

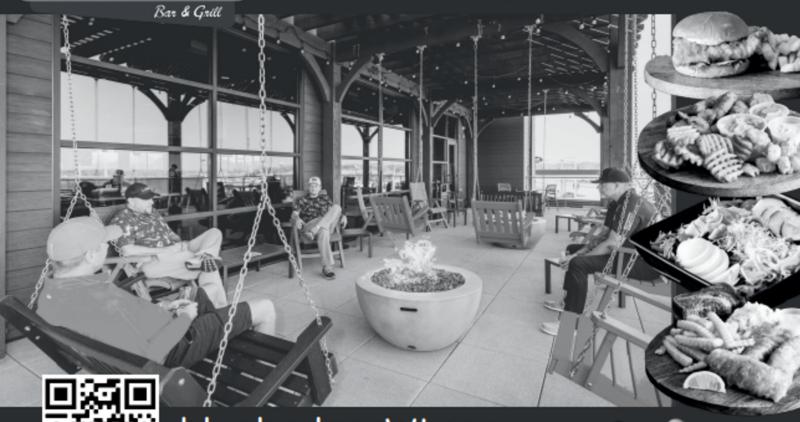




# BLUE BADGER

# ENJOY OUR ROOFTOP PATIO!

Blue Badger Bar & Grill Hwy 20 & I-94 Inside Racine PETRO



bluebadgerWI.com

Jim & Michael Willkomm - Owners Michael (right) former Racine Raider '88-'95 Blue Badger Bar & Grill • The Dish Restaurant



# 2024 Yearbook

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Racine Raiders football organization has enjoyed its long history of providing entertainment and supporting youth football programs in our community. Our not-for-profit business runs completely on the energy, enthusiasm, and effort of volunteers who give their time to help deliver a high-quality product to you...the fan. All the wins, the scholarships provided, and the free youth football camps over the years are the result of everyone who donates their time in concessions, ticket offices, equipment and "blacktop" crews, broadcast team, etc.

The Raiders' board of directors, coaching staff, and players - all of whom are also volunteers - give thanks to these volunteers, and you...the fans of Raider football. We're always looking for the best talent in every aspect of our organization. If you have time and energy you're willing to contribute to the Racine Raiders please go to RacineRaiders.com and complete the "Volunteer With Us!" information under the CONTACTS link.

We're thankful to you all for joining us for a fantastic 2024 season, and we look forward to a thrilling conclusion in the GDFL postseason.

Go Raiders!

Sincerely,

**Board of Directors** 

Matt Nelson, President

Vinnie Scacco, VP Administration

Tom Christensen, Secretary

Mike Reth, Treasurer

Geoffrey Schick, General Manager

Ivette Camarano

Anthony Wooden

Nick Aiello

Thomas J Hearn

Jay Pardo

Ivan Payes







2024 / Page 1

#### 2023 CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON RECAP

The Racine Raiders' 2023 season was a historic campaign, culminating in a championship that solidified their legacy in semi-professional football. After joining the Gridiron Developmental Football League (GDFL) for the first time in 2023, the Raiders swiftly established themselves as a dominant force. The transition from the MidStates Football League (MSFL), where they previously enjoyed immense success, was seamless. The Raiders captured the GDFL title in their inaugural season, adding a tenth national championship to their storied history.

The team, which boasts a history dating back to 1953, has long been a pillar of the Racine community. This latest championship adds to their already impressive resume, which includes a total of ten national or world titles, making them the most successful semi-professional football team in the United States. The 2023 season also saw the team achieve another milestone, recording their 667th win—the most by any semi-pro team.

Led by head coach Wilbert Kennedy, who is an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin-Stout, the Raiders were not only successful on the field but also in their community efforts. The organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, staffed entirely by volunteers, which underscores the deep-rooted connection between the team and its local supporters.

The 2023 season was marked by key victories and standout performances. Throughout the season, the Raiders demonstrated a balanced attack and stout defense, characteristics that have been hallmarks of the team's success over the years. The team's depth was evident in their ability to overcome challenges, including injuries and tough competition, to remain at the top of their game.

In addition to their on-field success, the Raiders celebrated their rich history by inducting six new members into the team's Hall of Fame during the 2023 season. The inductees, who span several decades of the team's existence, include players who were instrumental in past championship runs and have continued to contribute to the team's legacy in various capacities. This ceremony was a testament to the enduring impact of former players and the continuity of excellence that defines the Racine Raiders.

As the Raiders look ahead to future seasons, their 2023 championship serves as a reminder of their resilience and adaptability. The move to the GDFL and subsequent success is indicative of a team that is not only steeped in tradition but also capable of thriving in new environments. The 2023 season will be remembered not only for the title it delivered but also for the affirmation of the Raiders' place at the pinnacle of semi-professional football.

Get all your National Championship information at:

www.GRIDIRONBOWL2024.COM

#### 2023 Team Awards

Team MVP	Gary Young, Jr. (LB, Bemidji State University)
Offense Player of Year	Andre Locke, Jr. (QB, Upper Iowa University)
Defense Player of Year	Gary Young, Jr. (LB, Bemidji State University)
Spec Teams, Player of Year	Corey Dalton
Comeback Player of Year	Ryan Gails (OL, Ripon College)
Defensive Lineman of Year	Gage Zahradnik (DT, Ripon College)
Offensive Lineman of Year	Jacob Zimmerman (OG, Wisc Lutheran College)
Defense Rookie of Year	Niko Lemke (DE, UW Whitewater)
Offense Rookie of Year	Jashon Foster (WR, Coahoma CC)

Volunteer of Year	Nick Thielen
Volunteer of Year	Dan McCabe
Volunteer of Year	Linda McCabe
Volunteer of Year	Mollee McCabe

# GO RAIDERS!





FIRST TEAM

Justin Benko (LB)

Nick Jones (DL)

Niko Lemke (DL)

Shanault Carey (OL)

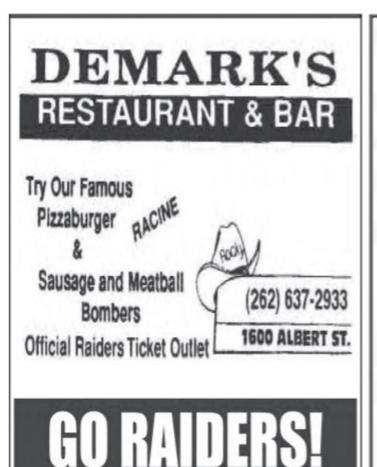


HON MENTION

#### GDFL ALL-LEAGUE 2023

SECOND TEAM

Andre Locke, Sr (QB)	Bibby Davis (WR)	Aarion Ivy (LB)
Brady Wodack (P)	Bubba Rewolinski (TE)	Antonio Dundy (DL)
Channing Schultz (S)	Corey Dalton (CB)	
Gary Young, Jr (LB)	Gage Zahradnik (DL)	
Jacob Zimmerman (OL)	Jashon Foster (WR)	
Jay Davis (CB)	J.D. Hardy (S)	
Joe Garcia (WR)	Ryan Gails (OL)	
Jordan Payne (TE)		





Technical Staffing, Inc.

Specializing in the placement of technical, engineering, and skilled personnel

## DAVID BALISTRERI

#84 '94 - '96 GO RAIDERS!

11711 W. North Ave. Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Phone: (414) 476-9331

Fax: (414) 476-9340

www.selecttechnicalstaffing.com
dave@stsjobs.com

# **2023 RAIDER STATISTICS**

		OPPONENT	RAIDERS	
Total Offense		2438	4001	
	Number of Plays	698	643	
	Yards Per Play	3.5	6.2	
Passing	•	2055	2955	
	Completions	158	191	
	Attempts	361	330	
	Yards per Attempt	5.7	9.0	
	TD	10	40	
	INT	26	14	
Rushing		383	1046	
	Attempts	337	313	
	Yards Per Rush	1.1	3.3	
Receiving		2055	2955	
	Receptions	158	191	
	Yards Per Catch	13.0	15.5	
Penalties		148	144	
	Penalty Yards	1199	1197	
Turnovers		36	24	
	Fumbles	12	17	
	Fumbles Lost	10	10	
	INTs	26	14	
Number of Punts		56	34	
	Punt Average	33.8	41.3	
Def. Sacks		31	64	
	Sack Yards	95	309	
Time of Possession	(Avg)	31:49	28:11	
Downs				
	1st Downs	145	208	
	1st Rushing	39	64	
	1st Passing	84	122	
	1st Penalties	22	22	
	3rd Down Conv.	32	50	
	3rd Down Att.	169	138	
	3rd Down Conv. %	18.9%	36.2%	
	4th Down Conv.	16	12	
	4th Down Att.	61	30	
	4th Down Conv. %	26.2%	40.0%	



LOCALLY OWNED BY

#### HOUSEHOLD HELP INC.

COMPLETE RESIDENTIAL CLEANING

SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE OR

SUPERVISED TEAM CLEANING

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM TO 5:00 PM M-F.

262 619-0868



1405 16th Street · Racine, WI 53403 262-637-3656

Screen Printing & Embroidery Jerseys · Jackets · 7-Shirts · Uniforms · Hats

> **GO RAIDERS** Have a great season!



# ATHLETIC CLUB

WISHES ONGOING SUCCESS TO

RACINE RAIDER FOOTBALL

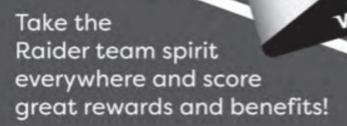
RECOGNIZED NATIONWIDE FOR EXCELLENCE



Get the exclusive

RACINE RAIDERS DEBIT CARD

only at Educators!





Scan to learn more or visit www.ecu.com/debit-card-partners.

Insured by NCUA

## **2023 Game by Game Offense**

				PASSIN	G STATS		
DATE	TEAM	сом	ATT	PCT	YDS	TD	INT
20-May	Capital City Seahawks	9	22	40.9%	59	0	4
3-Jun	St. Paul Pioneers	16	24	66.7%	252	4	1
10-Jun	at Cin City Buccaneers	9	17	52.9%	130	2	1
17-Jun	at Indy Bison (Blue)	16	29	55.2%	289	4	0
24-Jun	Illinois Cowboys	21	33	63.6%	288	4	0
1-Jul	River City Rough Riders	14	31	45.2%	233	3	0
8-Jul	Chicago Falcons	11	18	61.1%	241	6	1
15-Jul	Motor City Rams	16	27	59.3%	241	3	1
22-Jul	at St. Paul Pioneers	14	25	56.0%	234	2	0
12-Aug	Tri-City Outlaws	19	29	65.5%	340	5	2
19-Aug	Huntsville Rockets	17	29	58.6%	214	4	3
26-Aug	at Syracuse Strong	11	19	57.9%	208	2	0
2-Sep	vs. West Sound Rebels	17	27	63.0%	225	1	1
	TOTALS	190	330	57.6%	2954	40	14

RUSHING STATS									
ATT YDS AVG									
27	144	5.3	3						
34	72	2.1	0						
19	36	36 1.9							
13	39	3.0	0						
26	78	3.0	1						
27	191	7.1	2						
14	68	4.9	1						
19	34	1.8	1						
19	38	2.0	0						
16	71	4.4	1						
33	158	4.8	1						
24	25	1.0	1						
21	115	5.5	2						
292	1069	3.7	14						

	RECEIVING STATS									
ATT	TD									
9	59	6.6	0							
16	253	15.8	4							
9	130	14.4	2							
16	289	18.1	4							
21	302	14.4	4							
14	233	16.6	3							
11	241	21.9	6							
16	241	15.1	3							
14	234	16.7	2							
20	340	17.0	5							
16	209	13.1	4							
11	208	18.9	2							
16	225	14.1	1							
189	2964	15.7	40							

## 2023 Off. Leaders

Passing Passing Passing

		PASSING STATS							
NAME	СОМ	ATT	PCT	YDS	TD	INT			
Andre Locke Sr	146	241	60.6%	2263	30	9			
Mitch Farr	28	52	53.8%	440	6	3			
Sawyer Schick	16	37	43.2%	251	4	2			

Rushing Rushing Rushing

	RUSHING STATS						
NAME	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD			
Tom Benko	71	302	4.3	4			
Andre Locke Sr	67	200	3.0	4			
Howard Triplett	53	190	3.6	2			

Receiving Receiving Receiving Receiving Receiving Receiving Receiving

	RECEIVING STATS							
NAME	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD				
Joe Garcia III	30	614	20.5	8				
Jordan Payne	26	285	11.0	3				
Bibby Davis	21	333	15.9	1				
Jashon Foster	17	400	23.5	7				
Darrell James	15	194	12.9	1				
Terrence Fitch	13	216	16.6	4				
Will Norwood	12	267	22.3	8				

## 2023 Game by Game Defense

DATE	TEAM	TKL	SOLO	AST	SACK	TFL	INT	PD	FF	FR	TD	SAFETY
20-May	Capital City Seahawks	67	27	40	3	11	2	6	0	0	0	0
3-Jun	St. Paul Pioneers	46	36	10	9.5	13.5	3	5	3	2	0	0
10-Jun	at Cin City Buccaneers	59	28	31	5	8	1	6	2	3	2	0
17-Jun	at Indy Bison (Blue)	80	35	45	2	7	0	5	0	0	0	0
24-Jun	Illinois Cowboys	53	34	19	7	11.5	1	4	2	2	0	0
1-Jul	River City Rough Riders	71	27	44	4	10.5	1	5	0	0	0	0
8-Jul	Chicago Falcons	37	22	15	9	13	6	9	2	2	1	1
15-Jul	Motor City Rams	69	33	36	6	12	0	7	0	0	0	0
22-Jul	at St. Paul Pioneers	58	26	32	1	6	3	11	1	1	1	0
12-Aug	Tri-City Outlaws	56	26	30	8	10	1	5	2	2	0	0
19-Aug	Huntsville Rockets	41	29	12	2	6.5	3	5	1	1	0	0
26-Aug	at Syracuse Strong	71	27	44	7	12	3	9	1	1	0	0
2-Sep	vs. West Sound Rebels	65	25	40	3	5	1	4	0	0	0	0
	TOTALS	773	375	398	66.5	126	25	81	14	14	4	1

## 2023 Def. Leaders

Tackles Tackles Tackles Tackles Tackles

NAME	GAMES	TKL	SOLO	AST
Gary Young, Jr.	13	99	37	62
Justin Benko	13	59	29	30
Aarion Ivy	10	55	32	23
J.D. Hardy	10	46	20	26
Niko Lemke	11	36	18	18

Sacks/TFL Sacks/TFL Sacks/TFL

Sacks/TFL

NAME	GAMES	SACKS	TFL
Nick Jones	10	13.0	13.0
Aarion Ivy	10	9.5	14.5
Gary Young, Jr.	13	8.0	17.0
Niko Lemke	11	7.5	12.5
Gage Zahradnik	13	4.5	10.0

INT/PD INT/PD INT/PD INT/PD INT/PD INT/PD

NAME	<b>GAMES</b>	INT	PD	TD
Channing Schultz	13	7	12	0
Jay Davis	12	3	14	0
Marquon Holloway	6	3	3	0
Corey Dalton	8	2	9	1
Gary Young, Jr.	13	2	7	0
Jordan Danowski	9	2	3	0

# 2023 Special Teams

		FIELD GOAL & EXTRA POINT								
DATE	TEAM	FG	FGA	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	XP	XPA	BLK
20-May	Capital City Seahawks	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
3-Jun	St. Paul Pioneers	2	2	0	0	1	1	4	4	0
10-Jun	at Cin City Buccaneers	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
17-Jun	at Indy Bison (Blue)	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
24-Jun	Illinois Cowboys	2	3	0	1	1	0	4	5	0
1-Jul	River City Rough Riders	1	1	0	0	1	0	5	5	0
8-Jul	Chicago Falcons	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	9	0
15-Jul	Motor City Rams	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0
22-Jul	at St. Paul Pioneers	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	4	0
12-Aug	Tri-City Outlaws	1	1	0	1	0	0	5	6	0
19-Aug	Huntsville Rockets	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	6	0
26-Aug	at Syracuse Strong	1	2	0	0	0	1	4	4	0
2-Sep	vs. West Sound Rebels	2	2	0	1	1	0	3	3	0
	TOTALS	10	12	0	4	4	2	56	62	0

		FIELD GOAL & EXTRA POINT							
TEAM	FG	FGA	0-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	XP	XPA	BLK
Alex Gonzalez	10	12	0	4	4	2	55	61	0
Brady Wodack	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
TOTALS	10	12	0	4	4	2	56	62	0

	PUNTING						
TEAM	ATT	YDS	AVG	120			
Brady Wodack	34	1403	41	14			
TOTALS	34	1403	41.3	14			

		PUNTING					PUNT RETURN			KICK RETURN			
DATE	TEAM	ATT	YDS	AVG	120	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD	ATT	YDS	AVG	TD
20-May	Capital City Seahawks	3	134	44.7	2	6	94	15.7	0	1	29	29.0	0
3-Jun	St. Paul Pioneers	4	161	40.3	3	1	0	0.0	0	1	7	7.0	0
10-Jun	at Cin City Buccaneers	5	230	46.0	0	0	0		0	2	37	18.5	0
17-Jun	at Indy Bison (Blue)	2	93	46.5	0	0	0		0	1	23	23.0	0
24-Jun	Illinois Cowboys	2	87	43.5	1	3	18	6.0	0	2	46	23.0	0
1-Jul	River City Rough Riders	1	40	40.0	0	1	11	11.0	0	2	37	18.5	0
8-Jul	Chicago Falcons	1	36	36.0	1	0	0		0	2	67	33.5	1
15-Jul	Motor City Rams	4	114	28.5	2	2	28	14.0	0	3	100	33.3	0
22-Jul	at St. Paul Pioneers	5	193	38.6	3	3	3	1.0	0	3	41	13.7	0
12-Aug	Tri-City Outlaws	0	0	0.0	0	4	77	19.3	0	1	27	27.0	0
19-Aug	Huntsville Rockets	2	82	41.0	0	5	107	21.4	0	3	97	32.3	1
26-Aug	at Syracuse Strong	5	233	46.6	2	6	23	3.8	0	2	96	48.0	1
2-Sep	vs. West Sound Rebels	0	0	0.0	0	0	0		0	4	103	25.8	0
	TOTALS	34	1403	41.3	14	31	361	11.6	0	27	710	26.3	3

## 2023 GDFL Gridiron Bowl XIV

### Racine Raiders 27, West Sound Rebels 18

The Racine Raiders joined the Gridiron Developmental Football League (GDFL), a league with 30 teams nationwide. The Raiders would go undefeated in the regular season, beating seven previously unbeaten teams. They beat six teams that made the championship of their leagues. By the end of the season, the Raiders had traveled more than 5,000 miles and beat teams representing 11 states plus the District of Columbia. The Raiders won the Xtreme Conference championship game by beating the defending national champion Syracuse Strong in New York. They then traveled to Landover, Maryland the next weekend and beat the Impact Conference champion West Sound Rebels, 27-19. The game was a back-and-forth affair until the final seven minutes when Racine kicker Alex Gonzalez would kick a field goal to take the lead and Racine would score a touchdown late to take a two-possession lead. Quarterback Andre Locke was named the game's most valuable player after rushing for two touchdowns and passing for one to Will Norwood. Raiders defensive lineman Niko Lemke was the defensive star of the game, collecting two solo sacks and two sack assists, and stopping the West Sound quarterback for no gain on a fourth down deep in Racine territory with less than 30 seconds to play in the game.

Get all your National Championship information at:

## www.GRIDIRONBOWL2024.COM







3806 DOUGLAS AVENUE RACINE, WI 53402 262-639-4820 | ACEHARDWARE.COM



### "When Only The Best Will Do"

Creating Beautiful Floral Arrangements That Help Express Your Feelings.

#### Over 40 Years of Service

Courteous & Timely Deliveries

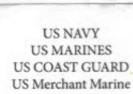
Your Wedding Specialists Including Invitations

Conveniently located at

5445 Spring St



juliesptflowers.com



Active duty Reserve Veteran

VA Benefit information Aid other Vets Honor deceased Vets Visit Veterans Sites

Functions/Ceremonies: Great Lakes Navy Base and Racine US Army and USAF welcome as associate members Active, Retired, Reserve, Guard, Veterans Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of Month - 18:30 hrs. Veterans Center - 820 Main St., Racine, WI. Navy Club Ship 60 Serving You, our fellow Vets and Our Community.

Navy Club of the USA Chartered by act of Congress for USN, USMC, USCG

2024 / Page 11



## **2024 RACINE RAIDERS ROSTER**

			NAOINE NA				
#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POS	SCHOOL			
0	Foster	Jashon	WR	Coahoma CC			
1	Locke	Andre	QB	Upper Iowa Univ			
2	Benko	Justin	LB	North Park Univ			
3	Rewolinski	Alex	TE/H	U.S. Army			
4	Garcia	Joe	WR	Highland CC			
5	Payne	Jordan	WR	Alcorn State			
6	Benko	Tom	RB	Carthage College			
7	Hardy-Parsall	Jedeniah	DB	Waukegan HS			
8	Schick	Sawyer	QB/LS	UW-La Crosse			
9	Azor	Stanley	DB	Carthage College			
12	McKinney II	Antoine	QB	Gallaudet Univ			
13	Dalton	Corey	DB	College of the Desert			
14	Woodland	Jacques	WR	Missouri Southern			
<b>1</b> 5	Young Jr	Gary	LB	Bemidji State			
16	Wodack	Brady	P/K	St. Norbert College			
17	Fitch	Terrence	WR	UW-Whitewater			
18	Schultz	Channing	DB	Iowa Central CC			
19	lvy	Aarion	LB	Bloom HS			
20	Gonzales	Jesus	LB	Iowa Central CC			
21	Davis	Bibby	WR	Simeon Career Acad			
22	Davis	Jay	DB	Bradley Tech HS			
24	Flores	Richard	LB	U.S. Marine Corp			
25	Kennedy	Gregory	RB	Warren Township			
26	Danowski	Jordan	DB	Waterford HS			
27	White	Sean	RB	UW-Stevens Point			
28	Eickhorst	Jersey	WR	Univ West England-Bristol			
29	Smith	DaQuan	LB	Carroll University			
30	Ruffin	Tori	LB	Concordia Univ WI			
31	Lemke	Nikolalus	DL	UW-Whitewater			
32	Herron	Rashawn	RB	Bradley Tech HS			
33	Williams	LaMont	DB	Bolingbrook HS			
34	Triplett	Howard	RB	Waukegan HS			
35	Savarino	Wyatt	DB	Muskego HS			
36	Graf	Jay	TE/H	Purdue University			
37	Gonzales	Alex	K				
38	Jones	Damone	DB	N. Dakota Pottineau			

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POS	SCHOOL
39	Hayes	Travis	RB	UW-Whitewater
40	Pike	Jonata	TE/H	Upper Iowa Univ
41	Holloway	Marquan	DB	J.I. Case HS
42	Wells	James	LB	Wm. Horlick HS
43	Graham	Anton	DE	UW-Whitewater
45	Lewis	Lavantis	TE/H	College of Dupage
47	Mittestaedt	Jake	DL	UW-Platteville
48	King	Hudson	QB	University Iowa
50	Harris	Conner	OL	Racine Park HS
52	Turner	Elvin	LB	
54	Nelson	Matthew	OL	Wm. Horlick HS
56	Dundy	Antonio	DL	Minn State Moorhead
57	Hill	Michael	OL	Arizona University
58	Zimmerman	Jacob	OL	Wisc Lutheran College
59	Tate	Isaiah	LB	Millikin University
62	Gwin	Caleb	OL	Univ North Dakota
65	Tucker	Steven	OL	New Mexico Highland
67	Carey	Shanault	OL	Fenger HS
68	Spalek	Scott	OL	Glenbrook South HS
69	Imel	Brandon	OL	Rockford University
70	Watson Hall	Jimmy	OL	Milw Bay View HS
77	Anderson	Aubrey	OL	Minn West CC
78	Bullock	Anthony	OL	Indiana State Univ
81	James	Darrell	WR	So Illinois University
84	Norwood	William	WR	Ohio University
85	Nelson	Nick	TE/H	St. Norbert College
86	Plaza	Elias	TE/H	Kenosha Bradford HS
87	Flores	Dillon	TE/H	U.S. Army
88	Charles	Lenny	WR	William Dwyer HS
89	Gaines	lan	TE/H	Argo HS
90	Haggins	Ronald	DL	Simeon Career Acad
94	Clay	Willie	DL	Miss Valley State
97	Goodwin	Armani	DL	J.I. Case HS
98	Williams	Cordero	DL	J.I. Case HS
99	Zahradnik	Gage	DL	Ripon College

#### **NEW BIKE GIVEAWAY SPONSOR**



United Commercial Travelers









Your Metal Fabrication Solution

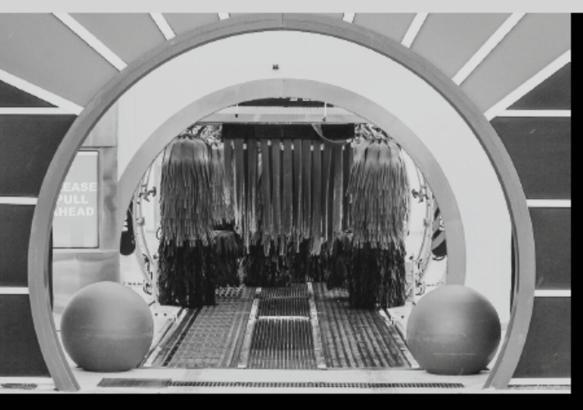
14105 2 Mile Rd. Franksville, WI 53126

(262)835-9560

www.awimetalfabrication.com

# GET A FREE \$20 WASH

YOUR HOMETOWN CAR WASH FAVORITE!



NEW
CUSTOMERS

Scan QR Code
to receive a

FREE \$20 Wash

**ROCKETWASHWI.COM** 

4 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS!

Racine Mt. Pleasant Kenosha Pleasant Prairie



Jim & Michael Willkomm - Owners

Michael Willkomm (right) former Racine Raider '88-'95

