

Sports & Entertainment

NFL announces franchise and transition player designations for the 2024 season

NEW YORK — March 5, 2024 — The franchise and transition player designations were announced on March 5 for the 2024 NFL free agency signing period, which began on Wednesday, March 13.

A club can designate one “franchise” player or one “transition” player among its veteran free agents.

The salary offer by a player’s club determines whether the franchise player designation is exclusive or non-exclusive.

An “exclusive” franchise player – not free to sign with another club – is offered the greater of (i) the average of the top five salaries at the player’s position for the current year as of the end of the restricted free agent signing period on April 19; or (ii) the amount of the required tender for



a “non-exclusive” franchise player, as explained below.

Article 10, Section 2(a)(i) of the CBA sets forth the methodology, known as the “Cap Percentage Average,” for calculating the required tender for a non-exclusive franchise player:

The Nonexclusive Franchise Tender shall be a one year NFL Player Contract for (A) the average of the five largest Prior Year Salaries for players at the position . . . at which the Franchise Player participated in the most plays during the prior League Year, which average shall be cal-

culated by: (1) summing the amounts of the Franchise Tags for players at that position for the five preceding League Years; (2) dividing the resulting amount by the sum of the Salary Caps for the five preceding League Years . . . ; and (3) multiplying the resulting percentage by the Salary Cap for the upcoming League Year . . . (the “Cap Percentage Average”) . . . ; or (B) 120% of his Prior Year Salary, whichever is greater . . . .

If a club extends a required tender to a non-exclusive franchise player pursuant to this section, the player shall be permitted to negotiate a player contract with any club, except that draft choice compensation of two first-round draft selections shall be made in the event he signs with a new club.

The signing period for franchise players begins on March 13 and

ends on the Tuesday following the 10th week of the season.

This year, no player was designated as an exclusive franchise player. Eight players were designated as non-exclusive franchise players.

**Franchise and Transition Players**  
**Baltimore Ravens-** Justin Madubuike, DT; **Carolina Panthers-** Brian Burns, LB; **Chicago Bears-** Jaylon Johnson, CB; **Cincinnati Bengals-** Tee Higgins, WR; **Indianapolis Colts-** Michael Pittman, WR; **Jacksonville Jaguars -** Josh Allen, LB; **Kansas City Chiefs-** L’Jarius Sneed, CB; **Tampa Bay Buccaneers-** Antoine Winfield, S

The 2024 transition player announced at this time is: **New England Patriots**, Kyle Dugger, S.

Memphis Hustle acquires 2025 first round pick from Indiana Mad Ants for Cameron McGriff

MEMPHIS, Tenn, March 5, 2024-The Memphis Hustle announced the team acquired a 2025 first round pick from the Indiana Mad Ants for forward Cameron McGriff.

McGriff (6-7, 220) appeared in 32 games (four starts) with the Hustle this season and averaged 12.3 points and 4.5 rebounds in 21.3 minutes. The 26-year-old

has appeared in 75 games (eight starts) across two seasons with the Greensboro Swarm and Memphis Hustle and holds career averages of 11.9 points and 5.1 rebounds in 22.4 minutes.

A native of Grand Prairie, Texas, McGriff made three NBA appearances for the Portland Trail Blazers during the 2021-22 season

David Jones gets his sixth big AAC Weekly Honor Roll nod

IRVING, Texas – University of Memphis men’s basketball senior forward David Jones has been named to the American Athletic Conference (AAC) Honor Roll for the sixth time this season, the league office announced Monday. Jones helped guide the Tigers to wins at East Carolina (82-58) on Thursday and against UAB (106-87) Sunday on Senior Day. The Santo Domingo, Dom-

inican Republic native averaged 25.0 points, 9.5 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 3.0 steals this past week while shooting 47.1 percent from the floor. Jones also connected on 15-of-17 at the free throw stripe.

Against the Pirates, Jones recorded his 10th double-double of the season with 18 points and 10 rebounds while also dishing a season-high five assists with three steals.

UFL and Under Armour expand partnership with National Coalition of the Minority Football Coaches ... from sports page 1

with the Coalition, ultimately bringing more diversity, equity, and inclusion to football,” said Sean Eggert, SVP of Global Sports Marketing at Under Armour. “With the expansion of this partnership, we will provide NCMFC coaching members in each of these markets a platform to continue to build on their craft,

grow personally and professionally, and develop a network so they are in the best position to take the next step in their careers.”

During the 2024 UFL season, the selected coaches will attend all five home games in their respective markets, assisting on the sidelines and working with staff

on key projects.

“The mission of the National Coalition of Minority Football Coaches centers around the professional development of minority football coaches, which is why we are excited to expand our partnership with Under Armour and the UFL,” said Mike Lock-

sley, President and founder of NCMFC. “This unique opportunity for a minority fellowship with a professional UFL team will give our coaches the chance to gain invaluable experience as they seek to advance their careers. We know our coaches truly appreciate such a rare op-

portunity, which was apparent by the vast number of applications we received.”

For more information on the NCMFC, visit ncmfc.com.

About the United Football League  
The United Football League (UFL) is the premier spring foot-

ball platform, formed by the merging of the XFL and USFL in 2024. The UFL has eight teams in Arlington (TX), Birmingham (AL), Detroit (MI), Houston (TX), San Antonio (TX), Memphis (TN), St. Louis (MO), and Washington D.C.

Lifetime docu ‘Where is Wendy Williams?’ delivers big ratings

LOS ANGELES, CA (MARCH 1, 2024) – The self-proclaimed Queen of All Media has captured the attention of millions with the Lifetime documentary event, Where is Wendy Williams? with a linear delivery averaging 1.2 million total viewers (L+3) across the two nights. Additionally, Lifetime ranked as the Top Cable Net across the two nights in prime among W25-64 and W25-54.

Where is Wendy Williams? is Lifetime’s best new non-fiction performance in two years (since the Janet Jackson documentary) with Total Viewers, W25-64 and A25-64, beating out Lifetime’s The Prison Confessions of Gypsy Rose Blanchard which is now ranked #2 (in Live Same Day).

Additionally, Wendy Williams content on Lifetime over three nights including new doc, Wendy Williams: The Movie and the 2021 doc Wendy Williams: What a Mess! reached over 7.7 million Total Viewers. Where is Wendy Williams? accounted for 6.2 million total viewers, across linear and digital to date.

On direct to own platforms, Where is Wendy Williams? is #1 on Apple’s Top TV Charts and all 4 episodes are also holding 4 of the 10 spots on Apple’s Top TV Episode Charts. Where is Wendy Williams? is also trending as #3 on Amazon Prime Videos Top TV Purchase charts in the US. The doc is also in the Top 10 of Google/YouTube’s Top TV Charts and all 4 episodes are also holding positions #3-6 on Google/YouTube’s Top TV Episodes Charts.

On premiere night on February 24, Where is Wendy Williams? was the #1 program across all of TV in total social interactions (Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube). \*The doc was a trending topic on X for both premiere nights. Across TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter/X, the campaign garnered over 11 million video views and 688K engagements and growing.\*\* Where is Wendy Williams? is

currently available on VOD and for purchase on Prime Video or wherever you purchase your favorite series.

Over the course of nearly two years, cameras chronicled the former television host and radio star Wendy Williams on the next phase of her life, following the end of her iconic talk show. The documentary provides a raw, honest and unfiltered reality of Wendy’s life after she was placed under financial guardianship, shedding light on the vulnerabilities that have turned Wendy into the Hot Topic herself. Suffering mental and physical issues, Wendy’s delicate state of mind, erratic behavior and declining health were all captured by the cameras.

Where is Wendy Williams? is the story of Wendy’s journey to resurrect her career, and what filmmakers discovered along the way. But many questions remain - who truly has Wendy’s best interest at heart? Is she healthy now? And Where is Wendy Williams?

Throughout the airing of the program and on Lifetime’s social media platforms, Lifetime will drive messaging to mylifetime.com/WendyWilliams, directing viewers to a range of resources including the Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration, SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), NAMI for Mental Health Resources, and information and resources for Graves’ Disease and Lymphedema.

Where is Wendy Williams? is produced by Entertainment One (eOne) and Creature Films for Lifetime. Executive producers include Wendy Williams, Kevin Hunter Jr, Will Selby, Tara Long, Mark Ford, Pat Lambert and Erica Hanson who also serves as showrunner. Brie Miranda Bryant serves as executive producer for Lifetime.

\*Source: Talkwalker, 2/24/24, Linear, Live or New, Cable-National, Excluding Sports & News Specials

\*\*Source: Dash Hudson (Feb 1 – March 1)

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