**Kansas City Chiefs**

The Superbowl champions of 2022 and 2023 will head into 2024 aiming for a three-peat. As expected with a dynasty, there wasn't much player movement. The defence looked strong last season and arguably outperformed the offence. The 2024 offence, led by Andy Reid and Patrick Mahomes, looks slightly different with a few new additions but is expected to find its stride as it did in 2023.

Patrick Mahomes needs no introduction; he's always an MVP candidate and one of, if not the best quarterback in the NFL. When he's on the field, it's hard to stop this offence from getting on a roll. 2023 was a down year in passing yards finishing with 4183, however he still led the Chiefs to another superbowl. Backing up Mahomes this year is Carson Wentz, who joins from the Rams where he was Matthew Stafford's backup. Wentz is unlikely to see the field unless Mahomes gets injured.

The running back room loses Jerick McKinnon but re-signs Clyde Edwards-Helaire, who will back up Isaiah Pacheco. Pacheco has taken over the backfield, establishing himself as Kansas City's workhorse. Pacheco finished last year 935 yards last season. Recent signing Samajae Perine will look to take the reps left by McKinnon as the pass catching back. Carson Steele makes the roster after impressing in preseason.

The biggest moves come at wide receiver. The Chiefs add Marquise ‘Hollywood’ Brown and draft Xavier Worthy, who joins the starting lineup with Rasheed Rice. Rice impressed in his rookie season and will hope to continue that in the new season. These additions aim to provide Mahomes with more reliable targets after a season plagued by drops. The Chiefs lose Marquez Valdez-Scantling in free agency but re-sign Mecole Hardman. The Chiefs also add JuJu Smith-Schuster with Skyy Moore also in the group meaning this is one of the strongest receiver groups Mahomes has had since Tyreek Hill was in the side.

Star tight end Travis Kelce returns, seeking to continue his strong connection with Mahomes, making them one of the best duos in the NFL. Kelce stepped up in big games last season and remains Mahomes' top target. He's joined once again this year by Noah Gray for the backup tight end spot, with rookie Jared Wiley also joining through the draft. Peyton Hendershot also makes the roster.

The offensive line maintains consistency with only Nick Allegretti leaving via free agency. Creed Humphrey is set to start at centre but faces a challenge from draft pick Hunter Nourzad. Joe Thuney and Trey Smith will start at the guard positions, backed up by versatile Mike Caliendo and also C.J Hanson. Wanya Morris will start at left tackle and Jawaan Taylor at right tackle, with Kingsley Suamataia as a potential backup for both. Ethan Driskel is the back up tackle.

The biggest offseason move was re-signing Chris Jones after a stellar 2023 season. He leads the defensive line alongside Derrick Nnadi, with Mike Danna and George Karlaftis on the edges. This front four caused problems for nearly all quarterbacks last year. They hope Charles Omenih soon to provide depth, with Tershawn Wharton and Mike Pennel Jr. stepping in for now. Felix Anudike-Uzomah will seek more game time in his second year, and Malik Herring will likely join the rotation. Cameron Thomas also makes the roster to add good depth.

Willie Gay's departure is significant, but the Chiefs re-signed Drew Tranquill, who had a solid year. Nick Bolton will start alongside Tranquill, with Leo Chenal in support. Cam Jones and Jack Cochrane will likely serve as backups. Although Gay's loss is considerable, Tranquill and Bolton's rising reputations may mitigate this impact.

The secondary suffers a major blow with L’Jarius Sneed's departure to the Titans. This loss will be hard to cover. Starters Joshua Williams, Nazeeh Johnson, and standout nickel safety Trent McDuffie will have to step up, although McDuffie may find himself on the outside leaving Chamarri Conner on the outside. Jaylen Watson will be the rotation. Justin Reid will start at safety alongside Bryan Cook, Jaden Hicks joining from the draft adds depth alongside Tyree Gillespie.

Harrison Butker continues as the reliable place kicker. The Chiefs leaned on him often last season. There’s a change at punter with Matt Araiza, who will aim to reclaim his reputation and make up for lost time.

The Chiefs are poised for another Superbowl run. Achieving a three-peat will be challenging as everyone will target them again. The losses of Gay, Sneed, and Allegretti will be felt. However, with Patrick Mahomes at quarterback, the Chiefs can find ways to win, even when facing defeat. The AFC looks stronger, but it's yet to be seen if anyone can dethrone the Chiefs.

**Las Vegas Raiders**

The Raiders finished the 2023 season with a record of 8-9. The season was a strange one. It didn't start well, resulting in a coach swap. Antonio Pierce took over for the rest of the season and did well enough to get the job full-time. The Raiders head into 2024 with a few question marks, with a squad that looks capable of competing. The Raiders are in a division with the Super Bowl champions, and taking the AFC West looks a step too far at this stage.

The quarterback situation is not fully understood yet. Gardner Minshew could be and looks to be the starter at the beginning of the year; however, Aidan O’Connell finished the year strong and could still take that job away from Minshew should it not work out. Minchew had a great season with the Colts leading them so close to the playoffs, he finished with 3305 passing yards. O’Connell finished with 2218 in the 10 games he played so the quarterback battle could be an interesting one to watch.

The running back room got some depth with Alexander Mattison joining from the Vikings. Mattison struggled as the running back one for the Vikings in 2023 and is likely to be the backup to Zamir White, who had a strong finish to the season after Josh Jacobs went down with injury. White finished with 451 rushing yards however nearly 400 of those came in the last 4 weeks. There was a further running back added with Dylan Laube joining them via the draft. He impressed with his pass catching in pre pre-season and make take to the field. Amber Abdullah was also kept on the roster for added depth on the roster.

Stud wide receiver Davante Adams will lead the Raiders once again, Adams finished the season with 1144 receiving yards and did have a very reliable Jakobi Meyers next to him. Meyers finished with 807 yards and will look to continue the same way after a good first season in Las Vegas. Tre Tucker comes in at the third wide receiver spot heading into his year two. DJ Turner, Rameel Keyton, Tyreik McAllister and Jeff Foreman are the backups.

However, the tight ends offer receiving threats. The Raiders already have second-rounder Michael Mayer from the 2023 draft, and they then selected Brock Bowers in the 2024 draft. Both of these could be vital in this offence due to their dual threat in the blocking/run game and the receiving game. The two of them could have varied roles at both receiver and tight end. Harrison Bryant was kept for depth.

The offensive line is similar to last season. Andre James re-signs and will continue at centre even though the Raiders drafted Jackson Powers-Johnson in the second round. Powers-Johnson will be starting at left guard once he is healthy to play, until then Cody Whitehair who joined in free agency. Dylan Parham will be the right guard. Kolton Miller will be the starting left tackle. Andrus Peat will be the backup left tackle. Thayer Munford Jr. will be the starting right tackle; however, the Raiders got a valuable backup with Delmar Glaze via the draft. Jake Johanning and Jordan Meredith were also kept on the roster.

The defensive line is looking strong thanks to the arrival of Christian Wilkins through free agency from the Dolphins. He will be on the inside with John Jenkins and Adam Butler, who both re-signed with the team. Nesta Jade Silvera and Jonah Laulu were also kept on the roster for added depth. The defensive threat only gets scarier looking to the outside when the outstanding defensive end Maxx Crosby attacks. Crosby finished with 14.5 sacks. He and Wilkins could be a huge force for the Raiders. On the other side, Malcolm Koonce is likely to be the starter once back from injury reserve. Janarius Robinson and Tyree Wilson will be in rotation and will battle for the starting job. The Raiders will be hoping for more from Tyree Wilson after an inconsistent rookie season. Charles Snowdon was kept for the depth. Although the Raiders lost Bilal Nichols in free agency, the signing of Christian Wilkins fills the void left.

Tommy Eichenberg joins the linebacker group from Ohio State via the draft and stands a chance of getting a starting role. However, it is likely still going to be Robert Spillane, Divine Deablo, and Luke Masterson who will most likely serve as the team's starters. The introduction of Eichenberg, who comes with a reputation for being a strong tackler, could be a shrewd bit of business by the Raiders during the draft. Amari Gainer, Darnay Holmes and Kana’i Mauga are also in the squad for depth.

There is also consistency in the secondary. The Raiders lose Amik Robertson in free agency, but they keep the rest. The starting corners will be Jack Jones and Nate Hobbs. Hobbs has the versatility to play at nickel and corner, which could lead to opportunities on the outside for one of Jakorian Bennett, Brandon Facyson,and rookie Decamerion Richardson. Jakorian Bennett will likely be the one. Marcus Epps and Tre’von Moehrig will be the starting safeties. Trey Taylor joins via the draft and will give some backup once back from IR. Chris Smith, Isaiah Pola-Moa and Thomas Harper are also kept for depth.

Daniel Carlson will be the kicker once again. He will be a fairly reliable boot. He did miss a few field goals last season that were in his range; however, he was perfect on extra points. Carlson will be needed for the Raiders to have a lot of success.

The Raiders squad has a lot of elite players on the roster that they will rely heavily on for a strong and successful season. The run once Pierce took over as head coach should also carry over into 2024. Adams and Meyers' continued success will be vital for either Minshew or O’Connell to lead this offence. The defence looks strong up front with Crosby and Wilkins leading the line. These four stars are going to be needed all season long for the Raiders to have a run this year.

**Denver Broncos**

The Denver Broncos head into the 2024 season with a new sense of direction. The Broncos cut Russell Wilson, leaving them open to selecting a long-term replacement, which they did by drafting Bo Nix. Sean Payton will be hoping for a much more successful season than 2023, where the Broncos managed eight wins. However, their gameplay was often heavily criticised, which also led to the change in quarterback towards the end of the season.

The Broncos drafted Bo Nix at 12 in the 2024 draft, their first selection. They will be hoping that they can do enough with him to have improved play heading into the season. Head coach Sean Payton did not hid his happiness in drafting Nix and he gets to help lead the Broncos with his choice at quarterback. Nix is likely to be backed up by Zach Wilson, who has struggled to live up to the title of the second overall pick so far in his career. The Broncos also have Jerrett Stidham on the roster if required.

The running back room for the Broncos is a little crowded. Starting running back Javonte Williams looks to get away from a tough season coming back from injury finishing 2023 with 774 rushing yards. However, if Williams continues to struggle, Jaleel McLaughlin and Audric Estime are looking to jump in and take the spot. Blake Watson also makes the roster, and he beat Samaje Perine for a roster spot. Williams will want to look more like the rookie year Javonte than the one from last year who struggled.

Bo Nix will have a few targets to throw the ball to when the season gets going. Courtland Sutton is likely to continue his role as wide receiver one, but he will want to improve on the 772 yards from last year. He is, however, a red zone target as he finished with 10 touchdowns. Sutton did lose wide receiver two Jerry Jeudy in a trade to the Browns, but the free agent pickup of Josh Reynolds and draft pick Troy Franklin, who was an Oregon teammate of Nix, joins Sutton and Marvin Mims, who started the season on fire before the flames went out. There is also a roster spot for Devaughn Vele.

The tight end room is intriguing for the Broncos. It is likely Adam Trautman is going to start ahead of Greg Dulcich. However, this could easily flip through the season if Dulcich can stay fit and be the reliable target that he was in his rookie year. Injuries have cost Dulcich his starting place to Trautman, but Trautman is known more for his blocking abilities than his playmaking. Lucas Krull and Nate Adkins also make the team to provide depth to the spot.

The Denver offensive line will look to try and protect the new rookie quarterback to give him as much time he needs to grow. Luke Wattenburg looks to have won the starting centre role and Alex Forsyth will back him up. Garett Bolles will look to continue where he left off last season at left tackle. Mike McGlinchey will start at right tackle but has backup from Matt Peart through free agency, the Broncos also have Alex Palczewski, Frank Crum and Quinn Bailey in the back up tackle spots so there is plenty of depth. Ben Powers and Quinn Meinerz are likely to start at left and right guard respectively. As it stands there are no back up guards so one of the back up tackles may have to be moved inside should they be required too.

The defensive line gets a bit of depth in free agency as they pick up Malcolm Roach. They will be hoping to try and beat out starters Zach Allen, D.J. Jones, and John Franklin-Myers. The Broncos also keep Jordan Jackson and Eyioma Uwazurike for added depth at tackle. The Broncos will be hoping for more production this year out of the defensive line with the majority of last year's sacks coming from the linebackers. Zach Allen led the category last year with just five sacks.

The linebacker group is a strong unit, likely to continue this coming season. Jonathan Cooper got the most sacks last year with eight and a half at the outside linebacker position, with Nik Bonitto also chipping in with eight from the other side. Cooper and Bonitto are joined on the outside by Baron Browning and rookie Jonah Ellis. The Broncos also kept Ronnie Perkins, Kristian Welch and Durrell Nchhami on the roster for depth. In the middle, the linebackers will be led by Alex Singleton and Cody Barton, with Barton joining from free agency. The Broncos will be hoping for a jump from last year's rookie Drew Sanders, who showed glimpses that he could be a really good player. Justin Strnad will also be fighting for reps in this team.

The secondary looks like another strong unit even with losing Justin Simmons. The group will be led by Patrick Surtain and Riley Moss at corner. Levi Wallace and Damarri Mathis will likely be the backup here. The Broncos also kept Tremon Smith and Kris Abrams-Draine on the roster. The nickelback corner Ja’Quan McMillian has some tough competition with Kris Abrams-Draine joining in the draft due to his versatility. The safety room took a huge hit with the loss of Simmons. Brandon Jones joins in free agency from the Dolphins and will be looking to replace him. P.J. Locke looks set to start. JL Skinner and Delarrin Turner-Yell will be looking to help out from the rotation with Devon Key also ready when required.

Sean Payton brings in Saints kicker Will Lutz. The kicker played under Payton at the Saints; he does have a huge boot and will be hugely vital for this side.

The Broncos will be an intriguing side to watch this season, with a rookie quarterback likely to be leading the side. Getting the ball moving will be key. The Broncos look well-set at running back to help out when required. The defence still looks like a strong unit, bringing in some vital players that could make a difference. It will be a challenge for the Broncos, especially in a tough division, but if Nix plays well, they have reason for optimism going forward.

**Los Angeles Chargers**

The Chargers have a poor 2023. They finished with a 5-12 record leading to Brandon Staley being fired, he was replaced in the off-season with Jim Harbaugh fresh off winning the national championship with Michigan. The 2024 Chargers are hoping to be stronger and be able to challenge. There have been some huge changes in the roster so it could be interesting to see how the season goes.

 Justin Herbert will once again lead the Chargers, he is coming off a season ending injury in 2023. Herbert was playing well before the injury however the results were not going the Chargers way. He finished with 3134 yards from his 13 games with 20 touchdowns and only 7 interceptions. Herbert will be hoping the defence can be stronger this Year to help get them over the line. Taylor Heinicke joins the squad and will challenge Easton Stick, they will continue as the back-up quarterback and will step up if Herbert is unable to go.

The running backs are completely different this year, the chargers let Austin Ekeler walk in free agency after a disappointing season, Joshua Kelly also leaves the side. The Chargers brought in both Ravens running backs that landed in free agency picking up Gus Edwards and JK Dobbins. Dobbins struggled with injuries again in 2023 but Edwards took over as the number one running back in Baltimore and finished with 810 rushing yards and 13 touchdowns. Kimani Vidal also joins via the draft and could get some work should the persistent injuries to both Edwards and Dobbins hamper their 2024 season. Hassan Haskins also makes the roster.

More changes were made at wide receiver as the Chargers add Ladd McConkey with the 34th pick of the draft, this wasn't the only draft pick up as they also selected Brenden Rice and Cornelius Johnson. It's likely that McConkey will take a starting role alongside Joshua Palmer and Quentin Johnson whilst the other two battle out for depth chart spots with DJ Chark who also joined the team this year via free agency, however Chark faces a stint on IR to start the season. Darius Davis and Simi Fehoko also make the roster for depth. The losses of Keenan Allen and Mike Williams will be huge for the Chargers and Justin Herbert but they will be both hoping the new faces can take over from them.

The tight ends also have changed, Gerald Everett leaves the side in free agency. The Chargers do add Will Dissly and Hayden Hurst to replace him. Dissly and Hurst are likely to be rotated and adds more depth than the 2023 season. This could be a really good bit of business for the chargers as they get two tight ends capable of being the starter. Stone Smart and Eric Tomlinson also make the roster as well.

Joe Alt was selected 5th in the draft, he was the first tackle selected and the second non QB selected in 2024, he will be trusted to protect Herbert from the right tackle spot. Rashawn Slater will be the left tackle once again. There is a change in the middle of the offensive line as Bradley Bozeman comes in at centre as Will Clapp departs. Zion Johnson will be starting at left guard, Johnson is a hugely impressive guard who heads into year three. Jamaree Slayer or Trey Pipkins III will be the right guard. The Chargers re-signed Foster Sarell who will be the backup tackle. Brenden Jaimes and Jordan McFadden will be back up guards and Bucky Williams the backup centre. Tyler McLennan is also on the roster but starts on IR.

The Chargers add Poona Ford to the defensive line. He will join Justin Eboigbe in battling it out for the starting jobs who joined via the draft along with Morgan Fox and Otito Ogbonnia. Scoot Matlock and Teair Tart were also kept on the roster for depth pieces. The defensive line got the big boost of the cap casualties as they were able to keep hold of both fantastic defensive ends/outside linebackers Khalil Mack and Joey Bosa. Tuli Tuipulotu will also be there on the rotation after a strong rookie season as well as veteran Bud Dupree. Shaquille Quarterman, makes the roster alongside Chris Rumph II and Chris Collins however the latter two start on IR.

The linebackers also have a complete change as the Charger signed Denzel Perryman who came off a strong year last season. He will partner Daiyan Henley in the centre of the field. Junior Colson also joins via the draft. Colson was the Michigan captain under Harbaugh last season in college. These two will be hoping to form a strong partnership and help lead the defence to stronger showings than the last few seasons. Nick Niemann and Troy Dye will also be amongst the group of inside linebackers.

Asante Samuel has a new corner partner in Kristian Fulton who joins the secondary of the team. This is also not the only new face at corner as the Chargers add both Cam Hart and Tarheeb Still via the draft. They go alongside Deane Leonard on the rotation. Ja’Sir Taylor will be the starting Nickel corner. Alohi Gilman re-signs with the Chargers and is slated to start alongside Derwin James. The safety group that has not got a new face as AJ Finley and Elijah Molden will continue to be the back ups.

The Chargers were able to re-sign Cameron Dicker. Dicker the kicker had a great season last year being perfect in any kick under 50 yards and only missing two of nine outside of that. Dicker will look to continue with those figures next season.

The Chargers 2023 season was not great however they have the right to be optimistic about 2024 season. They will be hoping that the new coaching staff can strengthen the defensive side of the ball and with Jim Harbaugh’s offensive mind they can get the offence going and win games in different ways. The losses of Allen and Williams is going to be tough for the Chargers but when you have a franchise quarterback like Justin Herbert there will always be a reason to believe in this side, if they hit on their picks and free agency signings the Chargers could be in for a much better season than last year.

**Outlook and Prediction**

It is really hard not too look at this division at not see the Chiefs winning, they are back to back superbowl champions and will be wanting to do the threepeat. The Raiders have some really nice pieces to their team, they will need their big stars to shine all season. The Broncos are a team in a rebuild, with a new quarterback taking the lead it maybe another tough season.The Chargers are also in a rebuild with a new head coach coming in, they do have a franchise quarterback and some nice pieces but it looks out of reach also for a challenge to the Chiefs.

**Prediction:**

1. Chiefs
2. Chargers
3. Raiders
4. Broncos