

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Bailey Hillesheim | Associated Press
Minnesota Vikings quarterback Carson Wentz (11) drops back to pass during the first half of an NFL football game against the Green Bay Packers on Sunday in Minneapolis, Minn.

Vikings will start Wentz at QB against Bears

Murray still in concussion protocol

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

MINNEAPOLIS — Carson Wentz will start at quarterback for the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday, with Kyler Murray still in the NFL concussion protocol and ruled out for the game at Chicago.

Murray was a limited participant in practice all week and simply ran out of time to make more progress after taking an illegal hit to the head in the first quarter of his debut for Minnesota in the season opener.

Vikings coach Kevin O’Connell said he expects Murray to clear the protocol early next week and be able to play at Tampa Bay on Sept. 27.

“Kyler showed a lot of progress,” O’Connell said. “He’s doing well.”

Murray took a jarring hit to the side of his helmet that drew an unnecessary roughness penalty on Green Bay safety Javon Bullard, leaving Murray in the type of defensive pose that can accompany brain trauma.

Because Murray didn’t slide feet first and forward, he left himself open to contact, even though Bullard’s lowered shoulder was deemed excessive as Murray ducked toward the turf.

“He plays with such

explosiveness that he was trying to go feet-first, but he ended up going kind of sideways,” O’Connell said. “The game speed and the velocity of the play ended up putting him in a risk-worthy opportunity there for him to get hurt, and luckily it seems to be we avoided anything serious. Just how he’s feeling, I’m very encouraged about what next week looks for him.”

The eighth-year player — who signed with the Vikings after being released by Arizona — was eventually able to slowly walk off the field under his own power. He was alert and interacting with teammates in the locker room afterward and looked spry on the practice field this week.

Wentz threw three touchdown passes in relief of Murray to help the Vikings close the game with 29 consecutive points in their 39-22 victory. J.J. McCarthy will be the No. 2 quarterback at Chicago. Against Green Bay, McCarthy was the emergency No. 3 quarterback who can only enter the game if the first two are injured.

The Vikings also ruled out wide receiver Jauan Jennings, who hasn’t practiced all week

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Joe Brady’s aggressive approach to offense validated in Allen’s production

BY JOHN WAWROW
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Joe Brady was so eager to get Josh Allen on the field, the Bills rookie head coach elected to take the ball — rather than defer — upon winning the coin toss in Buffalo’s home- and new stadium-opener against Detroit.

His instincts to be aggressive were immediately validated.

The lingering wisps of smoke from the pregame fireworks display had barely cleared on Thursday night, when Allen capped a 10-play, 85-yard drive with a 1-yard sneak into the end zone. The Bills went on to score TDs on each of their first four possessions — and six of eight, not including an end of game kneel-down — in the breathtaking offensive display of a 41-31 win.

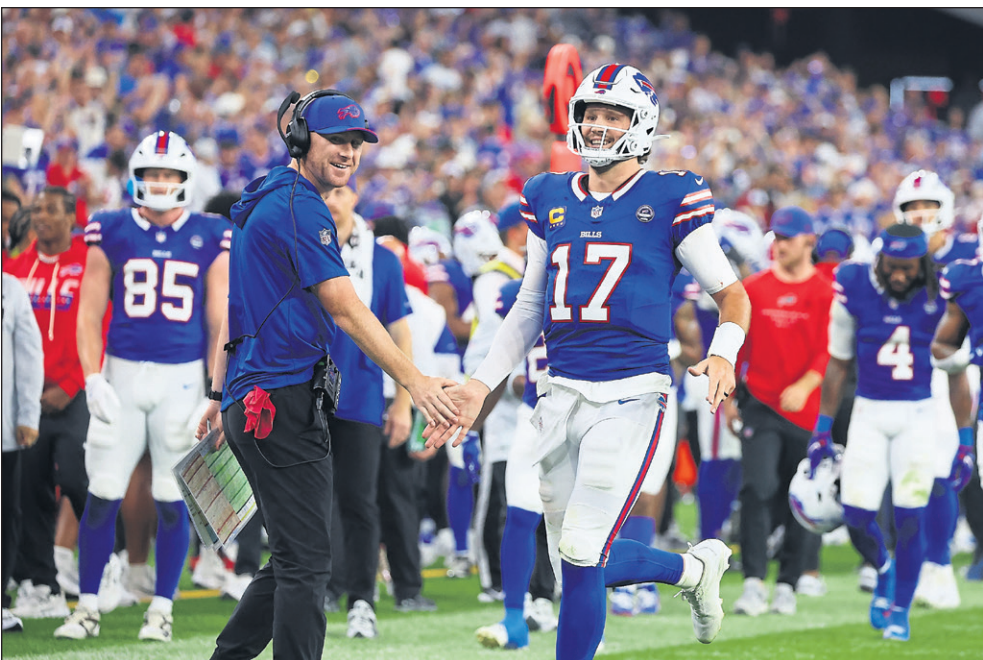
If Buffalo, under former coach Sean McDermott, was at times faulted for being a little too conservative on offense, that’s no longer the case two games into Brady’s tenure following a season-opening 36-31 win at Houston.

Allen has been a one-man show in leading an offensive juggernaut that’s combined for 77 points, 855 yards, 54 first downs and scored on 13 of 18 possessions not ending in kneel-downs.

The production is a reflection of an offense that returned mostly intact, and is very familiar to Brady, who spent the previous two-plus seasons as coordinator before being promoted to replace McDermott in January.

Before running back James Cook closed the scoring on a 1-yard run with 2:50 remaining, Allen had accounted for Buffalo’s first nine touchdowns, five passing and four rushing. Allen’s yet to turn the ball over, though he’s come close on a few occasions, while also showing a familiar knack for spreading the wealth in the passing game.

While tight end Dalton Kincaid leads Buffalo with a combined 12 catches for 225 yards and two scores, Josh Palmer has scored twice on two catches. And even the ever-inconsistent Keon Coleman got involved with six catches for 63 yards against Detroit — three of those receptions coming before



Jeffrey T. Barnes | Associated Press
Buffalo Bills head coach Joe Brady, left, and quarterback Josh Allen (17) celebrate a touchdown against the Detroit Lions during the first half of an NFL football game in Orchard Park, N.Y., on Thursday.

DJ Moore was sidelined with a shoulder injury late in the first half.

Buffalo’s 2-0 start is encouraging, with a variety of issues that still need addressing.

Moore’s absence was notable. Without him, the offense appeared to miss the connection the ninth-year player has established with Allen and his on-field presence to draw coverage away from others.

Though the injury is not considered significant, Brady said it was too early to determine if Moore will play next week.

Then there’s the Bills new-look defense, which is still in the gelling stages.

The bright side is how the defense limited Jahmyr Gibbs to 52 yards rushing on 16 carries. On the downside, the Bills allowed Detroit to close to within 10 points twice after being down 21-0.

“We’re kind of a boom or bust defense,” first-year coordinator Jim Leonhard said in noting opponents are ending drives with either touchdowns or three-and-outs. “That’s not a sustainable way to win.”

He’s not that far off. On a combined 20 possessions, opponents have scored eight touchdowns with Buffalo forcing five three-and-outs.

WHAT’S WORKING

Red-zone offense. After settling for a touchdown and two field goals on three trips inside the Texans 20 last weekend, the Bills scored touchdowns on all five red-zone drives against Detroit.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

Fourth-down defense. Opponents have converted all four fourth-down attempts against Buffalo after the Lions went 2 for 2.

STOCK UP

DL Deone Walker. The second-year player continues to be a force in the middle, and needed to with Ed Oliver sidelined after hurting his hip in pregame warmups. Walker ended the Lions’ final threat by batting down two pass attempts that led to a three-and-out midway through the fourth quarter.

STOCK DOWN

Tough to knock anyone, though PK Tyler Bass did miss an extra-point attempt.

INJURIES

Similar to Moore, Oliver’s status is unclear for next week. Brady didn’t go into detail on the injury in saying the Bills did have time to thoroughly



Booth Avenue Estate Sale

**1603 Booth Avenue
Owensboro, KY 42301
(Corner of Booth & Windsor)**

**Thurs., Sept. 17, 9am-4pm
Fri., Sept. 18, 9am-4pm
Sat., Sept. 19, 9am-2 pm**

This sale contains a Mediterranean breakfront, dark cherry bedroom suite, brass and glass top coffee and end tables, walnut conference-dining table, two marble top lamp tables, leather top octagonal table glass top coffee and end tables, metal and glass coffee table, chaise, cherry quilt rack, Queen Anne lowboy, Chippendale chest, two cherry end tables, computer desk and chair, ladder back chairs, oak roll top computer desk, oak bar height table with swivel stools, wing back chairs, sofa, club chairs, black Chippendale end tables, console table, television cabinet, very nice recliner, area rugs, lamps, art work, crystal five light candelabra, brass, silver-plate items including tall candelabra epergne, antique clocks, decorative accessories, kitchenware, gas powered and pedal bikes, 6000-watt generator, porch swing, wooden cubicle cabinet, children’s games and toys, ladies’, men’s and girl’s clothing, many new and barely-worn name brand women’s shoes (Dansko, Born, Clark’s, Sketchers, etc.) nice costume jewelry, bedding, including twin XL sheets & comforter, exercise equipment, like new gas grill and much more. To view pictures of many of the items in the sale please go to Estatesales.org

Cash or check with proper ID, 3% fee will be added to credit/debit card purchases. We also accept Venmo. All sales are final. No returns or refunds. KY sales tax of 6% will be added unless buyer presents a resale exemption certificate. All items purchased are as-is. We are not responsible for accidents.

YOU MUST bring help to move large items as we DO NOT have staff to assist. All items must be removed by 2pm on Saturday. Please bring boxes and paper to pack your items. Call Donna at 270-903-7859 with questions.

examine Oliver’s injury before they had to submit their list of inactive players.

KEY NUMBER

90 — Josh Allen’s regular-season career win total, joining Russell Wilson (98), Patrick Mahomes (95) and Peyton Manning (92) as the only other players with that many in their first nine seasons.

NEXT STEPS

Rest and prepare to host the Los Angeles Chargers on Sept. 27 in the second game of a three-game homestand.



MASTER COMMISSIONER SALE
KENTUCKY HOUSING CORP. V. BRANDI J. HOUTCHEN, ET AL.
CIVIL ACTION NO. 26-CI-00804, MAP #5-12-7-12
AMOUNT OF JUDGMENT: \$112,377.33
ADDRESS: 1321 WASHINGTON AVE., OWENSBORO KY

By virtue of Judgement and Order of Sale of the Daviess Circuit Court the undersigned will, on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 10:00 AM, at the Courthouse 2nd Floor Fiscal Court Room in Owensboro, Ky., expose to PUBLIC SALE the above real estate. For a complete legal description of the property see the Court record in the Circuit Clerk’s Office.

TERMS: CASH OR 10% DOWN & BALANCE 30 DAYS. If on credit purchaser must post bond with approved surety for the balance of the purchase price, plus 6.75% interest per annum from the date of said bond. The buyer shall be responsible for the current year’s property taxes.

MASTER COMMISSIONER DAVIESS CIRCUIT COURT



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID FOR AIRPORT CASH FARM LEASE

Sealed bids will be received by the Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport Board (“Airport”) at 2200 Airport Road, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301, (270) 685-4179, not later than 2:00 p.m. local time on October 7th, 2026, for the leasing of approximately 480 acres for purposes of farming this land. Bids will be opened at 2:30 p.m. on October 7th, 2026, at the Airport offices located at 2200 Airport Road, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301. The Lease will be for an initial term of three (3) years, with options to renew for two (2) additional terms of one (1) year each. There shall be a minimum bid price of \$363.94/acre. Bidders shall submit on the Airport’s Bid Form a per acre lump sum figure for cash rent per acre paid on an annual basis, with a minimum of \$363.94/acre. The successful bidder will be required to sign a written lease substantially conforming to the form titled “Cash Farm Lease” prepared by the Airport Board. Bid Instructions, the Bid Form, the form Cash Farm Lease, and farm maps may be obtained by emailing info@owb.net or at the Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport offices located at the address above. The Owensboro-Daviess County Regional Airport Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities in said bids.

Rush to make 2nd straight start Sunday at quarterback for the Falcons

BY CHARLES ODUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Cooper Rush will make his second straight start at quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons in Sunday’s home opener against the NFC South rival Carolina Panthers, coach Kevin Stefanski announced Friday.

Rush threw two interceptions, including T.J. Watt’s pick-6 in the fourth quarter, in last week’s 20-13 opening loss at Pittsburgh. Rush completed 12 of 22 passes for 143 yards and a touchdown.

“It’s the National Football League, so you’re gonna have some plays, you’re going to have some moments, you’re going to have some times that you don’t play your best or you’re not at your best and you bounce back,” Stefanski said when asked about Rush’s potential for better results. “So I expect nothing less from our football team, not just one person.”

Rookie Jack Strand will be Atlanta’s backup. Rush, who is in his ninth



Justin Berl | Associated Press
Atlanta Falcons quarterback Cooper Rush (13) warms up with Atlanta Falcons quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (1) and Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Penix Jr. (9) behind him before an NFL football game on Sunday in Pittsburgh.

season, will be making his 18th start. He was 4-4 in eight starts with Dallas in 2024 before going 0-2 in two starts with Baltimore last season.

“If you take the totality of his work, he’s been an efficient quarterback and a guy that I really respect his game,” Panthers coach Dave Canales said Friday when asked about Rush starting. “He has been in this role at different times throughout his career where he is asked to step

in and keep the ship moving. He did that in Dallas for a while. So what I expect is a guy who is going to be ready.”

Tua Tagovailoa was named the starter at the beginning of last week but was ruled out after suffering an oblique injury three days before the game. Michael Penix Jr. also was inactive against the Steelers as he continues his recovery from a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee that ended his

2025 season.

Rush played the full game at Pittsburgh despite suffering back spasms on Saturday. It was a difficult starting assignment after not having the normal practice-week snaps with the starters. Rush downplayed the challenge as the normal life of a backup quarterback but acknowledged he’s had more time to prepare this week.

“It’s just having a better feel for some of the reads and things like that,” he said Wednesday. “It’s stuff you work on week to week. It never changes. So definitely, as you get in a groove, Week 1, you get in the next week. The next week, you try to get in a groove, and that stuff sometimes just irons itself out.”

Stefanski said Wednesday that Tagovailoa was “getting better.” Tagovailoa did not practice Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, leaving his status uncertain for Atlanta’s Week 3 game at Green Bay on Thursday night.

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