

## 2019 Big Easy Sports Talk Fantasy Football Draft Guide

By: Nick Guarisco @FantasyLawGuy

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS:**

•	Round						
•	Draft	4-23					
•							
	0	Quarterbacks					
	0	Running Back Sleepers					
	0	Wide Receiver Sleepers					
	0	Tight End Sleepers					
	0	Backup Quarterbacks					
	0	Kickers	32				
	0	Defenses					
	0	Deep League Dart Throws					
•							
•							
•							
•							
		0					

# **Round-By-Round Cheat Sheet**

Based on a 12-Team ESPN League with Default Scoring (PPR)

#### <u>Round 1</u>:

- <u>Top-3 Pick</u> = Saquon Barkley (RB), Alvin Kamara (RB), Christian McCaffrey
- <u>Middle Pick</u> = **DeAndre Hopkins (WR)**, Julio Jones (WR)
- Late Pick = Dalvin Cook (RB), James Conner (RB), Nick Chubb (RB)

### <u>Round 2</u>:

- Dalvin Cook (RB), James Conner (RB), or Nick Chubb (RB)
- Other considerations include Odell Beckham (WR) and JuJu Smith-Schuster (WR)

#### <u>Round 3</u>:

- Leonard Fournette (RB) or Devonta Freeman (RB)
- I don't mind opening RB-RB-RB this year. In fact, my board seems to encourage it.
- Other considerations include Joe Mixon (RB), Mike Evans (WR), Kerryon Johnson (RB), and Aaron Jones (RB), David Montgomery (RB).
- Common starts using my board:
  - $\circ$  <u>Early Pick</u>:
    - 1) Barkley/Kamara/CMC; 2) Cook/Conner/Chubb; 3) Fournette/Freeman
  - <u>Middle Pick</u>:
    - 1) D-Hop/Julio; 2) Cook/Conner/Chubb; 3) Fournette/Freeman
  - <u>Late Pick</u>:
    - 1) Cook/Conner/Chubb; 2) Cook/Conner/Chubb; 3) A. Jones/D. Montgomery

### Round 4:

- David Montgomery (RB) and Chris Godwin (WR)
- Other considerations include Derrick Henry (RB), Chris Carson (RB), Josh Jacobs (RB), Sony Michel (RB), Tyler Lockett (WR), Pat Mahomes (QB)
- Again, my board has me going RB-heavy early this year, a result of my lack of interest in later RBs and because I see massive injury discounts in guys like Cook, Fournette, and Freeman, who I believe will put up Top-15 value if they manage to stay healthy. The running backs drop off a cliff after Round 4, and because WRs are so deep, there are great pickups in both the mid-rounds and later rounds. Consequently, I've ended up opening with loading up on 3 or 4 great RBs in Rounds 1-4 and then taking either of two WRs Chris Godwin or Tyler Lockett in Round 5.

### <u>Round 5</u>:

- David Montgomery (RB), Chris Godwin (WR), Tyler Lockett), Sony Michel (RB)
- Other considerations include Brandin Cooks (WR), Robert Woods (WR), Deshaun Watson (QB), Aaron Rodgers (QB), O.J. Howard (TE), Evan Engram (TE), Allen Robinson (WR), Tyler Boyd (WR)

### <u>Round 6</u>:

- Allen Robinson (WR), Tyler Boyd (WR), D.J. Moore (WR)
- Evan Engram (TE), O.J. Howard (TE)
- Deshaun Watson (QB), Aaron Rodgers (QB), Mark Ingram (RB)

#### <u>Round 7</u>:

- Curtis Samuel (WR) or Carson Wentz (QB)
- Other considerations include Miles Sanders (RB), Tevin Coleman (RB), Mike Williams (WR), Calvin Ridley (WR), Dede Westbrook (WR), Sammy Watkins (WR), Darwin Thompson (RB), Latavius Murray (RB)

#### Round 8:

- Curtis Samuel (WR) or Carson Wentz (QB)
- Other considerations include Miles Sanders (RB), Tevin Coleman (RB), Dede Westbrook (WR), Sammy Watkins (WR), **Darwin Thompson (RB)**, Latavius Murray (RB)
- If no TE yet: Vance McDonald (TE) or Jared Cook (TE)

#### <u>Rounds 9-10</u>:

- Darwin Thompson (RB)
- If no TE yet: Vance McDonald (TE) or Jared Cook (TE)
- Dede Westbrook (WR), Sammy Watkins (WR), Robby Anderson (WR), Michael Gallup (WR), Marques Valdes-Scantling (WR)

#### <u>Rounds 11-12</u>:

- If no QB yet: Lamar Jackson, Dak Prescott, Russell Wilson, Kyler Murray
- Other considerations include **Michael Gallup (WR)**, Marques Valdes-Scantling (WR), Tony Pollard (RB), Devin Singletary (RB)

#### <u>Rounds 13-14</u>:

- Tony Pollard (RB), Devin Singletary (RB)
- Michael Gallup (WR), Marques Valdes-Scantling (WR), John Brown (WR)
- If no QB yet: Jameis Winston, Sam Darnold, Mitch Trubisky
- <u>Elite Kickers</u>: Greg Zuerlein, Justin Tucker, Harrison Butker

#### Rounds 15+:

- D.K. Metcalf (WR), Darren Waller (TE)
- <u>Backup QBs with upside</u>: Sam Darnold, Mitch Trubisky, Derek Carr, Josh Allen.
- <u>Last-Round DSTs</u>: New England Patriots, Baltimore Ravens, Dallas Cowboys, Cleveland Browns, Philadelphia Eagles
- Last-Round Kickers: Mason Crosby and Jake Elliot.

# Draft Board - Rounds 1-9

- 1. Saquon Barkley (RB1) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 1-3.</u> Legitimately could be the next LaDainian Tomlinson. Similar styles, skill-sets too. RBs on bad scoring offenses and teams are bad bets for Top-12 production, historically. Could easily be an exception again, but with defenses stacking the box sans Odell Beckham, it's tough to get past Eli Manning and Daniel Jones directly impacting my top pick. Another potential red flag is Barkley's reliance on big plays last season. Barkley had several long TD runs, which he deserves credit for of course, but these are not sustainable over the long haul. On the bright side, Barkley is a freak athlete, the old-school Giants upgraded their offensive line, are committed to the run (they have to be with their current QB/WR situation), and Barkley is the best bet to lead the league in touches. That potential 400+ touch volume is desirable at the top of drafts regardless of situation and an inevitable decline in efficiency.
- 2. Alvin Kamara (RB2) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 1-3.</u> Threat for a 1,000 rushing, 1,000 receiving season. I don't envision Sean Payton using him like he did in Weeks 1-4 when Mark Ingram was suspended. AK averaged 34 PPG during the Ingram suspension and "only" 18.1 PPG the rest of the way, which equated to RB9. Saints are a Super Bowl contender that wants to conserve Kamara for playoffs. Kamara has never been bell cow in his football career. He hasn't had 200 carries in a season, but he's eclipsed at least 80 catches both years, and he scores TDs at an insane rate. Saints LOVE using him in the red zone only three WIDE RECEIVERS had more red zone targets than Kamara's 25 last season. 31 TDs in 31 NFL games. That said, will Kamara split goal line work with bigger back Latavius Murray? Will new the addition of TE Jared Cook decrease AK's target share in the red zone? These are legitimate questions. Kamara's workload will be lighter than Barkley or McCaffrey's, but his efficiency is proving trustable, and there's an argument for a more substantial workload if Lat. Murray doesn't pan out or gets hurt. If that's the case, AK41 would be the clear-cut top fantasy asset.
- 3. Christian McCaffrey (RB3) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 1-3.</u> Broke out in LaDainian Tomlinson role under OC Norv Turner. CMC became one of 3 players to catch 100+ passes and rush for 1,000 yards in a season (LT, Forte). The only concern with McCaffrey is just that his 2018 season was his peak. Stayed perfectly healthy despite leading all running backs in snaps by a wide margin. CMC was relied on more as Cam Newton's surgically repaired shoulder faded and arm strength deteriorated as the season progressed. Importantly, CMC averaged 18.3 PPG in his first 6 games, Weeks 1-7, scoring only 1 TD in his first 6 games. He then went on a tear, scoring 13 TDs in the final 9 games, averaging a ludicrous 29.8 PPG during Weeks 8-16. If Newton is healthy enough to push the ball downfield more rather than pepper CMC with dump off passes (7.7 targets per game last season), expect a decline in receiving usage, especially considering the extra target competition this year with TE Greg Olsen returning from injury, and WRs D.J. Moore and Curtis Samuel taking larger roles. Still, CMC is an athletic,

young, electric, versatile talent who puts the work in and is fun to watch and root for. He's a big part of this emerging offense, and while I think there are regression concerns, his healthy floor is at least 1,000 RUYD, 80 catches, and 7 TDs.

- 4. DeAndre Hopkins (WR1) TARGET RANGE: Picks 4-9. Fantasy's new Antonio Brown. Quietly produces as a Top-3 WR annually. Zero drops on 163 targets in '18 and lead the position in first downs. One of the safest, most consistent picks in the game, with at least 70 REYD in every contest last season. Hopkins certainly had the luxury of a greater target share with Will Fuller (torn ACL) missing more than half the season and slot target hog Keke Coutee only being able to start and finish 5 games (Hopkins scored 13% fewer points in those games). On the other hand, Hopkins feasted with extra defensive attention, burning an elite slate of CBs -Stephon Gilmore (8-78-0), Byron Jones (9-151-0), Tre'Davious White (5-63-1), Xavien Howard (6-82-2), Denzel Ward (7-91-0) and Jalen Ramsey (3-50-1 and 12-147-0) - among others. What's more? D-Hop said he played with more pain last season than he had dealt with at any point in his career, yet still tallied 115-1,572-11. It's worth noting that newly acquired RB Duke Johnson could also eat some pieces of the receiving pie. However, D-Hop's target share concerns can also be mitigated by an inevitable increase in passing attempts. Deshaun Watson was nursing rib/lung injuries throughout a 9-game winning streak last season in which Watson did not exceed 25 passing attempts during Weeks 6-12. Expert scheduling forecaster Warren Sharp predicts the Texans will have the most difficult schedule in the NFL, which translates to more throwing for Houston.
- 5. Julio Jones (WR2) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 5-10.</u> Finished as NFL's receiving yardage leader and has led the NFL in receiving yards per game 3 times in the past 4 seasons, recording 1,400+ REYD in 5 straight years! Jones did manage to stay relatively healthy all year and benefitted from bad defense and a total lack of running game, but Matt Ryan also missed him on 3 long would-be TDs (vs. NO1/NYG/GB). League-leader in targets (170) and air yards (2,420) actually left points on the table given his seven-game scoreless streak to start the year (per John Daigle). Following the team's Week 8 BYE, the Falcons made a concerted effort to get Jones involved in scoring position. Julio saw 12 red zone targets from Weeks 9-17 after only getting 3 during Weeks 1-7. He's also in a contract year.
- 6. David Johnson (RB4) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 7-12.</u> Last season was a nightmare. D.J. dealt with trash at QB, arguably the NFL's worst O-Line, and an stupid, stubborn coaching staff that pounded him between the tackles and refused to utilize him as a receiver. Despite all of that, he nevertheless managed 10 TDs and finished as RB9! The best argument for D.J. is that his absolute floor ina worst-case scenario was RB9. And the improvements could be drastic. Kliff Kingsbury will try to feature him, optimize his versatility, put him in position to rebound, possibly in a big way. Will his O-Line and defense hold up enough to foster the production? The threat of Kyler Murray running (think read/option) will undoubtedly freeze defenders and open up lanes that their dreadful O-Line couldn't otherwise create. Predicting this Cardinals offense is a near impossible

task, however, so even with intentions of greater volume in a better offense, D.J. comes with fair amount of risk/reward.

- 7. Dalvin Cook (RB5) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1<sup>st</sup> Round / 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> First hot take. Ignore last year's injury-marred campaign coming off the torn ACL. Now two years recovered. Focal point of run-first offense with old school, defensive-minded coach, improved O-Line. Bringing Gary Kubiak on board to implement one-cut, zone blocking concepts is huge. Fantasy RBs flourish under his tutelage, and Cook has been highly efficient (5.4 YPC) on outside zone runs. Latavius Murray is gone, so Cook should be the first option on the goal line, and I think we could see him catch 50+ passes in this offense, too. People underestimate how elusive Cook is when healthy. Despite playing with a balky hamstring last year, Cook led all RBs with a broken tackle every 3.8 touches. Cook is lightning in a bottle, and I'm expecting a third-year breakout. I won't debate the injury risk, but I LOVE getting him in the mid-to-late second round. If you're in a deep league, Cook's handcuff is Alexander Mattison. The Minnesota Vikings will be much-improved in the running game this season.
- 8. James Conner (RB6) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1<sup>st</sup> Round / Early 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> There has been chatter about workload reduction, as Conner faded down the stretch and hurt his ankle. Mike Tomlin's Steelers have a history of bell cow usage, however. I'm expecting a similar role from last season that led to RB6 PPG (and RB3 in Weeks 1-9 prior to his concussion and high ankle sprain). Pittsburgh has a strong O-Line returning all 5 starters. Conner will be the team's goal line back, and should only be spelled by Jaylen Samuels on obvious passing downs. Samuels is a great handcuff as well if you want to secure Pittsburgh's valuable backfield.
- 9. Le'Veon Bell (RB7) <u>TARGET RANGE: Picks 7-12.</u> Leads all players in all-time fantasy points per game, but Adam Gase's history with RBs doesn't bode well for Bell's receiving or goal line usage. According to Mike Clay, Miami ranked dead last in the NFL with 23 carries inside the opponent's 5-yard line during Gase's three seasons. In five of the six years that Adam Gase has been an NFL head coach or offensive coordinator, his teams have ranked 21st or worse in terms of RB receptions. During Gase's three seasons in Miami, the Dolphins finished dead-last in offensive snaps per game, too, but I'm not as concerned about that because that was likely a product of Ryan Tannehill and having less talent on the field (efforts to slow game down intentionally to increase variance). The Jets' O-Line is far worse than he had in Pittsburgh too. For those reasons, Bell's ADP is a little too rich for my blood. That said, Bell is well-rested having not played last season and in great shape, will be featured, 3-down RB on emerging offense. It may be surprising to think about it this way, but in a lot of ways I believe Bell is one of the safer picks in fantasy football this year.
- 10.Nick Chubb (RB8) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1<sup>st</sup> Round / 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> Nick Chubb averaged 4.4 yards after first contact this season, the most for any RB with at least 75 carries in a single season in the last 12 years (per Graham Barfield). He was PFF's No. 1 RB last year. His 17.8 PPG (RB9 pace) in 8 games once OC Freddie Kitchens took over was impressive, but it's worth noting Chubb feasted

against some soft defenses: KC, ATL, CIN twice, and CAR. Chubb doesn't catch many passes, although he may be capable of doing so, and he's bound to get more receiving work now that Cleveland traded RB Duke Johnson. I do think that Chubb will be spelled for receiving back Dontrell Hilliard on many third downs, however. This offense should put Chubb in positional for double-digit TDs and lanes will be created by spacing from defenses respecting Baker Mayfield and Odell Beckham, but it is worth mentioning that the Cleveland's O-Line is subpar. The main reason I can't place Chubb higher is that his value is unquestionably hindered when the talented Kareem Hunt returns from suspension in Week 10. At minimum, we have to assume Hunt will take the vast majority of passing downs, with opportunities for more.

- 11.Odell Beckham (WR3) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1st Round / Early 2nd Round.</u> Game-breaking talent gets massive QB and offensive scheme upgrade. Needs to stay healthy, which he's struggled to do in the last two seasons. According to Graham Barfield, Odell Beckham Jr. saw an accurate pass (on-frame or in-stride) on 50% of his targets last year, the lowest rate among wide receivers. From Week 9 (when Freddie Kitchens started calling the team's plays) until the end of the regular season, Baker Mayfield ranked fourth in accurate throw percentage. The QB upgrade from Eli Manning to Baker Mayfield will show itself most on deep passes, where Eli was abysmal, missing an open Beckham for several should-be long receptions. From Weeks 9-17 under OC Freddie Kitchens, the Browns threw deep (15+ yards) on 27.1% of plays, one of the highest rates in the last decade. OBJ is arguably the best WR in the NFL, and I can buy an argument that his scary upside with his new team is Moss-to-Patriots lite. I can't wait to find out.
- 12. JuJu Smith-Schuster (WR4) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1<sup>st</sup> Round / 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> 111-1426-7 in second year as a pro. Still only 22 years old. Hit double-digit targets in 10/16 games last season, and that was WITH Antonio Brown. The departures of Antonio Brown and Jesse James from the Steelers free up 209 targets from last season. We're looking at 170-Target, 120-Catch potential w/ AB's targets, plus an increase in TDs from 7 last season. Small sample size, but JuJu has also played very well in the 3 games AB has missed. According to Scott Barrett, only Randy Moss has ever totaled more fantasy points before turning age 23 than JuJu Smith-Schuster's 494.6 fantasy points across his 30-game career. Can he maintain success as primary focus for defenses? Does he leave the slot and primarily line up on the outside (thereby decreasing his efficiency)? Fair questions. Talented, young WR with proven production stepping into Antonio Brown's role. Not going to overthink this. JuJu is a no brainer in Round 2.
- 13.Davante Adams (WR5) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 1<sup>st</sup> Round / Early 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> Took a massive jump in 2018, catching 111 passes for 1,386 yards and 13 TDs. Faced an incredibly difficult slate of CBs, and his consistency was unprecedented: Adams scored at least 16 PPR points in all 16 games he played last year, which is amazing. Concerns are that he was the only WR Rodgers trusted last season, so Rodgers flooded him with targets. Adams' 30 red zone targets are bound to decrease, and I think Matt LaFleur will try to get Marques Valdes-Scantling,

Geranimo Allison, and Jimmy Graham more involved, not to mention the RBs out of the backfield, which were never used in the passing game under McCarthy. Adams' concussion history also warrants mention. I like Adams, but likely won't have any shares because he's placed so high on default rankings.

- 14.Ezekiel Elliot (RB9) TARGET RANGE: 2<sup>nd</sup> Round. Zeke was my #1 player overall before his HOLD OUT. Has led the NFL in rushing yards per game in each of his first three seasons in the league, and his receiving numbers spiked up to 95/77-567-3 from 38/26-269-2 in his second year. During Dallas' Week 8 BYE, the Cowboys traded for Amari Cooper and replaced their O-Line coach with Marc Colombo. Thereafter, Zeke averaged 24.6 PPG last 10 games including playoffs, Weeks 9-19. His receiving totals actually improved when Cooper got there. Zeke caught at least 4 passes every game post Cooper trade, averaging 6.5 receptions. Pre-Cooper, Zeke averaged 3.5 catches per game in Weeks 1-7. That receiving work elevated Elliott because he actually had his worst rushing TD rate of his career. With positive RUTD regression, a full season of Amari Cooper, and star center Travis Frederick returning to the offensive line after missing all of last season, Zeke would have been a shoe-in Top-4 overall pick. I can't stomach taking him in Round 1 after what happened with Le'Veon Bell last season. Even if I believe Zeke's contract dispute will be resolved by Week 1, the history of fantasy success from players who hold out into training camp is very bleak. If you're a more aggressive risk-taker than I am and take Zeke in the top-5 where he's still going, I would strongly advise to reach for talented backup Tony Pollard in Round 9 just in case.
- 15.Leonard Fournette (RB10) TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round / Early 3<sup>rd</sup> Round. Similar to Devonta Freeman, "Buga" is only ranked as a third round player because he was a such a disappointment last season due to a crippling hamstring injury in Week 1. Sharp drafting is about exploiting market inefficiencies in default rankings or ADP, and Fournette fits that bill. The hammy wasn't right until Week 10, when LF received gaudy touch totals of 29, 30, and 21 with PPR totals of 27, 21, and 25 in Weeks 10-12, respectively, before he had falling out with the coaching staff, which has since been resolved. The Jags clearly want to feature him, as they let receiving back T.J. Yeldon walk in free agency. Fournette is certainly capable of more receiving work, and I envision he'll get it under new OC DeFilippo, which would be a huge value boost. Fournette clearly has bell cow status, as the Jaguars have no one else competing for passing down work or goal line carries. I envision Fournette catching 50+ passes this year and being a clearcut RB1 any time he's active. Again, I won't debate the injury risk. But that's why he's being drafted in Round 3. His injury-discounted ADP allows you to snag a first round producer, as long as he stays upright.
- 16.Devonta Freeman (RB11) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round / Early 3<sup>rd</sup> Round.</u> My other go-to target in Round 3. Freeman is being forgotten about because of his lost 2018 season. The reality is that his injury history is the only reason Freeman isn't a late FIRST round pick. When healthy, Freeman is a dynamic talent who catches passes and gets goal line work. Freeman is also

proven and has delivered RB1 production. ATL upgraded its O-Line this offseason and the Falcons have a great offense. Tevin Coleman is gone, and there's little competition for touches behind Freeman. One of my favorite buy-low targets this year, I'm thrilled to walk away with him in Round 3.

- 17.Travis Kelce (TE1) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> 150/103-1,336-10. Three straight 1,000-yard seasons. Can make the argument he's a first round pick this year from a VBD (value-based drafting) standpoint. Kelce outscored the #6 TE by 8.2 PPG and outscored the #12 TE by 10.3 PPG, making him one of the top-5 most valuable players in fantasy football last year. Offseason ankle surgery at age 30, natural Mahomes regression, a healthier Sammy Watkins, and the addition of Mecole Hardman are slight concerns. The better counter is that there was no middle class at TE last season due injuries to O.J. Howard, Delanie Walker, Hunter Henry, Evan Engram, Greg Olsen, etc. In other words, Kelce could post similar numbers – and he should – but not be as valuable. I'm very interested in Kelce at the Rounds 2-3 turn (picks 21-26) though because of the weekly advantage he can provide at a still scarce position.
- 18. Tyreek Hill (WR6) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> Last year's WR1 avoided suspension. We saw teams sell out to stop Hill late last season, and it lessened his box score production. Only caught 1 TD in 7 games after the BYE. Hill scored 22.3 PPG in Weeks 1-11 (WR1 pace) but 15.7 PPG (WR16 pace) after the BYE week, including playoffs. Even factoring in Chiefs offensive regression, Hill is a week-winner entering an important contract year.
- 19. Michael Thomas (WR7) <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round.</u> Great player. Has cleared 90 REYD and/or scored a TD in 18 of his last 28 games, and he's opened his career with 3 straight seasons with at least 92 catches and 1,100 REYD. But everything went right for MT last season. His fantasy season was other-worldly efficient. His 85% catch-rate was the best ever for a WR who saw at least 40 targets (Mike Tagliere). He had 125 catches when the next highest Saints WR/TE had 35. Those two things won't happen again. The addition of TE Jared Cook, better health from Ted Ginn and Tre'Quan Smith will play a role. Thomas is as safe of a pick as they come, but I see him as more of a second-round player this year.
- **20.Mike Evans (WR8)** <u>TARGET RANGE: Late 2<sup>nd</sup> Round / Early 3<sup>rd</sup> Round.</u> Jameis Winston loves to throw the ball deep. His new coach, Bruce Arians, also has an aggressive, downfield mentality. The Bucs have no running game and no defense. Mike Evans is a safe late-second round target.
- **21.Aaron Jones (RB12)** <u>TARGET RANGE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Round.</u> Jones checks a lot of boxes. Talented. Lead back on a good offense with an elite QB. Strong O-Line. His outside zone running preference fits the new coach's scheme well. He can catch. And despite inclinations of a preferred RBBC from coach LaFleur, there doesn't seem to be anyone pushing him or competition for his job. Jones has been Pro Football Focus's highest graded runner and leads all 87 qualifying backs with 5.5 YPC in the last two seasons. From Weeks 8-14 as the primary ball carrier, Jones was the RB5, averaging 19.7 PPG on 17 touches per game. Incredible efficiency shows his

upside in a great Packers offense if the coaches commit to him and he can stay on the field. The one box he doesn't check is durability, as Jones has never shown the ability to stay healthy in a featured role. Jones took this to heart this offseason, cutting junk food out of his diet and trained harder than ever, cutting his body fat from 11% to 5.3%, while impressively maintaining his weight (in other words, he replaced body fat with muscle), all in an effort to stay healthy. Hopefully it works.

- 22. Joe Mixon (RB13) <u>TARGET RANGE: 3rd Round.</u> Classic dilemma of a supremely talented RB on a crap team. The Bengals' new offensive-minded coach Zac Taylor will help instill more creativity and pace into this offense. A Sean McVay disciple, Taylor will attempt to use Mixon as his Todd Gurley, but does he have the help? This is an Andy Dalton-led offense that has lost several starters to injuries and retirement on already awful O-Line. A.J. Green is also already hurt, but that could translate to more dump offs for Mixon. To his credit, Mixon was RB9 in PPG last season and finished strongly, despite playing 6 games with Jeff Driskel at QB. Historically, RBs who finish in the Top-12 are far more likely to come from above average scoring offenses and be on good teams. The Bengals don't fit this criteria, so Mixon would have to be an exception to the rule.
- 23.Kerryon Johnson (RB14) TARGET RANGE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Round. We know this: Matt Patricia is devoted to establishing the run. He hired OC Darrell Bevell, one of the most run-oriented play-callers still out there, to lead this offense. During Bevell's time in Seattle 2011-2017, the Hawks were 30th in pass percentage, 25th in red zone pass percentage, 3rd in rush percentage, 8th in red zone rush percentage, and had 2nd most rushing yards and 3rd most rushing attempts in the NFL (Matthew Berry). No one should question Kerryon's talent; he averaged 5.4 YPC as a rookie while all other Detroit RBs combined for a league-low 3.4 YPC. And now there is opportunity for more passing down production now that Theo Riddick was cut. The Lions have a solid O-Line and paid big money to add blocking TE Jesse James in free agency, while spending the 8<sup>th</sup> overall pick on T.J. Hockenson, who is an outstanding run blocker as well. All indications are the Lions will be one of the most run-heavy teams in the NFL in neutral situations. Unfortunately, all indications are also that Matt Patricia loves his RBBCs. And that's the main fear with Kerryon, really the only thing that can prevent a breakout season. How involved will C.J. Anderson be? How much will Patricia frustrate drafters when the Lions pull Kerryon on the goal line for the pleasantly plump Anderson? It can be risky to assume coaches will employ rational thinking. But Kerryon is still a nice target at the Rounds 2-3 turn as this year's Chris Carson.
- 24. Todd Gurley (RB14) <u>TARGET RANGE: 3<sup>rd</sup> Round.</u> I'm worried about the knee. Gurley played second fiddle to C.J. Anderson during the playoffs and the Super Bowl, when it mattered most. He was clearly more hurt than the Rams let on. As his knee arthritis became more prevalent and painful, the Rams primarily pulled Gurley on passing downs. He only had 4 catches on 7 targets for 5 yards combined in the Rams' playoff games after missing Weeks 16-17. The Rams drafted Darrell Henderson in the third round, who excels as a receiver in the passing game and who the Rams have likened to their version of Alvin Kamara. The writing appears

to be on the wall here. The Rams are a playoff team, and there's just too much risk that Gurley could be on a pitch count, could be rested in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of games, or sit out the closing weeks of the regular season again, a.k.a. the fantasy football playoffs. We can all acknowledge the double-digit TD upside, and the Rams have stated Gurley is completely healthy now (though it's worth noting they insisted he was healthy late last season, too), but I'm not will to pay a premium for a player who inherently comes with danger, the extent of which is unknown. My philosophy in the early rounds is to build the foundation of your team with safe floors.

- **25.David Montgomery (RB17)** The Bears shipped Jordan Howard out and traded up to obtain Montgomery after they signed Mike Davis. Since then, coach Matt Nagy has called Montgomery a three-down back and implied Chicago is scaling back Tarik Cohen's touches. By all accounts, the Bears are in love with Montgomery, so you should be too. Recall Nagy comes from the Andy Reid coaching tree - Chicago has a great offensive scheme that is conducive to RB production, a good O-Line, and the Bears are a winning team (which means positive game scripts). Montgomery forced the most missed tackles in college football for two straight seasons. He's a do-it-all tackle-breaking machine with pass catching chops to boot. Montgomery is my go-to target in Round 4, and in casual leagues he's straight up larceny in Round 5. ESPN still ranks him as the 61<sup>st</sup> overall player. Come on, really? Montgomery's ADP is destined to rise, so scoop him up before it's too late.
- 26.Derrick Henry (RB16) Henry was held under 60 yards for 8 straight games to open the season (3.7 YPC), looking like a complete flop, before a ridiculous stretch of incredible production from out of left field to the tune of 625 yards on 6.44 YPC and 7 TDs in the Titans' final 5 games. This league-winning stretch included a 17-238-4 decimation of the Jaguars in Week 14, and another insane 33-170-2 line vs. the Giants in Week 15. Henry plays zero role in passing game, which hurts big time in PPR formats, but the Titans have one a strong O-Line and Tennessee likes to run under coach Vrabel. Mariota's mobility also helps open up run game. New Titans OC Arthur Smith promised Henry will be a "big part of the offense." Derrick Henry ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in explosive runs among RBs with 100+ carries, #3 in PFF grade, #2 in yards after contact per attempt, #1 in avoided tackles after rush. Active for 98% of career games with no recent injury history (though he is nursing a calf issue in training camp right now). And he's in a contract year. There's a lot to like about the way Henry finished last season. Perhaps he's turned the corner and will carry over that success into 2019. If that's the case, Henry is being severely under drafted. Spending a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> round pick on an RB who is a zero in the receiving game is risky, however, because week-to-week production depends on game flow. Are we really trusting of the Titans' offense this season? I'm down to dive into this pool of potential, but only if the right opportunity presents itself.
- **27.George Kittle (TE2)** Scary injury history, but produced with 3 QBs, and there's room for positive TD regression after only scoring 5 TDs despite 88 catches for 1,377 yards, the most in NFL history for a TE. Led all TEs in yards per route run. Benefited from injuries to supporting cast Goodwin, Pettis, Breida, McKinnon

were all hurt, and the team added Tevin Coleman, Deebo Samuel, and Jalen Hurd. However, Kittle reportedly played half the season with fractured cartilage in his ribs. Furthermore, there were several missed opportunities. Garoppolo missed Kittle on a 4-yard TD and 40-yard TD in Week 1. Kittle also dropped a wide-open would-be 80-yard TD. In Week 3, Kittle had a TD called back because of OPI. Nick Mullens missed Kittle down the seam running free on a potential 35-yard score in Week 15. Kittle was my boy last year, (I drafted him in 4/6 leagues, and he was probably my best call in last year's draft guide), but I'm only willing to double down in the late third round, early fourth round in 2019.

- **28. Chris Carson (RB18)** The Seahawks made their love affair with establishing the run well-known last season. OC Schottenheimer dialed up a run play over 52% of the time, the only team to run the ball over 49% of the time. That was the highest team-run-play percentage in the NFL since the 2013. Carson finished strongly last year and is one of the most punishing runners in the NFL. He tied for the league lead in broken tackles and was top-five in yards after contact. Mike Davis and his 146 touches are game. Carson finished as RB15 in just 14 games. Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said he hopes to maintain a "one-two punch" at running back with Chris Carson and Rashaad Penny. Penny is a recent first round pick who looked great early in the offseason but has fallen behind lately, I've read. Carroll also stated the Seahawks want to get Chris Carson more involved in the passing game. Carson is coming off an offseason knee scope and his injury history is mildly concerning. Another concern is that the Seahawks trash defense won't allow them to run the ball as much as they would like. Regardless, Carson remains a value in Round 4.
- **29.Josh Jacobs (RB19)** I know from my NFL Draft prep that the Raiders were extremely high on Jacobs throughout the draft process. After predictably selecting him in the first round in April, Jon Gruden said, "I think he's going to be a centerpiece at some point... My expectation for him if you're listening, Josh I encourage you to get some rest because we're going to run you a lot. We're going to give you a great opportunity." Never a featured back at Alabama, Jacobs is a very talented rookie who could clean up in the passing game. Of course, there will be some frustrating outings being that he's on the Oakland Raiders, but his opportunity as a 3-down back is enticing in Round 4.
- 30.Keenan Allen (WR9) A fantastic midseason stretch 7.8 catches per game, 5 TDs, 22.5 PPG ranking as WR1 during Weeks 9-14 was sandwiched by a 5-game TD-less drought Weeks 2-9 and a disappointing finish when the Chargers offense imploded for the second December in a row. The target share decline that was to be expected from TE Hunter Henry's return (missed all of last season with torn ACL) is mitigated by Melvin Gordon's hold out. Gordon was a monster in the red zone last season, so his [probable] absence creates opportunity.
- **31.Julian Edelman (WR10)** His 17.7 PPG in 15 games (including playoffs) extrapolates to WR9. He's 32 years old now, but he was coming off the torn ACL last season and still produced as a top-10 WR on a per-game basis. That was WITH Rob Gronkowski playing, too. Edelman has averaged an absurd 11.4 targets and

7.3 catches per game when Gronk has been inactive since 2013. In that span, Edelman has impressively scored double-digit PPR points in 24/25 games! Furthermore, His 35/26-388-0 line [24, 16, 24 pts] in 3 postseason games was extremely encouraging.

- **32. Chris Godwin (WR11)** DeSean Jackson is gone. Adam Humphries is gone, freeing up reps in the slot. Larry Fitzgerald was a PPR monster in the slot role for Bruce Arians' pass-first offense. Arians said Godwin can be "close to a 100-catch guy" in this role in 2019. The Bucs have no running game and no defense. Godwin is an underrated talent who is in position to explode this year. Last season, Chris Godwin ranked fourth among Tampa Bay's wide receivers in targets per game yet still ranked 27th at the position in total fantasy points. While he is super hyped as a breakout candidate by the experts, I don't think they go far enough. Godwin is one of my favorite targets this year in the 40s and I'm perfectly content with him as my WR1 when I open up RB-heavy.
- **33. Tyler Lockett (WR12)** TD regression looms large for the uber-efficient deep threat (he had 10 TDs on 70 targets), but expect an uptick in targets as he fills the shoes of Doug Baldwin. Wilson had a perfect QB Rating of 158.3 when targeting Lockett last season. Seattle's running backs have never been featured in the passing game. Their tight ends are inexperienced, and WR D.K. Metcalf just had a knee scope and is questionable for Week 1. This means Jaron Brown (not John Brown) will start opposite of Lockett at WR. With Seattle's defense ailing and an inevitable increase in pass attempts, Lockett is a virtual lock for 100 targets. And if he continues to produce anywhere near his rate of efficiency, he's going to be a steal.
- **34.Stefon Diggs (WR13)** Diggs' first 9 game averages: 12.6 targets, 8.7 catches, 87.7 yards. Diggs' final 5 games: 7.0 targets, 4.6 catches, 46 yards. The contrasting splits in his game log can be explained at least in part by the Vikings getting more conservative after they fired pass-happy OC DeFilippo in Week 14 and replaced him with Kevin Stefanski. The addition of Gary Kubiak as an offensive assistant further illustrates the team's desire for an old-school "run the ball and play defense" mentality. Still, Diggs is supremely talented, gets better each year, and is locked into a lofty target share because the Vikings have no one else to throw to besides he and Thielen.
- **35.Adam Thielen (WR14)** Started the year with 8(!) straight 100-yard games and double-digit targets in his first 7 games, only to have 1 100-yard game and 2 games with double-digit targets in the final 8 games. Thielen's first 8 games: 96/74-925-6... 199 points (WR1 pace). Thielen's last 8 games: 57/39-448-3... 100 points (WR22 pace). Still, I'm not bumping Thielen down to WR22 like he was in his last 8 games because he's a straight up baller and is going to command a large piece of the pie because of the lack of competition behind he and Diggs.
- **36.Sony Michel (RB20)** Michel had questions about his knees in the pre-draft process and was not ready for Week 1 because of a knee scope in August. Michel came on in Weeks 4-6 when he scored 17, 17, 22 points. He again hurt his knee in early in Week 7. Four weeks later, after his BYE week, Michel scored 22 pts vs.

the Jets, which began a final stretch of games in which the Patriots rode Michel as their primary early down ball carrier, and most importantly, their goal line back. Michel sported a 174-844-8 (4.8 YPC) line on 19.3 carries per game in his final 9 games, including playoffs. He managed only 23-35 snaps per game in that span, serving as a between-the-tackles grinder with minimal receiving production or opportunity. His 187 points in 13 total games that he stated and finished as the lead RB netted 14.3 PPG (RB13 pace), though he did average 22 PPG in 3 playoff games. Apart from the occasional vultured touchdown by full back James Develin, Michel is the clear early down and goal line back on a Patriots team that ranked second in the NFL in carries inside the opponent's 5-yard line last season (29). There have been efforts to get Michel more involved in the receiving game, which would raise his floor on games he doesn't find the end zone. In my opinion, Michel is an extremely underrated talent who is both powerful and elusive when healthy (though he admittingly carries as much injury risk as anyone), and the Patriots have transitioned into a run-first team as Brady exits his prime. If you have an extra bench spot, it may prove wise to handcuff Michel with Damien Harris near the last round of your draft.

- **37. Pat Mahomes (QB1)** Mahomes had the best fantasy football season of all time in his first year as a starter with over 5,000 PAYD and 50 TDs. Of course, regression seems inevitable; the question is more about the extent of it. We already saw a little bit of a decline as the season winded down. Mahomes scored 26.9 PPG on 43 TDs (3.58 TDs per game) in his first 12 games, Weeks 1-13. In his final 6 games, Weeks 14-19 including playoffs, Mahomes scored 20.5 PPG on 13 TDs (2.16 per game). Mahomes is the real deal, and he plays in Andy Reid's picture-perfect scheme, surrounded by speedy playmakers, and I'm taking him to finish first among QBs. That said, the value of QB is so suppressed in singlequarterback fantasy leagues that the value of taking Mahomes in Rounds 2-3 won't be justified unless he posts similar numbers. He's ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> by ESPN, but his ADP is MUCH higher; he's usually gone around well before the end of Round 3, which is a little too rich for me unless I'm in a Super Flex league (which I am in several, because Super Flex leagues are far superior).
- **38. Marlon Mack (RB21)** After a hamstring injury slowed Mack out of the gate, he made the most of his opportunity as the Colts' early down RB behind an outstanding O-Line in the Colts final 13 games, averaging 14.6 PPG in Weeks 6-19, including playoffs (prorates to RB14). Some of Mack's best games occurred during the only 5 games in which all 5 O-Line starters played together, Weeks 6-11, a stretch during which the Colts went 5-1, allowed 0 sacks, and scored 33.5 PPG (Ian Hartitz). On the other hand, Mack was used minimally as a receiver, often getting spelled for Nyheim Hines on passing downs. Mack caught only 17 passes and did not break a single tackle on any reception. Further, Mack's broken tackle rate (1 for every 10.8 touches) ranked 48<sup>th</sup> of 56 RBs who played at least 25% of their team's snaps. Scott Barrett points out that Mack also scored 70% of his fantasy points in games that the Colts won by at least 2 touchdowns i.e. blowouts. Therefore, it's fair to say Mack was a product of his elite O-Line and

positive game scripts resulting from his team's success. That being said, Mack is expected to see more passing down work in 2019. GM Chris Ballard stated several times that Mack is "the guy," and that he believes Mack can play all 3 downs as a featured back. For fantasy football running backs, opportunity is more important than talent. I would have Mack ranked higher as the Colts 3-down back if I knew Andrew Luck was healthy. If the Colts aren't winning as much, the Mack attack will be limited, so he's dinged in my rankings.

- **39.T.Y. Hilton (WR15)** Hilton was heavily targeted in Weeks 1-4, averaging 73.5 REYD/G and 15.5 PPG. Then he suffered a hamstring injury, forcing him to miss two games. Hilton did not do much during Weeks 7-8 before a Week 9 BYE. After the needed rest, Hilton exploded in Weeks 10-19, including playoffs, with 17.9 PPG, 106.2 REYD/G (WR10). What's more impressive is that Hilton was playing through an ankle sprain down the stretch (he was listed as questionable for Weeks 15-19). While it's fair to project a decrease in targets with the addition of WR Devin Funchess and return of TE Jack Doyle, I did have Hilton at WR9 before the ominous Andrew Luck calf reports. Luck's been dealing with this issue since May, and it has not subsided. Is Luck going to be healthy for Week 1? All Colts players are lowered on my board until there's clarity.
- 40.Amari Cooper (WR16) In 11 games with the Cowboys following a midseason trade, Cooper went on a 96-1,302-10 pace over a full season (WR9 from Week 9-onward). He struggled with week-to-week consistency, however, scoring nearly 50% of his points in two games: 40 pts vs. WAS and 53 pts vs. PHI. Cooper had 8 PPR points or fewer in 4/11 games, but now has an offseason to develop chemistry with his QB and master the playbook. He's also in a contract year, which can't hurt. So why is he so low on my board? Because he's dealing with plantar fasciitis, a lingering injury that can nag him all season. Until there's clarity on his foot, I have a tough time swallowing Cooper in Round 3.
- 41.Brandin Cooks (WR17) I'm a little bit lower on the Rams' WRs and offense as a whole because of some red flags in Jared Goff's game log. In Weeks 1-11 before the Rams' BYE week, Goff was fantasy's QB3, totaling 21.4 PPG, 26 TDs, 8 turnovers, 322.4 PAYD/G, including 7 300-yard games. In Weeks 13-20 (8 games including playoffs), Goff scored only 10.3 PPG, with only 7 TDs, 11 turnovers, 231.6 PAYD/G, with 1 300-yard game. Six of those games were without Cooper Kupp, but the ugly stretch began before that. It began when the Vic Fangio's Chicago Bears defense embarrassed the Rams on Monday Night Football prior to their BYE week. The splits are so stark that my concern is that the Bears laid a blue print of sorts to combat Sean McVay's offense. In addition, the Rams lost two interior O-Line starters and the replacements are inexperienced. Jared Goff wilts when he's facing pressure, and he's likely going to face more pressure than he has recently. Who knows how Todd Gurley's knee management will affect the offense? In short, I'm a little nervous the Rams offense won't be as explosive. Brandin Cooks averaged 17.6 PPG (WR10) in Weeks 1-11 and 13 PPG (WR18) in Weeks 13-20, hence my ranking at WR17.

- **42. Robert Woods (WR18)** Woods is averaging 77 total yards and has scored 12 TDs through 20 games with the Rams. Mike Clay estimates the Rams have second-easiest overall schedule for wide receivers based on the cornerbacks they face. But for the reasons above (See Brandin Cooks), I would prefer the Rams' WRs in Round 5 than Rounds 3-4 where they typically go.
- **43.Zach Ertz (TE3)** Set an NFL record for tight ends with 156 targets in 2018. Also set the record for most TE catches ever with 116. The Eagles will feed DeSean Jackson and expand the role of emerging TE Dallas Goedert. Ancillary pieces like J.J. Arcega-Whiteside and Miles Sanders will also slight Ertz's massive target share. Basically, this is a situation where we can expect regression because everything went right for Ertz last season. With 4 straight years of 800+ REYD, this doesn't mean he's a bad pick, but it may mean he's ranked too high.
- 44.Antonio Brown (WR19) New team, a downgrade at QB, already battling an injury, minimal practice time, threatening retirement over a helmet concern, possible mental instability (CTE?) ... all of these issues are giving me cold feet. But seriously, I don't want anything to do with Brown anywhere near Round 2.
- 45.Damien Williams (RB22) Williams is one of the most polarizing picks in fantasy football this year. He's a journeyman who latched on with the Chiefs after Kareem Hunt got suspended and proceeded to thrive the lead back in Kansas City's explosive offense. Williams scored [18, 29, 24, 12, 25, 32] in six games, Weeks 14-19 including playoffs. He scored 10 TDs in those 6 games on 5.1 YPC and averaged 23.3 PPG! For reference CMC averaged 23.3 PPG last year. Williams is being drafted high because of his situation. That is, Andy Reid's history of breeding successful RB1s in fantasy football. Reid's RB1 has finished top-eight among running backs in fantasy points per game in 12 of the last 15 seasons! Coach Reid confirmed the Chiefs want Williams to be "the full-time starter for the year. There's certainly no denying Williams' upside as a top-5 RB and league-winner if he maintains his role that he obtained late last season. But it's difficult to trust such an unproven player who was an NFL nobody for 3 years until his dominant 6-game sample size to close last season. While opporuntity reigns supreme over talent as far as fantasy RBs are concerned, there is a lot that can go wrong here, and one of those concerns has already begun to emerge in Darwin Thompson, an electric rookie who is pushing for playing time (See RB Sleepers, below). While I can't quite get on board with Williams in Round 4, I can certainly get behind the idea of locking up Andy Reid's backfield as a whole. Those who wish to take the boom-or-bust Williams should seek to secure a valuable insurance policy in case something goes wrong. In other words, if you draft Williams, you better lock up Darwin Thompson later, too. That's a nifty idea.
- 46.Evan Engram (TE4) Eli will be forced into a lot of pass attempts, just like he was last season when he ranked eighth in the league. The difference this time is Odell Beckham and his monstrous 28.5 percent target share are no longer around. In 15 games without Beckham over the last two seasons, Engram has 76 catches, 945 yards and six touchdowns. Engram's stat lines sans Beckham last season Weeks 14-17: 5/3-77-0, 12/8-75-0, 6/6-87-0, 8/5-81-1. It doesn't hurt that Golden

Tate is suspended for 4 games and Sterling Shepard is battling a broken hand. Engram's 64-722-6 line in 2017 was nearly unprecedented for a rookie at the tight end position. Perhaps it's because Engram looks and moves like a wideout. He's the best playmaker on the Giants offense, and despite QB woes, I think Engram is going to be a centerpiece. So far, I have quite a few Engram shares, as I've been scooping him up when the time is right between Rounds 5-7.

- 47.O.J. Howard (TE5) O.J. Howard's extrapolated 2018 totals (54-904-8) would've resulted in fantasy's TE6 at season's end despite splitting time with TE Cam Brate, whose role is expected to decrease. Howard cleared 50 REYD in 8/10 healthy games. The fear with Howard isn't his ability but rather his usage. Although the Bucs will surely be pass-happy without a defense or winning game and with an aggressive-minded QB and head coach, Bruce Arians does not have the best track record with utilizing TEs in his passing game. You can certainly make the argument he hasn't had as talented of a TE as Howard, but this is nonetheless a concern of mine. Aside from that, Howard is a metrics phenom who stat nerds love. Per Scott Barrett: Winston ranks second-best in passer rating when targeting tight ends (120.7) but in the bottom-five when targeting any other position. Throughout Winston's career, tight ends have comprised 19.6% of his attempts, but 20.6% of his yards, a whopping 38.6% of his touchdowns, and just 13.8% of his interceptions. Last year, O.J. Howard ranked second among all tight ends in PFF grade (89.4); Averaged 2.83 yards per route run, which ranks 15thbest of the PFF era (2007-2018); Averaged 12.0 yards per target, which ranked third-best of the PFF era (of 429 qualifying seasons). I've been mixing and matchup Engram and OJH, usually ending up with one of them in the mid-rounds.
- **48.Allen Robinson (WR20)** Allen Robinson played last year one removed from ACL surgery and now will have full offseason in Nagy's offense, so he can be moved around to more spots. He had lost his offseason last year, but showed flashes of brilliance down the stretch. He worked the overmatched Eagles DBs in the playoffs to the tune of 13/10-143-1. WR Anthony Miller and TE Trey Burton are already dealing with injuries. If Trubisky takes any sort of step forward in his second year in Nagy's QB-friendly offense, A-Rob will be a large beneficiary. Robinson tends to slip between the cracks in drafts, and I find myself stopping that slide in Round 6 more often than not.
- **49.Kenny Golladay (WR21)** 119/70-1063-5 in his third season. Golladay started the year off on fire, then went through major slump, but picked up his play after Marvin Jones hurt and Tate traded. Golladay is blessed with a great skill-set and natural ability, but the Lions are a very conservative, run-focused team that just added TE T.J. Hockenson and slot WR Danny Amendola. Golladay will have some spiked weeks, but ultimately I like him more as a real-life player than a fantasy player because I believe his coaching staff will cap his ceiling and prevent him from reaching his potential.
- **50.Tyler Boyd (WR22)** Boyd was a bright spot for Bengals offense with 108/76-1028-7 in 14 games, some without AJG and some without Dalton. He quietly finished as WR17 last season despite missing 2 games (Weeks 16-17) and a half

vs. OAK in Week 15 and playing 4 games (Weeks 12-15) with Jeff Driskel at QB. He scored 18 PPG (WR12 pace) on a 23% target share in the first 8 weeks WITH A.J. Green. Boyd's 23 percent target share through Week 8 fell only three percent shy of Green's at the time. Yes, he is due for regression in the TD department, after catching all four of his end zone targets last season. But the Bengals are bad. Negative game scripts will force them to throw throughout second halves, and who knows when A.J. Green returns to full strength. The extra defensive attention Boyd will receive until then can be mitigated by his frequent movement into the slot. He's a nice Round 6 target who I'd prefer over his teammate A.J. Green.

- **51.Mark Ingram (RB23)** Per Graham Barfield, from Weeks 11-17, the Ravens used shot gun on 97% of their snaps and ran on shotgun on 60% of plays (NFL average 26%), averaging 5+ YPC on those carries. Ingram has notably been slightly more effective running out of shotgun (5.24 YPC) vs. under center (4.85 YPC) over the last 3 seasons. Last season, once Jackson took over as the team's starter, Baltimore's running backs ranked second in carries, first in rushing yards, and first in yards per carry (a whopping 5.34). Ingram is proven, having finished as a fantasy RB1 in four of his last five seasons. Over this span, he ranks first in yards per carry (4.71), fourth in yards after contact per attempt (2.90), and third in drop rate (3%). Mark Ingram should serve as the Ravens' third-down back to open the season, but the more explosive Justice Hill is looming. I think Ingram will get off to a hot start (opens with MIA, ARI, KC), but Hill will become more and more of a factor as the season progresses.
- **52. Deshaun Watson (QB2)** Ugly opening game vs. NE first game back from torn ACL. Got Will Fuller back in week 2 and soared weeks 2-5 before injuring lung/ribs. Weeks 6-12 there was 6 straight games he threw 25 times or fewer. Threw for 239 yards or fewer in 7 straight until week 13. Had a span of 29 RUYD total in 3 games weeks 6-8 following chest / rib / lung injury. Outside of those games he typically had at least 40 RUYD/G. Watson finished as QB4 despite TD rate going from 9.3 to 5.1%, 19 combined missed gamesby Coutee and Fuller, Partial collapsed lung and broken rib in week 5. Pass volume scaled back for next 4-5 weeks. NFL high 62 sacks taken, and in the season coming off Torn ACL!
- **53.Aaron Rodgers (QB3)** Never looked right last year after a knee injury in Week 1. Rodgers had to overcome Mike McCarthy's prehistoric offense, a bad supporting cast, rookie WRs he was never on the same page with, an underwhelming O-Line, no running game, oh... and the tibial plateau fracture in addition to his sprained MCL. Nevertheless, Rodgers tossed 25 TDs and only 2 INTs. His 4.2% TD rate in 2018 was two percent lower than his 6.2% career rate. Had Rodgers maintained his career average, he would have thrown 37 TDs, good enough to make him QB2 on the year. Amazingly, both of Rodgers' only interceptions all year clanged off Jimmy Graham's hands and into defenders'. Rodgers led the league in passes thrown away by a wide margin, through no fault of his own, as nobody was getting open (besides Davante Adams) in this offense. New coach Matt LaFleur promises to have smarter route combinations and more creativity in his offense, which will bode well for Rodgers. My thinking is: it can't possibly be any worse than

McCarthy's offense, so there's nowhere to go but up. Rodgers' 6<sup>th</sup> Round ADP seems like a bargain because it seems likely he'll get back to his elite ways in 2019.

- **54.D.J. Moore (WR23)** So explosive after the catch. Serious play-making ability. Big role ahead. Breakout candidate. Moore didn't play 40+ snaps per game until weeks 8-17. Averaged 13.7 PPG in 7 week stretch with Cam Newton during Weeks 8-14 despite rotating with Devin Funchess (now gone) and scoring only 1 TD during that frame. He's a stat geek's delight: as a rookie and with a less than healthy Cam Newton, Moore ranked second in the league in yards after catch per reception (7.9) and was a reasonable 33rd in yards per route run (1.81), first in missed tackles forced per reception (0.31), second in yards after the catch per reception (7.91), and fifth in yards per target average (10.3). He'll get his fair share of rushing yards, too. He's one of a few WRs I'm targeting near Round 6.
- **55. Curtis Samuel (WR24)** Samuel had a solid stretch of 13.25 PPG in Weeks 11-14 [16, 11, 14, 12], (13.5 PPG) when his snaps increased, before Cam Newton was shut down in Week 15. Samuel will be taking over for Devin Funchess and will start opposite of D.J. Moore. I view him equal to D.J. Moore, both in ability and production (I'm very high on the Carolina WRs in terms of NFL talents), but Samuel is actually a more attractive target than Moore because Samuel is going 2-3 rounds later. Samuel has been the talk of Carolina's offseason, and he really pops on film. He's both quick and fast with great acceleration, a crisp routerunner, and similar play-making ability after the catch to Moore. I expect Moore and Samuel to both eclipse 100 targets as the Panthers try to keep up with the high-scoring NFC South.
- 56. Carson Wentz (QB4) Planting my QB flag here. It's like everyone has forgotten that Wentz was leading the NFL MVP race in 2017 before he tore his ACL. He sported a 33-7 TD/INT ratio in his 13-game campaign that year. In 2018, he averaged 17.6 PPG (QB10 pace) after coming off torn ACL, which reportedly wasn't fully healed (recall he was rushed back after missing the first two games), and playing through multiple injuries. He only rushed for 93 yards last season as opposed to 299 in 2017. Wentz has a loaded supporting cast giving him every reason to succeed: a smart offensive coach, a great O-Line, receivers, tight ends, plus a weak running game and worse defense. Particularly, the addition of DeSean Jackson is monumental for this offense because he's elevated nearly every QB he's played with and provides a ton of spacing for other players. The Eagles offense is very deep at all positions and will be difficult to defend. Now fully healthy and reportedly tearing it up in practice, Wentz is set to get back on his 2017 track. Because he's ranked as QB7 or lower on most sites, Wentz falls right in that sweet spot where you get a QB with MVP upside but don't have to pay the cost of admission. You can typically wait to pull the trigger right after Matt Ryan or Andrew Luck is selected. This could be as early as Round 6 or late as Round 8, depending on league. Draft him and watch him soar into Top-5 QB territory.
- **57.Tevin Coleman (RB24)** Jerick McKinnon could be placed on I.R. and seems out of the picture, leaving this backfield to Coleman and Matt Breida. Despite injuries last season, 49ers RBs recorded the 5<sup>th</sup> most yards from scrimmage last

season in Shanahan's RB-friendly scheme, a system in which Coleman has experience in. The 49ers return all 5 O-Line starters, and face one of the easiest run defense schedules in the NFL. Breida has had an injury history of his own. I'll bite. Though I may consider "handcuffing" Coleman with Breida, because either could be game-changers if their backfield mate went down.

- **58. Miles Sanders (RB25)** The Eagles hadn't drafted a running back in the first three rounds since LeSean McCoy in 2009, so Howie Roseman's decision to use the No. 53 overall pick on Sanders shows how highly they think of the Penn State product. "Miles was a staff favorite. A personnel staff favorite. A front-office favorite," said Roseman. Sanders backed up Saquon Barkley at Penn. St. until show-casing his athleticism as a starter during his final year of college. Sanders' average of 3.68 yards after contact per carry ranked No. 8 in the nation. On tape, Sanders reminds some of Devonta Freeman with a scrappy, jump-cutting, high-energy style that allowed him to win versus initial defenders. Sanders has nonetheless been earning "many" first-team reps and impressing beat writers. It seems like it's only a matter of team before he's the lead back in a high-flying Eagles offense with a great O-Line. That said, Coach Doug Pederson has typically preferred RBBCs and we should expect Jordan Howard to be the short yardage and goal line back in Philadelphia, capping Sanders' upside.
- **59.Hunter Henry (TE6)** Henry did miss all of last season with a torn ACL, but he went down in May of last year, meaning he's a year and half removed. In 2016-2017, Henry ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in passer rating when targeted, 1<sup>st</sup> in fantasy points per target, 3<sup>rd</sup> in PFF grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> in yards per route run. Philip Rivers historically tends to target tight ends in the red zone at a frequent rate. I don't think Henry possesses the upside of O.J. Howard or Evan Engram, but he tends to slide in drafts, and I'm comfortable taking him in Round 7.
- **60.Mike Williams (WR25)** This one's tough, because he "broke out" last year with 10 TDs, a number that's highly likely to come down, particularly with TE Hunter Henry returning after missing all of 2018 with a torn ACL. Yet, Williams only drew 66 targets last season as he played behind Tyrell Williams, who has since signed with Oakland. Williams saw 30% of the Chargers' deep targets and 20% of their air yards, so Mike Williams' expanded role could override his expected TD regression. His outlook is very similar to Calvin Ridley's in this respect.
- **61.Calvin Ridley (WR26)** Two big games totaling 15-249-4 against the Saints overshadowed a subpar rest of the season in which Ridley averaged 41.5 REYD on 3.5 catches against other teams. In a similar sense to Mike Williams, Ridley's usage will increase, but TD regression is inevitable after scoring 10 TDs despite ranking 97<sup>th</sup> in Mike Clay's OTD metric and 71<sup>st</sup> in end zone targets. Ridley is usually off the board in drafts a round or two before I would consider thinking about him.
- **62.Dede Westbrook (WR27)** Westbrook is the best receiver on the Jaguars roster and is a dynamic playmaker who was underutilized by Blake Bortles. Nick Foles is at least a competent quarterback who has always shown an affinity for slot receivers. And Westbrook knows how to get open. Per Next Gen Stats, Westbrook

earned 3+ yards of separation on 74% of his targets, the top rate in the NFL. This has the makings of a nice marriage, making Westbrook a breakout candidate.

- **63. Vance McDonald (TE7)** Last year's TE10 should see a significant increase in playing time this season now that fellow TE Jesse James is in Detroit. McDonald played on 55% of his team's snaps last season, while James played 50%, so given McDonald's natural ability as a receiver (he's exceptional after the catch), it's fair to assume McDonald will surpass at least 70% of the team's snaps. McDonald was uber efficient last season, ranking 4<sup>th</sup> in YAC per reception, 3<sup>rd</sup> in yards after contact per catch, and 2<sup>nd</sup> best in missed tackles forced per catch. The Steelers attempted more passes than any team last season. Oh, and Antonio Brown is gone.
- **64.Jared Cook (TE8)** Should be the TE that WHODAT Nation wanted Coby Fleener to be. Note Drew Brees' propensity for throwing to TEs dates all the way back to Antonio Gates in San Diego. There was Jeremy Shockey, Ben Watson, and obviously Jimmy Graham. Accordingly, Brees and many Saints beat writers have been impressed with Cook this offseason. Occasional drops and inconsistency aside, Cook is late-blooming, athletic target who knows how to open and has soft hands. He excelled on slants and passes up the seam as the go-to guy for Oakland last year, and he should fit in as the third option behind Michael Thomas and Alvin Kamara in New Orleans.
- **65.**<u>Darwin Thompson (RB26)</u> <u>See</u> "*Sleeper Running Backs*" below. I'm aggressively reaching for him in every draft.
- **66. Latavius Murray (RB27)** Expected to play the Mark Ingram role in the highpowered Saints offense. That's about 28 snaps and ~12-15 touches per game. Last season, Ingram scored 11 PPG, prorating to RB21 over a full season. However, many of his monster stat lines were amassed in blowouts (WAS/PHI/CIN). The positives about Murray include the Saints run-friendly offense. Over the past seven seasons the Saints have ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, first, and 1<sup>st</sup> in team running back fantasy points per game. The Saints led the league in rushing TDs last year. Murray has a great size-speed combo. His career numbers are pedestrian, but he's also had to deal with the lowly Raiders and the Vikings' miserable O-Line, so there may be some untapped potential here. There's also some league-winning upside if Kamara were to go down, too. His ADP is far too low.
- 67. Baker Mayfield (QB5) Obviously, the supporting cast Odell Beckham, Jarvis Landry, David Njoku, Nick Chubb, and even Rashard Higgins is awesome. But the real reason we should be buying into the hype is because of Mayfield's coaches. Mayfield was inconsistent with Todd Haley running the offense and held back by Hue Jackson, so Hue and Haley were fired after 8 games, and Freddie Kitchens started calling the shots in Week 9 this is when Mayfield surged in the second half of the season. Mayfield pre-Kitchens as OC: 56.5 comp%, 1471 PAYD, 8-6 TD/INT. Mayfield with Kitchens as OC: 68.4 comp%, 2254 PAYD, 19-8 TD/INT. (Field Yates). Mayfield's pace numbers prorate to 36-16 TD/INT ratio and 4,508 PAYD (QB10). The Browns' liability is their O-Line, but Kitchens' offense had a way of mitigating this problem last season. Johnny Kinsley charted that

Cleveland allowed 9 QB hits from Weeks 9-17. The next lowest was Indianapolis with 29! By comparison, with Hue and Haley in the first 8 games, Cleveland allowed 61 QB hits. For the cherry on top, the Browns new OC is Todd Monken, who coordinated the Bucs last year. Monken's Bucs were 6th in pass percentage,  $2^{nd}$  in YPA, and lead the NFL in passing with 5125 yards... with Fitzpatrick and Winston. Both Winston and Fitzpatrick were in the top-3 for average depth of target. Despite not taking over the starting job until Week 4, Mayfield's pass catchers dropped a league-high 322 air yards (Mike Tagliere). All things considered, Mayfield is in a position to score 32+ TDs this season.

- **68.Derrius Guice (RB28)** I certainly do not make a habit of drafting players coming off a torn ACL, as the evidence almost always shows they are highly likely to underwhelm in their next season. But something about Guice (namely, his tape at LSU, work ethic, and personality) tells me he has the makings of a running back who belongs, and possibly a future star (indeed, this is why I was so high on him last season prior to the injury). This time last year, Derrius Guice had an early-fourth-round ADP. At the combine this year, coach Jay Gruden told Matthew Berry, "[Guice] doesn't have to come off the field on third down." Berry continued, "Gruden expanded on that, saying that though LSU never really used him in the pass game, the Redskins discovered last year in practice and OTAs that's he's a really good pass-catcher, and they will use him in that role this season. The Redskins' only chance to win games is to run the ball and play defense. Expect a slow start as he fends off Adrian Peterson and regains confidence in his knee, but I think Guice can be a difference maker down the stretch. I know I'm rooting for him, but he typically is drafted higher than I'm willing to go.
- **69.Josh Gordon (WR28)** Happy he got reinstated. Elite play-making skill when his mind is right. I comprehend the upside with Gronk gone and now that Gordon has had a full year with Brady and the Patriots. However, I'm less optimistic than most. Nearly all of New England's actions in the last two years speak to Patriots wanting to be a run-dominant team. Julian Edelman and James White will soak up targets, and first round rookie WR N'Keal Harry will certainly play a role. I'm buying Gordon as the #2 WR on the Patriots, but I'm not forecasting him returning to his 2014 all-pro form.
- **70.Sammy Watkins (WR29)** Watkins was better than most think in games he started and finished. He left 2 games early, negatively skewing his per game numbers. His playoff performances are reasons for optimism, after returning from the foot injury that sidelined him for a while, he posted a 8/6-62-0 line against the Colts, including being tackled at 1 and dropping a long pass. He then got behind New England's defense a few times to the tune of 8/4-114-0. All healthy games considered, Watkins' 139 points in 10 games (8 regular season minus 2 early exits plus 2 playoff games) equated to 13.9 PPG, or WR18 prorated. Amazingly, Watkins is still 26 years old. He tends to fall in drafts, and I'm OK with getting a piece of the Chiefs explosive offense in Round 9.
- **71.Robby Anderson (WR30)** Anderson didn't do much last season until Sam Darnold came on during the last 4 weeks of the season. Anderson had [17, 22, 29,

5] PTS during Weeks 14-17. His target share a whopping 33% during that span, which will obviously decrease with the additions of slot WR Jamison Crowder, RB Le'Veon Bell, and a healthy Quincy Enunwa. Anderson is in a contract year and has had a great offseason. Adam Gase should expand his route tree to make him more than just a go-route, deep threat type. Mike Clay writes that the Jets' No. 1 wideout will face the fifth-toughest CB schedule for a top receiver by having to face a standout shadow corner during a league-high 11 of 15 weeks (Gilmore twice, Howard twice, White, Ward, Ramsey, Jenkins, Norman, Smith/Humphrey and Haden). He'll have spiked production some weeks, and 3 targets in others. He comes at an affordable price though.

- 72. Michael Gallup (WR30) The Cowboys' clear #2 WR and best deep threat, Gallup can make defenders miss and do damage after the catch. He would be a popular sleeper if he and Dak Prescott could have connected on more throws in 2019. In Week 13 vs. the Saints, Prescott missed him on what would have been a guaranteed 55-yard TD, after juking Eli Apple on a double move. In Week 14 vs. Philly, Prescott again missed Gallup for a wide-open downfield TD in the second half. Gallup also showed his potential in the Cowboys' playoff loss to Los Angeles (9/6-119-0). Gallup boasted a meager 16 percent target share in nine games alongside Amari Cooper, but totaled just over 100 fewer air yards in that span as Dallas' go-to over-the-top threat. As a rookie, Gallup was a big part of the offense, and he should continue to grow this year, especially because Amari Cooper is ailing with planter fasciitis. OC Kellen Moore will be a better play schemer than Scott Linehan, and Zeke's hold out should place an emphasis on the passing game. Gallup is one of my favorite break-out candidates who I've been able to grab after Pick 100 in nearly every league.
- **73.Marquez Valdes-Scantling (WR31)** MVS reportedly picked up Matt LaFleur's offense quickly this offseason, and he's running ahead of Geronimo Allison in 2-WR sets. Davante Adams and Aaron Rodgers have praised MVS for his work ethic. Per Next Gen Stats, MVS created separation on 70.3% of his targets, ranking 3<sup>rd</sup> among receivers with at least 50 targets. I'm quite giddy about the idea of drafting Aaron Rodgers' #2 WR near his poor ranking of 108<sup>th</sup> overall on ESPN.
- 74.Tony Pollard (RB30) See "Sleeper Running Backs" below.
- 75.Devin Singletary (RB31) See "Sleeper Running Backs" below.

# Rounds 10+

### **QUARTERBACKS**:

Lamar Jackson (QB8) – Jackson took over as the Ravens' starting QB in Week 11 last season. He was a raw rookie being thrown into Joe Flacco's offense with a crap supporting cast. Jackson averaged 17 runs per contest, which amounted to 11.4 PPG in rushing alone, in turn elevating his floor. In total, his 18.6 PPG average during Weeks 11-17 extrapolates to QB10 over a full season. New OC Greg Roman said they are going to rebuild the offense from the ground up, to be accommodated around Jackson. And he should know how to do that, because Roman is the same guy who boosted mobile QBs Tyrod Taylor and Colin Kaepernick to career years.

Yet, Jackson is being taken as the 16th guarterback off the board. Why is that? Most people shy away from Jackson because of the popular narrative that he can't throw. While his ball placement leaves a lot to be desired, it's nowhere near as bad as most think. Jackson made some very difficult NFL throws look routine with timing and touch. He also reads through progressions before he looks to run. What really limited Jackson's impact as a passer last season was his lack of quality pass catchers. The Ravens tried to fix this by drafting Marquise Brown, Miles Boykin, and Justice Hill, all of whom bring athleticism and speed to this offense. The Ravens also signed a running back, Mark Ingram, who can catch, as opposed to Gus Edwards last season. TE Hayden Hurst is healthy after essentially red-shirting his rookie year. TE Mark Andrews is a baller who makes the most of his limited opportunities. Lamar Jackson averaged 0.83 fantasy points per dropback, breaking the PFF-era record (2007-2018). For perspective, this was 21% better than Patrick Mahomes' average last season! Though the Ravens are the NFL's most run-heavy team and won't have near the dropbacks a team like the Chiefs will, Jackson has the capability of being a cheat code of sorts.

**Dak Prescott (QB9)** – Prescott has quietly finished 10th, 10th, and 6<sup>th</sup> in fantasy points scored by year. Amari Cooper joined the Cowboys in Week 9. From that point on, Dak Prescott ranked as QB6. Prescott started very slowly last season, scoring 58 points (11.6 PPG) in Weeks 1-5, totaling 5 TDs and 5 turnovers. He had to overcome vanilla game plans, pass protection woes sans center Travis Frederick (who returns this year), WRs dropping passes and failing to separate. Things started to pick up though. Dak amassed 27 total TDs and 10 turnovers in Weeks 6-18 including playoffs. In my opinion, Prescott is one of the most underrated players in the NFL from a talent standpoint. He's a very accurate passer who has been challenged with nearly an impossible task of producing in Jason Garrett and Scott Linehan's dinosaur offense. Dallas's route combinations lack any disguise or creativity and are so isolated, archaic, and easy to cover that Dak is constantly forced to throw into tight windows

with little space. Luckily, Dallas has a new OC in Kellen Moore. If Moore can dethrone Garrett as the play-caller and implement new designs, the Cowboys offense could take off this year. Part of me wonders if Ezekiel Elliot's hold out will aid in this transition away from its conservative principles, force the Cowboys to design the offense around Dak, allowing him to take the next step into the upper echelon of fantasy quarterbacks.

**Kyler Murray (QB11)** – The Cardinals have no defense, and by the looks of it, their pathetic O-Line won't support a strong running game. More likely, it'll have Murray running for his life. That could be a good thing, however, when your QB runs a 4.3 '40. The #1 overall pick in the draft was hand-selected by Kliff Kingsbury for his unique, spread offense. The Cardinals will play fast and out of the shot gun almost every play. Kingsbury will use Murray's athleticism to create space, and Murray is accurate enough to pick apart bad defenses and also poses as a big-play threat with a cannon arm. Rookie mistakes will be made, but you'll learn to live with them because he'll make up for them with his legs and plenty of garbage time points. Lastly consider that quarterback is a replaceable position in fantasy football. So when you're ready to choose one (preferably in the later rounds) in your single-quarterback league draft, ignore Murray's bust-potential, and swing away at a player who has real, genuine homerun upside at the position, not some run-of-the-mill QB12'ish season from someone like Philip Rivers.

Jameis Winston (QB13) - In other words, over the past two seasons, Winston has thrown for at least 300 yards in half of his starts. Last season, Winston threw for a league-high 10.7 air yards per pass attempt. From 2013-17, the Arizona Cardinals under Bruce Arians were second in air yards per pass attempt. In his nine starts last season, Jameis Winston averaged 4.6 deep completions and 11.1 deep attempts per game. Both would have led the NFL if he qualified. For reference, Mahomes led the NFL with 4.2 deep completions per game and Mayfield led with 8.8 deep attempts per game. - Matthew Berry 100 Facts... In those nine starts last season, Winston averaged 294.2 passing yards per game. With questions on defense and playing in the toughest division in the league, the Bucs would be lucky to even reach those heights, so it is likely they continue to be a pass-heavy unit. Those passes also figure to be effective given the personnel available and Arians' history, making this a passing game to target in fantasy drafts. Even while throwing 14 interceptions last season, Winston was still somewhat fortunate because only half of his interceptable passes were caught. It could have been much worse. Poor ball placement to every level of the field is a fatal problem. His accuracy that year was still awful because he was one of the worst underneath passers and one of the worst deep passers in the league.

### **RUNNING BACK SLEEPERS**:

**Darwin Thompson (ESPN: 200)** – We can all agree that having a running back in the Chiefs offense is extremely valuable. Andy Reid has fostered major fantasy success for studs like Brian Westbrook, Jamaal Charles, and Kareem Hunt. Even Damien Williams was thrown into the mix and averaged over 22 PPG in his 6 starts last season (RB1 during that span). Throughout the offseason, Andy Reid has declared Damien Williams his starting RB. But are we really going to trust a 27-yearold journeyman to lock down this coveted role as the featured back on the most explosive offense in the NFL? There's probably a reason that Williams has only 183 carries in his 5-year NFL career. Williams was getting all of the first team reps in training camp until he was sidelined for 10 days with a hamstring injury. At that point, Andy Reid had no choice but to see what he had in his backups. We already know what he has in current second-stringer Carlos Hyde. He's a plodder who is a zero in the receiving game – which is essentially a requirement for an RB in Andy Reid's offense. Hyde has averaged below 3.9 YPC for three straight seasons on three different teams. And I'm not the only one who thinks Hyde is not a lock to even make the Chiefs' team. Now, one of the main arguments fantasy analysts use to justify drafting the unproven Damien Williams so high in fantasy football this season is because of the lack of competition behind him. Who is going to take his touches? Enter Darwin Thompson. This kid is a sixth-round rookie who flashes on his college film. He has everything you look for in a running back. He's explosive, quick, fast. He's small in height but big in heart. He's a total gym rat with a great work ethic, who is extremely strong for his size, and it shows when he's breaking the tackles of LBs seemingly twice his size. Importantly, Darwin is a very capable receiver and willing blocker. We've seen all of these skills first-hand during the first two weeks of the preseason. I believe Darwin Thompson is a better running back than Damien Williams, and I believe Andy Reid figure that out too (if he doesn't already know), possibly sooner than later. Thompson will have no issues lapping cement-footed Carlos Hyde, and once he starts getting playing time, he can supplant Williams, too. If that happens, you're looking at a league winner here. Darwin Thompson is exactly the type of high-ceiling, low-risk player you should be targeting in the teens. Those who stashed Nick Chubb on their bench for 7 weeks before his time to shine came know the feeling. The fantasy industry is just starting to catch on to Thompson, and it's only a matter of time before his ADP soars. I'm boldly attempting to draft Thompson in every league. It's gotten to the point where I feel sick to my stomach if I don't land him on my teams. Darwin Thompson is my most highly recommend lottery ticket this season, and I want everyone reading this guide to come out of their drafts with Darwin on their teams.

Recommended Action: Aggressively reach for Thompson before Pick 100.

**Tony Pollard (ESPN: 173)** – Likened by the Cowboys to Alvin Kamara, Dallas may have found a gem in the draft, and it comes at a perfect time as Ezekiel Elliot is

holding out. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to theorize Pollard's potential as the Cowboys' lead back if Zeke were to miss games. I think if you are taking Zeke 4<sup>th</sup> overall, you absolutely have to cuff him with Pollard later on. I'd reach a few rounds early to insure his services. Pollard isn't just an insurance policy, though. I've been taking Pollard in Round 12'ish regardless of whether or not I drafted Zeke. There's a scenario where Pollard is this year's James Conner, at least for a few games. Recommended Action: Priority target any time after Pick 100.

**Devin Singletary (ESPN: 172)** – The Bills' third round pick slid in the draft because of a poor NFL Combine. His tape is impressive, however, and PFF College credited Singletary with 96 missed tackles forced last season – second in the nation behind David Montgomery (100). He's a talented runner who plays on a conservative Bills team that has a mobile QB. The Bills added some RBs this offseason to compete with LeSean McCoy – namely Frank Gore and T.J. Yeldon. Gore is a complementary veteran presence who can teach Singletary about work ethic. Yeldon may not even make the team. And it also wouldn't shock me if LeSean McCoy got cut too. If that's the case, Singletary's ADP will skyrocket. He's another player who you can stash on your bench that may be very useful in the second half of the season after the murky water clears.

Recommended Action: Target any time after Pick 100.

**Justice Hill (ESPN: 199)** – Hill is currently buried on the depth chart behind Mark Ingram and Gus Edwards. That won't last long, however. Hill looks like he's shot out of a cannon any time he gets a hand off in space. Baltimore will defer to the veteran in Ingram to begin the season, but I don't think they'll be able to keep Hill's speed and athleticism off the field. He'll chip in as a change-of-pace back before taking over passing downs, and in the best case scenario, working as the better 1-2 punch with Ingram in the NFL's most run-heavy offense. I mentioned earlier that once Lamar Jackson took over as the team's starter last season, Baltimore's running backs ranked second in carries, first in rushing yards, and first in yards per carry (a whopping 5.34).

Recommended Action: Target any time after Pick 140.

<u>Handcuffs to Consider</u>: Alexander Mattison (MIN) is Dalvin Cook's clear-cut handcuff. Cook hasn't been able to stay healthy in his first two seasons, and Mattison would immediately be a RB2 if Cook got hurt again. I can say the same thing for Jaylen Samuels (PIT), as we saw him hold great value when James Conner missed time late last season. Chase Edmonds (ARI) is another one of the best handcuffs in the game, as he would immediately assume a big role if David Johnson went down.

### WIDE RECEIVER SLEEPERS:

**John Brown (ESPN: 139)** – Yes, I'm a John Brown truther, but his ESPN rank of 139<sup>th</sup> (WR60) makes no sense. Brown was on pace for a 61-1,068-7.0 season (midrange WR2 numbers) through 9 games before Lamar Jackson took over as quarterback. Now in Buffalo, he teams up with a quarterback obsessed with chucking it deep. Bills' starting QB Josh Allen threw 19.1 percent of his passes further than 20 yards past the line of scrimmage, the highest rate in the league. The deep ball is speedy John Brown's forte. We saw Robert Foster put up WR2 numbers in his final 5 games with Allen. Why can't Brown? Expect a roller coaster ride, as Josh Allen's accuracy is erratic at times, but Brown is a great best ball target whose ADP is not sensible. He's slipping to Rounds 11-13, where I'm pouncing.

**D.K. Metcalf (ESPN: 147)** – His ADP will be even lower once the ranks are updated to reflect his knee scope. Metcalf is questionable for Week 1, but you can stash him on an I.R. spot until then. He's a freak athlete, workout warrior with a dangerous size/speed combination who will make his money on big plays. And he happens to have a QB in Russell Wilson who is one of the best, most accurate deep passers in the NFL, and can also buy time with his legs and make long throws on "broken plays." Essentially, Metcalf's skill-set and situation is conducive to fantasy prowess. He'll have a great opportunity once he's healthy too, because the Seahawks have absolutely nothing in terms of pass catchers behind Tyler Lockett. Metcalf is one of my favorite late-round "let's see what happens" scoop-ups.

**Others to Consider:** If Antonio Brown misses time for whatever reason, **Tyrell Williams (ESPN: 121)** could be the Raiders' #1 target, and regardless it won't take him many targets to provide value as both a deep threat and possible the red zone on jump-balls and fades as the only Raiders receiver over 6'0... I actually like **Devin Funchess (ESPN: 122)** as a sleeper ASSUMING Andrew Luck is healthy enough to play from the get-go. He's a perfect complement to T.Y. Hilton and should see some time in the slot and be used in the red zone... **Anthony Miller (ESPN: 123)** scored 7 TDs as a rookie despite playing through a shoulder that separated several times over the course of last season. He's dealing with a leg injury right now, unfortunately, but once he's back at full strength, I predict he'll be a fantasy factor as Mitch Trubisky's #2 WR. Miller looks like he belongs.

### TIGHT END SLEEPERS:

**Darren Waller (ESPN: TE24)** – Sleeper Alert! Perhaps no TE is getting more offseason buzz than this little-known diamond in the rough. This guy is a physical freak of nature wide receiver speed and quick-twitch movements will give linebackers fits. Waller had a troubling past but is clean now and ready to feast. Raiders are giving him a golden opportunity to replace Jared Cook. In case you haven't noticed, Derek Carr loves checking down, and Waller is expected to be a big part of the Raiders offense. Everyone who observes Raiders practices is talking him up, and his athleticism pops off the screen when you watch him play. If anyone has a shot to be this year's George Kittle, my money is on Waller. Currently ranked TE24 on ESPN, Waller is FREE. I've taken a flier on him as my backup TE in every team I've drafted so far, usually in Round 16'ish.

**Others to Consider: Austin Hooper (ESPN: TE12)** is falling too far in drafts. He's young, has improved every year, and is in a contract year. There are target share concerns with Julio Jones and Calvin Ridley, but I would take Hooper ahead of Njoku, Walker, and Ebron. You aren't getting an other-worldly season with him, but you're getting a TE10 floor. **Jimmy Graham (ESPN: TE16)** is due for positive TD regression and battled some injuries last season in Mike McCarthy's offense, an extremely unfriendly system for TEs. **Mark Andrews (ESPN: TE18)** has looked great this offseason as Lamar Jackson's go-to guy. I would be higher on him if I didn't fear him splitting snaps with blocking specialist Nick Boyle and recent first round pick Hayden Hurst. **T.J. Hockenson (ESPN: TE22)** is a rookie, so conventional wisdom has me fading him, but the Lions haven't been shy about their intentions to make him a major part of the offense.

### **BACKUP QUARTERBACKS (Rounds 15-17):**

**Sam Darnold (QB22 on ESPN)** – Finished strongly in his final four games, where it appeared he turned the corner as a rookie (PFF's  $2^{nd}$  ranked passer, 6-1 TD/INT ratio, 7.4 YPA in Weeks 14-17). Darnold is still one of the youngest players in the NFL, and while he was careless with the football last season (leading the NFL interceptable passes per Cian Fahey), he possesses all the tools to be great. Furthermore, the Jets did everything they could to give Darnold help this offseason. They added OG Kelechi Osemele to the O-Line. Le'Veon Bell is the game's best pass catching RB. Slot receiver Jamison Crowder is a nice security blanket. Darnold already has deep threat Robby Anderson, who he gelled with at the final quarter of 2018, and the Jets get WR Quincy Enunwa healthy again. TE Chris Herndon (suspended 4 games) also showed flashes of brilliance during his rookie year. All the pieces are in place for Darnold to take a big leap forward, and I'm expecting it – I have more Darnold on every team I've drafted so far, but that's mainly because his QB22 ranking means he's essentially free as a backup in 1-QB leagues. It wouldn't surprise me if Darnold pushed for a Top-12 finish this season.

**Mitch Trubisky (QB15 on ESPN)** – Trubisky struggled in first 3 games in Matt Nagy's system before breaking out in Week 4 vs. the Bucs with 6(!) TDs. From Week 4 - Week 11, before a shoulder injury sidelined him for 2 games, Mitch scored 181 pts, averaging 25.8 PPG, the most during that span. His season average was 18.1 PPG. You can make the case that his shoulder injury negatively impacted his numbers down the stretch. Before the injury, he averaged 247 PAYD, 36 RUYD, and 2 PATD. After, he averaged 189 PAYD, 14.5 RUYD, and 1 PATD. Matt Nagy comes from Kansas City after working with Andy Reid, and his offense is similarly efficient and easy for a QB to execute. Last year was Trubisky's first season in the offense as a second-year pro, but he now has a year of growth in this offense under his belt, along with a great supporting cast: Allen Robinson, Anthony Miller, Taylor Gabriel, Trey Burton, Tarik Cohen, and David Montgomery, and a rock-solid O-Line. The Bears defense is likely to regress as well. Don't get me wrong: Trubisky is very inconsistent as a passer but running helps his floor (added 430 RUYD and 3 RUTDs). Trubisky has the skill-set and supporting cast to be a Top-12 QB.

**Derek Carr (QB23 on ESPN)** – By all accounts, Carr is having the best offseason of his career. The Raiders adding WR Antonio Brown would be enough to intrigue me as a late-round, matchup-based QB, but they went much further. Oakland drafted Josh Jacobs, a very capable receiver out of the backfield, and slot maven Hunter Renfrow. In addition, the Raiders signed deep threat WR Tyrell Williams and seemingly found a great replacement for TE Jared Cook in Darren Waller, a freak athlete and potential matchup nightmare for defenses (more on him later). While the

O-Line isn't perfect by any stretch of the imagination, the Raiders defense is bad enough to force Carr to keep up with high-flying Chiefs and Chargers in the AFC West. I like Carr to be an actually fantasy-relevant matchup-based QB2, or, ideally, a perfect QB3 in Super Flex leagues.

**Josh Allen (QB24 on ESPN)** – Fun Fact: No player scored more points in Weeks 12-17 than Josh Allen's 25.4 PPG. The dude balled out to close the year from fantasy perspective despite a bad supporting cast. The Bills have since upgraded his O-Line and WRs. If you draft Allen, you have to know what you're getting into, and that's peaks and valleys. He's an extremely polarizing player who struggles with accuracy (by most metrics, he was the least accurate QB in the NFL last season). That said, his playing style is conducive to fantasy points because he chucks it deep all the time and he's an athlete playing QB, so he's constantly scrambling when his first two reads aren't open. In short, the way he plays facilities big plays, but after an offseason of film to pick up on his obvious passing flaws, there will be defenses capable of making him look silly some weeks. Allen impressively averaged 52 RUYD per game, raising his week-to-week floor, and it doesn't have to be pretty to score fantasy points. Allen is the latest ranked QB I would consider drafting because of his week-winning upside, which he's already shown in a 6-game sample to close out last season.

### **KICKERS (Rounds 15-17)**:

- 1. **Greg Zuerlein (LAR)** Double-digit points in 8/11 games played last season. Powerful leg with great range in a good offense on a winning team.
- 2. Justin Tucker (BAL) Scored an impressive 91 points in the final 8 games after a slow first half of the season with Joe Flacco at QB. The most talented kicker in the NFL.
- 3. Harrison Butker (KC) If you believe the Chiefs offense will regress, some of those XPs will turn into FGs. The Chiefs are constantly in scoring position either way.
- 4. Will Lutz (NO) Was the top kicker Weeks 3-11 but finished poorly. Saints are a winning team with a potent offense.

If you miss out on these options, I would wait until the last round of your draft and grab:

- Jake Elliot (PHI) High-powered Eagles offense. Winning team. Opens with WAS.
- Mason Crosby (GB) Aaron Rodgers-led offense should be better this season.

### **DEFENSES (Rounds 15-17):**

This year, there's not really any defenses I'm particularly fond of. I'll be streaming defenses based on matchups. I'd recommend taking one of these back-end DSTs in the last round to open the season with:

- New England Patriots 7 Top-10 DST campaigns in the last 9 seasons. Opens vs. PIT, but gets a soft slate of MIA, NYJ, BUF, WAS, NYG during Weeks 2-6.
- Los Angeles Chargers On paper, this could have been the most talented defense in the league, at least before they lost all-pro safety Derwin James to injury. They'll have some splash weeks, and they face a Colts team in Week 1 that could be without Andrew Luck.
- **Dallas Cowboys** Incredible opening slate against QB-less Giants, Redskins, and Dolphins Weeks 1-3. The going gets tough after that, however.
- **Baltimore Ravens** Last year's #2 DST lost some key contributors but has the best secondary in the NFL. Opens @MIA, ARI.
- **Cleveland Browns** Olivier Vernon/Myles Garrett/Sheldon Richardson/Larry Ogunjobi is a scary D-Line. Opens with TEN at home.
- **Philadelphia Eagles** Nice Week 1 matchup against WAS. Positive DTD regression coming as the Eagles scored zero defensive TDs last season.

### **DEEP LEAGUE DART THROWS (Picks 175+):**

- Miles Boykin (ESPN: 260) Freak, big-play athlete battling to be the Ravens' #1 WR. Has impressed in camp.
- **Rashard Higgins (ESPN: 231)** Little-known Browns' slot WR has a strong rapport with Baker Mayfield. If Odell Beckham or Jarvis Landry get hurt, Higgins will be useful.
- Mecole Hardman (ESPN: 196) Speed makes him a big play waiting to happen in the Chiefs' offense. He'll be sprinkled in and flash here and there, but everyone will race to the waiver wire if the injury-prone Sammy Watkins or Tyreek Hill miss time.
- **Ty Montgomery (ESPN: 242)** Will get more playing time than people think as Le'Veon Bell's backup. Will smash this ranking whether Bell misses time or not.
- Darren Waller (ESPN: 247-TE24) See "Sleeper Tight Ends," above.
- **Terry McLaurin (ESPN: 197)** The rookie has been turning heads since the moment he was drafted. Was QB Dwayne Haskins' primary receiver in college, so there's an obvious connection there. It shouldn't take long for McLaurin to start in this dreadful offense.
- Keeshawn Johnson (ESPN: 300+) Has looked great in practice since the moment the Cardinals have drafted him. Could emerge as a threat for Kyler Murray in Kingsbury's air-raid.

# **Recommended Changes for Your Fantasy Football League**

### 1) Add a Super Flex

- a. QBs are the most valuable in position in all of sports. Why are they so devalued in fantasy football? Especially in today's pass-oriented NFL, single-quarterback fantasy football leagues make no sense whatsoever.
- b. Why is it accepted practice for us to be forced to start backup RBs and teams' 3<sup>rd</sup> WRs in our Flex and not a quarterback like Jared Goff?
- c. Why do we just blindly adhere to a system that values Tom freaking Brady in Round 13 (which is his current ADP)? If you explained fantasy football to any beginner, they'd think that concept of QBs being unimportant is stupid. Because it is. QBs SHOULD have more value in fantasy football, but we don't because we play in an outdated system.
- d. Quarterbacks are biggest names and most fun to watch. Why should we have some of the NFL's best and most essential players Tom Brady, Philip Rivers, Big Ben rot away on fantasy benches all year not counting for anything. Super Flex leagues allow you to put them in your lineup where they belong.
- e. There are 32 starting QBs, but only 10 or 12 of them matter in your fantasy football league each week. Again, that's absurd, foolish, and it goes against everything the NFL stands for nowadays.
- f. The benefits of Super Flex also include roster flexibility, draft creativity, and more strategy. Now teams aren't all using the same, archaic, boring approach to drafts.
- g. For example, you aren't pigeon-holed into drafting certain positions just because you took Pat Mahomes early. If Aaron Rodgers happens to be the best player on your board when your next pick comes around, Super Flex leagues give you the flexibility to take him.
- h. Teams can mix it up, making the draft more unpredictable and entertaining.
- i. Super Flex leagues are progressive. They are the future of fantasy football. They are becoming more widespread and popular among expert leagues in the industry.
- j. I predict Super Flex formats will be mainstream (as in adopted as the DEFAULT setting by big time host sites like ESPN, Yahoo!, NFL.com, etc.) within the next four years.
- k. So get ahead of the curve. Add a Super Flex to your league ASAP. Not only will you never look back, but in a decade, you'll laugh at the very thought of single-quarterback leagues!

### 2) Eliminate League-Vote Trades.

a. Evaluating trades should be the commissioner's job.

- b. League votes during the season are riddled with bias and ruin leagues.
- c. Trades should be accepted and pushed through by commissioners unless there are signs of collusion or the proposed trade is patently unfair and obviously cripples the competitive balance of the league (for instance, an extremely one-sided "what the heck" give-up trade from a non-playoff team to a playoff team right before the postseason). Do not be the commissioner that rejects trades from two accepting league members from being upheld simply because a trade advantages one side. That's overstepping your boundaries.

### 3) Add an Extra Flex Position

- a. In general, your fantasy football league probably has too many bench spots.
- b. Having 6-7 bench spots in a standard league is useless.
- c. Convert one of those bench spots into an extra flex position in the starting lineup (ideally the extra flex could be a Super Flex, or you can add both an extra RB/WR/TE flex and a Super Flex!).
- d. The more players on the field, the more fun it is to play and watch.
- e. More players in your starting lineup also decreases variance i.e. the impact of a first quarter injury is lessened because more starters are scored.

### 4) Use Decimal Scoring

- a. This helps break ties.
- b. Every yard matters. It's a game of inches.

### 5) Improve Your Playoff System – Implement "Guarisco Style"

- a. Do not have single elimination playoffs that go into Week 17.
- b. Give my "Guarisco Style" Playoff System a shot: Each playoff team accumulates a win/loss result against all other playoff teams for Weeks 15, 16, and 17 (every team plays every team each week). The team with the best overall win/loss record during the postseason wins the league. If multiple teams end with the same postseason record (two teams finish 6-3, for example), the tie-breaker goes to the team with the most total points in the regular season + playoffs. This allows the best teams throughout the year to have a tie-breaking "home field advantage" of sorts.
- c. The Guarisco Style Playoff System helps ensure that a good team throughout the season that also finishes strongly will win your league as opposed to fluky luck-centered outcomes based on seeding and key players resting in Week 17.
- d. I've been using this system in all leagues I commission for the last 8 years and we have never had a single complaint.

#### 6) Incorporate Double Matchups

a. If you are in a competitive league, consider adopting a concept called Double Matchups (or "Double Headers"), where one game each week will be determined by your head-to-head result against your scheduled opponent as usual, and the other game will depend on whether you're a Top-Half scorer or Bottom-Half scorer that week (if you outscore half of your league that week, you get a win, and if you don't, you get a loss).

- b. In this system, teams go 2-0, 1-1, or 0-2 each week, resulting in 28 games (not 14) by regular season's end.
- c. Double Matchups decrease the impact of random scheduling luck (something fantasy players have absolutely no control over) and rewards teams that are consistently scoring well each week (and not just benefiting from easy matchups), all the while preserving the fun of headto-head matchups.
- d. Basically, if you score 130 points one week but happen to play the one team that scores 150 points, you won't be completely S.O.L. Instead, you'll go 1-1 in this scenario under a Double Matchups system because you'll get a loss for losing your head-to-head matchup but a win for outscoring half the other teams in your league.
- e. Double Matchups are a great way to balance fairness and fun, and I strongly recommend this system for any non-casual league with a buyin, especially high stakes (\$\$\$) leagues.

### 7) Add a Defensive Player... or two.

- a. IDP leagues don't have to be complex. Just add a 1 or 2 DP spots and let people choose which positions and players they want at the end of drafts.
- b. IDP leagues add another variable, and tracking defenders is way more fun than kickers and team defenses.
- c. IDP leagues help you learn more about the NFL.
- d. IDP leagues give you more to watch, now you can start actually caring when a team is on defense. It's fun seeing your players corral interceptions, break up passes, and make tackles.
- e. IDP leagues don't screw up your league. Defensive players are typically drafted late just like kickers and defenses. See below for scoring and settings details if you are interested in adding a defensive player.

# My Recommended Roster Settings and Scoring

### **Starting Lineup:**

QB (3 max per roster) RB RB WR WR TE FLEX, (any Running Back or Wide Receiver or Tight End), FLEX, (any Running Back or Wide Receiver or Tight End), OP, (Super Flex / Any Offensive Player, including QB) Kicker (3 max per roster) DST (3 max per roster) DP (any Defensive Player) DP (any Defensive Player)

6 Bench Spots.

### SCORING:

<u>Passing</u>: 25 PAYD = 1 PATD = 4 INT = -2 2pt PA Conv = 1

Rushing/Receiving: 1 RUYD/REYD YD = .1 RUTD/RETD = 6 2 pt RU/RE Conv = 2 100+ RUYD/REYD Bonus = 2 200+ RUYD/REYD Bonus = 4 Non-PPR, but Every 5 Catch Bonus = 2

### <u>Kicking</u>: PAT Made = 1 PAT Missed = -1

FG $30-39 = 3$ FG $40-49 = 4$ FG $50+=5$
IDP: Sack = 3 Blocked Kick/Punt = 3 FR = 2 FF = 1 Safety = 2 PD = 1 Total Tackle = 1 INT = 4 Stuff = 1
$\begin{array}{l} \underline{\text{DST}}:\\ \text{Sack} = 1\\ \text{All Return TDs} = 4\\ \text{Blocked Kick/Punt} = 2\\ \text{FR} = 2\\ \text{Safety} = 3\\ 1\text{-pt Safety} = 1\\ 2\text{pt Return} = 2\\ \text{INT} = 2\\ 0 \text{ PA} = 7\\ 1\text{-}6 \text{ PA} = 5\\ 7\text{-}13 \text{ PA} = 4\\ 14\text{-}17 \text{ PA} = 2\\ 18\text{-}21 \text{ PA} = 0\\ 22\text{-}27 \text{ PA} = \text{-}1\\ 28\text{-}34 \text{ PA} = \text{-}2\\ 35\text{+} \text{ PA} = \text{-}4\\ \text{YA} < 100 = 7\\ \text{YA} 100\text{-}199 = 5\\ \text{YA} 200\text{-}299 = 3\\ \text{YA} 300\text{-}349 = 1\\ \text{YA} 350\text{-}399 = 0\\ \text{YA} 400\text{-}449 = \text{-}1\\ \text{YA} 450\text{-}499 = \text{-}2\\ \text{YA} > 500 = \text{-}4\\ \end{array}$
All Misc. TDs = 4 All FL = -2

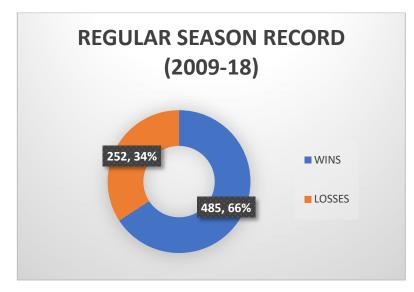
"My #1 piece of advice to FF players: learn to sift through the accounts you follow. Taking advice from the wrong people can destroy your team. Just because someone has a platform does not mean they are good at this, nor that they can help you win. Some financial investors can make you rich, others can lead you to bankruptcy. It is your responsibility to determine which advice is worth following. That being said, nobody is ever correct 100% of the time, but some are right a lot more often than others. It takes many years to learn this.

By choosing to pay a subscription, you are hiring a consultant. Don't be afraid to ask someone what their track record is, ask to see some of their teams and results in industry leagues. You wouldn't pay for fitness/nutrition advice from someone who is morbidly obese, and you wouldn't pay for financial advice from someone who is homeless. This isn't any different. It's a performance-based industry and participation ribbons don't count. Winning does, and experts that help you put your team in position to win year in and year out should be the standard. Don't be afraid to question someone's credibility. If they are really good, they will be proud to show their work..."

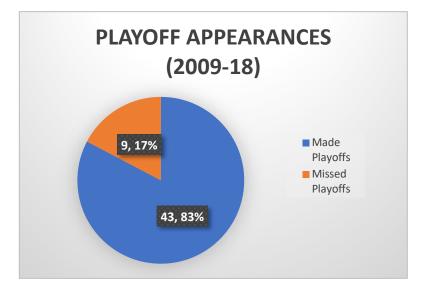
### My Fantasy Football League History

### **Overall Totals Since 2009 (Last 10 Years):**

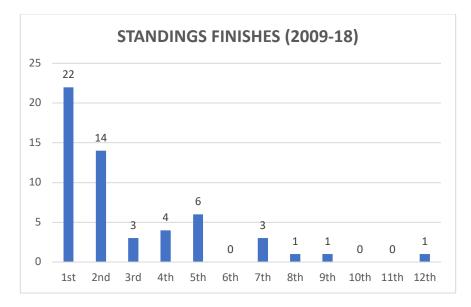
- <u>Total Leagues</u>: o 54
- <u>Regular Season Record</u>:
  - o 485-252 (.658)



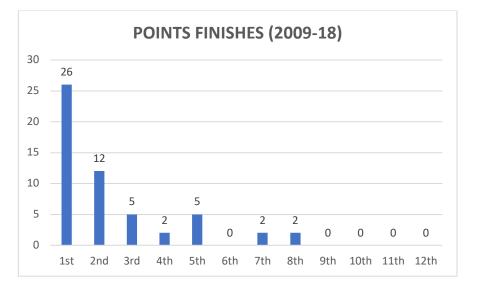
- <u>Playoff Appearances</u>:
  - 43/54 leagues (83%)



- <u>Standings Finishes (Last 10 Years)</u>:
  - 22 firsts, 14 seconds, 3 thirds, 4 fourths, 6 fifths, 3 sevenths, 1 eighth, 1 ninth, 1 twelfth



- Points Finishes (Last 10 Years):
  - $\circ~26$  firsts, 12 seconds, 5 thirds, 2 fourths, 5 fifths, 2 sevenths, 2 eighths



### **Recent History / League Breakdown**

	<u>League</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Final Finis</u>	<u>sh</u> <u>Pts. Finish</u>					
<u>2018</u> :									
	$\mathbf{SPS}$	13-1*	$2^{nd}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$					
	Hood	5-9	$9^{\mathrm{th}}$	$7^{ m th}$					
	Miami	7-7	$7^{ m th}$ / $16$	$7^{ m th}$ / $16$					
	BBL	6-8	$7^{ m th}$	$3^{rd}$					
	LULA	10-4*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$2^{\sf nd}$					
	G.I.F.F.T.	Best Ball	$3^{ m rd}$ / $50$	$3^{ m rd}$ / $50$					
	Total	41-29	(2/5 Playoff Teams)						
2017:									
	$\mathbf{SPS}$	12-2*	$3^{ m rd}$	$2^{ m nd}$					
	Hood	13-1*	$2^{\sf nd}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$					
	Miami	9-4*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$5^{ m th}$					
	BBL	10-3*	$2^{\sf nd}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$					
	LULA	12-2*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$					
	Total	56-12	(5/5 Playoff Teams)						

#### <u>2016</u>:

	Total	71-27	(7/7 Playoff Teams)				
	Yahoo!	10-4*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			
	BBL	9-5*	$2^{nd}$	$2^{\mathrm{nd}}$			
	OGFL	11-3*	$4^{\mathrm{th}}$	$4^{\text{th}}$			
	DDD	11-3*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$2^{\mathrm{nd}}$			
	Hood	9-5*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			
	SPS	10-4*	$2^{\mathrm{nd}}$	$2^{\mathrm{nd}}$			
	Experts	11-3*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$2^{\mathrm{nd}}$			
2015:							
	Total	66-31	(7/7 Playoff Teams)				
	GLL	12-2*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			
	BBL	8-5*	$3^{ m rd}$	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$			
	Miami	8-6*	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$	$3^{\mathrm{rd}}$			
	OGFL	9-5*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			
	DDD	7-7*	$4^{\text{th}}$	$5^{ m th}$			
	Hood	10-4*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			
. <u></u>	SPS	12-2*	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$	$1^{\mathrm{st}}$			

\*= Made Postseason

### Acknowledgments:

THANK YOU to my readers. I hope this Draft Guide helps you win your league!

THANK YOU to everyone participating in the B.E.S.T. Ball 50/50 Fantasy Football Tournament.

THANK YOU to my wife, Rachel, who always supports me and stays patient with me every August during draft season.

GOOD LUCK this season, even to my competitors.

By: Nick Guarisco @FantasyLawGuy