

ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL INAUGURAL SEASON



ALLIANCE

OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL

2019 MEDIA GUIDE

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INAUGURAL SEASON 2019



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BIRTH OF The Alliance OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL

ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL

By Gary Myers

Are you ready for some really good *spring* football?

Well, here you go.

The national crisis is over.

The annual post-Super Bowl football withdrawal, a seemingly incurable malady that impacts millions every year the second weekend in February and lasts weeks and months, is now in the past thanks to The Alliance of American Football, the creation of Charlie Ebersol, a television and film producer, and Bill Polian, a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.



They have the football game plan, the business model with multiple big-money investors and a national television contract with CBS to succeed where other spring leagues have failed. The idea is not to compete with the National Football League. That's a failed concept. The Alliance will complement the NFL and satisfy the insatiable appetite of football fans who otherwise would be suffering from a long period of depression. Just as important, it will be providing an opportunity for players to continue to chase their dream instead of having it end much too quickly if they are not immediately good enough for the NFL.

The Alliance begins its initial season with eight teams, all owned by the league. All players are signed to the same three-year \$250,000 contract that contains on-and-off-the-field incentives that can earn them a whole lot more money. "You can't have a league, it can't survive in a spring model, unless you have a one size fits all salary schedule," Polian said.

The franchises were strategically placed in six professional football-starved communities: Orlando, Memphis, Birmingham, Salt Lake City, San Antonio and San Diego, which fills the void created when the Chargers moved to Los Angeles in 2017. Phoenix and Atlanta are the only Alliance cities that currently have NFL teams. Birmingham is the only city without at least one other professional franchise. There's already plans to expand in 2020.

"I wanted to do it because I saw a need," said Ebersol, the 36-year-old son of former NBC Sports executive Dick Ebersol, who is an Alliance board member. "I saw a need among players, fans and the NFL. You had these 26,000-27,000 Division I athletes who came out of college every year and only 1,700 jobs in the NFL, which really means only about 150 jobs for these kids. Kurt Warner is a long-time good friend of mine. I look at his story and you realize there are probably hundreds if not thousands of Kurt Warners floating out there that are just not getting an opportunity."

The Alliance will play a 10-game regular season schedule beginning February 9, the Saturday after the Super Bowl. The first season will culminate with four teams making the playoffs and the final two meeting in the league championship game on April 27 at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. CBS will televise the first weekend of the season and the championship game with the CBS Sports Network providing weekly coverage.



Ebersol is based in San Francisco and is in tune with the latest technology developed in Silicon Valley. He will incorporate state-of-the-art technology to bring fans closer to the action. "I thought I was uniquely positioned to take a shot at that," he said.

What innovations is he introducing to football fans?

"Just the way that information is captured on the field and the ability to provide fans with real-time gaming," he said. "When you think about it, what's crazy, is despite all the hoopla around gambling, there has been no meaningful development in the technology in a very long time in how you capture information. Because of that, you can't play real-time games. There are these passive games like fantasy and daily fantasy. Fans will be able to do real-time mobile gaming. Someone described with fantasy you are the general manager but with our game you are the coach. The ability to play in real-time as opposed to picking your team the night before and then riding out whatever decision you made -- this is much more as the game is unfolding."



Charlie Ebersol

The Alliance has a partnership with MGM to handle the gambling aspect.

"We are not a gambling

company," Ebersol said. "We are an information and mobile technology

company. Our game is for families to play. Think of it more like Candy Crush. It's something the whole family can play and it's not legally restricted in any way."

Okay, what about the need for football?

"Eighty million people stop watching sports in the United States when football goes off television,"

Ebersol said. "I think the statistics show quite clearly there is a gap in the market of people who don't watch sports when football goes off television."

When Ebersol came up with the concept for The Alliance, he ran it by his father, who recommended he find the very best football minds to consult before moving forward. Dick Ebersol recommended Polian, who built Super Bowl teams in Buffalo and a Super Bowl champion in Indianapolis and had the Carolina Panthers in the NFC Championship Game in just their second year as an expansion team. If Polian was on board with the plan, then

Ebersol would have the confidence to proceed. Polian has always been outspoken about the need for a league to develop players and it wasn't long before he was all-in.

Polian and Charlie Ebersol's first meeting was a five-hour breakfast. "I called my dad afterwards and said, "Hey Bill wants to be the commissioner. Is that enough of an endorsement?" he said.

Ebersol then spent a lot of time talking to the legendary John Madden, who has always been the conscience of football. Piece by piece the plan was formulated. "We were very focused on being complementary to the NFL," Ebersol said. "You wanted to exist in the window after the Super Bowl to the NFL draft. That is the best possible place to do it."

Polian was the perfect partner for Ebersol to bring aboard. In his years at ESPN following his distinguished career in the NFL, which followed time in the front offices in the Canadian Football League and United States Football League, Polian has been pushing hard for a developmental league for offensive linemen and quarterbacks, but really players at every position. "There just didn't seem to be a reasonable and efficient way of doing that," Polian said. "I was on the lookout for something that might work in order to help improve the quality of the game."



BIRTH OF The Alliance OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL (cont.)

Once the NFL stopped operating NFL Europe in 2007, there's been a void for young players to get real game-time experience working on their skills. Polian thought the timetable was perfect to try a new concept. The Alliance's season will begin as soon as the NFL season ends and finish up prior to the heavy work of the NFL offseason. Any player who has an NFL offer he would like to accept is free to leave at any time before, during or after the season, which makes the league even more attractive to players who want to get their work on tape and move to an opportunity at the next level. Josh Johnson, for example, was protected in the quarterback draft by the San Diego Fleet, but he was allowed to sign with the Washington Redskins after injuries suffered by Washington quarterbacks Alex Smith and Colt McCoy. Johnson won the first game he started for Washington.

There was no reliable road map for Polian. All the other spring leagues had failed. He relied on instincts and experience. That brought him back to his NFL roots when deciding who to hire as the eight head coaches. "We said we need to have coaches who have NFL experience because they need to develop players to play in the NFL and have an ability to work with younger players because that is the vast majority of our talent base," Polian said.

Five of the eight head coaches are one-time head coaches in the NFL: Mike Martz (San Diego), Dennis Erickson (Salt Lake City), Mike Singletary (Memphis), Mike Riley (San Antonio), and Steve Spurrier (Orlando).



Rick Neuheisel (Arizona) was the head coach at UCLA and offensive coordinator for the Baltimore Ravens. Tim Lewis (Birmingham) and Kevin Coyle (Atlanta) are the only Alliance coaches without any previous head coaching experience. Lewis is a former first-round pick who played cornerback for the Green Bay Packers and was the defensive coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers and New York Giants. He has 23 years of NFL coaching experience and eight in college. Coyle, who was promoted from defensive coordinator to head coach when Brad Childress resigned during training camp in January, has 40 years of coaching experience in college and the NFL.

Martz had the most success among the group in the NFL. He was the architect of the Rams' "Greatest Show On Turf," as the offensive coordinator when the Rams won the Super Bowl in 1999 and was their head coach when they made it to the Super Bowl in 2001. The others had varying degrees of success in their tenures as NFL head coaches.

Spurrier, however, won the national championship at Florida in 1996 and Erickson won two national championships at the University of Miami (1989, 1991). Singletary won a Super Bowl in 1985 as the middle linebacker of the Chicago Bears. Lewis was on the Steelers staff that went to the Super Bowl in 1995. Neuheisel and Riley have extensive experience in college and the NFL.

Polian stocked the teams with general managers with significant time in the NFL. Tim Ruskell, who was asked by Spurrier to join him in Orlando, was the GM of the Seattle Seahawks when they went to the Super Bowl in 2005. Phil Savage, who ran the Senior Bowl and worked for the Browns (he was the GM), Ravens and Eagles, is the GM in Phoenix. Daryl "Moose" Johnston, who won three Super Bowls blocking for NFL all-time leading rusher Emmitt Smith in Dallas, is running the team in San Antonio. Billy Devaney (Atlanta), Will Lewis (Memphis) Randy Mueller (Salt Lake City), Joe Pendry (Birmingham) and Dave Boller (San Diego) will run their organizations after long and distinguished careers in the NFL or college or both.

Players were allocated to the eight teams based on geography. If a player went to Alabama, he was allocated to Birmingham. If the school didn't have a natural affiliation, then his allocation was based on the NFL team he played with in his career. "Jets and Giants cuts from a school that is not an allocated school are the property of Orlando, where there are tons and tons of New Yorkers," Polian said. "College eligibility comes first. A guy from Florida, Florida State or Central Florida, is the property of Orlando, regardless of where he played in the NFL."

The idea, of course, was for the fans to recognize the names of their players. Placing them on teams close to where they went to college was the first priority. In order to make sure one team didn't get allocated the three best quarterbacks, The Alliance held a "Protect Or Pick," quarterback draft on Nov. 27 in Las Vegas. The format guaranteed that the quarterback talent would be evenly distributed throughout the league.

Polian and Ebersol assembled an all-star cast to get The Alliance up and running: J.K. McKay, a former wide receiver and senior associate athletic director at USC, is the head of football operations. Former Steelers Super Bowl champions Troy Polamalu (head of player relations) and Hines Ward (head of football development) understand the needs of the players. Mike Pereira and Dean Blandino, who each ran the NFL's officiating department and now work for Fox Sports, are part of the officiating management team for The Alliance.

"We are focused on trying to put the best product on the field," Polian said. "I don't want to set high expectations right off the bat and make these bellicose statements. I think it's going to look and feel and sound like professional football. You're going to see a wide-open game. You're going to see a fair amount of offense because defense takes a while to learn and to play and work together. We're going to have an offensive league right off the bat. That's probably not a bad thing."



The Alliance is playing with NFL rules with some exceptions. The 40-second play clock is replaced by a 35-second clock to speed up the game. There will be no kickoffs. It's the most dangerous play in football and the NFL is trending towards its elimination. "If we were reinventing football today, we would not have a kickoff," Polian said.

The offense will start on its 25-yard line to open the game and after a score. The extra point has also been eliminated. Everything is a two-point conversion. The defense will be awarded two points if it forces a turnover and takes the ball the length of the field and scores.

What about a team that is trailing that otherwise would attempt an onside kick? "We replaced it with what we call an onside try attempt," Polian said.

If a team is trailing by 17 or more points at any point or there are five minutes or less to go in the fourth quarter, the team that just attempted a two-point conversion can elect to take the ball on its 28-yard line with a fourth-and-12. If it converts the first down, it keeps going with a fresh set of downs. If it fails to convert, the ball is turned over.

Regular season overtime will give each team one possession starting with a first down at the opponent's 10-yard line. If the score remains tied after each team has one possession, it will end in a tie. No field goals are permitted in regular season overtime. Playoff overtime will be played as sudden death.

Interesting, huh?

The Alliance welcomes you to enjoy some really good football as our national crisis has ended.

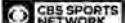
AAF 2019 WEEK BY WEEK SCHEDULE

WEEK 1		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
Atlanta at Orlando	SAT, FEB 9	8PM	8PM	CBS
San Diego at San Antonio	SAT, FEB 9	8PM	7PM	CBS
Memphis at Birmingham	SUN, FEB 10	4PM	3PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Salt Lake at Arizona	SUN, FEB 10	8PM	6PM	NFL NETWORK
WEEK 2		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
Salt Lake at Birmingham	SAT, FEB 16	2PM	1PM	TNT
Arizona at Memphis	SAT, FEB 16	8PM	7PM	NFL NETWORK
Orlando at San Antonio	SUN, FEB 17	4PM	3PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Atlanta at San Diego	SUN, FEB 17	8PM	5PM	NFL NETWORK
WEEK 3		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
Arizona at Salt Lake	SAT, FEB 23	3PM	1PM	B-R LIVE
Memphis at Orlando	SAT, FEB 23	8PM	8PM	NFL NETWORK
Birmingham at Atlanta	SUN, FEB 24	4PM	4PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
San Antonio at San Diego	SUN, FEB 24	8PM	5PM	NFL NETWORK
WEEK 4		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
San Diego at Memphis	SAT, MAR 2	4PM	3PM	B-R LIVE
Orlando at Salt Lake	SAT, MAR 2	8PM	7PM	NFL NETWORK
San Antonio at Birmingham	SUN, MAR 3	4PM	3PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Atlanta at Arizona	SUN, MAR 3	8PM	6PM	NFL NETWORK
WEEK 5		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
Orlando at Birmingham	SAT, MAR 9	2PM	1PM	B-R LIVE
Salt Lake at San Diego	SAT, MAR 9	8PM	5PM	NFL NETWORK
Memphis at Atlanta	SUN, MAR 10	4PM	4PM	CBS SPORTS NETWORK
San Antonio at Arizona	SUN, MAR 10	8PM	5PM	NFL NETWORK

All times subject to change

AAF 2019 WEEK BY WEEK SCHEDULE

WEEK 6

		EASTERN TIME	LOCAL TIME	NETWORK
Memphis at Salt Lake	SAT, MAR 16	4PM	2PM	 B-R LIVE
Arizona at Orlando	SAT, MAR 16	8PM	8PM	 NFL NETWORK
San Antonio at Atlanta	SUN, MAR 17	4PM	4PM	 CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Birmingham at San Diego	SUN, MAR 17	8PM	5PM	 NFL NETWORK

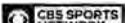
WEEK 7

Orlando at Atlanta	SAT, MAR 23	3PM	3PM	 B-R LIVE
Salt Lake at San Antonio	SAT, MAR 23	8PM	7PM	 NFL NETWORK
San Diego at Arizona	SUN, MAR 24	4PM	1PM	 CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Birmingham at Memphis	SUN, MAR 24	8PM	7PM	 NFL NETWORK

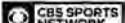
WEEK 8

Orlando at Memphis	SAT, MAR 30	2PM	1PM	 B-R LIVE
San Diego at Salt Lake	SAT, MAR 30	8PM	6PM	 NFL NETWORK
Atlanta at Birmingham	SUN, MAR 31	4PM	3PM	 CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Arizona at San Antonio	SUN, MAR 31	8PM	7PM	 NFL NETWORK

WEEK 9

Memphis at San Antonio	SAT, APR 6	4PM	3PM	 B-R LIVE
San Diego at Orlando	SAT, APR 6	8PM	8PM	 NFL NETWORK
Salt Lake at Atlanta	SUN, APR 7	4PM	4PM	 CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Birmingham at Arizona	SUN, APR 7	8PM	5PM	 NFL NETWORK

WEEK 10

San Antonio at Salt Lake	FRI, APR 12	8PM	6PM	 B-R LIVE
Atlanta at Memphis	SAT, APR 13	8PM	7PM	 NFL NETWORK
Birmingham at Orlando	SUN, APR 14	3:30PM	3:30PM	 CBS SPORTS NETWORK
Arizona at San Diego	SUN, APR 14	8PM	5PM	 NFL NETWORK

All times subject to change

AAF CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

The first Alliance championship game will be played April 27 at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Kickoff is 8 p.m. ET and the game will be televised by CBS.

Sam Boyd Stadium - 7000 E Russell Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89122 Capacity - 40,000 • Surface - Sprinturf

Facility History

Named after a prominent Las Vegas hotel owner and gaming pioneer, the facility has evolved over the years not only in size (from 15,000 to 32,000 and to 40,000 seats) but in the way it handled event bookings, marketing, and sponsorship opportunities.

Sam Boyd Stadium is home to the UNLV Rebel Football team, the Las Vegas Bowl, AMA Supercross Series Finals, the Monster Jam World Finals and the USA Sevens Rugby.

The Grateful Dead played the Sam Boyd Stadium for five consecutive years from 1991 to 1995, all of which have set records for the top grossing and highest attended shows. The band's final performance in Las Vegas (1995) holds the #1 position, with 125,533 fans attending the concert which grossed over \$3.7 million.

Other music superstars who performed at the stadium include the Eagles, Ozzy Osbourne, Dave Matthews Band, Beck, Jack Johnson, Tom Petty, The Killers, Metallica, U2, Rage Against The Machine, Daft Punk , and The Roots.

The stadium celebrated its 25th anniversary in the fall of 1996 by hosting the UNLV vs. Wisconsin football game with 41,091 fans attending the event, setting the record for the state's largest attendance at an outdoor sporting event.

Beginning in the fall of 1998, the Sam Boyd Stadium underwent a major \$17.5 million renovation and expansion project, adding 9,000 seats to the stadium and reconfiguring the current seating capacity to 40,000. The improvements included a new concourse, upgraded and expanded restrooms, upgraded concession stands, a new press box, repaved parking lots, upgraded ADA access, and a new scoring system as well as a new playing surface.

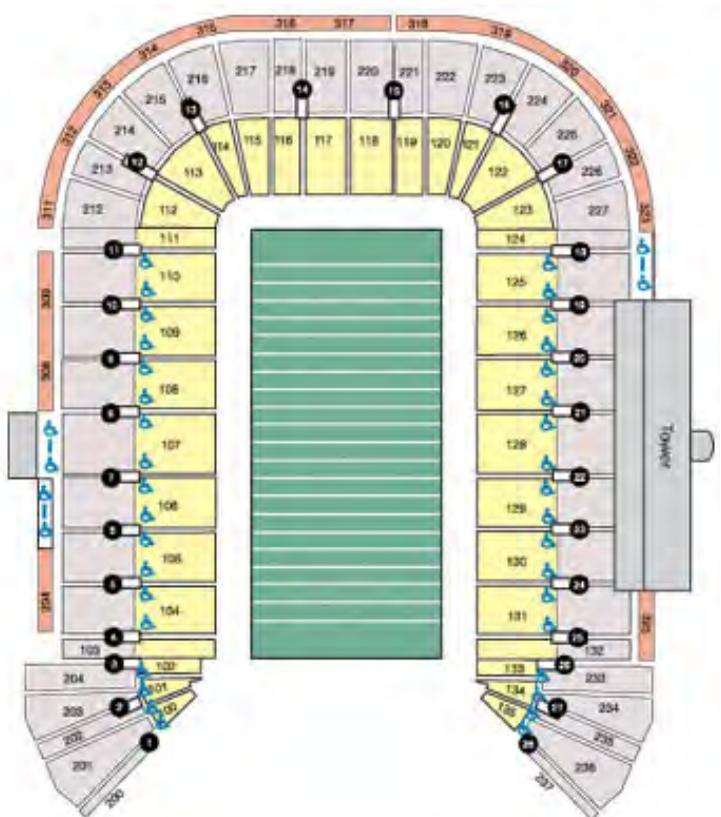
Fast Facts

The 15,000 seat facility was constructed in 1971 at a cost of \$3.5 million

- The Sam Boyd Stadium features an artificial grass with rubber infill.
- Hosted the first all black college game on September 21, 2002 Grambling St. vs. Tennessee St. for 23,000 fans.
- Sold out the Monster Jam Finals and Supercross World Finals in 2002. Total attendance 65,000 fans.
- October 23, 1971 - First event held at the facility - UNLV Football vs. Weber State
- 1978 - Facility renamed Las Vegas Silver Bowl
- 1978 - Facility expands to 32,000 seats
- 1984 - Las Vegas Silver Bowl renamed Sam Boyd Silver Bowl

AAF CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

- Summer 1985 - Monsanto outdoor retractable turf system installed
- December 18, 1993 - First Las Vegas Bowl game played featuring Reno and Bowling Green
- April 26, 1994 - Sam Boyd Silver Bowl renamed Sam Boyd Stadium
- June 29, 1994 - Inaugural pre-season game of the Canadian Football League - Las Vegas Posse vs. Edmonton Eskimos
- September 14, 1996 - Record set for largest football attendance - UNLV vs. Wisconsin Attendance: 41,041
- December 7, 1996 - Inaugural Western Athletic Conference Championship Football Game featuring BYU vs. Wyoming
- July 25, 1997 - \$27 million approved by Nevada Legislature for UNLV facility improvements. \$15.5 million was devoted to Sam Boyd Stadium expansion, renovation, and upgrades. Renovation included expanded concourse, upgraded restrooms, upgraded concession stands, new press box, repaving parking lots, upgraded ADA access, a new scoring system, and a new playing surface.
- January 27, 1998 - \$2 million grant awarded to Sam Boyd Stadium to reconfigure and expand the facility to 40,000 seats
- December 21, 2006- The Pioneer Pure Vision Las Vegas Bowl Sells Out. Over 40,053 fans filled the stadium.
- December 22, 2007- The Pioneer Pure Vision Las Vegas Bowl sells out for the second consecutive year, 44,615 fans attended.



ALLIANCE ON THE AIR

It won't be hard to find The Alliance on national television this season with five different partnerships, unprecedented for a first-year league. From opening night until the clock runs out in the championship game on April 27 in Las Vegas, you can catch all the action.



Schedule

It will televise two regional games at 8 p.m. ET on opening night Feb. 9 and also televise the championship game from Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas on April 27 at 8 p.m. ET.

Announcers

The Alliance opening night debuts with the San Diego Fleet at the San Antonio Commanders as the national game. Spero Dedes (play-by-play), Tiki Barber (analyst), Trent Green (analyst) and Jamie Erdahl (reporter) will have the call. The Atlanta Legends at the Orlando Apollos will be shown regionally with Andrew Catalon (play-by-play), Gary Danielson (analyst) and Melanie Collins (reporter).



Schedule

The Memphis Express at the Birmingham Iron on Feb. 10 begins a game of the week package on Sundays at 4 p.m. ET. CBS Sports Network will also have one of the semifinal playoff games on either April 21 or April 22 at 8 p.m. ET.

Announcers

Ben Holden (play-by-play), Adam Archuleta (analyst) and John Schriffen (reporter).



Schedule

It will televise 19 regular season prime time games beginning on Sunday, Feb. 10 with the Salt Lake Stallions at the Arizona Hotshots. The NFL Network will have games every Saturday and Sunday night of the regular season at 8 p.m. ET beginning in week 2.

Announcers

Alex Flanagan will be the studio host. The NFL Network will rotate studio and game analysts and play-by-play announcers. *Studio Analysts:* Kurt Warner, Cynthia Frelund, Rod Woodson, Shaun O'Hara, Terrell Davis, Marvin Lewis and Kevin Carter. *Play-by-play:* Dan Hellie, Andrew Siciliano, Matt "Money" Smith. *Game analysts:* Marvin Lewis, Brian Billick, Steve Mariucci, Maurice Jones-Drew, David Carr, Mike Smith. Jason Fisher is the reporter.



Schedule

Turner will televise the Salt Lake Stallions at Birmingham Iron on Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. ET, and one of the two semifinal playoff games on either April 21 or April 22 at 8 p.m. ET. B/R Live's game coverage begins Feb. 23 with the Arizona Hotshots at the Salt Lake Stallions at 3 p.m. ET. B/R Live will have one Saturday afternoon game each per week from weeks 3-9 and a Friday night game on April 12. All Alliance games distributed through B/R Live will be available on demand.

Announcers

Turner

Play-by-play: Brian Anderson; *Analysts:* Marvin Lewis, Maurice Jones-Drew

B/R Live

Play-by-play: Mark Malone, Dan Hellie

Analysts: Maurice Jones-Drew, Shaun O'Hara, Marvin Lewis, Brock Huard.

Studio: Shows will be hosted by Alex Flanagan with a rotating cast of analysts.

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Dinn Mann

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Dick Ebersol

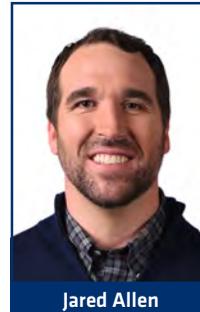


Keith Rabois

Player Engagement Board of Advisors



Justin Tuck



Jared Allen

ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE HISTORY

2018

March 20:	The Alliance of American Football Unveiled in NYC
April 7:	Orlando Named First Alliance Host City
April 25:	Atlanta Unveiled as Alliance Host City
May 10:	Memphis Unveiled as Alliance Host City
May 16:	Salt Lake Unveiled as Alliance Host City
May 18:	Arizona Unveiled as Alliance Host City
May 31:	San Diego Unveiled as Alliance Host City
June 6:	Birmingham Unveiled as Alliance Host City
June 21:	San Antonio Unveiled as Final Alliance Host City
July 2:	First-ever Alliance Scouting Combine Announced
July 24:	Starter Returns to the Football Field as Official On-Field Apparel and Game Day Uniform Supplier of The Alliance
August 4:	The Alliance Scouting Combine held in Los Angeles
August 6:	The Alliance of American Football Signs First 100 Players
August 18:	The Alliance Scouting Combine held in Houston
August 25-26:	The Alliance Scouting Combine held in Atlanta
September 10:	MGM Named Official Sports Betting Sponsor of The Alliance
September 20:	Names and Logos of Alliance East Teams Unveiled
September 25:	Names and Logos of Alliance West Teams Unveiled
September 27:	The Alliance of American Football Crosses 500 Signed Players Milestone
October 16:	Inaugural Season Schedule Unveiled
October 23:	Las Vegas Announced as Host City for Alliance Championship
November 2:	New Era Unveiled as Official Sideline Headwear Partner of The Alliance
November 26:	Riddell Announced as Official Protective Equipment Partner of The Alliance
November 27:	First-Ever Protect-Or-Pick Quarterback Draft Held in Las Vegas
November 27:	The Alliance Unveils Team Jerseys

2019

January 4:	Inaugural Training Camp Held in San Antonio
February 9:	The Alliance of American Football First Snap
April 27:	The Alliance of American Football Championship Game

DID YOU KNOW ?

- Memphis Express coach Mike Singletary and his defensive coordinator Dennis Thurman worked together on the defensive staff of the Baltimore Ravens in 2003-04
- Orlando Apollos coach Steve Spurrier and general manager Tim Ruskell first worked together in the mid-80s when Spurrier was the head coach of the USFL Tampa Bay Bandits and Ruskell was a scout. They have remained friends and Spurrier asked Ruskell to join him with the Apollos when he was offered the head coaching job.
- Atlanta Legends quarterback Matt Simms is the youngest son of Super Bowl MVP Phil Simms and the brother of former Tampa Bay Bucs quarterback Chris Simms. Phil Simms now works for CBS and Chris works for NBC. Matt and Phil are in business together running a quarterback camp that is among the best in the country.
- Birmingham Iron running back Trent Richardson is the highest drafted NFL player in The Alliance. Richardson was the third overall pick in the 2012 draft by the Cleveland Browns. He played two years for the Browns and two years for the Indianapolis Colts. Richardson returns to the state where he had his greatest success.
- San Diego Fleet coach Mike Martz was the architect of the “Greatest Show On Turf,” offense with the St. Louis Rams. Martz was the Rams offensive coordinator in 1999 when an unknown quarterback named Kurt Warner became the starter after Trent Green suffered a torn ACL in the third preseason game. Warner went on to a storybook season being named regular season MVP and Super Bowl MVP. Martz became the Rams head coach in 2000 and led them to the Super Bowl in 2001 where St. Louis lost to another unknown quarterback at the time by the name of Tom Brady.
- Alliance co-founder Bill Polian has plenty of experience in pro football. The Alliance is his fourth league following stints in the CFL, USFL and NFL. Polian was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2015. He built the Bills teams that went to four straight Super Bowls from 1990-93 and was the president and GM of the Super Bowl champion Indianapolis Colts when they won the title in 2006. He was named executive of the year in the NFL a record six times.
- Birmingham is the only Alliance city with no other professional sports team.
- This is the second time Mike Riley is coaching in San Antonio. He was the head coach of the San Antonio Riders of the World League of American Football in 1991-92. He has kept his home in a San Antonio suburb that he purchased while coaching the Riders and has used it as a summer vacation home. Now he’s moving back in.

ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL QB DRAFT



PROTECT OR PICK



by Gary Myers

Kurt Warner reported to training camp with the Green Bay Packers in 1994 as an undrafted rookie quarterback from Northern Iowa.

Brett Favre, Ty Detmer and Mark Brunell were ahead of him on the depth chart. He had no shot. He was trapped. Then he was cut.

Warner became a huge success story years later in St. Louis after an injury to starter Trent Green, but Mike Holmgren, his coach in Green Bay, didn't remember much about Warner's few weeks with the Packers other than he was a nice guy. Warner was a camp arm brought in to save Favre from getting a sore arm during two-a-days.

His chance of making the Packers after starting just one year at Northern Iowa: Somewhere between zero and two percent. And that's being generous. He wasn't given an opportunity to showcase his talents behind a future Hall of Famer and two capable backups. Brunell later went on to have a successful career starting for the Jacksonville Jaguars. Warner was cut by the Packers before the season started and no NFL team decided he was immediately worth a second look.

Did that mean Warner was not good enough? No.

Did that mean he would never get another chance? Almost.

The Alliance of American Football was made for players like Warner, so it was appropriate he was at the inaugural "Protect or Pick" quarterback draft in Las Vegas on Nov. 27. Warner was an analyst along with Trent Dilfer for the CBS Sports Network broadcast of the event.



If there is any player who took advantage of his second opportunity after the first one didn't work out, it was Warner, who in 1999 was the regular season and Super Bowl MVP with the Rams and later made it to another Super Bowl with the Rams and then one with the Arizona Cardinals. But none of his success came before he served his apprenticeship in the Arena Football League and NFL Europe before the Rams signed him in 1998.

If not for the Arena League or NFL Europe, there would not be a Kurt Warner/NFL story. That's why he is so excited for The Alliance and



what it could mean to the quarterbacks playing for the eight teams. If not for his second chance, “I would have been that guy sitting on my couch at age 47 right now thinking, “What could I have done if somebody would have given me a chance?” Warner said, “Who wants to be *that* guy?”

The “Protect or Pick” was a unique concept that allowed each team the opportunity to protect one of its allocated quarterbacks already on the roster, or if they elected not to protect, they would have the chance to pick any other

quarterback not protected. Four teams protected one of its allocated quarterbacks and four did not.

Were they gambling they made the right decision? Well, the draft was in Las Vegas, after all, at the brand new Esports Arena at The Luxor.

The San Diego Fleet (Josh Johnson, University of San Diego), Atlanta Legends (Aaron Murray, Georgia), Memphis Express (Troy Cook, University of Tennessee at Martin) and San Antonio Commanders (Dustin Vaughn, West Texas A&M) protected one of their quarterbacks. That made every other quarterback either on a roster or not previously allocated available to be drafted.

Johnson, as it turned out, was signed by the Redskins late in the 2018 season after suffering injuries to quarterbacks Alex Smith and Colt McCoy.

The Birmingham Iron were up first in the “pick” portion of the draft and took Luis Perez from Texas A&M-Commerce. The Arizona Hotshots (Trevor Knight, Texas A&M), Orlando Apollos (Garrett Gilbert, SMU) and Salt Lake Stallions (Josh Woodrum, Liberty) were the four QBs drafted in the first round.

The quarterbacks attending the draft were seated together in a second-level suite and after they were picked walked down a set of stairs and were greeted on the stage by Hines Ward, the head of football development for The Alliance.

Other notable QBs picked: Matt Simms (Atlanta; University of Tennessee) and Christian Hackenberg (Memphis; Penn State) in the second round, Scott Tolzien (Birmingham; Wisconsin) in the third round and Zach Mettenberger (Memphis; LSU) in the fourth and final round.

Can The Alliance find and develop the next Kurt Warner?

“I don’t think there will ever be anything quite like it,” Warner said. “It is unique. The way it transpired was just different. But do I think there are guys out there that have been overlooked, maybe told no once, maybe didn’t get the opportunity one time who can ultimately succeed and play at that level? Without a doubt, without a question, there are guys that can play. They just need the right opportunity with the right coaches.”



ALLIANCE OF AMERICAN FOOTBALL QB DRAFT (cont.)



Warner benefited from three seasons with the Iowa Barnstormers of the Arena League and one season with the Amsterdam Admirals in NFL Europe. By the time he was back in an NFL camp with the Rams four years after he was in camp with the Packers, he was ready. It took until Green's knee injury in the third preseason game in 1999 for Warner to get the chance to prove he could play at the highest level.

"If you had taken me to the NFL and given me the shot when I was 23 out of college, I don't think I would have ever had the success that I had when I got back in at 27," Warner said.

Warner has his eye on Perez, who didn't start playing football until college. He spent training camp in 2018 with the Rams learning from Los Angeles coach Sean McVay. "Sean said he wants it, works at it and throws a great ball," Warner said. "He just needs experience. He just needs to play more because he hasn't played very much football."

The Alliance's quarterbacks have either had an opportunity in the NFL that didn't work out, didn't get a fair chance because of the number of quarterbacks in camp or just need more time to develop. If they have the talent, they will get the opportunity they've dreamed about in The Alliance.

Warner went from packing groceries in an Iowa supermarket hoping some team would recognize he had football ability to his induction in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2017 with several crucial stops in between. It's one of the greatest stories of embracing opportunity and not letting go.

The Alliance is providing the platform to prove Warner was not a once-in-a-lifetime story.



AAF GAME OFFICIALS

Rod Amarri - 47 - *Pac-12* - (H)
Cravonne Barrett - 17 - *Pac-12* - (H)
Grantis Bell - 25 - *SEC* - (B)
Brett Bergman - 59 - *Big 10* - (L)
Tra Blake - 9 - *ACC* - (R)
Mark Butterworth - (Replay)
Scott Campbell - 49 - *Big-12* - (U)
James Carter - 19 - *SEC* - (R)
Max Causey - 67 - *C-USA* - (F)
Maia Chaka - 21 - *C-USA* - (L)
Saleem Choudhry - (Replay)
Brandon Cruse - 81 - *Big-12* - (R)
Jimmy Debell - 29 - *C-USA* - (B)
Robin DeLorenzo - 55 - *MAC* - (L)
Tony Eaton - 28 - *C-USA* - (L)
Ed Feaster - 86 - *Big 10* - (U)
Anthony Fleming - 3 - *Big-12* - (F)
Glen Fucik - 5 - *SEC* - (F)
Daniel Gauettraux - 63 - *C-USA* - (F)
Quentin Givens - 54 - *Big-12* - (L)
Eric Hartman - 76 - *ACC* - (S)
Jeff Heaser - 84 - *ACC* - (R)
Patrick Holt - 42 - *Big 10* - (H)
Nate Jones - 79 - *Pac-12* - (S)
Dale Keller - 11 - *Pac-12* - (H)
Terry Killens - 35 - *ACC* - (U)
Glenn King - (Replay)
Jason Larrew - 72 - *C-USA* - (S)
Lopinto - (Swing Replay)
Robert Lu - (Replay)
Tony Meyer - 62 - *C-USA* - (F)
Michael Morton - 88 - *ACC* - (U)
Mike Moten - 38 - *SEC* - (U)
Justin Nelson - 26 - *Pac-12* - (B)
Jimmy Oldham - (Replay)
John O'neill - 14 - *Big 10* - (R)
Maurice Pierre - 94 - *C-USA* - (S)
Clay Reynard - 99 - *Pac-12* - (S)
David Ross - 23 - *Pac-12* - (B)
Jimmy Russell - 96 - *SEC* - (B)
Amanda Sauer-Cook - 31 - *MAC* - (C)
Adam Savoie - 27 - *ACC* - (C)
Tab Slaughter - 51 - *Big-12* - (U)
Larry Smith - 22 - *Big 10* - (C)
Reggie Smith - 2 - *Big-12* - (R)
Chris Snead - 33 - *SEC* - (C)
Frank Steratore - 91 - *Big 10* - (S)
Tripp Sutter - 44 - *Big 10* - (H)
Ron Turner - 82 - *Sunbelt* - (C)
Terri Valenti - (Replay)
Lo van Pham - 6 - *Big-12* - (F)
Francisco Villar - 50 - *Pac-12* - (C)
Tyree Walton - 90 - *MWC* - (B)
Andy Warner - 58 - *Big-12* - (L)
James Wharrie - 8 - *Pac-12* - (H)

2019 ARIZONA HOTSHOTS INAUGURAL SEASON



ARIZONA
HOTSHOTS™



Sun Devil Stadium
Tempe, Arizona



ARIZONA
HOTSHOTS™

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Stadium:
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Phone: 480-865-2333

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Vice President of Ticket Sales	Robert Kiese
Vice President of Corporate Partnerships	Ty Martin
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Director of Team Communications	Daniel Kurish
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Social Media Manager	Angela Denogean
Team Reporter	Jose Romero
Director of Promotions & Community Engagement	Charlene Vasquez
Content Manager	Kaci Demarest
Director of Corporate Partnerships	Kathleen Selman
Manager of Ticket Operations	Mary McGlynn
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Account Executive	Adam Zubiate
Account Executive	Kyle Parcell
Account Executive	Brett Levine



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ARIZONA HOTSHOTS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



Salt Lake Stallions

SUN, FEB 10



@ Memphis Express

SAT, FEB 16



@ Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, FEB 23



Atlanta Legends

SUN, MAR 3



San Antonio Commanders

SUN, MAR 10



@ Orlando Apollos

SAT, MAR 16



San Diego Fleet

SUN, MAR 24



@ San Antonio Commanders

SUN, MAR 31



Birmingham Iron

SUN, APR 7



@ San Diego Fleet

SUN, APR 14

ARIZONA HOTSHOTS GENERAL MANAGER



Phil Savage—Arizona Hotshots

The goal of The Alliance of American Football is to keep dreams alive for players looking for a chance to prove they can compete past college football.

Phil Savage brings a unique skill set to his role as the general manager of the Hotshots. In addition to an impressive resume in the NFL, Savage was the executive director of the Senior Bowl for the last six years. The Senior Bowl is the most prestigious, most important and well-attended of the post-season all-star games. The annual event gives coaches, general managers and talent evaluators an up-close look at the top prospects in the upcoming draft through a week of practice with the festivities culminating

in the North vs. South game. In 2018, there were 84 players who played in the Senior Bowl who were drafted by NFL teams, including six first-round picks, highlighted by No. 1 overall pick and Heisman Trophy winner Baker Mayfield.

In his role with the Senior Bowl, Savage was able to get a look at many of the top college players the last six years, which surely has been helpful putting together the Hotshots roster with coach Rick Neuheisel. Savage parted with the Senior Bowl in May of 2018 and the next month was hired by the Hotshots.

Savage previously worked with Bill Belichick in Cleveland and Ozzie Newsome in Baltimore. He returned for a second stint in Cleveland when he was named vice president and general manager in 2005. After he was let go in Cleveland at the end of the 2008 season, he later worked for the Eagles before taking the job with the Senior Bowl in 2012. Savage is now back running the front office of a team in the inaugural season of The Alliance.

Head Coach Rick Neuheisel

by Peter Botte



Rick Neuheisel has been all over the football map during his accomplished playing and coaching careers, but his latest stop brings him home.

Neuheisel, the head coach of The Alliance of American Football's Arizona Hotshots, will stand along the sidelines of Sun Devil Stadium this season and vividly think back to his childhood. He and his family regularly attended Arizona State home games, and the Tempe landmark also was the site of the state championship he helped win as quarterback for nearby McClintock High School more than 40 years ago.

"That to me is the unbelievably fortuitous turn about all of this, this opportunity with The Alliance," Neuheisel said. "It's one of those things that was just meant to be. I can't wait to coach in Sun Devil Stadium. It's where I thought I always wanted to play when I was growing up. So, I'm very excited about that."

"We went to every Sun Devil game when Frank Kush was coaching there, went to every one of them when I was growing up, starting in the late '60s. We also won the state championship there, and I remember it like it was yesterday. I was playing for the McClintock Chargers and we beat the Washington Rams, 14-9, for the title in 1977. All these years later, I'm heading back there to coach, and it's amazing."

Neuheisel, of course, starred at quarterback for UCLA – winning Rose Bowl MVP honors in 1984 -- before playing two seasons for the San Antonio Gunslingers in the USFL and one more year as a backup signal caller for San Diego Chargers and Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the NFL. However, he truly made his name nationally in the collegiate coaching ranks, compiling a record of 87-58 with eight bowl appearances over 12 years (four apiece) at Colorado, Washington and UCLA from 1995-2011.

The 58-year-old Neuheisel also served for three seasons as quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator for the NFL's Baltimore Ravens, and he's spent his time since his departure from UCLA in 2011 as a college football analyst for CBS, which will be a broadcast partner of the new spring gridiron venture of league co-founders Charlie Ebersol and Bill Polian.

"I'm certainly enjoying what I'm doing with CBS, but if I'm being honest, I have missed coaching, too," Neuheisel said. "This opportunity was like the stars were aligned for me. Because this was not only an opportunity to coach again, but it will take place at a time when I was free to coach again. And the fact that it's going to be telecast by the company that I was working for and they were all-too happy with me being involved, really made it perfect."

Having played in the long-defunct USFL in the 1980s, Neuheisel knows firsthand the upside and the potential pitfalls of a spring pro league, but admits he was attracted to return to the sidelines based on The Alliance of American Football's directive to "complement, not compete," with the NFL. He looks forward to helping "that 'next diamond in the rough guy'" in need of an opportunity to reach the NFL, as 2017 Pro Football Hall of Famer Kurt Warner and so many others have done out of upstart leagues over previous decades.

“That’s a win for us. The USFL had tons of players like that, and so, too, will this league,” Neuheisel said. “I think I’m at a time in my career that I really want to teach. That’s what I think is so exciting about this new venture. For all of us, it’s an opportunity to teach youngsters everything we know about the game to give them the best possible chance to continue playing. I just think that’s as cool as it can be.

“I played in the USFL, and having played in that league, I know there’s a market for this because I went to stadiums that people were absolutely as excited as they could be. I also know there are plenty of players and there are plenty of coaches that want to do it. Charlie Ebersol’s dad (Dick) ran the XFL and they learned some tough lessons there. I think you just take the lessons of the things that caused those other leagues maybe to not get to the finish line. You put it all together and create a pathway and a blueprint that will cause this league to flourish.”

Neuheisel also is looking forward to the prospect of coaching against the accomplished Alliance head coaches such as Steve Spurrier, Dennis Erickson, Mike Singletary and others.

“To begin with, it gives everyone a chance to say, ‘Hey, I want to check that league out.’ Then it’s up to us to have something that when they do check it out, that they’re excited about watching these players,” Neuheisel said. “I think that might get them to watch, but now it’s up to the players and how we put it all together to make them want to continue to watch.

“The league is taking a position that we’ve learned so much about ourselves as a game, so let’s try to make it safer, let’s make it entertaining, yet keep the structure that still makes it real football. I feel like we’re going to strike that happy medium.

“And for me, what I miss most about coaching is just the journey, the relationships, from beginning to end, with both players and coaches. It’s just something you can’t get anywhere else. So, I’m very excited about that.”

Neuheisel, who earned his law degree and passed bar exams in Washington, D.C. and the state of Arizona after his playing days ended, is most excited about returning to the sidelines in the Valley of the Sun while coaching several allocated players who thrived in local college programs.

“The regional aspect of it was very appealing to me,” Neuheisel said. “I think this idea is absolutely sustainable as long as people stay and don’t get ahead of their skis and get greedy about getting bigger, stronger, faster, right? I think if we realize the niche that we have in terms of a place for players who were overlooked and didn’t get a chance but want to play and want to play at a high level and produce fun, entertaining football with players that are that eager, I think we’re going to be there for a long time.” A long time requires one step at a time.

“What happens is you get these Pollyanna ideas that you want to take on the rest of the world, but I think that has to happen over the course of time, not something because you stepped on the gas pedal way too early,” Neuheisel said. “That to me is what’s happened to the other leagues. They had great ideas and then all of a sudden they think they have to take the next step that fast. That to me is a very risky proposition. But I like everything about it thus far, and if I didn’t I would speak up, I promise you. But I’m really looking forward to the opportunity to go back home to coach.”

Sun Devil Stadium - 500 E Veterans Way, Tempe, AZ 85287

Capacity - 53,599 • Surface- Bermuda Grass

- Oct. 1958** – With an original seating capacity of 30,000, the stadium hosted its first college football game between Arizona State and West Texas State.
- Dec. 1971** – The Fiesta Bowl is played at Sun Devil Stadium for the first time, a 45-38 win for ASU over Florida State. The game would be continued to be played there through 2006.
- Sep. 1978** – Seating capacity is boosted to more than 70,000 for the first time.
- Sep. 1987** – Pope John Paul II holds Mass for more than 75,000 people.
- Sep. 1988** – The NFL's St. Louis Cardinals move to Arizona and play their first regular season game - a 17-14 loss to Dallas on Monday Night Football.
- Jan. 1989** – Lou Holtz and No. 1 Notre Dame complete a 12-0 season and clinch the national championship with a 34-21 win over No. 3 West Virginia.
- Jan. 1996** – Super Bowl XXX is held at Sun Devil Stadium, with Dallas winning its third championship in four years with a 27-17 win over Pittsburgh.
- Sep. 1996** – The playing field within the stadium is renamed Frank Kush Field, after the ASU coaching legend (1958-1979).
- Jan. 1999** – No. 1 Tennessee completes an undefeated season by defeating No. 2 Florida State, 23-16, in the Fiesta Bowl to win the BCS National Championship.
- Jan. 2003** – No. 2 Ohio State upends No. 1 Miami, 31-24, in double overtime in the Fiesta Bowl to win the BCS National Championship.
- Jan. 2006** – The Fiesta Bowl is held at Sun Devil Stadium for the final time, moving to the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale the following year. The Cardinals also moved in 2006 to Glendale.
- Dec. 2006** – With the Fiesta Bowl gone, the Insight Bowl begins a six-year run at Sun Devil Stadium.
- Sep. 2018** – Seating capacity gradually was decreased to 54,000.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Rick Neuheisel
Quarterbacks Coach	Steve Axman
Tight Ends Coach	Charles Arbuckle
Offensive Line Coach	Chris Scelfo
Defensive Coordinator	Nick Aliotti
Linebackers Coach	Tim Hundley
Defensive Line Coach	Ron Aiken
Offensive Asst Coach	Chris Reinert
Secondary Coach	Mike Gilhammer
Offensive Asst Coach	Jennifer King
General Manager	Phil Savage
Personnel Director	Alan "Trip" MacCracken
Operations Director	Akshith "AK" Mogulla
Communications Director	Daniel Kurish
Equipment Manager	Scott Rotier
Equipment Assistant	Ben Holland
Video Director	Jeff Gonzalez
Video Assistant	Travis Norris
Head ATC	Todd Champlin
ATC Assistant	Sarah Johnson*
Physical Therapist	Jeremy Pace
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Bob Rogucki

ARIZONA HOTSHOTS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
2	Nick Folk	K	6-2	210	Arizona	Los Angeles, CA
7	John Wolford	QB	6-1	200	Wake Forest	Jacksonville, FL
9	Jeff Locke	P	6-0	195	UCLA	Glendale, AZ
10	Trevor Knight	QB	6-1	215	Texas A&M	San Antonio, TX
11	Jack Heneghan	QB	6-4	230	Dartmouth	Atherton, CA
15	Rashad Ross	WR	6-0	180	Arizona State	Vallejo, CA
16	Richard Mullaney	WR	6-2	205	Oregon State	Valencia, CA
18	Marquis Bundy	WR	6-4	220	New Mexico	Anthem, AZ
20	Tim Cook	RB	6-0	245	Oregon State	Pine Bluff, AR
21	Robert Nelson Jr.	DB	5-10	175	Arizona State	Lakeland, FL
22	Randall Goforth	DB	5-10	190	UCLA	Long Beach, CA
25	Sterling Moore	RB	5-9	200	Southern Methodist	Antioch, CA
26	Jhurell Pressley	RB	5-11	200	New Mexico	Newark, DE
27	Erick Dargan	DB	5-11	220	Oregon	Pittsburg, CA
30	Justin Stockton	RB	5-10	205	Texas Tech	Schertz, TX
31	SaQwan Edwards	DB	6-0	200	New Mexico	Houston, TX
32	Larry Rose III	RB	5-11	195	New Mexico State	Fairfield, TX
37	Kieron Williams	DB	6-0	185	Nebraska	Shreveport, LA
38	Dexter McDougle	DB	5-10	190	Maryland	Woodbridge, VA
44	Obum Gwacham	LB	6-5	245	Oregon State	Onitsha, Nigeria
45	Rahim Moore Sr.	DB	6-1	195	UCLA	Los Angeles, CA
48	Nick Dooley	LS	6-7	270	UTEP	Scottsdale, AZ
49	Steven Johnson	LB	6-1	240	Kansas	Media, PA
50	Kaelin Burnett	LB	6-4	240	Nevada-Reno	Los Angeles, CA
51	Edmond Robinson	LB	6-3	245	Newberry	Wadmalaw Island, SC
52	Carl Bradford	LB	6-1	250	Arizona State	Norco, CA

ARIZONA HOTSHOTS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
53	Steve Beauharnais	LB	6-2	230	Rutgers	Saddlebrook, NJ
54	Sione Teuhema	LB	6-4	260	Southeastern Louisiana	Keller, TX
55	Nyles Morgan	LB	6-1	235	Notre Dame	Crete, IL
58	Scooby Wright III	LB	6-0	240	Arizona	Santa Rosa, CA
59	Da'Sean Downey	LB	6-0	240	Massachusetts	White Plains, NY
62	Jacob Ohnesorge	C	6-2	300	South Dakota State	Waunakee, WI
65	Josh Allen	G	6-3	315	Louisiana-Monroe	Dallas, TX
67	Patrick Lewis	C	6-1	310	Texas A&M	Reserve, LA
68	Alex Thompson	G	6-2	310	Monmouth	Lawnside, NJ
70	Pierce Burton	T	6-6	305	Mississippi	Sacramento, CA
71	Brant Weiss	T	6-6	295	Toledo	Sunbury, OH
76	Andrew Lauderdale	T	6-6	290	New Hampshire	Concord, NH
79	Malcolm Bunche	T	6-6	320	UCLA	Newark, DE
81	Thomas Duarte	TE	6-2	240	UCLA	Fullerton, CA
82	Gerald Christian	TE	6-3	250	Louisville	Palm Beach Gardena, FL
84	Freddie Martino	WR	6-0	195	North Greenville	North, SC
85	Bryce Williams	TE	6-6	260	East Carolina	Lexington, NC
88	Josh Huff	WR	5-11	205	Oregon	Houston, TX
89	Connor Hamlett	TE	6-7	260	Oregon State	Riverside, CA
91	Marcus Hardison	DT	6-3	310	Arizona State	Punta Gorda, FL
92	Rykeem Yates	DE	6-2	280	Nevada-Reno	Fresno, CA
93	Siupeli Anau	DT	6-3	250	Northern Arizona	Phoenix, AZ
94	Olubunmi Rotimi	DE	6-4	275	Old Dominion	Alexandria, VA
95	Trenton Thompson	DT	6-4	295	Georgia	Albany, GA
97	Chunky Clements	DT	6-2	300	Illinois	Dayton, OH
98	Will Sutton III	DT	6-1	290	Arizona State	Corona, CA

2019 ATLANTA LEGENDS INAUGURAL SEASON



Georgia State Stadium
Atlanta, Georgia



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ATLANTA LEGENDS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



@ Orlando Apollos

SAT, FEB 9



@ San Diego Fleet

SUN, FEB 17



Birmingham Iron

SUN, FEB 24



@ Arizona Hotshots

SUN, MAR 3



Memphis Express

SUN, MAR 10



San Antonio Commanders

SUN, MAR 17



Orlando Apollos

SAT, MAR 23



@ Birmingham Iron

SUN, MAR 31



Salt Lake Stallions

SUN, APR 7



@ Memphis Express

SAT, APR 13

ATLANTA LEGENDS GENERAL MANAGER



Billy Devaney – Atlanta Legends

When Matt Simms was picked by Legends general manager Billy Devaney in the second round of The Alliance “Protect or Pick” quarterback draft in Las Vegas, Simms walked up to where he was seated and said, “Now let’s go win this thing.”

Devaney has the background and experience to pull it off. He was a scout in the 1980s on three Washington Redskins teams that went to the Super Bowl, winning two championships. He was then brought to San Diego when the Chargers hired Washington GM Bobby Beathard as their GM. Devaney had the increased role of director of player personnel as Beathard’s right hand man. He is well known as an excellent talent evaluator and that’s what

The Alliance is all about: Identifying young talent and developing it.

The Chargers went to their only Super Bowl in 1994 under the leadership of Beathard, Devaney and coach Bobby Ross. Devaney later worked in the front offices of the 49ers and Falcons and was the general manager of the Rams from 2008-11. His time with the Falcons in 2006 and 2007 gave him the opportunity to become familiar with the Atlanta market.

Devaney will combine his experience helping to build two Super Bowl championship teams with the Redskins – they won a third in 1991 with many of the players drafted and signed during his years in Washington – and his time running the Rams to try to bring the first professional football championship to Atlanta. The Legends have the right leader in Devaney to get it done.

Head Coach Kevin Coyle

by Barry Horn



There can be no debate that the least known of the eight coaches leading teams in the inaugural season of The Alliance of American Football is Staten Island (N.Y.) Hall of Famer Kevin Coyle of the Atlanta Legends.

Five of the other seven have NFL head coaching experience – Mike Martz, Dennis Erickson, Mike Riley, Mike Singletary and Steve Spurrier.

Three of those five – Erickson, Riley and Spurrier – have been successful big-time college coaches as well. Add Rick Neuheisel and you have a Fab Four of esteemed college coaches.

That leaves only two Alliance coaches who never have been head coaches in college or at the professional level – Tim Lewis and Coyle.

Lewis, however, gained recognition playing at the University of Pittsburgh. He matured into a 1983 first-round draft choice of the Green Bay Packers. A cornerback whose NFL career was cut short four seasons later by a neck injury suffered in a nationally-televised Monday Night Football game

against the Chicago Bears, Lewis has paid his coaching dues as an assistant on defense, performing all duties from graduate assistant to coordinator.

And then there is Coyle, who at age 62 is at long last making his head coaching debut. The son of a one-time Wall Street businessman who became the director of Catholic Charities in Brooklyn among other dioceses, Coyle's coaching career began in 1977 as an assistant at his high school alma mater, Monsignor Farrell in the New York borough of Staten Island. His last stop was as the defensive coordinator with the Cincinnati Bengals in 2017.

Timeout to contrast with his AAF contemporaries: Offensive guru Martz, the San Diego Fleet coach, took the St. Louis Rams to the Super Bowl. Erickson, the Salt Lake Stallions coach, won two national championships at the University of Miami before moving on to coach the Seattle Seahawks and San Francisco 49ers. Riley, coach of the San Antonio Commanders, served as coach of the San Diego Chargers as well as at the University of Nebraska and Oregon State.

Memphis Express coach Singletary coached the San Francisco 49ers after a Pro Football Hall of Fame NFL career as a search and destroy linebacker for the Chicago Bears and a Super Bowl victory in 1986. That after a College Football Hall of Fame stop at Baylor.

Spurrier, the Orlando Apollos coach, was a Heisman Trophy winning quarterback at Florida and a legendary college coach at the universities of Florida and South Carolina. That complements NFL experience with the Washington Redskins. Neuheisel, of the Arizona Hotshots, remains a high-profile college football analyst for CBS. He played at UCLA before coaching at Colorado, Washington and UCLA. Coyle said he might have been content to coach his entire career in high school where he correctly emphasizes some of football's greatest coaches have toiled, but he stepped away to pursue a master's degree in education at the University of Cincinnati.

Instead, a graduate assistant's job he took on to help pay the bills at the University of Cincinnati proved

to be the first step on a four-decade college and NFL sojourn of assistant coaching jobs that culminated with a seven-year run as defensive coordinator with the Miami Dolphins and Cincinnati Bengals.

“I have 40 years of coaching experience but from the standpoint of name recognition, yes it’s accurate that I am relatively anonymous,” a hoarse Coyle said after a preseason day of working with his Legends. Truth be told Coyle didn’t sign on with The Alliance as a head coach. He was hired on to be the Legends’ defensive coordinator. But when initial head coach Brad Childress abruptly resigned during training camp in early January, the experienced Coyle was elevated to replace him.

Had it simply been someone with name recognition that The Alliance brain trust wanted to lead the Legends, they might have opted for the team’s offensive coordinator Michael Vick. He may be a novice coach but he is a headline grabber. He once played quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons during a well-publicized 13-season NFL career that included later stops with the Philadelphia Eagles, New York Jets and Pittsburgh Steelers.

Instead the No. 1 job in Atlanta went to Coyle, who attended the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and served as assistant coach on the college level at Cincinnati, Arkansas, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Holy Cross, Syracuse, Maryland and Fresno State before moving on to the NFL’s Bengals, Dolphins and Bengals again.

Among the more familiar college coaches he worked with along the way were Lou Holtz at Arkansas and Mike Sherman at Holy Cross who went on to coach the Green Bay Packers and later discover Johnny Manziel for Texas A&M.

It was while coaching at Syracuse in 1991, Coyle married his wife, Louise. Their only child, daughter Jenlain, the proud papa volunteered, is a recent graduate of Georgetown Law School and a private practice attorney in Washington.

Coyle said his wife and daughter as well as his father Harold, at age 93, and his 91-year-old father-in-law, are as excited as he is that he has ascended to become a head coach.

Coyle was as surprised as anyone, he said, when he heard that the offensive-minded Childress, once the coach of the Minnesota Vikings, had decided to leave the Legends.

“I was so focused on what we are trying to do here,” Coyle said. “I had no idea.”

And now, the next step.

“Coaching is in my blood,” he said. “It was instilled there by my high school coach...It’s all about making people feel they can accomplish great things...The challenge here is to galvanize people and have them work toward a single goal.

“It drives me every day.”

Georgia State Stadium - 755 Hank Aaron Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30315 Capacity - 24,333 • Surface- Field Turf

- July 1993** - Ground broken on construction of what initially would be known as Centennial Olympic Stadium.
- July 1996** - The 82,000-seat capacity stadium hosted the Opening Ceremonies of the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, highlighted by Muhammad Ali lighting the Olympic cauldron and performances by Gladys Knight and Celine Dion.
- July 1996** - In track and field events, Donovan Bailey of Canada sets a world record in the 100 meters at 9.84 seconds, American Michael Johnson takes gold in both the 200 meters and 400 meters and Carl Lewis wins his fourth consecutive gold medal in the long jump, tying an Olympic record.
- Apr. 1997** - The stadium is reconfigured as a baseball ballpark for the Atlanta Braves and renamed Turner Field, with an address of 755 Hank Aaron Drive.
- Oct. 1999** - The Braves reach the World Series for the fifth time in the 1990s, and the first time since their move to Turner Field, but they are swept by the New York Yankees.
- May 2004** - Randy Johnson of the Arizona Diamondbacks throws the first perfect game and no-hitter in Turner Field history, a 2-0 win over the Braves.
- Jan. 2017** - With the Braves slated to move to a new stadium in Cobb County, Georgia State University purchases the property and renames it Georgia State Stadium. Reconstruction lowers seating capacity to roughly 24,000.
- Aug. 2017** - The first Georgia State home game in the stadium, a 17-10 loss to Tennessee State, is played before an announced sellout crowd of 24,333.
- Oct. 2017** - The Panthers earn their first home win at Georgia State Stadium, a 21-13 victory over South Alabama.
- Apr. 2018** - The Foo Fighters play the first concert at Georgia State Stadium as part of their Concrete and Gold Tour.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Kevin Coyle
Offensive Coordinator	Michael Vick
Special Teams Coordinator/Linebackers	Mark Criner
Quarterbacks	Rich Bartel
Wide Receivers	Jimmy Robinson
Offensive Line	Pete Metzelaars
Running Backs	John Johnson
Tight Ends	Corey Woods
Defensive Coordinator/Secondary Coach	Louie Cioffi
Special Teams Coordinator/ Linebackers Coach	Mark Kriner
Defensive Line	Leroy Thompson
Senior Offensive Assistant	Dennis Goldman
Offensive Assistant	Miles Robinson
Defensive Assistant	Tyler Anderson
Defensive Specialist	Jen Welter
General Manager	Billy Devaney
Player Personnel Director	Nate Tice
Director of Football Operations	Chris Thompson
Coaching Assistant	Abed Belkhou
Equipment Manager	Cortez Robinson
Equipment Assistant	Jessica Gladden
Video Director	Jacob Berry
Video Assistant	Ricky Layman
Head Athletic Trainer	Rachel Sharpe
Assistant Athletic Trainer	Daniel McAdams
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Martin Streight
Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach	Frank Failace

ATLANTA LEGENDS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
63	Barnes, Tavaris	DL	6-4	284	Clemson	Jacksonville, FL
93	Barnes, T.J.	DL	6-6	380	Georgia Tech	Montgomery, AL
52	Bass, Khalil	LB	6-0	229	Portland State	Encino, CA
64	Burden, Freddie	OL	6-4	308	Georgia Tech	Statesboro, GA
13	Crockett, Montay	WR	5-11	190	Georgia Southern	Rock Hill, SC
95	Dean, David	DL	6-2	303	Virginia	Virginia Beach, VA
49	Donahue, Dylan	LB	6-3	248	West Virginia	Sunnyvale, CA
75	Farris, Chase	OL	6-5	311	Ohio State	Elyria, OH
26	Folston, Tarean	RB	5-10	210	Notre Dame	Cocoa, FL
50	Freeman, KeShun	LB	6-3	261	Georgia Tech	LaGrange, GA
65	Gennesey, Avery	OL	6-3	318	Texas A&M	Southaven, MS
32	Graham Jr., Tyson	DB	6-2	218	South Dakota	Pompano Beach, FL
21	Grant, Doran	CB	5-11	200	Ohio State	Akron, OH
41	Griffin, Corey	DB	6-2	201	Georgia Tech	Tyrone, GA
76	Henderson, Tyshon	OL	6-7	343	Clark- Atlanta	Newark, NJ
22	Hollis, Dwayne	CB	5-9	185	N.C. Wesleyan	Newport News, VA
	Hoskins, Ro'Derrick	LB	6-3	235	Florida State	Orlando, FL
84	Howard, Bug	WR	6-5	229	North Carolina	Rochelle, GA
87	Hudson, Garrett	TE	6-4	240	Richmond	Raleigh, NC
99	Jackson, Bijhon	DT	6-2	315	Arkansas	El Dorado, AR
91	Jones, J.T.	DL	6-2	248	Miami (OH)	East Atlanta, GA
14	Jones, Malachi	WR	6-2	206	Appalachian State	Roswell, GA
15	Jones, Seantavius	WR	6-2	217	Valdosta State	Tucker, GA
70	Kling IV, John	OL	6-8	324	Buffalo	Cheektowaga, NY
7	Koo, Younghoe	K	5-10	183	Georgia Southern	Seoul, South Korea

ATLANTA LEGENDS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
23	Lawrence, Desmond	DB	6-0	185	North Carolina	Charlotte, NC
	Lotulelei, Tau	LB	6-0	235	UNLV	San Diego, CA
48	Luc, Jeff	LB	6-1	264	Cincinnati	Port St. Lucie, FL
42	Mauger, Quincy	DB	6-0	207	Georgia	Marietta, GA
	McCord, Tyriq	LB	6-3	265	Miami	Tampa, FL
20	Merritt, Carlos	DB	6-0	195	Campbell	Union City, GA
	Moxley, Trae	OL	6-6	345	Colorado State	Carbondale, CO
9	Nizialek, Cameron	P	6-2	210	Georgia	Chantilly, VA
44	Overbaugh, Jeff	LS	6-2	235	San Diego State	Santa Fe, NM
11	Murray, Aaron	QB	6-1	202	Georgia	Tampa, FL
77	Pertile, Brandon	OL	6-6	323	Virginia	Clearwater, FL
82	Philips, Ervin	WR	5-11	180	Syracuse	Milford, CT
6	Pujals, Peter	QB	6-2	211	Holy Cross	Glenview, Ill
17	Quick, James	WR	6-0	167	Louisville	Louisville, KY
31	Reynolds, Ed	S	6-1	207	Stanford	Greensboro, NC
25	Robinson, Denard	RB	6-0	213	Michigan	Deerfield Beach, FL
62	Schmidt, Matthew	OL	6-3	301	Furman	Stokesdale, NC
4	Simms, Matt	QB	6-3	210	Tennessee	Franklin Lakes, NJ
90	Sprinkle, Tracy	DT	6-3	292	Ohio State	Elyria, OH
80	Standberry Jr., Charles	TE	6-3	243	Louisville	Montgomery, AL
29	Swann, Damian	DB	6-0	177	Georgia	Atlanta, GA
88	Thomas, Justin	WR	5-11	190	Georgia Tech	Prattville, AL
89	Towbridge, Keith	TE	6-4	262	Louisville	Toledo, OH
27	Wadley, Akrum	RB	5-10	195	Iowa	Newark, NJ
58	Watts, Brandon	LB	6-3	273	Georgia Tech	Augusta, GA

2019 BIRMINGHAM IRON INAUGURAL SEASON



BIRMINGHAM
IRON



Legion Field Stadium
Birmingham, Alabama



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IRON** TM

Mailing Address:

Forum Building
950 22nd Street, North,
Suite 200
Birmingham, AL 35203

Stadium:

Legion Field Stadium
400 Graymont Ave W
Birmingham, AL 35204

Phone: 205-847-1616

FRONT OFFICE

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Vice President of Marketing	Randy Campbell	randy.campbell@aaf.com
Vice President of Ticket Sales	Matt Fahr	matt.fahr@aaf.com
VP Corporate Partnerships	John "Jack" Swope	john.swope@aaf.com
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Social Media Manager	Courtney Kramer	courtney.kramer@aaf.com
Promotions Coordinator	Megan Malloy	megan.malloy@aaf.com
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Account Executive	Tyrone King	tyrone.king@aaf.com
Account Executive	Sam Pugh	sam.pugh@aaf.com
Account Executive	Brad White	brad.white@aaf.com



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BIRMINGHAM IRON

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



Memphis Express

SUN, FEB 10



Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, FEB 16



@ Atlanta Legends

SUN, FEB 24



San Antonio Commanders

SUN, MAR 3



Orlando Apollos

SAT, MAR 9



@ San Diego Fleet

SUN, MAR 17



@ Memphis Express

SUN, MAR 24



Atlanta Legends

SUN, MAR 31



@ Arizona Hotshots

SUN, APR 7



@ Orlando Apollos

SUN, APR 14

BIRMINGHAM IRON GENERAL MANAGER



Joe Pendry—Birmingham Iron

Startups are nothing new for Iron general manager Joe Pendry. Back in 1984, he was standing on a field in Melbourne, Fla., running practice for the Pittsburgh Maulers of the USFL. It was the second year of the USFL and the first for the expansion Maulers. Pendry had served as the offensive coordinator under Jim Mora for the Philadelphia Stars in the first year of the league. He previously had been an assistant coach at West Virginia, Kansas State, Pittsburgh (he coached Dan Marino) and Michigan State. Pendry was let go near the end of the season by the Maulers and the team folded after the season.

After the USFL, Pendry worked for seven NFL teams as an assistant coach, including under Marty Schottenheimer in Cleveland, Kansas City and Washington. He finished his coaching career as an assistant at the University of Alabama from 2007, when Nick Saban arrived, and remained on the staff until 2010. Alabama won the national championship in 2009. Pendry worked in an off-the-field role at Alabama until he was hired by the Iron.

Pendry clearly knows about the importance of football in Alabama with perennial powerhouses in Tuscaloosa with the Crimson Tide and Auburn University. He's excited about giving young players an opportunity to prove themselves.

"That's what is so exciting about it," Pendry said. "There are so many players who never get the opportunity. Or, if they do have the opportunity in pro football, they might not last long because of an injury, because of being in the wrong place with a stacked deck of personnel or various and sundry reasons."

Pendry has a lifetime of experience to rely on to build the roster and give coach Tim Lewis and his staff a chance to get to the championship game in Las Vegas on April 27. He's already helped win one championship for the state of Alabama.



Head Coach Tim Lewis

by Peter Botte



Only two of the eight men tabbed to serve as head coaches for the inaugural season of The Alliance of American Football never has held that title at any level.

Since The Alliance bills itself as an opportunity league for players, however, why shouldn't that same thinking apply to Birmingham head coach Tim Lewis?

Lewis has served as a defensive coordinator for two NFL teams and as a secondary coach for four others over more than two decades on the sidelines. At 57, he finally will receive that chance with the Iron.

"I've always wanted to be a head coach," Lewis said. "I've worked in the NFL for 21 years and in college football for eight years before that and my goal was to always continue to work and let my body of work speak for itself. "I've interviewed for a number of head jobs in the NFL and I'd never gotten one. So when this opportunity came, I thought it was fantastic. It gives me

an opportunity to live out my dream of working at that position. I plan on making the most of it and I'm really excited about it."

Lewis credits a pair of assists in his long-awaited ascension to two of his former players, Troy Polamalu and Justin Tuck, retired NFL stars who endorsed him in this process in their advisory roles to the fledgling spring league. Lewis was the defensive coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers during Polamalu's rookie season in 2003; he held the same position with the New York Giants from 2004-06 at the start of Tuck's career.

"It means the world to me," Lewis said. "Justin actually introduced me at my presentation and my announcement to the city of Birmingham, and that was fantastic.

"It was a great pleasure and a great honor to coach them, and I can't say enough or tell you how important it was to have them when my name came up as a possible candidate, to step up and go to bat for me for this job. It means the world to me and I'm forever indebted to them."

At Lewis' introductory press conference in Birmingham last June, Tuck, an Alabama native, lauded Lewis as a "committed and no-nonsense" coach whose ability to teach stretches beyond the X's and O's on the field. "Obviously, he knows the game of football and he knows it very well, but he also knows how to be an example for those players he's going to be commanding," Tuck said. "He's going to be committed to making sure they understand they are going to do things right not only on the field but off it. He's going to be a tremendous representative of quality as a person and as a coach. I look forward to watching him not only win, but demand that his players and the people around him win both on and off the field."

One of the challenges Lewis faces in his new gig will be squaring off with a "Who's Who" of proven coaches each week in The Alliance, recognizable names such as Steve Spurrier, Mike Martz, Dennis Erickson, Rick Neuheisel and Mike Singletary. It is one that he fully embraces.

"To get that opportunity and to be mentioned as doing the same role as a Steve Spurrier or a Mike Singletary, it's kind of daunting, actually, but at the same time, it's exciting, and it's a challenge," Lewis said. "My whole life has been about challenges and trying to meet challenges. We as athletes and coaches have always been goal setters. This has been a goal of mine to get this opportunity and I plan on making the most of it."

Lewis was an impact player in the NFL as a first-round draft pick (11th overall) of the Green Bay Packers as a cornerback out of the University of Pittsburgh in 1983. He picked off 16 passes in four seasons, including a team record 99-yard interception return for a touchdown in 1984. Less than two years later, however, Lewis' playing career was cut short when he suffered a serious neck injury on Monday Night Football against the Chicago Bears.

Albeit sooner than he'd planned, Lewis transitioned into the coaching ranks in 1987, joining his former Pitt coach Jackie Sherrill's staff at Texas A&M as a graduate assistant. Stops as a defensive backs coach at SMU and at his alma mater led to Lewis being hired on Bill Cowher's staff in that same role in 1993.

A quarter-century later, Lewis still holds out hope for a shot at an NFL head-coaching job. But he certainly isn't looking past the long-awaited opportunity he has landed in Birmingham.

"A long time ago, coach Cowher told me if you were worried about the next job, you're bound to fail at the one you've got. So I'm just going to try to do the very best job with the one that I've got," Lewis said. "So, I'm really excited about the opportunity to be a head coach in The Alliance for the Birmingham Iron. Whatever happens from there, happens. I've never been the type of guy to concern myself with anything other than the job that I've got at hand."

Interestingly for Lewis, Birmingham's first game against the Memphis Express on Feb. 9 will be a true family affair. His older brother Will – also a longtime player, coach and executive in the NFL – is Memphis' general manager.

"I thought for a moment that we actually were going to get a chance to work together. But the good Lord has a way of working things out where maybe it's good that we're not," Tim Lewis joked. "It adds a little bit more intrigue to the league, maybe, I don't know. But it's going to be exciting, one way or the other. My Mom lives with me and my family, so at least I know I have one fan."

Regarding the Iron's remaining fans, Lewis hopes to attract them with an exciting brand of football on both sides of the ball. The league's marketing strategy of allocating players based on their geographical collegiate history means fans in football-crazed Alabama will get to see plenty of familiar names attempting to extend their careers in The Alliance.

"The fact of the matter is the quality of the football is going to be great," Lewis said. "I think the fans are going to come out and enjoy themselves and watch the game and be engaged. We're putting high-quality professional football on in the spring in a timeframe that quite frankly right after the Super Bowl and before the draft, there's a yearning for it, a desire for it, and we're going to fill that void."

"It's really exciting for me because the fact of the matter is, just like I've been given an opportunity, for us to be able to give an opportunity to a young guy that for whatever reason is not a part of the NFL – whether it be height, weight, speed, change of direction, maybe not enough plays, maybe just not enough time – to give them an opportunity to extend, to start or to revitalize their careers is a blessing."

"I can't wait to get our hands on those young guys to watch them grow and watch them learn and to pass along the information that we've got. And then if it is that their ultimate goal is to make it to the NFL, to be a part of that, that's what we all strive to do, is to help someone else out in this world, right? This would be an absolute blessing for all of us to help a young man live his dream."

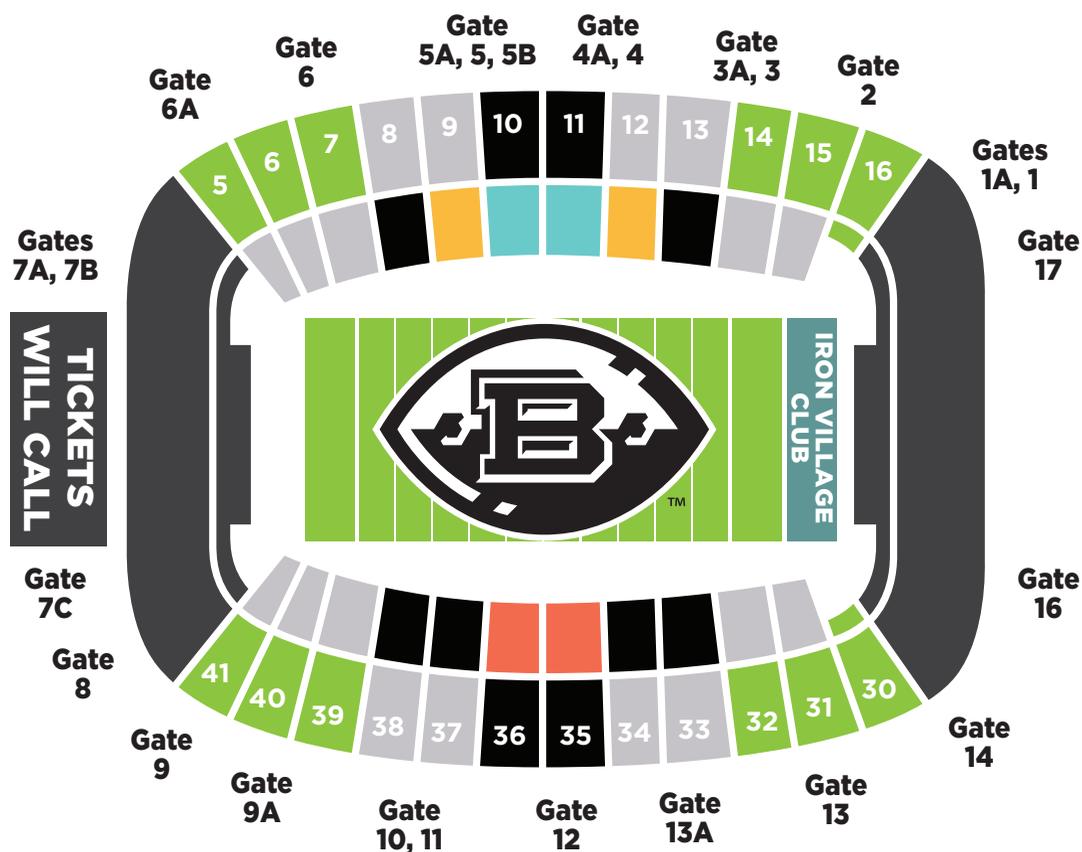
Living out those dreams is not just reserved for the young men on the field. Lewis is still chasing his dream, and The Alliance of American Football has granted him a chance to fulfill it.



Legion Field - 400 Graymont Avenue West Birmingham, AL 35204

Capacity - 71,594 • Surface- Field Turf

- Nov. 1927** - Howard College (now Samford University) defeats Birmingham Southern College, 9-0, in the first event at the new stadium in Birmingham, named in honor of the American Legion.
- Nov. 1948** - The first edition of what later became known as the Iron Bowl between rivals Alabama and Auburn was held at Legion Field.
- Sep. 1968** - The American Football League stages a regular-season game between the Boston Patriots and the New York Jets, led by former Crimson Tide star quarterback Joe Namath. The Jets won, 47-31.
- Oct. 1969** - The first nationally televised night college football game at Legion Field takes place between Ole Miss and Alabama.
- July 1996** - A preliminary round soccer match between the United States and Argentina ahead of the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta draws a Legion Field record crowd 83,810 fans.
- Dec. 2015** - Auburn played its last home game at Legion Field in 1991, but it returned to take part in the Birmingham Bowl in 2015, a 31-10 win over Memphis.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME	EMAIL
Head Coach	Tim Lewis	tim.lewis@aaf.com
Offensive Coordinator / QBs	Steve Logan	steve.logan@aaf.com
Wide Receivers Coach	Alex Mortensen	alex.mortensen@aaf.com
Offensive Line Coach	Dave Magazu	dave.magazu@aaf.com
Running Backs Coach	Carnell Williams	carnell.williams@aaf.com
Tight Ends / ST Coach	Ray Rychleski	ray.rychleski@aaf.com
Defensive Coordinator	Rick Minter	rick.minter@aaf.com
Defensive Line	Ray Hamilton	ray.hamilton@aaf.com
Linebackers Coach	Ted Cottrell	ted.cottrell@aaf.com
Secondary Coach	Martin Bayless	martin.bayless@aaf.com
Defensive Assistant	Steve Meyer	steve.meyer@aaf.com
Defensive Line Asst Coach	Lo Locust	lori.locust@aaf.com
General Manager	Joe Pendry	joe.pendry@aaf.com
Executive VP of Football Ops	Trey Brown	trey.brown@aaf.com
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Equipment Manager	Bob Wick	bob.wick@aaf.com
Equipment Assistant	Dave Hofmaier	dave.hofmaier@aaf.com
Video Director	Ben Lawson	ben.lawson@aaf.com
Video Assistant	Steve Graham	steve.graham@aaf.com
Head ATC	Greg McMillen	gregory.mcmillen@aaf.com
ATC Assistant	Chris Hauler	chris.hauler@aaf.com
S&C Coach	Chad Dennis	not set up yet



BIRMINGHAM IRON TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
58	Adeoye, Aaron	LB	6-6	260	Southeast Missouri State	Marion, Ill.
89	Anderson, Busta	TE	6-5	236	South Carolina	Powder Springs, Ga.
80	Bowman, Braedon	TE	6-4	236.5	South Alabama	Mesa, Ariz.
81	Bray, Quan	WR	5-10	185	Auburn	LaGrange, Ga.
42	Brown, Beniquez	LB	6-1	238	Mississippi State	Florence, Ala.
35	Campbell, Elijah	DB	5-11	195	Northern Iowa	St. Paul, Minn.
21	Davis, Chris	DB	5-11	204	Auburn	Birmingham, Ala.
88	Davis, Connor	TE	6-8	265	Stony Brook	Bel Air, Md.
51	Dickson, Xzavier	LB	6-4	238	Alabama	Griffin, Ga.
67	Dunn, Michael	T	6-5	320	Maryland	Bethesda, Md.
14	Etta-Tawo, Amba	WR	6-1	194	Syracuse	Powder Springs, Ga.
63	Faulk, Jeremy	DL	6-2	286	Garden City CC	Hastings, Fla.
13	Felton, DeVozea	WR	5-6	153.5	Tuskegee	Buford, Ga.
71	Frazier, Josh	DT	6-3	308	Alabama	Springdale, Ark.
62	Graham, Larson	T	6-5	304	Duquesne	Wyoming, Ohio
60	Greene, Brandon	T	6-5	290	Alabama	Ellenwood, Ga.
27	Hagen, Jacob	DB	6-3	206	Liberty	Orange Park, Fla.
70	Hassenauer, J.C	C	6-3	305.8	Alabama	Woodbury, Minn.
94	Hatley, Rickey	DT	6-4	300	Missouri	Atlanta, Texas
32	Isaac, Ty	RB	6-3	235	Michigan	Shorewood, Ill.
77	Jackson, Dominick	T	6-5	320	Alabama	San Mateo, Calif.
93	James, Nick	DT	6-4	315	Mississippi State	Long Beach, Miss.
78	Kirven, Korren	T	6-5	334	Alabama	Lynchburg, Va.
57	Massaquoi, Jonathan	LB	6-3	246	Troy	Lawrenceville, Ga.
	Maxey, Johnny	DT	6-5	305	Mars Hill	Columbia, S.C.
48	Mazza, Cole	LS	6-1	225	Alabama	Bakersfield, Calif.

BIRMINGHAM IRON TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
9	Novak, Nick	K	5-11	203	Maryland	Charlottesville, Va.
79	O'Brien, Kitt	G	6-5	312	Ball State	Walton, Ind.
97	Okoye, Lawrence	DT	6-6	311	NO COLLEGE	Croydon, England
16	Palmer, Tobais	WR	5-10	200	North Carolina State	Pittsboro, N.C.
18	Patton, Quinton	WR	6-0	185	Louisiana Tech	La Vergne, Tenn.
12	Perez, Luis	QB	6-3	223	Texas A&M-Commerce	Chula Vista, Calif.
41	Perkins, Ladarius	RB	5-8	209	Mississippi State	Greenville, Miss.
8	Price, Keith	QB	6-1	202	Washington	Compton, Calif.
20	Redfield, Max	DB	6-1	192	Indiana (PA)	Mission Viejo, Calif.
23	Reed, Trovon	DB	6-0	202	Auburn	Thibodaux, La.
33	Richardson, Trent	RB	5-10	230	Alabama	Pensacola, Fla.
45	Ross, Brandon	RB	5-11	205.5	Maryland	Newark, Del.
56	Salmon, Shaheed	LB	6-2	228	Samford	Tampa, Fla.
90	Sayles, Casey	DT	6-4	306	Ohio	Omaha, Neb.
2	Schmidt, Colton	P	5-11	219	Cal-Davis	Bakersfield, Calif.
6	Sims, Blake	QB	5-11	219.5	Alabama	Gainesville, Ga.
52	Spearman, Ike	LB	6-0	229	Eastern Michigan	Saint John, Ind.
26	Summers, Jamar	DB	5-11	191	Connecticut	Orange, N.J.
29	Sylve, Bradley	DB	5-11	178	Alabama	Port Sulphur, La.
53	Taylor, Devin	LB	6-8	268	South Carolina	Beaufort, S.C
34	Tocho, Jack	DB	6-1	195	North Carolina State	Charlotte, N.C.
	Wadood, Jaleel	DB	5-9	180	UCLA	Los Angeles, Calif.
85	Washington, L'Damian	WR	6-4	194.5	Missouri	Shreveport, La.
54	Wells, Matthew	LB	6-2	223	Mississippi State	Monticello, Miss.
31	White, Ryan	DB	5-11	201	Auburn	Tallahassee, Fla.
73	Young, Avery	G	6-6	308	Auburn	Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

2019 MEMPHIS EXPRESS INAUGURAL SEASON



Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium
Memphis, Tennessee



Mailing Address:

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Memphis, TN 38103

Phone: 901.881.3344

Stadium:

Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium
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MEMPHIS EXPRESS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



@ Birmingham Iron

SUN, FEB 10



Arizona Hotshots

SAT, FEB 16



@ Orlando Apollos

SAT, FEB 23



San Diego Fleet

SAT, MAR 2



@ Atlanta Legends

SUN, MAR 10



@ Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, MAR 16



Birmingham Iron

SUN, MAR 24



Orlando Apollos

SAT, MAR 30



@ San Antonio Commanders

SAT, APR 6



Atlanta Legends

SAT, APR 13

MEMPHIS EXPRESS GENERAL MANAGER



Will Lewis - Memphis Express

Will Lewis has lots of experience on the playing field and in the front office, which makes him a great pairing with Hall of Famer Mike Singletary.

Lewis as the GM and Singletary -- the fearsome linebacker for the Chicago Bears and the former head coach of the San Francisco 49ers -- as head coach provide the Memphis Express a solid foundation in the first year of The Alliance.

During his playing days, Lewis was a cornerback who played professionally from 1980-89 in the NFL, USFL and Canadian Football League. He started his front office career that led him to Memphis working as a scout and pro personnel assistant with the

Packers in 1997 and 1998. The Packers went to the Super Bowl the year before Lewis arrived and in his first year with the team.

From there, he became the director of pro personnel for the Seattle Seahawks from 1999-2009. He was retained after Tim Ruskell was hired as the Seahawks president and general manager in 2005, which coincided with Seattle's first trip to the Super Bowl. Ruskell is now the general manager of the Orlando Apollos in The Alliance. Lewis served as the vice president of football operations for the Seahawks from 2010-12 before he became the director of pro scouting with the Chiefs from 2013-17 working with Andy Reid.

"Will has a unique blend of playing, coaching and front office experience that makes him the perfect fit for this position," said J.K. McKay, the head of football operations for The Alliance. "In order to put high quality football on the field, which is our number one priority, you need seasoned executives and coaches at the helm who can go out and identify, sign and develop talented players. Lewis is highly respected in the industry and we're confident he will help build a championship-caliber team in Memphis."

The goal of Lewis and Singletary is the same as the other teams in The Alliance. They want to be lifting the championship trophy on April 27 in Las Vegas.

Head Coach Mike Singletary

by Barry Horn



In a league loaded with head coaches whose NFL pedigrees ooze offensive expertise, Mike Singletary stands out. He is The Alliance of American Football's lone former NFL head coach whose resume is chockful of defensive achievements.

A ferocious defender as a player, Singletary, a Baylor University graduate, was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1995. Twelve seasons as the heart and soul of the Chicago Bears defense, including what many consider to be the best defense in NFL history in Chicago's Super Bowl winning season in 1985, earned the former middle linebacker, who was named an All-Pro eight times, induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1998.

He gained national recognition during the Super Bowl season. Named the NFL's "Defensive Player of the Year" he recorded 109 solo tackles and assisted on 52 others. Then there were three sacks, three fumble recoveries, one forced fumble and one interception. The Bears defense was ranked

No. 1 and considered it an insult if an offense had the audacity to move down the field for even a field goal. They were that good.

Among the nicknames Singletary earned as the steely eyes of the Bears defense was "Samurai Mike" for his intimidating intensity and singular focus on the field.

Asked if he hopes to disrupt the notion that The Alliance of American Football will be a high-flying affair, Singletary didn't hesitate. With due respect to the offensive-minded Steve Spurrier, Mike Martz, Mike Riley, Dennis Erickson, and Rick Neuheisel, he offered two simple sentences.

"I hope so," he says.

"I plan to," he follows up.

The only other Alliance coach whose specialty is defense is the Birmingham Iron's Tim Lewis, the former University of Pittsburgh cornerback whose four-year NFL playing career with the Green Bay Packers was cut short by a neck injury in 1986. Lewis' years as a college and NFL assistant coach peaked as the defensive coordinator with the Pittsburgh Steelers and New York Giants at the start of the new millennium.

Singletary, on the other hand, entered coaching in 2003 with the Baltimore Ravens as the linebackers coach. Two seasons later, he was named assistant head coach of the San Francisco 49ers. Eight games into the 2008 season, he was elevated to head coach.

By season's end, Singletary was signed to a four-year contract to continue as the 49ers coach. Singletary's relative whirlwind ascension, however, came with baggage.

He was not sufficiently prepared to be a head coach, he says. The same bulldogged determination and passion that had served him so well as a player proved a coaching hurdle while working with less enthusiastic players. Singletary was dismissed with one game remaining in the 2010 season.

"There was something wrong with the situation," he says. "My overall knowledge was lacking, I had no chance of winning. Even if I won, I wouldn't have known how to do it again."

But coaching remained in his blood. He joined the Minnesota Vikings in 2011 as linebackers coach and special assistant to head coach Leslie Frazier, once his teammate with the Bears.

Singletary eventually drifted away from coaching after spending the 2016 season as an advisor for the Los Angeles Rams defense.

But he could not escape the calling to coach. While considering a transition to the ministry, Singletary, who lives in the Dallas area, accepted an offer to coach at suburban Trinity Christian-Addison high school. Six weeks later, he was named head coach of The Alliance's Memphis Express.

And so, he spent the back end of 2018 with two teams under his watch.

Singletary said he is unsure if he will return to high school coaching next season. His out-manned team struggled in 2018 just as it had for several previous seasons.

But he motivated his players, taught them life lessons and groomed assistant coaches.

Mission accomplished.

Singletary also spent a lot of time familiarizing himself with the Memphis area. "I know now that Memphis is a city that will take pride in its football team," Singletary says.

Since serving as the 49ers coach, Singletary has sojourned around the country picking the brains of some of football's greatest coaching minds, including the likes of defensive specialist Bill Parcells and the offensive-minded Dan Reeves.

Singletary says his favorite question for his who's who of sideline Einsteins was simple. "Now that you can look back on your career," he repeatedly asked, "what would you have done differently?"

"What I learned is that football has to be a team sport," Singletary says. "The defense has to complement the offense. The offense has to complement the special teams. The special teams have to complement the defense. Everyone has to be in it together.

"As head coach, I need to know everything about the game," he says.

To that end, Singletary even tracked down Darrel Davis in the Pacific Northwest. Better known as "Mouse" Davis, he is the godfather of the "Run-and-Shoot" offense.

To help engineer his offense with the Express will be coordinator Hal Mumme, who is credited with being one of the innovators who created the "air raid offense." Mumme's high-flying offense made stops at seven colleges.

"Our system is fast-paced and designed to make the defense cover the entire field," Mumme says of the offense he developed along with Mike Leach at Iowa Wesleyan University when they were there in 1991.

"We incorporated a lot of concepts from former coaches Lavell Edwards, Bill Walsh, June Jones and Mouse Davis' systems."

Singletary's quarterbacks coach is David Lee, who helped shape Tony Romo's career with the Dallas Cowboys, and Ty Knott, who has nine seasons of NFL assistant coaching with stops at Detroit, Jacksonville, New Orleans and Green Bay on his resume and will be the running backs coach and special teams coordinator. Dennis Thurman, once a Dallas Cowboys defensive back and later a coach with the Baltimore Ravens as well as coordinator with the New York Jets and Buffalo Bills, will serve as Singletary's defensive coordinator.

Singletary has no preconceived notions of schemes and game plans.

"I will put players in positions to win," he said. "I'll be looking at personnel and provide a system that will best fit the players."

He won't be surrounded by the talent he was with in Chicago, but Singletary is a teacher and The Alliance is all about the players being sponges and absorbing all the knowledge provided by Singletary and the other coaches.

Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium 335 S Hollywood St, Memphis, TN 38104

Capacity - 61,008 • Surface- Astroturf

- Sep. 1965** – Opened as Memphis Memorial Stadium.
- Sep. 1965** – University of Memphis settled into its new football home with a 34-24 loss to Ole Miss.
- Dec. 1965** – First Liberty Bowl game played in the stadium after the bowl game was moved from Philadelphia where it kicked off in 1959. Mississippi defeated Auburn, 13-7 with 38,607 fans in attendance.
- July 1974** – The Memphis franchise of the World Football League debuted with a 34-15 victory over the Detroit Wheels. A crowd of 30,122 attended. The franchise was officially the Southmen but was also known as the Grizzlies. The league and the team folded midway through the 1975 season.
- May 1975** – Major League home run king Hank Aaron, then of the Milwaukee Brewers, hit his only home run in Memphis during an exhibition game against the Atlanta Braves. It was announced that 11,365 fans attended the game.
- Sep. 1990** – The first of the annual Southern Heritage Classic presented by FedEx, a neutral site game between Jackson State and Tennessee State, was played by the two historically black colleges.
- Feb. 1984** – After debuting with two road games, the USFL expansion Memphis Showboats hosted the Philadelphia Stars. The Showboats and the league folded before the 1986 season.
- Dec. 1991** – A then-record crowd of 61,497 watched Air Force defeat Mississippi State 38-15 in the Liberty Bowl game.
- July 1995** – The Canadian Football League-expansion Memphis Mad Dogs made their home debut with a loss to the British Columbia Lions. The team, which finished 9-9, folded after its inaugural season.
- Aug. 1997** – The Houston Oilers on their way to becoming Nashville's Tennessee Titans made a one season pitstop in Memphis. The Tennessee Oilers opened their preseason with a loss to the New Orleans Saints. The Oilers drew more than 30,000 fans to only three of their home games. The first was the regular season opener when they hosted the Oakland Raiders (30,171).
- Dec. 1997** – Tennessee's NFL season and Liberty Bowl finale against the Pittsburgh Steelers drew 50,677. Tennessee won 16-6 before the record crowd loaded with Steelers' fans. Tennessee moved to Nashville in 1998.
- Feb. 2001** – The Memphis Maniax made their XFL home debut with a loss to the Las Vegas Outlaws. The team played five home games before the league folded at season's end.
- Dec. 2004** – The first matchup of top 10 teams featured Louisville (No. 7) defeating Boise State (No. 10) in the highest scoring ever Liberty Bowl game, 44-40.
- Dec. 2007** – A record crowd of 63,816 witnessed Mississippi State defeat the University of Central Florida, 10-3 in the Liberty Bowl game.
- Sep. 2018** – Seating capacity gradually was decreased to 54,000.

COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Mike Singletary
Wide Receivers Coach	Bobby Blizzard
Offensive Coordinator	David Lee
Offensive Line Coach	Steve Marshall
Running Backs Coach	Ty Knott
Defensive Coordinator	Dennis Thurman
Linebackers Coach	Tom Mason
Defensive Line Coach	Matt Singletary
Secondary Coach	Oshiomogho Atogwe
Linebackers Coach	Pepper Johnson
Quality Control	T. Seth Gibson
General Manager	Will Lewis
Personnel Director	Mike Yowarsky
Operations Director	Blake Beddingfield
Communications Director	Cavan Fosnes
Coaching Assistant	Teresa Widner
Equipment Manager	Jeff Bower
Equipment Assistant	Brandon Cline
Video Director	Colin Clark
Video Assistant	Rob Everett
Head ATC	Casey Carter
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Joe Hollister

MEMPHIS EXPRESS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
80	Barnes, Brandon	TE	6-5	255	Alabama State	Phenix City, Ala.
21	Bonds, Terrell	CB	5-9	176	Tennessee State	Miami, Fla.
60	Bouldin, Daronte	OL	6-5	318	Mississippi	Canton, Miss.
23	Boynton, Malik	CB	6-0	191	Austin Peay	Detroit, Mich.
94	Brady, Latarius	DL	6-2	280	Memphis	Memphis, Tenn.
18	Byrd, Dontez	WR	5-11	180	Tennessee Tech	Louisville, Ky.
31	Cook, Jonathan	CB	6-0	198	Memphis	Daphne, Ala.
39	Cutrer, Jeremy	CB	6-2	170	Middle Tennessee State	New Orleans, La.
66	Dunker, Jessamen	OL	6-5	290	Tennessee State	Boynton Beach, Fla.
50	Fonua, Benetton	LB	6-0	235	Hawai'i	Kahuku, O'ahu
58	Gates, DeMarquis	LB	6-2	230	Mississippi	Hampton, Ga.
54	Gause, Quentin	LB	6-0	243	Rutgers	Rochester, N.Y.
97	Gilmore, Greg	DL	6-4	308	Louisiana State	Hope Mills, N.C.
86	Guerra, Fabian	WR	6-0	190	Fairmont State	Miami, Fla.
14	Hackenberg, Christian	QB	6-4	228	Penn State	Lehigh, Pa.
17	Horn, Reece	WR	6-3	215	Indianapolis	Carmel, Ind.
81	Howard, Alton	WR	5-8	187	Tennessee	Orlando, Fla.
95	Hughes, Montori	DL	6-4	350	Tennessee-Martin	Murfreesboro, Tenn.
53	Jackson, Drew	LB	6-1	254	Western Kentucky	Lakeland, Fla.
24	James II, Charles	CB	5-9	179	Charleston Southern	Jacksonville, Fla.
96	Johnson, Anthony	DL	6-3	294	Louisiana State	New Orleans, La.
45	Jumper, Colton	LB	6-2	229	Tennessee	Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
15	Lucien, Devin	WR	6-2	194	Arizona State	Los Angeles, Calif.
43	Magee, Terrence	RB	5-8	213	Louisiana State	Franklinton, La.
28	Maiden, Brandon	CB	6-0	190	Jackson State	Clarksdale, Miss.
49	Manzo-Lewis, Anthony	RB	6-0	257	Albany	Montvale, N.J.

MEMPHIS EXPRESS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
33	Martin, Justin	CB	6-1	196	Tennessee	Antioch, Tenn.
8	Mettenberger, Zach	QB	6-5	224	Louisiana State	Athens, Ga.
90	Montgomery, Sam	DL	6-3	270	Louisiana State	Greenwood, S.C.
85	Moog, Cordon	TE	6-5	215	Baylor	San Lorenzo, Calif.
77	Morris, Anthony	OL	6-6	290	Tennessee State	Memphis, Tenn.
71	Morris, Christian	OL	6-6	320	Mississippi	Memphis, Tenn.
70	Myers, Robert	OL	6-5	326	Tennessee State	Chicago, Ill.
44	Navarro, Ryan	LS	6-2	223	Oregon State	Murrieta, Calif.
34	Neal, Rajion	RB	5-11	211	Tennessee	Atlanta, Ga.
61	Omoile, Oni	OL	6-2	310	Iowa State	Coppell, Texas
65	Rhane, Demetrius	OL	6-2	301	Tennessee State	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
47	Robinson, Adrien	TE	6-4	267	Cincinnati	Indianapolis, Ind.
88	Ross, Kayaune	WR	6-6	225	Kentucky	West Chester, Ohio
12	Silvers, Brandon	QB	6-3	219	Troy	Orange Beach, Ala.
20	Stacy, Zac	RB	5-9	224	Vanderbilt	Centreville, Ala.
30	Stribling, Channing	CB	6-2	175	Michigan	Matthews, N.C.
82	Stringfellow, Damore'ea	WR	6-2	219	Mississippi	Perris, Calif.
25	Tarpley III, Arnold	CB	6-1	203	Vanderbilt	Pittsburgh, Pa.
67	Thomas, Dallas	OL	6-5	315	Tennessee	Baton Rouge, La.
55	Tull, Davis	LB	6-3	250	Chattanooga	Knoxville, Tenn.
98	Vereen, Corey	DL	6-2	249	Tennessee	Winter Garden, Fla.
92	Warmesley, Julius	DL	6-2	294	Tulane	Baton Rouge, La.
76	Weathersby, Toby	OL	6-6	308	Louisiana State	Houston, Texas
4	Wing, Brad	P	6-3	205	Louisiana State	Melbourne, Australia
91	Winston, Jamichael	DL	6-4	260	Arkansas	Pritchard, Ala.

2019 ORLANDO APOLLOS INAUGURAL SEASON



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APOLLOS™

Spectrum Stadium
Orlando, Florida



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 Suite 100
 Orlando, FL 32801

Phone: 321.418.3766

Stadium:
 Spectrum Stadium, aka the "Bounce House"
 On the campus of the University of Central Florida
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ORLANDO APOLLOS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



Atlanta Legends

SAT, FEB 9



@ San Antonio Commanders

SUN, FEB 17



Memphis Express

SAT, FEB 23



@ Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, MAR 2



@ Birmingham Iron

SAT, MAR 9



Arizona Hotshots

SAT, MAR 16



@ Atlanta Legends

SAT, MAR 23



@ Memphis Express

SAT, MAR 30



San Diego Fleet

SAT, APR 6



Birmingham Iron

SUN, APR 14

ORLANDO APOLLOS GENERAL MANAGER



Tim Ruskell – Orlando Apollos

Tim Ruskell has been around a lot of winning and been responsible for a lot of winning. That's why you can count on the Apollos being competitive.

When his long-time friend Steve Spurrier told him he was getting back into coaching with the Apollos and would like for Ruskell to be the general manager and put together the roster, the long-time executive found it appealing to reunite with the Head Ball Coach. They worked together in the mid-80s with the Tampa Bay Bandits of the United States Football League when Ruskell was just starting out as a scout and Spurrier was the head coach.

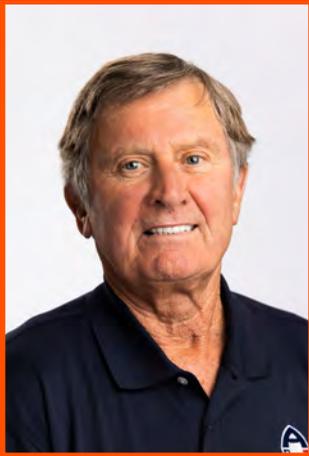
Ruskell went on to big things in the NFL. He worked for the Tampa Bay Bucs from 1987-2003, first as a scout, then director of college scouting and then director of player personnel. For many of those years, he worked for Bucs general manager Rich McKay, the younger brother of J.K. McKay, the head of football operations for The Alliance.

The Bucs won the Super Bowl in 2002 after Jon Gruden was hired as head coach. Ruskell remained in Tampa through the 2003 season, then went to work in Atlanta with Rich McKay as the Falcons assistant general manager. He was hired in 2005 as the president and general manager of the Seattle Seahawks. Ruskell took over the personnel responsibilities from coach Mike Holmgren and the results were immediate and impressive. The Seahawks were NFC champions in Ruskell's first season. They lost to the Steelers in the Super Bowl.

He remained in Seattle through the 2009 season and then had stops with the Bears and Titans. The Alliance presents a new challenge for Ruskell in a role in which he is very comfortable and familiar and back with an old friend.

Head Coach Steve Spurrier

by Peter Botte



The Head Ball Coach is back in business.

Steve Spurrier's return to the sidelines means two things: The Orlando Apollos will be exciting to watch, and he will be the No. 1 go-to guy for colorful quotes during the season. When Spurrier was at the University of Florida, he provided bulletin board material by calling Florida State University, "Free Shoes University," and needled Peyton Manning and the University of Tennessee's appearances in the Citrus Bowl, rather than the more prestigious Sugar Bowl, by claiming, "You can't spell citrus without UT." Spurrier is as accomplished as any of the big-name coaches to sign on to coach in the inaugural season of The Alliance of American Football in 2019. The Florida Gators legend's last coaching stop in South Carolina left a bad taste for the only man in college football history to win a Heisman Trophy as a player and a national championship as a coach.

Spurrier, The Alliance's oldest head coach at 73, will shift 113 miles down the road from Gainesville to Orlando, his first return to the coaching ranks since stepping down at South Carolina in the middle of the 2015 season.

"The last team I had there I think I did a terrible job of coaching it," Spurrier said. "Our defense two years in a row we were the worst in school history, one year at giving up yards, and the next year at giving up points. I did a terrible job, we were sort of in disarray and it was a mess and I was to blame. I was the head coach and I was responsible for the mess.

"So, this gives me an opportunity, too, to put together another really good team, and I guarantee I'll do some things differently than I did in my last year at South Carolina. We will all pull in the same direction, and I'm really looking forward to it."

In 2017, Spurrier became only the fourth man to be elected to the College Football Hall of Fame as both a player and a coach, joining Amos Alonzo-Stagg, Bobby Dodd and Bowden Wyatt on the exclusive list. At the time, he joked, "You know me, I've always liked accomplishing things that have rarely been done."

Indeed, Spurrier was a heavily recruited three-sport star at Science Hill High School in Tennessee in the 1960s. He earned the Heisman as a quarterback and punter for the Gators in 1966 before spending more than a decade in the NFL, mostly as a backup signal-caller (38 career starts) with the San Francisco 49ers and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

His first head coaching job also came in Tampa, with the USFL's Bandits, for three seasons in the mid-1980s, so Spurrier has some experience with a professional spring league.

"I know the USFL, which was my first head coaching job way back in 1983, after the first year of being very successful, we spread out with six new teams and then we got too big," Spurrier said. "But I think (Alliance co-founders) Charlie Ebersol and Bill Polian have a wonderful idea and the way they're going about it is super.

"The Alliance is what you'd call an opportunity league. It'd almost be neat to call it that. Most of us coaches, we've done our thing, and we were out of it, but we love coaching, we love being part of a team, we love the journey and all that goes with that, the coaching and competing and playing and trying your best to win games. That's what we're all about.

"It's an opportunity for all of us to do it again, and all of these young men that maybe just quite didn't make it to the NFL, it's an opportunity for them to play well in our Alliance and shoot on up to the NFL," he continued. "If you're that good and they missed you, well, you can show them that they made a mistake

and you can go on up there. It's sort of neat that the NFL and college football, they both hope this Alliance makes it big-time. It can be sort of a feeder program for the NFL and it also will give more college kids an opportunity to play professional football."

Spurrier's name certainly should provide an initial attraction, at least in the state of Florida. He took over at his alma mater in 1990 after three years at Duke. Over the next dozen seasons, Spurrier implemented his wide-open offense -- nicknamed the "Fun 'n' Gun" -- and fronted the Gators to the first six SEC titles in school history, including a 12-1 national championship campaign in 1996. That year, Spurrier also became the first Heisman Trophy recipient to coach a Heisman winner, quarterback Danny Wuerffel.

He did contact Tim Tebow, another iconic player from Florida, to gauge his interest about joining him in Orlando. But he "totally understood" when the 2007 Heisman-winning QB replied, "I think I'm gonna keep swinging the bat for right now," as a minor-league outfield prospect with the New York Mets.

"It's just common sense to get players from each team's area, so you can recruit the rabid college fans," Spurrier added, referring to The Alliance's player allocation system. "I know a lot of people here in Gainesville keep saying to me, 'Coach, I'm gonna drive down (to Orlando) to watch y'all play.' I think we'll have a good crowd from all over central Florida, and from other areas, elsewhere."

Spurrier later admitted regretting his decision to step down at Florida in 2001 for a chance to coach in the NFL with the Washington Redskins after he was heavily pursued by owner Daniel Snyder. Five years earlier, he turned down an opportunity to coach the Bucs. The NFL was not for him. He posted just a 12-20 record in two seasons with the Redskins before returning to the college ranks for another decade-long run at South Carolina beginning in 2005. Spurrier was meant to coach in college and a league like The Alliance where he will get to work with young players again.

He did lead the Gamecocks to three of the four 10-win seasons in program history, but he "fired myself" amid a 2-4 start in 2015 and returned to Florida as an ambassador and consultant to the athletic department. The second-winningest coach in SEC history (behind Bear Bryant) claims he is approaching his new job on a "year-by-year" basis.

"What's appealing to me is we've got about a five-month job and it's not year-round and I'm not on the phone recruiting for six months, which is what the college coaches have to do now," Spurrier said. "I've done enough recruiting, but I don't figure I'll ever get tired of coaching teams with good attitudes and players willing to learn and willing to play with maximum effort. Those things never get old. I'm really looking forward to this."

Spurrier also is looking forward to helping players who've slipped through the cracks for whatever reason to continue chasing their dreams of making it to the NFL.

"That's just the way it is. We all make mistakes," Spurrier said. "Heck, college recruiters miss guys, too, that turn out to be really outstanding players and when you watch the NFL on Monday nights or Sunday nights and the players introduce themselves, a lot of them are from little schools. They don't all go to the big schools. There's just so many really good football players in the country.

"We call ourselves the Triple-A of pro football and this is giving them the opportunity hopefully to help our team win. That's the first thing we want to do, to win the championship in Orlando. But if some guys play well enough to go the NFL, we're gladly gonna say, 'Go.' Shake your hand, say thanks, and go play in something a little bit bigger. But if you don't go, gosh, we'll come back and do it again next year." Perhaps one of the most influential and popular figures in Florida football history, Spurrier insisted he wouldn't have signed on as a face of the upstart league if he didn't believe it could thrive, especially in the state that made him a legend.

"I think it has an excellent chance of being very successful," Spurrier said. "People like watching football on television. I know I do, and my wife does. People in America love watching a good football game, and they like exciting new football plays. I know our team hopes to spring one or two different ones every game and I'm sure all of the other teams will, also. But I can't wait to get started and to get back down there on the field again."



Spectrum Stadium

4465 Knights Victory Way, Orlando, FL 32816

Capacity - 45,301 • Surface - Tifway 419 Bermuda

- Apr. 2005** - The University of Central Florida trustees approved the construction of the on-campus stadium to replace the football team's previous home, the Citrus Bowl.
- Sep. 2007** - UCF's first game at their new home – then known as Bright House Networks Stadium – is a 35-32 loss for the Knights against Texas.
- Oct. 2009** - The largest attendance in the stadium's history, 48,543, is announced for a 27-7 loss to No. 9 Miami.
- Apr. 2017** - With Bright House Networks acquired by Charter Communications, the stadium was renamed Spectrum Stadium.
- Dec. 2017** - Central Florida outlasts Memphis, 62-55 in overtime, in the American Athletic Conference championship game to improve to 12-0 before finishing the season undefeated with a Peach Bowl victory over Auburn with a final No. 6 ranking by the Associated Press.
- Apr. 2018** - The Alliance of American Football announces the Orlando Apollos will play their home games at Spectrum Stadium beginning in 2019.
- Feb. 2019** - The Orlando Apollos, coached by Florida legend Steve Spurrier, play host to the Atlanta Legends in their initial AAF home game.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Steve Spurrier
Wide Receivers Coach	Willie Jackson
Guards/Centers Coach	Jim Stephens
QBs / Running Backs Coach	David Reaves
Tight Ends Coach	Scott Spurrier
Defensive Coordinator	Bob Sanders
Linebackers Coach	Jim Collins
Safeties Coach	Lito Sheppard
Defensive Line Coach	Jim Jeffcoat
Cornerbacks Coach	Donnie Abraham
Offensive Tackles Coach	Todd Washington
General Manager	Tim Ruskell
Personnel Director	Josh Hinch
Operations Director	Thad Rivers
Communications Director	Al Lunsford
Coaching Assistant	Jennifer Wagner
Equipment Manager	Drake Leichtfuss
Equipment Assistant	Kyle Sheppard
Video Director	Dave Levy
Video Assistant	Chris Black
Head ATC	Nathan Peck
ATC Assistant	Dillon Smith
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Darren Krein



ORLANDO APOLLOS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
4	Anderson, Kevin	QB	6-2	215	Fordham	Boca Raton, FL
44	Ankrah, Andrew	OLB	6-4	255	James Madison (VA)	Gaithersburg, MD
5	Appleby, Austin	QB	6-4	225	Florida	Canton, OH
92	Banks Sr., Josh	DE	6-3	290	Wake Forest	Raleigh, NC
10	Bracy-Williams Jr., Marvin	WR	5-10	185	Florida State	Orlando, FL
97	Burks Sr., Izaah	DT	6-4	320	Bowling Green	Cincinnati, OH
28	Canady, Bryce	FS	6-0	195	Florida International	Jacksonville, FL
21	Couplin III, Jerome	SS	6-2	215	William & Mary	Upper Marlboro, MD
73	Darling, Trevor	OT	6-4	308	Miami (FL)	Miami, FL
95	Davis Sr., Ryan	DE	6-2	270	Bethune-Cookman	Tampa, FL
11	Dye Jr., Donteea	WR	5-9	188	Heidelberg University (OH)	Cincinnati, OH
70	Eatmon, Quinterrius	OT	6-6	315	South Florida	Mobile, AL
66	Evans, Aaron	OT	6-4	310	UCF	Brandon, FL
26	Evans, Josh	SS	6-1	207	Florida	Irvington, MD
53	Ferris, Drew	LS	6-0	240	Florida	San Diego, CA
58	French, Christian	OLB	6-5	250	Oregon	Cedar Rapids, IA
2	Fry, Elliott	K	6-0	190	South Carolina	Frisco, TX
51	Garvin, Terence	ILB	6-3	245	West Virginia	Baltimore, MD
3	Gilbert, Garrett	QB	6-4	230	Southern Methodist	Austin, TX
90	Guerad, Antonio	DT	6-4	300	UCF	Tampa, FL
37	Gunter, LaDarius	CB	6-2	198	Miami (FL)	Montgomery, AL
16	Hall, Rannell	WR	6-0	199	UCF	Miami, FL
33	Hill III, Will	FS	6-1	208	Florida	East Orange, NJ
21	Hunt, Akeem	RB	5-10	190	Purdue	Covington, GA
13	Hyman, Ishmael	WR	5-11	194	James Madison (VA)	Englishtown, NJ
63	Jackson, Tre	OG	6-4	325	Florida State	Jesup, GA

ORLANDO APOLLOS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
19	Johnson, Charles	WR	6-2	217	Grand Valley State	Elsmere, KY
22	Johnson, D'Ernest	RB	5-10	208	South Florida	Immokalee, FL
74	Lucas, Marquis	OG	6-4	313	West Virginia	Miami, FL
17	Marshall, Jalin	WR	5-10	200	Ohio State	Middletown, OH
77	Martin, Chris	OT	6-5	295	UCF	Fort Walton Beach, FL
64	McCray, Jordan	C	6-3	320	UCF	Miami, FL
98	Moten Jr., Anthony	DE	6-4	315	Miami (FL)	Fort Lauderdale, FL
23	Myers Jr., Mark	CB	5-9	190	Southeastern (FL)	Orlando, FL
99	Newberry, Giorgio	DE	6-6	270	Florida State	Fort Pierce, FL
52	Northrup II, Reggie	ILB	6-2	240	Florida State	Jacksonville, FL
59	Okine, Earl	OLB	6-7	265	Florida	Gainesville, FL
83	Orndoff, Scott	TE	6-5	256	Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, PA
93	Orr, Leon	DT	6-6	315	Florida	Tarpon Springs, FL
71	Patrick, Ronald	OT	6-2	310	South Carolina	Cocoa, FL
80	Price, Sean	TE	6-4	248	South Florida	Citra, FL
50	Pugh III, Jacob	OLB	6-4	250	Florida State	Tallahassee, FL
39	Reaser, Keith	CB	6-0	190	Florida Atlantic	Miami, FL
20	Riggs, Cody	CB	5-10	190	Florida/Notre Dame	Fort Lauderdale, FL
31	Smith, D'Joun	CB	5-10	191	Florida Atlantic	Miami, FL
28	Smith, De'Veon	RB	5-11	225	Michigan	Warren, OH
84	Thompson, Chris	WR	6-0	175	Florida	Gainesville, FL
75	Tiller, Andrew	OG	6-5	324	Syracuse	Brentwood, NY
1	Turk, Ben	P	6-0	215	Notre Dame	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
54	Victor, Azeem	ILB	6-3	231	Washington	Compton, CA
89	Weiser, Matt	TE	6-5	245	Buffalo (NY)	Womelsdorf, PA
27	White, Marquez	CB	6-1	180	Florida State	Dothan, AL

2019 SALT LAKE STALLIONS INAUGURAL SEASON



SALT LAKE
STALLIONS™

Rice-Eccles Stadium
Salt Lake City, Utah



SALT LAKE STALLIONS™

Mailing Address:
170 S. 1000 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

Stadium:
Rice-Eccles Stadium
451 1400 E
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

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Salt Lake Stallions
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SALT LAKE STALLIONS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



@ Arizona Hotshots

SUN, FEB 10



@ Birmingham Iron

SAT, FEB 16



Arizona Hotshots

SAT, FEB 23



Orlando Apollos

SAT, MAR 2



@ San Diego Fleet

SAT, MAR 9



Memphis Express

SAT, MAR 16



@ San Antonio Commanders

SAT, MAR 23



San Diego Fleet

SAT, MAR 30



@ Atlanta Legends

SUN, APR 7



San Antonio Commanders

FRI, APR 12

SALT LAKE CITY STALLIONS GENERAL MANAGER



Randy Mueller - Salt Lake City Stallions

What's not to like about the selection of Randy Mueller as the Stallions general manager?

He knows how to get the job done. He has gotten the job done. Mueller comes to the Stallions with great experience as the vice president of football operations with the Seattle Seahawks – he drafted Hall of Fame offensive tackle Walter Jones – and later as the general manager of the New Orleans Saints and Miami Dolphins.

When he was with the Saints, he inherited running back Ricky Williams three years after Mike Ditka had given up all his 1999 draft picks and then some to acquire him. Williams didn't work out in

New Orleans, which prompted Mueller to trade him to the Dolphins in 2002 for a package that included two first-round picks. In his first year as general manager in 2000, the Saints won the first playoff game in their 34th season. They had lost their first four.

Mueller clearly knows personnel and is not afraid to work every angle. He will team with coach Dennis Erickson, part of the College Football Hall of Fame class of 2019, to give the Stallions an experienced tandem at the top of the organizational chart. Mueller and Erickson worked together for the four years Erickson was the head coach of the Seahawks.

"Our focus on the football side has always been on building the team on the field," Mueller said. "We have been working very hard to put the best group of players together so coach Erickson and his staff can bring them together and turn the individuals into a "team."

There won't be any Ricky Williamses to trade for future draft picks but Mueller is such a skilled and resourceful football executive that the Stallions should be very competitive.

Head Coach Dennis Erickson

by Barry Horn



Here's how deeply ingrained coaching is in seventy-something Dennis Erickson's DNA:

After almost 50 years of working in the college and the pro games, which included head coaching stops at Idaho, Wyoming, Washington State, Miami, Oregon State, Arizona State, the Seattle Seahawks and San Francisco 49ers, Erickson spent part of 2017, his first year of "retirement," as a volunteer assistant at Lake City High School in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Erickson worked with the offense under head coach Bryce Erickson, his son. The last time Erickson worked with high school football players was in 1970 at Montana's Billings Central Catholic.

Not long after his most recent gig ended, Erickson knew he had to coach again.

"It's in my blood," he says.

Without a sideline to prowl during the 2018 football season, Erickson threw himself into fairways and greens and roughs and traps. But golf proved only a failed distraction.

"I got tired of hooking the ball out of bounds and playing in sand all the time," he says. "I thought I'd better get back to coaching."

Enter The Alliance of American Football where Erickson, 71, will coach the Salt Lake Stallions in a city where he last worked in college as an assistant at Utah from 2014 through 2016.

"Golf got old," he says.

That may sound sacrilegious to some in the AARP crowd but not coming from the son of a high school football coach who tiptoed into the profession in 1969 as a student assistant at Montana State, his alma mater.

Wandering aimlessly around a golf course simply didn't have the same allure as the nomadic profession in which Erickson moved 15 times. His longest stint in one place was at the University of Miami where he served six seasons from 1989 to 1994 before graduating to coach the NFL's Seattle Seahawks from 1995 to 1998.

Erickson remains cognizant of all that movement. He is quick to point out that his six seasons at Miami is as long a stint as any head coach has worked at the school since Howard Schnellenberger breathed life into the program in 1979. Schnellenberger lasted five seasons at Miami. So too did Schnellenberger's successor and Erickson's predecessor, Jimmy Johnson.

Like Schnellenberger and Johnson, Erickson won a national championship at Miami. In fact, he did them one better. His teams won two. Erickson's .875 winning percentage at Miami remains No. 1 among Miami's esteemed roll call of coaches.

In 1994, Erickson's final season at Miami before he headed off cross country to the Seahawks, his team finished 10-2 to cap off a 63-9 record with the Hurricanes.

"Keeping a program going," Erickson says of his Miami days, "is a lot harder than building it."

That's not to say that building the Salt Lake Stallions will be easy.

"But I am excited about the season," Erickson says. "The roster will be filled with guys trying to get to the NFL or making comebacks.

"Everyone will be hungry."

As for the Stallions coach, "This is a chance to work with players again and thrive on the competition," Erickson says. "I'm going to do this as long as I can."

To that end, he should be comfortable working his sideline office in Salt Lake City. He worked at Rice-Eccles Stadium while finishing up his college career as a Utah Utes assistant.

"I'm excited about returning to Salt Lake City," he says. "There's no better place than its stadium."

If all goes according to the game plan, Erickson's Stallions should make a lot of visits to the end zone.

Erickson is an offensive-minded coach. He was a quarterback in high school and college. As an assistant, he coached and coordinated offense. And not the "three-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dust" variety. His emphasis always has been on the passing game. Over the years, he earned a reputation as an offensive innovator. Spread formations became his calling card.

Erickson has always been a fan of forcing defenses into one-on-one coverage with three, four and five wide receiver formations.

Erickson's learned his "spread" when he was the offensive coordinator at San Jose State. His tutor was Jack Elway, whose son John was a pretty proficient passing quarterback.

Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon played for Erickson in Seattle. Heisman Trophy winner Gino Torretta played for Erickson at the University of Miami. Future NFL quarterback Timm Rosenbach was featured in Erickson's Washington State offenses.

What Erickson says he loves about The Alliance is that its game will be as pure a version of upstart football as has come down in a pro world dominated by the NFL. The Alliance, in fact, is designed to help players along their journeys to the NFL.

"No gimmicks," Erickson says. "Just familiar football."

There will be no XFL "He Hate Me" names on the backs of jerseys. There will be no cramped Arena League fields. No fans calling plays. There are no ego-driven USFL-like owners trying to compete with their NFL counterparts.

As you might expect Erickson will be supported by a veteran collection of assistant coaches.

Offensive coordinator Tim Lappano has almost 40 years of coaching, many with Erickson on his resume. Defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson, a Utah State alum, has extensive NFL experience. He worked for the Baltimore Ravens, New York Jets, Detroit Lions, Cincinnati Bengals, Jacksonville Jaguars and Arizona Cardinals.

Like The Alliance's seven other coaches, Erickson has been evaluating potential players since September. "I love coaching," Erickson says. "I loved it in high school and I will love it in this league. This game will keep me young and my players will perform. I plan to put a superior product out there on the field."

Rice-Eccles Stadium - 451 1400 E, Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Capacity - 45,017 • Surface - Field Turf

- Oct. 1927** – Opened as 20,000-seat Ute Stadium with a University of Utah victory over Colorado School of Mines, 40-6.
- Sep. 1951** – The NFL's Chicago Cardinals defeated the 1951 NFL champion Los Angeles Rams in a preseason game, 36-21.
- Oct. 1972** – The University of Utah made its debut in the refurbished and renamed Rice Stadium with a 39-20 victory over the University of Texas-El Paso before a crowd of 20,860.
- Sep. 1998** – Redone with a price tag of \$50 million, Rice-Eccles Stadium, expanded to seat 46,500, debuted as the home field of the University of Utah as the Utes football team defeated the Louisville Cardinals, 45-22, before 44,112 fans.
- Feb. 2002** – Hosted the opening ceremony of the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics with the 1980 gold-medal winning U.S. Olympic hockey team honored with lighting the cauldron. It has been estimated that 3.5 billion people around the world watched the event on television while 50,000 attended.
- Apr. 2005** – Major League Soccer expansion team Real Salt Lake made its home debut with a 1-0 victory over the Colorado Rapids. Real Salt Lake's home attendance averaged 18,037 during its inaugural season.
- Oct. 2011** – The University of Utah hosted its first conference home game as a member of the Pac-12, a Power 5 Conference, against the University of Washington
- Nov. 2018** – The University of Utah approved expansion plans to increase seating capacity from 45,807 to 51,444. The project, which will enclose the stadium bowl, is expected to cost \$80 million.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Dennis Erickson
Offensive Coordinator	Tim Lappano
Quarterbacks	Ronald Fouch
Offensive Line Coach	Dan Cozzetto
Running Backs Coach	Nick Alaimalo
Wide Receivers Coach	Lamar Thomas
Defensive Coordinator	Donnie Henderson
Defensive Line	Michael Gray
Linebackers Coach	Dennis Creehan
Defensive Backs Coach	Ronnie Lee
Defensive Quality Control	Nick James
General Manager	Randy Mueller
Personnel Director	Matt Hand
Operations Director	Ryan Hollern
Equipment Manager	Ben Dolan
Equipment Assistant	Chris Kuehn
Video Director	Sean Hollister
Video Assistant	Brayden Woodall
Head Athletic Trainer	Brian Zettler
Assistant Athletic Trainer	Madeleine Scaramuzzo
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Ian Jones

SALT LAKE CITY STALLIONS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
8	Allen, Austin	QB	6-0	208	Arkansas	Fayetteville, Ark.
16	Anderson, Dres	WR	6-2	190	Utah	Riverside, Calif.
44	Asiata, Matt	RB	5-11	231	Utah	West Valley City, Utah
89	Balderree, Tanner	TE	6-2	240	BYU	Sherwood, Ore.
52	Banderas, Josh	LB	5-11	229	Nebraska	Lincoln, Neb.
80	Bell, Kenny	WR	6-1	194	Nebraska	Boulder, Colo.
67	Bennett, Jake	OL	6-2	289	Colorado St	Lakewood, Colo.
1	Bertolet, Taylor	K	5-9	188	Texas A&M	Reading, Pa
36	Bouagnon, Joel	RB	5-11	188	North Dakota St	Burnsville, Minn
21	Brown, Cody	S	6-0	207	Arkansas State	Bellville, Texas
76	Callender, Nick	OL	6-5	332	Colorado St	Hayward, Calif.
55	Carrezola, Luke	DL	6-2	252	Connecticut	Langhorne, Pa.
11	Clay, Kaelin	WR	5-10	200	Utah	Long Beach, Calif.
79	Cummings, Ryan	OL	6-5	317	Wyoming	Littleton, Colo.
78	Davis, Austin	OL	6-4	298	Duke	Mansfield, Texas
26	Davis, Will	CB	5-11	180	Utah State	Spokane, Wash.
88	Denham, Anthony	TE	6-4	264	Utah	Los Angeles, Calif.
91	Hamilton, Darius	DL	6-2	290	Rutgers	Ramsey, NJ
27	Hannemann, Micah	DB	6-0	190	BYU	Highland, Utah
24	James, Chancellor	DB	6-2	208	Boise State	Spring Valley, Calif.
17	Jennings, Adonis	WR	6-2	207	Temple	Sicklerville, N.J.
63	Johnson, Leon	OL	6-5	330	Temple	Plainfield, NJ
66	Kanuch , Tuni	OL	6-3	330	BYU	South Jordan, Utah
19	Leslie, Jordan	WR	6-2	209	BYU	Tomball, Texas
10	Linehan, Matt	QB	6-3	241	Idaho	Orchard Lake, Mich.
51	Martini, Greer	LB	6-3	236	Notre Dame	Cary, NC

SALT LAKE CITY STALLIONS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
81	Mobley, Sam	WR	5-10	176	Catawba	Salisbury, NC
34	Newby, Terrell	RB	5-9	205	Nebraska	West Hills, Calif.
93	Odom, Chris	DL	6-3	269	Arkansas St	Arlington, Texas
33	Oliver, Branden	RB	5-8	204	Buffalo	Miami, Fla.
95	Palepoi, Tenny	DT	6-1	298	Utah	Millcreek, Utah
57	Paul, Gionni	LB	5-11	231	Utah	Winter Haven, Fla.
15	Pierson-El, DeMornay	WR	5-9	195	Nebraska	Alexandria, Virginia
73	Poutasi, Jeremiah	OL	6-5	334	Utah	Las Vegas, Nev.
98	Purcell, Mike	DL	6-3	328	Wyoming	Highlands Ranch, Colo.
5	Rehkow, Austin	P	6-3	218	Idaho	Spokane, Wash.
59	Reilly, Trevor	LB	6-5	242	Utah	Valley Center, Calif.
94	Schult, Karter	DL	6-3	260	Northern Iowa	Northern Iowa
53	Shockley, Ed	LB	6-3	239	Villanova	Millville, N.J
96	Siliga, Sealver	DL	6-2	345	Utah	West Jordan, Utah
35	Smith, C.J.	DB	6-2	228	North Dakota St	Aurora, Ill.
31	Sterns, Jordan	DB	5-11	198	Oklahoma St	Cibolo, TX
92	Tanielu, Handsome	DL	6-1	332	BYU	Waianae, HI
56	Taylor, Colton	LS	6-0	229	Virginia Tech	Salem, Va.
38	Toliver, Henre'	CB	6-1	185	Arkansas	Marrero, La.
83	Traylor, Austin	TE	6-3	255	Wisconsin	Columbus, Ohio
85	Truesdell, Nick	TE	6-5	247	Grand Rapids JC	Cincinnati, Ohio
64	Uhatafe, Salesi	OL	6-4	325	Utah	Euless, TX
50	Williams, Anthony	LB	6-1	247	Utah St	Philadelphia, Pa.
23	Williams, Steve	DB	5-10	213	California	Dallas, Texas
97	Wilson, Eddy	DL	6-3	296	Purdue	Pontiac, Mich.
6	Woodrum, Josh	QB	6-3	232	Liberty	Roanoke, Va.

2019 SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS INAUGURAL SEASON



Alamodome
San Antonio, Texas



SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS™

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San Antonio Commanders
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SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



San Diego Fleet

SAT, FEB 9



Orlando Apollos

SUN, FEB 17



@ San Diego Fleet

SUN, FEB 24



@ Birmingham Iron

SUN, MAR 3



@ Arizona Hotshots

SUN, MAR 10



@ Atlanta Legends

SUN, MAR 17



Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, MAR 23



Arizona Hotshots

SUN, MAR 31



Memphis Express

SAT, APR 6



@ Salt Lake Stallions

FRI, APR 12

SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS GENERAL MANAGER



Daryl Johnston - San Antonio Commanders

Three Super Bowl appearances. Three Super Bowl rings.

Daryl “Moose” Johnston certainly has been around enough championship teams to know what it takes to win. In his first six years as the Dallas Cowboys fullback, Johnston won three championships, primarily as the lead blocker for Emmitt Smith, the NFL’s all-time rushing champion. Although Johnston was a throwback old-time fullback, when he had the ball in his hands, he was also capable of making big plays.

Although this is Johnston’s first football front office job, he has been around professional football ever since the Cowboys drafted him in the second round in 1989. Their first-round pick was Hall of

Fame quarterback Troy Aikman. Johnston retired after the 1999 season and has been broadcasting NFL games for the last 19 years. He has been with Fox since 2001.

Johnston’s close relationship with Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and his son Stephen led him to Alliance co-founder Bill Polian and the job as the general manager of the Commanders.

Johnston is teamed with veteran professional and college coach Mike Riley, who previously coached the San Antonio Riders in 1991-92 when they were part of the World League of American Football.

Johnston may be a rookie general manager but he had an up close view of how Jones and Jimmy Johnson built the Cowboys, so that will certainly help him build his team in San Antonio.

The Commanders benefited from the many great players with Texas ties who were allocated to them by The Alliance. “We’re fortunate here in the state of Texas, and this is a credit to all the high school coaches and all the college coaches in the state of Texas, we do have a lot of guys with Texas ties on our team,” Johnston said.

Who knows? Maybe when the trophy is presented to the first champion of The Alliance, Johnston will be shouting, “How ‘Bout Them Commanders.”

Head Coach Mike Riley

by Barry Horn



When a long-ago secondary coach of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers heard from the Canadian Football League team's one-time personnel guru about joining him in a new venture called The Alliance of American Football, he had one question.

"Will there be a team in San Antonio?" Mike Riley, a prospective coach, asked Bill Polian, the co-founder of The Alliance.

Polian, inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame for his three decades of stellar NFL front office work with the Buffalo Bills, Carolina Panthers and Indianapolis Colts, said there would be a team somewhere in Texas but couldn't give a definitive answer if it would be in San Antonio.

"Well, if you have a team in San Antonio, save it for me," said Riley, whose coaching sojourn that began in 1975, included a two-season stop as the head coach with the San Antonio Riders of the long defunct World League of American Football.

And so, when The Alliance announced in June that one of its eight charter teams would be the San Antonio Commanders, it was complemented with word that Mike Riley would be the coach in charge. Riley, once the head coach of the San Diego Chargers, and most notably also served as a head coach at Oregon State University and the University of Nebraska, didn't even have to go house hunting. His wife Dee was delighted.

The Rileys never sold the house they lived in when Mike coached the Riders in 1991 and 1992. They're headed back to their home in Gruene, about 40 miles north on Interstate 35 from San Antonio.

"I figured I might as well do this," Riley says. "It seems like I've coached everywhere else."

But Riley also quickly says San Antonio has never been far from his family's heart. Over the years, they've spent summers in Gruene, while anchoring back in the Pacific Northwest where the family has long been based. The Riley's son, Matt, and his wife Lydia, who work up I-35 in Austin, have made their home in New Braunfels.

There's no question that the Rileys have a long connection to Corvallis, Ore., home of Oregon State and their daughter Kate's family, but spending summers baking under the hot Texas sun shows a commitment to the San Antonio area.

The Riley family settled in Oregon when Mike's father Bud, a football coach himself, moved his brood from Idaho in 1965 after he was named OSU's secondary coach.

Mike Riley played quarterback at Corvallis High School, leading it to consecutive state championships. But he passed up the opportunity to stay home and play college football in favor of playing for Bear Bryant at the University of Alabama.

In truth, Riley says, he recruited the University of Alabama, the national power from his father's home state. Note: Mike's uncle, Hayden Riley, served as the Crimson Tide's basketball coach from 1960 to 1968, "I sent Coach Bryant so many letters and so much game film I think he got tired of hearing from me and gave me a scholarship," Riley says.

Riley spent his college years with the Crimson Tide as a reserve defensive back sopping up coaching wisdom. There is little question he might have played more had he chosen a lesser program but he learned enough from Bryant to latch on at the University of California as a graduate assistant in 1975. From there he worked his way up the coaching ladder. Riley plied his trade with the CFL Blue Bombers immediately before moving to San Antonio. When the WLAF folded, he moved on to the University of Southern California for four seasons as the iconic John Robinson's assistant head coach and offensive coordinator.

In 1997, Riley triumphantly returned to Corvallis as head coach at Oregon State. He stayed two seasons before graduating to the NFL to coach the San Diego Chargers. He returned to Oregon State in 2003 and remained through 2014. He moved on to the University of Nebraska in 2015. He coached there for three seasons before returning to Oregon State in 2018 where his title was consultant.

And then came the call from Polian asking him to return to head coaching.

Riley, the one-time college backup, says there is a special place in his heart for the kind of players he will coach with the Commanders.

"These guys are hungry, looking for the opportunity to move forward with their careers," he says. "Some are looking for a shot at the NFL but there are also guys who love the game so much they just want to compete as long as they can."

In the end, however, Riley, who is 65 and a grandfather with championship pedigree, says there isn't much of a difference between coaching in college, the CFL, NFL and leagues such as the WLAF and The Alliance.

"There may be different rules in different leagues but football is a game of blocking, tackling and timing," he says.

About that championship pedigree: The soft-spoken Riley was named head coach of the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers when he was 33. There were reports he was the youngest coach in the history of Canada's big-time league.

Those reports, however, forgot that Bud Grant was only 30 when he coached his first game for the Blue Bombers in 1957. Grant won four Canadian League championships before leaving to coach the Minnesota Vikings.

Riley's Winnipeg teams won two championships in his four seasons as head coach before he headed south to San Antonio in 1991.

"It's just good to be back in a place we love," he says. "It would be great to spend a lot of years in San Antonio doing what I know best."

Alamodome - 100 Montana St, San Antonio, TX 78203

Capacity - 64,000 • Surface - AstroTurf Magic Carpet II

- May 1993** – The \$186 million indoor stadium opened
- Aug. 1993** – The stadium hosted its first NFL preseason game, won by the New Orleans Saints, 37-28 over the Houston Oilers.
- Sep. 1993** – Pernell Whitaker and favorite Julio Cesar Chavez battled to a majority draw in a WBC welterweight title fight before almost 57,000 fans.
- Nov. 1993** – The NBA San Antonio Spurs began their nine-season run in the stadium with a 91-85 season-opening victory over the Golden State Warriors.
- Sep. 1994** – The NHL Dallas Stars defeated the Los Angeles Kings, featuring Wayne Gretzky, in a preseason game that attracted 14,343.
- Nov. 1995** – The Canadian Football League's San Antonio Texans, in their lone season, defeated the Birmingham Barracudas 52-9 in the only CFL playoff game held in San Antonio.
- Feb, 1996** – Michael Jordan, before a crowd of 36,037 was the most valuable player in the 46th NBA All-Star game.
- Dec. 1997** – Nebraska throttled Texas A&M, 54-15, in the second Big 12 Football Championship Game.
- Mar. 1998** – Kentucky defeated Utah, 78-69, before 40,509 fans for the championship of the NCAA Men's Final Four.
- Jun. 1999** – The Spurs defeated the New York Knicks in the opening game of the NBA championship series on their way to winning the title in five games. The two Spurs home games drew crowds of 39,514 and 39,554.
- Dec. 1999** – Nebraska defeated Texas 22-6 in the Big 12 Football Championship Game.
- Mar. 2002** – UConn defeated Oklahoma, 82-70, for the NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four title.
- Apr. 2004** – UConn won the NCAA Men's Final Four with an 82-73 victory over Georgia Tech. The game drew 44,468.
- Oct. 2005** – The stadium hosted the first of three New Orleans Saints regular season home games due to damage to the Louisiana Superdome caused by Hurricane Katrina. The Saints averaged 62,665 for the three games.
- Dec. 2007** – Oklahoma defeated Missouri, 38-17 in the Big 12 Football Championship Game.
- Apr. 2008** – Kansas defeated Memphis State, 75-68 in overtime before a crowd of 43,257 in the NCAA Men's Final Four championship game.
- Apr. 2010** – UConn defeated Stanford, 53-47, for the NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four title.
- Apr. 2018** – Villanova defeated Michigan 79-62 to win the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Mike Riley
Defensive Coordinator / Inside Linebackers	Jim Grobe
Offensive Coordinator / Quarterbacks:	Matt Troxel
Defensive Backs / Safeties	Bill Bradley
Offensive Line / Run Game Coordinator	Jonathan Himebauch
Defensive Line / Special Teams Coordinator	Jeff McInerney
Running Backs	Lyle Moevao
Tight Ends	Josh Oglesby
Outside Linebackers	James Rodgers
Defensive Backs / Cornerbacks	Ken Watson
Wide Receivers	Keith Williams
Personnel Director	Bob Morris
Operations Director	John Peterson
Coaching Assistant	Bradley Bryant
Equipment Manager	Darwin Beacham
Assistant Equipment Manager	Sterling-Michael Beacham
Video Director	Dustin Kadri
Video Assistant	Brad Sternberg
Head Athletic Trainer	Phillip Hedrick
Assistant Athletic Trainer	Kristen Nielson
Physical Therapist	Lyneil Mitchell
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Mike Clark

SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
5	Logan Woodside	QB	6-1	213	Toledo	Frankfort, Ky.
6	Joseph Zema	P	6-0	209	Incarnate Word	Melbourne, Australia
9	Nick Rose	K	6-2	200	Texas	Dallas, Texas
10	Dustin Vaughan	QB	6-5	235	West Texas A&M	Corpus Christi, Texas
12	Marquise Williams	QB	6-1	218	North Carolina	Charlotte, N.C.
14	De'Marcus Ayers	WR	5-9	182	Houston	Lancaster, Texas
18	John Diarse	WR	6-1	214	TCU	Monroe, La.
19	Alonzo Moore	WR	6-1	193	Nebraska	Winnfield, La.
20	Kenneth Farrow II	RB	5-9	221	Houston	Hurst, Texas
21	Duke Thomas	DB	5-10	176	Texas	Killeen, Texas
22	Aaron Green	RB	5-10	203	TCU	San Antonio, Texas
24	Nick Orr	DB	5-11	183	TCU	DeSoto, Texas
25	Kurtis Drummond	DB	6-1	200	Michigan State	Youngstown, Ohio
27	David Cobb	RB	5-11	228	Minnesota	Killeen, Texas
28	Orion Stewart	DB	6-0	200	Baylor	Waco, Texas
30	Chase Dutra	DB	6-1	198	Indiana	Brownsburg, Ind.
32	Derron Smith	DB	5-10	200	Fresno State	Banning, Calif.
33	Zack Sanchez	DB	5-11	178	Oklahoma	Fort Worth, Texas
35	Trey Williams	RB	5-7	200	Texas A&M	Spring, Texas
37	Jordan Thomas	DB	6-0	190	Oklahoma	Klein, Texas
41	De'Vante Bausby	DB	6-0	183	Pittsburg State	Kansas City, Mo.
49	Scott Daly	LS	6-2	245	Notre Dame	Downers Grove, Ill.
50	Kennan Gilchrist	LB	6-2	225	Appalachian State	Hurst, Texas
51	Darnell Leslie	LB	6-2	230	Monmouth	Gaithersburg, Md.
52	Tyrone Holmes	LB	6-2	253	Montana	Eagle Point, Ore.
53	Austin Larkin	LB	6-2	259	Purdue	University City, Mo.

SAN ANTONIO COMMANDERS TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
54	Shaan Washington	LB	6-2	240	Texas A&M	Alexandria, La.
55	Nick Temple	LB	5-10	216	Cincinnati	Indianapolis, Ind.
56	Danny Ezechukwu	LB	6-1	242	Purdue	Lithonia, Ga.
57	Joel Lanning	LB	6-1	232	Iowa State	Ankeny, Iowa
58	Jayrone Elliott	LB	6-3	255	Toledo	Cleveland, Ohio
61	Fred Lauina	OL	6-4	315	Oregon State	Nuuuli, American Samoa
67	Brian Folkerts	OL	6-4	303	Washburn	Florissant, Mo.
69	Andrew McDonald	OL	6-5	314	Indiana	Indianapolis, Ind.
70	Mo Porter	OL	6-5	328	Baylor	Missouri City, Texas
72	Jaryd Jones-Smith	OL	6-6	323	Pittsburgh	Camden, N.J.
73	Cyril Richardson	OL	6-4	358	Baylor	Fort Worth, Texas
75	Jovann Letuli	OL	6-3	334	Akron	San Diego, Calif.
79	Mason Gentry	OL	6-6	309	SMU	Plano, Texas
80	Josh Stewart	WR	6-4	204	UTSA	College Station, Texas
81	Darius Prince	WR	6-1	185	Penn State Beaver	West Mifflin, Penn.
82	Mekale McKay	WR	6-3	207	Cincinnati	Louisville, Ky.
83	Cole Hunt	TE	6-6	254	TCU	El Campo, Texas
84	Greg Ward Jr.	WR	5-11	193	Houston	Tyler, Texas
85	Cam Clear	TE	6-5	308	Texas A&M	Memphis, Tenn.
88	Evan Rodriguez	TE	6-1	244	Temple	North Bergen, N.J.
89	Stehly Reden	TE	6-4	264	Texas A&M-Kingsville	Valley Center, Calif.
90	Joey Mbu	DL	6-2	332	Houston	Richmond, Texas
94	Deion Barnes	DL	6-4	260	Penn State	Philadelphia, Pa.
95	Nick Thurman	DL	6-3	293	Houston	Dallas, Texas
96	Winston Craig	DL	6-3	301	Richmond	Greensboro, N.C.
99	Matt Godin	DL	6-6	300	Michigan	Novi, Mich.

2019 SAN DIEGO FLEET INAUGURAL SEASON



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San Diego, California



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San Diego, CA 92108
(619) 881-0606

FRONT OFFICE

TITLE	NAME
Team President	Jeff Garner
Vice President of Marketing	Johnny Castillo
Vice President of Ticket Sales and Service	Justin Kirk
Vice President of Sponsorship	Katie Hubert
Director of Team Communications	Matt Provence
Sponsorship Sales Manager	Jeffrey Romero
Social Media Manager	Adrian Aye-Darko
Promotions Coordinator	Kristina Perez
Manager of Ticket Operation	Jose Virgen
Senior Account Executive	Steve Frank
Account Executive	Kayra Sendlak
Account Executive	Clinton Godown
Account Executive	Robert Knapp
Account Executive	David Bowling
Director of Premium Sales	Amy McDaniel



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SAN DIEGO FLEET

2019 Inaugural Season Schedule



@ San Antonio Commanders

SAT, FEB 9



Atlanta Legends

SUN, FEB 17



San Antonio Commanders

SUN, FEB 24



@ Memphis Express

SAT, MAR 2



Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, MAR 9



Birmingham Iron

SUN, MAR 17



@ Arizona Hotshots

SUN, MAR 24



@ Salt Lake Stallions

SAT, MAR 30



@ Orlando Apollos

SAT, APR 6



Arizona Hotshots

SUN, APR 14

SAN DIEGO FLEET GENERAL MANAGER



Dave Boller - San Diego Fleet

Dave Boller is the perfect complement to Fleet head coach Mike Martz.

Martz is one of the most innovative offensive minds of the last 20 years and needs the right players to make his system operate effectively. Boller has spent a lifetime evaluating football players and most recently was the director of player personnel at Syracuse University, one of the up and coming college football programs in the country under coach Dino Babers.

“Dave has a tremendous eye for talent,” Babers said when Boller joined the program in 2017. “He was in the NFL for a long time.”

Martz and Boller connected in St. Louis when Martz was the head coach of the Rams and Boller was hired as a scout in 2004 after previous NFL stops in Tampa Bay and Philadelphia. Boller remained with the Rams until 2007 when he joined the front office of the Detroit Lions. By then, Martz was in his second season as the offensive coordinator for the Lions.

“I have over 30 years of experience working in both college and professional football,” Boller said. “During my years in pro football, I have had the opportunity, as a college and pro scout, to work with some of the best head coaches and general managers in the NFL.”

It’s so important the general manager and coach have the same vision. Boller and Martz have enough history together to make the return of professional football to San Diego very exciting.

Head Coach Mike Martz

by Barry Horn



After toiling through 13 high school, college and NFL coaching jobs in 26 seasons, Mike Martz finally was handed an offense of his own in 1999. Needless to say, he believed his time had come.

As an added bonus, Martz thought he would go into his rookie season as an NFL offensive coordinator well-armed with a big-money, free-agent quarterback to run the St. Louis Rams.

The previous year, Martz had been the Washington Redskins' quarterbacks coach. Martz and Redskins starter Trent Green had been successful enough that the quarterback earned a lucrative free agent deal with the Rams and his former position coach earned a coordinator's title.

Then in the Rams' third preseason game, future Hall of Fame running back Marshall Faulk missed a block on blitzing San Diego Chargers safety Rodney Harrison. When the carnage was complete, Green, who had been a perfect 11-for-11 as the first half was winding down in the meaningless game, had to be carted off the field with torn knee ligaments. His season was over.

But Martz's was only beginning.

Martz and Rams head coach Dick Vermeil had little choice but to turn their offense over to an untested Kurt Warner who hadn't even been drafted out of Northern Iowa five years earlier and didn't make it out of Green Bay Packers training camp as a rookie. On the way to his first real NFL shot, Warner endured playing in NFL Europe, the Arena Football League and stocking groceries for \$5.50 an hour at a supermarket in Iowa.

Martz insists today that he wasn't fazed by the sudden change in plans.

"I felt Kurt Warner would be a good player," Martz said two decades later. "I didn't know how good a player he would be."

Turned out under maestro Martz, Warner, along with Faulk as well as wide receivers Isaac Bruce and Torry Holt, led the Rams to a Super Bowl championship that season as the offense that famously became known as "The Greatest Show on Turf."

Forget about running the ball to set up the passing game as had become NFL trope. Martz's "Greatest Show" was predicated on passing before establishing the run. It was a revolutionary idea as a new millennium approached. Check the NFL today to see if Martz was on to something.

Warner had thrown only 11 passes in his NFL career before taking over for Green. He responded by going from "Who's He?" to regular season and Super Bowl MVP in 1999. He threw 41 touchdowns and only 13 interceptions with 4,353 yards in that magical year.

"Kurt was a unique player and the talent was there at every position on offense," Martz said modestly. "And the defense was phenomenal."

Vermeil saw it from a different angle.

"I can't think, in my history of coaching, of any assistant who came into an NFL franchise and made a more immediate impact than Mike Martz did," has become Vermeil's mantra.

For the record, Vermeil's 15 seasons as a NFL head coach, sprinkled around 15 years in network broadcasting booths, spanned five decades.

In the wake of the Super Bowl, Martz replaced Vermeil as the Rams head coach. Martz would spend five full seasons and part of a sixth leading the Rams before a bacterial infection forced him to step away. When he was ready to return, the Rams opted to go in a different direction.

Martz's Rams teams won 53 games and lost 32. They reached the playoffs four times, losing Super Bowl XXXVI, 20-17, to the New England Patriots at the end of the 2001 season. Another legend began that day

on the other side of the field. The Patriots quarterback was Tom Brady, as unknown as Warner was before Drew Bledsoe's injury pushed him in to the starting lineup early in the season.

If any of The Alliance of American Football's coaches are capable of identifying an overlooked quarterback and developing him into the next Warner, it's certainly Martz. It may be a longshot, but then again. Kurt Warner was a longshot. Many quarterbacks just need the right coach and the right system to flourish.

After the Rams let him go, Martz moved on to serve as the offensive coordinator with the Detroit Lions, San Francisco 49ers and Chicago Bears but was never able to duplicate the video game numbers his offense produced with Warner, Faulk, Bruce and Holt. That was a special group and Martz was the right coach to bring out the best in them.

After spending the 2011 season with the Bears, Martz, then 60 years old, retired and settled in San Diego where he had played at Madison High. It appeared his long and successful coaching career was over. It all started at a Fresno high school in 1973 and he graduated to the college game in 1974 at San Diego Mesa College.

Martz had played tight end at Mesa, a two-year school, before finishing up at Fresno State.

After stops at seven schools, Martz moved to the NFL in 1982 as the quarterbacks coach with the Rams, who then were identified as representing Los Angeles even as they played home games in Orange County. Martz, by the way, isn't a San Diego native. But he got there as soon as he could. He was born in Sioux Falls, S.D. His family moved to San Diego when he was nine.

Martz says he had been content in "retirement" from coaching, splitting time with his wife, his high school sweetheart at Madison, between homes in San Diego and Idaho. To remain active in football, he served as a consultant to several teams and dabbled in broadcasting.

And then came the opportunity to coach the San Diego entry in The Alliance of American Football. The man whose life has been so intertwined with San Diego was introduced in May as the head coach of the San Diego Fleet.

"I thought it would be fun," Martz said.

In serving as admiral of the Fleet, Martz is expected to introduce an offense that will dazzle and follow those that mesmerized the city in the uniforms of the departed NFL Chargers.

Recall that Sid Gillman orchestrated offenses that featured quarterback John Hadl and wide receiver Lance Alworth in the old AFL. The famed "Air Coryell," under the guidance of general Don Coryell, launched Hall of Fame quarterback Dan Fouts. NFL all-timers Drew Brees and Philip Rivers played quarterback for the San Diego Chargers in this new millennium.

"It doesn't get any better than coaching football in San Diego," Martz said.

Still, before the season began Martz refused to predict the tack his offense might take. Instead, he said he would rely on his tried and true formula for success.

"We'll do what we usually do," Martz said. "Play to the players' strengths. You can't take what you have done elsewhere and morph it into what your players do best. You have to adjust to what the players do best."

Martz adjusted nicely in the middle of training camp when his offensive coordinator Jon Kitna was hired to join the staff of the Dallas Cowboys. Martz was happy for Kitna, who played for him when he was the offensive coordinator in Detroit, and quickly made a phone call to his long-time friend Mike DeBord, who had retired after the 2018 season as the offensive coordinator at Indiana University. Martz jokingly informed DeBord that he was no longer retired and was needed by the Fleet. He accepted the opportunity to rejoin Martz. They had worked together with the Bears in 2010-11. Az-Zahir Hakim, who complemented "Greatest Show on Turf" wide receivers Bruce and Holt in St. Louis, is Martz's wide receivers coach.

"In this league you get your guys and go play," said Martz, charged with molding hungry players overlooked by the NFL into the likes of Warner, who was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2017.

"Everybody will be hungry. There shouldn't be any egos. This is football at its purest. We'll be there to coach the players up."

San Diego County Credit Union Stadium 9449 Friars Rd, San Diego, CA 92108

Capacity - 70,561 • Surface - Bandera Bermuda Grass

- Aug. 1967** – The publicly-owned \$27.8 million project, then known as San Diego Stadium, opened with a Chargers preseason loss to the Detroit Lions before a paying crowd of 45,988.
- Apr. 1969** – The expansion San Diego Padres played their first-ever regular season game in the stadium, defeated the Houston Astros, 2-1.
- July 1978** – Los Angeles Dodgers first baseman Steve Garvey, who would end his career with the Padres, was voted the baseball All-Star Game's Most Valuable Player as the National League defeated the American League, 7-3.
- Dec. 1978** – Navy defeated BYU, 23-18 in the inaugural Holiday Bowl.
- 1981** – Renamed Jack Murphy Stadium in honor of a local sportswriter who had been instrumental in getting the stadium built.
- Oct. 1981** – The Rolling Stones drew 70,000 fans for the fifth stop on their 29-city "American Tour."
- Oct. 1984** – The World Series opened in San Diego but the Detroit Tigers won the game on their way to capturing baseball's championship in five games.
- Jan. 1988** – Super Bowl XXII, the first of three Super Bowls hosted at the stadium, was won by the Washington Redskins, led by quarterback Doug Williams, over the John Elway-led Denver Broncos, 42-10.
- July 1992** – The American League walloped the National League, 13-6, in Major League Baseball's 63rd All-Star Game.
- 1997** – Naming rights for newly christened Qualcomm Stadium was sold to the giant semiconductor and telecommunications equipment company headquartered in the city.
- Jan. 1998** – Super Bowl XXXII, the second of three Super Bowls at the stadium, had the Denver Broncos defeat the Green Bay Packers, 31-24. That game, in an old AFL city, ended the AFC teams' 13-game Super Bowl losing streak.
- Oct. 1998** – The New York Yankees-Padres World Series opened in New York before moving to San Diego for Game 3. The Yankees swept the Series in four games. It was the first time the same stadium hosted both the Super Bowl and World Series in the same year.
- Jan. 2003** – Super Bowl XXXVII, the most recent Super Bowl at the stadium, was won by the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 48-21 over the Oakland Raiders. The game, played one week after the league championship games, was the last Super Bowl held in January.
- Jan. 2017** – The San Diego Chargers lost their last game at the stadium, 37-27, to the Kansas City Chiefs before relocating up the road to Los Angeles.
- Sep. 2017** – Renamed San Diego County Credit Union Stadium.



COACHING STAFF

TITLE	NAME
Head Coach	Mike Martz
Offensive Coordinator	Mike DeBord
Running Backs Coach	Lamont Jordan
Wide Receivers Coach	Az-Zahir Hakim
Offensive Line Coach	Pat Morris
Asst Offensive Line Coach	Matt Kitna
Tight Ends Coach	Anthony Becht
Defensive Coordinator	Larry Marmie
Linebackers / Special Teams	Larry MacDuff
Defensive Backs Coach	Eric Allen
Defensive Line Coach	Vince Amey
General Manager	Dave Boller
Personnel Director	Jim Monos
Operations Director	Pete Brown
Assistant to the Head Coach	Tynan Murray
Equipment Manager	Darryl MaGee
Video Director	Dave Nash
Video Assistant	Brendan Taylor
Head Athletic Trainer	Ryan Juarez
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Dana Leduc

SAN DIEGO FLEET TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
38	Adjei-Barimah, Jude	CB	5-11	203	Bowling Green	Columbus, OH
93	Barrett, Alex	DE	6-3	256	San Diego State	Mesa, AZ
85	Baugh, Marcus	TE	6-4	240	Ohio State	Riverside, CA
11	Bercovici, Michael	QB	6-0	211	Arizona State	Northridge, CA
69	Boyko, Brett	OT	6-7	312	Nevada-Las Vegas	Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
33	Brooks, Ron	CB	6-0	177	Louisiana State	Irving, TX
83	Brown, Brian	WR	6-0	204	Richmond	Richmond, VA
75	Brunskill, Daniel	OT	6-5	260	San Diego State	Valley Center, CA
49	DiSalvo, Ryan	LS	6-4	256	San Jose State	Hollister, CA
26	Ducres, Greg	CB	5-10	180	Washington	Los Angeles, CA
89	Escobar, Gavin	TE	6-5	242	San Diego State	Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
41	Feeney, Travis	OLB	6-4	245	Washington	Richmond, CA
12	Ford, Dontez	WR	6-2	211	Pittsburgh	McKees Rocks, PA
32	Gardner, Ja'Quan	RB	5-7	207	Humboldt State	Ceres, CA
58	Ginda, Frank	ILB	6-0	238	San Jose State	Los Banos, CA
74	Gonzalez, Chris	OG	6-3	313	San Jose State	Los Angeles, CA
10	Gonzalez, LaQuvionte	WR	5-10	187	Southeastern (FL)	Cedar Hill, TX
78	Greene, Darrell	OG	6-4	305	San Diego State	Oakley, CA
77	Hodges, Brandon	OT	6-4	302	Pittsburgh	Aberdeen, MI
36	James, Kendall	CB	5-11	171	Maine	Roselle, NJ
31	James, Paul	RB	6-0	203	Rutgers	Glassboro, NJ
88	Johnson, Ben	TE	6-5	242	Kansas	Basehor, KS
14	Kelly, Kameron	WR	6-2	207	San Diego State	Murphy, TX
97	Koloamatangi, Meffy	DE	6-5	274	Hawaii	East Palo Alto, CA
62	Kolone, Jeremiah	C	6-3	309	San Jose State	Fallbrook, CA
53	Lotulelei, John	OLB	5-11	235	Nevada-Las Vegas	Kihei, HI

SAN DIEGO FLEET TEAM ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	COLLEGE	HOMETOWN
71	Mama, Damien	OG	6-4	331	Southern California	Moreno Valley, CA
22	Martin, Jordan	FS	6-3	215	Syracuse	Upper Marlboro, MD
28	Mikell, Curtis	CB	5-8	169	Southern Mississippi	Bassfield, MS
25	Moeller, Ryan	SS	6-0	214	Colorado	Rifle, CO
60	Montelus, John	OG	6-4	316	Notre Dame	Everett, MA
94	Moore, Damontre	DE	6-4	260	Texas A&M	Dallas, TX
1	Murphy, Cole	PK	6-3	213	Syracuse	Castaic, CA
91	Nash, Myles	DE	6-5	248	Rutgers	Sicklerville, NJ
9	Nelson, Philip	QB	6-3	208	East Carolina	Mankato, MN
67	Nunn, Beau	OT	6-3	311	Appalachian State	York, SC
51	Olugbode, Kenneth	OLB	6-1	229	Colorado	San Jose, CA
82	Owusu, Francis	WR	6-3	193	Stanford	Westlake Village, CA
42	Pinkins, Eric	OLB	6-3	219	San Diego State	Sacramento, CA
79	Poole, Terry	OT	6-5	290	San Diego State	Seaside, CA
98	Robinson, Gelen	DT	6-1	294	Purdue	Schererville, IN
4	Ross, Alex	QB	6-1	196	Coastal Carolina	Alpharetta, GA
92	Soto, Shakir	DT	6-3	301	Pittsburgh	Wilkes-Barre, PA
81	Spruce, Nelson	WR	6-1	205	Colorado	Westlake Village, CA
99	Stelter, Andrew	DT	6-4	285	Minnesota	Owatonna, MN
59	Tarpley, Aj	ILB	6-2	237	Stanford	Plymouth, MN
37	Travis, Damarius	SS	6-2	217	Minnesota	Pensacola, FL
90	Tupou, Tani	DT	6-1	298	Washington	Honolulu , HI
39	Watson, Terrell	RB	6-1	244	Azusa Pacific	Oxnard, CA
24	Williams, Justin	CB	6-0	173	Hampton	Port St. Lucie, FL
17	Winslow, Ryan	P	6-5	210	Pittsburgh	Maple Glen, PA
34	Wright, Demetrius	FS	6-2	216	Southern California	Corona, CA



ALLIANCE
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