Will Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys make a playoff run in 2017?

Top 5 NFL draft picks

- Cleveland Browns Myles Garrett, DE (Texas A&M)
- Chicago Bears Mitch Trubisky, QB (North Carolina)
- San Francisco 49ers Solomon Thomas, DE (Stanford)
- Jacksonville Jaguars Leonard Fournette, RB (LSU)
- Tennessee Titans Corey Davis, WR (Western Michigan)

Plus

- Conference previews
- Top players
- Team and weekly schedules
- NFL retirees
Jay Ajayi seemingly came out of nowhere in 2016 and helped provide a spark that vaulted the Miami Dolphins into the playoffs. When the Dolphins signing of Arian Foster didn’t materialize on the field (Foster retired after an injury), Ajayi got his chance and eventually responded with consecutive 200-yard games; now one of only four players to reach that milestone as well as that of rushing for 200 yards in three games within a season.

Ajayi was a standout at Boise State, where he also made a name for himself with 200-yards-per-game rushing efforts. He was taken late in the 2015 NFL Draft and missed a good chunk of his rookie season due to an injury suffered in training camp. In 2016, he wasn’t even with the Dolphins for the season opener in Seattle. This only contributed to his rise from obscurity.

Ajayi has also shown some versatility as a receiving target. With Jay Cutler coming out of a short retirement to fill in for the injured Ryan Tannehill, the Dolphins will likely rely on Ajayi to carry more of the load in 2017. Time will tell if he is up to the task.

Full Name: Jay Ajayi
Born: June 15, 1994
Hometown: London, England
Size: 6' 0"/220 pounds
College: Boise State
Drafted: 2015, Round 5, Pick 149
Achievements: Pro Bowl, 2016; one of only four players to have three, 200-yard games in a season

**New England Patriots QB Tom Brady**

Each year the question comes up as to who can unseat the Pats in the division. Don’t count on it to be the Buffalo Bills, where Sean McDermott takes over a team that does have offensive potential in quarterback Tyrod Taylor and running back LeSean McCoy. The hope is that wideout Sammy Watkins recovers fully from last year’s foot injury.

The New York Jets might have the youngest team in football. That aside from quarterback Josh McCown who is 38 and was getting most of the preseason reps. Christian Hackenberg and Bryce Petty are ready to develop on a team that is obviously rebuilding.

The Miami Dolphins might have offered New England the stiffest competition before quarterback Ryan Tannehill went down. Still, Jay Cutler has running back Jay Ajayi and receiver Jarvis Landry.

But the Patriots only improved in the offseason, giving 40-year-old Tom Brady a top receiver in Brandin Cooks and adding cornerback Stephon Gilmore and defensive end Kony Ealy to the defense. Then there’s the return of Rob Gronkowski at tight end.

New England Patriots

- Sep 7 Chiefs 8:30 pm
- Sep 17 @Saints 1 pm
- Sep 24 Texans 1 pm
- Oct 1 Panthers 1 pm
- Oct 5 @Buccaneers 8:25 pm
- Oct 15 @Jaguars 1 pm
- Oct 22 Falcons 8:30 pm
- Nov 12 @Broncos 8:30 pm
- Nov 19 @Raiders 4:25 pm
- Nov 26 Dolphins 1 pm
- Dec 3 @Bills 1 pm
- Dec 24 @Chiefs 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Dolphins 1 pm

Buffalo Bills

- Sep 10 Jets 1 pm
- Sep 17 @Panthers 1 pm
- Sep 24 Broncos 1 pm
- Oct 1 @Falcons 1 pm
- Oct 8 @Bengals 1 pm
- Oct 22 Buccaneers 1 pm
- Oct 29 Raiders 1 pm
- Nov 2 @Jets 8:25 pm
- Nov 12 Saints 1 pm
- Nov 19 @Chargers 4:05 pm
- Nov 26 @Chiefs 1 pm
- Dec 3 Patriots 1 pm
- Dec 10 Colts 1 pm
- Dec 17 Dolphins 1 pm
- Dec 24 @Patriots 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Dolphins 1 pm

NY Jets

- Sep 10 @Bills 1 pm
- Sep 17 @Raiders 4:05 pm
- Sep 24 Dolphins 1 pm
- Oct 1 Jaguars 1 pm
- Oct 8 @Browns 1 pm
- Oct 15 Patriots 1 pm
- Oct 22 @Dolphins 1 pm
- Dec 3 Broncos 1 pm
- Dec 11 Patriots 8:30 pm
- Dec 17 @Bills 1 pm
- Dec 24 @Chiefs 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Dolphins 1 pm

Miami Dolphins

- Sep 10 Buccaneers 1 pm
- Sep 17 @Chargers 4:05 pm
- Sep 24 @Jets 1 pm
- Oct 1 Saints 9:30 AM
- Oct 8 Titans 1 pm
- Oct 15 @Falcons 1 pm
- Oct 22 Jets 1 pm
- Oct 26 @Ravens 8:25 pm
- Nov 5 Raiders 8:30 pm
- Nov 13 @Panthers 8:30 pm
- Nov 26 @Patriots 1 pm
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NY Jets

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Full Name: Jay Ajayi
Position: Running Back
Team: Miami Dolphins
Born: June 15, 1994
Hometown: London, England
Size: 6' 0"/220 pounds
College: Boise State
Drafted: 2015, Round 5, Pick 149
Achievements: Pro Bowl, 2016; one of only four players to have three, 200-yard games in a season
The AFC North was not its same old competitive self last season. After missing the playoffs for the first time since 2010, the Cincinnati Bengals should be back in the mix simply because they drafted running back Joe Mixon. With Andy Dalton and A.J. Green, Mixon’s addition gives the Bengals a serious triple threat on offense.

In Cleveland it’s the same old game of musical chairs at quarterback. This time it’s Brock Osweiler and Cody Kessler with some hope that rookie DeShone Kizer out of Notre Dame will pull a Dak Prescott. Top draft pick Myles Garrett should single-handedly improve the defensive unit.

The Baltimore Ravens have some quarterback questions to answer of their own. Can Joe Flacco’s back hold up and will the back-up be Ryan Mallett or even Colin Kaepernick? A healthy Flacco is paramount.

As long as “Big” Ben Roethlisberger is healthy and can have Le’Veon Bell and Antonio Brown on the field at the same time, the Steelers are capable of making a Super Bowl run. The North and perhaps the AFC, is the Steelers’ to lose.

**A.J. GREEN**
*Cincinnati Bengals*

One of the NFL’s top receivers, A.J. Green led the Cincinnati Bengals in receiving yards in 2016 despite missing the last six games with a hamstring injury. He also came up just 36 yards shy of what would’ve been his sixth 1,000-yard season while the Bengals also missed the playoffs. Still, Green was elected to his sixth Pro Bowl.

A standout at Georgia in college, Green was a coveted receiver in the 2011 draft and the Bengals grabbed him with the fourth pick. His first NFL catch was a 41-yard touchdown and he has since become notorious for notching 100-yard games, including a franchise record five straight in 2013. He’s obviously been quarterback Andy Dalton’s go-to guy and will this year be asked to mentor rookie wide-out John Ross, the Bengals’ top draft pick out of Washington. If Ross develops, that can only help Green, who is sometimes double-teamed by the opposition.

Another factor that should benefit Green and the Bengals passing game is the addition of rookie running back Joe Mixon, who fell to the Bengals in the second round of the draft. A solid running attack should turn Green loose in the opposing team’s secondary.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS WR LE’VEON BELL**

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Another factor that should benefit Green and the Bengals passing game is the addition of rookie running back Joe Mixon, who fell to the Bengals in the second round of the draft. A solid running attack should turn Green loose in the opposing team’s secondary.

**Full Name:** Adriel Jeremiah “A.J.” Green  
**Born:** July 31, 1988  
**Hometown:** Summerville, S.C.  
**Size:** 6’ 4”/210 lbs  
**College:** Georgia  
**Drafted:** 2011, Round 1, Pick 4  
**Achievements:** Pro Bowl, 2011–2016  

**Baltimore Ravens**

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<td>1 pm</td>
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<td>Browns</td>
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<td>Sep 24</td>
<td>@Jaguars</td>
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<td>Steelers</td>
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<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>@Raiders</td>
<td>4:05 pm</td>
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<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Bears</td>
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<td>Oct 22</td>
<td>@Vikings</td>
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**Cincinnati Bengals**

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<td>@Steelers</td>
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**Pittsburgh Steelers**

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<td>@Lions</td>
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The AFC South could be a fiery and competitive division. The Houston Texans rode their defense to the AFC South title last year and could do the same this year if J.J. Watt’s back holds up. Offensively they’re pinning their hopes on quarterback Tom Savage, who has yet to throw a touchdown pass in the NFL, while rookie Deshaun Watson waits in the wings.

The Indianapolis Colts will likely start the season without quarterback Andrew Luck, who is still recovering from shoulder surgery. An improved defense is a positive thing but the Colts need Luck to compete in the South.

On paper, the Tennessee Titans continue to surround third year quarterback Marcus Mariota with talent. With two high-caliber running backs in DeMarco Murray and Derrick Henry, this team could have a breakout year.

In Jacksonville Blake Bortles has yet to rise to the occasion but the Jags drafted LSU running back Leonard Fournette. Will that be enough to improve on last year’s three-win season?

**J.J. WATT**

**Houston Texans**

When healthy, there’s no denying that J.J. Watt is the most dominant defensive player in the NFL. Despite the fact that the defensive end only played in three games last season before recurring back problems sidelined him, his 76 sacks are the most among all NFL players since he came into the league in 2011. The Texans will need the three-time Defensive Player of the Year and line-mate Jadeveon Clowney to be healthy as their top defense from a year ago has suffered some losses via free agency.

Watt has been terrorizing opposing offenses since his rookie season. He had 20.5 sacks in both 2012 and 2014 and has forced 15 fumbles. His trouble started a year ago with when he had back surgery for a herniated disc just before training camp. He sat out the preseason but was in the lineup for the first three games before it was discovered he needed surgery again. The questions are not only if he’ll be the same player, but if back issues will further plague his career as has happened to so many others.

**Full Name:**
Justin James “J. J.” Watt

**Born:**
March 22, 1989

**Hometown:**
Waukesha, Wis.

**Size:**
6’5”/295 lbs

**College:**
Wisconsin

**Drafted:**
2011, Round 1, Pick 11

**Achievements:**
The West should again come down to the Oakland Raiders and Kansas City Chiefs. Alex Smith continues to guide Kansas City’s conservative offense. The defense doesn’t break in terms of giving up points and kept them in a lot of games last season.

Stopping Oakland will be a problem for Kansas City and everyone else. Derek Carr is surrounded by offensive weapons and now has Marshawn Lynch coming out of retirement to hand the ball to. The Raiders used six of their nine draft picks on defensive players, which should have an impact.

With Von Miller and crew, the Denver Broncos will again have a formidable defense, but their quarterback situation and offense remain questionable. Neither Trevor Siemian nor Paxton Lynch have risen above the other to ace the starting quarterback job.

The Los Angeles Chargers, who come in from San Diego, still have Philip Rivers at quarterback and recently traded for second year man Cardale Jones. Running back Melvin Gordon could give fans something to cheer about in their first season in LA.

Von Miller
Denver Broncos

Super Bowl 50 made linebacker Von Miller a household name when he had 2.5-sacks and forced two fumbles, one that was returned for a touchdown. But Miller had quickly established himself in the NFL in seasons prior to his MVP performance in the Super Bowl. At Texas A&M he was versatile defensively and carried those traits to the NFL where his very first tackle was a forced fumble. That season, 2011, he earned Rookie of the Year honors and went to the first of his five Pro Bowls.

He’s recorded double-digit sack numbers every year of his professional career except in 2013, when a suspension and injuries limited him to nine games. He enters the season ranked No. 2 on the NFL Top 100 Players of 2017 list and is the highest paid defensive player in NFL history, and seventh highest paid overall in the league.

Miller and the Broncos defense could use a little help from the offense. But they’re getting used to holding opposing offenses down and keeping the score close, and will be asked to do so again in 2017.

Full Name: Vonnie B’Vsean Miller Jr.
Born: March 26, 1989
Hometown: Dallas
Size: 6’3”/250 lbs
College: Texas A&M
Drafted: 2011, Round 1, Pick 2

OAKLAND RAIDERS QB DEREK CARR

OAKLAND RAIDERS HAVE THE EDGE

The West should again come down to the Oakland Raiders and Kansas City Chiefs. Alex Smith continues to guide Kansas City’s conservative offense. The defense doesn’t break in terms of giving up points and kept them in a lot of games last season.

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KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sep 7 @Patriots 8:30 pm
Sep 17 Eagles 1 pm
Sep 24 @Chargers 4:25 pm
Oct 2 Redskins 8:30 pm
Oct 8 @Texans 8:30 pm
Oct 15 Steelers 4:25 pm
Oct 19 @Raiders 8:25 pm
Oct 30 Broncos 8:30 pm
Nov 5 @Cowboys 4:25 pm
Nov 19 @Giants 1 pm
Nov 26 Bills 1 pm
Dec 3 @Jets 1 pm
Dec 10 Raiders 1 pm
Dec 16 Chargers 8:25 pm
Dec 24 Dolphins 1 pm
Dec 31 @Chargers 4:25 pm

Denver Broncos

Sep 11 Chargers 10:20 pm
Sep 17 Cowboys 4:25 pm
Sep 24 @Bills 1 pm
Oct 1 Raiders 4:25 pm
Oct 15 Giants 8:30 pm
Oct 22 @Chargers 4:25 pm
Oct 30 @Chiefs 8:30 pm
Nov 5 @Eagles 1 pm
Nov 12 Patriots 8:30 pm
Nov 19 Bengals 4:25 pm
Nov 26 @Raiders 4:25 pm
Dec 3 @Dolphins 1 pm
Dec 10 Jets 4:05 pm
Dec 14 @Colts 8:25 pm
Dec 24 @Redskins 1 pm
Dec 31 Chiefs 4:25 pm

Los Angeles Chargers

Sep 11 @Broncos 10:20 pm
Sep 17 Dolphins 4:05 pm
Sep 24 Chiefs 4:25 pm
Oct 1 Eagles 4:05 pm
Oct 8 @Giants 1 pm
Oct 15 @Chargers 4:25 pm
Oct 22 Broncos 4:25 pm
Oct 29 @Patriots 1 pm
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Nov 23 @Cowboys 4:30 pm
Dec 3 Browns 4:05 pm
Dec 10 Redskins 4:05 pm
Dec 16 @Chiefs 8:25 pm
Dec 24 @Jets 1 pm
Dec 31 Raiders 4:25 pm

Oakland Raiders

Sep 10 @Titans 1 pm
Sep 17 Jets 4:05 pm
Sep 24 @Chargers 4:25 pm
Oct 1 @Broncos 4:25 pm
Oct 8 Ravens 4:05 pm
Oct 15 Chargers 4:25 pm
Oct 19 Chiefs 8:25 pm
Oct 29 @Bills 1 pm
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Nov 19 @Patriots 1 pm
Nov 26 Broncos 8:30 pm
Dec 3 Giants 4:25 pm
Dec 10 @Chiefs 1 pm
Dec 17 Cowboys 8:30 pm
Dec 25 @Eagles 8:30 pm
Dec 31 @Chargers 4:25 pm
2017 NFL Weekly Schedule

WEEK 1
Thursday, Sept. 7
Kansas City at New England, 8:30pm, NBC

Sunday, Sept. 10
NY Jets at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
Atlanta at Chicago, 1pm, Fox
Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1pm, CBS
Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1pm, CBS
Arizona at Detroit, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at Houston, 1pm, CBS
Tampa Bay at Miami, 1pm, Fox
Oakland at Tennessee, 1pm, CBS
Philadelphia at Washington, 1pm, Fox
Indianapolis at LA Rams, 4:05pm, CBS
Seattle at Green Bay, 4:25pm, Fox
Carolina at San Francisco, 4:25pm, Fox
NY Giants at Dallas, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Sept. 11
New Orleans at Minnesota, 7:10pm, ESPN
LA Chargers at Denver, 10:20pm, ESPN

WEEK 2
Thursday, Sept. 14
Houston at Cincinnati, 8:25pm, NFL

Sunday, Sept. 17
Cleveland at Baltimore, 1pm, CBS
Buffalo at Carolina, 1pm, CBS
Arizona at Indianapolis, 1pm, Fox
Tennessee at Jacksonville, 1pm, CBS
Philadelphia at Kansas City, 1pm, Fox
New England at New Orleans, 1pm, CBS
Minnesota at Pittsburgh, 1pm, Fox
Chicago at Tampa Bay, 1pm, Fox
Miami at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, CBS
NY Jets at Oakland, 4:25pm, CBS
Dallas at Denver, 4:25pm, Fox
Washington at LA Rams, 4:25pm, Fox
San Francisco at Seattle, 4:25pm, Fox
Green Bay at Atlanta, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Sept. 18
Detroit at NY Giants, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 3
Thursday, Sept. 21
LA Rams at San Francisco, 8:25pm, NFL

Sunday, Sept. 24
Baltimore vs. Jacksonville (at London), 9:30am, TBD
Denver at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
New Orleans at Carolina, 1pm, Fox
Pittsburgh at Chicago, 1pm, CBS
Atlanta at Detroit, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Indianapolis, 1pm, CBS
Tampa Bay at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox

WEEK 4
Thursday, Sept. 28
Chicago at Green Bay, 8:25pm, CBS/NFL

Sunday, Oct. 1
New Orleans vs. Miami (at London), 9:30am, Fox
Buffalo at Atlanta, 1pm, CBS
Pittsburgh at Baltimore, 1pm, CBS
Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1pm, CBS
LA Rams at Dallas, 1pm, Fox
Tennessee at Houston, 1pm, CBS
Detroit at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox
Carolina at New England, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at NY Jets, 1pm, CBS
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05pm, Fox
Philadelphia at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, Fox
NY Giants at Tampa Bay, 4:05pm, Fox
Oakland at Denver, 4:25pm, CBS
Carolina at Philadelphia, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Oct. 2
Washington at Kansas City, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 5
Byes: Atlanta, Denver, New Orleans, Washington

Thursday, Oct. 5
New England at Tampa Bay, 8:25pm, CBS/NFL

Sunday, Oct. 8
Buffalo at Cincinnati, 1pm, CBS
NY Jets at Cleveland, 1pm, Fox
Carolina at Detroit, 1pm, Fox
San Francisco at Indianapolis, 1pm, Fox
Tennessee at Miami, 1pm, CBS
LA Chargers at NY Giants, 1pm, CBS
Arizona at Philadelphia, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh, 1pm, CBS
Seattle at LA Rams, 4:05pm, CBS
Baltimore at Oakland, 4:05pm, CBS
Green Bay at Dallas, 4:25pm, Fox
Kansas City at Houston, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Oct. 9
Minnesota at Chicago, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 6
Byes: Buffalo, Cincinnati, Dallas, Seattle

Thursday, Oct. 12
Philadelphia at Carolina, 8:25pm, CBS/NFL

Sunday, Oct. 15
Miami at Atlanta, 1pm, Fox
Chicago at Baltimore, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Houston, 1pm, CBS
Green Bay at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox
Detroit at New Orleans, 1pm, Fox
New England at NY Jets, 1pm, CBS
San Francisco at Washington, 1pm, Fox
Tampa Bay at Arizona, 4:05pm, Fox
LA Rams at Jacksonville, 4:05pm, Fox
Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 4:25pm, CBS
LA Chargers at Oakland, 4:25pm, CBS
NY Giants at Denver, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Oct. 16
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 7
Byes: Detroit, Houston

Thursday, Oct. 19
Kansas City at Oakland, 8:25pm, CBS/NFL

Sunday, Oct. 22
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 1pm, Fox
Carolina at Chicago, 1pm, Fox
Tennessee at Cleveland, 1pm, CBS
New Orleans at Green Bay, 1pm, Fox
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05pm, Fox
Philadelphia at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, Fox
NY Jets at Miami, 1pm, Fox
Baltimore at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at NY Giants, 1pm, CBS
LA Rams at Jacksonville, 1pm, CBS
Arizona vs. LA Rams at London, 1pm, Fox
Philadelphia at Detroit, 1pm, NBC

Monday, Oct. 23
Washington at Philadelphia, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 8
Byes: Arizona, Green Bay, Jacksonville, LA Rams, NY Giants, Tennessee

Thursday, Oct. 26
Miami at Baltimore, 8:25pm, CBS/NFL

Sunday, Oct. 29
Minnesota vs. Cleveland at London, 9:30am, NFL
Oakland at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
Indianapolis at Cincinnati, 1pm, CBS
LA Chargers at New England, 1pm, CBS
Chicago at New Orleans, 1pm, Fox
Atlanta at NY Jets, 1pm, Fox

WEEK 9
Byes: Chicago, Cleveland, LA Chargers, Minnesota, New England, Pittsburgh

Thursday, Nov. 2
Buffalo at NY Jets, 8:25pm, NFL

Sunday, Nov. 5
Atlanta at Carolina, 1pm, Fox
Indianapolis at Houston, 1pm, CBS
Cincinnati at Jacksonville, 1pm, CBS
Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 1pm, CBS
LA Rams at NY Giants, 1pm, Fox
Denver at Philadelphia, 1pm, CBS
Baltimore at Tennessee, 1pm, CBS
Arizona at San Francisco, 4:05pm, Fox
Washington at Seattle, 4:05pm, Fox
Kansas City at Dallas, 4:25pm, CBS
Oakland at Miami, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Nov. 6
Detroit at Green Bay, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 10
Byes: Baltimore, Kansas City, Oakland, Philadelphia

Thursday, Nov. 9
Seattle at Arizona, 8:25pm, NBC/NFL

Sunday, Nov. 12
New Orleans at Buffalo, 1pm, Fox
Green Bay at Chicago, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Detroit, 1pm, CBS
Pittsburgh at Indianapolis, 1pm, CBS
LA Chargers at Jacksonville, 1pm, CBS
NY Jets at Tampa Bay, 1pm, CBS
Cincinnati at Tennessee, 1pm, Fox
Minnesota at Washington, 1pm, Fox
Houston at LA Rams, 4:05pm, CBS
Dallas at Atlanta, 4:25pm, Fox
NY Giants at San Francisco, 4:25pm, Fox
New England at Denver, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Nov. 13
Miami at Carolina, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 11
Byes: Carolina, Indianapolis, Miami, NY Jets, San Francisco, Tampa Bay

Thursday, Nov. 16
Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 8:25pm, NBC/NFL

Sunday, Nov. 19
Detroit at Chicago, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at Cleveland, 1pm, CBS
Baltimore at Green Bay, 1pm, CBS
2017 NFL Weekly Schedule

Arizona at Houston, 1pm, Fox
LA Rams at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox
Washington at New Orleans, 1pm, Fox
Kansas City at NY Giants, 1pm, CBS
Buffalo at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, Fox
Cincinnati at Denver, 4:25pm, CBS
New England vs. Oakland at Mexico
City, 4:25pm, CBS
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Nov. 20
Atlanta at Seattle, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 12
Thursday, Nov. 23
Minnesota at Detroit, 12:30pm, Fox
LA Chargers at Dallas, 4:30pm, CBS
NY Giants at Washington, 8:30pm, NBC

Sunday, Nov. 26
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1pm, CBS
Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1pm, CBS
Buffalo at Kansas City, 1pm, CBS
Miami at New England, 1pm, CBS
Carolina at NY Jets, 1pm, Fox
Chicago at Philadelphia, 1pm, Fox
New Orleans at LA Rams, 4:05pm, Fox
Seattle at San Francisco, 4:05pm, Fox
Jacksonville at Arizona, 4:25pm, CBS
Denver at Oakland, 4:25pm, CBS
Green Bay at Pittsburgh, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Nov. 27
Houston at Baltimore, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 13
Thursday, Nov. 30
Washington at Dallas, 8:25pm, NBC/NFL

Sunday, Dec. 3
Minnesota at Atlanta, 1pm, Fox
Detroit at Baltimore, 1pm, Fox
New England at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
San Francisco at Chicago, 1pm, CBS
Tampa Bay at Green Bay, 1pm, Fox
Indianapolis at Jacksonville, 1pm, CBS
Denver at Miami, 1pm, CBS
Carolina at New Orleans, 1pm, Fox
Kansas City at NY Jets, 1pm, CBS
Houston at Tennessee, 1pm, CBS
Cleveland at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, CBS
LA Rams at Arizona, 4:25pm, Fox
NY Giants at Oakland, 4:25pm, Fox
Philadelphia at Seattle, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Dec. 4
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 14
Thursday, Dec. 7
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:25pm, NBC/NFL

Sunday, Dec. 10
Indianapolis at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
Minnesota at Carolina, 1pm, CBS
Chicago at Cincinnati, 1pm, Fox
Green Bay at Cleveland, 1pm, Fox
San Francisco at Houston, 1pm, Fox
Seattle at Jacksonville, 1pm, Fox
Oakland at Kansas City, 1pm, CBS
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 1pm, Fox
Tennessee at Arizona, 4:05pm, CBS
NY Jets at Denver, 4:05pm, CBS
Washington at LA Chargers, 4:05pm, CBS
Philadelphia at LA Rams, 4:25pm, Fox
Dallas at NY Giants, 4:25pm, Fox

Monday, Dec. 11
New England at Miami, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 15
Thursday, Dec. 14
Denver at Indianapolis, 8:25pm, NBC/NFL

Saturday, Dec. 16
Chicago at Detroit, 4:30pm, NFL
LA Chargers at Kansas City, 8:25pm, NFL

Sunday, Dec. 17
Miami at Buffalo, 1pm, CBS
Green Bay at Carolina, 1pm, Fox
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1pm, CBS
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 1pm, CBS
NY Jets at New Orleans, 1pm, CBS
Philadelphia at NY Giants, 1pm, Fox
Arizona at Washington, 1pm, Fox
LA Rams at Seattle, 4:05pm, Fox
New England at Pittsburgh, 4:25pm, CBS
Tennessee at San Francisco, 4:25pm, CBS
Dallas at Oakland, 8:30pm, NBC

Monday, Dec. 18
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 16
Saturday, Dec. 23
Indianapolis at Baltimore, 4:30pm, NFL
Minnesota at Green Bay, 8:30pm, NBC

Sunday, Dec. 24
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Chicago, 1pm, CBS
Detroit at Cincinnati, 1pm, Fox

Miami at Kansas City, 1pm, CBS
Buffalo at New England, 1pm, CBS
Atlanta at New Orleans, 1pm, Fox
LA Chargers at NY Jets, 1pm, CBS
LA Rams at Tennessee, 1pm, Fox
Denver at Washington, 1pm, CBS
Jacksonville at San Francisco, 4:05pm, CBS
NY Giants at Arizona, 4:25pm, Fox
Seattle at Dallas, 4:25pm, Fox

Monday, Dec. 25
Pittsburgh at Houston, 4:30pm, NBC/NFL
Oakland at Philadelphia, 8:30pm, ESPN

WEEK 17
Sunday, Dec. 31
Carolina at Atlanta, 1pm, Fox
Cincinnati at Baltimore, 1pm, CBS
Green Bay at Detroit, 1pm, Fox
Houston at Indianapolis, 1pm, CBS
Buffalo at Miami, 1pm, CBS
Chicago at Minnesota, 1pm, Fox
NY Jets at New England, 1pm, CBS
Washington at NY Giants, 1pm, Fox
Dallas at Philadelphia, 1pm, Fox
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1pm, CBS
New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 1pm, Fox
Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1pm, CBS
Kansas City at Denver, 4:25pm, CBS
Oakland at LA Chargers, 4:25pm, CBS
San Francisco at LA Rams, 4:25pm, Fox
Arizona at Seattle, 4:25pm, Fox

MOVING ON: 2017 NFL RETIrees

TONY ROMO, QB DALLAS COWBOYS

Tony Romo was an undrafted free agent when then-coach Bill Parcels signed him in 2003. He became the starter in 2006 and went on to four Pro Bowls. In 2014 he had the highest passer rating in the NFL. He owns franchise records with the Cowboys for both passing yards and passing touchdowns and holds NFL record for highest QB rating in the month of December (133.7), and highest QB rating in the fourth quarter.

Romo is headed for the broadcast booth with CBS, where he’ll be an analyst and could do some PGA events too, as he’s an avid golfer who was once a potential pro.

STEVE SMITH, WR CAROLINA PANTHERS/BALTIMORE RAVENS

One of the toughest players ever to play in the NFL, quarterbacks throwing to Steve Smith knew they could count on him, especially in the postseason. At only 5-foot, 9-inches, Smith became a workhorse who piled up catches and yards. Over 16 seasons he played in five Pro Bowls and had his best season in 2005 when he led NFL receivers in yards, receptions and touchdowns while earning the Comeback Player of the Year award.

When he stepped away from the league he wrote in his resignation letter that he would no longer be antagonizing defensive backs.

DEMARCUS WARE DE/LB DALLAS COWBOYS/DENVER BRONCOS

The all-time sacks leader for the Dallas Cowboys, DeMarcus Ware spent 11 seasons with Dallas racking up 117 sacks. But it was in Denver with the Broncos where he became an integral part of one the best defensive units in recent years and helped win Super Bowl 50. Ware went to nine Pro Bowls and was the NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 2011.

ANDRE JOHNSON WR HOUSTON TEXANS/INDIANAPOLIS COLTS/TENNESSEE TITANS

After 14 years in the NFL, Andre Johnson called it a career after signing a one-day contract with the Houston Texans, where he spent 12 of those seasons. Johnson went to seven Pro Bowls and led the league in receiving yards in 2008 and 2009. He is currently 11th all-time in career receptions and 10th in receiving yards in the NFL. These stats should earn him enshrinement in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.
The NFC East could easily be up for grabs. Carson Wentz has the potential to be a great NFL quarterback and the Eagles can run the ball when they need to. But it is their defense, which they added to in the draft, that needs to improve.

The Washington Redskins also bolstered their defense in the draft, which struggled last year. But Kirk Cousins and the offense can put up numbers with the best. This team stole the division in 2015 and can do it again.

The New York Giants have the division’s best defense but they go as Eli Manning goes. Another member of the class of 2004, you have to wonder when Manning will call it day. He’s always capable of making the big play and if he gets hot then so will the Giants.

The Dallas Cowboys have all the pieces on offense but there are questions. Will Ezekiel Elliott’s off-field problems be an issue? Most of all, how will Dak Prescott’s sophomore season go? This offense can’t afford to stumble because their defense, which has lacked a pass rush and now has holes in the secondary, is always the biggest concern.

**DAK PRESCOTT**

*Dallas Cowboys*

The big question in Dallas this season is whether quarterback Dak Prescott will build upon his accomplishments during last year’s rookie season, or suffer the ill-fated “sophomore jinx.” Prescott set all kinds of rookie records in 2016 and was named the NFL Rookie of the Year. Most impressive may be the fact that he started his career with 176 passing attempts before throwing an interception, breaking Tom Brady’s record of 162. At the end of the season he had only four picks compared to 23 touchdowns and a 103.9 passer rating.

Although he was not a top quarterback prospect when he entered the 2016 NFL Draft, where he was the eighth quarterback drafted, Prescott had a brilliant career at Mississippi State. In his junior season the team earned a number one ranking for the first time ever and he walked away holding 38 school records. He also finished third among quarterbacks in SEC history in total yards and fourth in total touchdowns. The Cowboys hope he has similar success in the NFL. In fact, they’re counting on it.

**Full Name:**
Rayne Dakota “Dak” Prescott.

**Born:**
July 29, 1993

**Hometown:**
Sulphur, La.

**Size:**
6’ 2”/226 lbs

**College:**
Mississippi State

**Drafted:**
2016, Round 4, Pick 135

**Achievements:**
NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year, 2016; Pro Bowl, 2016; third in SEC history in total yards
The NFC North has been getting more competitive. This year the mystery team is the Minnesota Vikings. Can their defense repeat last year’s dominance and can quarterback Sam Bradford rise to the occasion without Adrian Peterson in the backfield? Rookie Dalvin Cook enters to fill Peterson’s spot.

The Detroit Lions made the playoffs last season on the heroics of Matt Stafford’s arm. With Golden Tate to throw to, Stafford can put up some serious numbers. Still, the Lions defense needs help with the pass rush.

Jay Cutler is gone in Chicago. Enter former Tampa Bay Buccaneer Mike Glennon and rookie Mitchell Trubisky out of North Carolina. At 3-13 a year ago this team has nowhere to go but up.

Green Bay overcome horrendous defensive play last season to make the NFC championship game. Now Aaron Rogers has another target in tight end Martellus Bennett, who signed as a free agent. The Pack addressed their defense heavily in the draft but having Rogers under center is obviously the ultimate edge.

Matthew Stafford
Detroit Lions

Matthew Stafford is the NFL’s current version of the “Comeback Kid.” The 2011 winner of the NFL Comeback Player of the Year award set an NFL record in 2016 with eight game-winning fourth quarter and overtime scoring drives. The Lions were always in contention until a hand injury slowed Stafford down late in the season. Detroit still made the playoffs as the final seed in the NFC, losing to the Seattle Seahawks in the Wild Card Round.

Stafford was the top pick out of Georgia in the 2009 NFL Draft and was immediately named the Lions’ starting quarterback in his rookie season. A shoulder injury limited him in 2011 but he’s played in all 16 games each season since 2012. He finished sixth in passing yards last season despite the hand injury and the fact that wide receiver Calvin Johnson had retired prior to the season.

Stafford and the Lions have an improved Green Bay team and the Minnesota Vikings’ tough defense to contend with in 2017. When clicking on all cylinders, they can put up points with the best of them and have proven time and again that the game isn’t over until the clock stops ticking.

Full Name: John Matthew Stafford
Born: Feb. 7, 1988
Hometown: Dallas
Size: 6’3”/226 lbs
College: Mississippi State
Drafted: 2009, Round 1, Pick 1
Achievements: Pro Bowl, 2014; NFL Comeback Player of the Year, 2011

Chicago Bears

- Sep 10 Falcons 1 pm
- Sep 17 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Sep 24 Steelers 1 pm
- Sep 28 @Packers 8:25 pm
- Oct 9 Vikings 8:30 pm
- Oct 15 @Ravens 1 pm
- Oct 22 Panthers 1 pm
- Oct 29 @Saints 1 pm
- Nov 12 Packers 1 pm
- Nov 19 Lions 1 pm
- Nov 26 @Eagles 1 pm
- Dec 3 49ers 1 pm
- Dec 10 @Bengals 1 pm
- Dec 16 @Lions 4:30 pm
- Dec 24 Browns 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Vikings 1 pm

Detroit Lions

- Sep 10 Cardinals 1 pm
- Sep 18 @Giants 8:30 pm
- Sep 24 Falcons 1 pm
- Oct 1 @Vikings 1 pm
- Oct 8 Panthers 1 pm
- Oct 15 @Saints 1 pm
- Oct 29 Steelers 8:30 pm
- Nov 6 @Packers 8:30 pm
- Nov 12 Browns 1 pm
- Nov 19 @Bears 1 pm
- Nov 23 Vikings 12:30 pm
- Dec 3 @Ravens 1 pm
- Dec 10 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Dec 16 Bears 4:30 pm
- Dec 24 @Bengals 1 pm
- Dec 31 Packers 1 pm

Green Bay Packers

- Sep 10 Seahawks 4:25 pm
- Sep 17 @Falcons 8:30 pm
- Sep 24 Bengals 4:25 pm
- Sep 28 Bears 8:25 pm
- Oct 8 @Cowboys 4:25 pm
- Oct 15 @Vikings 1 pm
- Oct 22 Saints 1 pm
- Nov 6 Lions 8:30 pm
- Nov 12 @Bears 1 pm
- Nov 19 Ravens 1 pm
- Nov 26 @Steelers 8:30 pm
- Dec 3 Buccaneers 1 pm
- Dec 10 @Browns 1 pm
- Dec 17 @Panthers 1 pm
- Dec 23 Vikings 8:30 pm
- Dec 31 @Lions 1 pm

Minnesota Vikings

- Sep 11 Saints 7:10 pm
- Sep 17 @Steelers 1 pm
- Sep 24 Buccaneers 1 pm
- Oct 1 Lions 1 pm
- Oct 9 @Bears 8:30 pm
- Oct 15 Packers 1 pm
- Oct 22 Ravens 1 pm
- Oct 29 @Browns 9:30 AM
- Nov 12 @Redskins 1 pm
- Nov 19 Rams 1 pm
- Nov 23 @Lions 12:30 pm
- Dec 3 @Falcons 1 pm
- Dec 10 @Panthers 1 pm
- Dec 17 Bengals 1 pm
- Dec 23 @Packers 8:30 pm
- Dec 31 Bears 1 pm
In the NFC South all four teams have winning potential. Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints again had the league’s top offense last season, but also one of the worst defenses. They made headlines when they signed Adrian Peterson to join Mark Ingram behind Brees in the backfield.

Jameis Winston nearly got the Tampa Bay Buccaneers into the playoffs last year and gets some help on offense through the draft, including Alabama tight end O.J. Howard. What the Bucs really need is a running game.

The team that beefed its running attack is the Carolina Panthers, which drafted Stanford’s Christian McCaffrey along with Ohio State receiver Curtis Samuel. That’s good news for Cam Newton and the Panthers.

But can anyone stop Matt Ryan, Julio Jones and the Atlanta Falcons? They were oh-so-close to a Super Bowl title last year and are poised to get back. The league’s top passing offense is complemented by running back Devonta Freeman who has back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons. The Falcons are going to be tough to stop again in 2017.

## Julio Jones

### Atlanta Falcons

Few would argue the fact that Julio Jones is the best receiver in the NFL. After leading the NFL in receptions and yards in 2015, Jones’ production fell off a bit last season due to nagging injuries. Still, he became only the sixth receiver to have a 300-yard game, which he did in Week 4 against the Carolina Panthers. Of course, he helped lead the Falcons to Super Bowl LI, which they lost in overtime to the New England Patriots.

Jones had four receptions for 87 yards in the game.

The Falcons traded up to take Jones with the sixth overall pick in the 2011 draft. Jones had played three seasons in his college career at Alabama where he won a national championship in 2009. In college he also returned punts and kickoffs in addition to his receiving duties.

In Atlanta he is quarterback Matt Ryan’s biggest target and part of a team that is expected to make another Super Bowl run in 2017. The Falcons may be the most complete team in the NFC, and Jones figures immensely in that equation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name: Quintorris Lopez</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Julio&quot; Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Born: Feb. 3, 1989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hometown: Foley, Ala.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size: 6’ 3”/220 lbs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Achievements:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro Bowl, 2012,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014–2016; NFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>receiving yards leader,</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015; NFL receptions</td>
</tr>
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<td>co-leader, 2015</td>
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### Atlanta Falcons Schedule

- Sep 10 @Bears 1 pm
- Sep 17 Packers 8:30 pm
- Sep 24 @Lions 1 pm
- Oct 1 Bills 1 pm
- Oct 15 Dolphins 1 pm
- Oct 22 @Patriots 8:30 pm
- Oct 29 @Jets 1 pm
- Nov 5 @Panthers 1 pm
- Nov 12 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Nov 20 @Seahawks 8:30 pm
- Nov 26 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Dec 3 Vikings 1 pm
- Dec 7 Saints 8:25 pm
- Dec 18 @Buccaneers 8:30 pm
- Dec 24 @Saints 1 pm
- Dec 31 Panthers 1 pm

### Carolina Panthers Schedule

- Sep 10 @49ers 4:25 pm
- Sep 17 Bills 1 pm
- Sep 24 Saints 1 pm
- Oct 1 @Patriots 1 pm
- Oct 8 @Lions 1 pm
- Oct 12 Eagles 8:25 pm
- Oct 29 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Nov 5 Falcons 1 pm
- Nov 13 Dolphins 8:30 pm
- Nov 26 @Bills 1 pm
- Dec 3 @Saints 1 pm
- Dec 10 Vikings 1 pm
- Dec 17 Packers 1 pm
- Dec 24 @Falcons 1 pm

### New Orleans Saints Schedule

- Sep 11 @Vikings 7:10 pm
- Sep 17 @Patriots 1 pm
- Sep 24 @Panthers 1 pm
- Oct 1 @Dolphins 9:30 AM
- Oct 15 @Vikings 1 pm
- Oct 22 @Packers 1 pm
- Oct 29 @Bears 1 pm
- Nov 5 @Buccaneers 1 pm
- Nov 19 @Redskins 1 pm
- Nov 26 @Packers 1 pm
- Dec 3 @Packers 1 pm
- Dec 7 @Falcons 8:25 pm
- Dec 17 @Falcons 1 pm
- Dec 24 @Saints 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Buccaneers 1 pm

### Tampa Bay Buccaneers Schedule

- Sep 10 @Dolphins 1 pm
- Sep 17 @Bears 1 pm
- Sep 24 @Vikings 1 pm
- Oct 1 @Giants 4:05 pm
- Oct 5 @Patriots 8:25 pm
- Oct 15 @Cardinals 4:05 pm
- Oct 29 @Bills 1 pm
- Nov 5 @Saints 1 pm
- Nov 12 @Falcons 1 pm
- Nov 19 @Redskins 1 pm
- Dec 3 @Packers 1 pm
- Dec 10 @Lions 1 pm
- Dec 18 @Falcons 8:30 pm
- Dec 24 @Panthers 1 pm
- Dec 31 @Saints 1 pm
The NFC West should be exciting this year. In Seattle, turbulence between quarterback Russell Wilson and cornerback Richard Sherman should not be underestimated. This type of tension can bring even a good team like Seattle down, especially if things go bad. Seattle is lucky to play in a weak division.

With veterans Carson Palmer and Larry Fitzgerald still being productive the Arizona Cardinals look to bounce back from last year’s mediocre 7-8-1 performance, due mostly to offensive line injuries. This team is capable of much more and should contend with Seattle in the West.

The Los Angeles Rams should also improve in 2017, at least on offense. Jared Goff is now the starter with Todd Gurley in the backfield and a pair of solid draft picks in receiver Cooper Cook and tight end Gerald Everett.

New coach Kyle Shanahan’s rebuilding of the San Francisco 49ers starts with the defense. Third overall draft pick Solomon Thomas from Stanford joins DeForest Buckner on the defensive line.

WHO WILL WIN THE WEST?

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS CB RICHARD SHERMAN

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LARRY FITZGERALD
Arizona Cardinals

When you look at Larry Fitzgerald, you’re looking at a future NFL Hall-of-Famer. Fitzgerald, who is about to enter his 14th season, has spent his entire career with the Arizona Cardinals and thus owns (so far) 10 franchise records including receptions, yards and touchdowns by a receiver. He also has his share of NFL records, including seven seasons with 90 or more receptions. He most recently led the NFL in receptions in 2015 with 109.

Fitzgerald also has a few postseason records but what he doesn’t have is a Super Bowl ring. He led the Cardinals through the 2008 playoffs with eight touchdown receptions, including two in Super Bowl XLIII, a late-game 27–23 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers. The media continue to hint at Fitzgerald’s eventual retirement, but it’s hard to argue with his productivity and he’s stated he’ll go out on his own terms.

After stumbling in 2016, the Cardinals have a tough season ahead and with their once-dominant defense taking a few free agency hits, it will be up to Fitzgerald, Carson Palmer and the rest of the offense to carry the load.

Full Name: Larry Darnell Fitzgerald Jr.
Born: Aug. 31, 1983
Hometown: Minneapolis
Size: 6'3"/218 lbs
College: Pittsburgh
Drafted: 2004, Round 1, Pick 3

Arizona Cardinals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>@Lions</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 17</td>
<td>@Colts</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 25</td>
<td>Cowboys</td>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>49ers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>@Eagles</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 15</td>
<td>Buccaneers</td>
<td>4:05 pm</td>
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<td>@Rams</td>
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<td>Jaguars</td>
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San Francisco 49ers

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<tr>
<td>Dec 24</td>
<td>Jaguars</td>
<td>4:05 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 31</td>
<td>@Rams</td>
<td>4:25 pm</td>
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</table>

Los Angeles Rams

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 17</td>
<td>49ers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 24</td>
<td>@Titans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>Colts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 8</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Cardinals</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 17</td>
<td>Rams</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 31</td>
<td>Cardinals</td>
<td>4:25 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

SEPTEMBER 16, 7AM TILL 2PM

RESERVE VENDOR SPACE NOW - FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

BOOThS $10 TILL SEPT 3RD
AFTER THAT $15

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OR CALL 760-375-8000

PARTIAL LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

VIEWFINDERS
SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1

DESSERT COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
SEPTEMBER 30

DEF HORSE SHOW & FALL FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 7-8

GEM & MINERAL SHOW
NOVEMBER 1-5

ZACH WILLIAMS CONCERT
NOVEMBER 16

SANTA’S ART SHOP
NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 3

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