

# SPORTS

WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 27-28, 2021 | chippewa.com | SECTION B

NFL | GREEN BAY PACKERS

## Packers turn to Nijman

With Bakhtiari and Jenkins out, Packers to lean on 'world's biggest robot'

JASON WILDE  
For the Herald

GREEN BAY — In the moment, Aaron Rodgers didn't even notice. It wasn't until days later, while re-watching his touchdown pass to Randall Cobb on film, that the Green Bay Packers quarterback noticed what has since become Yosh Nijman's signature move.

"The world's biggest Robot," wide receiver Davante Adams called it with a laugh.

Yes, when Rodgers scrambled toward the goal line and threw a 1-yard touchdown pass to Cobb during the third quarter of the Packers' Oct. 3 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers at Lambeau Field, the ensuing celebration included all the things you'd expect — hugs, head butts, helmet taps, high-fives. With one, unexpected addition.

"And out of nowhere, Yosh comes into the frame and does 'The Robot,'" Rodgers recounted this week, as Nijman prepared to start at left tackle against the Los Angeles Rams on Sunday at Lambeau Field. "We'd never seen this personality from Yosh at all. I mean, Yosh is a great kid. Very quiet though. Kind of goes about his business, doesn't say a whole lot, lets the other guys in the room be the funny guys.

"But him doing 'The Robot,' I think everybody was like, 'Oh my gosh, Yosh! That was amazing.

Please see **PACKERS**, Page B2



ASSOCIATED PRESS ARCHIVES

Packers tackle Yosh Nijman, working against Bills defensive end Jerry Hughes during the preseason, will make his fourth NFL start Sunday.



UP NEXT

**WHO:** Green Bay Packers (8-3) vs. Los Angeles Rams (7-3)  
**WHEN:** 3:25 p.m. Sunday  
**WHERE:** SoFi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif.  
**TV:** FOX

CHIPPEWA COUNTY FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR | STANLEY-BOYD'S BRADY POTACZEK



BRANDON BERG, CHIPPEWA HERALD

Stanley-Boyd senior Brady Potaczek excelled on both sides of the ball this fall with the Orioles in earning all-state accolades on offense and defense. Potaczek is the 2021 Chippewa County Player of the Year.

## DOUBLY DANGEROUS

Potaczek bounces back from injury to become two-way all-state standout

BRANDON BERG  
Chippewa Herald

STANLEY — Brady Potaczek had some strong Stanley-Boyd football role models growing up.

So when he got the chance to show what he could do as an Oriole, he made the most of it.

Potaczek is the 2021 Chippewa County Player of the Year, the latest in a long line of award the Stanley-Boyd senior earned after fortifying his presence on both sides of the ball with all-state efforts.

### Looking up

Before Potaczek stepped foot on the turf at Oriole Park, he knew what it meant to be an Oriole.

Potaczek's uncles Craig and Clint Warminski were stellar two-way players with Stanley-Boyd. Craig was a three-year starter for the Orioles and multi-time All-Chippewa County honoree in the middle of the 2000s and went on to play collegiately at UW-Stout before Clint emerged as another two-way star, helping the Orioles win a Division 5 state championship before sharing All-County Player of the Year honors in 2014



BRADY POTACZEK

with teammates Zach Turner and Ronny Ponick before playing in college at Winona State.

Both were tough, heavy and physical players and Stanley-Boyd coach Jeff Koenig said it has been easy to see the Warminski influence in Potaczek's game.

"We knew he was a good athlete," Koenig said of Potaczek. "He's been playing a lot for us, contributing since his sophomore year. He's just electric and

dynamic to watch."

Potaczek made 33 tackles across eight games as a freshman before running for 326 yards and a score to earn All-Cloverbelt Conference honorable mention status as a sophomore. A promising junior season was cut off short of the finish when he suffered a broken ankle against Durand in the fifth week of the season. Once again, he was able to seek the advice of a Warminski. Clint was unfortunately uniquely

qualified to speak about how to battle back from a season-ending injury as he suffered a significant leg injury to cut his senior season short of the finish line. Potaczek wasted no time getting back to work.

"I started lifting right away," Potaczek said. "I was still hurt for five games of basketball but I was lifting the whole time right away."

He came back to average 11.1 points and 5.6 rebounds per game as a junior for the Orioles on the hardwood in earning All-Chippewa County second team and All-Western Cloverbelt honorable mention accolades. Last spring he helped the Stanley-Boyd 400-meter relay team advance to Division 2 sectionals.

But this fall was the season Potaczek was truly looking forward to.

### All-around

Stanley-Boyd was stocked with experienced and versatile

Please see **POTACZEK PAGE B2**

■ **Inside:** See this year's full All-Chippewa County football team on pages B3 and B4.

### RECENT WINNERS

- **2020:** Tate Sauerwein, Lake Holcombe/Cornell
- **2019:** Tate Sauerwein, Lake Holcombe/Cornell
- **2018:** Rico DeLeon, Chi-Hi
- **2017:** Ben Turner, Stanley-Boyd
- **2016:** Seth Hause, Stanley-Boyd

- **2015:** Zach Turner, Stanley-Boyd
- **2014:** Ronny Ponick, Zach Turner and Clint Warminski, Stanley-Boyd
- **2013:** Colten Seibel, Bloomer
- **2012:** Brett Baker, New Auburn
- **2011:** Levi Naves, Bloomer

### ALSO CONSIDERED

- **Mason Goettl, Chi-Hi**  
The 6-foot-8, 248-pound senior offensive lineman anchored the right side of the line for the Cardinals. Goettl earned Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Large Schools All-State first team honors along with all-region and All-Big Rivers Conference first team accolades at right tackle.

WISCONSIN FOOTBALL

## Impressive recent history

Badgers try to win fourth Big Ten West title in seven years with Axe on the line



JIM POLZIN

5-3) on Saturday at Huntington Bank Stadium. Look ahead to what comes after that — and, yes, it could get ugly if the Wisconsin-Ohio State matchup takes

place — and you're failing to appreciate what it took for the Badgers to even reach that point.

Frankly, it'd be a pretty impressive feat.

Listen, I get that this program has reached the point where winning a divisional title is going to get the so-what treatment from some people in this fan base. But UW can't win a Big Ten title without first winning the West and doing so this time required navigating a path that was more difficult than usual.

This would be Paul Chryst's



UP NEXT

**WHO:** Minnesota Golden Gophers (7-4, 5-3) vs. No. 18 Wisconsin Badgers (8-3, 6-2)  
**WHEN:** 3 p.m. Saturday  
**WHERE:** Huntington Bank Stadium, Minneapolis  
**TV:** FOX

fourth division title in his seven seasons leading the Badgers and, I'd argue, it'd be the most impressive one in that bunch.

Let's start with the degree of difficulty. The Big Ten West sometimes gets a bad rap and that criticism is justified some years. But not this season.

While there's no great team in the West, it's a division with two teams ranked in the most recent College Football Playoff rankings: No. 14 Wisconsin and



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wisconsin cornerback Faion Hicks, seated, is congratulated by teammates Dean Engram (6) and Caesar Williams (21) after Hicks broke up a pass against Nebraska last week.

No. 16 Iowa. Purdue was there as recently as two weeks ago and Minnesota was in the initial rankings earlier this month.

The only truly bad team in the division is the defending champion, Northwestern. Some Nebraska fans grumbled about my column a week ago that served as a warning that the Badgers could end up in the Cornhuskers'

struggling shoes someday if they're not careful, but here's where I'll say something nice about that Scott Frost's program: He's leading the best 3-8 team in the nation, and it's not even close.

Ohio State and Michigan are clearly the class of the Big Ten,

Please see **BADGERS**, Page B2

AREA SCHEDULE	
SATURDAY	
Girls Basketball—Stanley-Boyd vs Gresham at D.C. Everest	2 p.m.
Boys Hockey—Chi-Hi vs Madison Edgewood at Verona	2:15 p.m.
NAHL—Chippewa Steel at Minnesota Wilderness	7:15 p.m.

### BRIEFLY

#### NFL Rodgers will play vs. Rams

GREEN BAY — Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers hasn't practiced all week due to a toe injury but is expected to play Sunday against the Los Angeles Rams. Rodgers said Wednesday he has a toe fracture and that the injury occurred while he was working out at home during his quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19.

"Yeah, he'll play," Packers coach Matt LaFleur said Friday.

The toe injury caused Rodgers to practice one day last week, though the reigning MVP still threw for 385 yards and four touchdowns in a 34-31 loss at Minnesota.

During the week leading up to the Vikings game, Rodgers only practiced on Friday. Rodgers didn't practice this Friday, though he has no designation on the injury report that the Packers released later in the day.

"He didn't participate in practice, but he was out there and relaying the calls to Jordan (Love, the backup quarterback), just getting that practice of saying the play calls," LaFleur said.

The Packers (8-3) announced Friday that assistant offensive line coach Luke Butkus won't attend Sunday's game due to COVID-19 protocols. Offensive quality control coach Tim Zetts will handle Butkus' usual responsibilities.

Running back Aaron Jones (knee), outside linebacker Rashan Gary (elbow) and wide receiver Allen Lazard (shoulder) are questionable after all three missed the Vikings game. Gary fully participated in Friday's practice, while Jones and Lazard practiced on a limited basis.

Cornerback Kevin King (hip/knee) didn't practice all week and is listed as doubtful. WR/KR Malik Taylor (abdomen) and offensive tackle David Bakhtiari (knee) have been ruled out.

#### COLLEGE BASKETBALL Purdue pounds Omaha

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — The No. 3 Purdue University men's basketball team accomplished one goal Friday by keeping the foot on the accelerator.

The bigger ones still lie ahead.

Zach Edey scored 20 points in 16 minutes, and the Boilermakers used their huge size advantage to pound Omaha 97-40.

Purdue outrebounded the Mavericks 53-22 and outscored them in the paint 48-16 while improving to 6-0 for the first time since 2015-16 and just the fourth time in coach Matt Painter's tenure.

"A lot of teams settle and they get comfortable and we had to build off the energy of last weekend," preseason All-American Trevion Williams said, referring to the sweep of No. 18 North Carolina and No. 5 Villanova. "Our goal was to come out strong and we did."

They did it all.

Williams had 14 points and 10 rebounds in 21 minutes. The Boilermakers shot 57.6% from the field and 52.6% on 3-pointers. Defensively, they were equally strong, allowing their lowest scoring total since routing Virginia 69-40 in December 2019.

Omaha (1-5) was led by Darrius Hughes with 13 points. It lost its fifth straight — all on the road — and produced its lowest point total since an 86-40 loss to Wisconsin in December 2012.

Purdue was the highest ranked team the Mavericks have played in their 11-year Division I era and the disparity was clear from the opening moments. For the second straight game, Omaha took its only lead on its first basket — Dylan Brougham's 3-pointer.

The Boilermakers countered with a 29-0 run, a span in which they forced 12 consecutive missed shots and four turnovers. When Marco Smith finally ended the drought with 8:44 to go, the Mavericks already trailed 31-5.

From staff and wire reports

TELEVISION SCHEDULE	
SATURDAY	
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL:</b> Saint Peter's at Providence, FS2, 11 a.m.; NJIT at St. John's, FS2, 3 p.m.; Marshall at Indiana, BTN, 6 p.m.; Sacramento State at Arizona, PAC12, 6:30 p.m.; Eastern Washington at Washington State, PAC12, 6:30 p.m.; Northern Illinois at Marquette, FS2, 7 p.m.; BYU at Utah, PAC12, 8:30 p.m.; Winthrop at Washington, PAC12, 9 p.m.	
<b>COLLEGE FOOTBALL:</b> Georgia at Georgia Tech, ABC, 11 a.m.; Ohio State at Michigan, FOX, 11 a.m.; Wake Forest at Boston College, ESPN2, 11 a.m.; Texas Tech at Baylor, FS1, 11 a.m.; Houston at UConn, CBSN, 11 a.m.; Florida State at Florida, ESPN, 11 a.m.; Maryland at Rutgers, BTN, 11 a.m.; Navy at Temple, ESPN2, 11 a.m.; Alabama at Auburn, CBS, 2:30 p.m.; Oregon State at Oregon, ESPN, 2:30 p.m.; Penn State at Michigan State, ABC, 2:30 p.m.; Western Kentucky at Marshall, CBSN, 2:30 p.m.; Northwestern at Illinois, BTN, 2:30 p.m.; Indiana at Purdue, FS1, 2:30 p.m.; Vanderbilt at Tennessee, SEC, 2:45 p.m.; Virginia Tech at Virginia, ACC, 2:45 p.m.; Wisconsin at Minnesota, FOX, 3 p.m.; Tulsa at SMU, ESPN2, 3 p.m.; UL Monroe at Louisiana, ESPN2, 3 p.m.; Arizona at Arizona State, PAC12, 3 p.m.; Texas A&M at LSU, ESPN, 6 p.m.; West Virginia at Kansas, FS1, 6 p.m.; Oklahoma at Oklahoma State, ABC, 6:30 p.m.; Pittsburgh at Syracuse, ACC, 6:30 p.m.; Kentucky at Louisville, ESPN2, 6:30 p.m.; Clemson at South Carolina, SEC, 6:30 p.m.; Tulane at Memphis, ESPN2, 6:30 p.m.; Notre Dame at Stanford, FOX, 7 p.m.; Nevada at Colorado State, CBSN, 8 p.m.; BYU at USC, ESPN, 9:30 p.m.; California at UCLA, FS1, 9:30 p.m.	
<b>MEN'S SOCCER:</b> Premier League: Newcastle United at Arsenal, NBCSN, 6:30 a.m.; Premier League: Southampton at Liverpool, USA, 9 a.m.; Premier League: Leeds United at Brighton & Hove Albion, NBC, 11:30 a.m.	
<b>NBA:</b> Philadelphia at Minnesota, BSNO, 5 p.m.	

SUNDAY	
<b>CFL PLAYOFFS:</b> Montreal at Hamilton, ESPN2, noon; Calgary at Saskatchewan, ESPNEWS, 3:30 p.m.	
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL:</b> ESPN Events Invitational seventh place game, ESPN2, 9:30 a.m.; Bethune-Cookman at Seton Hall, FS1, 11 a.m.; E. Michigan at DePaul, FS1, 1 p.m.; Villanova at La Salle, ESPN2, 5 p.m.; ESPN Events Invitational fifth place game, ESPN2, 5:30 p.m.; Stanford at Colorado, PAC12, 6 p.m.; Hampton at Norfolk State, ESPN2, 7 p.m.; Fresno State at California, PAC12, 8 p.m.; Grambling vs Morgan State, ESPN2, 9:30 p.m.	
<b>HORSE RACING:</b> NYRA: America's Day at the Races, FS1, 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
<b>NFL:</b> Tennessee at New England, CBS, noon; Tampa Bay at Indianapolis, FOX, noon; L.A. Rams at Green Bay, FOX, 3:25 p.m.; Cleveland at Baltimore, NBC, 7:20 p.m.	
<b>MEN'S SOCCER:</b> MLS Conference semifinals, ABC, 2 p.m. and ESPN, 4:30 p.m.	
<b>NBA:</b> Milwaukee at Indiana, BSWI, 4 p.m.	
<b>NHL:</b> Tampa Bay at Minnesota, BSNO and BSWI, 1 p.m.	

## Packers

From B1

We need to see more of that."

Reminded of his moves after practice on Thursday — and told how Rodgers and Adams raved about him — Nijman said he had forgotten that he'd even done "The Robot" until he saw the film himself.

"I mean, since I was a kid, I was a big dancer. But sometimes, like during touchdowns or whatever, I usually just black out and start dancing," Nijman said. "For me when I saw, I was like, 'Oh, snap, I forgot I did that.' But for them, it was like, 'Yeah! Yeah!' So, OK, let's roll with that."

With five-time All-Pro left tackle David Bakhtiari still not cleared to make his 2021 debut after suffering a setback in his comeback from the torn ACL he suffered in a Dec. 31 practice last season, and with Pro Bowl left guard-turned-left tackle Elgton Jenkins having suffered a season-ending torn ACL in his left knee last week at Minnesota, the Packers will need the 6-foot-7, 314-pound Nijman to be more than just a guy delivering entertaining touchdown celebrations.

Against one of the more fearsome pass rushes in the NFL, the Packers will need him to play even better than he did during a three-game stint earlier in the season when Jenkins was sidelined by an ankle injury. For while his dance moves are thoroughly enjoyed by all — he did "The Robot" again against the Vikings after the second of Adams' two touchdown catches in that game — the Rams rush of Leonard Floyd (7.5 sacks), Aaron Donald (six sacks) and Von Miller (looking for his first sack as a Ram following a Nov. 1 trade from Denver) could make it a very long day for Rodgers,



Nijman

who's already playing through a painful fractured pinkie toe.

"We love him, and it's great that you've got a guy like that who can step up," Adams said. "You know, he didn't have much experience before this year. So to step up and do the things that he did, we're definitely proud of him."

Indeed, after spending most of his first NFL season on the practice squad (he was on the 53-man roster for three games but didn't play before a season-ending elbow injury) and last year on the roster all season (but playing only 14 offensive snaps), Nijman was thrown into the starting lineup at San Francisco on Sept. 26, when the team could have moved veteran right tackle Billy Turner to the left side and brought veteran Dennis Kelly, a 17-game starter for Tennessee last season, off the bench.

Instead, offensive line coach Adam Stenavich went with Nijman, a former undrafted free agent from Virginia Tech, in a decision that initially surprised Rodgers. But, Nijman had played extensively in the preseason, which gave Stenavich the confidence to play him after Jenkins' ankle injury instead of going with what seemed like an obviously safer option of playing two veterans.

"He's been improving ever since he got here, and you see the steady strides in improvement," said veteran outside linebacker Preston Smith, who went against Nijman frequently in camp. "The coaches trust him. For them to have that trust in you, it means a lot and speaks a lot for itself."

Added head coach Matt LaFleur: "Luckily, Yosh has been playing some

good ball for us. (He) has all the traits you look for in an offensive lineman — he's big, he's athletic, he can bend, he's strong, powerful, everything. It's just about putting it all together on a consistent basis."

Nijman said playing in those three games, against the 49ers, Steelers and Cincinnati Bengals before Jenkins' return to action, gave him not only valuable experience but confidence after scarcely playing the previous two seasons.

"It definitely does help to have three games. The game speed has slowed down for me," Nijman said Thursday. "For me, I know it's just every game get better at something, just look at the film from the first game, the second and third and just looking at things I did well and things I did better on and just working on those things."

It's that attitude that has made Nijman a beloved figure to Rodgers and Adams ("We're definitely proud of him," Adams said) as well as the rest of the team. So Nijman's response was no surprise when he was asked Thursday about the way the two team leaders and the rest of the locker room have embraced him and are confident that he'll be able to do the job with Jenkins out and Bakhtiari's return murky.

"Since today's Thanksgiving, it's a day of gratitude, and I know every day I come in this building, I have a lot of gratitude," Nijman said. "The Packers gave me an opportunity to come here as an undrafted free agent, and a lot of the guys on this team and around this building definitely have helped me become the player I am now. (They) are continuously pushing me to become a better player.

"So, for everybody in the locker room and the coaches and everything, I have a lot of gratitude for them and am very thankful for them."

## Badgers

From B1

but the West has been every bit as good as the East in 2021. A Purdue win over Indiana on Saturday would give the West a 10-11 head-to-head record against the East. The average Sagarin computer ratings of teams in each division: East 41.0, West 41.4.

Let's dive a little bit deeper with those computer rankings. According to RealTimeRPI.com, the Big Ten is the second-toughest conference this season behind only the SEC. You could make an argument that the Big Ten West is the third-best division in the country, trailing only the loaded SEC West and the Big Ten East.

In terms of average Sagarin ratings, the Big Ten West is slightly better than the ACC Atlantic (42.6), significantly better than either of the Pac-12 divisions (50.3 and 56.2) and miles ahead of the ACC Coastal (66.6)

"I've always got a ton of respect for the West and what our teams have accomplished over the years," Wisconsin defensive coordinator Jim Leonhard said. "I definitely think the depth on this side is probably as good as it's been in a little while."

Wisconsin is 5-0 against the Big

Ten West this season, giving Chryst a 27-6 record against divisional foes since he took over following the 2014 campaign. It's been utter dominance to this point in 2021, with the Badgers outscoring Illinois, Iowa, Purdue, Northwestern and Nebraska by a combined margin of 151-55.

To me, that says more about the roll Chryst's team is on than it does about the quality of competition in the division.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about this run is it came after the Badgers limped to a 1-3 overall start that included conference losses to Penn State and Michigan. Wisconsin exited that 38-17 home loss to the Wolverines on Oct. 2 with its season at a crossroads: It chose to keep fighting, shifting its focus to a division title still in its reach at that point.

"It was kind of opening a new chapter in the book and a new part of the season," Wisconsin senior left tackle Tyler Beach said. "It was: 'Wash everything else that happened. It's Big Ten West play now.'"

Chryst should be applauded for not hitting the panic button. The Badgers should be credited for showing resiliency at a moment their season appeared as though it might be in danger of spiraling out of control.

Here they are now, riding a seven-game winning streak and on the doorstep of doing something that seemed highly unlikely almost two months ago.

"You see that 1-3, not a lot of college teams fight back from that," Wisconsin senior cornerback Faion Hicks said. "I'm very proud of this group for putting their heads down and keep working and doing what we're doing. But at the end of the day, we know that the work is not finished. We've got one more opportunity to cap it off. As far as we're concerned, we're still in playoff mode. It's win or go home this week, and we know what's at stake."

Hicks has been part of two other teams that have won West titles, as a redshirt in 2017 and as a starter in 2019. He said without hesitation that a third division title would be the most special one in the group.

I happen to agree. What's going to happen next week will be dissected in due time. If the Badgers complete their journey by bringing home Paul Bunyan's Axe, stop for a moment to savor what's been an inspiring effort on the road to Indianapolis.

Jim Polzin writes for the Wisconsin State Journal

## Potaczek

From B1

playmakers coming into the season, a group of athletes including Potaczek that earned some lumps as youngsters at the varsity level.

The Orioles started off the year strong with routs of Cadott and Marathon before falling to eventual Division 6 semifinalist Durand 47-20. Illness that started to creep in when the Orioles lost to the Panthers fully set in the next week and the Orioles had to forfeit their matchup with Stanley-Boyd. The team returned to the field in exciting fashion, scoring a 28-27 walk-off win over Mondovi the next week. Potaczek did his part in the win with 217 receiving yards on 11 catches with two touchdowns on offense while notching 20 total tackles on defense. That started a stretch of five wins out of six games for Stanley-Boyd including a 35-18 playoff win at Arcadia before the team's season came to an end with a 47-8 loss to eventual Division 5 state champion La Crosse Aquinas in the second round of the playoffs.

For the season Potaczek did his part, hauling in 50 passes for 933 yards and 12 touchdowns on offense. Stanley-Boyd featured seven selections to the all-county first team.

"He was able to get open on some vertical routes and get behind people but also he was also someone we could throw the ball short to and just kind of physically dominate some of the defensive backs he went against to make short passes into really big plays," Koenig said.

Potaczek played outside linebacker for much of the year before moving inside near the end of the regular season and finished with 105 total tackles including 14 for loss, three forced fumbles, one sack and one interception on defense.

"I just like hitting people," Potaczek said.

The postseason honors for Potaczek have been significant and frequent. He earned All-Cloverbelt first team at wide receiver/tight end before being chosen to the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association's All-Region team at both wide receiver and outside linebacker. He was again

recognized by the WFCA in the organization's Small Schools All-State voting where he made the first team as a wide receiver and was an honorable mention at outside linebacker.

### Next up

Potaczek wants to play college football but has not made any final decisions as of yet.

The 6-foot-2, 190-pound dual threat has shown his stuff at a high level program and is ready to work even harder to play at the next level, saying any team that wants him will be getting a hard worker who will go above and beyond what is asked to get the job done.

He's already shown the ability to do just that in becoming an all-state player two ways.

"He's just a great, great athlete," Koenig said of Potaczek. "He's a great person to have out there playing for us. It was an interesting year because we had such an outstanding group of skill players but he obviously on the stat side stood out above them all because of what he was able to do.

"Just a great, great addition to our team."

FOOTBALL	
<b>NFL Thursday's results</b> Chicago 16, Detroit 14 Las Vegas 36, Dallas 33, OT Buffalo 31, New Orleans 66	<b>Sunday's games</b> Atlanta at Jacksonville, noon Carolina at Miami, noon N.Y. Jets at Houston, noon Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, noon Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, noon Tampa Bay at Indianapolis, noon Tennessee at New England, noon L.A. Chargers at Denver, 3:05 p.m. L.A. Rams at Green Bay, 3:25 p.m. Minnesota at San Fran., 3:25 p.m. Cleveland at Baltimore, 7:20 p.m. Open: Kansas City, Arizona
<b>Monday's game</b> Seattle at Washington, 7:15 p.m.	<b>Thursday, Dec. 2</b> Dallas at New Orleans, 7:20 p.m.
<b>Sunday, Dec. 5</b> Indianapolis at Houston, noon Minnesota at Detroit, noon	<b>N.Y. Giants at Miami, noon</b> Tampa Bay at Atlanta, noon Denver at Kansas City, noon Philadelphia at N.Y. Jets, noon Arizona at Chicago, noon L.A. Chargers at Cincinnati, noon Washington at Las Vegas, 3:05 p.m. Jacksonville at L.A. Rams, 3:25 p.m. Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 3:25 p.m. San Francisco at Seattle, 7:20 p.m. Open: Cleveland, Tennessee, Carolina, Green Bay
<b>Monday, Dec. 6</b> New England at Buffalo, 7:15 p.m.	<b>Saturday's games</b> Minnesota at Philadelphia, 5 p.m. New York at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m. Phoenix at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m. Charlotte at Houston, 7 p.m. Miami at Chicago, 7 p.m. Orlando at Cleveland, 7 p.m. Washington at Dallas, 7:30 p.m. New Orleans at Utah, 8 p.m.
<b>Sunday's games</b> Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 2:30 p.m. Milwaukee at Indiana, 4 p.m. Boston at Toronto, 5 p.m. Sacramento at Memphis, 5 p.m. Detroit at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.	<b>Friday's games</b> N.Y. Rangers 5, Boston 2 Carolina at Philadelphia, 2:30 p.m. St. Louis at Chicago, 2:30 p.m. Winnipeg at Minnesota, 2:30 p.m. Ottawa at Anaheim, 3 p.m. Florida at Washington, 4 p.m. New Jersey at Nashville, 5 p.m. Montreal at Buffalo, 6 p.m. Seattle at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m. Vancouver at Columbus, 6 p.m. Colorado at Dallas, 6:30 p.m. Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 6:30 p.m. Toronto at San Jose, 9:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday's games</b> Seattle at Florida, 5 p.m. Buffalo at Detroit, 6 p.m. Edmonton at Vegas, 6 p.m. Montreal at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m. Ottawa at Los Angeles, 6 p.m. Columbus at St. Louis, 7 p.m. Dallas at Arizona, 7 p.m. Nashville at Colorado, 8 p.m. Winnipeg at Calgary, 9 p.m.	<b>HOCKEY</b>
<b>NHL Thursday's results</b> No Games scheduled	

FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

**Carsen Hause**

**Quarterback**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 9 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-2 | **Weight:** 185

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Cloverbelt Conference first team...108-for-170 passing for 1,600 passing yards, 20 touchdowns and four interceptions with 103 rushing yards and three touchdowns.

**Coach Jeff Koenig says:** "Carsen has a great command of the offense and was always looking to extend plays when possible. He's just a very good athlete."



CARSEN HAUSE



COOPER NICHOLS

**Cooper Nichols**

**All-Purpose**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 5 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-8 | **Weight:** 165

**Resume:** First team All-Cloverbelt Conference...36 receptions for 412 receiving yards and five touchdowns, 248 rushing yards and four touchdowns, 31 total tackles, one interception and 16 kickoff returns for 357 yards and one touchdown.

**Coach Jeff Koenig says:** "Cooper long snaps, plays offense and defense, as well as returned kicks for us. He has great speed and is fun to watch."

**Jack Strand**

**Quarterback**  
**Bloomer**

**Number:** 12 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-5 | **Weight:** 230

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Heart O'North Conference first team...123-of-198 passing for 1,632 passing yards and 12 touchdowns and three interceptions.

**Coach John Post says:** "Jack is one of the best throwing QBs I have ever coached. He is also a very tough kid. He played through a broken toe that could have sidelined him for most of the season and would have many others."



JACK STRAND



BRODEE BURISH

**Brodee Burish**

**Offensive Line**  
**Cadott**

**Number:** 55 | **Class:** Sophomore

**Height:** 6-0 | **Weight:** 230

**Resume:** All-Dunn-St. Croix Conference first team at offensive line and defensive line.

**Coach Jeff Goettl says:** "Brodee is a very talented sophomore also earning first team all-conference on offense and defense. He has good size and quickness and proved to be a dominant player on the o-line and d-line this year. Looking forward to seeing his accomplishments the next couple years."

**Karson Bowe**

**Running Back**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 2 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-11 | **Weight:** 185

**Resume:** All-Big Rivers Conference first team...586 rushing yards and seven touchdowns, nine catches for 96 yards and two TDs.

**Coach Chuck Raykovich says:** "He's scored touchdowns and got points at the critical times. (A) very slippery runner, very elusive. He's not the typical break-away speed type guy but he'll slip and slide. He's got great vision and that's what allowed him to be as good as he is."



KARSON BOWE



WYATT GOTHAM

**Wyatt Gotham**

**Offensive Line**  
**New Auburn**

**Number:** 77 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-3 | **Weight:** 270

**Resume:** All-Central Wisconsin West Conference first team.

**Coach Wayne North says:** "Wyatt brought to our team a dynamic of power and passion. Wyatt is outstanding in being coachable and positive in his attitude. He will be dearly missed. Wyatt walks in success and his hard work ethic and focused goal planning will continue to ensure him a bright future. Even in the midst of his season ending injury, Wyatt maintained his leadership role as he poured into the next generation of players on the team."

**Marcus Harelstad**

**Running Back**  
**Bloomer**

**Number:** 15 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-10 | **Weight:** 175

**Resume:** All-Heart O'North Conference second team...Ran for 893 yards and 12 touchdowns with 29 receptions for 285 receiving yards and two touchdowns.

**Coach Post says:** "Marcus is an excellent athlete. Ended up being the second leading rusher in the Heart O'North (play) with 754 yards on 117 carries. He also had a great year receiving, putting him above the 1,000-yard mark for total offense."



MARCUS HARELSTAD



MASON GOETTL

**Mason Goettl**

**Offensive Line**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 77 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-8 | **Weight:** 248

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Large Schools All-State first team selection...WFCA All-Region...All-Big Rivers Conference first team.

**Coach Raykovich says:** "A year ago he won our T.O.M. Award (Team Over Me). He's a kid that can play multiple positions. He would've been a great tight end but we needed him at tackle, and he was responsible for a lot of the yards we got on that side."

**Connor Crane**

**Wide Receiver**  
**Bloomer**

**Number:** 13 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-3 | **Weight:** 190

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Heart O'North Conference first team...46 receptions for 671 yards and five touchdowns.

**Coach Post says:** "Connor delivered consistently all season. Played with a broken finger early in the season, but did not complain about it. He is a great receiver."



CONNOR CRANE



GRANT HATFIELD

**Grant Hatfield**

**Offensive Line**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 78 | **Class:** Junior

**Height:** 5-9 | **Weight:** 190

**Resume:** All-Cloverbelt Conference second team.

**Coach Jeff Koenig says:** "Our team was hit really hard by illness throughout the season. Grant played every position on the offensive line for us and he is a very good guard but he took reps at both tackle spots, the other side on guard. He even does a great job as our backup center."

**Dale Tetrault**

**Wide Receiver**  
**McDonell**

**Number:** 89 | **Class:** Junior

**Height:** 5-10 | **Weight:** 165

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Central Wisconsin West Conference first team as wide receiver and second team as defensive back...47 receptions for 630 receiving yards and nine touchdowns, 245 rushing yards and four touchdowns and one kickoff return for touchdown.

**Coach Jason Cox says:** "Dale is a great route runner with reliable hands. He drew double teams a lot this season, but he still found ways to be productive and make plays for our offense."



DALE TETRAULT



BRYANT PETSKA

**Bryant Petska**

**Offensive Line**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 64 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-7 | **Weight:** 310

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Big Rivers Conference first team.

**Coach Raykovich says:** "He's worked hard - both of these guys (Petska and Goettl) have worked hard to get where they're at and that's the key to being a successful athlete is working hard."

**Special and Honorable Mentions**

**Special Mentions**

**New Auburn:** Ethan Lotts (quarterback)

**Honorable Mentions**

**Cadott:** Blake Irwin, Kaleb Sonnentag

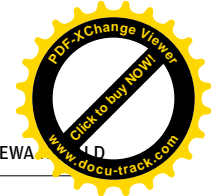
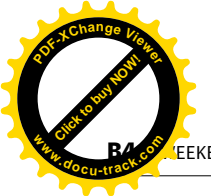
**Chi-Hi:** Sam Anderl, Judah Dunham, Landon Thies

**Cornell:** Brodie Braaten

**McDonell:** Grant Smiskey

**New Auburn:** Mikey Lauterbach

**Stanley-Boyd:** Zach Ciszak, Robert Poole



FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

**Owen Krista**

**Defensive Line**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 30 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-0 | **Weight:** 190

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Big Rivers Conference first team...77 total tackles, five sacks.

**Coach Chuck Raykovich says:** "Owen Krista is unblockable. I'll put him one-on-one against anybody in the state in a blocking drill and unless Owen goofs up by doing a wrong move – and he's got a bunch of (right) moves – he's unblockable."



OWEN KRISTA



GAVIN TEGELS

**Gavin Tegels**

**Linebacker**  
**Cadott**

**Number:** 12 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-2 | **Weight:** 235

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Small Schools all-state honorable mention...WFCA All-Region...Dunn-St. Croix Conference Player of the Year...All-Dunn-St. Croix Conference first team as inside linebacker and tight end/fullback...Led Dunn-St. Croix in tackles with 113.

**Coach Jeff Goettl says:** "Gavin has a gift of size, speed and high football IQ. Tremendous player all-around. A first team all-conference player in offense and defense and Dunn-St Croix Defensive Player of The Year. He's been a great leader and role model for the Hornets football team. He's always working to get better and never be satisfied."

**Jacob Nesterick**

**Defensive Line**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 30 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-10 | **Weight:** 185

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Small School All-State honorable mention...WFCA All-Region...Cloverbelt Conference Defensive Player of the Year...All-Cloverbelt Conference first team selection...85 total tackles including 26 for a loss, 10 quarterback sacks and four forced fumbles...239 rushing yards and one touchdown and 14 receptions for 103 receiving yards and one touchdown.

**Coach Jeff Koenig says:** "Jacob lived in the offensive backfield the last two years and caused a lot of problems for opposing teams. Even with double teams and getting held most plays he still was a quick and elusive defender who disrupted every play."



JACOB NESTERICK



BEN BISKUPSKI

**Ben Biskupski**

**Defensive Back**  
**McDonell**

**Number:** 11 | **Class:** Junior

**Height:** 5-10 | **Weight:** 175

**Resume:** All-Central Wisconsin West Conference first team as defensive back and second team as wide receiver...46 tackles, seven interceptions and three defensive touchdowns and 43 receptions for 600 yards and five touchdowns.

**Coach Jason Cox says:** "Ben played a hybrid linebacker and defensive back role for us this season. He was versatile enough to help stop the run and was a ball hawk when defending against the pass."

**Matt Elmhurst**

**Linebacker**  
**New Auburn**

**Number:** 18 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-0 | **Weight:** 185

**Resume:** All-Central Wisconsin West Conference first team at linebacker and second team at running back...89 tackles with four sacks, two interceptions and one fumble recovery and 780 rushing yards and 18 TDs.

**Coach Wayne North says:** "Matt has been one of my best players I have ever coached. As a four-year starter, Matt is coming off a previous year where he was majorly injured and pushed his way back into top form. I am honored that I was able to coach such a fine player and individual. Matt consistently shows character and sportsmanship. It will be very hard to fill Matt's shoes moving forward, but he leaves his legacy and leadership within the hearts of his teammates and our community."



MATT ELMHORST



DAWSON GOODMAN

**Dawson Goodman**

**Defensive Back**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 23 | **Class:** Junior

**Height:** 5-11 | **Weight:** 175

**Resume:** All-Big Rivers Conference first team...59 total tackles, four interceptions, two fumble recoveries.

**Coach Raykovich says:** "Dawson started last year as a sophomore and I don't think there's a better kid that plays his position anywhere."

**Elijah Hable**

**Linebacker**  
**New Auburn**

**Number:** 40 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-2 | **Weight:** 195

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Big Rivers Conference first team...59 total tackles, two fumble recoveries and one sack.

**Coach Raykovich says:** "He's built like a typical linebacker and he's got the typical linebacker attitude – he's rather hit you than look at you – and just a great student of the game."



ELIJAH HABLE



GAVIN GOODMAN

**Gavin Goodman**

**Defensive Back**  
**Chi-Hi**

**Number:** 6 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-0 | **Weight:** 175

**Resume:** All-Big Rivers Conference first team as specialist...27 total tackles, four interceptions (one returned for TD) and one kickoff returned for touchdown.

**Coach Raykovich says:** "It seemed like whenever there was a big play made Gavin was around it. He was either responsible for it or he was a part of it."

**Brady Potaczek**

**Linebacker**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 23 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 6-2 | **Weight:** 190

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Small Schools All-State first team selection at WR and honorable mention selection at linebacker...WFCA All-Region...All-Cloverbelt Conference first team at wide receiver...50 receptions for 933 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns...105 total tackles including 14 for loss, three forced fumbles and one interception.

**Coach Koenig says:** "Brady suffered a season ending injury last season and really elevated his play on both sides of the ball. Just a dynamic athlete that was great with or without the ball in his hands."



BRADY POTACZEK



LUCAS SMITH

**Lucas Smith**

**Defensive Back**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 21 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-11 | **Weight:** 190

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association All-Region...All-Cloverbelt Conference first team...107 total tackles including two for loss, three fumble recoveries, two interceptions and one forced fumble.

**Coach Koenig says:** "Lucas led our team in tackles and was a physical pass disrupter in the secondary."

**Bowen Rothbauer**

**Linebacker**  
**Bloomer**

**Number:** 41 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-8 | **Weight:** 180

**Resume:** All-Heart O'North first team.

**Coach John Post says:** "Bowen was a leader on both sides of the ball. Hardly ever came off the field and is simply a hard working tough young man, which is hard to find anymore. I really enjoyed coaching him this last season. Looking forward to watching him wrestle and wrestle in college."



BOWEN ROTHBAUER



MICHAEL KARLEN

**Michael Karlen**

**Specialist**  
**Stanley-Boyd**

**Number:** 4 | **Class:** Senior

**Height:** 5-7 | **Weight:** 165

**Resume:** Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Small Schools All-State first team selection at kicker...WFCA All-Region...All-Cloverbelt Conference first team...21-for-23 on extra points and 4-for-9 on field goal attempts with a long field goal of 52 yards...351 rushing yards and four touchdowns, 36 receptions for 429 receiving yards and five touchdowns and 52 total tackles including eight for loss, three interceptions and two recovered fumbles.

**Coach Koenig says:** "Michael is not just a great football player but a great person. He is an explosive offensive player, shut down defensive player, and happens to also kick the ball really, really well."

**Special and Honorable Mentions**

**Special Mentions**

**Bloomer:** Ethan Rubenzer (linebacker)

**Cadott:** Tegan Ritter (linebacker), Ryan Sonnentag (defensive back), Peter Weir (specialist)

**Chi-Hi:** Brayden Warwick (specialist),

Beau Snyder (defensive line)

**Lake Holcombe:** Sam Ewer (defensive line)

**McDonell:** Evan Eckes (defensive line), Xavyion Matthews (linebacker)

**New Auburn:** Braden Johnson (defensive back)

**Stanley-Boyd:** Logan Burzynski (defensive back)

**Honorable Mentions**

**Cadott:** Nick Fasbender

**Chi-Hi:** Drake Bowe

**Cornell:** Avery Turany

**McDonell:** Clemett Matthews, Landon Moulton

**New Auburn:** Caleb Gotham, Triton Robey

**Stanley-Boyd:** Jared Fitzl, Landon Karlen, Chase Sturm

