

“Or is it a goal? Because if it's a goal, Trey, there's going to definitely be a price to pay. There's going to be sacrifices to make, and he did flip a switch. He put his mind to it, and he was all-in.”

Dad's fateful decision

Carlton coached Trey in middle-school football. Trey was the team’s top running back, and his dad also called on him to serve as the backup quarterback to Trey’s best friend, Jake Hess.

Once Trey started throwing the ball, his natural ability to play quarterback was unmistakable.

When he entered Marshall High School, he asked to play quarterback. His career as a running back was over.

“After we saw him throw the football and we knew his work habits, we kept him at quarterback,” said Terry Bahlmann, Marshall’s football coach.

After excelling on the JV squad, Trey was called upon to play with the varsity late in his sophomore season. The senior quarterback had sustained an injury, so Trey entered the game.

He struggled in a season-ending loss.

“After the game, he was on the bench and a little depressed, and I put my arm around him, not knowing what’s going to happen in the future,” Bahlmann said. “I said, ‘Trey, your best days are coming. It’s going to be great.’ ”

One clue for how great became apparent with how the young quarterback dealt with adversity.

“He was right back to work the next day,” Bahlmann said. “Where a lot of kids will take a couple weeks off, he’s right back getting better.”

The drive to be great

Hess, once Trey's athletic equal, recognized that his buddy was separating himself through his maniacal work habits, focus and drive.

"Sophomore year after he got that first start, the next season, he was just grinding," Hess said. "After some summer games, I'd be dead and just laying around, wanting to take a break, and he would go in the weight room for three hours.

"I'm like, 'You do you, man. You have way more of a drive.' "

Trey went on to start his final two seasons of prep football and excelled as a point guard on the basketball team. He dominated as a dual-threat quarterback for the school of 800 students.

While many bigger universities projected Lance as a defensive player, North Dakota State envisioned him as its next quarterback capable of an NFL career.

The athletic skills were easy to detect. So, too, was Lance's commitment to invest the hours of work to get better and better.

Perfect contradiction

Carlton taught Trey the nuances of the game and the importance of being prepared through film study.

"His dad was a motivator in his life, and Trey's passion for football was there as long as I can remember," Hess said.

The sometimes-contradictory touches of his parents complemented each other and, ultimately, kept their eldest son on the path to realize his lofty athletic goal.

There were times, of course, when Carlton thought Angie was too protective of their boys. Conversely, when Angie thought Carlton was being too harsh, she would let him know in a private conversation.

Ultimately, their individual parenting styles were the right blend to drive their eldest son through hard work and discipline while keeping it fun and avoiding burnout along the way.

"I think we balanced each other out," Angie said. "We're not perfect. We worked really hard. We had lots of conversations about what was best, and how to best support them."

The Choice: Lance's flawless freshman season built his NDSU legend

By Matt Maiocco
NBC Sports Bay Area
August 19, 2021

The greatest achievement of Trey Lance's only college season as a starter became a taboo subject for the people closest to him.

Even those on the periphery were unsure exactly how to handle the situation -- although their vocations called for them to continue to talk and write about it as long as the streak endured.

And nearly two years later, they're still talking and writing about it.

"I remember as the offense would come out, you'd say, 'Here comes Trey Lance, the redshirt freshman from Marshall, Minnesota, 18 touchdowns, no interceptions,' " said Jeff Culhane, the radio voice of the North Dakota State Bison.

"We talked about it all the time on the air because how can you not?" TV play-by-play man Brian Shawn said. "We kept waiting. Is he ever? And the thing is, he never really had a lot of balls that were in danger of getting intercepted."

Added Culhane: "Every week, it was like, 'Knock on wood, here's the broadcaster's no-hitter jinx.' How often do you talk about it, right?"

The number zero came to define Lance's historic 2019.

The Bison rolled through the season and became the first modern-era Division I program to finish with a 16-0 record, as they won a third consecutive national title in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA).

Lance pitched nothing but perfect games. He threw for 28 touchdowns, rushed for 14 more and did not toss an interception. He became the first freshman to win the Walter Payton Award as the top offensive player at his level of college football.

Mom knows best
Angie Lance loved all the chatter about her son's interception-less streak as much as anyone. It was at the front of her mind as the season progressed, and all but one of the numbers on his stat sheet were piling up — superstitions be damned!

"I thought it was so cool that he hadn't thrown an interception," Angie said. "I was like, 'Wow, he hasn't thrown an interception.' 'Don't talk about it.' I wasn't allowed to talk about it, and then it was like, 'Well, another game without an interception.' I thought it was so fun, and then they were like, 'Stop talking about it; you don't talk about it.'

"Trey would not even acknowledge it. Every time I said something like, 'Trey, you didn't have an interception in this game,' he would say, 'Oh my gosh, mom, stop talking about it.' So, I wasn't superstitious. I just thought it was really cool. But he didn't want to talk about it."

No losses. No interceptions. No jinx.

There's no question about Lance's legacy at NDSU and at the FCS level, period.

"It's the greatest season by any FCS player in the history of FCS," NDSU beat writer Jeff Kolpack said. "There's no way anybody in the FCS will ever equal that, and he did it when he was a freshman. He's a freshman, and he had the best season any FCS player will ever have. Think about that."

All from a player whom none of the bigger schools viewed as a quarterback.

Hometown diss

Just 150 miles to the east of Lance's hometown of Marshall is the University of Minnesota. The Golden Gophers, a middling Big Ten Conference program, haven't produced an NFL draft pick at quarterback since 1972.

Minnesota wasn't interested in keeping one of the state's top prospects at his desired position. And that's how Trey Lance ended up making history at North Dakota State.

“The fact that we wanted him as a quarterback from the get-go helped us,” Bison head coach Matt Entz said. “That's what we saw him as. That's what our vision was. We never really got off that thought or off that messaging to him and his family.

“I think other schools were ‘maybe quarterback,’ ‘maybe defensive player,’ tight end, safety, linebacker ... And I think that just wasn't what he wanted.”

Lance was passed over through most of the recruiting process. Although he received an invitation to a regional Elite 11 camp in Chicago, he barely got a second look upon showing up that day.

Once Lance made a verbal commitment to NDSU, he became invested in his future school's fate. An 11th-hour pitch from Boise State, though flattering, wasn't given serious consideration.

“I’d already fallen in love with North Dakota State and the coaching staff,” Lance said. “By that time, I probably had 25 guys in my class that I kind of helped to recruit out of that class of 2018 at North Dakota State.

“So, for me, it was a no-brainer. I wasn’t going to bail on those guys, regardless of what school came at that time.”

Lance signed on under former NDSU coach Chris Klieman to become the next in the line at QB U. He'd be working closely with a well-regarded quarterbacks coach, Randy Hedberg, and a bright first-year offensive coordinator, Tyler Roehl.

Carson Wentz was the Bison starting quarterback for two of the five national championships they won during his time in Fargo. He was the No. 2 overall pick, by the Philadelphia Eagles, in the 2016 NFL Draft.

Easton Stick spent one season as Wentz’s understudy, then was a three-year starter and led NDSU to two consecutive national titles. The Los Angeles Chargers selected him in the fifth round of the 2019 draft.

With that lineage, Carlton Lance knew his son would have a platform to take his game to the highest level. After all, NDSU’s recent track record of producing NFL quarterbacks is as good as what even the best of the Big Ten has to offer.

“Quarterbacks come from everywhere, so it's what you do when you get there,” Carlton said. “They're preparing you, and you're going to be in a good spot if you do what you need to do.”

QB1 competition

In football-crazy Fargo, there was pressure on Lance to keep things rolling when he stepped into the lineup in 2019 after redshirting for one season behind Stick.

In two appearances during his true freshman year, Lance showed what he could do with his legs. He tore off TD runs of 44 yards against North Alabama and 23 yards at South Dakota -- the latter after dropping the snap and improvising with a dash up the middle.

Lance still faced a challenge from Iowa State transfer Zeb Noland, who threw for 360 yards and two TDs the previous season against Oklahoma. A little more than a week before the 2019 season opener, though, Entz named Lance the starter.

His first start set the tone for the season.

Everyone already knew Lance could run. In the first quarter of his first start, he showcased his arm strength, touch and accuracy, too.

Fittingly, he teamed up with Phoenix Sproles, a wide receiver from Minneapolis whom he helped recruit to Fargo. Upon his commitment to NDSU, Lance texted Sproles, “Let’s do something special.”

Said Sproles: “So I committed a week or two after he did, and then it's been history from there.”

Lance’s last laugh

NDSU's season opener was played against Butler University in front of 34,544 fans at Target Field in downtown Minneapolis — just three miles from the University of Minnesota’s football stadium.

Lance displayed the quarterback skills the Golden Gophers, and a lot of bigger schools, were unable or unwilling to project when they watched him play in high school.

In his debut as the starter, Lance showed the dual-threat skills that would become so attractive 20 months later to 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan and general manager John Lynch as they prepared for the 2021 NFL Draft.

Lance had a 33-yard touchdown run on the first series of the game. Several minutes later, he dropped a high-arching 47-yard pass perfectly into Sproles' arms for a score.

“It was just the first quarter, so we were just getting started,” Sproles said. “I think that's when people woke up. They were just like, ‘Wow’ — like we have a baller.

“We have the next QB.”

The Choice: How Lance proved his championship mettle at NDSU

By Matt Maicco
NBC Sports Bay Area
August 19, 2021

The stat sheet from the most important game of Trey Lance's college career doesn't exactly provide evidence of his future as an NFL quarterback.

Lance completed six of 10 pass attempts for 72 yards against James Madison, as North Dakota State won its third consecutive NCAA Football Championship Subdivision title to cap an unbeaten 2019 season.

Carlton Lance initially had the vision of his son, then a middle-school running back, playing the quarterback position.

One of the biggest lessons he tried to teach his sons played out that day in Frisco, Texas.

"I told them that not everybody who plays is ... they're going to be talented, but they're not willing to do what it takes," Carlton said. "Everybody says they want to win a championship. Not everybody is going to do what it takes."

Trey Lance proved he'd do whatever it took to win a national championship that day: Jan. 11, 2020.

It was 30 degrees with a 16-mph wind at kickoff. The conditions weren't conducive for either team to sustain success in the passing game.

So the quarterback who entered the championship game with 28 touchdown passes and no interceptions would end the season with 28 touchdown passes and no interceptions.

"We're in the biggest game of the season," NDSU offensive coordinator Tyler Roehl said. "We're not really saving him for anything after this one, so he carried the ball 30 times."

Lance gained 166 rushing yards against a defense that had allowed just 61 per game entering the championship game.

Roehl estimates that 28 of Lance's rushing attempts were designed runs. One of his scrambles was the signature play of the Bison's 28-20 victory.

Lance saved his best for last -- the day after he was announced as the first freshman winner of the Walter Payton Award for the most outstanding offensive player at the FCS level.

NDSU, facing a third-and-23 situation at the JMU 44-yard line, was holding a precarious eight-point lead early in the fourth quarter.

Lance took the snap out of the shotgun formation and dropped back 9 yards behind the line of scrimmage. He sensed pressure coming off the right edge, stepped up and took off. He barely squeezed between two defenders to break into the second level, and angled toward the left sideline to outrun a defensive back for the first down. Then, he picked up two key downfield blocks and stepped through the last tackle attempt for the game-defining touchdown.

"He's the guy, in any situation, whether it be the fourth quarter of a national championship game, he wants the ball in his hands," Roehl said. "He's just that much of a competitor, and he has the composure to go out there and execute in whatever situation it is."

How Trey Lance's family prepared him for his NFL journey out of small-town America

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
May 13, 2021

From the couch in his living room, Carlton Lance leaned forward, elbows dug into thighs, before he pointed to the spot a few feet away where he'd taught his oldest son how to deal with defensive players trying to tackle him around his legs.

Carlton, a still-fit former college and pro cornerback who grew up in Queens, N.Y., and went to high school in Fort Myers, Fla., radiated East Coast intensity while recalling how he instructed Trey to lower the boom by lowering his shoulder.

"I would always tell him, 'This guy is trying to hit you, so you've got to have some malice in your heart,'" Lance said. "'You are trying to end his function.'"

Sitting to his right, his wife, Angie, was more relaxed as their 5-year-old Maltipoo, Niner, snoozed in her lap. Angie was born and raised in Marshall, a charming, isolated prairie town of 13,651 dotted with 22 churches. Her consistent message to their son is a reminder that lowering the boom is not his higher calling.

"At the end of the day, when you lay your head on the pillow, if you walked around the facility, and didn't build relationships, and didn't get to know people and didn't use your platform in a way that makes a difference in the world, then you're just a football player," Angie said. "And I just don't think that is what God intended for any of us. I think we're here to do so much more than what our job is."

Trey Lance, the 49ers' rookie quarterback selected last month with the No. 3 pick in the NFL draft, is a blend of Midwest nice and New York tough. Carlton and Angie have helped mold him into a holy terror who could be the latest dynamic young NFL quarterback to give defenses migraines.

"My dad, from a competitive standpoint, put something in me that's different from what most people have," Lance said, adding: "My mom is much more — she's going to tell me she loves me at the end of the day, regardless of what happens."

Lance, who turned 21 Sunday, recently became both the 49ers' youngest player and the one facing the greatest expectations. Poised to sign a four-year contract worth more than $33 million guaranteed, he enters the big time less than four years after graduating from a small-town high school. His challenge will be to maintain the perspective that grounds him and the drive that has allowed him to soar.

This product of a remote hometown and slightly less remote college town told reporters after the draft that he wasn't put "on Earth to be a football player." He begins most mornings by reading a devotional and listening to a sermon, and his Twitter bio and the recently inked tattoo on his back feature the same words: "Child of God." At North Dakota State University in Fargo, he was known for treating student team managers the same as his fellow stars in a Football Championship Subdivision dynasty that has won eight of the past nine national titles.

At Marshall High School, Lance had a 3.9 GPA, was recruited by Ivy League colleges Cornell and Columbia and was a leader of his local Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter. Dan Westby, a longtime teacher and coach at Marshall, said it was bittersweet for him that Lance, who had played 215 miles away in Fargo, was drafted by a West Coast team.

"Selfishly, it's hard," Westby said, his eyes glistening. "The thought of maybe never seeing Trey again is not easy. He's just such a good kid."

But on the field, that good kid has some bad intentions. Lance is the rare NFL quarterback who was recruited as a linebacker by Big Ten programs (Iowa, Minnesota) and is known as much for huge hits as

his howitzer arm. At Marshall High, his coach, Terry Bahlmann, insists Lance, who also played strong safety, would have set the school's interception record if he'd been as interested in catching balls as crushing pass-catchers.

Asked about his older brother's aggressiveness, Bryce, a high school senior wide receiver who has committed to NDSU, began with this: "He hit a kid one game, I remember, and the ambulance had to come." His college roommate, wide receiver Phoenix Sproles, recalls how the 6-foot-4, 224-pound Lance once "demolished another man," which was Sproles' recollection of a UC Davis cornerback Lance clearly treated with malice.

Lance, though, punished every team he faced in 2019, his lone full season as a starter, after no elite college program had offered him a scholarship to play quarterback.

He led the Bison to the first 16-0 season in college football since the 1894 Yale Bulldogs. He became the first player to ever win FCS' Walter Payton Award (top offensive player) and Jerry Rice Award (top freshman) in the same season. And he set an NCAA record by throwing 287 passes without an interception. Now, after starting only 17 college games, he has left Fargo and become one of three FCS players selected in the top three of the NFL draft since 1978.

There is a belief that Lance won't be playing much while he develops as an NFL rookie. But the more one learns about him, the more one believes incumbent 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo should watch out: Lance, all good manners and maniacal work ethic, is quietly, purposefully targeting him next.

"There's definitely an edge to that guy," said NDSU cornerback Destin Talbert, a close friend and former roommate. "You'll see the baby face. You'll see he's such a nice guy and has a sweet personality. But don't let him fool you. … Someone doesn't go 16-0 and not throw any picks without having that edge. Yeah, you better take him seriously. You get in the middle of a game, when things get serious, and you just kind of see this blank-faced killer."

Lance was born and raised in Marshall, in sparsely populated southwestern Minnesota, a 155-mile drive from Minneapolis. It is close to nothing, really, but has pretty much everything you need. Well, almost. The Empire Mall is 95 miles away in Sioux Falls, S.D.

Marshall is reached from the northwest on Minnesota State Highway 68 past endless acres of farmland and through hamlets such as Porter (population 183), Taunton (139) and Ghent (370), the "Rolle Bolle Capital of the World." The nearest town with more than 4,000 residents is Redwood Falls, 38 miles away. Marshall High's closest football opponent, Worthington, is 64 miles south.

"We're a bubble," Bahlmann said.

Bubble maybe, but not backwoods. Marshall does have vast stretches of beans and corn growing around it. But it's also the headquarters of Schwan's, a national food service company, and the home of Southwest Minnesota State University, a Division II college with almost 2,000 undergraduates. It has a quaint downtown, local restaurants, a few big-box stores and Marshall High, a sprawling red-brick building that's home to 850 students.

Residents rolled their eyes at the depictions of Marshall as a cow town in the wave of pre-draft stories on Lance. Bahlmann was amused by a picture of Trey taken in front of three grain bins, wondering if Trey had ever stepped foot on a farm. The Lances live in a well-manicured neighborhood of ranch houses that wouldn't look out of place in a Bay Area suburb.

Carlton, 50, who co-owns a finance company with eight employees, and Angie, 51, a former first-grade teacher who is a senior recruiter for Schwan's, met at Southwest Minnesota State. Carlton, a football and track standout who played briefly in the Canadian Football League and the World League — he had NFL training-camp stints with the 49ers and Houston Oilers — is in the college's athletic hall of fame.

They put down roots in Marshall because they viewed it as a great place to raise a family. Trey and Bryce are honor students who grew up attending Holy Redeemer, a private K-8 school, before becoming multi-sport standouts, FCA leaders and earning college scholarships.

Angie, who is white, and Carlton, who is Black, acknowledge Marshall isn't a prairieland utopia. Last year's national conversation on racial justice inspired by the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis exposed racial divisions in a town in which 80% of residents are white and 6% are Black. Perhaps due to their star-athlete status, Trey and Bryce rarely confronted racism growing up.

"Our kids had a great life," Angie said. "When I hear Trey say you just don't know what other people are going through, it's not because he's gone through this hardship and tough experiences. They've had very wonderful childhoods without a worry in the world."

Perhaps too wonderful, in Carlton's opinion. What was missing? Cutthroat competition.

The sports-playing children of Marshall grow up mauling their surrounding opponents from even smaller towns, collecting wins, ribbons and trophies. Throw in Midwest manners and Carlton, who willed himself into pro football after playing at a small-college program, views it as the opposite of his early athletic experience.

"I would say early on Trey was a nice little Marshall kid playing out here," Carlton said. "'I'm playing. I'm hanging out.' We never pushed him, but I was like, 'Buddy, you're not competing. You're really not. You're kind of just out there circling around and having a good time. And you have to find a way to compete.' Marshall kids are very nice. And they feel like if they compete, 'Hey, I'm crossing a boundary there.' Where I grew up in New York and Fort Myers, if you're not competing, you're just going to get drubbed."

That message, though, wasn't fully absorbed until a Saturday morning when Trey and his dad were shooting hoops at the YMCA before Trey entered eighth grade. Trey was casually hoisting shots. Carlton wanted him to work more purposefully on his jumper. Trey resisted. Carlton angrily ended the session, took Trey home and was "pouting" upstairs as Angie dealt with the fallout downstairs in Trey's bedroom.

Trey had recently started talking about playing a Division I sport in college. Angie spoke to him about the ticking clock as it related to recruiting. She suggested that he write down his goals and the steps he would take to realize them.

"That was a big day at our house," Angie said. "It was, 'Trey, you can do this, but there's going to be a price to pay.'"

Trey responded by embracing his dad's many mantras on competition and athletic success. One was "extending your day" — working when others weren't willing to.

Trey began by waking Carlton, often on pitch-black, sub-zero Minnesota mornings, for 5 a.m. workouts at the YMCA. Those sessions were punctuated by a fist bump and a reinforcing message: "You outworked someone today. The other guy is sleeping."

Jake Hess, a high school teammate and Lance's best friend from Marshall, recalled Trey's single-minded routine after basketball games.

"Everyone would be tired and just wanted to go home and eat, but he would be in the weight room right after the game probably for like two or three hours," Hess said. "It was like a rolling-eyes moment, like, 'Really, Trey? C'mon.' But that's how bad he wanted it. He wanted it more than anybody I'd ever seen."

Lance also adopted his dad's passion for poring over game video, something Angie said Carlton does "relentlessly (and) incessantly." Often when she rolls over in the middle of the night, she sees her husband, a volunteer assistant football coach at Marshall High, illuminated by the glow of his iPad.

Carlton says his study habits allowed him to maximize his ability as a player; he could react without thinking: “The more you know, the more talent you can show,” he told Trey.

Trey began to study football video incessantly. Reece Winkelman, one of his former teammates, provided rare dirt on his friend by offering that Trey was often immersed in Xs and Os during high school classes.

“The fact that I was outworking people, that was something I enjoyed knowing,” Lance said. “In my mind, I felt like, ‘I know this is going to pay off one day.’ There were definitely tough days. Waking up that early as a 15-, 16-year-old kid, I did not want to do it. But in my head, I felt guilty if I didn’t. And once I started, I’ve never really stopped.”

Lance took Marshall’s program, which hadn’t reached the state playoffs since 1990, to new heights. He became the starting quarterback near the end of his sophomore year and led the Tigers to three straight state appearances. They went 8-0 and outscored opponents 459-66 in the regular season in his senior year. The Tigers were definitely not polite Marshall kids as they annihilated Albert Lea (70-0) and Belle Plaine (58-0).

“Trey just absolutely wanted to go kill the person and the team in front of him,” Hess said. “And that’s what kind of drove us as a team.”

But Lance’s exploits didn’t inspire Division I programs to drive to Marshall. Lance’s preferred school, Minnesota, didn’t offer him a scholarship to play quarterback, viewing him as a safety or linebacker. The only Division I colleges that did were Air Force, Boise State, Northern Illinois, South Dakota State and NDSU. Lance had modest career statistics (3,026 passing yards; 1,177 rushing yards) because he was pulled from so many blowout wins. But Bahlmann thinks colleges didn’t see his obvious talent because they were too focused on the map.

“They had trouble believing that a kid from Marshall, Minnesota would be that type of quarterback,” Bahlmann said.

With Carlton’s assistance, Lance had developed into a fierce competitor. But Angie has said her son’s true superpower is his ability to bring people together.

Growing up, Trey would often accompany his mom to the grocery store and would spend their trips greeting a parade of people, often friends she never knew existed.

“I mean, Marshall is small,” Angie said, “but it’s not that small.”

At NDSU, he retained that common touch during his brilliant 2019 season, bonding with members of the football support staff.

“The biggest thing from Trey, from when he redshirted to when he became the starter, was he never changed who he was,” NDSU head equipment manager Nathan Bjoralt said. “He just naturally has that way about him. He can get to know anyone. He can talk to anyone. He can be friends with anyone.”

Lance has an unerring sense of team dynamics, said NDSU associate head coach Randy Hedberg, a former NFL quarterback and 42-year coaching veteran. During practices, Lance spent breaks with the offensive linemen rather than his fellow skill-position players. In January 2020, he didn’t even briefly attend the ceremony to accept his Walter Payton Award, instead staying with his teammates the night before the FCS national title game.

“The thing about quarterbacks, people talk about he’s got ‘it,’” Hedberg said. “And when Trey walks in a room, he’s it.”

On Friday, Lance will make his 49ers practice debut when a three-day rookie minicamp opens, meeting new teammates in a new world his parents didn’t think he’d be entering so soon. Carlton and Angie expected to have a few more years with Trey playing football nearby.

“We understand the pressure,” Angie said. “We understand it’s not going to be easy. This comes with high expectations. But we also know Trey will give everything that he has to be successful, more than we even probably know that he’s capable of. That’s just who he is.”

Trey briefly returned to Marshall after he was drafted. Before Carlton drove him to the airport in Sioux Falls, about 90 minutes away, for his flight back to California, he joked to Angie that he’d drive slowly enough to make it a two-hour trip, allowing him to cram in more advice.

Lance knows his parents are a bit anxious about his next step, but he said they “really have nothing to worry about.” That’s because Carlton and Angie have already spent 21 years equipping him for this journey.

Trey Lance knows he can have a career filled with honors and honor, if he holds tight to his fury and his faith.

Lance's history shows he's built to be 49ers' next franchise QB

By Josh Schrock
NBC Sports Bay Area
July 19, 2021

It was an overall meaningless snap in an October 2018 blowout win. But it told then-North Dakota State football coach Chris Klieman all he needed to know about a young quarterback whose meteoric rise later took him from under-recruited high schooler to the next face of one of the NFL's marquee franchises in less than three years' time.

With the Bison leading the host South Dakota Coyotes 45-14 and with starting quarterback Easton Stick's day done, Trey Lance was receiving his second career taste of college football. Facing a first-and-10 at the Coyotes' 23-yard line, the Bison were set up to run A-gap Power with their talented true freshman under center.

Lance took the snap but fumbled it. Where most true freshmen either would have elected to fall on the ball or go off-script, Lance, a tireless student of the game, stuck to the play. He scooped up the ball, followed his fullback through the hole and then showed off the rare athleticism that would become one of his pre-draft calling cards, gliding 23 yards to the end zone for what was, all-in-all, an effortless score.

It was then, on a garbage-time touchdown from an 18-year-old true freshman quarterback, that Klieman knew Lance was destined for greatness.

"I know the center and the guard who were snapping it, blocking back and pulling were like, 'How the heck did he end up with the football and scoring a touchdown?' " Klieman recently told NBC Sports Bay Area. "But he knew exactly where the play was supposed to hit. He hit it as fast as any running back I've ever seen, and he outran everyone to the end zone.

"I looked at one of our coaches and said, 'That is one special talented kid who is going to have a phenomenal career.' "

Two and a half years after he showed up in Fargo, North Dakota, as the heir apparent at an FCS powerhouse with a long lineage of championship quarterback play, Lance was tabbed as the answer to San Francisco's two-decades-long search for its next franchise signal-caller.

When Steve Young's career ended after the 1999 season because of repeated concussions, the 49ers set off to find the next quarterback to carry their banner. Eighteen years after Young's storied NFL career ended, the 49ers swung a trade for Jimmy Garoppolo, believing they'd acquired a true franchise quarterback for a second-round pick -- a relative coup as far as price is concerned.

Ten February minutes in Miami changed everything. Six hundred ticks of the clock stood between Garoppolo and Kyle Shanahan announcing themselves as the NFL's newest power couple after slaying Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl LIV.

A defensive fourth-quarter collapse and a horrific Garoppolo overthrow, however, sent coach and quarterback into the bowels of Hard Rock Stadium on divergent paths. Sixteen months later, Shanahan sat at a podium alongside 49ers general manager John Lynch smiling from ear to ear after drafting Garoppolo's successor -- someone they believe can deliver multiple Super Bowl titles to the Bay.

"I love his natural ability to play the position," Shanahan said of Lance. "Then when you add in a type of running element, which I've always been intrigued with, but when you've got a guy with the skill sets as far as speed and size, to where you're not going to make him a runner, but if you can get in certain formations where the defense knows you will run him if they don't honor him, now everything is different. If you can ever get a guy like that and make 11-on-11 football, then I think you got a guy who can change some things for you.

“But it always comes down to, yeah, you can dabble in that, but you better be confident they can do everything else. He has played a year of football, it was at a smaller school, so that does take work. You're not going to see it all, so that's why it is a hard process, and that's why there is no guarantees for any of us.

"So, it's about believing.”

Belief is essential when making any franchise-altering decision, but it’s imperative when tying your future and reputation to a quarterback who has just 17 collegiate starts and only turned 21 on May 9.

Being drafted to be the face of one of the NFL’s most storied franchises can be a heavy burden. That weight can feel even heavier when the team is equipped to win now, as the 49ers are.

But a look back at Lance’s football career shows you he not only is well-equipped to handle a high-pressure environment — and do so with a level of control normally exhibited by a famous British Secret Service agent known his love of martinis — but he has thrived when the stakes are the highest at every level.

“The composure that he has is rare,” current North Dakota State coach Matt Entz, who won an FCS national championship with Lance in 2019, told NBC Sports Bay Area. “I think Trey has a great balance in his life. He is a young man who is rooted in his faith, which allows him to keep both feet on the ground. He is able to avoid the noise, and knows there are very few people who he has to go out there and get approval from, and he’s going to go out there and compete and do the best that he can.

“I think there is something about that, when an athlete goes out there and has clarity in the field of competition and he does and part of that is because he trusts his preparation. He believes he prepares better than anyone out there, and I think that is a unique advantage he has, especially in this world of hurry up, get the signals from the sideline.

"There are very few quarterbacks -- especially his age -- that are properly equipped like he is to watch film and be able to decipher what he likes offensively. Whereas you see a lot of quarterbacks nowadays are told what to run from the sideline. and they just execute plays. They don’t see coverages or understand rotations or fronts, or those things. He does.”

Growing up in Marshall, Minn., Lance didn’t start out as a quarterback prodigy like NFL draft classmates Trevor Lawrence and Justin Fields. He was a running back in his early years before asking to try out as a quarterback as a freshman at Marshall High School.

Marshall coach Terry Bahlmann always had assumed running back was the position Lance fancied. While Lance picked up the position quickly, he wasn’t part of Bahlmann’s plans early on, with Thomas Fischer having the job locked up.

Lance’s desire to prove people wrong is deeply ingrained in him. He worked tirelessly in the weight room and the film room and on the practice field to show growth at the sport’s most important position.

“Every day, Trey worked on improving, whether it was in the weight room or film study,“ Bahlmann told NBC Sports Bay Area. "He is the guy who has probably put more time in watching film than any person we have ever had. Just improving his techniques. He is just intrinsically motivated and just had a deep desire to be great."

Lance waited patiently at Marshall, and his time came during his sophomore season when Fischer broke his arm in Week 8 of the 2015 campaign.

From that point, there was no turning back for Lance. He went 16-0 in the regular season and 7-3 in the playoffs in his career, leading Marshall to its first Minnesota State Tournament appearance since 1991.

High school football in Small Town, USA is a pressure cooker you only can understand from lived experience. Leading your town to its first State Tournament appearance in a quarter-century can be a heavy burden, and the journey almost always ends in heartbreak.

Lance's sophomore season ended in a playoff loss in which he and his running back had three fumbled exchanges at the mesh point.

Bahlmann remembers Lance sitting on the bench long after the clock expired that night. He took the loss hard but used it as motivation to elevate his game. Lance's storied prep career ended with 3,026 passing yards, 33 passing touchdowns (a school record), 1,177 rushing yards and 18 rushing touchdowns.

While Lance's physical abilities and football IQ stood out, especially at the high school level, Lance's most impressive skill was something that also attracted the Bison and the 49ers down the road.

"The great thing is that he is not afraid to lead," Bahlmann said. "He is going to be calm. Maybe he gets nervous on the inside, but he carries it so well that his demeanor is going to be the same if things are going well or poorly. He is going to be the leader that everybody wants and the face that everyone is confident in."

As the Power Five schools recruited Lance to come and play defensive back, Klieman saw the next in a long line of Bison championship quarterbacks motivated to be great.

"He's so competitive. He was competitive in everything he did growing up," Klieman said. "That's the biggest thing is you want someone who wants to compete in everything he does, whether it's a weight workout, whether it's a board game, to 7-on-7 to 1-on-1 stuff in the weight room.

"It doesn't matter, he just loves to compete. That's not rare, but it's not typical. You love kids that refuse to lose. … The expectation is to win. Winners win. And that's what you are going to get with Trey. He's a winner."

By the mid-2010s, North Dakota State was the elite FCS program. From 2011 to 2019, the Bison won eight of nine national championships, and seamlessly transitioned from Carson Wentz to Easton Stick and finally to Lance, who went 16-0 in his lone full season as starting quarterback.

Lance arrived in Fargo in a similar situation to the one he now finds himself in with the 49ers. He was there to learn from Stick, absorb everything and be ready to take over in 2019.

For someone as talented as Lance, it would be easy to regard being a backup in a negative light. That's not how Lance is wired, though, and Klieman expects him to take the same approach in San Francisco behind Garoppolo as he did with Stick.

"He just wants to learn," Klieman said of how Lance approached his role as an understudy. "He's confident in his abilities, don't get me wrong. But he is humble enough to know that he is still learning. He is humble enough to know he still has to improve and he doesn't have all the answers, and he wants to take all the information in.

"I see it happening the same way in San Francisco. I know he's the No. 3 pick in the draft, but he is a very, very humble person, and he'll learn and will prepare himself for when the opportunity arises. He will be ready to capitalize and cash in on it."

Stick led the Bison to a 15-0 record and the FCS national championship. Klieman left that offseason for Kansas State, with Lance and Entz in proper position to keep the Bison train rolling.

They did just that during the 2019 season.

Sixteen wins, 2,786 passing yards, 1,100 rushing yards, 42 total touchdowns, zero interceptions and zero losses later, Lance had led the Bison to their eighth national title in nine seasons and rocketed up NFL

draft boards as a quarterback with rare athletic tools, unmatched football IQ and an outstanding work ethic.

“The thing that Trey has, especially as a 20- or 21-year-old, is everything from the shoulders above,” Entz said of what makes Lance special. “Extremely, extremely intelligent. Extremely composed. Seldom gets rattled but highly competitive at the same time. Has that inner drive to be the best at his job but also to make sure the people around him know they have to perform as well. His leadership skills are above and beyond what you would think a 20-year-old would have.”

The COVID-19 pandemic zapped Lance from playing a full 2020 season. North Dakota State played one game in the fall, beating Central Arkansas, but couldn't find any other takers for fall games with the FCS season pushed back until spring.

Lance finished his collegiate career with a 17-0 record as a starter, declaring for the 2021 NFL Draft and joining Lawrence, Fields, Mac Jones and Zach Wilson in an extremely talented quarterback class.

The draft process is long and arduous, and always ends with top prospects facing knocks that weren’t there when the journey began. For Lance, his limited tape and “small-school competition” led a number of scouts and draft experts to drop him below Jones, Fields and Wilson in their quarterback evaluation.

But Shanahan saw something different. He saw an intelligent football weapon with the ability and drive to take one of the NFL’s most potent offenses and elevate to a level Garoppolo could not. With Lance’s top-level arm talent, rushing ability and smarts, the possibilities were limitless, and the decision, in the end, was relatively easy for Shanahan and Lynch.

Shanahan and Lynch have built a Super Bowl-caliber roster, and hand-picked Lance as the final, most important piece of that championship puzzle.

The margins between afterthought and immortality are razor thin in the NFL. Just ask Garoppolo, who was 10 minutes away from being one half of the NFL’s next dynastic pairing, along with Shanahan.

Shanahan and Lynch elected to take their destiny into their own hands. They didn’t want to leave anything to chance. No what-ifs or could-have-beens.

They’ll forever be tied to Lance. His success will be a signal of their genius. All stumbles and failures will be an indictment of their judgment.

The pressure on a young kid from Marshall, Minn., to live up to the hype and deliver multiple titles will be intense, the noise deafening. NFL history is littered with talented quarterbacks who were drafted to deliver marquee franchises back to their former glory, only to be crushed by the pressure cooker they entered.

Klieman doesn’t expect that to affect Lance. He is built to cut through the pressure just as he carves up defenses.

For many, being drafted is the culmination of a journey to the top. But Lance won’t look at it that way. This isn’t the final step of the ladder, but the first.

“He’s not worried about what the outside world thinks of him,” Klieman said. “He’s not worried about what Twitter thinks. He just worried about how can he be getting himself better on a day-in, day-out basis. Getting himself better on the field, better in the weight room, and then mentally in the film room and going through walk-throughs.

"When you have somebody like that, who knows they haven’t already arrived and who is going to work to always improve and who isn’t going to think, ‘OK, I’ve got it now. I’ve made it.’ When you have one of those kids like that, he’s going to keep striving to be the best he can be every day. … I have no doubt that kid will be a star.”

Shanahan and Lynch are banking on it. Maybe not come September, but that when the time is right, Lance will be unleashed and the 49ers can bend the NFL to their will for the next decade.

That the 49ers' search finally will be over. That passing on Aaron Rodgers and saying no to Tom Brady finally will be relegated to footnote status in a storied franchise's long history.

Lance's arrival has brought an electricity to the Bay, an anticipation of the greatness he and Shanahan will author under the Santa Clara sky.

Doubts and questions will remain, and the what-ifs bandied about until Lance delivers a signature play that signals his NFL arrival and the impending doom the rest of the league faces -- just as he did on that October 2018 afternoon when Klieman told his staff they'd found something special.

"It's a unique position that is so rare to find that special of talent," Klieman said. "He believed his time was now, and I'm proud of him because that was not easy to do as a third-year guy to jump out from FCS [and go to the NFL].

"But, man, he'll prove people wrong. He'll be great."

‘We outworked someone today’: How Trey Lance’s father — and a man who doesn’t exist — made the 49ers QB

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
June 18, 2021

The whispers entered the bedroom before any hint of sunlight.
“Dad?”

During the night, the temperature had dropped to a steal-your-breath kind of cold. Inside, the covers were nice and warm. It would feel so good to sleep one more hour. Two more would be glorious. But now the whispers had reached the edge of the bed.

“Dad? Are you ready to go?”

Carlton Lance’s eyes blinked open, and instantly he was on the move.

The whispers came from his oldest son, Trey, an invitation to a daily routine. Their destination: the local YMCA, which opened its doors at 5 a.m. A few minutes later, Carlton would step out of the chill with Trey right behind him.

“Every single time — every single time — that man hopped out of bed and said, ‘You bet!’” Angie Lance said of her husband. “In Minnesota the mornings are cold, and Carl has a very demanding job, and I know there had to be times when he wanted to sleep in. But there was not one time when that kid would have ever felt that. Carl jumped out of bed every time.”

Carlton, 50, was a standout cornerback at nearby Southwest Minnesota State University in the early 1990s and had a short professional career that included a training camp stint with the 49ers. Some at the YMCA on those winter days might have recognized him from his playing days — he was inducted into the school’s athletic hall of fame in 2011 — or because he was a defensive backs coach for the local high school team. Still others might have known him as the co-owner of a financial services company he started 13 years ago.

These days, of course, he’s mostly known around town as Trey’s dad.

In April, the 49ers drafted Trey No. 3 overall. His ceiling seems as high as any San Francisco quarterback since Steve Young, but anyone searching for where Lance’s ascent began probably ought to start at the YMCA on South A Street in Marshall, Minn., a town of 13,500 residents 35 miles from the South Dakota border.

The family’s been going there since Trey was little. In fact, Carlton saved a voicemail 3-year-old Trey left for him at work one day: Dad, me and Mom are going to go to the YMCA in a couple of seconds. Could you hurry?

Trey first started talking about playing Division I sports in seventh grade, and that’s when the 5 a.m. routine began. His brother, Bryce, two years Trey’s junior and heading off to play wide receiver at North Dakota State this year, later joined the outings.

Carlton had one rule: He’d never set an alarm or be in charge of rousing the boys. He was eager to work with them, to help polish away any weaknesses, to impart every bit of wisdom he’d picked up from Houston to Saskatchewan to London to Rocklin, Calif. But he was wary of pushing so hard he’d drive them away.

“‘I’m not going to wake you up,’” Carlton recalled telling them. “‘You wake me up and I’m not ever going to say no.’ So (Trey) started doing it. And that became our thing.”

The workouts initially occurred at night, but that was no good. There were high school games the boys wanted to watch, birthday parties to attend, spelling tests the next day. The predawn morning was empty and quiet. It was perfect. As Carlton would say, there wasn't anyone trying to steal their time.

As they left the gym every morning, the sun up and the morning crowd trickling in, Carlton would turn to his son and tell him the same thing he'd said the day before — and the same thing he'd repeat the next day, too.

"Hey, we outworked someone today. The other guy is still sleeping."

The other guy had a name: Aubrey.

It's Carlton's middle name and also the name of his nemesis. Aubrey's existence starts to explain how driven Carlton is.

Carlton grew up in Queens, N.Y., before his family relocated to Fort Myers, Fla., as he was entering high school. There he played for a football coach with connections to a couple of schools in Minnesota — Mankato State and Southwest Minnesota State, or Southwest State, as it was known at the time, an NAIA school with around 3,000 students.

"You could drive through the town and you wouldn't even know there was a school here," Carlton said. He was the first member of his family to graduate from college, earning a business degree with a minor in marketing. In addition to starring at cornerback and running track for the Mustangs, he met Angie, who grew up the daughter of a baseball coach in Marshall and wasn't into football — or football players — until meeting Carlton before their senior year.

After his final college football season, Carlton received an invitation to the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis. He remembers performing poorly in a couple of the drills, putting up 11 repetitions in the bench press — "I'm so much stronger than this!" he remembered telling himself — and running a 4.6-second 40-yard dash, too slow for any cornerback, much less a small-school prospect trying to make a splash.

He wasn't drafted, but he was offered a spot in the Houston Oilers' training camp later that year. He decided he had to push himself far harder for that audition than he had for the combine.
That's when Aubrey materialized.

Back then there were no high-tech training facilities. Southwest State didn't have any sort of offseason program or even a strength coach. So Carlton trained himself — and provided his own extra motivation. Using his middle name, he conjured up a competitor, a relentless rival gunning for the same spot on the Oilers roster.

"I had to self-motivate," he said. "So in my own mind I created a guy named Aubrey, and I would tell myself, 'Hey, he's working out right now. He's at the gym right now.' I got fanatical about it, honestly. I'd get up in the middle of the night and go for a jog."

Carlton didn't stick around with the Oilers, but he did play full seasons with the CFL's Saskatchewan Roughriders in 1993 and the London Monarchs of the World League in the spring of 1995.

In between, he got an opportunity of a lifetime: to join a Ray Rhodes-led 49ers defense that included defensive linemen Rickey Jackson and Bryant Young, linebacker Ken Norton Jr. and a loaded secondary with Eric Davis, Merton Hanks, Tim McDonald and, starting late that summer, Deion Sanders. The team's offensive coordinator was Mike Shanahan. The ball boy — and the guy who made sure the wires to Shanahan's headset didn't get tangled on the sidelines — was his 14-year-old son Kyle.

Carlton remembered Rhodes giving the defensive backs an expletive-laced warning about making sure Jerry Rice didn't get hurt during practice: "Don't fall down near him, don't touch him, don't slip next to him, don't make him fall. If you do, I'm gonna send your ass home on the bus."

Rhodes' words were etched in Carlton's brain while encountering Rice on a running play. He carefully avoided the star receiver on his way to the ball carrier, but Rice didn't return the favor.

"He comes up and pushes me over the pile," Carlton said with a laugh. "And I looked at him and said, 'Well, ain't this a bitch? Jerry Rice is gonna pancake block me out here on an open pile.'"

Carlton asked running back Dexter Carter when the team would hold its rookie show, then a staple of NFL training camps and something he'd already experienced in Houston. Carter shook his head and said the 49ers didn't do frivolous things like that anymore. The only time they partied, he said, was after the Super Bowl.

"I was like, 'Damn — that's what I'm talking about,'" Carlton said. "That moment stayed with me, that this organization is serious about winning. And that's the kind of culture that they have. I wanted to be part of that so bad."

After playing cornerback all his life, the 49ers asked Carlton to switch to safety, which turned out to be a nearly impossible request. He over-thought situations. Carlton remembered hesitating when the tight end went in motion ahead of one play.

"I just froze," he said. "I was like, 'I don't know if I should follow. I have zero ability to do anything.' And I knew right then I was going to get cut. … And I was like, 'They can't have me out here, honestly. I get it.'" Two weeks into camp, Carlton was released. He left disappointed, but with plenty of memories and lessons he'd later share with his kids. He called a friend from Rocklin and predicted the 49ers would win the Super Bowl that season. He was right: Six months later, they trounced the Chargers, 49-26.

A year after he was let go by the 49ers, Carlton Lance's professional career was over. He returned to Marshall, got a coaching job at his alma mater and married his college sweetheart, Angie.

Then his fan club started to expand.

"He learned pretty early — as every dad does — that they were watching his every move," Angie said of her boys. "Carl would mow the yard, and Trey would want a little mower to mow right behind him. Carl would go golfing, Trey would want a set of golf clubs to play with his dad. Carl would wash the car; Trey wanted to wash the car, too. Trey really was his little sidekick."

Carlton's professional playing career might be described as modest, but to Trey and Bryce it was epic. Carlton still winces at the recollection of his combine experience. Trey, meanwhile, said he wore the sweatsuit his dad was issued — Russell Athletic sweatshirt and sweatpants — every chance he'd get.

"When I was little I'd wear them around the house," Trey said. "I'd (wind) the drawstring around the sweatpants like eight times."

Carlton's college number, No. 9, was mythologized by the boys, and jersey-issue days brought breathless anticipation over whether they'd land it. (No. 5, which Carlton wore in high school and which Trey now has with the 49ers, was considered a strong consolation prize.) The family dog, Niner, isn't named after Trey's new team but Carlton's old number.

The trips to the YMCA also were about trying to be like dad. The name Aubrey came up routinely. "He talked about it a lot — that situation of picturing someone that's out there outworking you," Trey said. "And even if you don't really know or it's not a real person, just picture someone out there who's outworking you and not letting up."

Trey didn't have to invent his own Aubrey because he knew all about his actual rivals. They had real names and faces; he read about them on recruiting websites and watched their games on YouTube. "I could always find guys my age who were playing at bigger schools," Trey said. "My biggest thing was watching kids who were my age, in a similar situation. I was competing against those guys."

Carlton said it soon became evident there wasn't much he could do at the YMCA to improve Trey's game.

He knew from his cornerback days that a quarterback's toughest throw was to the sideline from the far hash marks and that subpar passers would toss "lollipops" to get the ball there. Trey's throws came on a rope. Carlton knew the swing passes a quarterback tossed to the tailback could be tricky depending on the placement, so Carlton lined up in the backfield and gave his son every scenario he could think of.

"And he put it right on me 10 out of 10 times," he said. "And I'm like, 'OK. There's not a lot of weakness here.' I was trying to figure out what I really needed to work on."

So, the father helped his son sharpen his skills in other ways.

A lot of mothers worry about their children's screen time. For Angie Lance, those concerns included her husband. Carlton was so avid about film study that she sometimes woke up in the middle of the night to find her husband illuminated by a device.

After games, Carlton would ask Trey how he thought he played. Early on, the answer invariably was: "Good. It was good."

Said Angie: "Then Carl would say, 'Well, do you want to know what I think? I believe that you think you played well. I believe that you think you played hard. But I think we should watch it on film.'"

There would be initial resistance, but curiosity eventually won out, and father and son would begin to methodically, sometimes painfully, go over every snap, every step.

"Those were the times that I thought it was too much," Angie said. "Because they would work out together. Then he'd go to school. Then they'd practice together. Then they'd come home and watch film together.

"And maybe there were times when I thought: 'This is just — maybe it was overboard.' But Carl would always say, 'As long as Trey is willing to work with me I'll do it. And I'll never give up on it until he tells me to stop.' And Trey just didn't."

By the time he was a high school sophomore, Trey didn't need to be coaxed to go over film. Like getting up for 5 a.m. workouts, it was part of his routine. It's what helped him get off to such a fast start at North Dakota State. His predecessor at quarterback, Easton Stick, remembered Lance coming in for a handful of snaps as a true freshman in 2018.

"Even for an 18-year-old kid, he was big, strong, powerful." said Stick, now with the Chargers. "The way he was able to interact with guys and get up to speed pretty quickly with what we were doing offensively — it was impressive. It was pretty easy to recognize and a sign of things to come for him."

The next year, he took over the Bisons' demanding, pro-style offense, barking audibles out of plays, calling out protections and going all season without throwing an interception. Behind Lance, they went 16-0 and won the FCS championship.

As Kyle Shanahan noted last week, the 49ers installed their entire offense during OTAs. The challenge for rookies like Lance isn't just how much they retain but whether they can start to make the playbook second nature when the true roster battles begin.

But if the past is indicative of the future, Trey should be well prepared by holding onto the lessons learned in those predawn YMCA sessions. After all, he's a No. 3 overall pick who was raised to think like a small-school, undrafted free agent and who sweats his hardest while the other guy is still sleeping.

"I've always told him: You've got to outwork people," Carlton said. "And you've got to take pride in it. I think he's probably coming into the 49ers with the mindset of, 'Hey, I've got to grind for this.' Well, I know that's his mindset. That's what he's doing.

Mike McGlinchey

How 49ers' Mike McGlinchey stopped doom scrolling, took control of mental health

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN.com
August 25, 2021

Late in the toughest season of his career, San Francisco 49ers offensive tackle Mike McGlinchey found himself attempting the most difficult block of his life: a constant stream of outside criticism.

It was mid-December 2020 and the Niners had relocated to Arizona because of Santa Clara County COVID-19 restrictions. The season was slipping away under a pile of devastating injuries and McGlinchey could do nothing about it.

Under normal circumstances, those struggles could be eased by a hug from a family member or a meal with teammates. In the middle of a pandemic, those outlets weren't an option.

After games, McGlinchey would grab food and retire to his room, trying to pass the time by FaceTiming his girlfriend and family and burning through a variety of Netflix offerings.

In the toughest of times, such as after a disappointing Dec. 13 loss to the Washington Football Team in which he was flagged for a costly holding penalty that negated a 22-yard pass play and effectively killed a potential game-tying drive, McGlinchey did the one thing he knew he shouldn't do: He read the comments.

Twitter and Instagram offered harsh critiques of his play, constant comments about his lighter 290-pound frame and occasional personal attacks.

Doom scrolling commenced.

"I had never really dealt with something like that before," McGlinchey said. "I had never dealt with people who had access to me who didn't necessarily know what they were talking about. Some right, some wrong. When you hear something enough and you see something enough, you start kind of believing it yourself."

More than eight months later, McGlinchey is standing on the 49ers practice field, a big smile on his face as he recounts what he would call the worst year of his life. Entering his fourth NFL season, McGlinchey is in the best shape of his life ... mentally. He has friends, family, former teammates and coaches and a mental conditioning coach to thank.

"Just talking to him, being around him, you can tell he's in a great space and a great place," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "And I think he's ready to go."

Reaching out for help

"I was focusing on results," Mike McGlinchey said. "I was focusing on the negative things that were happening to me rather than how can I get better?"

For most of his football-playing life, McGlinchey has known nothing but success. He was a highly-touted high school recruit and a three-year starter at Notre Dame. Although he'd had some ups and downs during his first two NFL seasons, the good outweighed the bad.

Which made last season's struggles unique. He ranked 44th of 62 qualified offensive tackles in pass block win rate and his four holding penalties were tied for the second-most among offensive linemen.

Among the people McGlinchey called on for help were Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly and Joe Staley, the former 49ers offensive tackle and one of McGlinchey's closest friends.

Kelly could tell that McGlinchey was holding things back.

"He's very prideful," Kelly said. "He keeps a lot of stuff inside. But he was at times feeling like he could elevate his play. And he'll take that into the season. He's harder on himself than any one individual fan could be."

Staley sensed something similar. In his first two seasons, McGlinchey leaned on Staley when he hit turbulent spots but Staley was no longer just a few lockers away.

McGlinchey and Staley talked often during the season. Staley reminded McGlinchey of his rookie season when Denver Broncos edge rusher Von Miller beat him on back-to-back plays and McGlinchey began to let his focus drift.

At the time, Staley told McGlinchey that Miller beats everybody sometimes, he just can't let it be all the time. Likewise, a short memory has to be kept in a job where perfection is unattainable and gifs of your miscues are abundant on social media.

"I didn't have to deal with that when I was a young player," Staley said. "I was given a chance to develop and earn my wings, I didn't have social media that was analyzing every single block that I had. And you have to deal with that now. You have an obligation to correct it, but also allow yourself to fail without worrying about other people's opinion about what you're doing."

Two weeks after the 2020 season finally, mercifully ended, McGlinchey stepped away from it all. His brother and sister visited and they joined McGlinchey and his girlfriend for some much-needed beach time.

McGlinchey reflected on what went wrong, making sure to also note the things he did well.

"The first thing that jumped out in the biggest way was how I handled my frustrations, how I handled the pressure, the way I wasn't able to focus on what gets me better," McGlinchey said. "I was focusing on results. I was focusing on the negative things that were happening to me rather than how can I get better? How can I help my team win? And how can I have fun with this?"

That epiphany led McGlinchey to seek someone who could help. Ben Peterson, the Niners head of player health and performance, pointed McGlinchey to Derin McMains, a mental conditioning coach and former pro baseball player. McGlinchey had crossed paths with McMains when he had worked as a coaching consultant at Notre Dame.

McGlinchey called McMains, who is based in Scottsdale, Arizona, and the pair hit it off immediately. That initial call turned into weekly meetings via Zoom or on the phone and have continued since with McGlinchey calling McMains a "life changer" for him.

According to McGlinchey, their conversations cover a lot of ground but center on where McGlinchey allows his mind to go at the moments that matter most.

It's third-and-12 with the game on the line, is McGlinchey thinking about what happens if he allows a sack? Or is he locked in on doing his job and executing his technique? The primary objective has been to remove the worry about negative outcomes and committing to what it takes to do his job effectively.

"The biggest thing, the thing that separates you at this level, it's your mind but it's really your focus," McGlinchey said. "So, where can you put yourself in the hardest of moments and where can you put yourself at the toughest time in the game?"

'Believe'

What McGlinchey is saying sounds a lot like some of the primary messages the hit TV show "Ted Lasso" has brought into the collective conversation for its viewers.

McGlinchey nods his head and chuckles when this is mentioned to him. Long before Lasso, offensive line coach Harry Hiestand had the word "Believe" on a sign made to resemble the famous "Play Like a Champion Today" sign at Notre Dame.

McGlinchey would see it almost daily during his time in South Bend. When he watched Lasso, he couldn't help but conclude sometimes the simplest messages carry the most weight.

Now, McGlinchey has his own "Believe" sign hanging in his house. If that's not enough, the word is written in white script on his black wrist guards for more a convenient reminder.

"Believe and commit, that's the cycle, it just continues for 65-70 snaps a game and the more you can do it, the more free you can play," McGlinchey said. "And that's why I've got it written here for me all the time now."

As the No. 9 overall pick in the 2018 draft, McGlinchey is entering the final year of his rookie contract. The 49ers already offered a vote of confidence by picking up his fifth-year option in May, guaranteeing him $10.88 million in 2022.

Still, this is a big season for McGlinchey's football future. Though he's aware of that, he's quick to point out such things are a distraction.

"It was something I worried about before and it's not something that I'll ever worry about again," McGlinchey said. "The two things that will take care of it are my job and my technique. If I do those things the right way 75 times a day, 75 times a game, the rest will take care of itself."

To that end, McGlinchey also took necessary steps to prepare himself physically. He spent the offseason working out six times a week and added to his frame by eating every two to three hours.

"I get to come in and hang out with my best friends every day and play football and compete at something I am really damn good at," McGlinchey said. "I have to remember that. I have to get the weight of the world off my shoulders because I'm one of like seven billion and at the end of the day, nobody cares. You've just got to do your job, do it to the best of your ability and have fun with it."

The result of the offseason work helped McGlinchey gain 25 pounds. And yet, he's lighter than ever.

Pork roll and mind work: The story of 49ers' Mike McGlinchey's improvement plan

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 1, 2021

What is pork roll?

Posed that question Saturday, Mike McGlinchey, a native of suburban Philadelphia, was having trouble describing the East Coast creation to his audience of Bay Area reporters.

“It goes back and forth,” the 49ers right tackle began, “between being called pork roll and Taylor Ham.”

That wasn’t helpful. The follow-up question: Is it like a cheesesteak?

“No. No. It’s more of like — I want to say a tangy ham, but it’s hard to describe,” McGlinchey said. “It’s just a big processed — it’s like a 6-pound different-type-of-flavored hot dog.”

The question the reader might have at the moment: Why is this relevant? Well, the pork roll back-and-forth was part of a larger discussion about McGlinchey’s add-weight offseason program. And that program called for McGlinchey to eat something every two to three hours and provided leeway when it came to what he put in his body. In other words: multiple pork rolls in one sitting!

“Not having to worry about just eating one of those is definitely a good thing,” McGlinchey said.

McGlinchey, 26, gained 25 pounds in the offseason. He did so after an overall bad performance as a pass blocker last year, when he weighed around 290 pounds — light by NFL offensive-tackle standards. At 290, McGlinchey excelled as a run blocker in a zone-read scheme that requires athleticism from linemen, but he was too often bullied in pass protection, with some of his worst snaps coming in big moments.

To be clear: McGlinchey didn’t reach 315 pounds by strictly inhaling heart-attack-waiting-to-happen food. His program was heavy on weight-room work, with 49ers strength coach Dustin Perry and shakes and non-pork-roll meals that were part of a plan provided by team dietician Jordan Mazur. The hope is that more weight will mean fewer snaps in which McGlinchey will be pushed by around by pass rushers. McGlinchey, who is 6-foot-8, indicated his lack of heft impacted his approach in 2020: He was so conscious of bracing for an aggressive rush that it led to poor technique.

“Obviously, some things happened (last year) where I was guarding too much (against) a bull rush,” McGlinchey said. “Even if I wasn't getting bulled, I was stopping my feet too much in preparation for the bull. It’s just something that’s given me a little bit more mental confidence. … So on top of the body weight, it’s more technique than anything. That extra body weight just gives you an extra chance to recover.”

As he added weight, McGlinchey also worked to shed the mental baggage that he says compounded his problems last year, when he dealt with his first significant athletic failure.

The No. 9 pick in 2018, McGlinchey was an All-American and two-time team captain at Notre Dame who appeared poised to reach a Pro Bowl level in 2020. Instead, he spent much of his periodic Zoom interviews with reporters being asked variations of the same question: What’s wrong?

“I think the most frustrating part of my season last year was how I handled it mentally,” McGlinchey said. “I don’t think I did my job in that regard. I didn’t let myself overcome mistakes, I didn’t let myself overcome the trials and tribulations of what we were going through as a team. I was putting a lot of pressure on myself and it got in the way of me being able to do my job at a high level. … That was a big focal point this offseason. I had to get my head right.”

McGlinchey met once a week with Derin McMains, a mental conditioning coach who was a minor-league player and coach in the Giants organization. McMains has worked for the Giants and Mariners and consulted with the Diamondbacks. He was the director of mental conditioning at Notre Dame for a year when McGlinchey was in college.

“He’s done an unbelievable job helping me find perspective,” McGlinchey said. “Find focus. Find where things go. Everyone always tells you the thing that separates you is your mind when you get to this level. But you don’t believe them until things get hard.”

It was even harder for McGlinchey, he said, because he and his teammates spent the last month of the season in isolation in their hotel in Glendale, Ariz. It was also his first season without his mentor, Pro Bowl left tackle Joe Staley, who was his closest friend on the team. For Staley’s part, he excelled late in his career while weighing under 300 pounds, and he’s dropped about 50 pounds since leaving the NFL.

“One day, I hope to look like Joe Staley in retirement,” McGlinchey said. “But those days are hopefully a long way away.”

McGlinchey has new mental and physical outlook in 2021

By Jennifer Lee Chan
NBC Sports Bay Area
July 31, 2021

Mike McGlinchey has started 2021 with a new approach, both physically and mentally.

At first glance, the 49ers right tackle looks more formidable than he did in 2020. The 6-foot-8 lineman has beefed up to regularly weigh between 315 and 320 pounds, quite a bit more than his 2020 playing weight.

McGlinchey reported that he has to work hard to keep the weight on and has received help from Dustin Perry and the team's nutrition and training staff to do it the right way. Previously the tackle felt weighing a little less allowed him to have more speed for the outside zone scheme the 49ers use, but the lighter weight also had its disadvantages.

Facing the bull-rush was more challenging at a lighter weight. Now, the added pounds have given McGlinchey an added confidence as well.

"It's about 25 pounds heavier than last year," McGlinchey said on Saturday. "COVID was tough on me, tough on the resources, tough on getting into gyms, it was tough on making sure that [weight] stays up. It's something that has given me more mental confidence. Definitely feeling good, my body is feeling it after the first week."

McGlinchey wanted to make sure he did not lose his edge in the run game while adding bulk to his frame. He and the training staff believe they have found the right balance which requires meals every two to three hours as well as a six-day per week weight training program from January through April.

But weight isn't all that McGlinchey added this offseason.

After a challenging 2020 with COVID-19 changing nearly every aspect of how the 49ers operated, the Notre Dame product sought out Derin McMains, a mental sports performance coach.

"The most frustrating part of my season last year was how I handled it mentally," McGlinchey said. "I don't think I did my job in that regard. I didn't let myself overcome mistakes, the trials of tribulations as a team. I was putting a lot of pressure on myself and it got in the way of me being able to do my job at a high level.

"It was a big focal point this offseason. I had to get my head right. I feel as though I did that, and I'm excited to continue to grow in that regard and challenge myself to get better and not let myself slip back into old habits."

The right tackle met with McMains once a week during the offseason and the two have become great friends. They communicate less now that training camp has started, but McGlinchey has gained a valuable perspective and focus on the game.

"It was a great offseason," McGlinchey said. "I dedicated a lot of stuff to it. I'm proud of it, I'm proud of the way we worked with my staff and I'm ready to get the ball rolling."

McGlinchey is looking forward to the team's first padded practice on Tuesday where the "real football "begins.

The ultimate big brother: 49ers tackle Mike McGlinchey has been a protector since he was a kid

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
December 18, 2019

Mike McGlinchey enters the mall shortly before 9 a.m. on Monday. It's only been 16 hours since the 49ers played the Falcons, but if he's grumpy about the loss or creaky after playing 64 snaps, he does an excellent job of hiding it.

For the next hour, he's like a 6-foot-8, 310-pound Santa Claus, making his way to every corner of the clothing store, greeting the young shoppers inside, taking photographs, spreading cheer and doling out hugs. Lots of hugs.

"Did you find something, Andrew?" he asks one of the boys who arrives at the counter with his mom.
"That's what I want for Christmas, too," he tells two others, bending low so he can hear them. "We'll get it done for you guys."

"I like what you're wearing — thank you," he tells another boy, who has on McGlinchey's red, No. 69 jersey.

The 49ers right tackle, dubbed the team's locker-room CEO by Kyle Shanahan, is deep in his element, both working a room and advocating for his younger brother, Jim, and others like him. Jim was diagnosed with autism when he was 18 months old and Mike, the oldest of his six siblings, took an active role in raising him.

He's gone several steps further since the 49ers chose him with their top draft pick last year. McGlinchey, 25, has made autism awareness his crusade, and on Monday he was in the Levi's store at the Westfield Valley Fair mall in Santa Clara hosting a shopping spree with groups from Autism Speaks and Football Camp for the Stars, which introduces kids with Down Syndrome to football.

"Spree" might not be the best word. These were young men after all, and most had to be prompted by their mothers to grab a pair of jeans off the shelf. McGlinchey also was there to provide encouragement and did so with a surprisingly delicate touch. The biggest guy in the room, the one who wears size-17 shoes and crashes into other massive human beings for a living, has a gentleness that belies his size.
His mother, Janet, said it was that way from the beginning.

"He always loved feeding the babies, helping with the babies," she said. "He was not intimidated. None of my kids were. Because I needed the help."

Mike was particularly invaluable with Jim, who was the fifth of six McGlinchey kids. When he was little, Jim didn't like loud noises. Something as innocuous as a church organ or an unexpected clatter inside the house would make him upset. And in the McGlinchey household, there was always something — or someone — crashing into a wall.

Mike and Jimmy were among a group of 22 cousins, most of them rambunctious boys who played sports as soon as they rose each morning. Last week, for example, Mike told the story of his driveway dunk on older cousin — and current Falcons quarterback — Matt Ryan, a scene that has reached mythological level in family lore. (Matt, of course, answered with a metaphorical two-handed slam on McGlinchey's squad at the end of Sunday's game.)

All of which is to say, life inside the McGlinchey's home in suburban Philadelphia rarely was peaceful and placid, and Mike had to learn how to soothe Jim, to draw him back into the family when he receded into himself. But there also was a different effect. With his big brother there to protect him, Jim, who is now 16, slowly learned to adapt to all the action around him.

“A doctor once said to us, ‘I don’t want you to take this the wrong way, but your big, crazy family is the best thing for Jim,’” Janet said. “Because he had to learn to share, he had to learn to be in other people’s space, he had to learn to have other noises in the house that he doesn’t really care for and stuff like that.” When Jim was diagnosed at 18 months, he wasn’t speaking. And the doctors said he might never speak. “Now he won’t shut up,” Janet said with a laugh.

He not only goes to weddings, he hits the dance floor afterward. Encouraged by his older brother, who enthusiastically sings karaoke alongside his bookend at tackle, Joe Staley, Jim now has a go-to song when he’s called on stage: “Beer in Mexico” by Kenny Chesney.

In fact, Chesney is coming to Philadelphia in June, and Janet said she’s considering bringing Jim. If it gets too loud, they can always take a break in one of the concourses.

“I want him to start to experience it,” Janet said. “Because most 16- or 17-year-olds want to go to a concert.”

There’s one more item on the never-thought-he’d-do list: Jim has started to enjoy football games. He used to join the family at Mike’s Notre Dame games but did so with an iPad and headphones that could deliver him from the din of the stadium. Now he’s the one making a racket from start to finish. On Sunday, he was as loud as anyone at Levi’s Stadium and was as frustrated as any diehard by the back-and-forth nature of the game. Like any true fan, Jim prefers blowouts. They’re easier on the nerves.

Mike, meanwhile, makes it very clear it’s not a one-way relationship. He’s constantly surprised and impressed by his little brother, who has become an honor student in school. Mike may be the oldest, biggest and most famous member of his immediate family. But Jim is their anchor, the one around whom everyone revolves.

And that’s what makes Mike grateful.

“Simple things make him so happy,” he said of Jim. “Just being around everybody makes him so happy. And to have people around him and have fun with him — he’s the rock. He’s the reason that’s all tied together for us. And I’m very, very thankful for that.”

In the car ride home after Sunday’s game, it was Mike who was upset. How could the 49ers lose to the Falcons? Why couldn’t they snuff out the visitors at the end? What could he have done differently?
This time it was the little brother who was there to calm things down.

“On the way home he was begging to put on Christmas music,” Mike said. “He loves the Christmas music. It’s his favorite time of year. So we sang along to that.”

Beers, bros and karaoke: Joe Staley, Mike McGlinchey are the heartbeat of the 49ers

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN.com
August 15, 2019

It's a Thursday night just two weeks before the start of San Francisco 49ers training camp, and karaoke night at Khartoum Lounge in Campbell, California, has just taken an enormous and outlandish turn. Standing on stage are roughly 13 feet and 610 pounds of ballad-belting bookend offensive tackles.

Joe Staley and Mike McGlinchey generally prefer to compete at karaoke, flying solo on stage aside from the occasional dual foray into the Backstreet Boys.

Instead, they have something new and -- given the notes required to nail the performance -- risky in mind.

The song choice is "Shallow," the Bradley Cooper/Lady Gaga duet (the tackles repeatedly pronounce her name "Guh-gah") made famous by the 2018 movie "A Star is Born." Staley steps into the role of Cooper, dropping his voice to set the stage for McGlinchey.

"I set him up with a real low Bradley Cooper bar and then I stopped singing and I went, 'All right, blow them away,'" Staley says.

McGlinchey, whose go-to song is "Mr. Brightside" by The Killers, says he's rehearsed the song many times on his own, but it's different on stage when people notice, camera phones come out and it's time to put on a show. McGlinchey digs deep, attempting to take his voice to places it normally doesn't go.

On this night, it's just not happening.

"I just couldn't hit the high notes," McGlinchey says with genuine disappointment in his voice. "I was so upset with myself after that. I failed so hard at Lady Gaga. I thought I could do it. I just couldn't."

Although "Shallow" might have been a miss, the depths of Staley and McGlinchey's friendship go well beyond their musical stylings.

While wide receivers and defensive backs have earned a reputation for their big personalities (and egos), anyone who has spent time around a locker room knows it's often the offensive line that most effectively represents the heartbeat of a team. In San Francisco, the case can be made that Staley and McGlinchey best set the tone.

“They have a very unique relationship," quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo said. "The age difference is so different, but they’re so similar in their personality. It’s fun to be around those guys. They always keep it light. And when you get out there between the lines they’re different people in the huddle and I love that. You’ve got to have guys like that who can know when to turn it on and know when to turn it off.”

Joe Staley, left, may be 10 years older than Mike McGlinchey, right, but the two hit it off almost instantly, realizing that they are both "loud, obnoxious people." Courtesy of the San Francisco 49ers

Bickering like brothers, laughing like friends

Sitting next to each other for an interview in the 49ers' public relations office, Staley and McGlinchey are 90 minutes removed from a training camp practice (Staley is fresh after a veterans' rest day) and have quickly shifted gears into what might as well be a stand-up comedy act.

Over the course of about 33 minutes, McGlinchey and Staley bicker like brothers and laugh like best friends while discussing everything from Staley's license to curse in front of McGlinchey's mother -- Staley is a dad and McGlinchey is not, she reasons -- to their favorite karaoke tunes to how their fast and easy relationship has become integral in each other's careers and to the 49ers' building.

Long before Staley was even aware of McGlinchey, the second-year tackle had been keeping tabs on -- and looking up to -- the 12-year veteran. When McGlinchey was early in the college recruiting process, the Notre Dame strength coach was Paul Longo, who held the same position at Central Michigan when Staley was there.

Longo, who was part of the ND group recruiting McGlinchey to the Irish, told McGlinchey that he reminded him of Staley and, as McGlinchey began to realize that his path in football would be at offensive tackle, he decided it was time to study up. At the time, the Niners were one of the NFC's best teams and Staley was one of the key components of their run to Super Bowl XLVII, making him a natural starting point.

McGlinchey was blown away by Staley's combination of athleticism and technique and though the 49ers lost that game to the Baltimore Ravens, McGlinchey watched it on repeat and changed his high school number to Staley's 74.

"I knew everything about him before I got here and I've probably watched that Super Bowl on film, like 40 or 50 times," McGlinchey says. "I thought it was one of the best games I've ever seen a left tackle play."

(At this point, Staley stops McGlinchey. "You've never, ever complimented me like that," Staley says. "That was really nice.")

Staley, meanwhile, knew nothing of McGlinchey until the Niners used the No. 9 overall pick on him in the 2018 NFL draft. After sending a congratulatory text to McGlinchey, Staley quickly went searching for anything he could find on his new teammate and discovered videos of McGlinchey interviews from his time in South Bend.

The first thing Staley noticed was just how polished McGlinchey was in front of reporters, something McGlinchey attributes to getting weekly practice at Notre Dame and something Staley didn't get as much of at Central Michigan, a place McGlinchey likes to call "The Little Sisters of the Poor" as a jab at Staley.

"I never experienced the big shining lights like Mike did," Staley says. "That was my very first impression was like this kid is a politician. So, I was going to try to break him down and get to the real Mike. I was really shocked. Because I thought his personality was very square like, 'Hi, how are you, Mike McGlinchey here, let me tell you why I'm the best.' And really he's like, just 'Philly Mike.'"

Staley, who is 10 years McGlinchey's senior, says he never felt threatened by McGlinchey's arrival and related to coming in as a first-round pick with big expectations. Within a week, the two went to a nearby sports bar for burgers and beers, realized how much they had in common as self-described "loud, obnoxious people" and, not long after, how much they could help each other.

The ways that manifested in their first season together were quite different. For McGlinchey, it was important to have a veteran sounding board who could offer tips on pass-rushers and technique and, perhaps most importantly, lift him up when inevitable rookie struggles hit.

In a game late last season McGlinchey was struggling. As the game was going on, Staley noticed and reminded his rookie teammate that the guys on the other side get paid to play, too.

"There's a lot of people in the position that he's in that would have viewed it kind of as a threat almost," McGlinchey said. "Luckily, Joe is a good enough guy and good enough teammate and comfortable enough in his own skin that he was pretty selfless. He was there for me 100 percent."

"They are both smart guys who really study their craft, who study each other," 49ers coach Mike Shanahan said of Staley (74) and McGlinchey (69). Courtesy of the San Francisco 49ers

Balancing fun with success

For Staley, who has seen and done almost everything during his NFL career, McGlinchey's youthful exuberance has helped revitalize him. After a dreadful 2-14 season in 2016, Staley strongly considered

retirement. Head coach Kyle Shanahan's arrival had given him some renewed vigor, but McGlinchey's arrival the following year has pushed that to another level. Staley even signed a two-year extension in June that takes him through the 2021 season and should allow him to retire with the only NFL team he's ever known.

Staley said he and McGlinchey are constantly bouncing ideas off each other and watch each other's reps in order to offer technique tips in real time.

"When he got drafted, I was getting to that point that I was going through a rough patch from Year 9 to 11 of like, do I want to keep playing football?" Staley said. "How long do I want to do this? And just having that kind of little brother-big brother relationship that he brought in and got along so well kind of really reinvigorated me a little bit."

While laughter might be a focal point of their friendship, it doesn't come without conflict. Some of it is good-natured -- such as the seven minutes and 11 seconds of arguing about what Staley calls McGlinchey's politician personality or the five-minute debate about whether McGlinchey didn't work out and hang out with Staley as much as promised in San Diego in the offseason -- but it can also turn serious, especially when those disagreements take place on the field.

In fact, just a couple of hours earlier, Staley and McGlinchey got into it over something on the practice field. They wouldn't disclose the specifics of what they disagreed on but both acknowledged that they were genuinely angry at each other.

"They are both smart guys who really study their craft, who study each other," Shanahan said. "They both compete more than anything even though they are, I joke BFFs, but they still are going to hate on each other too and try to get after each other because they definitely are competitive. I think that's something a veteran like Joe needs at this time in his career and I think it's great for a younger guy like McGlinchey to have a reminder on the other side that he doesn't have all the answers, that there's a lot more he can learn and he can get a lot better also."

Of course, that anger usually gets swept away in about an hour without apologies. After all, when practice and meetings are finished, it's time once again to bring a little levity to the locker room or head out for more burgers and beers, a round of karaoke, a sporting event (San Jose Sharks hockey games are a favorite) or a stop at Staley's house to hang out with his daughters, Grace and Audrey.

"I could not do another job, honestly," Staley said. "My personality would be really hard to work in a normal job."

On that, McGlinchey and Staley will always agree.

"I'd really struggle outside of the football realm," McGlinchey said. "But I think I think we just know what's important to us. It's like, we love to have fun. But we both want to be very good at what we do. And when it's time to play football and watch film and all that, it's serious. And when it's living life and being around your teammates, it's about having fun and enjoying the time that we spend together."

49ers tackles McGlinchey and Staley are bookends on and off the field

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
July 30, 2019

Mike McGlinchey was a two-time team captain at Notre Dame who doesn't carry himself like a typical 24-year-old.

Last year, 49ers executive Adam Peters joked he was likely less mature than McGlinchey. This week, head coach Kyle Shanahan recalled thinking McGlinchey acted like a CEO of a Fortune 500 company when he first met him before the 2018 draft.

"McGlinchey is very mature," Shanahan said before delivering the punchline: "Until you hang out with him outside of the football office."

Yes, since making McGlinchey the No. 9 overall pick, the 49ers have discovered the ultra-polished offensive tackle is also a karaoke-loving goofball.

McGlinchey, in fact, can match Pro Bowl left tackle Joe Staley, one of his best friends, when it comes to unapologetically bad singing voices. But the 49ers aren't complaining because he might eventually prove to be Staley's equal on the field.

McGlinchey flashed that potential in his NFL debut season when he started 16 games at right tackle and was named to the Pro Football Writers Association All-Rookie team. McGlinchey often was dominant as a run-blocker, but he allowed 40 quarterback pressures, according to Pro Football Focus.

This week, McGlinchey reflected on his pass-blocking in 2018 and said his biggest problem wasn't with his hands or feet, but his head. McGlinchey acknowledged he allowed some of his All-Pro foes to mess with his mind.

"I think most of it last year was mental," McGlinchey said. "… I think it was a matter of names that kind of freaked me out more: Whether it was (Chicago's) Khalil Mack, or (Denver's) Von Miller, or (the Rams') Aaron Donald — whatever the hell it was. I wasn't really worried about what those guys did as much as who they were."

McGlinchey didn't always flourish, but he never was embarrassed.

Mack, for example, didn't have a sack against the 49ers, but did have at least one in nine of his other 13 games. And Miller had one sack against McGlinchey, although it came with an asterisk because the former Super Bowl MVP beat him as McGlinchey was being held by Broncos defensive tackle Derek Wolfe.

"I had ups and downs," McGlinchey said. "And it was a matter of 'OK, I've played those guys and they didn't crush me. They didn't hurt me. They didn't rush up the stat board. It was one of those things of where I know I can do it.

"It's a matter of just getting the job done now. It's a matter of being the best that I can be and, hopefully, eventually that's going to be the best in this league. It's a matter of not just getting the job done. But getting the job done and looking like I know what I'm doing."

The 49ers drafted McGlinchey and traded jumbo-sized right tackle Trent Brown last year partly because they prized McGlinchey's athleticism and movement skills. McGlinchey, listed at 6-foot-8 and 315 pounds, is similar in size and skill set to Staley, 34, who was an accomplished sprinter in high school.

McGlinchey hasn't reached the level of the six-time Pro Bowler, but Shanahan says he has the proper mind-set.

"It's easy to get on him hard; he's not going to get sensitive," Shanahan said. "You can tell him he looked (bad) and he'll get pissed off, but he's going to come back tomorrow and try to prove you wrong. If you don't have that type of mentality, then you always have a sophomore slump. I don't see that being in him, and it better not."

McGlinchey and Staley are set up to be Jimmy Garoppolo's primary protectors for the next few seasons after Staley recently signed a two-year extension that runs through 2021.

McGlinchey paid his buddy a compliment and, possibly, snuck in a crack about his age.

"He's the heart and soul of our football team," McGlinchey said, "and he has been since probably I was in sixth grade."

Mike McGlinchey Expects Offseason Adjustments to Pay Dividends in 2019

By Keiana Martin
49ers.com
May 28, 2019

Mike McGlinchey is devoted to avoiding the dreaded sophomore slump and controlling his own narrative heading into Year 2.

He is coming off an impressive rookie campaign as an immediate starter at right tackle. The San Francisco 49ers 2018 first-round pick was rated as the best rookie run blocker and finished the season with the second-highest overall grade among all first-year offensive linemen according to Pro Football Focus. McGlinchey was also among the NFL's most dependable first-year offensive linemen in 2018. He was just one of only two rookie tackles to play 1000 snaps in 2018 and led the entire 49ers offense with 1,054.

Tasked with building on his Year 1 performance, McGlinchey believes that a full offseason without the restrictions of pre-draft and rookie obligations should serve him well in 2019.

"You don't get to really focus on being a traditional offensive lineman (as a rookie). You've got so many other things and hats to juggle," McGlinchey said. "Having a whole year under your belt makes things a lot easier for you when you hit the ground running on Day 1."

McGlinchey admitted to getting behind on his footwork towards the end of 2018. He's spent the offseason concentrating on consistency, grasping the offense and bulking up. He's added 15 pounds since the end of last season and is already starting to feel the benefits of his added strength at the start of OTAs.

Another benefit, or pair of benefits, to add to McGlinchey's growth this offseason is the 49ers additions of Nick Bosa and Dee Ford. McGlinchey will have the opportunity to protect the edge in practice against those two talented pass rushers.

Ford racked up 13 sacks in 2018. He's also known for having one of the quickest first steps off the line of scrimmage. That provides a welcomed challenge for McGlinchey.

"Dee's everything that he's advertised, man. He's in the elite class with his get off and his ability to get into people and take control of blocks," McGlinchey said. "He's just quicker, and he's strong as well. If the timing's off, normally I'm hitting on the second step just a little bit later, and I'm still in control of the block. With Dee, you've got to be as fast as humanly possible because he's that good at getting into you.

"I'm excited to get to work with him. It's only going to make me better (and) the rest of our tackles better. He's going to be special for us this year and I'm certainly glad he's on our side now."

49ers review: Mike McGlinchey's better 'Welcome to NFL' moment

By Cam Inman
San Jose Mercury News
November 9, 2018

Watching Mike McGlinchey race 50 yards down field as a lead blocker was phenomenal.
It spoke volumes not only about the 49ers rookie right tackle but how this year's top draft pick fits so well into coach Kyle Shanahan's scheme.

"That's what's fun about Kyle's offense – you get to show off your athletic ability with how we run and how we try and get out in front of guys," McGlinchey said.

While Monday night's visit by the New York Giants will showcase their Offensive Rookie of the Year favorite in Saquon Barkley, let's not forget about how well McGlinchey is faring as a promising cornerstone for the Niners.

What better way to examine that than looking deeper into McGlinchey's eye-opening escort on Raheem Mostert's 52-yard touchdown in last week's 34-3 rout of the Raiders:

McGlinchey and the 49ers lined up at their 48-yard line. Then came the snap to Nick Mullens, who faked a jet-sweep handoff to Marquise Goodwin. As McGlinchey backpedaled to the 44, Raheem Mostert took Nick Mullens' pitch at the 40.

What ensued was much more than McGlinchey's one-man caravan.

"We watched the film as a team," McGlinchey said, "and the backside guys are really the ones who sprung that play loose."

The backside guys: left tackle Joe Staley, center Weston Richburg and fullback Kyle Juszczyk, all of whom cleared out second-level blocks. Aiding and abetting were tight end Garrett Celek, left guard Laken Tomlinson and right guard Mike Person.

"That worked out perfect," Celek said. "We've ran it a few times (this season), it just hasn't turned out that good."

Celek, by the way, didn't want to divulge the specific play call in case Mullens needs to audible to it later this season.

As McGlinchey raced down the right sideline, Mostert was coming on fast at 20.9 mph, as clocked by the NFL's NextGen Stats. "Well, I had like a 20-yard head start," McGlinchey quipped.

McGlinchey said his job was to take out the widest defender on the play, "but normally he shows up a lot faster than that."

Raiders safety Marcus Gilchrist eventually entered the picture. Staley, upon reviewing film, told McGlinchey he should have cut block Gilchrist.

"He got you guys to notice him," Staley joked.

"I don't really like to cut block, especially when a guy is coming at me from the inside," McGlinchey said. "The worst thing in the world is to cut block and miss. I just wanted to get on him and make a play."
And so McGlinchey made like Forrest Gump and kept running.

"That was really cool," Richburg said. "He could have made it easier by cutting the guy, but he wanted to be a hero."

“Mike, he can move,” Celek said. “He beats me down field sometimes on celebrations.”

McGlinchey got a hand on Gilchrist at the Raiders 30, then zig-zagged to get out of Mostert’s way, nearly tangling legs with him at the 15. Finally, at the 5, McGlinchey cleared out Gilchrist and tumbled into the end zone while Mostert ran in untouched for his first career touchdown.

“Those are my favorite plays, because it allows us to do something different than just run downhill and block a defensive lineman,” McGlinchey said. “It’s a lot of fun.”

Said Staley: “Every play is designed to get a touchdown, and very rarely does it happen like it’s drawn up, because they’re good players, too.”

Was that really the way Shanahan drew it up for McGlinchey? Nope. “I think the O-Line gave him the showoff fine for trying to be on TV following him down the field for so long,” Shanahan quipped. “No, I’m just joking.

“He did a hell of a job. It was awesome.”

Notre Dame had its share of pin-and-pull blocking but nothing that ever got McGlinchey so far into the open field like Mostert’s 52-yard touchdown run.

“Mike McGlinchey’s been working his butt off all year long,” running back Matt Breida said. “You guys can see what type of player he’s going to be in this league. One day he’ll be a Pro Bowler.”

Such run-blocking agility and a highly professional approach was not what the 49ers got out of his predecessor, Trent Brown. Brown’s durability raised further questions as he entered his contract year, and his draft-day trade to New England has worked out for all parties involved.

McGlinchey hasn’t been perfect, and while he knows that, he’s also built off of his learning experiences. Some three months ago, McGlinchey got planted on his backside by Houston Texans’ star J.J. Watt in a “Welcome To The NFL” scrimmage.

And now?

“I’m playing a lot faster and a little bit more free now that I have a full understanding of the offense,” McGlinchey said. “I’ve been pretty successful so far and still have a long way to go.”

Mike McGlinchey thankful coin-toss fate put him on 49ers, not Raiders

By Jennifer Lee Chan
NBC Sports Bay Area
November 2, 2018

Mike McGlinchey recalls the coin toss that made him a 49er, and he couldn't be happier about it. The offensive tackle was a coin toss away from potentially living on the other side of the Bay, wearing silver and black. He has thought about how different his life would be if 49ers general manager John Lynch had lost that first coin toss to the Raiders.

“I have,” McGlinchey said. “I have. And I’m really, really lucky, and I think I’m fortunate to be here. Not that there’s anything wrong with the Raiders, but I lucked into a great situation here. I love my head coach. I love my offensive line coach. I love my assistant offensive line coach. I love my teammates. “I didn’t think about it today, but I started thinking about it when I was buying a house in the area, which side of the Bay I could have been on and all that stuff.”

The Raiders lost their second coin toss of the year to the 49ers on Thursday night. That loss forced them to receive the opening kickoff in the lopsided 34-3 game that gave the 49ers their second win of the season.

The more impactful coin toss, though, occurred in late February at the NFL Scouting Combine, where the Raiders’ and 49ers’ first-round draft pick was decided. That coin toss made drafting McGlinchey a reality for the 49ers, and they selected him with the ninth overall pick two months later.

McGlinchey has turned out to be an incredibly good pick for the 49ers. He is Pro Football Focus’ top-rated right tackle in the NFL.

Rumors were that if the Raiders had won the toss, they would have drafted McGlinchey. Instead, they traded their 10th pick with the Cardinals and drafted tackle Kolton Miller with the 15th selection.

Miller left Thursday's game with a knee injury during the Raiders' opening drive and struggled while playing 25 snaps. The Raiders shuffled the remaining offensive line around while attempting to protect quarterback Derek Carr. They allowed eight sacks.

McGlinchey recognized the short-term challenges of a tough season, but he sees the long-term potential. “It just couldn’t be a better situation here, and I lucked out going to the Niners,” McGlinchey said. “Obviously, we want a little bit more wins, but we’re building something special here, and everybody can feel it.

“That’s why we don’t stop. We don’t stop working, and we don’t stop playing hard. That’s exciting. It’s been awesome to be here, and hopefully we’re getting ready for something big in the future.”

McGlinchey is very happy they way things unfolded and sees a solid future for himself on the 49ers’ side of the Bay.

“It’s obviously not even a guarantee that they would have picked me,” McGlinchey said. “But that’s what the rumors were. But, thank God. I love my situation here. I’m happy here, and I can’t wait to be a Niner for a long time.”

49ers' Mike McGlinchey born to protect, on and off the field

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
September 8, 2018

Mike McGlinchey was an industrial-size baby who was the first of six siblings, making him, by size and birth order, a natural protector.

The 10-pound, 6-ounce infant grew into a 6-foot-8, 315-pound rookie right tackle who will make his NFL debut when the 49ers visit Minnesota in their season opener Sunday. His ability to shield others from harm made him a first-team All-American at Notre Dame and the No. 9 pick in the draft.

His elite skill to safeguard isn't limited to quarterbacks.

As the oldest sibling by three years, McGlinchey's protective instincts kick in with his gigantic and athletic family. It includes an uncle, brother and eight cousins, including Atlanta quarterback Matt Ryan, who have played college football.

And McGlinchey, who has 24 first cousins, is particularly fierce when it comes to two relatives who could not play organized sports.

McGlinchey's brother, Jim, 15, was diagnosed with autism at 18 months. And his cousin and best friend, Dan McCain, 26, continues to deal with significant health issues: He was born with microscopic holes in his lungs, had open heart surgery at 16 and underwent another procedure in February to replace the valve that was inserted 10 years earlier.

At one point when discussing his bond with Dan, McGlinchey, a genial giant with a passion for karaoke, politely but firmly made a request when it came to how his cousin would be portrayed: "As long as he's perceived as my biggest fan, best friend and coach," McGlinchey said, "and not the story that's heartwarming."

And when it comes to both Jim and Dan, McGlinchey protects them from potential pity. This story, he says, is not about what he's done for them.

"It's hard to put into words what the two of them have shaped me to be," McGlinchey said, "but they certainly have had their fair share in my development, that's for sure."

McGlinchey credits his brother and cousin for keeping him grounded and connected to his family-first, blue-collar suburban Philadelphia roots.

Last month, a few weeks after signing a four-year, $18.4 million fully guaranteed contract, McGlinchey bought a house that remains largely vacant and undecorated. The only artwork is a framed picture that Jim, a talented artist, drew for him the day after he was drafted. It depicts them, together, celebrating his selection above the words, "Congratulations, Mike McGlinchey!"

A few weeks ago, Dan, after receiving permission from his cardiologist to fly, was the first of McGlinchey's brothers or cousins to visit him in the Bay Area. On an off day, Dan toured the 49ers' facility and met quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo, among others.

"They keep me tied back to home, which is where I should be," McGlinchey said. "They have given all of

us perspective on what to appreciate out of life and what's important to us. Like my grandfather always said, remember who you are and remember where you came from. And Jim and Dan are the anchors in which all that is experienced in our family."

In a family filled with accomplished athletes, McGlinchey stood out.

Despite his size, McGlinchey played eight positions, including quarterback and wide receiver, at William Penn Charter in Philadelphia. As a high school sophomore, he dunked on Ryan, then an NFL quarterback, during a driveway game that's part of family lore. And that same year, he took up the shot put to strengthen his lower body for football. The result: He won two state titles in the event.

"I figured out how to do it pretty good," he said.

At Notre Dame, McGlinchey was a two-time captain, and his blend of size, skill and character placed him on the 49ers' wish list. Adam Peters, the team's vice president of player personnel, acknowledges that background work on college prospects often yields varying degrees of positive feedback. McGlinchey was different.

"With Mike, it was superlatives, superlatives, superlatives, superlatives," Peters said. "And then you meet him, and he's everything that everyone described. … He's more mature than a lot of the (veterans) we have. He might be more mature than I am."

In their digging, the 49ers presumably didn't track down the senior-citizen stadium ushers McGlinchey befriended at Notre Dame. Or the maintenance workers with whom he connected in high school. McGlinchey's mom, Janet, says Mike's upbringing is why her son's lofty accomplishments didn't cause him to elevate himself.

"Growing up, we called Mike 'Midas' — everything he did turned to gold," Janet said. "But Jim and Dan have helped him keep him grounded to know that there is another world out there. And some people aren't as gifted as you. So stay humble, remember where you came from, and remember to give back." McGlinchey has given as much as he has gained in his relationships with Jim and Dan.

Like many with autism, Jim craves routine, which explains why he attended only four of his brother's games in college (Dan went to too many to count). Last season, when Notre Dame played in the Citrus Bowl in Orlando, the family tried to cajole Jim by explaining it was the home of Disney World. Jim wasn't interested. Moments after McGlinchey was drafted, Jim, who has not flown, made an announcement: He was never traveling to San Francisco.

McGlinchey's football prowess means little to Jim, who think he's at his best in another role.

"He's good at being my brother," Jim said in 2016 in a Bleacher Report video on their relationship. "He takes care of me."

Mike has done that since Janet sat down her older children shortly after Jim's diagnosis. At the time, they were told they would have to take particular care to look out for Jim as he grew up. In later years, it was explained they would care for Jim if there came a time when Janet and her husband, Mike Sr., no longer could.

"I explained this is our family," Janet said. "This is what happens."

And what has happened with Jim has been unexpected. He initially was not expected to talk, but now "he won't shut up," says Janet, laughing. He was an honor student in middle school, and the family has started rethinking whether he could live independently.

Jim still struggles with emotional control and social cues, and he has a very specific list of intense likes (hotel pools) and dislikes (being told what to draw). McGlinchey highlights his brother's grades, spot-on drawings of Nickelodeon characters and gift for creating videos.

"Jimmy," McGlinchey said, "is absolutely smarter than everybody in our family."

Unlike Jim, Dan grew up as sports-crazed as his four younger brothers and collection of cousins. However, his health issues meant he couldn't truly channel his competitive drive into athletics.

He was born with a heart murmur and a disorder that caused his lungs to leak oxygen. Dan slept with an oxygen tank growing up, and Mike, with his size, often would lug it upstairs when the family members gathered for their annual summer vacation in North Wildwood, N.J.

“Mike, from an early age, sensed that Dan had a tough time with things,” said Dan’s mother, Mary. “He’s always been that type that just wants to protect people. … Mike isn’t happy until he gets Dan happy. He’s shared all his success with him.”

Mike and Dan grew up in the same neighborhood and were constant companions. In pickup football games, Dan was the all-time quarterback. In Wiffle ball, he was the all-time pitcher.

However, there were times he got carried away in a family in which the boys once played a tackle football game, in suits, at McGlinchey’s grandmother’s wake. As Mary says, even “Monopoly became fisticuffs.” “Dan always went at it with them on our front lawn,” Mary said. “I couldn’t even watch. If I tried to hold him back, he’d get really mad at me.”

Mike and Dan were separated for the first time when Mike went to Notre Dame, but the pattern was established: Dan would remain in the game.

Through McGlinchey’s college career, Dan was a regular in South Bend and became friends with several of his Notre Dame teammates. Mike would FaceTime Dan the day after every game to “get his report,” which could include praise and critiques.

In 2015, after previously unbeaten Notre Dame lost 24-22 at Clemson, McGlinchey called Dan twice the day after the game. No response. He texted him. Nothing. Finally, Dan called back about four days later. “He was like, ‘Sorry, I had to take some time to decompress from that one,’” McGlinchey said, laughing. “I told him, ‘Yeah, I hear ya.’”

For Dan, Mike’s setbacks and successes cause wild emotional swings.

“I definitely have that competitive drive,” Dan said. “I don’t think it’s as prevalent as it was back then (growing up) because I’m not playing. But I definitely like to consider with Notre Dame, and now all the way up to the 49ers, (Mike’s) wins are kind of like my wins in a way.”

Dan’s lung disorder eventually resolved itself, but for years, it stressed his other organs, particularly his heart. In February, the valve that was inserted when he was 16 was replaced. Doctors didn’t think his

body could withstand a second open-heart surgery, so they performed a TAVR procedure, which is less invasive and involves guiding a catheter through the leg to the heart to replace the valve.

However, it is a temporary fix. And it’s unlikely the TAVR can be repeated when Dan requires another procedure in as soon as five years. The families are praying a medical advancement can resolve the issue.

The uncertainty is a reason the months after the surgery were difficult for Dan, and Mike hoped his recent visit to the Bay Area would raise his spirits. His plan worked. After Dan arrived home, it was clear he officially was part of his best friend’s new team.

“He feels like he belongs,” Mary said. “… It gives him a whole new kind of purpose.”

For Mike, he has a specific purpose as he begins a journey that, if his Midas touch remains, will include fame to go along with rookie fortune. He wants to keep the proper perspective as a pro. And he thinks that those he has safeguarded the most will shield him from losing his way.

Postgame calls to his best friend, and a picture on his otherwise vacant wall, will protect him from forgetting who he is and where he came from.

Big guy, strong roots: Why the 49ers zeroed in on Mike McGlinchey

By Matt Barrows
Sacramento Bee
May 12, 2018

Two items Mike McGlinchey's parents made sure they had before heading off to one of their son's youth basketball games: A water bottle and his birth certificate.

"Because people always questioned whether he belonged on the team or not," his mother, Janet, said.

You see, the McGlincheys' oldest child stood out among peers the way a tiger would in a room full of house cats. He was big out of the cradle, was called "Big Mike" while he was still a grade schooler and didn't stop growing until he went off to college.

His parents wouldn't let him play football at age eight, for example, because their town's weight-based league would have put him on the same field as eighth and ninth graders. "So that year he ended up playing soccer, which he hated dreadfully," Janet said.

Every six months mother and son had to go shopping because Mike had grown out of his shoes. Well, at least until he entered high school when Janet started ordering shoes online since the ones they sell in stores weren't big enough. Mike's topped out at size 17.

During warm-ups at youth-league games outside of Philadelphia, parents of the opposing players would look at McGlinchey and shout: "Yo, did No. 44 drive the bus here?" McGlinchey was 9 years old at the time, not just the youngest kid on the team but the youngest in the league.

All of which begins to explain why the 49ers used the ninth overall pick on the offensive tackle from Notre Dame. Sure, his size played a role. They love that someone who stands 6-8 and has massive 10-inch hands will be battling in the trenches and protecting quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo. But there's also a maturity and steadiness about McGlinchey that drew the 49ers.

One draft publication said he acts "like a CEO of a Fortune 500 company." Before the draft, analyst Mike Mayock rated McGlinchey as his top tackle because his work ethic and passion for the game were "unparalleled." "So I know what I'm getting with that kid," Mayock said. "And that's why I bang the table for him."

Said 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan a few hours after the 49ers selected McGlinchey: "To me what separates Mike from everyone else is the person you're getting."

No holding back

How did McGlinchey get that way? Parents and adults expect more from big kids because they instinctively think they're older than they are. They play with older children because they're so much larger than their peers and they aspire to be like their playmates.

When Mike was in kindergarten, he was on a team with third and fourth graders, prompting his coach to note that while some of his players were learning advanced multiplication and division in school, one of his players didn't know how to read or write.

"Even as a toddler he was always playing with 4 or 5 year olds because he was so much bigger," Janet said. "So I think he always gravitated to that mature level faster than most kids his age. His size sort of forced him to act more mature when he was still a young kid."

McGlinchey also is the oldest of six children and is among the oldest of what Janet described as a the "second wave of cousins." There are 22 of them on her side of the family, the vast majority rough-and-tumble boys who sharpened Mike's sense of competition.

Her brother, John Loughery, was a quarterback at Boston College when Doug Flutie arrived there. She has nephews who played at Sacred Heart, Brown, Elon, Temple, and one, Matt Ryan, who was the third overall pick to the Atlanta Falcons in 2008.

The boys played basketball, lacrosse and any plenty of other sports. But in their family, football is king.

The cousins played it on the beach at the Jersey shore in the summers. Janet said the family used to watch the Thanksgiving Day parade in Philadelphia every year. To the chagrin of her and her sisters, however, that tradition was bumped aside by a late-morning turkey-bowl game in the park. A football game even broke out following -- immediately following -- their grandmother's wake. The boys were still in their suits.

"I think that's how she would have wanted it," Mike told the Chicago Tribune in 2015.

"We always joked that our basements should have had rubber floors and rubber walls," Janet said. "We've had many dings in the wall that my husband has had to re-spackle or re-dry wall. Whether it was somebody being shoved or the sofa went through or a lacrosse ball going through or anything like that. When they played together they played hard. There was no holding back. They just competed with one another all the time."

No mere brute

Some of the cousins, including Ryan, are as tall as 6-4. Mike was the biggest of the bunch, but he was no mere brute.

He was the center on his high school basketball team who was, as you would expect, an excellent rebounder, but who also had a smooth jump shot and was reliable from the free-throw line.

In football, he had soft hands like a tight end, served as the team's longsnapper and even could throw. One of his youth-league coaches suspected at the time that if McGlinchey were to play in college it would be as a quarterback. After all, he was tall and could throw the ball 60 yards when he was 12.

Another youth-league coach, Dave Armstrong, remembers watching McGlinchey when he was the only fourth grader on a team that had kids as old as 13. On one play, McGlinchey was lined up as nose tackle. When the center tried to undercut him, McGlinchey deftly leaped into the air, hurdled the blocker and came crashing down on both the quarterback and running back.

"He destroyed the whole thing," Armstrong said. "I coached many great kids over the last 30 years. But when I saw that, I had to get on the phone and call my son. I said, 'Wow! What I just saw this kid do was unbelievable!'"

McGlinchey had an invitation to attend the draft in Dallas. He declined. After all, the NFL wouldn't have allowed him to bring the 150 family and friends with whom he wanted to celebrate the occasion. Instead, they rented out a space at Giusseppe's, an Italian restaurant outside of Philadelphia.

After receiving a phone call from 49ers general manager John Lynch, McGlinchey got up and gave long hugs to his mom, dad and girlfriend. After that, it was a party until a car arrived at 5 a.m. to take him to the airport and his first trip to Santa Clara.

"I’ve got a huge, crazy family with a lot of people that are a lot of fun and very loud and very exciting," he said. "But it’s something I’ve worked for and my family has helped me work for 20-something years now. It was a huge moment for us.

Colton McKivitz

Interior decorator: 49ers' Colton McKivitz aiming to enhance offensive line

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
November 26, 2020

Colton McKivitz has had to carry shoulder pads, pick up sandwiches and order pizzas as part of his duties as the lone rookie offensive lineman on the 49ers' roster.

Last month, the fifth-round pick was given his most daunting task when his position mates explained his latest assignment: Decorate their spacious meeting room extravagantly for Halloween.

"I haven't been tied to a field-goal post," McKivitz said, laughing. "So I'll take decorating all day long."

Indeed, the right guard has had a mild first-year initiation from his teammates that pales in comparison to what his coaches have asked him to do: Play a foreign position in a complex offense after an abbreviated offseason that didn't include OTA practices.

How McKivitz handles that challenge makes him one of the young players to closely watch as the 49ers (4-6) finish a season that's unlikely to end in the playoffs. As attention figures to turn increasingly to 2021, McKivitz's performance in the final six regular-season games will help determine how much the 49ers will need to invest in a problem area — their interior offensive line — in the offseason.

McKivitz, who had played only offensive tackle since high school, has been eased into action to see if he could be an answer. He's played his first meaningful offensive snaps in the past two games when he has rotated at right guard with Tom Compton, 31, a ninth-year veteran who has started the past two contests.

McKivitz has played 44 snaps in losses to the Packers and Saints, 40 fewer than Compton.

"We'll see how this year keeps going with both of them," head coach Kyle Shanahan said. "They've been competing really well and we'll see if one gets ahead of the other. But I've been happy with their progress."

Given his youth and their draft-pick investment, the 49ers are hoping McKivitz emerges as the winner.

They drafted McKivitz, 6-foot-6 and 301 pounds, after a senior season at West Virginia in which he was named the Big 12's Co-Offensive Lineman of the Year and a third-team Associated Press All-American as a left tackle.

The 49ers were attracted to his grit — NFL.com's scouting profile on McKivitz labeled him a "bonafide dirt dog with a chippy demeanor" — and the intangibles of a player who made 49 straight starts in college.

McKivitz was a team captain, a member of the school's academic honor roll and was a three-time winner of the "Iron Mountaineer" award for his excellence and dedication in the weight room.

The 49ers gave McKivitz a "gold helmet" designation, given to only a handful of their draft prospects each year.

"The gold helmet is essentially, 'This is the ideal 49ers person and player that we want to bring in,'" director of college scouting Ethan Waugh said. "He fits exactly what we're looking for demeanor-wise and on the offensive line."

McKivitz is unusual among NFL rookies, who are understandably eager to prove themselves, in that he's refreshingly candid about his first-year growing pains.

For example, he was largely pleased with his 23-snap performance against the Saints, but he didn't hesitate to volunteer this: He missed a block on one of the game's biggest plays, a 4th-and-1 attempt in which running back Jerick McKinnon was dropped for a 2-yard loss in the second quarter.

And McKivitz didn't hide what happened when asked about his welcome-to-the-NFL moment — he was bulldozed by rookie defensive tackle Javon Kinlaw in training camp — or when queried about his first offensive snap in the NFL, which came near the end of a blowout win over the Jets in Week 2.

"I think it was inside zone left and I kind of let my guy get off late and he made the tackle," McKivitz said. "And we probably would have had a 30-yard gain. I got a little earful on the sideline. But it still felt good to get out there and be playing in the NFL."

McKivitz's willingness to share his lows suggests he's confident those moments don't define him.

His more memorable moments have inspired some of that belief. In his first extended action, against the Packers, he successfully pulled off a difficult run block against Pro Bowl defensive tackle Kenny Clark.

"I think that was kind of the moment where it was, 'OK this is just football,'" McKivitz said. "And it's back to the basics and just having fun out there. That was one play that just solidified that, 'Hey, you're meant to be here. And this is what you can do.'"

McKivitz is excited about the chance to play after logging just 14 snaps in the first eight games. And, off the field, things also are looking up.

McKivitz noted the NFL's recently mandated intensive COVID-19 protocols mean the offensive linemen won't be using their meeting room as all such interactions will be done virtually for the rest of the season.

The result: McKivitz didn't have to shop for Thanksgiving decor and Christmas isn't a concern.

"That," McKivitz said, "will save me some money."

49ers rookie Colton McKivitz is a Renaissance man with a country spirit

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
May 31, 2020

Colton McKivitz, the offensive lineman the 49ers drafted in the fifth round, is the type of guy who hits the golf course with a 12-gauge instead of a 9-iron. After all, the fairway ponds are positively lousy with corn-fed Canada geese in the winter and the course managers don't mind one bit if a few go missing.

He has eight white-tailed deer, including the 160-pounder he bagged when he was 6 years old, mounted on the wall of his bedroom in Southeast Ohio. When he'd head back on the 90-minute drive to the University of West Virginia his mom would send him off with hugs and kisses while his dad would send him off with huge Ziploc bags bursting with goose jerky.

"He'd take them down to Morgantown and give them to all the trainers and athletes," his father said. "Some of the football players never tasted it before. And they loved it. They just begged and begged for more of it."

If you're picturing a mountain man with an unruly beard and a raccoon cap, well, you're close. That's a dead-on description of Matt McKivitz, Colton's dad. He became a bit of a celebrity at his son's games because of the homemade raccoon hats — every now and then he'd switch it up with a coyote chapeau — he wore in the stands. Matt is an avid hunter, a skilled taxidermist and he can turn anything he shoots, snares or hooks into a tasty meal.

"If the big one drops and you're out in the woods, you want Matt McKivitz around you," said Brion Schiappa, Colton's first offensive line coach and a close friend of the family. "He'd keep you alive for a long time."

Colton definitely is his father's son. He caught his first fish — a bluegill — at age 3. Three years after that, Matt was strapping him into a tree stand for his first deer hunt. Their preferred quarry in recent years is ducks and geese, which descend on their area in the fall and stay through the winter.

During the football season, Colton would play for the Mountaineers on Saturday afternoon, drive to his family home in Centerville, Ohio, that evening, get up before dawn for a duck hunt with dad and be back at school Sunday afternoon for treatment and meetings.

"It wasn't like he was going out to party after games," his mom, Wendy, said during a phone interview. "He was driving home to get ready to go sit with his dad and the duck blind. I think that was important to him because he would spend so much time away with football."

"I think he liked being able to talk — the camaraderie," adds Matt, who was on the same call. "Because (with) deer hunting, you've gotta be real quiet."

The 49ers' fifth-round pick is a country kid through and through, but the team believes they've landed a bit of a Renaissance man. Last month vice president of player personnel Adam Peters revealed that the 49ers had given McKivitz a "gold helmet" designation heading into the draft, something only 15 or so of the hundreds of draft prospects earn each year.

To get it, you have to meet an array of criteria, from durability to leadership to character to intelligence. General manager John Lynch and coach Kyle Shanahan are adamant about creating a specific culture on their team and in their locker room, and McKivitz seems to embody what they're looking for.

"Gold helmet is not something we give out a lot," Peters said. "The person really has to be exemplary, really has to stand out."

In talking to those who know McKivitz best, you start to understand why the 49ers think so highly of him. He was a National Honor Society student in high school who went on to become a team captain at West

Virginia. He started 49 straight games for the Mountaineers — some while playing hurt — and last year, with a new coaching staff taking over, he acted as somewhat of a player-coach on an otherwise young offensive line.

He doesn't drink. He doesn't party. Schiappa, the family friend, said he's the type of guy any father would want his daughter to marry.

"You're not going to find a better human being as far as moral conduct is concerned," he said. "He will never embarrass the 49ers. Ever."

Smart guy, devoted son, avid outdoorsman. That's all great. But does he have the requisite nastiness to grapple with Aaron Donald and Jarran Reed in the NFL tranches? Asked about that, Schiappa recalls a game against Kansas State last season. At one point, he saw one of Kansas State's linebackers, No. 58, hit McKivitz across the side of the helmet. A little later he did it again.

"The third time it happened, Colton drilled the guy into the ground," Schiappa said with a laugh. "It was such a great block. And that's the last we saw of 58. There's a lot of fire inside that guy. A lot of fire. You wouldn't want to piss him off."

Schiappa first encountered McKivitz before his sophomore year of high school. McKivitz had been a baseball and basketball player, and he stood out in both sports. He threw a no-hitter as a freshman. At 6-foot-6, he could dominate the paint in basketball.

Schiappa immediately was impressed by the boy's size and didn't bother with pleasantries. Instead, he went straight to the point, fixing his eyes on McKivitz's and telling the high schooler that he could get a college scholarship if he decided to play football, which McKivitz never had done up to that point.

"I didn't tell him my name and I don't know if I even asked him his name," Schiappa said. "I just walked up to him (and said): 'You can have the big house on the hill. You can name your college. You can have it all. You just focus on this game.'"

That's exactly what McKivitz did. Four years later, he was suiting up for his first game at West Virginia. He had redshirted the previous season, adding 45 pounds of bulk to what had long been a basketball player's taut frame. The opening game that year was against Missouri, and McKivitz was told he'd get a few snaps at right tackle to spell his teammate.

He ended up getting a lot more work than that when the starting left tackle went down with a torn ACL early in the second quarter. The injury meant McKivitz would face defensive end Charles Harris for the rest of the contest. Harris finished with nine sacks that season and later would be drafted by the Miami Dolphins in the first round. But he didn't get any against McKivitz, who put a big block on Harris on the game's opening touchdown run and who never left the lineup from that point on.

That was the start of McKivitz's career at West Virginia. His biggest jump may have come at the end.

The Mountaineers not only brought in a new coaching staff for 2019, but many of the upperclassmen had also moved on after the 2018 season. They would be a young team learning new schemes. In other words, they wouldn't be very good. McKivitz considered skipping his senior season and entering the draft. The new coaches convinced him to stay, and both parties were glad he did.

Until that point, McKivitz had been a hard-working, dependable overachiever. But he wasn't overly athletic, he didn't have the long arms NFL teams prefer and, aside from his redshirt freshman season, he'd mostly played right tackle. If he had tried to make the leap to the NFL last year, he might have gone undrafted.

The incoming offensive line coach, Matt Moore, switched him to left tackle, which signaled to NFL teams he was versatile. Moore and the rest of the West Virginia staff also asked him to play with more of an edge on the field and to become a more vocal and visible leader off of it.

Moore knew McKivitz had taken the challenge seriously when he arrived for an offensive line meeting one day to find that the senior left tackle already was conducting one with all of his younger teammates studiously taking notes. The players-only meetings became routine.

“He’d get the running backs in there. He’d get the rest of the O-linemen,” Moore recalled. “And I’d slide in there to get ready for my meeting and he’d be quizzing them on, ‘All right, who’s the Mike (linebacker), who’s the blitzer?’ all of that stuff. When you’re teaching other people, you’ve taken your football knowledge to another level. And that’s what he did that year.”

After his junior season, McKivitz didn’t collect many accolades. Following his senior year, he was named the Big 12 conference’s co-offensive lineman of the year, made the Associated Press’ All-America third team and was given an invitation to the Senior Bowl.

“And I see him continuing to develop,” Moore said. “He is not tapped out. He’s one of those guys who is just now hitting his stride.”

While the 49ers have their “gold helmet” guys and other team awards, the Mountaineers’ version is something they call the “boss man.” It pays tribute to the state’s coal-mining roots. At a mine, the boss man is the one who has worked his way up through the ranks, who has done everything right and who gets to be in charge. He’s part of the management, but in spirit he’s still one of the crew. McKivitz was named boss man in each of the last three years.

“It’s part of the school’s identity and the history of West Virginia in general,” the school’s longtime strength coach, Mike Joseph, said. “And it’s a mentality that we as a team try to maintain — that blue-collar mentality. And he really embraced that.”

After all, it’s an ethos McKivitz instantly recognized. The Southeast Ohio region where he grew up used to be coal-mining country and Matt McKivitz spent nine years as a miner. He doesn’t do it anymore: Gas and oil have taken over as the main industries in recent years. But the coal-mining work ethic is ingrained in the region. The landscape bears its marks, too. The ponds and small lakes where the McKivitzes fish and hunt mallards are the remnants of the strip mining that occurred in that region.

Colton McKivitz could tell you all about the ecology. Staying for his senior season also allowed him to get his degree in wildlife and fisheries resources, which he plans to use when his football career is over.

Some former players try to get into broadcasting. Some become coaches. McKivitz’s dream is to buy a ranch or maybe a lodge and offer a guide service on the property. He’s already figured out what crops he’d plant and which fish he’d stock in the lake. He also knows the approximate location — somewhere west of his home region so that he’s a little closer to main waterfowl flyways.

“Colton is a man with a plan. He’s always planning,” Wendy said. “He’s been thinking about this for a long time. He’s already looking at properties — dreaming and planning.”

The one thing he couldn’t plan: Which team would take him in the draft. The 49ers spoke with him at the Senior Bowl in January, but that was it. Other teams were calling him in the run-up to the draft and throughout the three-day process. The 49ers weren’t one of them. Shanahan, Lynch and Peters were laying so low in the weeds that it was a complete surprise to McKivitz when they bagged him in the fifth round.

Is he worried about being out of his element in the Bay Area?

Not at all. His parents note he’s been training with former NFL offensive lineman LeCharles Bentley in Chandler, Ariz., since the winter and has been staying at a Residence Inn in the area. The hotel is surrounded by a shallow pond and, well, McKivitz has discovered that it’s full of fish.

“If there’s a way to fish, he will find it,” Wendy said.

Added Matt McKivitz: “The first words out of his mouth when he was drafted were: ‘I’m going to go out there, and the first thing I’m going to do is catch a great white.'”

Raheem Mostert

With 'Unfinished Business' Propelling 49ers, Raheem Mostert Desires to be a 'Feared' Running Back in 2020

By Keiana Martin
49ers.com
August 6, 2020

Raheem Mostert enters into the 2020 season with a fresh mindset. As a former undrafted running back who has made his way across six different NFL teams before landing with the San Francisco 49ers, Mostert understands the challenges that accompany overcoming your own adversity.

His mentality has followed him throughout his playing career and while he prepares for his sixth season in the NFL. Now, the running back is eager for the rest of the league to take note of his desire to outperform any limitations.

"I just want to go out there and be dominant," Mostert said. "When I step out onto that field, I want everybody to say 'that's a bad Mo-Fo. He's somebody that we can't take lightly.' I want to put fear in other teams' eyes and that's my mindset. Even when I'm playing gunner, I just want people to know I'm the best special teams player to ever play this game. And that's the mindset I'm going have at running back. I want them to know I'm the best running back to ever play this game.

"Even though it doesn't show as far as my career (stats), I don't necessarily care about that. I always tell myself, once I get that opportunity, I'm never going to look back. And that's what I've got to hold myself up to, that type of standard."

Mostert is coming off of the most productive season of his NFL career. He averaged 5.64 yards per carry in 2019, ranking second in the NFL among all qualifying players and first among running backs. Over his last two seasons in San Francisco, he's averaged 6.04 yards per carry, leading all players in the NFL with at least 125 carries.

Although Kyle Shanahan assumes a by-committee approach to his running back units, Mostert aims to solidify himself as San Francisco's primary workhorse. He spent the offseason bulking up and adding muscle to help build the endurance to manage 20-plus carries a game. Despite more yards and carries, Mostert was third among San Francisco's running backs, averaging 8.6 carries per game in 2019.

He'll be sharing his workload with Tevin Coleman, Jeff Wilson Jr. and Jerick McKinnon, who is expected to make his debut in 2020 after consecutive sidelined seasons in San Francisco. Additionally, the 49ers signed two undrafted rookies, Salvon Ahmed and Jamycal Hasty, who will be looking to prove that they, too, are deserving of snaps.

While each back offers San Francisco a unique group of skill sets out of the backfield, the 49ers are likely to continue to operate with who has the hot hand. And Mostert is preparing himself to be that go-to guy.

"I've got to prepare myself because I am the starting running back," Mostert said. "My confidence level is just up to the guys that consider themselves to be top backs. So for me, I just have to make sure that I'm on a consistent basis and going out there and doing what I've got to do so that way I can help the team out."

Mostert was a large key to San Francisco's postseason success that included a 220-yard, four-touchdown performance against the Green Bay Packers in the NFC Championship game, setting a franchise record for most rushing yards in a regular season or postseason game. He and the rest of San Francisco's locker room already have their sights on returning to that game and earning a shot at redemption from Super Bowl LIV.

Monday was the first opportunity of the offseason for the 49ers to assemble at the team facility following social distancing guidelines due to the effects of COVID-19. According to the running back, the team returned to Santa Clara with the same fire following the championship loss, noting the heightened energy surrounding the group.

As the team continues its ultimate focus of playing into the final game in February, a return trip just isn't enough. Mostert, along with the rest of San Francisco's locker room, are building off of their confidence (and refreshed mindset) to keep that momentum going.

"Being back with the guys definitely brings that type of energy (we) left off from last year," he added. "I know all the guys in this building have some unfinished business. We've seen all the different sayings of how a team doesn't make it back to the Super Bowl the following year. We don't care nothing about that. (George Kittle) emphasized it in the Super Bowl - he will be back. And I think that was everyone's mentality. I feel like we're going to be back this year and we're actually going to win it. That's our goal, that's our mindset."

How does 49ers' top rusher Raheem Mostert feel about special teams? Consider what he named his son

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
January 9, 2020

If you think Raheem Mostert is itching to give up special teams and expand his role as a running back, consider this: He named his son Gunnar.

It's not a coincidence. The name actually was his wife's idea. If his wife had been a boy, her parents would have named her Gunther, Mostert said. Before they had their first baby in June, she suggested they tweak it a bit to fit what Mostert was best known for at the time — being a top-end gunner on the 49ers' punt-coverage unit.

"It was one of those things where she picked the name and it suited everything so well because of how I was playing," Mostert said.

Mostert has been the 49ers' best special teams player over the past three seasons and he led the team with 14 coverage tackles in 2019. This season, however, that role has been superseded — at least in the eyes of fans and observers — by what he's done on offense.

During the regular season he not only led the 49ers with 772 rushing yards, his 5.6-yard average was the best of any running back in the NFL. He also led the 49ers with 10 touchdowns, despite never starting a game at tailback. Instead, Tevin Coleman (4.0 yards per carry) has been the 49ers' starter at the position, leading some to ask why Mostert doesn't have a bigger — and starting role — on offense.

One answer: Because he's very, very good on special teams.

Michael Clay is the 49ers assistant special teams coach, and he had the same position on Chip Kelly's Philadelphia Eagles squad when they signed Mostert as an undrafted rookie out of Purdue in 2015.

Clay said he remembers Mostert arriving as a 190-pound bullet. He had taken the gold medal in the Big Ten indoor championships in the 60- and 200-meter races a year earlier. When the Eagles held cone-drill races that spring, it wasn't close. Not only would Mostert win, he'd finish yards ahead of his competitors. He's bulked up to 205 pounds since, but the speed hasn't diminished. And that makes him ideal on coverage units, especially as a gunner on punts.

"In our world, there's an explosive play opportunity every time there's a punt," Clay said. "And if you can stop them, it's a huge swing in field position. His speed puts people in a bind. I tell the players all the time: A fair catch is the easiest tackle in football."

Clay said the 49ers tailor Mostert's special teams load from week to week based on how he's being used on offense and that he won't play gunner following a series in which he's been the tailback. For example, Mostert played a season-low six special teams snaps against the Ravens in Week 13, the same game in which he had season highs in both carries (19) and yards (146).

Still, the 49ers don't want to remove him altogether because of the lift he gives special teams. Clay said the 49ers see Mostert as their version of New Orlean's Taysom Hill, who revs up his team on both special teams — especially on the punt-block unit — and on offense.

"We see him as a weapon in the punt phase," Clay said.
Mostert also likes the dual role.

He noted that he was recruited as a safety out of high school. And while his surf's up! end-zone celebration has focused attention on his beach bum past — he was offered, but ultimately turned down, a

surfing contract by Billabong when he was a teenager — he was thrashing on a skateboard before he learned how to surf.

Which is to say, he's never been shy about throwing his body around.

The most difficult, most perilous trick he's ever done? Probably a kickflip down a flight of steps at the skateboard park in his hometown of New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

"We used to call them 'eight steps,'" he said. "You'd go down the railing on an eight-step railing. You'd fall a couple of times (but) you get back up and you'd just learn."

In the same way, he said that "blowing up the wedge" on kickoff coverage is his favorite part of special teams and that he's never envisioned himself giving that up. Special teams allowed him to gain his foothold in the NFL and it's how he identifies himself.

After all, he didn't name his son Rhunnar.

"I just kind of see myself right now as a guy who's going in at the running back position and just making a play and making stuff happen," he said. "I don't necessarily call myself a featured back even though my stats may say otherwise. Like I said, I'm always gonna be that team guy. If somebody needs me to go out there and cover on kickoffs and punts, I'm going to do that."

After the Eagles signed Mostert following the 2015 draft, Kelly and his coaches watched the running back both excel on special teams and finish the preseason that summer with more yards from scrimmage than any other NFL player.

The Eagles felt they had found a keeper, but there was a problem. They already had three proven runners at the position, DeMarco Murray, Ryan Mathews and Darren Sproles. So Kelly crossed his finger and hoped he could stash Mostert on the practice squad.
It worked. For a week.

Hours before Philadelphia's Week 1 game in Atlanta, Mostert got a call from his agent: The Dolphins were signing him to their 53-man roster. How soon could he get to the airport?

"The only clothes I had were the Eagles jumpsuits I was wearing," he said. "That's all I brought. I didn't know I was going to get picked up. So I showed up at the Dolphins organization with Eagles gear on."

It was a good thing he traveled light. After a month-long stint in Miami, he also spent time with the Ravens and Browns, and the following offseason he bounced from the Jets to the Bears. Mostert's winding journey had him doubting whether he had taken the right path and whether he was meant to be in the NFL.

But it finally led him back to Kelly, who in 2016 had become the 49ers' head coach and who, after taking over a five-win team, no longer had a glut of talented runners.

"When he became available, it was one of those things where we needed to get him here as quick as possible," Kelly said in a recent phone interview. "For him, it was just a lack of experience, not a lack of talent. So that's what we were hoping to develop. When I got to San Francisco, I knew he'd be a great fit for what we were doing."

Three years later, Mostert is the only skill player on the 49ers roster who predates Kyle Shanahan. His speed, skills — and a willingness to do anything he's asked — has allowed him to stick around.

"It was always about doing what he can do to help the team," tackle Joe Staley, the longest-tenured 49er, said about Mostert. "That's a message for a lot of young guys — not complaining about your role, what your role is currently, just trying to be the best player you can be for the football team. You never know what's going to happen, what opportunities are going to arise. He's made the most of it."

49ers' Raheem Mostert ready to run with latest opportunity

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
September 13, 2019

In November, in a blowout win against the Raiders, 49ers running back Raheem Mostert scored his first career touchdown on a 52-yard run.

For Mostert, who had previously been pegged as a special-teams player, it was more than a milestone. It was a sign he could be a capable NFL running back.

The moment, however, was fleeting: Less than five minutes of game action later, Mostert suffered a grisly broken forearm that ended his season and his immediate chances to move beyond his one-dimensional status.

"My wife has told me that was one of my highest moments and also one of my lowest," Mostert said. "I'd never broken a bone in a game. And that was my first touchdown. But I've tried to move on from that. It's a new year. A new me."

But Mostert, 27, is in the same situation as last year: Injuries in the backfield have again provided the fifth-year veteran with an opportunity to play a prominent offensive role entering the 49ers' visit to Cincinnati on Sunday.

Last week he had a team-high 40 yards on nine carries after Coleman exited, and his 18-yard run late in the fourth quarter helped set up a field goal. However, Mostert said the highlight of his day was a block he threw while pass protecting. And he struck the same note when assessing his overall performance.

"I could have done better," Mostert said, "as far as the little details such as pass protection."

Mostert is working to become an all-around running back who can be trusted to perform all the duties that come with the position.

He's already proved adept at his primary responsibility. Mostert, a Big Ten champion in the 100 and 200 meters at Purdue, has averaged 6.7 yards on 50 career carries. In addition, his 52-yard run last year was the third-longest by a 49ers running back since 2015.

It's a small sample size, but this statistic speaks to Mostert's effectiveness in limited snaps: His yards-per-carry average is the third highest among NFL players with at least 40 carries since 2015.

Head coach Kyle Shanahan was encouraged by Mostert's latest performance.

"Raheem stepped in," Shanahan said, "and was really a pivotal part of us winning that game."

The 49ers are expected to promote running back Jeff Wilson from the practice squad Saturday. And Wilson could steal snaps if Mostert shows he hasn't corrected a major issue. Mostert has lost three fumbles in his 57 career touches, which, for perspective, is only four fewer than Coleman has lost in 628 career touches.

A year after an injury derailed his season, Mostert knows what else could end his latest opportunity.
"I try not to think about fumbling. Ever," Mostert said. "I try not to even use that word. We don't ever use that word in our meeting room. We say 'turnovers.' We don't like that word."

Run and remember: 49ers' Raheem Mostert honored agent's late father after TD

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
August 22, 2019

Brett Tessler excitedly yelled for his wife, Lonni, to join him late Monday night at their home in Parkland, Fla.

The NFL agent had been silently watching his client, 49ers running back Raheem Mostert, in a preseason game at Denver.

But then Mostert scored on a 30-yard run.

And that was great.

Mostert had told Tessler that he'd score a touchdown against the Broncos.

And that made it surreal.

Mostert also had told Tessler that he'd celebrate the score by honoring his agent's father, Harry, who died Aug. 5 at age 98. Mostert stared into an end-zone camera and used his hands to form a "T," for Tessler.

And that made the moment deeply emotional and meaningful.

"It's one thing to think it, it's another thing to say it, it's another thing to actually do it," Tessler said. "It was an incredibly thoughtful gesture. And words can't explain how much it meant to me and my family."

"I told him, 'Hey we're family,'" Mostert said. "'And that's what family does for each other.'"

Tessler said he was touched, but not surprised. They've been together since Mostert entered the NFL as an undrafted free agent in 2015 and Tessler terms him "one of the best people in the NFL, and one of the best people that I know, period."

Tessler isn't unbiased, but the sentiment is shared in Santa Clara. Since joining the 49ers late in the 2016 season, Mostert has emerged as one of the NFL's top special-teams gunners and one of the franchise's community-service stalwarts.

Mostert and his wife, Devon, have been co-recipients of the team's family award for community service in each of his two full seasons with the 49ers. Last year, Mostert's teammates also voted him the winner of an award given to the player who best promotes unity within the team and community.

And good things have been happening to the good guy.

In March, Mostert signed a three-year, $8.7 million extension with $3 million fully guaranteed, which no one could have seen coming when he was playing for six teams in his first 18 months in the NFL.

In addition, Mostert might have another chance to show he can offer more than special-teams ability this season. With Jerick McKinnon sidelined with another setback from a torn ACL, Mostert is in line to serve as the No. 3 running back behind Tevin Coleman and Matt Breida to start the season.

Last year, Mostert, a former sprinter at Purdue, averaged 7.7 yards on 34 carries and scored on a 52-yard run before his season ended with grisly broken forearm in a win against the Raiders on Nov. 1.

"I just have to stay patient," Mostert said of potential running-back duties. "We've got a great backfield right now. And then when (McKinnon) gets back, it will be even better."

Mostert's broken forearm required two surgeries and left him with two plates and "14 or 16" screws in his right arm, which he says will be removed after his NFL career. He initially was hesitant in training-camp practices, but he has grown comfortable. On Monday, Mostert had six carries for 58 yards and added 42 yards on two catches. His 38-yard reception was the longest of the game.

"I knew that once I got the confidence back — and got hit in practice — it would be smooth sailing once it comes to the games," Mostert said. "It all came back to me."

That was clear on Mostert's weaving scoring scamper after which he also honored his first football coach, Mike Stokes, who died at 53 in June from melanoma. After forming a "T," Mostert flexed in the end zone in memory of the Pop Warner coach he terms a father figure.

For his part, Tessler, 46, is grateful for the many unexpected years he had with his father, who was 51 when he was born. Harry Tessler was able to see his son marry and become a father of a daughter, Jordan, 11, and son, Brandon, 10.

Still, Tessler is grieving. He was overcome when a client and close friend scored and honored the man he's missing.

"Raheem told me that I'm family to him," Tessler said. "It's things like this that make me realize how fortunate I am to be in this business and have people like Raheem Mostert in my life."

Meet Raheem Mostert, who once was offered a surfing contract and now might be starting for the 49ers this week

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
August 13, 2018

It takes guts to be a full-time gunner in the NFL, the same sort of courage it might take to routinely dangle your feet in the turbid waters off of New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

“The town where I grew up, it’s still to this day the shark-bite capital of the world,” 49ers running back Raheem Mostert noted on Sunday after practice. “We would go out there and surf and they’d bite on people and stuff. They were usually just small sharks. But they’d mistake us for food.”

Like a lot of NFL players, Mostert’s teenage years were spent playing football, running track and lifting weights. But because his house was a 15-minute walk from the beach in what is perhaps Florida’s top surf town, he had a couple of less common activities — surfing and skateboarding — on his athletic résumé. And he was talented enough at both to fetch a contract offer from surf and skate company Billabong when he was still in high school.

Mostert, now 26, said he and his buddies never officially participated in the events Billabong or other groups held in town. Instead, they’d watch and do their own thing on the side.

“I’d be out there surfing or skateboarding on my own, not really trying to make a scene or anything,” Mostert recalled. “And this guy came up to me and wanted to offer me a contract. He was intrigued, basically.”

The contract would have allowed Mostert to take part in events across the country, to be part of the circuit of competitions. It also would have put a level of change in his pocket that 17-years-olds from New Smyrna Beach rarely see.

Mostert, however, had grander plans. Two years later, he became the first person in his family to attend — and later graduate from — a four-year university when he went off to Purdue on a football scholarship. The speedy Mostert left the school as its all-time record holder with 2,289 kickoff return yards.

His NFL career, which began in 2015 with the Eagles, mostly has been built on his special teams ability as well. Last season, Mostert had only six carries for the 49ers but served as the team’s gunner — which entails running down the field on punt-coverage at breakneck speed and zeroing in on the return man — and was its leader in special teams tackles.

This week, his role is a bit different. Mostert promises to get plenty of opportunities not just as a ballcarrier, but as the 49ers’ primary running back.

That’s because the first two players at the position went down with injuries in recent days — starter Jerick McKinnon to a calf strain that knocked him out of Sunday’s practice, and his backup, Matt Breida, to a separated shoulder early in Thursday’s preseason win over the Dallas Cowboys.

Mostert was the next 49ers running back in the game after Breida, and he finished with a game-high 57 rushing yards and averaged 7.1 yards per carry. The stat line wasn’t all good, however. Though he insists he was down when the ball came loose in the scrum of a tackle, officials ruled that he lost a fumble in the third quarter, something he also did last year in one of his few offensive snaps for the 49ers.

“I just can’t leave it to the refs,” he said.

As for his surf-and-skate background, Mostert pointed to a number of parallels to football. Both require exquisite balance and tolerance for physical contact, whether it’s being delivered by a 235-pound linebacker or a wrought-iron railing in a New Smyrna Beach park.

You also have to be able to process a lot of moving parts in an instant.

“You’re in a wave and at that moment you want to make a decision whether you want to do a trick — flare up, do a nice trick and land — or just ride the wave out,” he said. “That’s the same thing with football: there are a lot of different angles. Sometimes, you have to split two defenders. Sometimes, you don’t want to go out of bounds because you can get an extra three or four yards. So you plant a foot and head up field.”

The various sports also demand a certain level of courage. In 2008, when Mostert was a high school sophomore and was in the water almost every weekend, there were 24 shark bites recorded in Volusia County, where New Smyrna Beach is located.

“It’s the same thing in football — you try not to think about it,” Mostert said. “We get concussions, injuries. I mean, you just go out there and play. And that’s kind of like the same mentality you have to have with surfing. You have to go out there and have fun.”

Mostert said he hadn’t been surfing since he left New Smyrna Beach eight years ago. But he had a chance when he went to Hawaii in the spring for teammate DeForest Buckner’s wedding.

“It came back to me,” he said. “I had to take a couple of extra steps because my body had to get adjusted. But the long board is a lot easier than a surfboard.”

Deebo Samuel

How Deebo Samuel's Chosen Mother Saved His Life

By Deebo Samuel
GQ.com
May 9, 2021

My stepmother Precious Martin, my biological mother Felicia Winn, and my grandmother Kathy Winn are the three main ladies of my life. When I was a child, Felicia kind of got into the street life. I'm not gonna go too deep on it, but it was clear that something had happened to her. She wasn't able to provide for us the same way anymore. Where we grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina, wasn't the best. I lost a friend to guns when I was 11. My cousin, Amir, was shot last year, too.

Precious and my father Galen Samuel have been together since I was six or seven years old. As a kid, you aren't really thinking about the nuances of stepmom vs. mom. You just wanna play ball. You just wanna be a kid. But even though Precious had kids of her own, she made time for me and my older brother, Tyquan. She became the first person I call no matter what. And I began thinking of her as my mom.

At one point I was living with my grandmother, we call her Kat. Around the ninth grade, she started getting sick. At that moment, I had nowhere to live. Nowhere to go. No one, I felt like, I could turn to. But then there was Precious. She took me in. I moved with my dad to her house in Inman, South Carolina. Man, I'm gonna be honest: without her, I wouldn't have made it to college. My grades weren't the best, but she clamped down on me and forced me over the finish line. I really think she saved my life. Shit, she raised me.

I didn't really know what to do when I was younger, but I knew I wanted to change my circumstances. Times were rough, but I kept saying to myself, when I make it to the NFL, I'm gonna get my biological mom some help. When I got to that life, I sent Felicia to a rehab facility to get her mind straight. When she completed her stint there, I bought her a house. I got her up on her feet and now she's back, she's working at a regular restaurant, she's good. She's doing the things she's supposed to be doing.

And let me make something clear….that's my mom! That's my dawg! I could never resent her for the way our lives turned out. She's special to me. Just like Precious is. What's funny is those two are cool. They don't have a problem with each other. I love them both the same. Shit, sometimes, I feel like they both gave birth to me. Precious doesn't care if I call her "mom" or "stepmom" and neither does Felicia. They both just get along. Of course, I've shown Precious a similar level of appreciation that I showed Felicia. I won't say too much, because that'll stay between us.

I bought a house for my older brother Tyquan, too. He's like my role model. He taught me the ins and outs of the streets, school, sports, everything. I still remember how he'd always yell at me wherever we were, "I'm gonna turn you into an animal!" "I'm gonna turn you into a player nobody can stop!" We went out to the front yard of my grandmother's house one day. I'll never forget it. I put my pads on, I wasn't worried about nothing! Until he put his pads on, and he was knocking….my….head off! I'm talking about I was crying, screaming. My grandmother was upset!

Growing up, just like my momma, Tyquan was in the streets. In and out of jail. But without him, I wouldn't be the athlete I am today. And I'm not just saying this because he's my brother. Go to Spartanburg and ask anyone you see who the best athlete they've ever seen is. They'll all tell you the same thing, "It's a dude named Squirt." That's his nickname back home. He kept me out of the way of trouble, though. I was around him, of course, but he wasn't doing the shit he was doing when I was there. He was that big brother that you need.

I take pride in him for that. But when he went to jail, you can ask him, when he called from jail those first few times, I didn't answer the phone. Hearing him in there, it did something to me. It made me mad, upset. I couldn't bear it. He got out when I was already in college and started coming to my games at

South Carolina. Then it was like nothing changed. There was my brother: My family. One of the only things I really care about in this world. When it came to sports or being in the streets, he was still the guy that I leaned on. He tried to set a better example for me, because he saw something in me he didn't see in himself.

But Precious was the person who saved me. My real name isn't Deebo, it's Tyshun. They called me Deebo because when I was younger I used to always wreak havoc, bullying folks and stuff. And Precious, it's like she read a manual on the best punishments moms could give out. When I had to buckle down for school, she stopped me from going back to Spartanburg to see friends and family because there was only a lot of pain there. Her and Galen threatened to take ball away from me. Yo, I wasn't having that! Ever since then, I was on the up and up.

When I got to college, you get mentors, tutors, everything to help you succeed. Then, it was just the mental part. Coming out of high school, to be honest, I thought I was that guy! I had a rude awakening. I had to redshirt my freshman season. It took a massive toll on me. As college went on, I pulled both my hamstrings, broke my left ankle, broke my foot. Man, I wanted to quit. I couldn't do this anymore.

Precious changed from my tutor to my life coach. She wouldn't allow me to give up on everything I was fighting for. An injury couldn't prevent me from doing the thing I love when it was worse than this just trying to grow up. She would remind me that God put me in certain situations to test me, to see how strong I was and see how I overcome adversity in life. And it would just go up from there.

We went to the Super Bowl my rookie season in San Francisco. I had a great season and there was plenty of hoopla and success to go with it. Right before OTA's my second year, I broke my opposite foot. I thought I was past these injuries in college. And I remembered what Precious told me about adversity. This was just another test. It had to be. I called her as soon as I left the stadium that day, and we got through that test. Even now, I call her when I leave the stadium. I call her every day. It doesn't matter if she wants to talk to me, or I don't feel like being bothered, if she's sick, or I'm off, I'm gonna call her.

When my life was on the line, it was Precious who saved me. When I had nowhere to go, it was Precious who got me out of that dark place. She took me under her wing even though I wasn't her child. She pointed me in the right direction of life to get me where I am today. I thank God that He put her in my life and in my father's life, because she changed his life around, too. She refused to let me go back to what I grew up under.

I just applaud her for being the best mother figure I could imagine. When you're stuck in those circumstances, that endless spiral, thinking life will never get better, thinking that you're stuck forever, you stop believing that the sun will shine tomorrow. Unless you have someone like Precious that'll hold your hand as you walk through the storm.

Deebo Samuel Leading By Example, Offering Aid to Student-Athletes

By Keiana Martin
49ers.com
July 10, 2020

Deebo Samuel was instrumental to the success of San Francisco's 2019 campaign and appears willing to assume a larger role, both on and off the field, in Year 2 with the 49ers.

Earlier this offseason, Samuel revealed a few words of wisdom from former 49ers wide receiver Emmanuel Sanders on his potential as a player and as a leader. Samuel was one of the first players to reach out to first-round pick Brandon Aiyuk following the draft to lend a hand in helping the rookie adjust to the NFL. Samuel expressed his desire to not just lead by words, but by example when it comes to his teammates and his community.

In light of the recent events surrounding social injustices, Samuel sought after opportunities to create positive influence within his own community. The wideout recently partnered with his marketing agency, ESM Football, to provide scholarships for college-bound Black student-athletes graduating from Spartanburg High School in his hometown of Spartanburg, S.C.

With a goal of raising $5,000 through the "Be the Change" scholarship program, 100 percent of donations from Samuel's fundraiser will go directly to scholarships for Black student-athletes graduating from the low-income area. The scholarship aims to provide an opportunity for deserving students to receive higher education.

Despite being born and raised in Spartanburg, Samuel attended Chapman High School in Inman, S.C., roughly 25 minutes northwest of his hometown. Regardless of locality, the second-year receiver put an emphasis on lending a hand to the city that molded him through coaches, community, family and football.

"I'm just trying to raise money because there are pretty good students and athletes where I'm from, but not too many get the opportunity to go to college due to funds," Samuel said. "Not too many people make it out and get a chance to go to college. So, through this fundraiser, I get to help an athlete that is deserving of that opportunity."

More than half of Spartanburg's population is made up of African American families with roughly 30 percent living below the poverty line. Samuel included, understands the complicated road to access of higher learning and educational resources.

"Where I grew up, you don't really find many wealthy people," Samuel explained. "When I was a kid it was kind of a struggle in my family as well. So, I get it and I understand what people go through back home."

This offseason, Samuel has used his social media platform to promote positive change and the encouragement of young men who follow the receiver. From posts encouraging youth to seek and build representation in beneficial career choices outside of sports and entertainment, to lessons on overcoming disappointment and setbacks, Samuel insists on using his platform (that includes a social media following that is nearly 400,000 strong) to continue to lead by example and serve as a force for positive change.

"It's not just about being an athlete," Samuel continued. "I think a lot of people look up to guys like me and other guys in the league that I think are very good players. You have a lot of kids that really don't even know us but they see as athletes. They listen to the things we say and they're paying attention. We have to use our platform, not only as athletes, but to be more vocal to help encourage positive change."

To learn more about "Be the Change" and The Deebo Samuel Foundation or to make a contribution to the scholarship fund, visit Samuel's Go Fund Me page.

Trey Sermon

The bruising rise of 49ers RB Trey Sermon: 'The Terminator strikes again!'

By David Lombardi
The Athletic
May 17, 2021

Trey Sermon was 5 years old when he first hit the gridiron. It was flag football back then, so the future 49ers running back wasn't technically allowed to pummel his competition the way he recently did at Ohio State.

"But he kept trying to tackle people," Sermon's mom, Natoshia Mitchell, said in a phone interview last week. "So he told the coach that he didn't want to play flag anymore, that he wanted to hit somebody." That youth football coach responded by moving Sermon up an age group. He'd play alongside larger 6- and 7-year olds.

"The coach thought, 'If I move him up, this will scare him, and he'll go back to playing flag,'" Mitchell said. "The coach thought that would teach him a lesson. I said, 'No, that's not going to teach him a lesson. He wants that.'"

A week later, Sermon got his chance to play with the older kids. The 5-year old sprinted across the field on kickoff coverage. He barreled into a bigger returner and drove him into the grass.

Sermon quickly captured the attention of that suburban Tampa league's spectators, including the public address announcers.

"The announcers started calling him the Terminator," Mitchell said. "Every time Trey made a tackle, they would say, 'The Terminator strikes again! The Terminator strikes again!'

"He liked that, and he's been on fire ever since."

Those familiar with Sermon's running style know he continues to seek out contact. During his 331-yard explosion in last season's Big Ten championship game, Sermon repeatedly burst into open space, but he also seemed to willingly hunt down Northwestern defenders. On one of his longest runs, Sermon lunged out of his way to stiff-arm a tackler. He quickly flattened others during the monstrous three-game stretch — it featured 660 total yards on 9.1 yards per carry — that put him firmly on the 49ers' map.

Sermon has indeed been on fire, with the 49ers' trade up to pick him in the third round of the NFL Draft marking his most recent success. But although Sermon's 2020 explosion seemed effortless, his ascent — from early childhood in Florida, to his middle and high school days in Georgia, to three years of college ball at Oklahoma and that grand finale at Ohio State — hasn't been a linear one.

"Trey's been through a lot of adversity," 49ers assistant general manager Adam Peters told The Athletic's Matt Barrows last week. "A lot. And you wouldn't know it the way he acts, the way he carries himself. He had excellent character at Oklahoma and then later at Ohio State. He came in, he wanted to start. He didn't start, but he didn't say a word, he just waited his turn. And when it was his turn, he just balled out. And he played outstanding down the stretch for those guys."

There are gut-wrenching events surrounding Sermon's story, with the most horrific ones coming a few years before he was born.

Mitchell has talked openly about this past, even detailing it in a book titled "When My Soul Cried," which documents her parents' deaths and her struggles as a victim of domestic violence. In 1994, Mitchell's ex-boyfriend, Greg Flounory, was convicted of murdering her 2-year old son, Antonio Brazel — Sermon's brother.

In 1999, Mitchell was eight months pregnant with Sermon when another driver rear-ended her car on Tampa's Howard Frankland Bridge.

"That was scary," Mitchell said. "All I could think is, 'I don't want this car to go into the water,' and I tried to turn the other way."

Mitchell was rushed to the hospital and put on bed rest. Sermon was born three weeks later.

As Mitchell has raised her family over the two decades since, she's created a nonprofit organization called Arise by Faith, which offers comprehensive educational and referral resources for victims of domestic violence. Mitchell is also close to earning a doctorate in psychology and plans to open a facility for families dealing with battered relationships in the future.

"My mom is by far the toughest person I know," Sermon wrote on a fundraising page he set up for his mom's nonprofit around his pro day. "Both of her brothers have passed away, one of whom was shot seven times. Her mother died in an untimely fashion and then, two weeks later, her father was killed in a car accident. She had an abusive childhood and then she entered into an abusive relationship with the man who eventually killed her baby boy. Years later, her second-born, a daughter, died at birth.

"My mother could have succumbed to all of this tragedy and trauma, and no one would have blamed her.

Instead, she is taking her experiences and using them to help and build strength in others."

Sermon grew up with his sister Oneisha, who's four years older than him. Mitchell moved the family from the Tampa area to the Atlanta suburbs before Sermon entered middle school. Throughout his first two years at Marietta's Sprayberry High School, where he was teammates with future NFL players Jabar Zuniga (who's with the Jets) and Rodrigo Blankenship (who's with the Colts), Sermon was the No. 2 running back.

As he worked behind Sprayberry's starter, Sermon quietly set a goal: graduate high school early so he could begin practicing with a big-time college football program by spring of his senior year. Sermon even took on an internship to make that happen.

"That blew us away a little bit," Antwan Toomer, Sermon's track coach and assistant football coach through his first three years of high school, said in a recent phone interview. "Here's this 10th-grader who already has his future charted out."

A crack in Sermon's L5 vertebra, which is just above the tailbone, ended his junior season early. He underwent a strenuous rehab process. Mitchell even moved the family, which now also included Oneisha's daughter, A'Mia, from an apartment to an extended-stay hotel to save money for Sermon's costly treatment. He roared back as a senior, racking up 1,227 rushing yards and 16 touchdowns.

Of more than 30 offers, Sermon chose Oklahoma. Ohio State, where he'd ultimately end up as a graduate transfer, was among his five finalists.

Even after Sermon chose to play elsewhere, Buckeyes running backs coach Tony Alford kept in touch with him — and this helped bring him to Ohio State in 2020. Georgia native Justin Fields, who'd worked out with Sermon in high school, was the Buckeyes' quarterback.

Sermon, eager to play for Alford alongside Fields at Ohio State, transferred.

"We just appreciate him giving Trey an opportunity, and we're just glad they kept a relationship even when Trey didn't select them in the beginning," Mitchell said of Alford. "They still kept a really close relationship. He still called and said, 'Hey, how are you doing?' They kept a really good friendship."

Alford has coached running backs for 23 years, including six seasons at Ohio State. He's developed NFL products Ezekiel Elliott, Mike Weber and J.K. Dobbins there.

Given his experience, Alford knew something was off when Sermon, who'd begun his Ohio State tenure showing a bubbly and gregarious presence around the facility, went silent.

"He used to come to my house all the time, he would call me at night, we used to talk all the time — and then all of a sudden it stopped," Alford said in a phone interview after the draft. "And I knew it. I had an idea what was wrong."

Sermon had been productive at Oklahoma, where he'd rushed for over 2,000 yards and scored 25 touchdowns in three seasons. But Sermon had torn his LCL in 2019. That required surgery. The injury forced Sermon to re-establish himself during his senior year at Ohio State, and success through 2020's first four games was sporadic at best. Alford made sure to stay the course.

"I told myself that I'm not gonna spaz on it, I'm not gonna worry about it, but I'm gonna stay really close to it," Alford said. "I'm gonna continue to reach out to him so he knows I'm still here, so he knows that I care."

At practice, Alford encouraged Sermon to champion small victories. He'd emphasize success even on a 3-yard gain, as long as Sermon had correctly processed the blocking scheme and defense.

"He's just angry right now," Alford said. "A lot of young people don't know how to channel that frustration. They don't know where to go with it."

Sermon, who used 49ers' game tape to acclimate to Ohio State's outside-zone offense long before he knew who'd draft him, emerged with a 112-yard performance against Michigan State in the season's fifth game. Then came that explosion in the Big Ten title game, and it featured a signature moment of realization.

Ohio State's starting running back, Master Teague III, suffered a concussion in the first half. Coming out of the locker room, with the Buckeyes trailing Northwestern 10-6, Alford learned that Teague wouldn't be returning.

"Trey and I are standing on the field," Alford said. "I pulled him away from everybody and said: 'He's done. The Ohio State tailbacks, the real ones' — and I name off a couple guys — 'this is when they go take over a game. We need you to take this game over.'

"And, true story: Trey chuckled, just smiled, patted me on the rear end and said, 'Coach, don't worry, I got ya.' And then he started laughing. He literally starting laughing."

Sermon's jovial old self was back. He exploded for 271 yards and two touchdowns in the second half to lead a 22-10 comeback victory. Sermon's 331 yards broke the Ohio State record held by one of the prolific tailbacks Alford had mentioned, 1995 Heisman Trophy winner Eddie George.

Sermon wasn't done. His rampage continued in the College Football Playoff semifinal against Clemson, when he racked up 193 more yards. By now, Sermon was really having a blast. During a replay review, he couldn't help but flash a mischievous smile at the overhead camera floating above.

"That grin during the game," Toomer said, "that was classic Trey."

It turns out it was a nod to his upbringing, the tightknit family journey that had helped push Sermon past so much adversity to a triumphant moment on national television.

"That's a look that, when my kids were younger, when they would say, 'Mom, we're gonna go here' and I would look at them like, 'Really?'" Mitchell explained. "It was like, 'Mom, I'm telling you the truth, I'm telling you the truth!' It was the look that we always did in the home. If they thought I didn't believe them, I would give them that exact look, and we would just laugh about it.
"That's how we joke around. My daughter and I laughed so hard about it: 'Mom, that's your look he's doing into the camera!'"

Sermon dislocated the SC joint in his left shoulder on the first play of the subsequent national title game against Alabama. Though the injury ended his college career, he's fully healthy now and there was plenty on tape by that point to sell 49ers running backs coach Bobby Turner.

A relatively pedestrian 40-yard dash time of 4.59 might've hurt Sermon's draft stock, but the 49ers were enthralled by his 1.49 10-yard split, which was the second best of all running back prospects. That fast of a 10-yard split is usually associated with a 4.3 or 4.4 time in the 40.

Toomer, the former high school track coach, thinks Sermon was smooth coming out of the 40's drive phase, which coincidentally lasts about 10 yards, but pushed too hard and clenched up over the final 30 yards — leading to the slower overall time. He says Sermon will be fueled by what he perceived to be at least a small slide in the draft.

Toomer was part of a small group that watched the draft with Sermon at his apartment in Atlanta. Mitchell, Sermon's sister and four of his high school teammates were also on hand.

"Trey has always played with a chip on his shoulder," Toomer said. "There are three things that didn't happen while he was in high school: He didn't get invited to the Nike Opening. He didn't get invited to the Army All-American Game, and he didn't get invited to the Under Armour All-American Game.

"So when he slipped down to the third round, I said, 'Trey, you've been here before.' He shook his head, 'Yes.' When he gave me that look, I said, 'OK, he's going to have a rookie year that people are not going to expect.'"

It's key to note that the 49ers did covet Sermon. They traded back up into the third round to draft him at No. 88. Alford, who'd spoken most frequently with Arizona's staff during the pre-draft process, initially thought the Cardinals might draft Sermon. But Alford also stayed in close touch with Turner, and he's thrilled Sermon will play for the 49ers' respected 72-year-old running backs coach.

"Bobby's the best, man," Alford said. "And these guys are like my children. Trey Sermon is like my kid. You want your kids to be around good people. They're still impressionable and they're still walking into these arenas that they've never been in.

"So you want them to have people around them that are gonna speak and put good things in their mind, heart and soul. I didn't say don't coach them hard or don't push them. But be real with them. Sometimes, conversations like that can hurt, but I want them to tell them the truth. And Bobby does that — the positivity in every conversation I've ever had with that man is off the hinges. I walk away from those meetings feeling good, feeling better about me as a person because that's what he brings out."
Said Sermon before his first rookie minicamp practice with the 49ers on Friday: "I know that (Turner) is gonna coach me hard. He's gonna laugh and joke with me. And he's gonna bring the best out of me."
Given a story from the very start of Sermon's life, it's particularly fitting Turner is the running back's first NFL mentor.

Mitchell gave birth to Sermon on Jan. 30, 1999. The next day, the Denver Broncos — featuring head coach Mike Shanahan with Turner as his running backs coach — beat the Atlanta Falcons to capture their second consecutive Super Bowl title.

Mitchell remembers watching that game in her hospital bed with a day-old Sermon. Her preceding decade had been filled with that abundance of pain, but in that moment with newborn Trey, Mitchell felt a ray of hope that she still can't fully explain.

"I was laying there and I said, 'I'm gonna name him Trey, that's a football name,'" Mitchell said. "And then I said, 'One day, this is gonna be you.' And then I just faced him, holding him toward the TV. I kissed him on his forehead.
"I just knew it. I just felt like he was special. I just felt that he was that special child to me."

Jaquiski Tartt

Jaquiski Tartt brings football, life lessons to Ladd-Peebles Stadium

By Mark Inabinett
AL.com
July 9, 2018

When the Jaquiski Tartt Next Level Football Camp started at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile on Saturday, a thunderstorm could be seen in the sky to the south. But the storm blew away from the football field, and the San Francisco 49ers safety's second annual free camp went on.

"I love Mobile, but the weather in San Fran is a whole lot different," Tartt said. "When I first got here, I was looking at the weather it seemed like every hour to make sure the chance of precipitation was going down, and it actually was, and today it turned out pretty good."

While Tartt provided the means for the football camp, Jeremy Towns provided the passion. Tartt and Towns were teammates at Samford. Towns is now in medical school at South Alabama after spending time as a defensive tackle with the Washington Redskins and Buffalo Bills of the NFL.

The threatening weather provided one of the messages that Towns delivered during the camp. He told the youngsters as the event opened that they might get in only 45 minutes of camp because of the storm, but that was a lot like life. You might not get as much time as you'd like or you might only get one chance. Because of that, you have to bring high energy to everything you do all the time.

Tartt said he hoped the youngsters got more out of his camp than football.

"I want to encourage them about God and having faith and being disciplined, able to listen and being responsible," Tartt said.

Tartt is on his summer break between the end of the 49ers' offseason program and the beginning of training camp. Tartt is scheduled to report for his third training camp with San Francisco on July 27.

"It's great to give back to the kids," Tartt said about spending part of his vacation sweating with kids back home. "I know when I was little there wasn't too many NFL football camps going around, and I just thought that would be a great idea to have a football camp."

In addition to Towns, Tartt had Tennessee Titans fullback Jalston Fowler and Oakland Raiders defensive end Chris Casher among those on the coaching staff for the camp.

Laken Tomlinson

49ers' lineman Laken Tomlinson an extraordinary mix of brains and brawn

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
January 7, 2020

Tomlinson is very familiar with the Vikings' three Pro Bowl defensive linemen. Danielle Hunter, Everson Griffen and Linval Joseph were with Minnesota when Tomlinson entered the NFL as a first-round pick in 2015 with the Lions, the Vikings' rivals in the NFC North.

Tomlinson renewed acquaintances last season when Minnesota beat the 49ers 24-16 in the season opener.

"It's still mostly the same guys there," Tomlinson said. "It's exciting that they're coming here. It will be an exciting challenge to go against them because I think we have a really, really good team right now. I'm really excited to go show them from last time how far we've come."

The same could be said about Tomlinson: Taken 28th overall in the draft, he has realized draft-day expectations since he was traded to the 49ers before the 2017 regular season for a fifth-round selection.

With the Lions, he was benched and quickly labeled a bust. With the 49ers, Tomlinson, 6-foot-3 and 315 pounds, has been a model of consistency, dependability and physicality. He has started 47 straight games, 30 more than any other 49ers' offensive player, and he played all 1,064 snaps during the regular season, making him the only 49er with perfect game-day attendance.

He didn't just show up. Tomlinson, who can squat more than 600 pounds, blew up opponents while helping pave the way for the NFL's second-ranked rushing attack.

"On Fridays, we have our run-tape meetings where (head coach) Kyle (Shanahan) goes over our game plan for the upcoming week," fullback Kyle Juszczyk said. "He always finishes with highlights of the previous week and it's always filled with Laken Tomlinson."

For someone who doesn't leave the field — Tomlinson has not missed a game because of injury, dating to high school — it's interesting that Tomlinson is rarely noticed.

Part of that is his position. Left guards are often left out when it comes to media attention. But it's also tied to Tomlinson's personality. He acknowledges he's not comfortable in group interviews, and his reticence explains why reporters rarely venture toward his locker.

Tomlinson, though, was expansive and engaging during a 40-minute sit-down interview Monday.

"That's not ever really been me," Tomlinson said of speaking in group settings. "I love talking to people. I love conversing, especially one-on-one. I just love bouncing ideas off people. I think you could call me a little bit shy. I never intentionally approach people. I always wonder about their opinion. And I definitely don't want to offend anyone and say something I don't mean to say."

Tomlinson, perhaps the team's quietest offensive lineman six days a week, hits high decibels in the moments before kickoff.

"I don't know if you've heard the legend of Laken Tomlinson on game day," Juszczyk said. "He's our Jamaican rapper. He walks around with his headphones in and he goes all the way in on game day."

It has become a locker-room tradition. Tomlinson initially used to be in his own world while belting out lyrics, but now teammates demand that he delivers in what are often otherwise quiet moments before kickoff.

Last season, at a dinner with his position group, Tomlinson was given the Bobb McKittrick Award, which goes to the offensive lineman who best exemplifies courage, intensity and sacrifice.

When asked about receiving the honor, which is voted on by his fellow linemen, Tomlinson — clearly moved — paused for several seconds before reflecting on being fully accepted by his second NFL team.

“I wasn’t expecting that,” Tomlinson said. “That was kind of like … for me, that was the first … it was reconfirming that, ‘Hey, you’re doing a good job here.’ People do see it. They see the work. I don’t need to change. I can be myself. That’s an awesome feeling.”

Guard Laken Tomlinson, a bust with Lions, finds success with 49ers

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
July 30, 2018

Last year, the 49ers traded for an offensive player who performed so well after learning the playbook on the fly that they handed him a hefty contract extension in the offseason.

No, this isn't another story about Jimmy Garoppolo.

Instead, it's about left guard Laken Tomlinson, 26, who might be the answer to this question: Whom did the 49ers acquire in their second-best trade of 2017?

In late August, 11 days before the season opener, the 49ers dealt a 2019 fifth-round pick to the Lions for Tomlinson, a 2015 first-round selection who had become a second-stringer in Detroit.

And the presumed bust blossomed in his new surroundings.

Last year, Tomlinson started 15 games, many while still digesting head coach Kyle Shanahan's complex playbook, and the 49ers' assessment of his performance became clear in June: They signed him to a three-year, $18 million extension which includes the 11th-most guaranteed money ($10 million) on the team.

"For Laken to improve that much throughout the year as an O-lineman in a totally different scheme than he's ever done was very encouraging to us," Shanahan said. "We saw the same thing throughout the offseason. ... That's why we were extremely excited to get him locked up here for a little bit before we got started."

The trade for Tomlinson didn't register as impactful at the time, but in retrospect, it was Shanahan's first significant step in overhauling the offensive line he inherited last year.

Shanahan seeks movement skills in offensive linemen, who are often tasked with running in his zone-blocking scheme. And this offseason, the 49ers traded two starters — center Daniel Kilgore and right tackle Trent Brown — and replaced them with more agile players in free-agent center Weston Richburg and rookie right tackle Mike McGlinchey.

The 49ers signed Richburg to a five-year deal with $16.5 million fully guaranteed and spent the No. 9 pick on McGlinchey. And their offseason investment in Tomlinson suggests Shanahan gambled and won when he guessed Tomlinson was well-suited for his scheme despite having little hard evidence.

Before joining the 49ers, Tomlinson, 6-foot-3 and 312 pounds, had played in power-based schemes at Duke and Detroit. Shanahan, who said he studied Tomlinson closely before the 2015 draft as the Falcons' offensive coordinator, thought Tomlinson could "open up and run."

"That's stuff you couldn't really see (because) he didn't do it much in college," Shanahan said. "He didn't do in much in Detroit. But it's fit him well here. It takes guys a while to learn how to play a certain way that they've never done before. And that's what was so impressive about him."

The 49ers weren't relying solely on Shanahan. They also leaned on 49ers personnel executive Martin Mayhew, who drafted Tomlinson when he was the Lions' general manager.

Mayhew provided more personal background on Tomlinson, who was a double major at Duke (psychology, evolutionary anthropology) and four-time All-Academic ACC pick. Tomlinson is also

obviously a quick study when it comes to NFL playbooks, but he insists he's not close to being the smartest person in his family: His wife, Rachel, was also a double major (biology, psychology) at Duke and is pursuing a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Michigan.

Tomlinson credits his wife for supporting him through an NFL career that included two trying seasons with the Lions. In 2016, Tomlinson lost his starting job at left guard to Graham Glasgow, a rookie third-round pick, after five weeks, but he still started 10 games because of injuries to other linemen. Last year, he didn't start any of the first three preseason games before he was traded.

His tenure in Detroit is not a subject on which Tomlinson wishes to linger.

"I mean, it was a learning experience," Tomlinson said, "but I love it here."

Was it dispiriting? "It's a part of the game," he said. "That's what you sign up for. I definitely learned a lot when I was there."

Given his backup status in Detroit, Tomlinson viewed the trade to the 49ers as an opportunity to show why he was a No. 28 overall draft pick. However, he didn't prove much initially: His head was swimming when he started the second regular-season game at Seattle, and he relied on his on-field neighbor, left tackle Joe Staley, to help fill in the blanks for a few weeks.

"It wasn't perfect at first, but I kept working and working," Tomlinson said. "… In Week 2, I was still learning and (by) Week 17, when I could actually go out there and be confident in myself, it definitely felt different. And that confidence goes a long way."

Indeed, it has helped Tomlinson travel quite a distance — from presumed bust to big-money starter — in less than year.

Jason Verrett

How San Francisco 49ers' Jason Verrett worked his way back to the field with a little bit of (Nipsey) Hussle

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN
November 5, 2020

As text messages, phone calls and FaceTime requests lit up his phone into the wee hours of Oct. 18, San Francisco 49ers cornerback Jason Verrett sat back and let the weight of his journey wash over him.

After a series of devastating injuries, including a right Achilles tear that could've ended his career, Verrett had waited 1,498 days for those messages. Earlier that night, Verrett made a pivotal interception to help the Niners knock off the Los Angeles Rams. It was his first interception since Sept. 11, 2016, and an official declaration to the football world that Verrett is not only back in the game but once again playing at a Pro Bowl level.

"I'm just soaking it all in," Verrett said. "It's definitely been a tough road."

To understand why it mattered so much, it's important to look at everything that took place in the more than four years since Verrett last got his hands on a pick.

"His story means to me resiliency, inspiration, the drive to chase your dreams," older brother Tre Verrett said.

Family and friends kept Verrett going in his darkest moments and no matter how many times his body told him no, his heart and mind said yes. It's a story with a soundtrack provided by late rapper Nipsey Hussle, whom Verrett never met but feels profoundly bonded to because most of his songs were about what is required to push through life's toughest obstacles.

Only one jersey hangs in the Costa Mesa, California, office of Chargers general manager Tom Telesco: Verrett's No. 22. Telesco muses maybe he should rotate jerseys but he can't bring himself to take it down. Not even two seasons after Verrett left the Chargers.

"He's going to be a constant reminder and story I can tell as other players come through here and sit in my office," Telesco said. "Like, 'Let me tell you about Jason Verrett, let me tell you about his story and what he had to go through and everything he had to overcome to get back on the field.' Now that Jason's really made that full circle back playing at a high level, that's going to be a story I can tell players for years to come."

The most difficult chapter in Verrett's story takes place on July 27, 2018.

After a two-year recovery from a torn ACL in his left knee, Verrett was beginning to feel like himself again as the Chargers opened their 2018 training camp.
On the first day of camp, the Chargers were running gassers as part of a normal conditioning test. Suddenly, Verrett felt pain in his leg so excruciating that he doesn't remember much of what happened next. He blacked out and when he came to, he remembers laying on the field for the next half hour as chaos ensued around him.

Teammate and close friend Jahleel Addae rushed to Verrett's side and threw his arms around him, trying to offer words of comfort. But Verrett was in such a state of shock that he couldn't hear a word Addae was saying.

"I remember saying, 'It's over,'" Verrett said. "I just kept saying that over and over, that it was over. ... It was a surreal moment, like, I couldn't believe it. It was just a nightmare."

Telesco, who selected Verrett with the 25th pick in the 2014 NFL draft, was looking on as it happened. In the days before, he had been excited about Verrett's comeback from the knee injury.

Without warning or contact, all of that optimism washed away. For the team, losing Verrett again was an emotional blow. From a human standpoint, Telesco was distraught for a player he'd grown to love.

"I hate to put it in these terms," Telesco said. "It felt like a funeral. It just took the wind out of the team on Day 1, because everybody has such love for him as a person to see someone have to go through that -- the timing of it was just cruel."

Less than an hour after hearing about the injury, Tre Verrett was in his car on the 45-minute drive to the airport. With Frankie Beverly's "Joy and Pain" on repeat, he decided he wouldn't say much and just try to give his brother a shoulder to cry on and ears to listen.

"I would hate to say somebody died," Tre Verrett said. "But the spirit died. ... I've never been punched in the stomach, blindsided, nothing like that in my life."

When Tre arrived, he sat with Jason as he kept telling him it was all over, that he was done and wondering aloud what would become of his life without football.

It wasn't just about his latest injury. His son, Jason Jr., who goes by the nickname Deuce, had been born in March of that year, and Verrett was a few months away from proposing to his girlfriend, McKayla.

Verrett was scheduled to be a free agent after the season. Even if he did recover, he had no idea what team would be in the market for a cornerback who, by the end of 2018, would have played in 25 of a possible 80 games because of his many injuries.

"It took me to places where I never want to go back to," Verrett said. "It was loss. It was just a state of being where you just don't know the direction you should go. ... I went through every bit of emotion from it."

Jason Verrett's Injuries

49ers cornerback Jason Verrett has missed 72 of a possible 104 games during seven-season career:

YEAR	INJURY	GMS. OUT
2014	Shoulder, hamstring	10 games
2015	Foot, hamstring	2 games
2016	Torn ACL	12 games
2017	Knee	15 games
2018	Torn Achilles	16 games
2019	Knee, Achilles	15 games
2020	Hamstring	2 games

In the days after the injury, Verrett briefly considered retirement but Tre often reminded him not to make an emotional decision. With the help of his family, Dr. Herb Martin -- the Chargers team clinician who Verrett says is "like a second father figure" -- Addae, Telesco and the Chargers organization, Verrett concluded he wasn't ready to be finished with football.

Although a long and tedious rehab awaited, Verrett believed he had the drive and support system to get back to where he once was.

Whenever doubt would creep into his mind, Verrett leaned on Martin, who has been working with athletes for the past 25 years. Martin and Verrett talked almost daily, conversations Martin described as "intense" because of the real possibility Verrett's career was over at 27 years old.

"A lot of our work was really surrounding his identity and learning to accept the possibility that [a return to football] might not happen," Martin said. "And also challenging himself throughout the process because he had so many skills."

Those deep conversations led Verrett to a different way of thinking, living in the moment and ignoring the future. He didn't make a checklist of milestones to hit along the way in his rehab, instead focusing on achieving something new every day.

One other constant through it all? The sound of Hussle's voice. Via music or interviews, Verrett found himself connecting with Hussle's message.

Hussle often referred to the ups and downs of life as "The Marathon," and Verrett found solace in the fact he wasn't going through his struggles alone. When Hussle was slain on March 31, 2019, Verrett found even more motivation knowing tomorrow is promised to no one.

"I just feel everybody in life has their own handbook," Verrett said. "It's just the time when you get into that dimension of your life where you can be the storyteller of your own journey. That's when you can find yourself. I'm able to re-write my story. And now I feel like I'm in charge of that."

The thought of leaving the Chargers was painful for Verrett and Telesco. They had developed a close bond and Verrett appreciated the team which had given him his first opportunity and stuck by him.

"It was difficult," Telesco said. "In my heart, I wanted to bring him back. But when you put your GM hat on, I just think he needed a change of scenery, clean slate without that first-round draft pick slash injury bug label."

Verrett's only visit was to San Francisco. While other free agents focused on a payday, Verrett wanted to know the plan to get him healthy. The Niners showed him the technology and resources available. He was sold, signing a one-year deal on March 14, 2019.

In a Week 3 win against Pittsburgh, Verrett was clearly not himself on what would become the only three snaps he would play in 2019 before returning to injured reserve. Still, Verrett felt like he was close. After a few weeks away, he began attacking his rehab.

Around Week 13, Verrett was doing 60-yard sprints on the practice fields at SAP Performance Center when it all started coming together. Verrett's speed was slowly returning, but this time he hit 21-to-22 mph for the first time in years.

Verrett texted his brother, his agent, his fiancée and the Niners staff celebrated wildly. It was the most important day in his recovery.

"To get my speed back, it was everything," Verrett said. "You know, I definitely went home with a different smile."

That Verrett's interception came against the Rams on "Sunday Night Football" allowed all of those who had rooted so hard for him throughout his journey to see it.

Telesco texted Verrett to tell him he was proud and remind him to keep the football. Addae was getting a massage and jumped off the table in excitement. Tre Verrett was pacing behind his couch and stewing over a missed pick-six his brother had minutes earlier when Jason made the play in the end zone. Tre let out a yell and ran up and down his hallway in celebration.

"It was like, he's back-back," Tre Verrett said. "That was just all the emotions that kind of came out."

After an offseason spent working out with former Chargers teammates Keenan Allen and safety Derwin James in southern California, Verrett has been among the best cornerbacks in the league.

According to NFL Next Gen Stats, when Verrett is the nearest defender in coverage, he has allowed 11 receptions on 24 targets for 112 yards with no touchdowns. He has an interception and three passes defended on such throws with a passer rating allowed of 52.8, which is tied for sixth-best among all cornerbacks. Verrett is the third-best cornerback in the league with an overall grade of 81.7 according to Pro Football Focus.

To an outsider, those numbers are stunning for a player who has appeared in six games in the past four years. For those who have witnessed his grind, it's no surprise.

"All we did was watch JV work for the last couple of years, stay quiet, keep his head down and do everything he could to get back to this football team," 49ers defensive coordinator Robert Saleh said. "He's doing it and, knock on wood, if he stays healthy, this whole entire world's going to see how great he is again."

For his part, Verrett continues to focus on the moment, knowing there are more chapters in his story to write.

After all, the marathon never stops.

"I just want to be able to make my family proud, make my son proud, my future kids proud," Verrett said. "And if I can inspire people along the way, then I'm happy to be doing it. I'm just doing God's plan."

Fred Warner

'Badass' Fred Warner the latest to carry on 49ers' linebacking legacy

By Nick Wagoner
ESPN
December 16, 2020

Long before they drafted him in 2018, Fred Warner was well aware of the previous greats who played inside linebacker for the San Francisco 49ers.

It's a franchise known for its contributions offensively -- Bill Walsh, Joe Montana and Jerry Rice -- but whose inside linebacker lineage is often overlooked.

From old-school players like Matt Hazeltine, Dave Wilcox and Jack "Hacksaw" Reynolds to more contemporary counterparts such as Ken Norton Jr., Patrick Willis and NaVorro Bowman, Warner's rapid ascent to stardom has left him conscious of the shoes he fills.

"If you love the game, you know who those names are, and being able to be drafted by the 49ers and knowing how great a players have come before you, there's a big responsibility on your shoulders," Warner said.

It's a responsibility that hasn't been too daunting for Warner, who has evolved into one of the game's best and most complete linebackers in his nearly three NFL seasons.

As one of San Francisco's few constants during a season filled with injuries, Warner is the only player in the league with 90-plus tackles, two-plus passes defended, two or more interceptions and at least one fumble recovery. After a loss to the Green Bay Packers on Nov. 5, microphones caught quarterback Aaron Rodgers telling Warner, "You're the best and everybody knows it. The film don't lie. You should be All-Pro."

Niners defensive coordinator Robert Saleh says as long as Warner is on the field, his defense has a chance.

"He is one of the smarter players in football, especially at the linebacker position," Saleh said. "You can do a lot with Fred in terms of just getting people where they need to be. On top of it, him being able to use all his athleticism, because he is one of the more athletic linebackers in football, also along with being one of the smartest. It just makes for a player who's got a lot of range and a lot of ability to man the middle of the field."

Warner's emergence hasn't been lost on many of his predecessors, many of whom see Warner as a deserving next act in their legacy.

A new kind of linebacker

Willis walked away from the NFL in 2014 after toe injuries plagued the final portion of his dominant eight-year career. When he did, Willis disconnected from the game almost entirely, needing the time to figure out what would come next.

After a few years away, Willis started to get back into it right around the time Warner entered the league. Now, Willis watches the 49ers regularly and can't help but let his eyes gravitate to No. 54, marveling at Warner's combination of size (6-foot-3, 230 pounds) and speed (4.6 seconds in the 40-yard dash at the combine) that allows him to fit in well in a rapidly evolving league that asks more of its linebackers than ever.

"He's primed for the position," Willis said. "This is his time right now. That's why when people are like you should come back, man, I'm like 'Na, man, I get it but y'all living back then, you see how fast they are

moving out there.' I can't do that, my toes would be all twisted, I'm not the guy for you. The guy you're watching now is the guy. Fred is a pleasure to watch."

Since Warner's arrival in the Bay Area, he and Willis have gotten to know each other. Willis sends encouraging notes or words of inspiration to Warner, a gesture that Warner admits still leaves him a bit starstruck but "means the world" to him.

It's something Willis is happy to do given that he sees in Warner all of the necessary tools to be great. Asked what those are, Willis' list includes attitude, will, effort, execution and dedication as the most important ingredients. He sees all of those things in Warner, who brings fiery intensity on the field but oozes a quiet confidence off of it.

"It's one thing to be a badass on the field and it's another to just be a badass cool cat off of it, and he's both," Willis said. "I really appreciate that about him. Because every time I have run into him or crossed his path, just a mutual like 'I see you.'"

'The glue around every play'

At BYU, Warner played a hybrid safety/linebacker position that left some wondering where he'd fit in the NFL, one of the primary reasons he slipped to the third round. The Niners didn't see that as a limitation so much as the evolution of the middle linebacker position.

For that to happen, however, the 49ers had to be sure Warner could take on the responsibilities that go with playing middle linebacker, which means a devotion to detail that only a quarterback can understand. For starters, Warner would have to make all the calls and checks, ensure his teammates are lined up properly, recognize pre-snap tendencies by the offense and seek anything that would put the defense in position to make plays.

To be great, he would need to dive so deep into the tape that he'd be looking for any little tic that might give a leg up. Things like how a guard might alter his stance if he was going to pull to either side or how a tight end would put more or less weight on his hand in a three-point stance as a tell for whether he was going to block or run a route.

For as much as the game might have changed over the years, that level of preparation has remained constant from Wilcox to Willis to Warner.

"What I used to really love to do to help guys is kind of studying and if I could help them, give them tips on, you know, when the play was coming or the play was going where I used to kind of relay that information," Wilcox, who went into the Hall of Fame in 2000, said. "I took a lot of pride and interest in doing that."

Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott, who lined up behind Reynolds, sees those same traits in Warner. Whether it be Warner moving a defensive lineman to a certain spot before the snap or making a check call based on an offensive formation, Lott knows better than most the value of a middle linebacker who can quickly process information and put teammates in position to succeed.

"That's the beauty of that position," Lott said. "He doesn't have to make every play. But he can be the glue around every play. The great middle linebackers don't have to be in every play. They have to give you the feel that they know what every play is about."

'Deserves to be an All-Pro'

Just three years into his NFL career, Warner is just scratching the surface, but that hasn't stopped some of those who came before him from seeing where it could all go.

Willis says Warner is "shining a light" on the Niners' history of great linebackers. Lott believes 10 years from now it's entirely realistic Warner will be the leading tackler in franchise history and, potentially, a guy who could receive "the yellow jacket that Wilcox wears."

And if those seem like biased observations from fellow 49ers, take the word of a pair of rivals from the Pacific Northwest.

"They've been traditionally able to develop really good linebackers," said Seahawks defensive coordinator Ken Norton Jr., who was an All Pro for the 49ers at the position in 1995. "Watching Warner emerge now, it's fun."

Unlike Norton, the Seahawks' Bobby Wagner has never donned the red and gold, but he and Warner have developed a friendship and their mutual admiration is apparent, even as Warner watches Wagner and takes aim at the crown of the NFL's best inside linebacker.

"He's a guy that I love to watch as well," Wagner said. "I love his game. I love the way he leads, the way he goes after it every single time. It's always fun to watch him play. ... I look forward to him continuing his success. He deserves to be an All-Pro and I look forward to many, many years of being able to share the field with him."

Trent Williams

‘He’s gonna crush whoever’s in his way’: Trent Williams looms, zooms for 49ers

By Matt Barrows
The Athletic
September 10, 2020

Drake and his crew might not have understood what they were getting into.

In the spring of 2018, the rapper was in Houston for a concert and touched base with running back Adrian Peterson, who lived there in the offseason. They decided to get together for a pickup basketball game at the indoor court at Peterson’s sprawling estate — Drake and his crew versus some of the running back’s buddies.

Drake and his entourage arrived first, warmed up, then waited for Peterson’s friends to arrive. When they finally did, the first to take the court was Trent Williams, whom Peterson first met when they were teenagers in East Texas. Drake and his teammates looked at the offensive tackle and figured the big man would park himself in the paint, maybe be a Charles Oakley-like force on the boards, but otherwise let the skill-position athletes, like Peterson and running back Melvin Gordon, who also was on hand that day, run the show.

They were wrong.

As he normally does, Williams grabbed the ball and played point guard. Then he shocked the newcomers with a crossover dribble every bit as sudden and vicious as that of his boyhood idol, Allen Iverson. “He’s crossing guys over and he’s spinning off guys and taking it to the hole and he’s dishing it off like he’s Magic Johnson or something,” Peterson recalled. “And then he’ll sit there and dunk it on you, too. Yeah, he’s caught a lot of guys off guard because you don’t expect a 300-pound guy to move like he moves.”

“You could hear the guys from Drake’s team say, ‘There’s no way y’all this big and moving this damn fast!’” said Pete Robertson, a boyhood friend of Williams who was on the court as well. “And we were just laughing. He was just legitimately crossing everybody and shooting from NBA 3-point range every single time. And making it, too.”

Said Williams of the game: “It didn’t last long. I think they seen us and they were like, ‘No thank you.’” A theme quickly emerges when it comes to Williams, 32, who will play his first game since Dec. 30, 2018, when the Cardinals visit on Sunday. He’s the heaviest player on the 49ers roster and along with guard Laken Tomlinson, he’s the team’s weight-room titan.

“They don’t call him ‘Silverback’ for no reason,” Robertson said. “He’s a monster.”

Yet it’s Williams’ agility — cartoon-like for someone his size — that makes onlookers sometimes doubt what they’re seeing.

Peterson truly got to know Williams when the offensive lineman arrived at the University of Oklahoma where Peterson was a junior and already a star. The two lived in side-by-side duplexes — “We shared a wall,” Peterson said — and trained together. And when you work out with Peterson, you train like an Army Ranger and you do everything from boxing to hill runs to sand workouts.

Peterson said he remembers watching the big man take on hurdles at practice. Most linemen set the bar at its lowest level to make it over without stumbling. Williams raised his to the top rung and flew over them like he was Edwin Moses. Or in his case, Edwin Moses Malone.

“It was really only the skill guys that were able to do that,” Peterson recalled. “And we used to have six, seven, eight hurdles lined up. So you would jump over one — bam! — explode and you’d have to be able

to have that explosion for the duration, all eight hurdles. And this guy was going over them with us. It was like, 'Oh my God!' And that right there is what makes him so special, so unique. He's a left tackle with a receiver's agility. It's not normal."

Williams always had speed.

His father tells a story about his 7-year-old son playing third base in Little League. When he pounced on a sharp hit down the line one day, the bleachers erupted with frantic instructions.

"We were hollering to Trent, 'Throw the ball!'" Freddie Williams recalls with a long laugh. "And Trent ran all the way across the diamond, past the pitcher, and got to first base before the runner did. That's when I knew Trent was fast."

He had another boyhood advantage: A brother who was two years older and just as big. Early on everyone in their Longview, Texas, neighborhood thought Trent and Fredrick were twins because they were the same size and because their mom dressed them alike. They acted like twins, too. They shared everything, including a small bedroom, until Fredrick went off to college. By that time, both weighed more than 300 pounds.

Because they were the most dominant kids on the block, they never could be on the same team. That meant no matter whether it was basketball, football or backyard wrestling — "We used to jump off the back porch onto an old mattress," Fredrick said — the brothers were pitted against each other.

"And he was always so competitive," Fredrick said. "To this day. If you play Trent in a video game, if you beat Trent, then you better be prepared to keep playing until he beats you. You can win 19 times, but if he wins that 20th time, he's gonna rub it in your face, and then he's gonna go play somebody else."
Trent Williams remembers the agony of going against his brother on the football field with Fredrick "blowing me out of the water every time."

"You know, Mom was freaking out — she didn't like to see it," Trent said. "But just going through those battles and watching him as closely as I did, a lot of me just wanted to be just like my brother."

The two fought every day, Fredrick said. Mostly they were typical brother-vs.-brother scuffles — they'd erupt like a summer storm, bang and clatter for a few minutes and evaporate just as quickly. Then it was peaceful again; the two would return to loving one another.

Only one confrontation grew ugly. It happened on the Fourth of July when Fredrick was 15 and his little brother was 13. Their dad remembers preparing for a barbecue in the family's kitchen when he heard — and felt — a thud against the wall. He thought a car had slammed into the house.
Instead, his boys were fighting.

"He hit me with a basketball," Fredrick said. "And I just exploded."

To that point, if Trent pushed his brother beyond a certain limit, he had a foolproof exit strategy: Calling out for mom. She came running to bail out her boy, who had trapped himself by running into the family garage, this time, too. But their dad halted her at the door.

"Trent wasn't ready for Fredrick at that time," Freddie chuckled. "They were going at it like gladiators. Their mom came running out of the kitchen. She wanted to go out the door to stop it. I blocked the door and said, 'No, leave 'em alone. Trent's been asking for this ass-whuppin'.'"

Freddie eventually had to step in when Trent picked up an empty container for a five-gallon water dispenser and started using it as a club to fend off his furious big brother.

It was the last time anyone pushed around Trent Williams and the brothers never tussled like that again. Instead, they've found new ways of getting each other in trouble.

Last month Trent caused a stir when he posted a social media story about his silver Ferrari 488 Pista, which included a clip of it reaching 125 mph on a Bay Area highway. The gossip site TMZ pounced on the post, turning it into a story that began: “FILE UNDER: Things you NEVER want to see your star left tackle do.”

It turns out the 49ers left tackle was innocent. Fredrick admitted being behind the wheel, which prompted an angry phone call from Longview.

“I’m sitting there watching TMZ and the headline pops up, ‘Trent Williams going 125.’ And I’m like, ‘What the hell?’” Freddie Williams said. “‘Your ass is going to put (Trent) in a situation that he don’t need to be in! Why are you going 125 anyway?’ Trent don’t do stuff like that. Never has.”

For his part, Fredrick acknowledged that 125 mph was dangerous. But he also paraphrased Ferris Bueller by noting that he was, after all, driving a Ferrari. It’s meant to be driven fast.

“Going 125 actually feels like you’re going 80, 90 mph,” he said. “It’s not like I was driving a Honda Civic.” Trent Williams sat out the 2019 season after a cancerous growth was found and removed from his head. At 32, he’s tied with center Ben Garland for the title of oldest 49ers offensive player. His first game back will pit him against Arizona pass rusher Chandler Jones, whose 19 sacks last season was a half-sack off the league lead.

“Every day it’s probably the first thing on my mind when I wake up and the last thing on my mind before I go to sleep: How is Week 1 going to be?” Williams admitted recently on a Zoom call. “How’s it going to be rolling out in front of an empty stadium? How’s it going to be just having to open up with one of the best pass-rushers in the game?”

Williams has said he’s nervous about the rust that accumulated during his year away from the field. But if the quick-footed tackle is creaky, no one in Santa Clara has noticed. He dominated the 49ers’ pass rushers — some of the best in the NFL — in training camp. And before he started casting aside defensive ends in August, he was throwing around massive iron weights at the gym he co-owns with Peterson in Houston.

Robertson, Williams’ childhood friend from Longview, worked alongside the big left tackle this offseason. Robertson is trying to make it in the NFL as a linebacker, and he’s had stints with the Seahawks, Cardinals and Washington. At more than 240 pounds, he’s no stripling. And he’s five years younger than Williams. But every time he thought he might overtake his friend in a certain lift or exercise this summer, Williams pulled away.

“I was meeting him at the gym at, like, 3 or 4 in the morning,” Robertson said. “And we wouldn’t leave until 6:30 or 7 in the morning. And it just shows what he’s willing to do, how much he’s willing to work. Because there are not a lot of guys who are waking up at 3 o’clock.”

Williams might be anxious about his 2020 re-start, but from what Robertson’s seen — and felt from practicing his moves against the offensive tackle — the 49ers’ opponents are the ones who ought to be trembling. The last time Williams suited up for a game, on Dec. 30, 2018, he weighed 325 pounds. He’s added another 10 pounds of muscle since.

“I feel sorry for all the little DBs and nickels and little, underweight linebackers who are out there while he’s pulling,” Robertson said. “It’s gonna be bad. He’s gonna crush whoever’s in his way and probably two or three more behind him.”

They could end up faring like Drake and company at Peterson’s home court two years ago. Everyone knew the teams might be lopsided, so Peterson played on Drake’s squad. It didn’t help the outcome.

“You know how he runs the football?” Robertson said when asked for a basketball scouting report on Peterson. “So imagine him playing basketball. He reminds me of Ron Artest. You know AD, he’s gonna be physical with the rebounds. He can play all over the court.”

And what about Drake, a fixture at Toronto Raptors games who skewered the Warriors from the sideline during the 2019 NBA Finals and who fancies himself a bit of a baller? Was he any good?

“Um. Yeah, man,” Robertson said after a pause. “I guess so. He made one of his shots.”

Thompson: Trent Williams' brush with death has him appreciating life with 49ers

By Marcus Thompson
The Athletic
September 1, 2020

Everything means more when you were expecting to die.

The grass of training camp smells fresher. The laughs shared with teammates feel warmer. The adrenaline rush from clashes in the trenches hits harder. Something about being confronted by the prospect of death makes life more vibrant.

That's true even for someone as tough and hardened as Trent Williams. The 6-foot-5, 320-pound left tackle has been nicknamed Silverback. He has run with the gorilla theme — from the tattoo on his back to the art he collects to the emojis on his Instagram posts — as a way of personifying his brute physicality and beastly mentality. But, maaaaan, life has a way of turning the strong into the serene.

"I did feel invincible," Williams said in a recent phone interview. "I can't lie. I mean, you know, I was just celebrating going to my seventh straight Pro Bowl and, you know, boom, you're hit with the news that you got cancer. So it really knocked me off my high horse."

Now, 16 months after the diagnosis and nearly 10 months since he went public with his cancer battle, the 49ers are getting a reenergized Williams, one with a new grasp on joy and thankfulness. The Super Bowl potential of the 49ers, the positive energy and camaraderie in the franchise, feels like the ultimate bounce back. Coming from Washington, the 49ers feel like utopia. Williams hasn't played in 20 months, so his body should be a fresh 32 years old. But the real rejuvenation is in his mentality.

His perspective is filtered through appreciation. His invincibility has been erased by humility, and that humility ensures he enjoys all of this. The big fancy stuff — the private jet access, the exquisite cars, the diamonds — is even more special because he understands life is short. The small, meaningful things — the precious smiles of his daughters, the challenge of getting better, enjoying going to work — are even more profound because he was faced with losing them.

"Yes, that's dead on man. I'm happy," Williams said. "The vibe is amazing. It lifts my spirits. It's just a good atmosphere to be in and I think it's very refreshing for me in Year 11. What I've been through gave me a different outlook. And, you know, I'd just rather take advantage of my time here and not focus on the negative. I know tomorrow isn't promised by any means. So I just try to live in the moment and I'm just enjoying myself right now. And this organization makes it a lot easier for me as well."

The only question now, as he heads into his first NFL action since 2018, is whether a happy gorilla can be as formidable as an angry one.

"Gorillas are a cerebral animal," he said. "They're really smart. So, you know, I've always tried to play with controlled aggression, you know? I can't just have my hair on fire."

Williams might be the flyest offensive lineman in the league. It's hard to find a 300-pound lineman with the fashion swag of a wide receiver. But the Longview, Texas, native pulls it off like he was born with the sauce.

You might catch him in a tailored suit. Or a short set with the brightest, loudest pattern. Or some stylish ripped jeans and sneakers you can't find in stores. The saying goes look good, feel good. Williams has probably even used that line before to explain the threads and the jewelry. But now he knows a different paradigm: feel good, look good. Because the clothes don't make the man, but the man makes the clothes.

And this man has "cancer survivor" attached to his name. As surreal as that sounds, he can't help but feel good because he knows the depths from which he climbed.

"I'm a realist, man. And I understand that so many people who battled cancer and are unable to sit here and tell us about it. So I was just grateful — grateful that I had another chance at life, grateful I was still able to play the game that I love," he said.

"Because it was tough, you know, in the eye of the storm."

Williams was at a hospital in Virginia in April 2019 when he got the news that would change his life. The growth on his head, which he first spotted in 2013 and gradually got bigger, turned out to be a rare form of soft tissue cancer called dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP). Williams said the team doctors in Washington repeatedly told him over the years there was nothing to worry about. So you can imagine how hard the news hit this day in Virginia when the doctor told him to get his affairs in order.

"They were under the impression that the cancer had spread to my brain," Williams said, "so it didn't look too good for me at that point. So they told me to get closest to the people I love. You know, that was kind of eye-opening."

He doesn't remember the drive home.

He flew to Chicago for another opinion. That's where he got the good news. The cancer had not actually spread to his brain. It was still on his skull. Surgery was immediately required to remove the sarcoma before it metastasized. After they removed all of the DFSP through multiple procedures, the worst part was over. The dark place had some light. But Williams still was left with hundreds of stitches and staples, his face and head healing from skin transfers. Looking in the mirror had its struggles, but thanksgiving got him through. And his two young daughters.

"They were everything," he said. "They kept me sane when things seemed kind of grave, when my future wasn't bright. They were a driving force. They gave me something to be motivated for. I know I needed to be here and I know I needed to be in good spirits because, at the end of the day, I'm still a father."

The rumblings and whispers were faint in the height of this cancer scare. But once he survived, they became louder, clearer. He could hear them. Yes, Williams heard the criticisms. He heard people declare him unworthy of the trouble, a shell of himself. He recognized how easily some discarded him despite his dominance before cancer.

Williams isn't so overwhelmed with appreciation he can't muster a good ol' fashioned chip on his shoulder. He does believe he has something to prove this season. He said he was surprised he was written off so easily, as if taking one season off meant he wasn't among the NFL's best linemen at the most critical position. He said he's here to re-establish himself as a dominant force.

Such an edge is good news for the 49ers. Williams' combination of massiveness, elite athleticism and experience figures to make him an upgrade over Joe Staley, the legendary lineman who retired after last season. Not only could Jimmy Garoppolo's blindside use the protection, but the Williams from before the year off figures to be a perfect blend of nasty and agile for Kyle Shanahan's offense.

Without a doubt, Williams still has the chops. The way at the beginning of camp he handled stud pass rusher Nick Bosa, who as a rookie terrorized the best in the game, and the sight of Williams leading the fray in the 49ers' outside-zone schemes made the 2020 fifth-round pick and the 2021 third-round pick used to acquire Williams via trade feel more than worth it.

"That's why I'm here," he said, "to re-establish myself."

Williams said the 49ers were a perfect fit because of the coaching staff, which he said is full of familiar faces and people he trusts. Williams and Shanahan developed a bond during their days in Washington together and maintained a good relationship. Williams was acutely aware of how much of a fit he'd be in Shanahan's offense and how he fit the mold of what the 49ers coaches want.

Williams requested to be traded away from Washington twice. The first time, last summer, was because he was upset with the franchise for misdiagnosing his cancerous tumor. Much of his ire seemed directed at Bruce Allen, the team president at the time. He held out five months before returning in late October, which is when he went public with his cancer diagnosis. He was then placed on the non-football injury list. After Allen was fired, Williams and Washington entered discussions on a new deal. When those fell apart, Williams demanded another trade through his agent. Not even new coach and face of the franchise Ron Rivera could talk Williams back into the fold.

That guy from Washington, who was blunt and frustrated in his interviews, who was constantly unhappy in the news, feels long gone. He has managed to find his way back to a good headspace.

“First time strapping those pads up,” Williams said, “it started to feel surreal because after hearing those words (get your affairs in order), football is the last thing on your mind. You have to think where I was 16 months ago and to actually be in a locker room with a bunch of great, talented players and to actually be on a Super Bowl-contending team. It almost felt like a storybook ending. It comes with a different type of enjoyment, you know, knowing that it can be taken away from you at any time.”

Mitch Wishnowsky

49ers' Mitch Wishnowsky would've slept on a bathroom floor to be an NFL punter

By Anna Katherine Clemmons
ESPN.com
January 16, 2020

In the summer of 2012, Mitch Wishnowsky sat at the end of a wooden dock, fishing rod in hand. He cast his line as the sun set over the water's horizon; as he did so, his cellphone rang. A professional glazier by day, the 20-year-old Western Australia native had recently bought a plot of land in Perth with his best friend. They built a house, worked their trades, and planned to save enough money to provide for their respective futures, which Wishnowsky hoped meant a career, wife and children.

As he sat on the dock, still recovering from the dengue fever he had contracted on a recent trip to Bali, he just wanted to be healthy enough to work his job of framing and setting glass for industrial buildings.

Once a talented soccer player, Wishnowsky had pursued the sport until he realized he wouldn't qualify for the pro leagues. Standing 6-foot-2 with a muscular frame, tanned skin, chiseled cheekbones and blond hair that he sometimes grew long, the Thor lookalike had a powerful kicking leg.

He had always wanted to try Australian rules football; after dropping out of school at 16 to pursue his trade, he also signed up for Aussie rules. But a dislocated shoulder on the field forced him to halt his work as a glazier, and Wishnowsky realized financial stability was more important than his sporting passion. So he gave up Aussie rules, instead playing American flag football in a casual weekend league.

He answered his cellphone and he and the caller spoke for several minutes. Days later, Wishnowsky handed in his resignation letter. He had only one month left before completing his official glazier trade certification, so he finished out the month and moved to Melbourne.

He was going to learn how to be an NFL punter.

Fast-forward to 2020, and Wishnowsky is on the cusp of playing in the biggest NFL event in the world -- Super Bowl LIV, as a member of the San Francisco 49ers. This weekend he will try to help the 49ers advance beyond the NFC Championship Game and make their first Super Bowl appearance since 2012.

Wishnowsky, 27, was selected by the 49ers in the fourth round of the 2019 NFL draft. This season, he helped the NFC West champions go 13-3 in the regular season as he averaged 44.9 yards per punt, with 23 landing inside the 20-yard line.

"I've coached 40 total seasons, and he's the best I've had or seen [at his position]," says Craig Moropoulos, Wishnowsky's head coach at Santa Barbara (California) City College. "Even before our [2014] season began, with all the things put together, you could see that this guy was special: his size, athletic ability, his work ethic. And very humble."

During a circuitous journey, Mitch Wishnowsky has gone from glazier (window installer) to college's top punter, to the NFL and the NFC Championship Game. Robin Alam/Icon Sportswire
In 2012, unbeknownst to Wishnowsky, one of his flag football teammates had told Prokick founders John Smith and Nathan Chapman about Wishnowsky's punting prowess. Founded in 2007, Prokick Australia -- one of the premier kicking institutions in Australia -- was still in its early stages.

"It was always a dream to be a pro athlete, and I thought to myself, 'This is my last chance,'" Wishnowsky says.

He had followed the careers of a handful of Aussie kickers who played for U.S. colleges and the NFL, but as far as he knew, they had all competed for professional teams first. He hadn't realized there might be a pathway for a non-professional athlete such as himself. And he had never heard of Smith or Chapman.

But Wishnowsky went to Melbourne, where he had no close friends or family. The other Prokick attendees lived locally. Hotels were too expensive (he was still paying the mortgage on his property), so Wishnowsky left messages with a few acquaintances, including his former physiotherapist, hoping for a bed the weekend before training began. Prokick required each athlete to purchase a membership to a local 24-hour gym, so when Wishnowsky hadn't heard back about a room, he drove to the gym.

"I was camped in the bathroom of the 24-hour gym and I was like, I'm not above staying here,'" Wishnowsky says.

At 10 p.m., just as he had created his makeshift bed, the physiotherapist called. He could stay with her for a few nights.

During the first practice, Wishnowsky took 10 or 12 steps on his first kick before Cam Johnston, the Philadelphia Eagles' current punter and a Prokick alum, advised him that NFL punters typically take a maximum of two steps to get rid of the ball quickly.

Their days began with a 6:30 a.m. lifting session and ran through lunchtime. In the afternoons, Wishnowsky took a nap before leaving his apartment for his bartending job, which paid his rent and his mortgage. He returned to his apartment around 2 a.m., waking up four hours later to repeat the cycle.

"When Mitch first got here, he was really strong," says Chapman, an Australia native and former punter. "He's such an athlete, and a big guy for a kicker. He had a nice style and he could kick the ball really well. We focused on teaching him to get the format right, and a lot of that was practice under pressure, things like that."

Chapman also broke down Wishnowsky's technique, teaching him to punt for American-style football. A focused Wishnowsky diligently followed the instruction.

"There will be months on end where you're not able to hit a ball because [Chapman] breaks everything down," Wishnowsky says of his year at Prokick, which has graduated 17 All-Americans and secured 75 U.S. scholarships or contracts for its alums. "But he gets it and he'll make it work."

As Chapman taught players on the field, he also built relationships with colleges and universities. To meet NCAA eligibility requirements, Wishnowsky needed to attend junior college to meet academic standards. He chose Santa Barbara City College, where Aussie Tim Gleason had kicked. Wishnowsky had to pay in full.

"We just thought, 'How serious is this?'" Penny Wishnowsky said of her son's American football chances. Her husband flew to Melbourne to talk with Smith, who told him that Mitch was a true NFL contender.

"My husband came home and said, 'Well, they reckon he could go all the way, so I guess he will,'" Penny says.

Wishnowsky arrived in Santa Barbara on May 23, 2014, as a 22-year-old freshman. In his first game, unaccustomed to the strong winds, he averaged only around 30 yards a punt. But as the season progressed, he quickly improved; he finished as the top punter in the American Pacific League with a 39.8-yard average. He also led the state with 30 punts that remained inside the 20-yard line. The coaching staff, seeing his punting talent, started keeping a new statistic specific to him: punts inside the 10-yard line. Moropoulos estimated that Wishnowsky had close to 20 punts inside the 10.

Moropoulos, recognizing Wishnowsky's versatility and athleticism, often utilized his skills for fake punts--catch-and-roll situations in which Wishnowsky, who later became the first punter to run a 4.6-second 40-yard dash, could utilize his speed.

After practice, Wishnowsky and a fellow Aussie teammate would often remain on the field. Wishnowsky would send his teammate on a post route while he ran to his right and punted.

"The ball would spiral almost as well as a quarterback flicking it off his fingertips, and hit the guy perfectly in stride," Moropoulos says.

Wishnowsky says he enjoys tackling, as NFL fans around the country saw during his Week 2 takedown of Broncos punt returner Devontae Jackson. At Santa Barbara, he initially tried to convince the coaching staff to play him at tight end. Smith heard about Wishnowsky's attempts and called him. "If you get injured, you're wasting your time!" Smith yelled.

"I thought to myself, 'That makes sense,'" Wishnowsky says. "But I wanted to do it. I wanted to be a tight end."

Wishnowsky redshirted the 2015 season to complete his academic requirements before transferring to Utah, which had recruited several Prokick graduates, including close friend Tom Hackett, who punted for the Utes from 2012 to 2015.

"He was different," Hackett says. "I always felt that I punted my best when I was pretty calm, cool and relaxed and I wasn't overthinking, whereas Mitch is the opposite. He punts his best when he's really serious and really focused."

Wishnowsky was just as serious off the field, avoiding parties and instead opting for added training sessions and weight room regimens while completing coursework toward his degree in exercise sport science. That dedication paid off. In 2016, his sophomore season and first for Utah, he won the Ray Guy Award, presented annually to the best punter in the nation. He finished second in the country in punting average (47.7) and first in punts downed inside the opponent's 10-yard line.

He concluded 2017 with a 43.9-yard punting average and 10 punts downed inside the 10-yard line. In his final Utah season in 2018, he completed 59 punts for a 45.2-yard average.

His parents would often set their alarm for 1 or 2 a.m. to watch online broadcasts of his games.

"We didn't know a thing. Not a thing," Penny says of American football. But they watched and learned.

Several months after his college career ended, on the third day of the 2019 NFL draft, Wishnowsky woke up early. His fiancée, Maddie Leiphardt, made breakfast, but he was too nervous to eat. Instead, he turned on the draft. He'd worked out for several teams, and he knew that San Francisco was interested, but he didn't think he'd go as high as the fourth round. The 49ers' next pick wasn't until the sixth round, and other teams he'd talked with had numerous picks in between.

"A lot of those teams were in cold places, and I thought, 'I would love to end up in San Francisco, but if I'm not taken in the fourth round, I'm probably not ending up there,'" Wishnowsky says.

Forty minutes after the draft began, his phone rang. The caller ID read "San Francisco 49ers facility." Maddie started crying as Wishnowsky answered the phone.

"Mitch, this is John Lynch from the 49ers, man," the team's general manager said.

"How's it going?" Mitch responded.

"We're going to make you a Niner, all right?" Lynch said.

After a brief pause, Mitch answered, "Thank you so much."

Lynch then placed the phone on speaker, as he, head coach Kyle Shanahan, CEO Jed York and special-teams coordinator Richard Hightower yelled a rousing rendition of "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie! Oy, Oy, Oy!"

"Hell, yeah!" Mitch responded, as the group in the room laughed.

As Shanahan took the phone and welcomed Wishnowsky, letting him know he was a "target from the beginning," Wishnowsky listened. His voice raised with emotion, Mitch offered a "thank you" in response. Coach Hightower's welcome was next; hearing the emotion in Mitch's voice, he told him, "Yeah, you should be emotional, man. We're just fired up to get you."

As soon as he hung up the phone, Mitch texted his mom. It was midnight in Australia.

"Turn on the TV," he wrote.

"Why?" Penny wrote back.

"Just do it," he responded.

A tennis match was being broadcast, and Penny couldn't find the draft, save for the ticker scrolling along the bottom of the screen. Seconds later, she screamed as she read, "110, Mitchell Wishnowsky, San Francisco 49ers." She ran to wake up her husband and Mitch's sister and her husband, all of whom were asleep in the house.

"It was phone calls the whole day, trying to let it sink in," says Maddie, who met Wishnowsky in a class at Santa Barbara City College, where she played volleyball. "It took quite a while. That was one of the times I've seen the most emotion from him, for sure. This was something he's been working toward for ages."

Penny says her son took sports more seriously than any of his peers when he was growing up in Western Australia, near Perth. On the nights before soccer games, he'd hydrate, eat a balanced dinner and be in bed by 7 p.m. -- all of his own volition.

"He was very, very focused on what he was doing to make himself the very best," Penny says. "I always believed he would make it."

Intensely focused during the game, he also has adhered to a pregame ritual taught to him by 49ers veteran kicker Robbie Gould: UNO. The kicking team plays several rounds of the popular card game before each matchup; despite being a novice, Wishnowsky is often tough to defeat, Gould says.

"Mitch is not a talker; he's a doer," Moropoulos says.

Indeed, Wishnowsky has been doing what he can to encourage his fans to donate funds to help people and wildlife affected by the fires laying waste to Australia. Though his family in Perth have been relatively unaffected by the bush fires, Maddie and Mitch know what's at stake.

"It's very devastating to see all of that; it's hard to realize how big the fires really are, until you look at it compared to old ones, and seeing videos of all the animals. It's so sad to see people who are lost in it," Maddie says. "That morning, when Mitch was watching all these videos that were pretty upsetting -- and you're seeing others affected and all this wildlife -- I came into the room and he's like, 'You need to see this video.'

"Later that morning, he said, 'I want to donate,' and then he immediately started posting on social media about it, trying to help people be aware. I don't think many people knew much about it, so every little bit helps for sure. You always hear about fires taking place, but sometimes from afar, you don't really realize how much damage they've really done."

Like her son, Penny Wishnowsky was saddened to see the devastation taking place as the Australian wildfires raged.

"We are all safe here in Western Australia, thank goodness. The bushfires are just so devastating for everyone and everything caught up in them," she says. "It's horrifying after seeing the images what firefighters and residents were trying to fight, and the poor helpless wildlife, it's just heart-wrenching. ... I watch a few news clips and just end up with tears running down my face. It is so very, very sad.

"People from everywhere are saddened and heartbroken at the loss of human life, property and millions of wildlife destroyed, and so many are giving donations to help rebuild, feed, care and nurse the survivors back to health. It's going to be a very long road."

Once real life slows down, and Wishnowsky is finally at rest, a little imagination goes a long way. He and Maddie often play volleyball matches in the front yard -- but they play with an invisible net, set by the walkway separating the two halves of the grass. The imaginary net height must reach the roofline. Even there, Maddie says, his competitiveness shows.

"It's more a ton of banter and he tries to get into my head," Maddie says, adding with a laugh, "He doesn't succeed, but he thinks he does."

Maddie usually wins, but she says Mitch will then declare they need to play another round.

Wishnowsky's competitiveness and focus will be tested this weekend as the 49ers face the Green Bay Packers.

"He has every punt in the book, and he gives us a lot of options to kick certain kicks and take returners out of the game," Gould says. "He came in the league a little more mature than most rookies, and he really wants to learn every day. When you have that mentality and work ethic, you see his skill set, he has the ability to continue to grow and be one of the top punters in the NFL."

The 49ers offense has kept punter Mitch Wishnowsky waiting, but he's delivered when he's been needed

By Dan Brown
The Athletic
November 8, 2019

Some punters have hang time. Mitch Wishnowsky has hanging around time. What's the guy to do? With the 49ers' proficient offense rolling this season, with Jimmy Garoppolo converting third downs about as efficiently as any quarterback in the NFL, it's been tricky for a certain fourth-round pick from Australia to make an impact.

Suggested motto for the 49ers offense: No punt intended.

"There have been lots of times on third down when I'm on the sideline getting ready to go in and (George) Kittle or someone does something amazing and converts to get a first down," Wishnowsky said at his locker Thursday.

He shrugged.

"I mean, I don't mind it. It's a quiet day at the office."

Andy Lee, one of his more recent 49ers predecessors, had two seasons in which he launched at least 100 punts. Bradley Pinion, the next punter in the lineage – the "air" apparent — also had 100 in 2016, which led the NFL. Back in those days, you practically had to keep those weary legs on a punt count. Wishnowsky, meanwhile, is on pace for 50. Eager to be useful, he's had to stay as patient as Joe Thornton's razor. In five of his games this season, the 49ers have punted three times or fewer.

Such is life for the punter on an 8-0 juggernaut.

But now, just as the 49ers veer headlong into a challenging part of their schedule, starting with the Seattle Seahawks on Monday night at Levi's Stadium, Wishnowsky has provided a reminder of why the team made him the highest-drafted punter since 2012.

In a tight game against the Arizona Cardinals on Halloween, he dropped three of his five punts inside the 20-yard line en route to NFC Special Teams Player of the Week honors.

No 49ers rookie had won that award since kicker Doug Brien during the 1994 season, which also happens to be the last time the 49ers won the Super Bowl.

Coincidence? Of course. But as the games get tougher, the expectations get higher and the little things get more important, Wishnowsky won't be an afterthought much longer.

Average starting field position, 2019
49ers 34.8
Patriots 33.8
Panthers 32.9
Saints 31.4

Raheem Mostert, a gunner who leads the 49ers with eight special-teams tackles, said fans will soon appreciate Wishnowsky's art at a higher level.

"He knows how to direct the ball, man,'' Mostert said, "and that lets us go out there and eat."

And by eat, Mostert means devour opposing return men. Because Wishnowsky is so adept at placing the ball where he wants, with the hangtime the punt coverage unit needs, 49ers players can essentially

synchronize their arrivals. They get there about the time the ball does, and that is pretty much that for the overmatched return man.

“I know this because I’m a returner myself: That’s one of the things that we returners hate is when gunners such as myself are in our face,’’ Mostert said.

Fewest opponent punt return yards, 2019
49ers – 19
Baltimore Ravens – 34
Jacksonville Jaguars – 35
Houston Texas – 39
Detroit Lions – 41

The 49ers head into the Seattle game leading the NFL in starting field position. That’s largely due to a defense that’s regularly stifling opponents. But it helps to have a punter with a knack for pinning opponents deep. Wishnowsky prides himself on having more than just a big leg — he can do it with location, hangtime and distance.

Highest percentage of punts downed inside the 20, 2019:

Thomas Morstead, Saints – 59.4 percent (19 of 32)
Sam Koch, Ravens – 55.0 percent (11 of 20)
Mitch Wishnowsky, 49ers – 52.0 percent (13 of 25)
Brett Kern, Titans – 52.0 percent (26 of 50)

Punt coverage can look like organized chaos, with players storming wildly downfield like mall shoppers on Black Friday. But Azeez Al-Shaair, who is second on the 49ers with seven special-teams tackles, said a lot of game planning goes into preparing for specific opponents, specific situations and specific coverages.

“That’s pretty much all we do,’’ Al-Shaair said. “Because the coaches know the way that this game is set up: It’s not just about how far you can kick it.”

“A lot goes into it,’’ Wishnowsky said. “There’s lot of different looks you can get. There are different punts required for which gunner is doubled. Or if both gunners are doubled. There’s a different punt if you identify a rush. There are lots of times I’m putting the ball in different spots or punting it different ways.” With his punting services at a minimum this season, though, the Gosnells, Australia, native has mostly collected corny nicknames. An online poll by the 49ers elicited such suggestions as “Thunda from Down Unda,” “Mitch HITnowsky,” “The Boomin’ Onion,” “Ka-Wallop” and “Puntisher.” And most of those were inspired by his tackling skills.

The 49ers media relations department added another one to the oeuvre in the wake of his Arizona performance — “Crocodile Puntee” — which is to say that maybe it’s time for this game to come to a complete and merciful end.

But the punch lines risk obscuring the seriousness of a remarkable journey. Wishnowsky is a 27-year-old rookie who represents a Cinderella story, except that instead of a glass slipper, there was actual glass. Wishnowsky worked as a glazier — a glass installation specialist — starting at 16. He’d quit school to take the job for a company outside Perth, and in some respects the decision worked out just fine.

Wishnowsky earned a solid paycheck with substantial benefits. One downside to the job, however, was that he couldn’t stand the dang thing.

He’d always been a competitor. When he was 12, he won a major West Australian Billiards tournament. His frame proved better suited to Australian Rules football, though, before a left shoulder injury forced him to give it up at 18.

But just as the angst in his day job as a glazier continued to grow, a friend directed him to an operation called Prokick Australia. The training staff specialized in teaching Aussie Rules players how to adapt to the NFL-style of booting the daylights out of a ball.

Prokick is run by Nathan Chapman, a former Aussie player who had spent some time in the Green Bay Packers training camp in 2004.

Wishnowsky enlisted at Prokick in 2013.

“Oh, man, it’s the reason I’m here,’’ Wishnowsky said with an audible air of gratitude. “I wouldn’t have come over to the States if I didn’t get the call from them.

“Nathan Chapman played professional Australian football. He had to figure out on his own how to change that technique into working into the American game. He did it and he’s now sort of specializes in trimming up the Australian style into working in the American system.”

Wishnowsky said that in Australia players value kicking strength more than throwing strength. There are no downfield throws in Aussie Rules, where teams advance the ball over a field that’s 180 yards long. But drop punts are golden.

“So everyone grows up kicking the ball,’’ he said.

Aussie Rules kickers are allowed a running start. But with the help of Chapman, Wishnowsky learned how to generate power with a few short-step bursts.

The strength part didn’t need much work. Wishnowsky stands 6-foot-2, 220 pounds. And by the time he arrived at Utah for his freshman season, the rumbling had already reached the U.S. As senior wide receiver Jameson Field told Sports Illustrated back in 2018:

“He’s just this stout human being, just this physical specimen that’s playing punter. He’s this Thor-looking punter who’s about to come in and run faster than all the receivers and be stronger than all the linebackers.”

His strength continues to play up, even at the NFL level, as Broncos returner Devontae Jackson learned in the preseason. The thunderous hit made Wishnowsky look more like Ray Nitschke than Ray Guy. And the 49ers later took to Twitter asking the “Madden NFL” video game to update its punter’s tackler rating. But the 49ers didn’t use the No. 110 overall pick on Wishnowsky hoping for the next Patrick Willis. They know that sooner or later they’re going to count on that leg of his to deliver big punts in big situations.

Until then, he’s content to let the 49ers offense keep rolling up points and converting those third downs for the NFL’s only undefeated team.

“You get limited opportunities to affect the game,’’ the punter said with a smile, “but I don’t see it as a problem.”

Charlie Woerner

Talking about tough: 49ers' rookie Woerner isn't easy to get off the field

By Eric Branch
San Francisco Chronicle
September 2, 2020

Charlie Woerner is a blocking tight end, meaning his primary duties involve smashing into defensive ends and linebackers who often outweigh him.

Big surprise: He's rugged.

However, there are degrees of toughness and the 49ers' rookie sixth-round pick left the University of Georgia with a graduate degree in grit.

Consider: On Jan. 1, 2018, in the first quarter of the Bulldogs' win over Oklahoma in the Rose Bowl, Woerner began playing with severe pain in his lower leg that prevented him from cutting. Still, running straight ahead, he grabbed a career-high three passes in the first two quarters before he was forced to grab a seat after halftime.

The reason: He had a broken leg.

In retelling the story, Woerner suggested it wasn't that big of a deal because, well, he had one of those less-painful broken legs.

"It wasn't my tibia," Woerner said. "If it was my tibia, I probably wouldn't have been able to walk off the field. It was my fibula. That doesn't bear as much weight."

Yes, Woerner, 22, has fit in quite well with a 49ers position group headlined by All-Pro George Kittle, an elite and enthusiastic blocker who played most of a game last year with a chipped ankle bone and popped knee capsule.

Woerner might not be guaranteed a spot when the 49ers trim their roster to 53 players Saturday, but his chances look strong, given his blocking prowess and training-camp performance.

It wouldn't be a surprise if the 49ers opened the season with four tight ends for the second straight year. If so, their backups would be Jordan Reed, Ross Dwelley and Woerner, the best blocker of the three. The 49ers drafted Woerner with the expectation he would replace Levine Toilolo, last year's blocking tight end who signed with the Giants in March.

It safe to say this: Woerner's roster spot would be guaranteed if Kittle was making the call. Kittle first met Woerner at the 49ers' player-organized workouts in Nashville in June. And Kittle's report to head coach Kyle Shanahan was glowing.

Kittle said "that we had the right type of guy," Shanahan said. "The first thing (Woerner) said to George was how bored he was with all these pass plays: 'When are we going to start learning some run plays?' So I think that can kind of shows you his mentality, which is similar to George's and similar to our whole tight-end group."

Last year, Woerner, who had nine of his 34 career receptions as a senior, was the co-recipient of the award given annually to Georgia's toughest player. The award is named after tailback Frank Sinkwich, the 1942 Heisman Trophy winner who played most of his junior season with a broken jaw while sporting a leather helmet.

Woerner, 6-foot-5 and 241 pounds, explains his toughness by pointing to his upbringing. He is the youngest of four brothers and the second-youngest of seven children. Woerner, who grew up in Tiger,

Ga., near the South Carolina border, said his brothers pounded on him “dang near every day of the year growing up.”

It didn’t end there.

“My older sister beat the crap out of me, too,” Woerner said. “She was always bigger than me until middle school.”

That would be Sally Woerner, who is two years older and ran track at Western Carolina, making her one of the many college athletes in a competitive and, yes, physical family.

Woerner’s brother, Allen, 30, was a tight end at Mars Hills University; Peter, 28, was a defensive lineman at Brevard and Jack, 26, was a running back at Brevard. Woerner’s dad, Kent, was a nose tackle and fullback at Furman who had a tryout with the Giants. His uncle, Scott, was a safety on Georgia’s national-championship team in 1980 who is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame.

Running back Herschel Walker, the top rusher in program history, was the leader of the ’80 title team. And, nearly four decades later, Charlie helped clear the way in college for Cleveland running back Nick Chubb and New England running back Sony Michel, who rank second and third, respectively, on Georgia’s all-time list. The Bulldogs finished among the top 16 nationally in rushing in two of Woerner’s four seasons.

“The first thing you noticed about him (in college) is just how proficient he is in the run game,” said 49ers director of college scouting Ethan Waugh. “He’s a guy you’d describe as a blue-collar tight end that kind of does the dirty work. He’s tough. He’s physical. And he plays the game the right way.”

The 49ers think Woerner will be more than an extension of the offensive line, despite his modest pass-catching stats. He was a prolific wide receiver in high school, with 2,696 career receiving yards and 57 receptions and 15 touchdowns as a senior.

Shanahan and Kittle have both pointed out Kittle had just 48 career catches while playing in Iowa’s run-heavy offense.

Woerner “kind of reminds me of myself — (he) excels at the run game,” Kittle said. “He’s figuring out the pass-game stuff. I think he’s farther along than I was as a rookie, especially in the run game.”

Said Shanahan: “He is a good blocker and he does things in the pass game, too. I mean, he’s George in that way. … I’m not trying to put that pressure on Charlie, but he comes in and earns his way by being a tough player by really wanting to get after it in the run game.”

Woerner, of course, isn’t close to matching Kittle’s all-around game, but he eventually could rival Kittle as a blocker.

And, perhaps, Woerner already can stand toe-to-toe when it comes to toughness.

“The thing that struck me is he broke his fibula in that game and didn’t come out,” Waugh said. “They basically had to drag him off the field.”