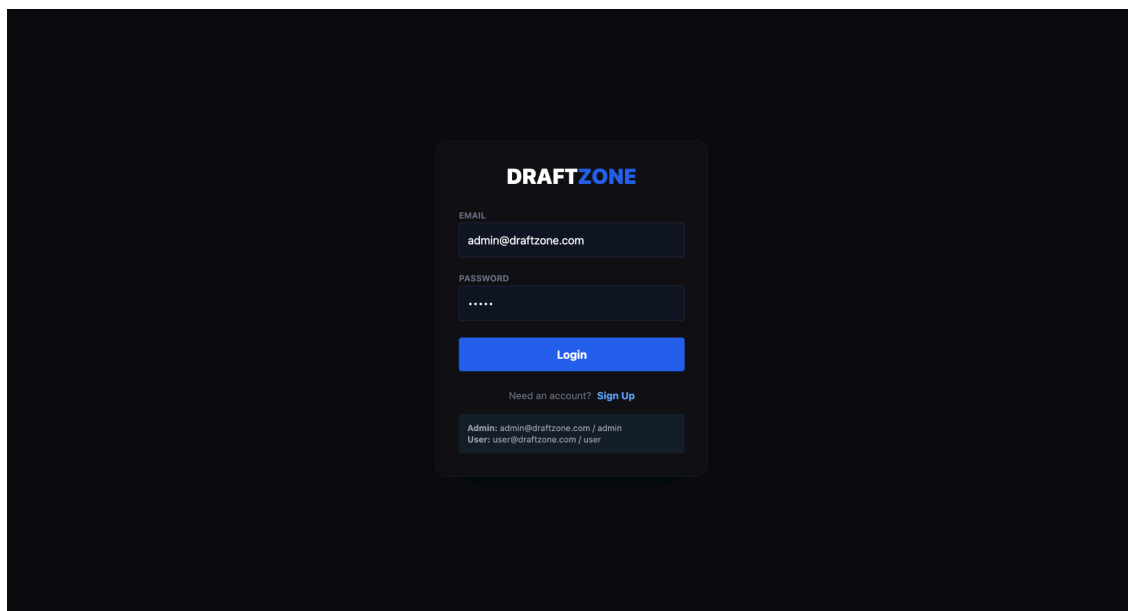For Mini-Assignment 2, I focused on making DraftZone feel like a real, working product by building out the Draft Simulator page and connecting it to a live backend. The simulator is now fully interactive, letting users draft players into different roster spots while the app checks for things like duplicate positions or going over the bench limit. The page uses a clean dark-mode layout that shows player images, stats, and team info, and it ends with a recap screen that totals each drafted player's projected 2025 fantasy points. I also added basic role-based behavior so that only admins can access certain pages, while regular users are automatically redirected to the main drafting experience.

To support all of this, I set up a Node.js and Express backend that the frontend talks to whenever it needs player data or AI-powered CPU picks. The server handles things like CORS, API key safety, and combining data from multiple Sleeper endpoints before sending it back to the simulator. It also includes separate routes for fetching player stats, handling simple authentication, and generating CPU draft choices using Google Gemini, with a fallback system so the simulator never breaks if the AI request fails. I updated our planning documents as well, including diagrams that explain how data flows between the frontend, backend, and external APIs, along with how the login system decides whether a user should go to the admin panel or the draft page.

DRAFTZONE | RD **1** / PK **1**

PVP   VS AI

ASK AI ASSISTANT

Search players...

ALL | QB | RB | WR | TE | DEF | K

Ja'Marr Chase
WR
CIN

STATS   DRAFT

Saquon Barkley
RB
PHI

STATS   DRAFT

Bijan Robinson
RB
ATL

STATS   DRAFT

Justin Jefferson
WR
MIN

STATS   DRAFT

Josh Allen
QB
BUF

STATS   DRAFT

Jahmyr Gibbs
RB
DET

STATS   DRAFT

CeeDee Lamb
WR
DAL

STATS   DRAFT

Christian McCaffrey
RB
SF

STATS   DRAFT

Lamar Jackson
QB
BAL

STATS   DRAFT

Amon-Ra St. Brown
WR
DET

STATS   DRAFT

H **TEAM HUMAN**
● PICKING NOW

QB   *Empty*

RB   *Empty*

RB   *Empty*

WR   *Empty*

WR   *Empty*

TE   *Empty*

FLX   *Empty*

DEF   *Empty*

K   *Empty*

BENCH (0/7)
No bench players

C **TEAM CPU**

DRAFTZONE | RD **1** / PK **1**

PVP   VS AI

ASK AI ASSISTANT

Search players...

ALL   QB   RB   WR   TE   DEF   K

Ja'Marr Chase
CIN
WR

STATS   DRAFT

Saquon Barkley
PHI
RB

STATS   DRAFT

Bijan Robinson
ATL
RB

STATS   DRAFT

Justin Jefferson
MIN
WR

STATS   DRAFT

Josh Allen
BUF
QB

STATS   DRAFT

Jahmyr Gibbs
DET
RB

STATS   DRAFT

CeeDee Lamb
DAL
WR

STATS   DRAFT

Christian McCaffrey
SF
RB

STATS   DRAFT

Lamar Jackson
BAL
QB

STATS   DRAFT

Amon-Ra St. Brown
DET
WR

STATS   DRAFT

H   **TEAM HUMAN**
● PICKING NOW

QB   Empty
RB   Empty
RB   Empty
WR   Empty
WR   Empty
TE   Empty
FLX   Empty
DEF   Empty
K   Empty

BENCH (0/7)
No bench players

C   **TEAM CPU**

DRAFTZONE

EMAIL
user@draftzone.com

PASSWORD
••••

Login

Need an account? **Sign Up**

Admin: admin@draftzone.com / admin
User: user@draftzone.com / user

DRAFTZONE

RD 1 / PK 1

PVP | VS AI

ASK AI ASSISTANT

Search playe

ALL | QB
RB | WR
TE | DEF
K

WR | RB

Ja'Marr Chase
CIN

Saquon Barkley
PHI

STATS DRAFT | STATS DRAFT

TEAM HUMAN
H ● PICKING NOW

QB Empty
RB Empty
RB Empty
WR Empty
WR Empty
TE Empty
FLX Empty
DEF Empty
K Empty

BENCH (0/7)
No bench players

Elements Console Sources Network Performance Memory Application Privacy and security

☐ Preserve log ☐ Disable cache No throttling

▼ Filter ☐ Invert More filters ▼ All Fetch/XHR Doc CSS JS Font Img Media Manifest Socket Wasm Other

1,000 ms 2,000 ms 3,000 ms 4,000 ms 5,000 ms 6,000 ms 7,000 ms 8,000 ms 9,000 ms

Name
firebase:fetch?key=AIzaSyDr...
login
fetch
fetch

Headers Payload Preview Response Initiator Timing

▼ {success: true, user: {email: "admin@draftzone.com", role: "admin", name: "Commissioner"}}
    success: true
  ▶ user: {email: "admin@draftzone.com", role: "admin", name: "Commissioner"}

4 / 45 requests 0.9 kB / 3.8 kB

Console AI assistance ✕

Send feedback

Turn on AI assistance in Settings to get help with styles, network requests, performance, and files

Follow the steps above to ask a question Relevant data is sent to Google

[
  {
    "player_id": "7564",
    "full_name": "Ja'Marr Chase",
    "position": "WR",
    "team": "CIN",
    "search_rank": 1,
    "stats": {
      "pts_ppr": 211.7,
      "pass_yd": 0,
      "pass_td": 0,
      "rush_yd": 6,
      "rush_td": 0,
      "rec_yd": 971,
      "rec_td": 5,
      "rec": 86
    }
  },
  {
    "player_id": "4866",
    "full_name": "Saquon Barkley",
    "position": "RB",
    "team": "PHI",
    "search_rank": 2,
    "stats": {
      "pts_ppr": 168.9,
      "pass_yd": 0,
      "pass_td": 0,
      "rush_yd": 740,
      "rush_td": 4,
      "rec_yd": 259,
      "rec_td": 2,
      "rec": 35
    }
  },
  {
    "player_id": "9509",
    "full_name": "Bijan Robinson",
    "position": "RB",
    "team": "ATL",
    "search_rank": 2,
    "stats": {
      "pts_ppr": 254.9,
      "pass_yd": 0,
      "pass_td": 0,
      "rush_yd": 995,
      "rush_td": 5,
      "rec_yd": 594,
      "rec_td": 2,
      "rec": 54
    }
  },
  {
    "player_id": "6794",