

# BCSP Profile

**50 DAYS TO SUPER BOWL 50**



**A DAY-BY-DAY, SUPER BOWL-BY-SUPER BOWL LOOK AT THE IMPACT OF BLACK COLLEGE PLAYERS ON SUPER BOWLS I THRU 49 AS WE COUNT DOWN THE 50 DAYS TO SUPER BOWL 50**

DAY 4 - Thursday, December 24

## SUPER BOWL IV

**Kansas City 23, Minnesota 7**

**January 11, 1970 - Tulane Stadium, New Orleans**

13 Black College Players

**Minnesota Vikings (0)**

**Kansas City Chiefs (13)**

Cesar Belser	DB	Arkansas-Pine Bluff
Buck Buchanan	DT	Grambling
Robert Holmes	RB	Southern
Jim Kearney	DB	Prairie View A&M
Willie Lanier	LB	Morgan State
Jim Marsalis	DB	Tennessee State
Willie Mitchell	DB	Tennessee State
Frank Pitts	WR	Southern
Gloster Richardson	WR	Jackson State
Goldie Sellers	DB	Grambling
Noland Smith	WR	Tennessee State
Otis Taylor	WR	Prairie View A&M
Emmitt Thomas	DB	Bishop

## SUPER BOWL IV



**ICONIC PHOTO:** Kansas City WR Otis Taylor (#86, **PRAIRIE VIEW**) breaks loose from Minnesota safety-Paul Krause (#22).

**STORYLINE:** Super Bowl IV in Tulane Stadium in New Orleans was the first time that one of the teams in the Super Bowl did not have a player from a black college on its roster. The NFL's Minnesota Vikings, who took on the AFL's Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl IV, get that distinction. But the Chiefs more than made up for that with an all-time high (to this day) of 13 black college players on its roster. This was Kansas City's second trip to the Super Bowl in four years. After losing Super Bowl I to Green Bay, the Chiefs, 13 1/2-point underdogs, made it two wins in a row for the AFL (the Jets in Super Bowl III were the first) when they defeated and dominated the Vikings, 23-7 in the final Super Bowl before the merger of the two leagues. Kansas City's 13 black college players' (five were still on the roster from Super Bowl I) fingerprints and footprints were all over this game, in fact they dominated it. In one second-half Minnesota series, as if inspired by a scintillating touchdown from star receiver **Otis Taylor** out of **Prairie View**, a player from the black college ranks tackled on the kickoff return, tackled on four consecutive plays from scrimmage before intercepting a pass. In the game, black college players combined for more than half the Kansas City tackles (25 on 47 Viking plays from scrimmage), had two interceptions, one sack, scored the clinching touchdown, got 40 of the Chiefs' 151 rushing yards and 114 of their 122 net passing yards. It would have been hard to decide which black college player should get the MVP award. Perhaps that's why Kansas City quarterback Len Dawson got it. Perhaps?

### KANSAS CITY

**Buck Buchanan, DT (Grambling) and Willie Lanier, MLB (Morgan State)**

- Future Hall of Famers Buchanan and Lanier were leaders of the Chiefs defense that held Minnesota to 67 total rushing yards reportedly outmuscling Minnesota all-pro center Mick Tinglehoff. Lanier had seven (7) tackles and an interception. Buchanan had six (6) tackles and one sack for -8 yards.

#### Buchanan

- Tackled FB Bill Brown on a 10-yard gain on 3rd-and-13 from the Minnesota 17, forcing a punt.
- After an exchange of turnovers early in the second quarter, stopped Osborn on 3-yard run to the right.
- Sacked Joe Kapp for loss of 8 yards on 2nd-and-10 from the Kansas City 41 in possession that started with 5:34 left in the half.
- Stops Kapp on 2-yard keeper to end the half.
- Tackles Brown after 11-yard gain on screen pass
- Stopped Reed for 1-yard gain off left tackle on next-to-last play of the third quarter

#### Lanier

- Made the second tackle of the game after a 10-yard pass from Joe Kapp to Dave Osborn on 2nd-and-8 from the Minnesota 22. It was Minnesota's first first down.
- Stops Bill Brown after 2-yard gain on first second-half possession.
- Combines with Bobby Bell to take down Kapp after 7-yard gain.
- Combines with Kearney to stop Brown after 1-yard gain.
- On the first three plays of the fourth quarter, Lanier stopped Brown after a 4-yard sweep to the left side on first down, tackled Reed on a 3-yard run left on second down and on third down intercepted a pass intended for Beasley and returned it eight yards to the KC 43.

#### Emmitt Thomas CB, (Bishop)

Future Hall of Fame had three (3) tackles, a pass break-up and an interception in win over Minnesota.

- Made the first tackle of the game on a 2-yard run by Dave Osborn.
- Broke up a deep pass intended for Gene Washington in second quarter.
- On Minnesota's final possession, tackles Washington after a 9-yard gain.
- Later in the drive stopped Reed after a 15-yard run to the right.



Three plays later picked off a pass intended for Henderson at the KC 28 and returned it six yards with four minutes left in the game.

#### Jim Kearney, DB (Prairie View)

Four (4) tackles in win over Minnesota.

- Made tackle after Dave Osborn's 1-yard gain on game's opening possession.
- Held FB Bill Brown to a one-yard reception in the Vikes' second possession.
- Tackles TE John Beasley after 15-yard pass from Kapp on second play of first second-half possession.
- Tackles Oscar Reed after 12-yard pass from Kapp carries to KC 4. Osborn runs for touchdown from four yards out. With Cox PAT, Minnesota trails 16-7 with 4:32 left in the third quarter.

#### Jim Marsalis, DB (Tennessee State)

Four (4) tackles and one pass break-up in win over Minnesota.

- On 3rd-and-8 from the Viking 44, stopped John Henderson after a 6-yard gain to force a punt.
- Breaks up third-down pass intended for Henderson in second quarter. Forces 56-yard field goal attempt by Fred Cox that is short.
- Tackles Henderson after 9-yard pass from Kapp during Vikes' third quarter scoring drive.
- Stopped Henderson after 9-yard pass from Kapp on last play of third quarter.
- Tackled Henderson after a 28-yard pass from Kapp in the fourth quarter. On the next play, Kapp was intercepted by KC safety Johnny Robinson.

#### Willie Mitchell, DB (Tennessee State)

After Otis Taylor's TD catch, had tackle on ensuing third-quarter kickoff.

#### Otis Taylor, WR (Prairie View)

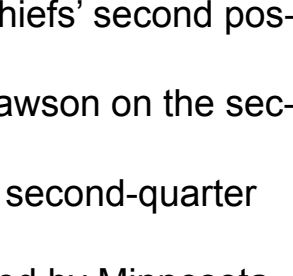
Led Chiefs with six (6) receptions for 81 yards (13.5 yards per catch) including a 46-yard third-quarter TD pass from Len Dawson that broke the back of the Vikings. Also had one tackle on an interception return.

- Caught his first pass for 9 yards in the left flat from Dawson in the Chiefs' second possession.
- On 1st-and-10 from the Minnesota 31, caught a 7-yard pass from Dawson on the second play of the second quarter.
- Made the tackle on Paul Krause after Krause intercepted a Dawson second-quarter pass.
- After Stenerud's third field goal of the first half, his kickoff was fumbled by Minnesota and recovered by Kansas City at the Viking 19. On the third play of the ensuing drive on 3rd-and-5 from the Minnesota 14, Taylor caught a 10-yard pass from Dawson to give the Chiefs 1st-and-goal at the Viking 4. On third down, Mike Garrett runs in the touchdown from five yards. Stenerud's PAT puts the Chiefs up 16-0, 5:34 before half-time.
- In Chiefs' final possession of first half, catches 3-yard pass from Dawson.
- Catches 6-yard pass from Dawson on second play of second half.
- Two plays after Pitts' 7-yard reverse, Taylor took a short pass from Dawson and broke two tackles to score from 46 yards out. The score (with Stenerud's PAT) put the Chiefs up 23-7 with 1:22 left in the third quarter.

#### Frank Pitts, WR (Southern)

Had three receptions for 33 yards. Also ran three times for 37 yards on end-arounds.

- Had a 20-yard catch on the left side from QB Len Dawson on the fifth play of the Chiefs' opening drive. Jan Stenerud kicked a 48-yard field goal four plays later to put KC up 3-0 with 6:52 left in the first quarter.
- From the KC 20 with 3:15 left in the first quarter, caught another 20-yard pass over the middle from Dawson on first down.
- On the first play of the second quarter, 3rd-and-10 from the Minnesota 48, Dawson threw incomplete to him but the Viking defender was charged with pass interference gaining the Chiefs 17 yards to the Minnesota 31.
- In Chiefs' possession starting at the Minnesota 44 with 10:05 left in the second quarter, gained 19 yards on a reverse down to the Minnesota 25. Five plays later Stenerud kicked his third field goal from 22 yards out to put Kansas City up 9-0 with 7:52 left in the half.
- In Chiefs final possession of the first half, runs reverse for 11 yards to KC 45.
- Runs seven yards on reverse in last possession of third quarter.
- On the first play of the Chiefs' first fourth-quarter possession, a screen pass to him lost seven yards.

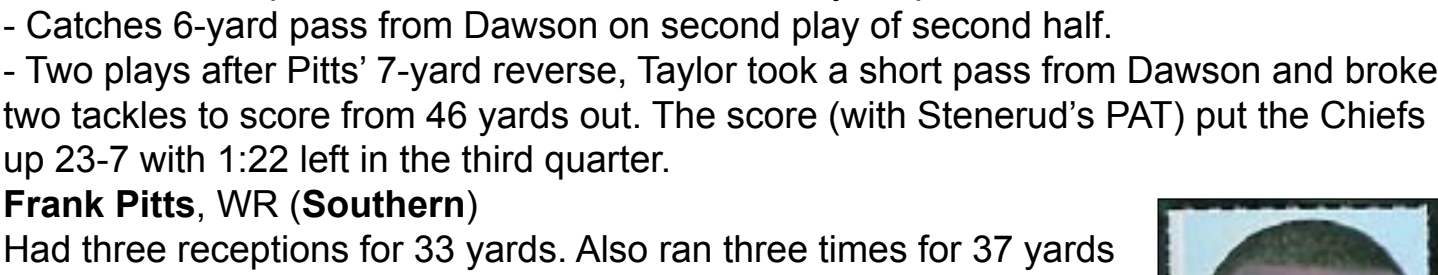


#### Robert Holmes, RB (Southern)

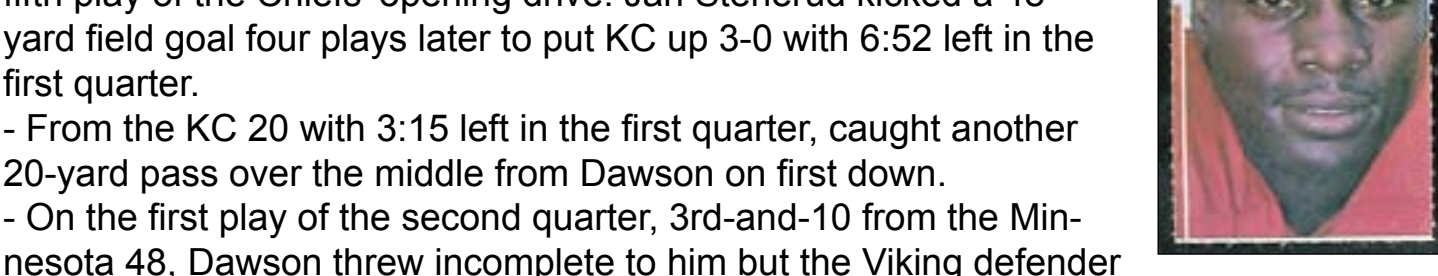
Had five (5) carries for seven (7) yards in win over Vikings.

- Had the first carry of the game for the Chiefs, a 3-yard run off left tackle
- Had another 3-yard run on the third play of the drive.
- On 2nd-and-five from the Minnesota 43, lost five yards on the last play of the first quarter.
- On the third play of the second quarter, ran for 1-yard loss. Two plays later Stenerud kicked thru a 32-yard field goal to put Kansas City up 6-0 with 13:52 left in the second quarter.
- Had a 7-yard run on the last play of the game, his only second-half carry.

MVP: Len Dawson, QB, KC - 12 of 17, 142 yards, 1 TD, 1 int.



**BUSTIN' LOOSE:** Kansas City star receiver Otis Taylor (#89, **PRAIRIE VIEW**) breaks free from a tackle by Minnesota safety Paul Krause (#22) and goes 46 yards to paydirt to break the back of the Vikings, giving the Chiefs a 23-7 lead with 1:22 left in the third quarter.



**CHIEF THIEVERY:** Linebacker Willie Lanier of the Kansas City Chiefs (#63, **MORGAN STATE**) runs with the ball after intercepting a Joe Kapp pass during the fourth quarter of Super Bowl IV on January 11, 1970. The Chiefs defeated the Minnesota Vikings by the score of 23-7.