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Eric Bieniemy had better learn to ration his booming voice. It was one thing when the running back-turned-assistant coach could spend an entire 3-hour practice barking at the running backs Womens Tyler Kroft Jersey , a handful of players under his direct supervision. It's quite another now that he's in charge of dozens of players on the Kansas City Chiefs' offense. But that in-your-face intensity is also a big reason why Bieniemy has quickly risen through the coaching ranks, from running backs coach at his alma mater, Colorado, to offensive coordinator in the NFL. So don't expect him to turn the volume down anytime soon. "The biggest thing Coach Bieniemy will bring to our offense is his intensity," said Chiefs running back Spencer Ware, who has worked closely under him the past couple seasons. "If you look at his resume and the players he's coached and the way they play football, each and every play they get out there on the field — having an entire offense with that same mentality is pretty exciting." Pretty intimidating, too. Bieniemy carries a presence on the practice field that looms much larger than his stout frame. When he speaks, people listen — mostly because the volume is so high. Quite frankly, it's hard to ignore. "I just joked with him out here, he's having to walk around now. He isn't coaching just one position," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "He has to grind on everybody. That takes a little bit of getting used to. He did a nice job of figure all that during minicamps and that." Reid has always thought highly of Bieniemy Womens Clayton Fejedelem Jersey , who joined his initial staff as the running backs coach in Kansas City. But the fact that he elevated Bieniemy to offensive coordinator after watching Matt Nagy take over the head job in Chicago speaks volumes about Reid's belief in his assistant's ability. Never before has he had an offensive coordinator who played anything but quarterback. There was Rod Dowhower in the early years in Philadelphia, and Brad Childress and Marty Mornhinweg had backgrounds with the most mentally demanding position on the field. Doug Pederson became Reid's first offensive coordinator in Kansas City before taking the Eagles' top job and parlaying some of what he learned during his time with the Chiefs into a Super Bowl title this past season. It makes sense, too. The quarterback is the only player on offense who must know everybody's job on every play. That's why so many of them successfully transition to coaching. Bieniemy has shown a similar aptitude, though. The Chiefs have always used their running backs in the passing game, so he's had a hand in that part of the scheme, and his success in helping Kareem Hunt go from unheralded and overlooked draft pick to NFL rushing champion was hard to ignore. "He brings a certain detail to the offense that I think that we really need," first-year quarterback Patrick Mahomes II said, "and it's something that he stays detailed and he stays on you and he makes sure you're doing the right things, and I feel like it'll help me a ton as this year goes along." Over time, Pederson and Nagy were given carte blanche with the offense, and there's a good chance Bieniemy will earn that latitude as well. But for now, he'll work hand-in-hand with Reid and quarterbacks coach Mike Kafka in orchestrating what could be one of the league's top offenses. The Chiefs have surrounded Mahomes with plenty of weapons: Hunt in the backfield A.J. Green Jersey , Travis Kelce at tight end, and wide receiver Sammy Watkins joining speedster Tyreek Hill as downfield threats. In other words, they've also given Bieniemy the tools necessary to succeed. "This is actually a unique position because I get to touch every position on the offensive side of the ball," he said. "It's a unique situation to be in." NOTES: The Chiefs released WR Elijah Marks and signed DT Mike Purcell. ... Hunt did individual work but was held out of team drills Friday to rest his hamstring, which bothered him during the summer. ... LB Reggie Ragland (knee), CB Ashton Lampkin (knee) and FS Armani Watts (ankle) did not practice. CINCINNATI (AP) — Off to a historically bad start on offense, the Bengals fired their coordinator after only two games last season and got better results the rest of the way, though not good enough to make the playoffs. They overhauled the NFL's worst offense in the offseason by firing the line coach, trading for a tackle and drafting a center in the first round. That part has worked. The offensive improvement is part of the reason Cincinnati is 5-3 at its bye, one of nine teams with so many wins. Now, the Bengals have another huge problem to fix if they're going to reach the playoffs for the first time in three years. This time, it's a historically bad defense . Cincinnati has allowed the most yards and points in the league. The Bengals have given up 500 yards

in back-to-back games for the first time in their history. If their current track holds Womens Geno Atkins Jersey , they would become only the second team in NFL history to allow more than 7,000 yards in a season. "At the end of the day, we can do better," cornerback Dre Kirkpatrick said. "I know we can." They'll have to play a lot better on defense if they want to overtake Pittsburgh (4-2-1) and win the division. The Bengals installed a new defense under first-year coordinator Teryl Austin. They also continued a youth movement on defense, fielding the youngest team in coach Marvin Lewis' 16 seasons. Injuries have played a role, too. So has the schedule, with Cincinnati facing some of the league's top offenses — No. 1 Tampa Bay, No. 3 Kansas City, No. 4 Pittsburgh, No. 7 Atlanta. The Bengals face No. 8 New Orleans coming out of their bye. "The NFL wants more yards, more scoring, and they are getting it Bobby Hart Jersey ," Austin said. "A lot of it has to do with there are a lot of good quarterbacks, a lot of good receivers, and it's been opened up. It's like fast-break basketball. That makes it tough." The bye could help with some healing. Cornerback Darqueze Dennard has been sidelined with a shoulder injury the past two games. Linebacker Nick Vigil is out with a sprained knee. Linebacker Vontaze Burfict sat out a win over Tampa Bay with a hip injury. Kirkpatrick has been limited by an Achilles injury. Pass rush specialist Carl Lawson tore his ACL. Several others have been in-and-out with various problems, hurting the consistency. "This has been a challenge in terms of the amount of injuries," Austin said. The offense also is looking to get several key players back after the bye. Running back Giovani Bernard has been sidelined by a knee injury for the past four games. Rookie center Billy Price is practicing after suffering a partially torn ligament in his right foot during the second game. Tight end Tyler Kroft (foot) and receiver John Ross (groin) also have missed time, contributing to problems on an offense that's better than last year but still has issues and ranks 23rd in yards. During a 37-34 win over the Buccaneers on Sunday, the offense managed only 95 yards in the second half and had four consecutive drives that failed to get a first down, helping Tampa Bay rally late. "That is where it's disappointing," quarterback Andy Dalton said. "Offensively, we didn't play the same way we did in the first half and we weren't getting first downs. We had way too many three-and-out drives, and in that way it's disappointing." Despite their flaws, the Bengals have stayed above .500 by pulling out games at the end — something they lacked the past two seasons. The defense has scored four touchdowns Vontaze Burfict Jersey , and Dalton has led last-minute drives in two victories. They know they've been fortunate. "To be 5-3 right now is huge," Dalton said. Four of their last eight games are against teams that currently have losing records, including two against Cleveland. They also play at Baltimore and finish the season at Pittsburgh, so there's a chance to win the division if they can fix their problems. The bye provides a chance to try to figure out ways to tweak the offense and the defense, get some veterans ready to return, and take a breath after a wild first two months. "There needs to be some mental health here, too," Lewis said.

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