

12/25/2020

# Keepers Fantasy Football XVII

## Super Bowl Week

### (1) U Don't Know vs. (3) Bossman

Super Bowl XVII is set and we are about ready to get underway. Wow how time flies! Given how things looked prior to the season starting no one really knew if we would ever get this far or if COVID would cause cancellations or worst shut downs. It didn't and here we are about ready to crown a new champion. The storylines are simple in this one as you have a

Bossman team who seems to be a regular in the playoffs and a U Don't Know team that just hasn't quite been able to figure out a way to have consistent success. At the end of the day, you throw all that out the window when game time comes as both of these teams have earned the right to be here battling for a championship! The best part about this game is

that I would be shocked if we see a low scoring defensive struggle. These teams finished as the #1 and #3 scoring teams in the league and they scored within 5 points of each other! Will Bossman revenge last seasons Super Bowl loss or will U Don't Know get their name on that trophy for the very first time! I am looking forward to what should be a great game!

### Bossman still looking for #3!

Bossman continues to add to their legacy as one of the top teams in the league. This season they did what no other team has done before and made their way back to the Super Bowl a year after losing in the Super Bowl. For a team such as Bossman they are not satisfied with just making the Super Bowl but they are here to win championships and set records along the way. With their two wins in this years playoffs that now brings their playoff win total to 16 games which is tied for the most playoff wins all time! A win here in the Super Bowl will give them

the most playoff wins of all time and move them to the best post season winning percentage of any active team. In addition, getting their third championship would move them to having the second most championships of all time! In other words, this is already one of the top teams in the league but a win here and getting their third championship would make a strong argument for this team being the best of all time through 17 seasons! On the flip side, if they lose this one that will move their Super Bowl record to 2-3 and

well some of these historical items won't look so great without finishing this season off with that championship. Bossman finished off this season as the top scoring team in the league! Why is that significant? Bossman has finished the regular season as the top scoring team two times in their career (2008 and 2015 seasons). Both of those seasons finished with Bossman winning the championship! I know they are hoping to make that 3 for 3 after this week! This is a hard team to beat in the playoffs and I expect a good performance from them

## U Don't Know Seeking their First Ever Title!



U Don't Know finished off this season exactly where you want to be, the #1 overall team in the league! All that doesn't mean much unless they win the championship however historically speaking with the season they have they would be a heavy favorite to win it all. U Don't Know has been in the league since 2006 but they have not had the success they expected to have since joining the league. They made the

playoffs and Super Bowl in their second year in the league however prior to this season they had only made the playoffs one other time and that was two years ago (2018 season). Something seemed to change after that 2018 season and playoff run as they have had now three straight winning seasons and they are one win away from their first ever championship. Bossman has a lot of regular season

accolades to talk about but the fact of the matter is if U Don't Know beats them and gets this Super Bowl championship, they will be one win behind them in the category that matters the most and that is championships! U Don't Know started off the season 6-0 and it was obvious at that time that barring injury this was going to be a championship caliber team. They avoided the injury bug for the most part and are now looking to get their first ever Super Bowl win!

### Exclusive Coach Interviews

The official start of the Super Bowl will be on Christmas day at 3:30PM CST and during media day we were able to catch up with both coaches, Steve Boss and Nohal Mechelke. Check out the unedited versions of their interviews below:

#### Interview with Bossman coach Steve Boss

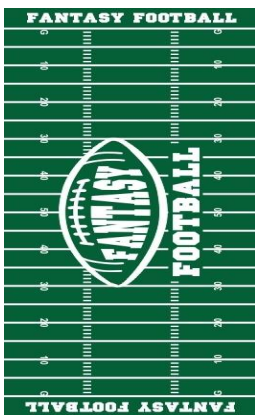
**Reporter:** I would like to welcome to the interview room Steve Boss the coach of Bossman. Welcome and congratulations Steve on making another trip to the Super Bowl! It seems like it was just yesterday that you were in this exact position. How does it feel to be in back-to-back Super Bowls?

**Steve:** It's a big "pat-on-the-back" for all of those games where I was able to find a diamond in the rough off waivers! That has been my ticket to getting to this point! *"If the Super Bowl is really the ultimate game, why do they play it again next year?"* ~ Duane Thomas

**Reporter:** You just did something no team has ever done before which is make it back to the Super Bowl the year after losing the big game. Was that blowout loss in last years Super Bowl a motivating factor for this year?

**Steve:** There comes a point in every man's life where you start to hear everyone call their favorite players old & all of a sudden it hits you & you realize that they are still younger than you! At this point in my career, it's all about the record books. I love hearing "no team has ever done before"! That's what motivates me. *"Not only does he have the NFC East record for touchdowns, but also the team record."* ~ Emmitt Smith

**Reporter:** We talked about this a bit last year but your Bossman team is known as one of the top franchises in the league. You have made the playoffs in now 9 of your 15 years in the league, have now made 5 Super Bowls and have two championships. In a 14 team re-draft league that level of consistency is difficult to maintain. Any secrets or tips that you can share with how you are able to play at such a high level each and every year?



**Steve:** I already pointed out to the whole league on Facebook that those teams with a custom logo were in the top half of the standings & those without one are in the bottom half of the standings. What more do you want from me? *"Nobody in football should be called a genius. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."* ~ Joe Theismann

**Reporter:** Let's talk a bit about the draft. You have had a lot of success but having a high draft pick has not been the reason. In your previous two championships you drafted #8 and #15. This year you drafted at #11. Do you just at this point go into your offseason and pre-draft work preparing that you will be drafting in the bottom rounds?

**Steve:** I guess the takeaway here is that drafts may not actually matter that much. I pre-ranked my players, but was on a family vacation in Yellowstone so let the computer pick for me! *"It's almost exciting to think about all the room for improvement that we have."* ~ Geno Smith

**Reporter:** On draft night you took Dalvin Cook at #11 which was a great pick as he turned out to be the top RB in the league? I can't help but wonder if he fell a bit in the draft due to the fact he plays against the hated Vikings. Did you ever consider not picking him at #11 just because you did not want to root for a Vikings player?

**Steve:** Another good thing about Autodraft is it doesn't allow you to get sucked into biases based on your real life favorite teams!  
*"People say I'll be drafted in the first round, maybe even higher!"* ~ Craig Heyward

**Reporter:** There is one similarity between this year and last year's teams and that is you had Austin Ekeler on both teams. This year you drafted him in the second round and even though he was hurt for a large majority of the season he is back now at the most important time. What is it that you like so much about Ekeler that you wanted him back on this year's team and you were willing to draft him so high?

**Steve:** Given the Autodraft, maybe the bigger question is why didn't other teams think much of him? If he has a dud of a game this week, everyone will be telling me "I told you so!"  
*"I've been big ever since I was little."* ~ William Reffridgerator Perry

**Reporter:** This is a team game and it takes a great team to get this far but if I made you pick one player (which I am), who has been your MVP so far this season?

**Steve:** No question, Josh Allen taken in the 7th round of the draft & now with the 2nd most Fantasy points of all QB's!  
*"Sure, luck means a lot in football. Not having a good quarterback is bad luck."* ~ Don Shula

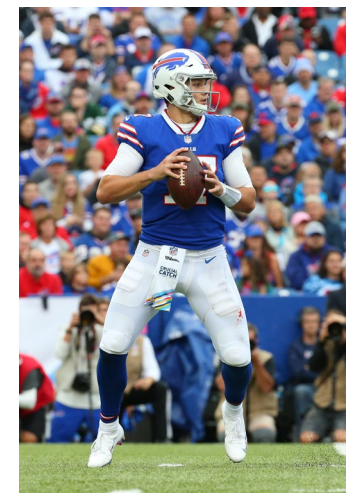
**Reporter:** You won convincingly last week but that was not the case in the Wild card round the week before. I am just curious how you were feeling knowing your game against teamAlaska was going to come down to Josh Allen on Sunday night football. Any doubts?

**Steve:** I had a bad feeling about that one going into the game. I was kicking myself for not finding a way to win 1 more game to earn that 1st round bye. I couldn't really even pay attention to how I was doing because I was sure that I was going to lose!  
*"I have 2 weapons; my arms, my legs & my brain!"* ~ Michael Vick

**Reporter:** Your opponent this week, U Don't Know has not had that many playoff appearances. In Comparison, your team has had more Super Bowl Appearances (5) then U Don't Know has had playoff appearances (3). Do you think that your experience in the big game will be a factor this week?

**Steve:** Instead of U Don't Know, it's I Don't Know. I'd really like to come up with a 3rd WR, TE & a DEF, and looking at waivers, I'm not sure how I'm going to pull this one off!  
*"Men, I want you just thinking of one word all season. One word and one word only: Super Bowl."* ~ Bill Peterson

**Reporter:** This is changing the subject a bit but I recall at one point in the season when games were cancelled / rescheduled due to COVID you stated that managing your team was almost as hard as managing your baseball team (which finished in last place this year). Do you feel like this has been one of the more challenging years to manage your team?



*"J. Allen taken in the 7<sup>th</sup> round of the draft and now with the 2<sup>nd</sup> most Fantasy points of all QB's!"*

- Steve Boss



*"Allen, Ridley & Cook!  
They all have tough  
matchups & I'm not  
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- Steve Boss



*"For the record, I think  
you win this week! I'm  
already hearing those  
comparisons to the 90's  
Buffalo Bills."*

- Steve Boss

**Steve:** This was probably the most unenjoyable year in the league for me. I just don't like to dedicate that much time to it. I even record the Packers games so I don't have to waste my time on commercials. So instead of just checking waivers on Tuesday nights & looking at injuries on Sunday mornings, I had to check my team much more often than that & I hated it! *"Uh, playoffs???* Playoffs!? Don't talk about playoffs! You kidding me? Playoffs? I just hope we can win another game!" ~ Jim Mora

**Reporter:** Alright back to the game. In big games like this 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?

**Steve:** Allen, Ridley & Cook! They all have tough matchups & I'm not confident at all this week.

*"We can't run. We can't pass. We can't stop the run. We can't stop the pass. We can't kick. Other than that, we're just not a very good football team right now."* ~ Bruce Coslet

**Reporter:** Let's take a bit closer look at your opponent. U Don't Know has some major playmakers on their team who are capable of a HUGE game at any moment. Who on their team are you most worried about leading up to the Super Bowl?

**Steve:** I'm just going to focus on my real life fandom. I hope Aaron Jones has a huge game, instead of Aaron Rodgers, & the Packers eat up a lot of game clock keeping the ball out of D Henry's hands.

*"I want to rush for 1,000 or 1,500 yards, whichever comes first."* ~ George Rogers

**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 U Don't Know squad?

**Steve:** I know about having WR heavy lineups as well as anyone in this league & the swings from week to week can be huge. Maybe consistency from my RB heavy lineup will pay off this week? *"Hawaii doesn't win many games in the United States."* ~ Lee Corso

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

**Steve:** I don't like the position I'm in. I'm leaning heavily on a few players with tough matchups to have a breakout game, when their team hopes for the year are dwindling. *"You don't have to win it. Just don't loe it."* ~ Ray Lewis

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

**Steve:** For the record, I think you win this week! I'm already hearing those comparisons to the 90's Buffalo Bills.

*"I feel like I'm the best, but you're not going to get me to say that."* ~ Jerry Rice

**Reporter:** Thanks Steve for your time and good luck in the Super Bowl!

# Interview with U Don't Know coach Nohal Mechelke!

**Reporter:** I would like to welcome to the interview room Nohal Mechelke the coach of U Don't Know. Welcome and Congratulations Nohal on a great season! It has been awhile but you are back! How does it feel to be back in the Super Bowl, your first since the 2007 season?

**Nohal:** Its been a long road. As most professionals know getting to the big game is so hard to do as there are so many factors that contribute to wins and losses. This is one is bitter sweet and im just enjoying the ride.

**Reporter:** You had a great season and were able to finish it off with the #1 overall seed and a first round bye. Did you do anything or was there anything different this year than previous years that lead to the success you are having?

**Nohal:** I always try to maximize talent in the draft, I took a strategy to draft a full time RB then hold off on a QB until later rounds and pick up some value add roles through two Rookies (Taylor and Lamb) who I knew would start as well as one DK Metcalf who had a strong previous year. It paid off this year some years it doesn't pay off.

**Reporter:** As I mentioned, the 2007 season was the last time you made it to the Super Bowl but unfortunately you lost in that one. Given that you never really know when we will be back in this position again how important is it for you to get this first championship and get your name on that trophy?

**Nohal:** Its less about me and more about my team. I want to win it for them.

**Reporter:** This has been a year unlike any other with COVID and the shifting of schedules / games and yet you only had a total of 9 "Moves" all season which was the fewest in the league. To put that into perspective the team with the most had 62 moves. Were you just that confident in the guys that you had or what attributed to the lack of moves?

**Nohal:** Yes, I had a couple of injuries and took some gambles, but to me I stayed to my core team.

**Reporter:** Along those same lines, when a team gets this far I always like to look at the draft and you hit some homeruns but I think the biggest was your picks in the 4th and 5th rounds where you drafted DK Metcalf and Stefon Diggs. They both outplayed their draft positions and finished as top 5 WR's. Did you have a higher grade on both of these players then most or was it just the way the draft worked out?

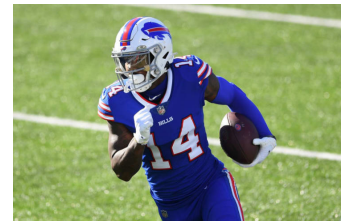
**Nohal:** Diggs was MNs best receiver when he was traded and DK is who I really wanted from the start. It just played out that they were there. My steal was really Rodgers.

**Reporter:** I think it is clear that both Diggs and Metcalf were big in getting you to this point and of course you wouldn't be here without the play of D. Henry but who else on your team has been a key to you making it to now one win away from a championship?

**Nohal:** Rodgers, for sure but Johnathan and CeeDee have come up big. IF Dak doesn't get hurt CeeDee would have a more impressive year.

**Reporter:** There is something that gets talked about all the time and it is playoff experience. You have very little experience but your opponent in Bossman has a lot and seemingly is in the playoffs every year. Do you think that will play a factor in this week's game?

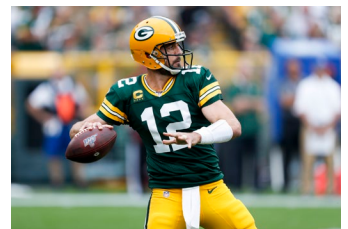
**Nohal:** Who's Bossman?



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*"Diggs was MNs best receiver when he was traded and DK is who I really wanted from the start."*

- Nohal Mechelke



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*"My steal was really Rodgers."*

- Nohal Mechelke

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*“my team is playing loose and this week’s matchups are favorable”*

- Nohal Mechelke

**Reporter:** I like looking back at history and the #1 overall seed in the playoffs wins the championship 50% of the time. Only one time as a #3 overall seed (Like Bossman is) has won the Super Bowl. Knowing this do you think it adds more pressure to your team or does it make you feel more confident going into this weeks championship game?

**Nohal:** Honestly my team is playing loose and this week’s matchups are favorable.

**Reporter:** Alright this doesn’t have anything to do with the Super Bowl but I have to ask. What’s up with the team name? Where did that come from and don’t tell me U Don’t Know.

**Nohal:** In 1999 I was starting a softball team and had to come up with a name. I thought it would be fun to play off words so that the opponent who we were playing would say to each other...”Who are we playing?” and the response would be “U don’t know?” and the next response would be no I don’t that why im asking.... The name stuck and it did confuse people all the time.

**Reporter:** Back to the game, your opponent Bossman was the highest scoring team in the regular season and that has carried over to their two games in the postseason which means you are going to need a good scoring game. Who will you be counting on to have a big game for you this week?

**Nohal:** This might be the biggest total I put up, since the other playoffs are at stake. There is no I in team

**Reporter:** Let’s look more closely at your opponent. You don’t make it this far without having 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?

**Nohal:** Love Cook- great back and really like Josh Allen.

**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 Bossman squad?

**Nohal:** Their Leadership

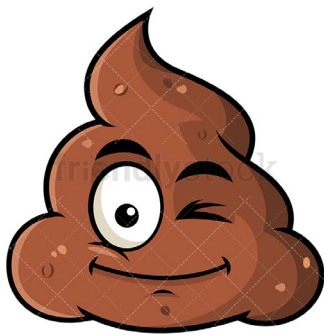
**Reporter:** What would you identify as the key to you and your team winning the championship this week?

**Nohal:** Greenbay’s Defense and Offense

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

**Nohal:** Poop emoji followed by a wink face.

**Reporter:** Thanks for your time Nohal and good luck in the Super Bowl.



*“Poop emoji followed by a wink face.”*

- Nohal Mechelke

# Who's Going to Win?

## Keepers Fantasy Football XVII



Check out the official website!

[www.KeepersFantasyFootball.com](http://www.KeepersFantasyFootball.com)

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

### Quarterback: *Josh Allen vs Aaron Rodgers*

This is a great matchup. J. Allen is coming off one of his best games of the year while A. Rodgers is coming off one of his worst from a fantasy perspective. This one is really close and I could see it going either way but Allen against NE D vs Rodgers against the Titans D. I am going with **U Don't Know** and Rodgers with the slight edge in this one.

### Wide Receivers: *C. Ridley, R. Woods & R. Gage vs DK Metcalf, C. Lamb & S. Diggs*

U Don't Know has been winning this category for most of the year and Bossman has a player in C. Ridley who is capable of a 30+ point game any week. Two interesting things in this one. #1 – Bossman is starting not one but two Atlanta WR's, This one will be interesting to see how it works out in the end. #2 – J. Allen for Bossman will be throwing to S. Diggs for U Don't Know. This usually benefits the WR and I think that gives **U Don't Know** the edge in this one as well.

### Running Backs: *D. Cook & A. Ekeler vs D. Henry & J. Taylor*

Bossman has had great RB's in their back to back Super Bowl appearances. Last season they only got 20 points out of this position and in order for them to win this week I think they may need closer to 40. U Don't Know has Henry who is a 40 point game waitin to happen but Bossman can counter that with Cook. I think **Bossman** wins this position.

### Tight Ends: *TJ Hockenson vs E. Engram*

This is a matchup of apparently the top two TE's in the NFC as these are the two NFC pro bowlers. This has the potential to be interesting but I expect Hockenson and **U Don't Know** to win here. This may be one of those that Bossman needs to find a way to sneak out a win in order to get the overall win!

### FLEX: *J. McKissic vs M. Evans*

McKissic has had his moments this season for Bossman and just the fact that he is being started with the championship on the line tells you everything you need to know. However, M. Evans is still one of the top targets in a TB offense that I expect will put up some points this week. I think **U Don't Know** wins this one rather easily.

### Kicker: *H Butker vs R. Blankenship*

Butker is one of the best Kickers in the league and I expect a lot of points scored in their game. I will give the edge to **Bossman** here.

### Team Defense: *Arizona vs Tampa Bay*

I don't really love either of these defenses as it seems like they will both finish around 5 to 8 points but since I have to pick I like Tampa's D better this week and give the edge to **U Don't Know**.

### Defensive Player: *B. Baker vs A. Donald*

A. Donald is always a force to be reckoned with but I like Bossman's idea of going all in on the Arizona D by starting B. Baker. Baker is kind of a hit or miss type of start where Donald usually is more consistent. I think Donald and **U Don't Know** wins this one.

### **The Verdict:**

U Don't Know is the #1 overall seed and they are the favorite here. The matchups look good for them but I see this being a close game. Bossman is going to need some of their non superstars like E. Engram or J. McKissic to come up big for them to have a chance. For picking purposes, I think **U Don't Know** has too many weapons and they will prove that again this week and get their first ever championship!

Good Luck to both U Don't Know and Bossman and Merry Christmas Everyone!