



Tennessee Titans president of football operations Chad Brinker, left, and general manager Mike Borgonzi, right, respond to questions during a news conference at the NFL football team’s training facility on Tuesday in Nashville, Tenn.

# Titans exec: ‘Nobody wants to hear patience’ during rebuild

BY TERESA M. WALKER  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Tennessee Titans aren’t putting a measuring stick on what counts as success for 2025.

Chad Brinker, the Titans’ president of football operations, said Tuesday he just wants to see improvement after going 3-14 in 2024 and drafting at No. 1 overall in April.

“Nobody wants to hear that word patience,” Brinker said as the Titans reported for training camp. “But the reality is we understand where we are as a roster. We got a lot of work to do, and we’re going to be relying on a lot of young players this season to carry this football team.”

Tennessee starts training camp Wednesday trying to snap a skid of three straight losing seasons, each with more losses than the season before. The three victories in 2024 were the least by the franchise since going 3-13 in 2015.

The roster has had a dramatic makeover. The Titans added 34 free agents with five more through waivers or trades. Quarterback Cam Ward, the No. 1 pick overall, heads up a nine-player draft class.

“I do want to see our football team improve day to day, week to week to where by the end of the season, we’ll see what we look like,” Brinker said. “And hopefully we’re healthy. It’s a war of attrition.”

Coach Brian Callahan is

scheduled to speak to reporters before Wednesday’s first practice of camp. Both Brinker and general manager Mike Borgonzi said they liked Callahan’s approach this offseason, emphasizing competition to help clean up mistakes and issues that led to losses in his first season as a head coach.

With Borgonzi hired as the new GM in January, Callahan’s job security is a big question with the Titans working on an enclosed stadium opening in 2027. Brinker said he’s seen Callahan grow in confidence, communication and how he and his assistants have developed players.

“We believe in Brian,” Brinker said.

**STAYING PUT**

Borgonzi said they’re happy with the quarterback room as it is now. The Titans announced Monday that Will Levis decided to have season-ending shoulder surgery in a surprising move. Ward is expected to be the starter when the season opens Sept. 7 at Denver, but Levis had an open path to be the backup.

Now nobody currently on the roster took a snap under center for Tennessee last season. Ward is joined by a pair of journeymen in Brandon Allen, 32, and Tim Boyle, 30.

Allen, a sixth-round pick by Jacksonville out of Arkansas in 2016, has played for Denver, Cincinnati and San Francisco. He started a game last season and appeared in two others

for the 49ers, throwing for 199 yards with one TD pass and two interceptions.

Boyle is with his seventh NFL team. He appeared in three games last season for Miami and the New York Giants. He has more career interceptions (13) than touchdown passes (five).

**PUP LIST**

A pair of starters will begin camp on the physically unable to perform list. Borgonzi said center Lloyd Cushenberry and cornerback L’Jarius Sneed are both week to week.

Cushenberry is working to return from the Achilles tendon injury that limited him to eight games last season. Sneed, a big trade acquisition in March 2024, is trying to return now from an injured knee after a procedure in May. A quadriceps injury put him on injured reserve after he played only five games.

Borgonzi said edge rusher Lorenzo Carter told him Monday that he’s retiring.

**READY TO GO**

Wide receiver Treyton Burks (partially torn ACL) and rookie safety Kevin Winston Jr., (ACL) will be available fully Wednesday.

**JOINT PRACTICES**

The Titans will practice with the Buccaneers once ahead of their preseason opener Aug. 9. They have two joint practices Aug. 12 and 13 with the Falcons in Atlanta before their preseason game Aug. 15.

# UCI protests Bruyneel’s attendance at Tour de France

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
MONT VENTOUX, France — The International Cycling Union has objected to the presence of Johan Bruyneel, Lance Armstrong’s former team manager, in staff areas of the Tour de France.

The UCI said Tuesday it had asked race organizers whether they had given Bruyneel accreditation to appear at the Tour’s start village before Stage 12 in Auch last week when he took part in a TV program for the Flemish-language Belgian channel VRT1.

“Bruyneel is banned for life from taking part in any activity related to cycling,” the UCI said in a statement, noting the Belgian national’s sanction by the Court of Arbitration for Sport “for anti-doping rules violations when he worked with the U.S. Postal Service Pro Cycling Team and the Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team.”

Bruyneel was initially banned for 10 years by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency in 2014 for his role in doping programs that helped Armstrong to seven Tour de France titles between 1999-05 and provided other riders with illegal performance boosts, but that sanction was extended to a lifetime ban by CAS in 2018 after an appeal by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

“While he is free to attend a cycling event registered on the UCI International Calen-

dar — such as the Tour de France — as a regular spectator, he is strictly prohibited from participating in the event in any role or capacity, or from accessing areas that are closed to the public,” the UCI said after Stage 16. “This includes, in particular, areas of the Tour de France that require accreditation.”

The governing body said it had contacted Amaury Sport Organisation, the Tour de France organizer, to ask whether Bruyneel “was granted an official accreditation, to understand how this could have happened, and to ensure that no further accreditation will be issued to him.”

It said it “will take all appropriate measures.”

In 2014, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency said Bruyneel, a former rider and team manager, “was at the apex of a conspiracy to commit widespread doping on the (U.S. Postal Service) and Discovery Channel teams spanning many years and many riders.”

Bruyneel claimed he, Armstrong and others were made scapegoats for an era when doping was “a fact of life” in cycling.

“I do not dispute that there are certain elements of my career that I wish had been different,” Bruyneel said at the time. “However, a very small minority of us has been used as scapegoats for an entire generation.”

# Beal’s surprise gift to Paul: A meaningful number

BY BETH HARRIS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS  
LOS ANGELES — Chris Paul will be wearing his No. 3 jersey in his return to the Los Angeles Clippers.

Newly acquired Bradley Beal has agreed to give Paul the number that Beal has worn his entire NBA career, according to Lawrence Frank, president of basketball operations.

“Once Brad heard it’s a possibility Chris was coming he said, ‘I want to give him my number,’ and I don’t even think Chris knows this yet,” Frank said Tuesday on a teleconference call. “It’s awesome that Brad made such a great gesture like that.”

Frank said Beal understands what the jersey number means to Paul, who is widely known by his nick-

name “CP3.”

Paul played last season in San Antonio and forward Keldon Johnson gave up wearing No. 3 so Paul could have it. Paul has worn the number since he entered the NBA in 2005.

Beal has yet to decide what number he’ll wear for the upcoming season, Frank said.

Paul, a free agent, signed with the Clippers for what is expected to be his 21st and final NBA season, citing a desire to return to Los Angeles where his family lives. He played 82 games for the Spurs, but will come off the bench for the Clippers.

“Chris was the best guy for the job as long as we all understand what the role is,” Frank said. “There will be nights Chris plays a lot and there will be nights he does not.”

# GLORY

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believed God was more interested in than the public programs. So, in 2015 I released, “A Lifestyle of Worship — Living in The Awareness of God’s Presence.” Two more books followed, Convictions and Considerations — Encouragement for the Soul” and in 2021, Receiving Our Healing — Going to War on Our Knees.” Also in

the last five years I’ve completed a PhD in Church History and one in Biblical History from Northwestern Theological Seminary.

I also want to express a special thank you to all the editors and publishers that presents the column in your hard copies and websites. I also want to say I sincerely appreciate those of you that send encouraging letters and emails. With the column going to 1100 publications each week, the last I checked, it’s

being published in multiple papers within 37 states. This does not include the giant global news agencies that pick it up from newspapers and post it for their subscribers to read — for free, of course. Yes, this means my weekly readership is in the millions, but 98% of the papers that publish my work do not compensate me. I’m currently a magazine content coordinator for Best Version media, the chaplain for our County

Fire District, a singer and actor in our local theatre, we distribute food through our non-profit charity, and I’m honored to help with baptizing and serving

communion in our local jail ministry led by Mrs. Barbara Burton. And, of course I’m happy and excited to continue with this column for as long as the Lord wants!

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, and author. Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com. Email psalmz103@gmail.com


**Public Notice**

The Treasurer's Final Settlement for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 has been filed in the Graves County Clerk's office. The audit will be available when approved by the State Auditor's office.



**CASA**

Court Appointed Special Advocates  
**FOR CHILDREN**  
casagravesswky.org  
**270-251-2060**



**GRAVES COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT**  
**LEGAL NOTICE OF BIDS**

Graves County Fiscal Court will accept sealed bids for complete replacement of:  
Shaw Road Bridge:

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10 AM on August 7, 2025 at the Graves County Judge/Executive office, 1102 Paris Road, Suite 2, Mayfield, Ky. 42066. All sealed bids must meet or exceed KYTC specifications and special notes. Prospective bidders must be on KYTC approved contractors list for bridge structures. Prospective bidders will include an approximate start and finish date.

The Graves County Fiscal Court reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

All permits, bonding, insurance, etc. will be responsibility of the contractor.

All specifications can be picked up at the Graves County Road Department or Graves County Judge Executive Office.

Any questions please call the Graves County Road Department at (270) 247-5805

Graves County Judge/Executive  
Jesse Perry