

Washington Commanders Quarterback History



Washington Commanders Quarterback History: A Gridiron Saga

The Washington Commanders, a team steeped in NFL history, boast a quarterback legacy as complex and compelling as the franchise itself. From legendary figures who defined eras to fleeting flashes of brilliance and enduring disappointments, the story of Commanders quarterbacks is a tapestry woven with triumphs, tragedies, and unforgettable moments. This in-depth exploration dives into the rich history of signal-callers who have donned the burgundy and gold, examining their contributions, challenges, and lasting impact on the franchise. We'll traverse decades of football, dissecting the highs and lows, offering a comprehensive look at the men who guided the team's offense. Get ready for a deep dive into the fascinating world of Washington Commanders quarterback history!

The Early Years and the Rise of Sammy Baugh (1937-1949)

The early days of the Washington franchise (then known as the Boston Braves and later the Redskins) saw a revolving door of quarterbacks, many of whom are largely forgotten by modern fans. However, one name stands above all others from this period: Sammy Baugh. Considered one of the greatest all-around players in NFL history, Baugh's impact on the team was monumental. He wasn't just a quarterback; he was a leader, a playmaker, and a pioneer of the passing game. Baugh's

skills and innovative style of play laid the foundation for the franchise's future success, cementing his legacy as a foundational figure in Washington Commanders quarterback history.

Baugh's Statistical Dominance and Impact

Baugh's numbers, even by today's standards, are impressive. He revolutionized the forward pass, leading the league in passing yards multiple times. His contributions extended beyond passing, as he was also an exceptional punter and a dangerous runner. Baugh's influence on the team's culture and playing style extended far beyond his playing career.

The Post-Baugh Era: A Search for Consistency

Following Baugh's retirement, the Commanders experienced a period of inconsistency at the quarterback position. While talented players emerged, none could quite replicate Baugh's impact, creating a long-standing search for a franchise quarterback that would define the team for generations. Several players had notable moments but lacked the staying power to become true legends. This era highlights the challenges of replacing a truly iconic figure.

The Rise of the Modern Era: From Unitas to Theismann and Beyond

The late 1960s and 70s brought some notable names to Washington, but it was the arrival of Joe Theismann in 1974 that truly revitalized the franchise. Paired with coach Joe Gibbs, Theismann led the team to the Super Bowl XVII victory in 1983, cementing his place in team history. His flamboyant style and clutch performances captivated fans, making him one of the most beloved quarterbacks in franchise history.

The Theismann Era and Super Bowl XVII

Theismann's success wasn't solely due to individual brilliance. He thrived within Gibbs's offensive system and benefited from a strong supporting cast. The Super Bowl victory against the Miami Dolphins cemented his status as a Washington legend, marking a high point in the team's history and a critical moment in the Commanders quarterback narrative.

The Post-Theismann Years and the Modern Struggle

After Theismann's career was tragically cut short, the Commanders continued their search for a consistent star at quarterback. From Doug Williams to Jay Schroeder, Mark Rypien (who led them to another Super Bowl victory in 1992), to more recent names like Kirk Cousins and Alex Smith, the team has seen a mix of successes and disappointments. This era showcases the constant challenge of maintaining consistent excellence at the most crucial position on the field.

Modern Challenges and the Search for a Franchise Quarterback

Finding a consistent, elite quarterback has been a recurring challenge for the Washington Commanders in the modern era. While promising players have emerged, none have managed to achieve the sustained success of Baugh or Theismann, underscoring the difficulty of finding a long-term solution at the quarterback position.

The Future of Washington Commanders Quarterbacks

The ongoing search for a franchise quarterback continues. The team's recent draft picks and free agent acquisitions reveal a commitment to finding a long-term solution. The success of future Commanders quarterbacks will heavily influence the team's trajectory for years to come, making this an ongoing chapter in the ever-evolving story of Washington's quarterbacks.

Conclusion:

The history of Washington Commanders quarterbacks is a rich and varied tapestry, woven with threads of triumph, tragedy, and unwavering pursuit of excellence. From the pioneering days of Sammy Baugh to the modern-day quest for a franchise quarterback, the story reflects the team's journey, its highs and lows, and its enduring place in NFL history. The legacy of past quarterbacks continues to shape the present and future of the franchise, making their contributions an essential part of the team's identity.

FAQs:

1. Who is considered the greatest Washington Commanders quarterback of all time? While subjective, Sammy Baugh's pioneering impact and all-around excellence often place him at the top of most lists.
2. Which quarterback led the Washington Commanders to the most Super Bowl victories? This is a tie between Sammy Baugh (who played in an era before the Super Bowl existed) and Mark Rypien, who led the team to victory in Super Bowl XXVI.
3. What are some of the biggest challenges facing Washington Commanders quarterbacks historically? Consistent excellence, overcoming injuries, and building a consistent winning culture have always been significant obstacles.
4. How has the role of the quarterback evolved in Washington's history? The role has evolved from a more run-oriented style in the earlier days to a more pass-heavy game in the modern era, reflecting broader changes in NFL strategy.
5. What are the key factors that contribute to a successful Washington Commanders quarterback? Leadership qualities, strong arm talent, ability to read defenses, and the capacity to thrive under pressure are all essential traits.

washington commanders quarterback history: [The Washington Commanders](#) Alicia Z.

Klepeis, 2023-08-01 The Washington Commanders have a long history in the NFL. In this hi-lo title, young readers will learn about this long-standing franchise through leveled text and vibrant photos. An opening narrative draws readers in with an exciting game. Special features showcase the team's stadium, highlight famous players, and list team accomplishments. A two-page closing spread provides readers with a timeline of key events, a list of team records, and more!

washington commanders quarterback history: Washington Commanders Luke Hanlon, 2025-01-01 This book offers an exciting look at the Washington Commanders, from the legends of the past to the superstars of today. Short paragraphs provide easy-to-read text, while vivid photographs make the book engaging and accessible.

washington commanders quarterback history: *Inside the Washington Commanders* Josh Anderson, 2023-08-01 The Washington Commanders have a long history full of triumph, controversy, and change. Learn about their biggest moments, and find out why fans have so much hope for the team's future.

washington commanders quarterback history: The Redskins Encyclopedia Michael Richman, 2009-08-21 The definitive history of the Washington Redskins.

washington commanders quarterback history: **Playing for More** Case Keenum, Andrew Perloff, 2018-09-04 Case Keenum has traveled one of the most unique paths in the NFL. Recruited by just one college, undrafted, and released three times, Case has overcome every obstacle to become a successful starting quarterback. In 2017, Keenum captured America's imagination by leading the Minnesota Vikings to a 13-3 record and an NFC North title. His game-winning touchdown in the final seconds of their divisional playoff game against the Saints, the Minneapolis Miracle, made Case part of NFL history. Keenum shares stories from every stage of his life, starting out as a ball boy for his father's college team in West Texas, going on to win a state title in high school, and rewriting the NCAA record book at the University of Houston. A devastating knee injury almost derailed his football career, but helped him get closer to the woman who would soon become his wife. Throughout his story, Case will explain how being a Christian helped him navigate the winding path to success. No matter what obstacle has been placed in front of him, Case believes God has a plan for him. That's why he plays football and that's why he's writing this book: To glorify God and to help others who face adversity in their everyday life. "Am I a football player who happens to be a Christian?" Case writes, No, I'm a Christian who happens to be a football player. That's my calling. That's my defining characteristic. Once I realized that, everything else fell into place. I became a better football player and, more importantly, a better person."

washington commanders quarterback history: **Rise of the Black Quarterback** Jason Reid, 2022-08-02 In September 2019, ESPN's The Undefeated website (now Andscape) began a season-long series of articles on the emergence of Black quarterbacks in the NFL. The first article in the series was Jason Reid's enormously popular, Welcome to the Year of the Black Quarterback. The series culminated with an hour-long television program in February 2020, hosted by Reid himself. The Rise of the Black Quarterback: What It Means for America will expand on Reid's piece--as well as the entire series--and chronicle the shameful history of the treatment of Black players in the NFL and the breakout careers of a thrilling new generation of Black quarterbacks. Intimate portraits of Colin Kaepernick, Patrick Mahomes, Lamar Jackson, and Kyler Murray feature prominently in the book, as well as the careers and legacy of beloved NFL players such as Doug Williams and trailblazing pioneers Marlin Briscoe and Eldridge Dickey. Reid delves deeply into the culture war ignited by Kaepernick's peaceful protest that shone a light on systemic oppression and police brutality. Fascinating and timely, this page-turning account will rivet fans of sports, cultural commentary, and Black history in America.

washington commanders quarterback history: Go Huskies! W. Thomas Porter, 2013 This comprehensive history of the University of Washington football program focuses on the major eras in Husky football history, featuring the best teams, the greatest games, the biggest comebacks, and the most exciting and unexpected moments, such as when Washington forged its first national championship by defeating Minnesota in 1961. Paying homage to iconic coaches, including Jim

Phelan, Jim Owens, and Don James, this keepsake also details the greatest players and fan favorites in Washington history, including NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon and NFL Pro Bowlers Lawyer Milloy and Corey Dillon. The book concludes with game day events, the 10 pregame activities that every Husky fan should experience, and a Husky Timeline, making it a well-rounded and must-have for fans both old and new.

washington commanders quarterback history: *Game Changer* Kirk Cousins, 2013-06-25
“This game means a lot to me, and by the grace of God, I’ll never lose sight of the privilege it is to play it.” —Kirk Cousins
Kirk’s book is a reflection of who he is—not just a football player, but someone who is committed to making those around him better in every walk of life. —Mike Shanahan, head coach, Washington Redskins
In 2011, the NFF selected 16 college football players as National Scholar Athletes, one of the highest honors a college football player can receive ... Kirk was one of these distinguished 16, which says everything you need to know about him. —Archie Manning, chairman, National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame
Kirk Cousins is a lot more than an outstanding quarterback. He walks the talk. Few people I’ve met can inspire like he does. —Jon Gruden, ESPN announcer and former head coach, Tampa Bay Buccaneers
In a world with far too many bad examples, Kirk is a bright light of hope, inspiration, and leadership for a new generation. —Bill Huizenga, United States Congressman, Michigan
What’s it really like for a person of strong character to live in the spotlight of pressure and fame? Sit down with Kirk Cousins, record-setting Michigan State quarterback and 2012 draft pick of the NFL’s Washington Redskins. In *Game Changer*, Cousins gives readers an inside look at his life—as experienced under the bright lights of college and professional football—and how he put his faith and values into action, both on and off the field. Featuring: Personal stories and struggles of a competitive Christian athlete
Truthful discussion of media hype and modern sports culture
Reflections on honesty, humility, hard work, privilege, and responsibility
Life principles for winning choices on and off the field

washington commanders quarterback history: *Barbarians, Gentlemen and Players* Eric Dunning, Kenneth Sheard, 2005
This revised edition of a classic text explores the development of rugby from a folk game into its modern forms. Updated with a substantial new foreword and epilogue.

washington commanders quarterback history: *Gridiron Genius* Michael Lombardi, 2018-09-11
Former NFL general manager and three-time Super Bowl winner Michael Lombardi reveals what makes football organizations tick at the championship level. From personnel to practice to game-day decisions that win titles, Lombardi shares what he learned working with coaching legends Bill Walsh of the 49ers, Al Davis of the Raiders, and Bill Belichick of the Patriots, among others, during his three decades in football. Why do some NFL franchises dominate year after year while others can never crack the code of success? For 30 years Michael Lombardi had a front-row seat and full access as three titans--Bill Walsh, Al Davis, and Bill Belichick--reinvented the game, turning it into a national obsession while piling up Super Bowl trophies. Now, in *Gridiron Genius*, Lombardi provides the blueprint that makes a successful organization click and win--and the mistakes unsuccessful organizations make that keep them on the losing side time and again. In reality, very few coaches understand the philosophies, attention to detail, and massive commitment that defined NFL juggernauts like the 49ers and the Patriots. The best organizations are not just employing players, they are building something bigger. *Gridiron Genius* will explain how the best leaders evaluate, acquire, and utilize personnel in ways other professional minds, football and otherwise, won't even contemplate. How do you know when to trade a player? How do you create a positive atmosphere when everyone is out to maximize his own paycheck? And why is the tight end like the knight on a chessboard? To some, game planning consists only of designing an attack for the next opponent. But Lombardi explains how the smartest leaders script everything: from an afternoon's special-teams practice to a season's playoff run to a decade-long organizational blueprint. Readers will delight in the Lombardi tour of an NFL weekend, including what really goes on during the game on and off the field and inside the headset. First stop: Belichick's Saturday night staff meeting, where he announces how the game will go the next day. Spoiler alert: He always nails

it. Football dynasties are built through massive attention to detail and unwavering commitment. From how to build a team, to how to watch a game, to understanding the essential qualities of great leaders, Gridiron Genius gives football fans the knowledge to be the smartest person in the room every Sunday.

washington commanders quarterback history: When the Lions Roared Bill Contz, 2017-09-01 The 1982 Penn State national championship team was not only one of Joe Paterno's best, it was one of the best teams college football has ever seen. In *When the Lions Roared*, Bill Contz, one of the squad's offensive tackles, details that special season and the experience of playing for a legendary coach. Featuring dozens of interviews with former players, this book provides anecdotes from the epic contests of that season while also proving statistically why this Nittany Lions team stands up against all of the talented teams that came before and after. Also featuring a foreword and reflections by Todd Blackledge, Penn State's 1982 starting quarterback, this is an essential read for Nittany Lions faithful.

washington commanders quarterback history: The First Black Quarterback Marlin Briscoe, 2001-08

washington commanders quarterback history: Sweetness Jeff Pearlman, 2012-08-28 The definitive biography of Chicago Bears and Hall of Fame superstar Walter Payton. Based on meticulous research and interviews with nearly 700 contacts, an unforgettable portrait that describes a man who lived his life just like he played the game: at full speed.

washington commanders quarterback history: Quarterblack Doug Williams, Bruce Hunter, 1990 Williams became the first black to make it big at a position previously reserved for whites. Without Doug Williams, the game of professional football would still be living under a veil of prejudice, but with one fell swoop, he shattered the myth that a black quarterback could not rise to the pinnacle of pro football.

washington commanders quarterback history: Quicksand Geoffrey Wawro, 2010-04-01 An unprecedented history of our involvement in the Middle East that traces our current quandaries there-in Iraq, Israel, Iran, Afghanistan, and elsewhere-back to their roots almost a century ago. Geoffrey Wawro approaches America's role in the Middle East in a fundamentally new way-by encompassing the last century of the entire region, rather than focusing narrowly on a particular country or era. The result is a definitive and revelatory history whose drama, tragedy, and rich irony he relates with unprecedented verve. Wawro combed archives in the United States and Europe and traveled the Middle East to unearth new insights into the hidden motivations, backroom dealing, and outright espionage that shaped some of the most tumultuous events of the last one hundred years. Wawro offers piercing analysis of iconic events from the birth of Israel to the death of Sadat, from the Suez crisis to the energy crisis, from the Six-Day War to Desert One, from Iran-contra to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and the rise of al- Qaeda. Throughout, he draws telling parallels between America's past mistakes and its current quandaries, proving that we're in today's muddle not just because of our old errors, but because we keep repeating those errors. America has juggled multiple commitments and conflicting priorities in the Middle East for nearly a century. Strands of idealism and ruthless practicality have alternated- and sometimes run together-in our policy. Quicksand untangles these strands as no history has done before by showing how our strategies unfolded over the entire century and across the entire region. We've persistently misread the intentions and motivations of every major player in the region because we've insisted on viewing them through the lens of our own culture, hopes, and fears. Most administrations since Eisenhower's have adopted their own doctrine for the Middle East, and almost every doctrine has failed precisely because it's a doctrine-a template into which events on the ground refuse to fit. Geoffrey Wawro's peerless and remarkably lively history is key to understanding our errors and the Middle East-at last- on its own terms.

washington commanders quarterback history: *The Games That Changed the Game* Ron Jaworski, David Plaut, Greg Cosell, 2010-10-05 Professional football in the last half century has been a sport marked by relentless innovation. For fans determined to keep up with the changes that have

transformed the game, close examination of the coaching footage is a must. In *The Games That Changed the Game*, Ron Jaworski—pro football's #1 game-tape guru—breaks down the film from seven of the most momentous contests of the last fifty years, giving readers a drive-by-drive, play-by-play guide to the evolutionary leaps that define the modern NFL. From Sid Gillman's development of the Vertical Stretch, which launched the era of wide-open passing offenses, to Bill Belichick's daring defensive game plan in Super Bowl XXXVI, which enabled his outgunned squad to upset the heavily favored St. Louis Rams and usher in the New England Patriots dynasty, the most cutting-edge concepts come alive again through the recollections of nearly seventy coaches and players. You'll never watch NFL football the same way again.

washington commanders quarterback history: *Made it Out* Gerard Ellis Green, 2023-09-13 Only by God's grace, I am still alive and not in prison. I was born in a federal housing project, and my mother was fifteen years old when she became pregnant with me. Both of my parents served time in prison for trafficking heroin. My father had eight sons, and I am the only one who did not spend time in the penitentiary. Two of my brothers and four of my nephews have been murdered in the streets because of gang wars. After being raided by the police, I was luckily given probation. I would either get a job and work or spend the rest of my life in and out of prison. My life has been an incredible journey, and I am happy to share my story of survival with anyone who is interested.

washington commanders quarterback history: *Hail to the Redskins* Adam Lazarus, 2015-09-01 At last, the definitive account of the Washington Football Team's championship decade. A must-read for any fan, *Hail to the Redskins* is full of interviews with key inside sources to vividly re-create the plays, the players, the fans, and the opponents that shaped this unforgettable football dynasty. Based on more than ninety original interviews, here is the rollicking chronicle of the famed Washington Football Teams of the Joe Gibbs years—one of the most remarkable and unique runs in NFL history. From 1981 to 1992, Gibbs coached the franchise to three Super Bowl victories, making the team the toast of the nation's capital, from the political elite to the inner city, and helping to define one of the sport's legendary eras. Veteran sportswriter Adam Lazarus masterfully charts the Washington Football Team's rise from mediocrity (the franchise had never won a Super Bowl and Gibbs's first year as head coach started with a five-game losing streak that almost cost him his job) to its stretch of four championship games in ten years. What makes their sustained success all the more remarkable, in retrospect, is that unlike the storied championship wins of Joe Montana's 49ers and Tom Brady's Patriots, the Washington Football Team's Super Bowl victories each featured a different starting quarterback: Joe Theismann in 1983, the franchise's surprising first championship run; Doug Williams in 1988, a win full of meaning for a majority African American city during a tumultuous era; and Mark Rypien in 1992, capping one of the greatest seasons of all time, one that stands as Gibbs's masterpiece. *Hail to the Redskins* features an epic roster of saints and sinners: hard-drinking fullback John Riggins; the dominant, blue-collar offensive linemen known as "the Hogs," who became a cultural phenomenon; quarterbacks Williams, the first African American QB to win a Super Bowl, and Theisman, a model-handsome pitchman whose leg was brutally broken by Lawrence Taylor on Monday Night Football; gregarious defensive end Dexter Manley, who would be banned from the league for cocaine abuse; and others including the legendary speedster Darrell Green, record-breaking receiver Art Monk, rags-to-riches QB Rypien, expert general managers and talent evaluators Bobby Beathard and Charley Casserly, aristocratic owner Jack Kent Cooke, and, of course, Gibbs himself, a devout Christian who was also a ruthless competitor and one of the sport's most adaptable and creative coaching minds.

washington commanders quarterback history: *The Big Book of Football Trivia* Jerrett Holloway, 2022-03-22 Are you a real football fan? Prove it! Put your knowledge of the NFL and pro football to the test! With this book in hand, you'll be able to quiz yourself and your friends on the league's all-time great players and franchise dynasties, as well as the coaches, larger-than-life owners, and others who helped etch the sport deep into American culture. What sets this football book apart: 700 questions—Even the most avid fan will be challenged by trivia covering everything from football's earliest days and most memorable moments to famous quotes and off-the-field antics.

Complete coverage—This collection of football trivia will grill you on your gridiron knowledge across seven different categories, starting with the NFL draft and finishing with the Hall of Fame. Bonus facts—Learn even more with sections that explore the evolution of the Super Bowl's halftime show, the story of the USFL, and more. Show off your sports trivia skills with this standout among football books.

washington commanders quarterback history: The NFL Encyclopedia Brendan Flynn, 2021-12-15 Alongside both historic and recent photographs, readers will learn about each NFL team's history, greatest seasons, greatest players, and team records. In addition, the book offers an in-depth introduction about the sport's history, a section on star players, and information on the statistical leaders in various categories. Features include a glossary, additional resources, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Abdo Reference is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDO.

washington commanders quarterback history: The Eagles Encyclopedia Ray Didinger, Robert S. Lyons, 2005 The first comprehensive history of the Philadelphia Eagles.

washington commanders quarterback history: The Quarterback Whisperer Bruce Arians, 2017-07-11 What is an elite NFL QB and what separates that player from the others? One answer is the coach they share. In the recent history of the biggest game on earth, one man is the common thread that connects several of the very best in the sport: Peyton Manning; Ben Roethlisberger; Andrew Luck; and the resurgent Carson Palmer. That coach is Bruce Arians. A larger than life visionary who trained under the tutelage of Bear Bryant, Arians has had a major impact on the development and success of each of these players. For proof beyond the stats, go to the sources. Bruce is gonna love you when you need some loving, but he's gonna jump on you when you're not doing right. -- Peyton Manning He coaches the way players want to be coached. -- Ben Roethlisberger He made players comfortable around him and let everybody have their own personality. He didn't force anybody to be someone they weren't. It may sound a little corny or cheesy, but there's merit to that. I felt comfortable being myself and I felt he had my back. -- Andrew Luck We're a resilient group. It trickles down from the head coach. I think good teams, really good teams, and hopefully great teams take on their coach's mentality. I think that's what B.A. brings . . . -- Carson Palmer Known around the game as the 'quarterback whisperer', Arians has an uncanny ability to both personally connect with his quarterbacks and to locate what the individual triggers are for that player to succeed. No two quarterbacks are the same. And yet with Arians they always share success. In this book Arians will explain how he does it.

washington commanders quarterback history: Head Ball Coach Steve Spurrier, Buddy Martin, 2016-08-30 In this New York Times Bestseller, College football's most colorful, endearing, and successful pioneer, Steve Spurrier, shares his story of a life in football -- from growing up in Tennessee to winning the Heisman Trophy to playing and coaching in the pros to leading the Florida Gators to six SEC Championships and a National Championship to elevating the South Carolina program to new heights -- and coaching like nobody else. He's been called brash, cocky, arrogant, pompous, egotistical, and hilarious, but, mostly, he's known as the Head Ball Coach, a self-ordained term introduced to the lexicon of football by none other than the man, himself, Steve Spurrier. He is the only coach who can claim to be the winningest coach at two different SEC schools, and the only person who has won both the Heisman Trophy as a player and a national championship as a coach. Or who has won a Heisman and coached a Heisman winner. From the beginning, Spurrier didn't want to sound like other coaches, dress like other coaches, and, especially, coach like other coaches. As a controversial football pioneer, he ushered in a different style of leadership and play. Spurrier's press conferences were glorious -- he refused to lapse into coachspeak and was always entertaining, although he took his football very seriously. He was known for his fierce competitiveness, roaming up and down the sidelines, often throwing his signature visor to the ground in disgust. Now resigned from coaching at age 70 -- he doesn't like to say retired yet -- Spurrier has calmed down, but don't mistake that for a lack of fire. He can be just as feisty as the day he set foot on the East Tennessee dirt in Johnson City's Kiwanis Park, where he grew up to become one of the state's all-time greatest

athletes, and went on to play for Florida where he launched one of sports history's all-time great careers. In his memoir, Spurrier talks for the first time about the circumstances under which he unexpectedly became a coach and why he resigned at South Carolina. He explains his unique style, the difference between winners and losers, his relationship with the media, why he follows the wisdom of ancient philosophers and warriors, his affinity everything taught by John Wooden, and the reasons behind his relaxed regimen for living well. Spurrier, as always, speaks candidly, bringing together his thoughts about his words, actions, and achievements, while telling countless wonderful anecdotes.

washington commanders quarterback history: Hear the Roar! Darin Wernig, 2009
Missouri's return to prominence among the ranks of college football teams is chronicled in this account of the Tigers' 2007 and 2008 seasons--Provided by publisher.

washington commanders quarterback history: Dr. Z Paul Zimmerman, 2017-09-01 During his nearly 50 years of sportswriting, including 28 at Sports Illustrated, readers of Dr. Z came to expect a certain alchemical, trademark blend: words which were caustic and wry, at times self-deprecating or even puzzling, but always devilishly smart with arresting honesty. A complex package, that's the Doctor. The one-time sparring partner of Ernest Hemingway, Paul Zimmerman is one of the modern era's groundbreaking football minds, a man who methodically charted every play while generating copious notes, a human precursor to the data analytics websites of today. In 2008, Zimmerman had nearly completed work on his personal memoirs when a series of strokes left him largely unable to speak, read, or write. Compiled and edited by longtime SI colleague Peter King, these are the stories he still wants to see told. Dr. Z's memoir is a rich package of personalities, stories never shared about such characters as Vince Lombardi, Walter Payton, Lawrence Taylor, and Johnny Unitas. Even Joe Namath, with whom Zimmerman had a legendary and well-documented 23-year feud, saw fit to eventually unburden himself to the remarkable scribe. Also included are Zimmerman's encounters with luminaries and larger-than-life figures outside of sports, notably Donald Trump, Rupert Murdoch, and Hunter S. Thompson. But not to be missed are Zimmerman's quieter observations on his own life and writing, witticisms and anecdotes which sway between the poignant and hilarious. No matter the topic, Dr. Z: the Lost Memoirs of an Irreverent Football Writer proves essential, compelling reading for sports fans old and new.

washington commanders quarterback history: Gitty and Kvetch Caroline Kusin Pritchard, 2021-09-14 In this hilariously sweet story about an opposites-attract friendship, chock-full of Yiddish humor, a girl and her best bird friend's perfect day turns into a perfect opportunity to see things differently. Gitty and her feathered-friend Kvetch couldn't be more different: Gitty always sees the bright side of life, while her curmudgeonly friend Kvetch is always complaining and, well, kvetching about the trouble they get into. One perfect day, Gitty ropes Kvetch into shlepping off on a new adventure to their perfect purple treehouse. Even when Kvetch sees signs of impending doom everywhere, Gitty finds silver linings and holds onto her super special surprise reason for completing their mission. But when her perfect plan goes awry, oy vey, suddenly it's Gitty who's down in the dumps. Can Kvetch come out of his funk to lift Gitty's spirits back up?

washington commanders quarterback history: Just Give Me the Damn Ball! Keyshawn Johnson, Shelley Smith, 2009-09-26 Well, son, I guess we have to go the to bank. That's what Leon Hess told me the day the Jets drafted me as the number-one player in the NFL draft. But that first day, the day of the draft, was one of the happiest days in my life, because I knew I was ready to make things happen in the league and help turn things around for the sorry-ass Jets. But what a nightmare! Week after week, loss after loss. The Jets went in with a loser reputation, and they were earning it all over again. We had no emotion, no energy, no hunger. The media tried to cover it all. Rich Kotite tried to explain the disasters away. But nobody outside the team knew the real truth of what really went on. This book is going to change all that.

washington commanders quarterback history: Taking Flak John P. Lopez, Dan Pastorini, 2011-10-07 He was an NFL superstar and Drag Racing icon. He had Hollywood starlets on his arm and a legion of fans in the palms of his hands. Dan Pastorini lived on the edge and palye don the

brink. No one least of all Pastorini knew what the next turn would bring. His life was indulgent, brilliant, cursed and humbling. He was known as the toughest man in football, a cover-boy heart-throb and a soft-hearted friend. He changed the way NFL quarterbacks played the game, donning the first Flak Jacket to protect three shattered ribs. He threw perhaps the most fateful pass in playoff history, a controversial championship moment that led to use of NFL replay. He was involved in a tragic speed boating accident. He beat Big Daddy Don Garlits and all of drag racing's best. He was the hero in the most triumphant return an NFL team ever received. He never backed down from anything or anyone, falling into notorious scraped and life-altering lows. He married a Playboy model and posed for Playgirl. He dated Farrah Fawcett and was the most iconic figure in a Wild West era when Texas oil boomed and gluttony prevailed. Dan Pastorini never has told the whole story. Until now. This is the story of a gifted, hard-driving kid from California who never stopped going fast or chasing dreams. No matter how much flak he took.

washington commanders quarterback history: Guts and Genius Bob Glauber, 2018-11-20
How three football legends -- Bill Walsh, Joe Gibbs, and Bill Parcells -- won eight Super Bowls during the 1980s and changed football forever. Bill Walsh, Joe Gibbs and Bill Parcells dominated what may go down as the greatest decade in pro football history, leading their teams to a combined eight championships and developing some of the most gifted players of all time in the process. Walsh, Gibbs and Parcells developed such NFL stars as Joe Montana, Lawrence Taylor, Jerry Rice, Art Monk and Darrell Green. They resurrected the careers of players like John Riggins, Joe Theismann, Doug Williams, Everson Walls and Hacksaw Reynolds. They did so with a combination of guts and genius, built championship teams in their own likeness, and revolutionized pro football like few others. Their influence is still evident in today's game, with coaches who either worked directly for them or are part of their coaching trees now winning Super Bowls and using strategy the three men devised and perfected. In interviews with more than 150 players, coaches, family members and friends, GUTS AND GENIUS digs into the careers of three men who overcame their own insecurities and doubts to build Hall of Fame legacies that transformed their generation and continue to impact today's NFL.

washington commanders quarterback history: NFL 100 Craig Ellenport, 2019 A retrospective of 100 moments in the National Football League's history.

washington commanders quarterback history: Lonesome Dove Larry McMurtry, 2000-11-10
Bestselling winner of the 1986 Pulitzer Prize, *Lonesome Dove* is an American classic. First published in 1985, Larry McMurtry's epic novel combined flawless writing with a storyline and setting that gripped the popular imagination, and ultimately resulted in a series of four novels and an Emmy-winning television miniseries. Now, with an introduction by the author, *Lonesome Dove* is reprinted in an S&S Classic Edition. *Lonesome Dove*, by Larry McMurtry, the author of *Terms of Endearment*, is his long-awaited masterpiece, the major novel at last of the American West as it really was. A love story, an adventure, an American epic, *Lonesome Dove* embraces all the West -- legend and fact, heroes and outlaws, whores and ladies, Indians and settlers -- in a novel that recreates the central American experience, the most enduring of our national myths. Set in the late nineteenth century, *Lonesome Dove* is the story of a cattle drive from Texas to Montana -- and much more. It is a drive that represents for everybody involved not only a daring, even a foolhardy, adventure, but a part of the American Dream -- the attempt to carve out of the last remaining wilderness a new life. Augustus McCrae and W. F. Call are former Texas Rangers, partners and friends who have shared hardship and danger together without ever quite understanding (or wanting to understand) each other's deepest emotions. Gus is the romantic, a reluctant rancher who has a way with women and the sense to leave well enough alone. Call is a driven, demanding man, a natural authority figure with no patience for weaknesses, and not many of his own. He is obsessed with the dream of creating his own empire, and with the need to conceal a secret sorrow of his own. The two men could hardly be more different, but both are tough, redoubtable fighters who have learned to count on each other, if nothing else. Call's dream not only drags Gus along in its wake, but draws in a vast cast of characters: -- Lorena, the whore with the proverbial heart of gold, whom Gus (and almost everyone else) loves, and who survives one of the most terrifying experiences any

woman could have... -- Elmira, the restless, reluctant wife of a small-time Arkansas sheriff, who runs away from the security of marriage to become part of the great Western adventure... -- Blue Duck, the sinister Indian renegade, one of the most frightening villains in American fiction, whose steely capacity for cruelty affects the lives of everyone in the book... -- Newt, the young cowboy for whom the long and dangerous journey from Texas to Montana is in fact a search for his own identity... -- Jake, the dashing, womanizing exRanger, a comrade-in-arms of Gus and Call, whose weakness leads him to an unexpected fate... -- July Johnson, husband of Elmira, whose love for her draws him out of his secure life into the wilderness, and turns him into a kind of hero... Lonesome Dove sweeps from the Rio Grande (where Gus and Call acquire the cattle for their long drive by raiding the Mexicans) to the Montana highlands (where they find themselves besieged by the last, defiant remnants of an older West). It is an epic of love, heroism, loyalty, honor, and betrayal -- faultlessly written, unflinching dramatic. Lonesome Dove is the novel about the West that American literature -- and the American reader -- has long been waiting for.

washington commanders quarterback history: Five Laterals and a Trombone Tyler Bridges, 2022-11-15 In conjunction with the 40th anniversary of The Play—a thrilling and nuanced chronicle of college football's most unforgettable ending The wildest finish ever to a college football game occurred when five laterals on the final kickoff ended with a sprint through the opposing team's marching band—prematurely in celebration on the field—for the winning touchdown. It was 21 seconds of action so unfathomable it has become known simply as The Play. Five Laterals and a Trombone captures the madcap story as it developed in November 1982, tracing the ups and downs, mood swings and hijinks surrounding the 85th Big Game between the University of California at Berkeley and Stanford University. Journalist Tyler Bridges has deftly reconstructed the pivotal moments and resulting lore thanks to hundreds of interviews with all the key figures on both sides of the rivalry, including players, coaches, referees, and stadium personnel. Among the memorable characters are Stanford star quarterback John Elway, Cal linebacker Ron Rivera, the final lateral receiver Kevin Moen, and the immortalized Cardinal trombone player Gary Tyrrell. The Play was not televised live. There was no instant replay—let alone a viral video. In 1982, Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs, who had founded Apple Computer Company in a garage only 10 miles from the Stanford campus, were just developing the first personal computers. It took hours for news of the rivalry game's outcome to spread across the country, yet football fans would remain enthralled by the bizarre sequence for decades to come. Readers will be transported onto the field and inside the huddle in this definitive history of college football's ultimate oddity.

washington commanders quarterback history: 100 Things Commanders Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die Rick Snider, 2022-09-13 As the Washington Commanders step into a new era, celebrate the franchise's full NFL history with this revised and updated guide! Most Commanders fans have taken a trip or two to FedEx Field, have seen highlights of a young Art Monk, and know the story of Super Bowl XXVI. But only real fans know their way around the team's training camp facilities or in which famous baseball stadium the Redskins played in the team's early years. 100 Things Commanders Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die is the fully up-to-date resource guide for true DC sports fans. Whether you attended games at RFK Stadium or are a new supporter of the team under head coach Ron Rivera, these are the 100 things all fans need to know and do in their lifetime. Author Rick Snider has collected every essential piece of knowledge and trivia, as well as must-do activities, and ranks them all, providing an entertaining and easy-to-follow checklist as you progress on your way to fan superstardom.

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washington commanders quarterback history: *The Dancing Bear* Ron McDole, Rob Morris, 2018-10-01 From the early sixties to the late seventies, defensive end Ron McDole experienced football's golden age from inside his old-school, two-bar helmet. During an eighteen-year pro career, McDole—nicknamed “The Dancing Bear”—played in over 250 games, including two AFL Championships with the Buffalo Bills and one NFL Championship with the Washington Redskins. A cagey and deceptively agile athlete, McDole wreaked havoc on football's best offenses as part of a Bills defensive line that held opponents without a rushing touchdown for seventeen straight games. His twelve interceptions remain a pro record for defensive ends. Traded by the Bills in 1970, he was given new life in Washington as one of the most famous members of George Allen's game-smart veterans known as “The Over-the-Hill Gang.” Through it all, McDole was known and loved by teammates and foes alike for his knowledge and skill on the field and his ability to have fun off it. In *The Dancing Bear* McDole the storyteller traces his life from his humble beginnings in Toledo, Ohio, to his four years at the University of Nebraska, his marriage to high school sweetheart Paula, and his long, accomplished professional career. He recounts the days when a pro football player needed an off-season job to pay the bills and teams had to drive around in buses to find a city park in which to practice. The old AFL and NFL blitz back to life through McDole's straightforward stories of time when the game was played more for love and glory than for money.

washington commanders quarterback history: 100 Things Nationals Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die Jake Russell, Dusty Baker, 2016-04-01 *100 Things Nationals Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die* is the ultimate resource guide for true fans of the Washington Nationals. Whether you're a die-hard booster from the days of the Senators or a new supporter of the Bryce Harper-led squad, these are the 100 things all fans need to know and do in their lifetime. It contains every essential piece of Nationals knowledge and trivia, as well as must-do activities, and ranks them all from 1 to 100, providing an entertaining and easy-to-follow checklist as you progress on your way to fan superstardom.

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washington commanders quarterback history: **Headslap** John Klawitter, Deacon Jones, 2010-03-05 More than a simple story, *Headslap* brings to full view the NFL during the 1960s and 1970s—a time of incredible upheaval and change in the United States. These were tough times for black players as they tried to play the game while confronting prejudice and misconceptions that

kept young stars from shining, such as Deacon Jones. Photo insert.

washington commanders quarterback history: Tales from the Gator Swamp Jack Hairston, 2002

washington commanders quarterback history: Air Commanders John Andreas Olsen, 2013
This book combines short military biographies and operational analyses to reveal how the personalities, attitudes, and life experiences of twelve outstanding U.S. airmen shaped the central air campaigns in American history. These case studies illuminate the character of these airmen, the challenges they confronted in widely disparate armed conflicts, and the solutions that they crafted and implemented. Their achievements proved decisive not only in the campaigns they led, but also in shaping the U.S. Air Force and the dominant role of airpower in modern warfare.

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