

GETTING TO KNOW
**JUSTIN
BENKO** +P.8

CALLING THE SHOTS
TODD ANDREASEN IS THE PERSON THAT CALLS
THE CAMERA SHOTS ON THE RAIDERS YOUTUBE
STREAM. +P.9

Raider Report

JUNE 11, 2022 | FREE



CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION



A SHOULDER INJURY IN
COLLEGE DERAILED BRANDON
IMEL. NOW HE'S BACK TO
PROVE TO HIMSELF THAT HE
BELONGS.

PHOTO: Scott Olsen

BY DON WADEWITZ + P. 4

2022 SCHEDULE



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May 14	Sheboygan Cty. SaberCats	W, 39-0
May 21	St. Paul Pioneers	W, 27-9
May 28	Wisconsin Raptors	W, 2-0
June 4	@ Illinois Cowboys *	L, 14-12
June 11	Wisconsin Hitmen *	7:00 pm
June 18	Midway Marauders *	7:00 pm
June 25	Chicago Birdgang *	7:00 pm
July 2	Grand Rapids Seminoles	7:00 pm
July 9	@ Leyden Lions *	7:00 pm
July 16	Illinois Cowboys *	7:00 pm
July 23	@ Midway Marauders *	7:00 pm
July 30	@ Chicago Birdgang *	7:00 pm
August 6	@ Wisconsin Hitmen *	7:00 pm
August 13	Leyden Lions *	7:00 pm

All home games played at Historic Horlick Athletic Field

* - MidStates Football League (MSFL) game

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2022 TICKET OUTLETS

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Rock Inn - 600 High Street
Sausage Kitchen - 1706 Rapids Drive

RAIDERS LOOK TO REBOUND

The Racine Raiders look to rebound following a 14-12 loss to the Illinois Cowboys at Amos Alonzo Stagg High School in Palos Hills, Ill.

The Raiders controlled the first half and most of the game against the Cowboys. They spent most of the first half on the Cowboys side of the field but interceptions and a missed field goal led to no score at halftime.

The Raiders would build a 12-0 lead in the fourth quarter but the Cowboys got a pick-six and would then put together a drive on the back of multiple major penalties against the Raiders that ended in a touchdown and a 14-12 lead.

Racine was able to march down the field, getting to the Cowboys one-yard line with 36 seconds to play and no timeouts remaining. Still, the Raiders felt they had time to run several plays if they needed to. The officials disagreed, taking 30 seconds to spot the ball after Howard Triplett couldn't pound the football into the endzone on the first play.

The Raiders would trot out T.J. Hearn for an 18-yard field goal attempt which would be blocked as time expired and the Cowboys escaped with a win in the MidStates Football League (MSFL) season opener.

Meanwhile, in Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Hitmen returned after a year hiatus and won a hard fought game with the Midway Marauders, 20-6. The Hitmen led 20-0 in the game, making a statement against the Marauders who didn't lose a regular season MSFL game last year.

The Raiders will see if the offense can get back on track after turning the ball over five times against the Cowboys. The Raiders defense played outstanding again, allowing just one score while forcing five interceptions and three fumbles, one of which they recovered.

The Raiders defense held the Cowboys to five yards passing in the game and limited them to 2-11 on third down. The Raiders defense recorded an interception for every passing yard registered by the Cowboys.

Tonight could be another defensive battle as the Hitmen have long been known for having big-time playmakers on the defensive side of the ball. Who can produce enough offense and limit mistakes tonight to pull out the win. It's critical for the Raiders to win so as to not fall to 0-2 in league play with another tough game against the Midway Marauders coming up next week.



RAIDERS FOOTBALL

VS.

MARAUDERS

PROMOTIONS

- Youth Bike Giveaway
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- Georgie Porgie's R.J.'s Kids Area
- Domino's Halftime Pizza Toss

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Saturday, June 18
7:00 pm
Historic Horlick Field

A CHANCE FOR REDEMPTION

Racine Raiders defensive linemen Brandon Imel is using this year as a chance for redemption. Imel played at Rockford University. He saw his collegiate football career come to an end when he injured his shoulder six years ago and needed surgery.

“I had a medical incomplete,” reflects Imel. “I ended up tearing up my shoulder and just never made it back.”

He rehabbed his shoulder and has stayed in shape. He had an itch to play and his girlfriend led him to the Raiders.

“My girlfriend had told me about the team,” he says. “She knew I wanted to go tryout so she brought up the opportunity and I’m fortunate that I’ve been staying in shape and lifting and such.”

That push led him to the Raiders Facebook page and website where he read about the team and watched some highlight films.



“To see a bunch of class athletes made me want to come over and check it out,” says Imel.

The Rockford Regents are an NCAA Division III program that play in the Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (NACC), the same conference that Raiders wide receiver Jersey Eickhorst played in with Benedictine University. Imel primarily played defensive tackle but also got opportunities at defensive end and even fullback in certain goalline packages.

“Even though we didn’t have very good years while I was there, I still took a lot out of it as far as leadership, stepping up, and all-around what it is to be a great teammate and bringing stuff to the table,” reflects Imel.

So, after six years away from the game, Imel’s goals were tempered for this season. “My biggest goal was to see where I fit in,” says Imel. “Mentally, you always feel like you’re going to be there but it’s the physical aspect and how you’re going to match up with everybody.”

Imel lives in Sterling, Illinois, and he makes over a 2-1/2 hour drive to practice and play with the Raiders.

“It’s worth it,” he confidently states. “To come out here and play for an organization like this and represent my town and my family, it’s worth every mile.”

This is a chance for redemption for Imel and a chance for him to prove to himself that he fits in playing a high level of football.

“Even though it took awhile to get here, it’s time,” he says. “You can’t wonder what should be or could’ve been.”

The injury has made him realize that playing football is a luxury. It’s made him appreciate the game more and the opportunity to play it beyond college.

“To not do anything like this for six years and to come out and do something like this with a great group of guys and great coaches, it’s a blessing,” Imel says.

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GAME ROSTER

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HT	WT	POS	SCHOOL
1	WILLIAMS	Ricardo	6' 0"	215	WR/QB	Northern Illinois University
2	BENKO	Justin	6' 0"	220	LB	North Park University
3	TENNER	Austin	5' 4"	180	RB	University of Dubuque
4	GARCIA III	Joe	6' 3"	190	WR	Highland Community College
5	PAYNE	Jordan	6' 2"	228	WR	Alcorn State University
6	BENKO	Tom	5' 10"	205	RB	Carthage College
7	HARDY	J.D.	6' 1"	210	DB	Waukegan High School
8	SANDERS	Erick	5' 8"	180	P	University of Wisconsin-Waukesha
9	AZOR	Stanley	5' 10"	185	DB	Carthage College
12	FARR	Mitch	6' 2"	210	QB	Central Methodist University
13	MCKINNEY II	Antoine	5' 11"	221	DB	Gallaudet University
14	LEWIS	Robert	5' 9"	175	WR/DB	Boise State Univ. / Sacramento State Univ.
15	CONRAD	Noah	6' 2"	235	QB	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
16	TURNER	Torin	6' 0"	180	QB/WR	William Horlick High School
17	FITCH	Terrence	6' 1"	195	WR	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
18	SCHULTZ	Channing	6' 0"	184	DB	Iowa Central
19	JONES	Damone	5' 10"	160	DB	William Horlick High School
20	MCRAE	DiQuan	6' 0"	225	LB	J.I. Case High School
21	EICKHORST	Jersey	6' 0"	185	DB	Benedictine University
22	NORWOOD	Will	6' 2"	215	DB	Ohio University
24	STRICKLAND	Eddie	5' 9"	185	DB	Lakeland University
25	LYMON	Ioski	5' 11"	210	DB	Washington Park High School
26	DANOWSKI	Jordan	5' 10"	170	DB	Waterford Union High School
27	GARCIA	Angel	5' 6"	165	RB	Washington Park High School
29	SMITH	Daquan	5' 10"	178	DB	Carroll University
30	RUFFIN	Torie	6' 2"	225	DB	Concordia University-Wisconsin
31	WILLIAMS	Allieas	5' 6"	195	RB	William Horlick High School
32	KENNEDY	Greg	5' 6"	195	RB	Harper College
33	CLEMON	Jermaine	6' 3"	250	TE	Concordia University-St. Paul
34	TRIPLETT	Howard	6' 1"	205	RB	Waukegan High School
35	HEARN	T.J.	6' 5"	205	K/P	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
36	GONZALEZ	Alex	5' 9"	205	K	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
40	SZYMANKIEWICZ	Colin	6' 3"	180	DB	Burlington High School
42	FOLDY	Garrett	5' 10"	190	LB	Union Grove High School
43	GRAHAM	Anton	6' 3"	250	LB/DL	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
45	WROBLEWSKI	Dale	6' 3"	235	TE	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
48	JONES	Nick	6' 2"	240	DL	Grant High School
50	BAKER-GALLAGHER	Jordan	6' 5"	280	OL/DL	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
52	BESTER II	Gerald	6' 1"	260	DL	University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
54	NELSON	Matt	6' 0"	280	OL/LS	University of Wisconsin-Parkside
57	WILLIAMS	Desmond	6' 1"	228	RB	William Horlick High School
58	ZIMMERMAN	Jacob	6' 2"	250	OL	Wisconsin Lutheran College
59	TATE	Isaiah	6' 1"	215	LB	Millikin University
62	GWIN	Caleb	5' 10"	290	OL	Racine Lutheran High School
64	GAILS	Ryan	5' 11"	320	OL	Ripon College
70	SEIDLER	Travis	6' 1"	305	OL	Whitnall High School
73	KANT-HULL	Dan	6' 3"	285	OL	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
77	TRUSSELL	Isaiah	6' 3"	305	OL	Carthage College
81	JACKSON	Quan	6' 2"	187	QB	William Horlick High School
84	VAUGHAN	Aaryn	5' 11"	170	WR	J.I. Case High School
85	NELSON	Nick	6' 3"	245	TE	St. Norbert College
86	PLAZA	Elias	6' 1"	250	TE/P	Mary D. Bradford High School
88	CONVERSE	Ken	6' 6"	220	TE	Whitewater High School
92	MARSHALL, JR.	Bruce	6' 2"	335	DL	Grand Canyon University
94	IMEL	Brandon	6' 2"	260	DL/TE	Rockford University
97	GOODWIN	Armani	6' 0"	350	DL/OL	J.I. Case High School
98	PARKER	Najee	5' 10"	310	DL	Rochester Community and Technical College
99	ZAHRADNIK	Gage	6' 2"	280	DL	Ripon College



GAME ROSTER

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	HT	WT	POS	SCHOOL
0	MILLER	Mike			DL	
1	MORRIS, SR.	Kevin	5' 10"	210	DB	Arizona State University
2	NELSON	Ty	6' 1"	190	WR	
3	MUSTOFA GRAY	Rashadeem	5' 9"	163	DB	University of Northern Iowa
4	HERRON	Rashawn	5' 10"	225	RB	
5	HERRON	Ryan	5' 10"	186	WR/RB	
6	ANDERSON	Tajvante				
7	NEAL, JR.	Rickey	6' 2"	240	LB	University of Northern Iowa
8	MADISON	Shaquille				
9	FOSTER	Christian			DB	Rochester Community and Technical College
10	JOSSART	Bennett	6' 2"	190	QB	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
11	GILLIE	Jalen	5' 11"	170	WR	Riverside University High School
12	BILLIOT	Justin	6' 2"	220	QB	Oklahoma Panhandle State University
13	RUSSELL	Shaq	5' 8"	160	WR	
14	PEREZ	Leonardo	5' 9"	165	DB	Mission High School
15	KING	Shannon	6' 0"	195	QB	
16	HARDY	Antonio	6' 2"	270	DL	
17	JOHNSON	Dominique	6' 0"	170	WR	Wisconsin Lutheran College
18	TAYLOR	Montell	5' 11"	211	TE	Rufus King High School
19	DAVIS	Jay	6' 0"	165	DB	
20	RAINEY	George	6' 2"	230	LB/TE	
21	DOWERY	Saquan	5' 9"	205	RB	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
22	COOPER	Monti	5' 9"	160	DB/KR/PR	
23	SHANKLIN	Khalil	5' 11"	226		Bradley Tech High School
24	TRIGGS	Bakari	5' 9"	170	DB	Lindenwood University
25	LAWSON-GAYLE	Raphael	5' 10"	175	WR	Southwest Minnesota State University
26	LOVE	Malcolm	6' 4"	230	DL	
27	NELOMS	J.J.	6' 0"	185	DB	Lakeland University
29	MITCHELL	Demarcus	5' 9"	200	DB	
32	COOPER	Chris	6' 2"	185		
33	REYES	Ulises	5' 11"	240	LB	Waukesha South High School
34	SMITH	Keonte				
35	FORD	Chris	5' 10"	290	FB	
39	NISLER	Sam	6' 1"	200	K	
41	GULLENS	Michael	5' 11"	247	DL	
42	BALLANGER, SR.	Aaron	6' 0"	235	LB	Quincy University
44	HICKS	James				
45	STEWART	Nathan	6' 1"	285	DL	
50	JONES	Rome	5' 9"	240	DL	
51	ALIVO	Marty	6' 0"	225	LB	
52	KRAL	Tom			LB	
53	MCGOWAN	Gemal	5' 11"	250	LB	
55	BELL, SR.	Devonte	6' 3"	284	OL	
57	GLOVER	Noah				
58	MCNEAL	Jabari	6' 5"	310	OL	
59	SNELL	Taylor	6' 0"	230	LB	Milton High School
61	SUTTON	Demario	6' 1"	350	OL	
62	SCHWAHN	Michael	6' 0"	275	OL	
64	LANDSEE	Nathan	6' 0"	275	OL	
65	CARSEN	Elliot			OL	
66	WATSON	Jimmy	6' 4"	340	OL/DL	
71	BAILEY	Ken			OL	
73	THOMPSON	Josh	6' 5"	350	OL	
77	TAMEZ	Lorenzo			OL	
81	KELLY	Dylan			WR/QB	
85	STOCKTON	Trevor	6' 0"	200	WR	
88	TAYLOR	Jordan	6' 2"	220	TE	Milwaukee Lutheran High School
90	DOWERY	Anthony	5' 10"	271	DL	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
91	RANKIN	Anthony	6' 2"	376	DL/OL	
92	RATTLER	Carlos	6' 2"	293	DL	

PLAYER PROFILE

JUSTIN BENKO

LINEBACKER

CURRENT JOB(S)

Paramedic, Midwest Medical and Event Medical Solutions; Waukesha Fire Dept.

STARTED WITH THE RAIDERS

2010 (maroon jerseys!)

FAVORITE FOOD

Wells Brothers Pizza

FAVORITE PLAYER ON THE TEAM

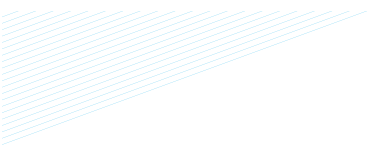
OTHER THAN YOURSELF

"Besides my actual brother, I'd have to say Torie Ruffin, even after 12 seasons and a lot of friendly fire, he's always been a good teammate and reminder of how the game should be played."

FAVORITE RACINE RAIDERS MOMENT

"I'd have to say it was those Belle City Bowls we had against the Racine Threat. Those first few games were high intensity, high stakes. And I competed against a lot of friends and former teammates on those teams."

In 2013, I remember Horlick Field wasn't even standing room only. It was worse. There were 8,000 fans, the crowd was four rows deep behind the north endzone fence. You want to see Horlick field at max capacity search 'Belle City Bowl' on YouTube and see for yourself. Amazing support from the community and an environment I'll never forget."



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VOLUNTEER PROFILE

TODD ANDREASEN

Todd Andraesen is the person that typically is calling all the shots when you're watching the Racine Raiders games on YouTube. He tells the camera people what shots to take and keeps the announcers on task.

Todd is a television engineer for WISN 12 in Milwaukee. He also does freelance camera work for a variety of networks including Bally's Sports, ESPN, TNT, CBS, and NBC.

"I have kind of a long family history and association with the Raiders," explains Todd. "I grew up going to Raiders games with my dad and remember attending when they were the Gladiators."

Todd's Godfather, Jerry Wallace, played for the team in the 1950's and Todd even tried to walk-on himself in 2001.

"I practiced with them for two weeks in 2001 as a tight end, wide receiver, and returner," remembers Todd. "I'm pretty sure I broke my right pinky returning a punt and dropped out."

The live stream has been a family affair for Todd. Each of his four kids - Owen, Chase, Olivia, and Mia - have helped out at least a little. Owen has been a mainstay on the broadcasts.

"I'm really blessed that they agreed to volunteer their time," says Todd. "It's been so much fun to show them why I love to do what I do because they're not normally able to see if I'm working a professional game."

Todd's favorite moments have been working with his family and listening to Owen direct a game. He appreciates how Owen has done such a great job filling in for him on the weeks he can't make a game.

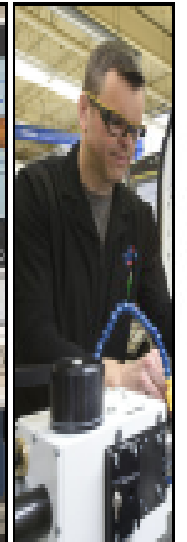
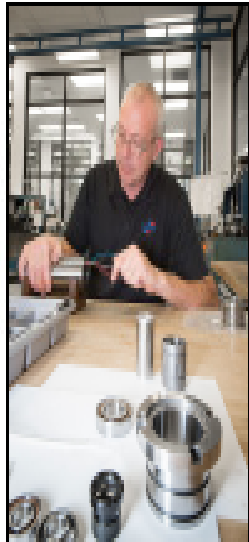
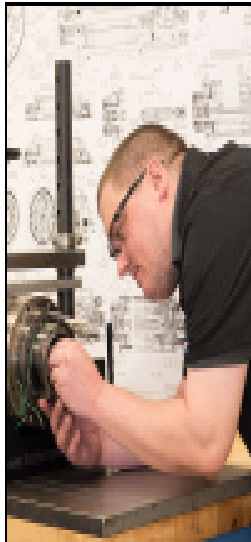
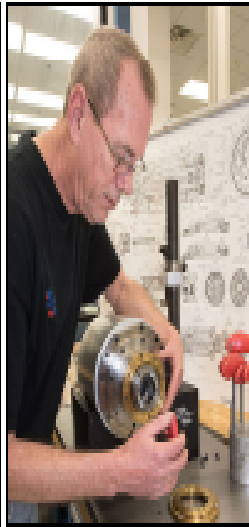
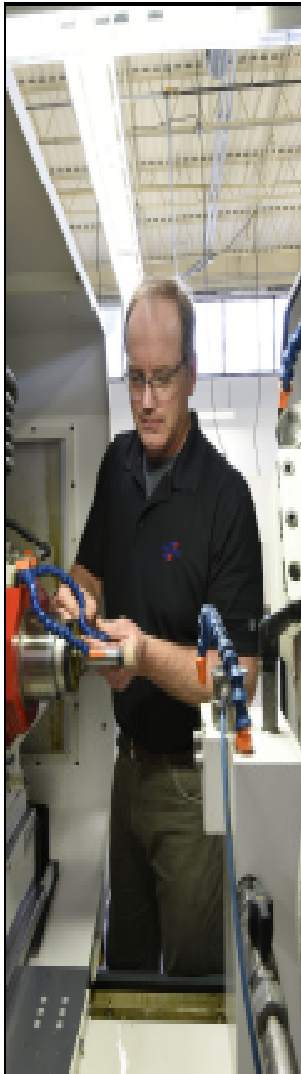
"He really knocks it out of the park," says Todd. "This year I'm hoping to run more handheld camera with him directing."

Volunteering for the Raiders can be a family affair like it is for Todd and his family! If you're interested in becoming one of the nearly 100 volunteers for the Raiders, please visit the Raiders website at www.racineraiders.com and click on *Contact* and then *Volunteer Form*.



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