

Keepers Fantasy Football XV

Super Bowl Week

(4) BIGBOY! vs. (6) pack slayer

Super Bowl XV is about to get underway! BIGBOY! will be looking to defend their title while pack slayer is looking to “run the table” as the # 6 seed. If you look at the #'s it is not surprising to see both of these teams playing for a championship but if you look at the playoff seedings it is extremely unusual. These two coaches have a history of battling on and off the field

in various areas and they will be looking for the ultimate bragging rights this week by celebrating a fantasy football championship! BIGBOY! knows what that is like and wants nothing to do with losing that trophy while pack slayer knows that this is a great opportunity to ride this momentum all the way to their first ever championship. I also

wanted to look at the history of this matchup and so far the #'s are all in favor of BIGBOY! as they have won 6 of their 8 regular season meetings. They have only met once in the playoffs and that was in 2015 with BIGBOY! coming out on top. Can BIGBOY! continue their dominance or will pack slayer flip the script? I don't know about you but I am excited to find out!

BIGBOY! looks to repeat!

This has been an odd season for BIGBOY! After Week 4 and their 3rd loss of the season this was not a team that looked like they were going anywhere this season but then they pulled off the trade of the season acquiring Patrick Mahomes from Sportsfreak! Not only that, they also had the good fortune of learning that LeVeon Bell was not coming back which meant that James Conner was not going to lose any touches! Things changed dramatically for the defending champs as not only did they start winning

but they started to dominate their opponents. Before the trade, they were averaging 123ppg which isn't a bad #. However, the remaining 9 games after the trade they averaged 160ppg. It is trades such as this along with other savvy moves along the way that have BIGBOY! one win away from repeating as champions. With all that said, I think it needs to be discussed is that in the last two weeks of the playoffs BIGBOY! has been without Odell Beckham Jr and James Conner and yet here they

are in the Super Bowl. There are not many teams that can put together a roster with enough depth that can withstand winning despite not having your top WR and RB. Much less being able to do it in the playoffs! That is impressive and a testament to the type of coaching job that BIGBOY! coach Kyle Lindgren has done with his team. They have one more game left to seal the deal but they look to be confident and have a swagger about them that would seem they won't be denied!

pack slayer looks for #1!



What a roller coaster ride of a season this has been for pack slayer. They started out the season 3-0. Then they lost their next 5 games to fall to 3-5 on the season and things were looking tough. They finished off the season winning 4 of their last 5 games just to get into the playoffs and they have rode that momentum all the way to a Super Bowl berth. They have been led all year by Julio Jones and Matt Ryan but they also had quite possibly the free

agent pickup of the year in Phillip Lindsay. Lindsay currently is the #10 scoring RB in the league and over the past 5 weeks it would be hard to find a RB that has been better. As mentioned, when discussing BIGBOY! but these are the kind of moves that help win championships! Great coaches find these hidden diamonds in the rough and the coach of pack slayer is proving they are a great coach! Despite everything, despite

scratching and clawing their way to a playoff berth, despite now being in the Super Bowl. I don't think this team is getting much respect. Maybe it is because they are playing the defending champs? Maybe it is because they don't have a guy that likes ketchup and can throw no look passes? Either way, this is a team that needs to win the Super Bowl to get the respect they have earned. I look forward to seeing how this all plays out!

Exclusive Coach Interviews

Based on the lineups right now the official start of the Super Bowl will be Saturday at 7:20PM CST and during media day we were able to catch up with both coaches, Kyle Lindgren and Jared Westaby. Check out the unedited versions of their interviews below:

Exclusive Interview with pack slayer coach Jared Westaby

Reporter: I would like to welcome to the interview room Jared Westaby the coach of pack slayer. Welcome and Congratulations Jared on your first ever trip to the Super Bowl! You had to scratch and claw your way to the playoffs this year finishing just above .500 and getting the #6 seed. Tell me a little bit about those last couple of weeks and how you were feeling about your chances just to get into the playoffs?

Jared: A couple weeks ago I felt I had a good chance to make playoffs solely on matchups. Each of my guys had decent matchups to turn into big weeks and it worked out for the better.

Reporter: After you got into the playoffs did you ever think you would be where you are today? Playing for a championship?

Jared: Yes I did because I felt I had a great set of WRs that could pull through in the end. From the great words of Chris Paul, "what do u want me to say, no!?"

Reporter: You have been in this league since 2011 and you have had some success in the regular season but that has never equated to playoff success. Coming into this year you were 2-8 in playoff games. What changed this year that now has you one win away from a championship?

Jared: I feel like I had a decent recipe for draft day and we kept everyone healthy to the end of the year which is always a nice thing for our medical staff.



Reporter: When teams make it this far, I can usually look at their draft and right away get a good idea of why. You drafted Julio Jones (1st), Mike Evans (2nd) and M. Ryan (6th). These three players have been the cornerstone of your team however what is interesting is that you also drafted Derrick Henry, Sony Michel & Nick Chubb. Chubb and Michel would seem like solid late round picks, but you dropped each of them throughout the season. What was your reasoning for this? Any regrets now that you have seen the type of years they have had?

Jared: I honestly do regret dropping both Michel and Chubb. I had bye weeks play a big role in me dropping both and I started getting irritated with the lack of production and playing time that these guys were promised. Looking back, I could have easily been at the top with each of them being primary backs at this point but that's in the past.

Reporter: I can't talk about your team without bringing up that undrafted rookie, Phillip Lindsay. I think it is safe to say that you would not have been in the playoffs without the play of this rookie specifically in weeks 11-14. Tell me a little about him. What has he meant to your team and what did you see in him when you grabbed him in free agency early in the season?

Jared: I never have like Denver as a RB situation but I saw his potential coming into the draft and after a few weeks I felt he had established enough space to become the primary back.

Reporter: Your team finished with 7 wins and the #6 seed in the league but you scored the 4th most points in the league. When I evaluate teams, I first look to their points scored history but of course the league standings only care about wins and losses. Do you think because you entered as the #6 seed is the reason your team has not been getting the same amount of respect as the other teams in these playoffs?

Jared: I feel like people haven't viewed my team as a threat because no one believes in Matt Ryan as a Qb. If you look back at the year, besides I believe 2 weeks, I've averaged around 125pts which a coach can always be proud of. Sure there will be some weeks that someone goes off for the other team but I felt like that was acceptable and it obviously helped me get to where I am today.

Reporter: Of the current 14 teams in the league only 5 teams have won a championship. What would it mean for you to become the 6th team to win a championship and to do it against the defending champs in BIGBOY!?

Jared: It'd be great to be in the talks with the previous champions as I feel like my record hasn't shown how good my teams have been before but we'll have to see.

Reporter: Alright let's move on to the game at hand. You are going against a team in BIGBOY! that really since week 5 has been dominating their opponents. They are the defending champs, so they have experience on their side and they come in as the heavy favorite. How do you approach this with your team and do you like the underdog role?

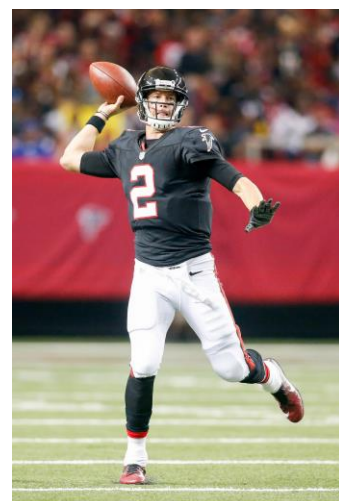
Jared: After sitting down with coach Lindgren last night I just hope both teams stay healthy for the game and produce for each of us. I feel like it doesn't matter where some teams are ranked because that's the fun in fantasy. Let's make it an interesting game.

Reporter: Your opponent BIGBOY! has some guys that can put up points in bunches. In big games you need a player or players to step up and lead their team to victory. Who are you counting on most to have a big game for you this week?

Jared: Out of all my players I hope Julio and matty ice can pull through even though they are at an away game.

Reporter: Let's look more closely at your opponent. As mentioned, they have players that could put up huge numbers at any time but who are a few players on their team that you are most worried about leading up to the Super Bowl?

Jared: I would say Mahomes because he has the potential to have an amazing game every week. Along with Aaron Donald playing a terrible Arizona team.



"Out of all my players I hope Julio and matty ice can pull through even though they are at an away game."

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"I never have like Denver as a RB situation but I saw his potential coming into the draft and after a few weeks I felt he had established enough space to become the primary back."

- Jared Westaby



"Mahomes is the heart of this team"

- Kyle Lindgren

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 BIGBOY! squad?

Jared: His WRs are pretty weak outside of Odell, but I really hope he starts Henry. He can have that 3pts I got from him at the beginning of the season

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

Jared: I think the biggest part that will help my team is the special teams aspect (kicker, def, defensive player) everywhere else is going to be a wash.

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

Jared: Start Derrick henry please.

Exclusive Interview with Kyle Lindgren coach of BIGBOY!

Reporter: I would like to welcome to the interview room Kyle Lindgren the coach of BIGBOY!. Welcome and Congratulations Kyle on your second consecutive trip to the Super Bowl! It seems like it was just yesterday that you were hoisting that Super Bowl Trophy for the first time and now here you are again! Defending that title in a fantasy football re-draft league is no easy task. How have you been able to have such great success the past couple of years?

Kyle: Couple years? I've been a pretty big name in this league since I joined. I can't tell my secrets but there's a lot of mock drafts and a lot of stats being searched.

Reporter: I am kind of a History buff when it comes to this league and there have only been 3 other teams to win back to back championships (HHH, Showboat & Pack Attack). What would it mean to you to have your name added to this list?

Kyle: It would be cool and all, but my dominance in this league speaks for itself and I don't need to repeat for people to know who's the best.

Reporter: When teams reach the Super Bowl, I always like to look to see was there a turning point along the way? Maybe an injury or a draft steal? For you, I see two.. but let's first talk about in my opinion the biggest one which is the trade to land Patrick Mahomes. It was week 4 and your team was 1-3. Since the trade your team has gone 9-2 (including the playoffs). In the trade you gave up a washed-up RB (McCoy) and a WR (Funchess) who has only scored 63 points since the trade. Give me the inside scoop on how this went down? How did you convince Sportsfreak coach to agree to this deal?

Kyle: Well you tell me early in the season you get last years #7 Fantasy RB and last years #23WR for a rookie QB who had a good start to the season? I felt like I was the one risking it all, I thought Bell was going to return and I didn't quite have a RB lined up to replace Conner, but I followed my gut and went through with the trade.. May I add I ACCEPTED THAT TRADE THAT HE SENT ME.

Reporter: There is no doubt that you would not be here today without the success of your RB's in James Conner and Christian McCaffrey. McCaffrey's production was expected as you drafted him in round 2 but tell me about Conner. What was your thought process in picking him in round 14? Did you expect this kind of production?

Kyle: I really took a lot of RBs in the draft hoping one of them was going to take a bigger role this year in production. I knew Bell was missing some of the start of the year so I took a shot to see if Conner could make his place in a starting line up.

Reporter: The injury bug has hit your team the last couple of weeks, but you have been able to win both of your playoff games without OBJ and Conner. Will those guys be ready to go this week in the Super Bowl? And if so, what kind of impact would that have on your team?

Kyle: I'm hearing good things about both of them, I think they should both be ready to go this week for the super bowl which is a huge impact. Especially since I lost Boyd this week due to injury.

Reporter: Ok, I have to ask. You picked up Derrick Henry last week on waivers and he came through in a big way by scoring 34 points. He has now scored 95 points in his past 2 games. However, prior to these two weeks he had a total of only 77 points all year! Do you trust Henry this week when everything is on the line and will he be in the starting lineup?

Kyle: He's got the torch man, he's a good running back who's going to get a lot of carries. It's hard not to play him after he helped me with my win last week.

Reporter: Alright let's move on to the game at hand. You are going against a team in pack slayer who snuck into the playoffs as the #6 seed but throughout the year they were one of the highest scoring teams in the league (finishing 4th in points scored). Your team will be favored to win this week however this isn't your average #6 seed. How do you make sure your team comes ready to play on Sunday despite being a heavy favorite?

Kyle: I don't even know half of his team. Dudes basically being carried single handedly by his kicker and defensive player.

Reporter: If the last two weeks are any indication, you are clearly going to have to put up some solid #'s in order to win this game. Who will you be counting on to have a big game for you this week?

Kyle: Mahomes is the heart of this team.

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

Kyle: Mack and Julio

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 pack slayer squad?

Kyle: His RBs are his biggest weakness

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

Kyle: Ebron and Jeffery are my wildcards, if they do good I feel like there's no stopping me.

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

Kyle: Good Luck.



"Ebron and Jeffery are my wildcards, if they do good I feel like there's no stopping me"

- Kyle Lindgren



"He's got the torch man, he's a good running back who's going to get a lot of carries. It's hard not to play him after he helped me with my win last week"

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Check out the official website!

www.KeepersFantasyFootball.com

Who's Going to Win?

So now what you have all been waiting for, who wins Super Bowl XV? Let's break down the positions:

Quarterback: *Patrick Mahomes vs Matt Ryan*

We have talked a lot about Mahomes leading up to this Super Bowl and then now while here in the Super Bowl. I do think that if you are pack slayer you have to like that Mahomes is going against a solid Seattle D in Seattle but I just can't pick against him right now. I am going to give the QB edge to **BIGBOY!**

Wide Receivers: *OBJ, A. Jeffery & A. Humphries vs M. Evans, J. Jones & J. Edelman*

There is still some question marks this week around whether or not Odell will be able to play and that just makes this an even easier pick. Julio & Evans certainly give **pack slayer** the edge here.

Running Backs: *C. McCaffrey & D. Henry vs P. Lindsay & L. Miller*

I have loved watching McCaffrey all season. He has been one of the more consistent backs in the league this year. Lindsay has been one of the biggest surprises in all of fantasy football and certainly at the RB position. Lindsay should run wild against Oakland but I also like Henry again this week against WSH. I am going to go with **BIGBOY!** to have a slight edge at the RB spot.

Tight Ends: *E Ebron vs K. Rudolph*

Tight Ends are always one of the harder ones to diagnose especially since these two teams do not have the Kelce and Ertz of the world on their teams. I do however think this is an easy one to pick as Ebron has had a really solid season at the TE position and I expect him to keep it going this week against the Giants. **BIGBOY!** has the advantage at the TE spot.

FLEX: *J. Conner / TBD vs. D. Hamilton*

The fact that I don't know if Conner starts makes this one hard to pick. However, based on the rosters I have a good idea who will take Conner's place if he can't go. Hamilton isn't anything special but has been solid the last two weeks. I don't think Conner goes so I need to give this one to **pack slayer**.

Kicker: *M. Badgley vs K. Fairbairn*

Not much to talk about as they are kickers but I think Fairbairn and **pack slayer** win this one!

Team Defense: *Indianapolis vs Minnesota*

After what happened last week. Give me Indy and **BIGBOY!** with the advantage here.

Defensive Player: *A. Donald vs K. Mack*

These are two very dominant players however I think Mack is the more consistent and more potential to have a big game this week. Mack and **pack slayer** win this one.

The Verdict:

A to Z **BIGBOY!** has the better and more dangerous roster. However, they are dealing with injuries at the worst possible time. They have however proven that they can win no matter the situation or injury. Pack slayer is fully healthy and is now just needing to worry about starting the right 11. The injuries scare me in this one for **BIGBOY!** and I can't help but keep looking at the WR position. In my opinion that is going to decide this Super Bowl. If **BIGBOY!**'s set of WR's can come close to matching pack slayer then I think they win. If not, then I think pack slayer wins. Right now, I don't see **BIGBOY!** staying close enough and I am picking pack slayer to join the Championship club by knocking off the defending champs!