

## Players to watch:

### **QB Chad Jeffries:**

Chad Jeffries, born on December 25th, 1992, in Glendora, USA, has carved a remarkable path in the world of football. His journey began at Glendora High School, where he showcased his talent as a quarterback for the Tartans from 2007 to 2010. Jeffries continued his football career at San Diego University, followed by Azusa Pacific University, where he made significant contributions to the Cougars from 2011 to 2016. In 2017, Jeffries ventured overseas to join the Marburg Mercenaries, marking the beginning of his international football experience. He then found success with the Danube Dragons from 2018 to 2022, where he established himself as a top quarterback in the Austrian Football League (AFL). Throughout his career, Jeffries has garnered numerous accolades, including High School League Offense MVP and USC Nike Camp MVP. He has also been recognized for his exceptional performance on the field, earning honors such as College All-Conference selections and the AFL MVP award in 2022.

Jeffries' achievements extend beyond individual recognition, as he has been instrumental in leading his teams to success. He played a pivotal role in securing College Conference Championships in 2014 and 2016, as well as capturing the Austrian Bowl Championship in 2022 with the Danube Dragons. In his first ELF-Season Chad Jeffries' outstanding play has earned him nominations for both the MVP Award and the All-Star Second Team, reflecting his significant contributions to his teams' success.

**Last season's stats:** 3535 Passing yards, 30 TDs, 5 INT, 69,85% Completion perc.

### **RB Tomiwa Oyewo:**

Tomiwa Oyewo, born on February 6, 1999, is a versatile Running Back hailing from Ireland and Nigeria. His football journey began with the Edenderry Eagles/Cill Dara Crusaders before he made waves in the German football scene.

In 2022, Oyewo showcased his skills with the Allgäu Comets before finding a new home with the Munich Ravens in 2023. Throughout his career, Oyewo has achieved notable success, including winning the Irish Championship in 2019. Although he has not received individual awards, his impact on the field speaks for itself. His statistics highlight his effectiveness as a Running Back, with impressive performances in both rushing and receiving. In 2022, he recorded 54 attempts for 381 net yards and 1 touchdown, along with 34 receptions for 458 yards and 5 touchdowns in 12 GFL games. In 2023, he continued to shine, amassing 170 attempts for 1102 yards and 14 touchdowns in 12 ELF games. Beyond football, Oyewo holds a Bachelor's degree in Pharmaceutical Science from the Technological University Dublin, showcasing his dedication to both academics and athletics. He is also a versatile player, having previously played as a Safety and Wide Receiver in Ireland.

Additionally, Oyewo represents the Irish National Team, the Wolfhounds, further demonstrating his talent and commitment to the sport at an international level. With his skills, versatility, and academic background, Oyewo is a valuable asset to any team he represents,

and his contributions continue to make an impact on the field.

**Last season's stats:** 170 Att, 1102 Rushing yards, 14 TDs, 5 fumbles

#### **WR Marvin Rutsch:**

Born on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1998, in Minden, Rutsch began playing football in 2013 for the Munich Rangers, where he started out as a running back and later joined the Munich Cowboys. He also was part of the Bavarian youth All-State team. Rutsch joined the Marburg Mercenaries in 2018 and had 34 receptions for 346 yards and three touchdowns.

After recording 1018 receiving yards and 3 total touchdowns in 2019, Rutsch was signed by the Frankfurt Universe for the 2020 season. After the season was cancelled due to COVID-19, the Bavarian native decided to stay in Frankfurt and joined the Galaxy in 2021. He recorded 82 receptions for 775 yards and 7 touchdowns in two seasons with the Frankfurt Galaxy. Ergänze:

Since last season, Rutsch has been playing for the Munich Ravens. In his debut season with the team, he showcased his talent alongside quarterback Jeffries, earning him a spot on the All-Star Second Team, just like his quarterback.

**Last seasons's stats:** 76 rec, 708 Receiving yards, 3 TDs in 12 Games

#### **WR Jon Cole:**

Jon Cole is a standout player in the German football scene, known for his versatility and multifaceted skill set. Last season, he tallied over 2,000 yards and 31 touchdowns for the Kirchdorf Wildcats, significantly contributing to the team's promotion to the German Football League (GFL). His versatility makes him a unique player who can shine as a receiver, running back, returner, and even quarterback. Sean Shelton, the Sports Director of the Munich Ravens, describes Cole as a "Swiss Army knife" due to his abilities across various positions.

During his time with the Wildcats, he delivered impressive performances, catching over 40 passes for over 1,100 yards and scoring 15 touchdowns. As a running back, he carried the ball over 40 times for over 450 yards and 7 touchdowns. Additionally, his skills as a returner were evident, with 8 kickoff returns for 300 yards and a touchdown, along with 8 punt returns for 200 yards and a touchdown. Even as a quarterback, he completed 24 passes for over 350 yards, tallying 5 touchdowns and 2 interceptions.

His college career was equally remarkable. Cole played at Arizona Christian University, where he earned All-American honors twice and was named Conference Player of the Year twice. He led the college league in receiving and all-purpose yards and left Arizona Christian as the most successful wide receiver in school history. Before Arizona Christian, he played at Pima Community College, where he led the team in receiving in his second year.

#### **OG Leander Wiegand:**

Leander Wiegand, born on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1999, in Henstedt-Ulzburg, Germany. His football journey began with the AFC Aachen Vampires from 2018 to 2019, where he showcased his talent as an offensive guard. In 2021, Wiegand ventured to the United States to join the University of Central Florida Knights, demonstrating his versatility and commitment to the sport. Despite facing challenges, including limited in-person exposure to coaches due to the pandemic, Wiegand's talent shone through, earning him a full scholarship.

After his collegiate stint, Wiegand returned to Germany to continue his football career, joining the Cologne Centurions in 2022 and later the Rhein Fire in 2023. His contributions on the field did not go unnoticed, as evidenced by his selection to the ELF All-Star First Team in 2023 and his pivotal role in helping the Rhein Fire secure the ELF Championship in the same year. Off the field, Wiegand is known for his dedication to training and his determination to overcome obstacles. He participated in the NFL International Combine in both 2022 and 2023, showcasing his strength and athleticism with impressive results.

**DT Evans Yeboah:**

Evans Yeboah, born on December 23rd, 1993, in Accra, Ghana. His journey began with the Berlin Bears in 2017, where he quickly made a name for himself as a formidable defensive tackle. Yeboah continued to excel, joining the New Yorker Lions in 2019 and contributing significantly to their success, including winning the German Bowl Championship in the same year. His prowess on the field earned him recognition, leading to an invitation to the NFL International Combine in 2019.

In 2021, Yeboah further showcased his skills with the Hamburg Sea Devils, earning a spot on the ELF All-Star Team. His impactful performance included 30 tackles, 12.0 tackles for loss, 4.5 sacks, and notable contributions in interceptions and pass break-ups during the regular season.

**Last season's stats:** 40 tackles, 8 sacks, 14.5 TFL, 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery

**DT Hiswill Awuah:**

Hiswill Awuah, born on August 14, 2000, in Hamburg, Germany, is a formidable Defensive Tackle/Nose Guard renowned for his strength and agility on the field. His football journey began with the Hamburg Huskies, where he honed his skills from 2015 to 2020, before joining the Hamburg Sea Devils from 2021 to 2023. In 2024, Awuah embarked on a new chapter in his career by joining the Munich Ravens, where he continues to showcase his talent and contribute to the team's success. Throughout his career, Awuah has achieved notable success, including winning the Nordmeistertitel GFL Juniors in 2018 and earning recognition as Team Rookie of the Year in 2021. His impact on the field is evident in his impressive statistics, such as recording 20 tackles, 3.5 sacks, and 2 fumble recoveries in 12 ELF games in 2022.

**Last season's stats:** 33 tackles, 4 sacks, 6.5 TFL, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery

**DE Johannes Zirngibl:**

Johannes Zirngibl, born on February 3, 1999, in Landau an der Isar, Germany, is a formidable Defensive End known for his imposing presence on the field. His football journey began with the Plattling Black Hawks in 2017, followed by stints with the Ingolstadt Dukes and the New Mexico Military Institute Broncos in 2018, before finding a home with the Straubing Spiders from 2019 to 2022. In 2023, Zirngibl joined the Munich Ravens, where he continues to make a significant impact with his exceptional skills and relentless determination.

Throughout his career, Zirngibl has achieved notable success, including winning the GFL 2 Süd Championship in 2021 and earning recognition as a CFL Global Combine Invitee in 2019. He further solidified his reputation as a top-tier player by being named to the GFL All-Star Team in 2022 and receiving the Team Defensive Player of the Year award in 2023. His on-field performance speaks volumes, with impressive statistics such as 59 tackles, 14 tackles for loss, four sacks, and three pass break-ups in eleven GFL games in 2022. In

2023, he continued to excel with 47 tackles, 16 tackles for loss, 5.5 sacks, three fumble recoveries, one forced fumble, three pass break-ups, and even contributing a touchdown in eleven ELF games.

Beyond his achievements on the field, Zirngibl is a dedicated professional, working as a metallurgist, and hails from Deggendorf. His athleticism transcends football, as he was previously active in soccer before finding his calling in the gridiron.

**Last season's stats:** 47 tackles, 5.5 sacks, 16 TFL, 1 forced fumble, 3 fumble recoveries

#### **LB Wael Nasri:**

Wael Nasri, born on November 5th, 1997, in France, has emerged as a standout linebacker with a diverse background in football. His journey began with the Giants de Saint-Etienne Juniors, where he honed his skills before progressing to senior-level football with the Giants de Saint-Etienne in 2015.

Nasri's football journey took him across various teams and countries, including stints with the Falcons de Bron-Villeurbanne, Cégep de Lévis-Lauzon, Spartiates du Cégep du Vieux Montréal, and Concordia University Stingers. His versatility was further showcased when he played for the Triangle Razorbacks in 2020. In 2021, Nasri made his mark in the European League of Football (ELF) as a member of the Berlin Thunder, where he earned accolades such as the ELF Tackle Leader and a spot on the ELF All-Star Team. His exceptional performance included recording 141 tackles, 11 tackles for loss, four sacks, and two pass break-ups in ten ELF games.

Transitioning to the Frankfurt Galaxy in 2022, Nasri continued to excel, leading the team with 81 tackles and contributing significantly to their defensive efforts. Now, as a key member of the Munich Ravens since 2024, Nasri brings a wealth of experience, leadership, and playmaking ability to the team's defense.

**Last season's stats:** 87 tackles, 3 sacks, 5.5 TFL, 1 INT

#### **CB Karim Ben El Ghali:**

Karim Ben El Ghali, born on October 17th, 2000, in Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Germany, has made significant contributions to the football scene with his exceptional skills as a cornerback. His football journey began with the Franken Knights, where he showcased his talent before joining the Schwäbisch Hall Unicorns from 2018 to 2021. During his time with the Unicorns, El Ghali established himself as a formidable force in the secondary, earning accolades such as the Team Defense MVP in 2017. His commitment to excellence contributed to the team's success, including winning the Südmeistertitel GFL Juniors in 2019 and the CEFL Bowl Championship in 2021. El Ghali continued to excel when he joined the Frankfurt Galaxy in 2022, where he showcased his versatility and playmaking ability. His outstanding performance earned him a spot in the ELF All-Star First Team during his tenure with the Galaxy.

Transitioning to the Munich Ravens in 2024, El Ghali brings a wealth of experience and skill to the team's defense. His dedication to the game and leadership qualities make him a valuable asset to any team he represents. Additionally, he cites the late Kobe Bryant as a source of inspiration, embodying the spirit of excellence and determination in his athletic pursuits.

**Last season's stats:** 9 tackles, 1 pass break-up

#### **DB Darius Saint-Robinson:**

Darius Saint-Robinson, born on November 17th, 1991, in College Park, USA, is a seasoned defensive back with a wealth of experience in football. His journey began at North Clayton High School, where he demonstrated his athleticism and talent on the field. He continued to excel at Westlake High School before earning a scholarship to play for the Clemson Tigers from 2010 to 2013. During his collegiate career, Saint-Robinson played a pivotal role in Clemson's success, contributing to conference and bowl championships. His exceptional performance on the field earned him recognition as a High School All-American and later as a key player in college football.

Following his time at Clemson, Saint-Robinson pursued opportunities in the professional ranks, briefly joining the Buffalo Bills in 2014 before transitioning to the European football scene. He found success with teams like the New Yorker Lions, Swarco Raiders Tirol, and Las Rozas Black Demons, showcasing his versatility and skill set. Saint-Robinson's contributions to his teams have been invaluable, earning him accolades such as the CEFL Bowl MVP and recognition on AFI's All-Europe Team. His talent and leadership qualities have made him a valuable asset wherever he plays.

Since joining the Munich Ravens in 2023, Saint-Robinson has continued to make an impact on the field, solidifying his reputation as a reliable and talented defensive back. Despite facing challenges such as injuries, his dedication to the game remains unwavering, and he continues to be a key contributor to his team's success.

#### **DB Joshua Flowers:**

Joshua Flowers, born on June 15th, 1998, in Willingboro, USA, is a standout football player known for his prowess as a defensive back. His journey in football began at Lenape High School, where he showcased his talent both as a wide receiver and a defensive back, earning All-Conference honors in both positions. After high school, Flowers continued to excel in football, playing for Long Island University and later Salem State University. At Salem State, he earned recognition as a Second Team All-CIAA player, demonstrating his skills and versatility on the field. In 2022, Flowers reached a significant milestone in his career when he signed with the Jacksonville Jaguars, marking his transition from college football to the professional level. He later joined the B.C. Lions before finding his current home with the Munich Ravens in the European League of Football.

Throughout his career, Flowers has amassed numerous accolades, including All-Conference selections and invitations to prestigious events like the HBCU Legacy Bowl. His exceptional performance on the field is reflected in his statistics, with notable achievements such as recording 62 tackles and 6 interceptions in a single season.

### **Notable Performances:**

#### **Stadium:**

The Munich Ravens will play in two different stadiums this season: The Sportpark Unterhaching is their Homestadium. Only in Week 2 the Ravens will play their Homegame in the Max-Morlock-Stadium in Nuremberg.

#### **Sportpark Unterhaching:**

Capacity: Approximately 15.000. Opened in 1992. Is the homefield of 4<sup>th</sup> Division Soccer Club Spielvereinigung Unterhaching. The stadium got renovated and capacity upgraded from 1999-2000 due to the Club promoting to the Bundesliga, Germany's best soccer

league. It hosted a women's soccer national team game in 2008 and a U-21 national team game in 2010.

### **Max-Morlock-Stadion:**

Capacity: Approximately 50,000. Opened in 1928. It serves as the home stadium for 1. FC Nürnberg, a prominent football club in Germany. The stadium underwent extensive renovations and capacity upgrades from 2002 to 2005, coinciding with the club's promotion to the Bundesliga, Germany's top football league. It has hosted several international matches, including games for the German national team.

## **Coaching Staff:**

### **Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator – Kendral Ellison:**

Kendral Ellison, at 35 years old, emerged as a standout linebacker during his college years at Rhodes College in Memphis, where he earned recognition as an All-Conference player. Following his collegiate career, Ellison embarked on a journey playing for various European teams, showcasing his talent and expertise on the field until 2018. In 2018, Ellison's transition into coaching began when he assumed the role of Defensive Coordinator for the Hamburg Huskies. Despite facing challenges, including injuries to key players, Ellison demonstrated his leadership and strategic prowess, guiding the defense to success. His coaching acumen continued to flourish as he joined the Hamburg Sea Devils for their inaugural season. Over the past three years, Ellison played an integral role in molding dominant defenses, leaving a lasting impact on the team's performance. Ellison's coaching excellence did not go unnoticed, as he was honored with the Assistant Coach of the Year award in 2021. His remarkable contributions to the team made him a finalist for the same award in 2022, further solidifying his reputation as a top-tier coach in the league.

Now, entering his fourth season in the European League of Football, Ellison has ascended to the role of Head Coach for the Munich Ravens. With his wealth of experience, strategic insight, and proven track record of success, Ellison is poised to lead the Ravens to new heights in the league.

### **Offensive Coordinator - Kyle Callahan:**

Born on December 26, 1986, Kyle Callahan began his football career at Union College (NAIA). In the 2009 season, he embarked on his professional football journey in Europe, starting as a quarterback and wide receiver for the Kiel Baltic Hurricanes. He later played for the Berlin Adler and the Swarco Raiders Tirol. During his time with the Swarco Raiders, Callahan transitioned into coaching, assuming his first coaching roles in 2014. He later became part of the coaching staff for the Austrian national team. In 2022, Callahan's coaching prowess was recognized when he was awarded the ELF Assistant Coach of the Year.

## **Game against the Raiders - Strategy, details and more**

