

What Keap Set into Motion Timeline

(Events are adapted from quotes in the news)



San Francisco 49er quarterback Colin Kaepernick's silent protest goes unnoticed as he sits during the singing of the anthem during preseason NFL football games.



People start to notice Kaepernick's protest as he sits during the singing of the anthem at preseason games.



Steve Wyche of NFL Media asks Kaepernick why he's refusing to stand up for the national anthem. Kaepernick explains that "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses Black people and people of color."



Kaepernick is widely ridiculed as an ignorant, washed-up millionaire athlete who just wants attention when he first starts his protest.



In response to some of the ridicule and critics, Kaep explains the goal was never to be anti-American or anti-military or to disrespect troops. He was trying to bring a serious social issue to light and try to provoke change.



Kaepernick meets with former Green Beret and brief NFL long snapper Nate Boyer and decides to shift from sitting to taking a knee during the national anthem. Kaepernick later explained that he talked with Boyer about "how we can get the message back on track and not take away from the military, not take away from fighting for our country, but keep focus on what the issues really are. And as we talked about it, we came up with taking a knee. Because there are issues that still need to be addressed and it was also a way to show more respect to the men and women who fight for this country."



Kaepernick takes a knee during the singing of the anthem and is joined by teammate Eric Reid to continue his protest in a silent but more visible way during the preseason finale against the Chargers.



After the 49ers' preseason finale against the Chargers, Kaepernick announced he plans to donate the first \$1 million he earns this year to charities that help communities in need to further support the causes he believes in.



The union for police officers who work San Francisco home games says its members may boycott policing the stadium if the 49ers don't discipline Colin Kaepernick for refusing to stand during the national anthem and for his statements about law enforcement.



NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell "on Wednesday finally weigh[s] ... in on Colin Kaepernick's continuing refusal to stand for the national anthem." Goodell says: "I don't necessarily agree with what he's doing I support our players when they want to see change in society, and we don't live in a perfect society. On the other hand, we believe very strongly in patriotism in the NFL. I personally believe very strongly in that."



Following Kaepernick's explanation for his protest, the San Francisco 49ers pledge to donate \$1 million to two Bay Area charities for "the cause of improving racial and economic inequality," 49ers CEO Jed York announced on Thursday.



Denver Broncos linebacker Brandon Marshall takes a knee during the national anthem at the NFL regular season opener on Thursday, September 8. He is the first player to take a knee or sit during the anthem during the regular season. Like Kaepernick, Marshall said it was about social change. "I'm not against the military. I'm not against the police or America I'm against social injustice."



On the September 11 edition of ESPN's "Sunday NFL Countdown," commentator Trent Dilfer told Kaepernick: "A backup quarterback's job is to be quiet, and sit in the shadows and get the starter ready to play Week 1 Yet he chose ... [to become] the center of attention, and it has disrupted that organization. It has caused friction, and it's torn at the fabric of the team."



On the NFL's opening night, Seahawks, Dolphins, Chiefs, and Patriots players demonstrate during nation anthem. Other players in other teams join Kaepernick and Reid.



During Monday night's football game, Eric Reid kneels alongside Colin Kaepernick. 49ers teammates and Rams players raise their fists. The 49ers players are joined by their opponents; Rams defensive end Robert Quinn and wide receiver Kenny Britt stand with their fists in the air.



Four days after matching Colin Kaepernick's pledge to donate \$1 million to underserved communities, 49ers CEO Jed York acknowledged the team is supportive of the quarterback as he continues to not stand during the national anthem. "It's not easy to make a stand and do something that's not popular with everybody," York said before tonight's season opener against the Rams. "I think that's what Colin has done. He's done it in a respectful way."



According to Robert Klemko, more than 70 NFL players, including Kaepernick, Foster, and Richard Sherman are in a group text talking about "what Kaep started."



A Colorado credit union and CenturyLink terminate their sponsorship agreements with Denver Broncos linebacker Brandon Marshall (who had taken a knee during the national anthem). "While we acknowledge Brandon's right, we also believe that whatever issues we face, we also occasionally must stand together to show our allegiance to our common bond as a nation," CenturyLink said. "In our view, the national anthem is one of those moments. For this reason, while we wish Brandon the best this season, we are politely terminating our agreement with him."



More 49ers join Kaepernick and the Dolphins continue their protest. Kaepernick's teammates Antoine Bethea, Eli Harold, Jaquiski Tartt, and Rashard Robinson join in protesting during the national anthem by raising their right fists ahead of San Francisco's game vs. the Carolina Panthers. Meanwhile, in Foxboro three of the same Miami Dolphins players continued their protest. Arian Foster, safety Michael Thomas and wide receiver Kenny Stills all kneel during the anthem.



Philadelphia Eagles player Malcolm Jenkins was joined by teammates Steven Means, Ron Brooks and Marcus Smith in raising a fist while standing during the anthem.



Kaepernick said Tuesday that he has received threats via "a couple of different avenues," in addition to social media. He seemed mostly nonplussed [surprised and confused] by the threats, saying he hasn't reported any of them to the 49ers security team.



It is announced that Kaepernick will be featured on the cover of Time Magazine in October.



Actual “What Keap Set into Motion” Timeline

(Additional events are included in italics.)

Aug. 14 and Aug. 20 - Kaepernick silent protest goes unnoticed as he sits during the singing of the anthem during preseason NFL football games.

Aug. 26 - People start to notice Kaepernick’s protest as he sits during the singing of the anthem during preseason games.

Aug. 28 - Steve Wyche of NFL Media asks the San Francisco 49er quarterback why he’s refusing to stand up for the national anthem. Kaepernick explains that "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color."

End of August - Kaepernick is widely ridiculed as an ignorant, washed-up millionaire athlete who just wants attention when he first starts his protest.

August 28 - In response to some of the ridicule and critics, Kaep explains the goal was never to be anti-American or anti military or to disrespect troops. He was trying to bring a serious social issue to light and try to provoke change.

August 30 - Kaepernick meets with former Green Beret and brief NFL long snapper Nate Boyer and decides to shift from sitting to taking a knee during the national anthem. Kaepernick later explains that “we were talking to [Boyer] about how we can get the message back on track and not take away from the military, not take away from fighting for our country, but keep focus on what the issues really are. And as we talked about it, we came up with taking a knee. Because there are issues that still need to be addressed and it was also a way to show more respect to the men and women who fight for this country.” <http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 1 - Kaepernick takes a knee during the singing of the anthem and is joined by teammate Eric Reid to continue his protest in a silent but more visible way during the preseason finale against the Chargers.

Sept 1 - After the 49ers' preseason finale against the Chargers, Kaepernick announced he plans to donate the first \$1 million he earns this year to charities that help communities in need to further support the causes he believes in.

Sept. 2 - *Brunswick High School: Ohio’s Rodney Axson didn’t plan on becoming the first high school athlete to join Kaepernick’s protests, but when he heard his teammates using the “N-word” to describe players on the other team [in the first week of September], he changed his mind and took a knee during the anthem.*

<https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 3 - The union for police officers who work San Francisco home games says its members may boycott policing the stadium if the 49ers don't discipline Colin Kaepernick for refusing to stand during the national anthem and for his statements about law enforcement. <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2016/09/03/police-union-responds-to-colin-kaepernicks-national-anthem-protest-with-warning-to-49ers/>

Early September and beyond - *The Brunswick High senior [who took a knee] has received racist threats ever since [taking a knee]. Axson says he was called the N-word by teammates multiple times both verbally that day and in subsequent text messages. Later in the week, a Snapchat post surfaced with a photo of a hand-written piece of paper with four "N-Words" preceded by "F — k Rodney" and followed by "Lets Lynch Ni — ers."* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 4 - *In what she described as a "nod to Kaepernick," Seattle Reign star Megan Rapinoe took a knee during the national anthem before her game against the Chicago Red Stars. "I am disgusted with the way [Kaepernick] has been treated and the fans and hatred he has received in all of this," Rapinoe said. "It is overtly racist. We need a more substantive conversation around race relations and the way people of color are treated."* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 7 - *[Following Kaepernick's lead before the NFL season even opened] Keyona Morrow, a volleyball player and the vice president of the Black Student Union at WVU tech, knelt during the anthem along with two of her teammates. "Everyone should be treated equally, no matter their color age, sex anything. Everyone needs to be on one page, everyone needs to be treated the same way," Morrow said.* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 7 - "N.F.L. Commissioner Roger Goodell on Wednesday finally weigh[s] ... in on Colin Kaepernick's continuing refusal to stand for the national anthem." ... "I don't necessarily agree with what he's doing." "I support our players when they want to see change in society, and we don't live in a perfect society," he said. "On the other hand, we believe very strongly in patriotism in the N.F.L. I personally believe very strongly in that." http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/08/sports/football/colin-kaepernick-anthem-protest-nfl-roger-goodell.html?_r=0

Sept. 8 - *[Following Kaepernick's explanation for his protest] the San Francisco 49ers ... pledge... to donate \$1 million to two Bay Area charities for "the cause of improving racial and economic inequality," [49ers] CEO Jed York announced Thursday.*

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/49ers/2016/09/08/san-francisco-niners-donation-colin-kaepernick/90091424/>

Sept. 8 - Denver Broncos linebacker Brandon Marshall takes a knee during the national anthem at the NFL regular season opener [on Thursday September 8. He is] ... the first player to take a knee or sit during the anthem ... [in the] regular season Like Kaepernick, Marshall said it was about social change. "I'm not against the military. I'm not against the police or America I'm against social injustice."

<http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 9 - *High school football players across the country take a knee during the anthem, as does an FSU volleyball player.* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 10 - *The anthem protests continue in high schools, and spread to a youth football team, two college football teams, and ... Alaska.* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 11 - On the Sept. 11 edition of ESPN's "Sunday NFL Countdown," commentator Trent Dilfer told Kaepernick that he should stay in his place. "A backup quarterback's job is to be quiet, and sit in the shadows and get the starter ready to play Week 1, Yet he chose ... [to become] the center of attention, and it has disrupted that organization. It has caused friction, and it's torn at the fabric of the team."

<http://atlantablackstar.com/2016/09/13/colin-kaepernick-has-choice-words-sponsors-dropped-brandon-marshall/>

Sept. 11 - On the NFL's opening night, Seahawks, Dolphins, Chiefs and Patriots players demonstrate during nation anthem. Other players in other teams join Kaepernick and Read.

Sept. 12 - Eric Reid kneels alongside Colin Kaepernick. 49ers teammates and Rams players raise their fists [during Monday night's football game]. The 49ers players were joined by their opponents, Rams defensive end Robert Quinn ... and wide receiver Kenny Britt ... stood with their fists in the air."

<http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 12 - Four days after matching Colin Kaepernick's pledge to donate \$1 million to underserved communities, 49ers CEO Jed York acknowledged the team is supportive of the quarterback as he continues to not stand during the national anthem. "It's not easy to make a stand and do something that's not popular with everybody," York said before tonight's season opener against the Rams. "I think that's what Colin has done. He's done it in a respectful way." <http://www.sfgate.com/49ers/article/49ers-York-on-Kaepernick-We-all-respect-9218561.php#photo-10864512>

Sept. 12 - According to Robert Klemko more than 70 NFL players, including Kaepernick, Foster, and Richard Sherman are in a group text talking about "what Kaep started."
http://www.slate.com/articles/sports/sports_nut/2016/09/colin_kaepernick_s_protest_is_working.html

Sept. 13 - A Colorado credit union and CenturyLink ... terminate... sponsorship agreements with Marshall. "While we acknowledge Brandon's right, we also believe that whatever issues we face, we also occasionally must stand together to show our allegiance to our common bond as a nation," CenturyLink said "In our view, the national anthem is one of those moments. For this reason, while we wish Brandon the best this season, we are politely terminating our agreement with him."
<http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 16 - Entire high school team in Seattle takes a knee. The Garfield High School Bulldogs players and coaching staff took a knee and put their hands on one another's shoulders before a game against West Seattle High. <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 17 - Cheerleaders join in. ... The protests finally move to the nation's capital as all of the Howard University cheerleaders took a knee during the anthem. Zachary Johnson, the executive president of Howard's school of communications, told CNN that many of the Howard football players also raised their fists. <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 18 - More 49ers join Kaepernick, Dolphins continue protest. Kaepernick's teammates Antoine Bethea, Eli Harold, Jaquiski Tartt and Rashard Robinson joined in protesting during the national anthem by raising their right fists ahead of San Francisco's game vs. the Carolina Panthers. Meanwhile in Foxboro three of the same Miami Dolphins players continued their protest. Arian Foster, safety Michael Thomas and wide receiver Kenny Stills all kneeled during the anthem.
<http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 19 - Philadelphia Eagles player Malcolm Jenkins is joined by Steven Means, Ron Brooks and Marcus Smith in raising a fist while standing during the anthem.
<http://www.sbnation.com/2016/9/11/12869726/colin-kaepernick-national-anthem-protest-seahawks-brandon-marshall-nfl>

Sept. 20 - Kaepernick said Tuesday that he has received threats via "a couple of different avenues," in addition to social media. He seemed mostly nonplussed [surprised and confused] by the threats, saying he hasn't reported any of them to the 49ers security team. http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/17597992/colin-kaepernick-san-francisco-49ers-says-gotten-death-threats-protest-national-anthem

Sept. 20 - *[Griffin] Middle School football coach kneels with players behind the bleachers to avoid having the game cancelled.* <https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 21 - *The middle and high school band playing the national anthem before the Oakland A's game takes a knee towards the end of the song.*
<https://thinkprogress.org/national-anthem-sports-protest-tracker-kaepernick-284ff1d1ab3e#.meev2nx47>

Sept. 22 - It is announced that Kaepernick will be featured on the cover of Time Magazine in October.