

Keepers Fantasy Football XI

Super Bowl Week

(1) Showboat vs. (4) Sportsfreak

Super Bowl XI is about to get underway and if you like offense I think you will like this game! These two teams finished #1 and #2 in the league in scoring and now they meet in the Super Bowl to settle the score. Showboat is no stranger to the big stage as this is now their 3rd trip to the Super Bowl and they have a shot at becoming the third team in

league history to win back to back championships. Sportsfreak is on the other end of the spectrum as they have now been in the league from the start in 2004 and have been one of the winningst franchises in the regular season. However they could never seem to get over that hump of getting to the Super Bowl. This year however they have had a team that has been

consistently putting up big points. There were times when you wondered was this going to be another one of those years for Sportsfreak where they have a good team but they just can't pull out the big win when needed? They proved this year is different and now they find themselves a win away from their first ever Championship!

Showboat looks for # 3!

We have talked a lot about the fact that Showboat can make history with a win this week in Super Bowl XI but what we haven't talked a lot about is the team that has been doing it all season for them. This roster looks stacked as they have Romo and Rivers at the QB position who have been solid all year. Not great but these are two QB's that you can win with on a weekly basis. At running back there is not much more to say then Le'Veon Bell as so far he has been the #1 RB in the league..yes a

few points better then their opponents RB in DeMarco Murray. Lamar Miller has been average but with the year that Bell has been having average is going to get it done. Another player that they picked up late in the draft and has really been one of the keys to their success is the play of Emmanuel Sanders. He is currently the #7 WR in scoring and to complement him they have someone by the name of Calvin Johnson who to his standards has not had a great year but come championship time these are the type of guys

you want on your team. Their top 8 picks are still on their team and are a big part of them making it back to the Super Bowl. I found it interesting when looking back at last year's super bowl winning roster they entered the playoffs as the lowest scoring team in the playoffs and the #6 seed whereas this year it is the complete opposite. Interestingly enough they also had Calvin Johnson and Desean Jackson last season so they have brought back some experience now the only thing left is to win it again!

Sportsfreak Living the Dream



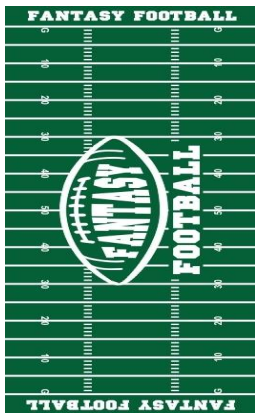
This is what Sportsfreak has been striving for the last 11 seasons and now it is finally here! They have made it to the Super Bowl! It is no secret on how they got there as they were led all season by the #2 RB in DeMarco Murray, the # 6 WR in Dez Bryant and the top QB in Andrew Luck. Right there folks is the recipe for a championship team. Anytime that you can have three players at three separate positions at or near the top you know you are going to have a

solid year. Another player that has helped them to win some games has been the play of their TE Martellus Bennett who is right now the # 4 ranked TE in the league. All these things combined and you have one of the most consistent teams in the league and the second highest scoring. Sportsfreak is coached by Craig Lindgren Jr and I know that they have been frustrated with their teams the past 5 seasons as they have failed to make it

to the playoffs in each of those seasons. I know they are excited to be in this position and I know that last's weeks win against their Arch Rival and brother BIGBOY! Was a huge win but I think they want something more this year and they have a team that is championship caliber. They are now just 1 win away from realizing their dream and getting their name engraved in that trophy! Do they have another win in them?

Exclusive Coach Interviews

Officially the start of the Super Bowl will be Saturday at 3:30PM CST and during media day we were able to catch up with both coaches, Craig Lindgren Jr and Brian Freese. Check out the unedited versions of this below:



Exclusive Interview with Sportsfreak coach Craig Lindgren Jr

Reporter: I would like to welcome to the interview room Craig Lindgren Jr the coach of Sportsfreak. Craig has been a part of the league since it started in 2004 but this will be their first trip to the Super Bowl. So Craig let's get right to this, how are you feeling about your first Super Bowl appearance and are you at all worried about first time jitters or your players getting side tracked by the bright lights of the Super Bowl?

Craig: I am a little nervous. It's a big day for me. I have been working at this for 11 years and now is my day, so I am just trying to take it all in and enjoy the week. But at the same time keep my team focused on the week to come.

Reporter: The last time you made the playoffs prior to this year was the 2008 season. Why do you think it took you so long to get back to the playoffs and what has been different about this year than in years past?

Craig: Well I think that I bring out the best in people. Teams just try a little harder when they play me. They know they are playing a top team. I had to switch up some of my coaching strategies this year to give me an upper hand. Now look where I am.

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Reporter: This year certainly wasn't a cake walk for you as you finished with a 7-6 record and lost 2 of your last 3 games to close out the year. Were you at all worried about not making the playoffs after your loss to PackMan12 in week 11?

Craig: I felt like my team was good enough to win it all and I will admit I had a little fear that something would go wrong and I wouldn't make the cut. But I told my guys to do their best and let the rest play out. That's what they did. Even with my 7-6 record I posted the 2nd highest points. I couldn't have asked for a better effort from my guys.

Reporter: I like to go back to the draft during Super Bowl week as in many cases the teams that are at this point had a solid draft. You took Dez Bryant with your #1 pick and DeMarco Murray with your #2 and obviously those two are a big reason you are here today. What was your take on them prior to the season and did you at all expect them to have the seasons they are having?

Craig: I knew my first two picks had to be the backbone of my team. As hard as it was to draft two guys from the same team and with Murray's injury problems, it was a chance I knew I had to take to get my team out of a slump. I just told myself that I need the best players that were available. Everyone knows Bryant's a beast and Murray's done everything I asked of him this year. Even with a broken hand Sunday and surgery Monday, I expect Murray to keep giving me his best so we can wrap up this year with a win.

Reporter: Let's talk a little bit about last week's win over BIGBOY! I know that this is your first Super Bowl so just getting here is a huge accomplishment however was it somewhat more satisfying knowing that you beat your little brother in the process?

Craig: I will say, I thought that the first win I had against him was such a good feeling and it was amplified when it was for a chance to play in the Super Bowl. I would almost say that was liking winning the Super Bowl. Now that I'm in the Super Bowl I can tell you there is no feeling like this.

Reporter: Sticking with that same theme, you have a number of family members in this league but yet you could be the first one in your family to win a championship and have that trophy displayed in your house for all to see. Does that at all make this game that much more meaningful?

Craig: Well, I am surprised that I didn't get a few more calls congratulating me on the big game. I'm not sure if it's just jealousy or the lack of interest when they know they won't be playing for it all. Either way I am holding them some seats so they can watch me on the big stage. Hopefully I can win the game and finally get the trophy in the Lindgren home. ☺

Reporter: Alright let's move to the game. Your opponent Showboat is the reigning champ and #1 seed. You lost to them in a shootout in the final week of the season so you know that you are going to have to put up some points to win. Who on your team is going to need to have a big game for you to win the Super Bowl?

Craig: I'm going to lean on Luck this week. I feel like if I can get some big production out of my quarterback that the rest of my team will follow. My big three... Luck, Bryant and Murray will need to put up big weeks, then I am sure to keep up with Showboat.

Reporter: Showboat has some star players on their team but who are a few players that you are most worried about leading up to the Super Bowl?

Craig: When I looked at their team I realized I am worried with about all of them. Every player on the team is projected to have over 11 points. This is a solid team. But if they put up numbers like last week I still have a chance. :)



"I will be counting on Luck, Bryant and Murray, my big three, to really step it up.

- Craig Lindgren Jr

Reporter: Staying on the subject of your opponent and as you are preparing for this matchup what have you seen that you would identify as a weakness for the Showboat squad?

Craig: I was hoping to find something, even something saying their top guys will be playing a good defense. But it's hard to find a weakness. I will just need my team to pick it up and pull out a big win.

Reporter: What would you identify as the key to you and your team winning the championship this week?

Craig: I will be counting on Luck, Bryant and Murray, my big three, to really step it up. Hopefully the rest of my team will be solid. To win a Super Bowl you need a team effort and that's what I am hoping my team will do.

Reporter: Lastly, if you could send one message to your opponent what would it be?

Craig: You better come ready to play. Remember I have 'Luck' on my side/team. :) Have a good game.



Exclusive Interview with Brian Freese coach of Showboat

Reporter: I would like to welcome to the interview room Brian Freese the coach of Showboat. Welcome back Brian! Last year at this time I was welcoming you back from a 6 year absence and now I am welcoming you back from just 12 short months ago. You obviously won the Super Bowl last year and this year your team has been at the top of the league all season including finishing as the #1 seed. You have had a long stretch at sitting atop the Fantasy world and now you are one win away from staying at the top all offseason. What have these last 12 months been like for you?

Brian: It's been like sneezing slowly for 6 hours. I mean I feel like I was born to coach football Ryan, molding these young minds..... That's what it's really about.

Reporter: I know that for you and your team it is all about winning but it is hard to not only win one championship let alone have the opportunity to win two. Is this season already a success given you are back here in the Super Bowl or will all that be void if you don't get to keep that trophy?

Brian: Ryan, when I ship this trophy back to you and it's not for the purpose of branding my name for the third time on it.... This season won't mean a thing.

Reporter: With a win this week in Super Bowl XI you would join HHH and Pack Attack as the only teams to have won two straight championships and you would join Pack Attack as the only team with three Super Bowl titles. What would that mean to you?

Brian: Everything Ryan but it won't end there. I plan on staying on top for a while and that's not a prediction but a promise. Birds gotta fly, fish gotta swim.... Brians gotta win. Simple as that.

Reporter: Let's switch gears a bit and talk a little about your team. Last week was not one of your best weeks, in fact it was the second worst week your team has had all year long. Was this a case of overlooking your opponent and looking ahead to this week's Super Bowl or is there some concerns you have coming out of this week?



"Birds gotta fly, fish gotta swim...Brians gotta win."

- Brian Freese

Brian: I will be honest I was looking past my opponent last week. Some may chastise a person for such a choice but look where I am and look where you are. In fact I am looking at my third championship and I see it being an easy battle.

Reporter: Back in early October when your team was undefeated you didn't have to look hard to find trash talking coming from Showboat, then you suffered your first loss in Week 7 and since then we haven't heard much. Any reason for this?

Brian: When I suffered my first loss this season it forced me to really examine my approach. I had to spend the time... put in the work if you will. I had no time for trash talking because big time teams know when to talk and when to work. I have my team ready and it's time to talk now. Sportsfreak is nothing and I will prove it on Sunday.

Reporter: Alright let's move on to the game at hand. You are going against a team in Sportsfreak who has scored the second most points in the league and in your last meeting it was a shootout. Who will you be counting on having a big game for you this week?

Brian: Bell & Gronk

Reporter: Let's look more closely at your opponent. They obviously got some guys that can put up some points but who are a few players on their team that you are most worried about leading up to the Super Bowl?

Brian: Luck & Jennings

Reporter: Staying on the subject of your opponent and as you are preparing for this matchup what have you seen that you would identify as a weakness for the Sportsfreak squad?

Brian: Coaching would be the first thing that comes to mind. This kid road the Cowboys offense to this point and that will ultimately be there downfall.

Reporter: What would you identify as the key to you and your team winning the championship this week?

Brian: Execute our game plan. I only know how to win.

Reporter: Lastly, If you could send one message to your opponent what would it be?

Brian: It doesn't matter what you do!



*"I have my team ready
and it's time to talk now.
Sportsfreak is nothing
and I will prove it on
Sunday"*

- Brian Freese



Keepers Fantasy Football XI



Check out the official website!

www.KeepersFantasyFootball.com

The Other Two Teams

Yes there is two other teams playing as well this week for 3rd and 4th place. PackMan12 and BIGBOY! You came close and your name is being mentioned in the Super Bowl preview so that is better than 10 other teams but if you really want to be recognized you need to get to the big one! Better luck next year gentlemen and good luck in the 3rd place game!

Who's Going to Win?

QB Position: Luck vs Romo

Romo has been solid this year but surprisingly he has struggled the most at home. Luck has been the # 1 QB all season and interestingly enough these two QB's go head to head this week. I am going to give Luck the edge.

Advantage: Sportsfreak

WR Position: Bryant - V. Jackson - J. Landry vs C. Johnson – LaFell – E. Sanders

On paper this seems like a mismatch with the season the Sanders has been having and Johnson going against the terrible Bears D. However, Sanders has been struggling the last three games only averaging 7.65pts the last three weeks and Landry has been solid the last three weeks. I do however trust Showboat's WR's a little bit more but you have to love the fact that arguably two of the top WR's in the league are going head to head this week!

Advantage: Showboat

RB Position: DeMarco Murray & CJ Spiller vs LeVeon Bell and Lamar Miller

Same thing as the WR position you are also seeing the top two fantasy RB's going head to head this week as Murray and Bell will most likely decide this one. It has to be said that you are reading this correctly that at the time of this writing CJ Spiller is the starting RB for a team in the Super Bowl. This could be one of those coaching moves we talk about after the fact as being sheer genius or on the flip side we are left saying Spiller.. "Come On.. Man"! This is a tough one to call with Murray's status but I have to go with Bell and Miller.

Advantage: Showboat

TE Position: Martellus Bennett vs Rob Gronkowski

Bennett has been really solid at the TE spot and has helped lead Sportsfreak to victory in weeks past but I am not sure what to think with the benching of Cutler and the impact this may have. Gronkowski has been the top TE once again and this pick in the draft was a gamble but one that paid off and might just lead them to a championship.

Advantage: Showboat

Flex (W/R) Position: Kenny Britt vs Desean Jackson

This is certainly the one position that I don't like for either team. Britt has potential and is capable of a big game here and there (see week 11) but overall he is inconsistent. Jackson is very similar in that he can have a 20+ game any week but he also could very easily get you that 3pt effort. I am not expecting much from either of these two players but I am going on a limb here and saying Britt outscores Jackson.

Advantage: Sportsfreak

K Position: Mason Crosby vs Patrick Murray

Crosby should have a big game if nothing else in extra points kicked.

Advantage: Sportsfreak

DEF Position: Buffalo vs Philadelphia

Buffalo against one of the worst teams in the league and a rookie QB...

Advantage: Sportsfreak

D Position: Clay Matthews vs Alec Ogletree

I have a feeling the Matthews in line for a solid game.

Advantage: Sportsfreak

Showboat is projected at a whopping 153 points this week whereas Sportsfreak is at 137. This is by far the highest projected scoring game of the season so should we expect a shootout? One would think so especially given these are the top two teams in scoring. Ok enough chatting and time to make my pick. I know that Murray is looking like he'll play this week however will he get the same workload? Britt and Spiller in starting in the Super Bowl? I have to go with the team I trust the most and that is Showboat! Look for them to make history and win their 3rd Championship and second in a row!