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Introduction
After a successful 2018 season, the Fantasy Football Almanac and Draft Guide is back! For returning readers, you know the drill. For those of you joining our community, let me give you the rundown:

I watch a lot of football and I’ve played fantasy sports since I was 8. Over the years, I’ve found that the big services (large publications, the free online rankings, etc.) tend to regurgitate the same information. Their rankings are all similar because they are using one another as resources and as affirmation of their own opinions. It’s weak, but this also represents opportunity for the savvy players out there.

My methodology is based on three things:

1) Knowledge of the offensive and defensive schemes. The gambler in me keeps track of offensive and defensive line strength. I’m aware of DB vs WR matchups. I keep track of play-calling and personnel matchup tendencies.
2) The eyeball test. I watch a sickening amount of pro and college football. I know what “good” looks like. As players find their way to new teams, I apply this knowledge to predict how well players will play in their surroundings.
3) Analytics. I apply a proprietary algorithm to my rankings. The computer will spit out what I call the player “opportunity.” This score is an indication of players that can be over and under valued at draft time.

Simply put, I combine old-school scouting methods with modern data analysis to provide the most accurate rankings.

Why We’re The Best
For those of you who are returning readers, you know the drill. For those of you who are new to my community, let me quickly summarize our differentiators:

- We are the only fantasy football scouting service out there. I (your author, Sean Ryan) keep track of the turnover of head coaches and coordinators. Why does this matter? Last year, when everyone else had David Johnson in their top 3, we told our readers to pass into the second round because we didn’t like the QB, OL or play-calling situations.
- We are the only guide that projects FUTURE matchup data. We also score split and slot receivers vs their opposing schemes.
- We dig the deepest. We analyze third-down running backs differently for all league types.
- Have you noticed that the rankings from the largest providers or other books have only slight variance? Every season, there’s a player drafted in the mid-rounds that makes the leap. Wouldn’t you have liked to draft JuJu Smith-Schuster in the mid-rounds last year? My readers did.
- We aren’t contrarian, but we do not care about hype. I didn’t like what my analytics were saying about Alex Collins and Rashaad Penny last year. While everyone else was over-drafting these guys in the early/mid rounds, we correctly told our readers to avoid them.
- When you buy this book, you’re buying a service. This guide includes FREE offseason updates (details on how to access are included in the draft strategy section. I quite literally watch every preseason game to unlock insights nobody else is seeing. Anyone can read a stat line after the game, but who else is
reporting an explosive 75-yard touchdown called back on a holding penalty? We go deeper than anyone out there. **My free offseason service properly vaulted Christian McCaffrey into our top-10 last year while the other sites still had him buried in the mid-to-late teens.**

- You can’t win a draft in the first two rounds, but you can lose it. The key is to find impact players in your mid rounds and find competitive advantage in the late rounds. **My readers consistently have the top performing Kickers and D/ST plays. Most fantasy players scoff at these positions, but those extra 2-3 points per week count when your league’s championship is on the line.**
- Playing waivers and executing trades in-season is important. Listeners to the top-rated “Get Paid: Gambling, Fantasy and Daily Fantasy” podcast (available on iTunes, streaming on Podcast One and on the Underdog Podcasting Network) were the **first to pick up Nick Chubb and Marlon Mack** from waivers last season.

### Definitions:

**Fantasy Opportunity Ranking:** This is a proprietary tool of measurement created by The Functional Sportsaholic. This ranking measures a player’s role in an offense and is useful to forecast players playing in a new offensive system and identifies sleepers and undervalued players for fantasy football and Daily Fantasy. **We use this to project potential, not their final standing. It’s a vital tool in our methods.**

**Position Rankings:**

- **Running Back 1:** The player who will receive the bulk of rushing attempts throughout the season. This is typically a traditional first- and second-down running back.
- **Running Back 2:** This is usually a third-down or “pass catching” running back. A team like the Patriots utilizes these different RB types based on player matchup. **We’re the only service that predicts the utilization of personnel.**
- **Wide Receiver 1:** The player who will receive the bulk of the WR targets in a given season.
- **Wide Receiver 2:** Typically a split receiver, but this player receives the 2nd most WR targets.
- **Wide Receiver 3:** Typically a slot receiver, but this could vary. He would receive the 3rd most WR targets.
- **Defense/Special Teams:** Fantasy players often make the mistake of thinking good football teams have good fantasy defenses. In reality, fantasy defenses usually come down to two key things: how often can they sack the opposing quarterback and how efficient are they at causing turnovers. Do points allowed per game matter? Yes, but there are other statistical categories that lead to points over the course of a season.
- **Kicker:** Kickers are often interchangeable, but each season, a handful of players consistently offer 1-2 points of competitive advantage over your competition. The kicker position is a product of two things: efficiency of the offensive scheme (how many field goal and extra point attempts will they get) and the efficiency of the kicker himself. The problem is that teams often cut kickers loose throughout the year, so the individual efficiencies will vary. For this reason, you will see me rank kickers according to team. For example, if Harrison Butker is waived by the Chiefs and picked up by the Dolphins the week before your draft, I don’t want you picking Butker early. I still prefer you to draft the KC kicker – even if you’ve never heard of him before.

**NOTE:** **FOR MOST TEAMS, I DON’T GO DEEPER THAN 2 RBS, 3 WRS AND 1 TE IN THE ANALYSIS SECTION. IN ABOUT 95% OF LEAGUES, YOU DON’T NEED THIS INFORMATION. IF THERE’S A SLEEPER CANDIDATE OR SOMEONE ELSE OF NOTE, I WILL MENTION ACCORDINGLY.**
Sleeper Classification:

- **Popular Sleepers:** The players that most publications and websites will label as a “sleeper” or “breakout” candidate. As fantasy football players know, these widely distributed player lists vary little from publication to publication. Thus, they aren’t sleepers, they are more of a recommendation to be drafted in the middle-to-late rounds.

- **Deep Sleepers:** Many publications also offer their version of “deep” sleepers, which tend to include a lot of players in new offensive systems and/or rookie skill players. We identify these sleepers as well.

- **Hibernators:** These are players so far off the regular fantasy football radar, that you are unlikely to find them in other publications. These sleepers are identified based on our increased offensive coaching play calling analysis and game-by-game matchups. We’ve identified several “hibernation” sleepers within this publication. They are players who can offer high caliber performance, but could be available in the last rounds of your draft or even via waivers.

So What’s New?

Based on feedback from my valued readers, I’ve made a couple of formatting changes to the 2019 guide and furthered two interesting partnerships.

Format Changes:

- Last year’s guide was a bit too heavy on free agency and prior season performance. We’re forward-thinking. This year, **offseason acquisitions will be included within the player analysis section**

- Last year’s draft guide was strong, but we made it stronger. **The 2019 draft guide will include ADP from Fantasy Pros** to give you an idea where our rankings are varying. This will help you prioritize your sleepers.

- Last year’s guide measured position opportunity multiple times within a position group (i.e. I measured 1st and 2nd down backs against each other, third down RBs against each other, etc.). It makes more sense to measure opportunity once per position, so this year’s version is much easier to follow.

- We’re adding more in-season analysis to the offer! **We’ve partnered with Roto Solo’s Stat Guide!** I came across Roto Solo when we published our 2019 Fantasy Baseball Guide because they were taking an analytical approach. After picking their brain, the partnership made sense.

It’s a pretty cool guide, but heavier on analytics. It’s more for the daily fantasy and stat geeks (which is why I liked them). I’ve seen the draft of the football book. The analysis will be very similar to this guide (though much more sarcastic). They pull data from multiple sources to put together a score prediction **by game.** While I think it’s difficult to predict the player scores in week 14 of the 2019 season, I do like the approach. The coolest thing is that they will be licensing my algorithm to provide in-season stats to all my readers. **We will be the exclusive provider of data for their in-season stats!**
AFC East
Buffalo Bills
2019 Offseason Analysis

Coaching Changes
There are no changes at the coordinator level or above.

Draft Summary

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<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>College</th>
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<td>Ed Oliver</td>
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<td>NC A&amp;T</td>
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2019 Fantasy Outlook

Player Opportunity Score Last Updated May 28th

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<td>31</td>
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<td>54</td>
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<td>Defense / ST</td>
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<td>Kicker:</td>
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</table>
Position Commentary:

Quarterback:
Josh Allen: 23 Years Old
2018: 12 Games. 2074 yards, 10 TDs, 12 INT, 631 Yards Rushing, 8 TDs, 8 Fumbles
When I wrote about Josh Allen last year, I was convinced he needed at least a full year on the bench to acclimate to the NFL and he did little to prove me wrong. I’m not down on his potential, so dynasty players can feel free to draft away, but I’m staying away from him in all other formats. A great goal for him this season would be to throw for over 200 yards per game and have more TD passes than INTs. To help Allen, the Bills tried to breathe energy into the WR core during free agency, but Allen is little more than a daily fantasy bargain or desperation waiver play based on matchup.

Key Running Backs:

LeSean McCoy: 31 Years Old
2018: 14 Games, 161 Att, 514 Rush Yards, 3 TDs, 46 Targets, 34 Rec, 238 Yards, 0 TDs
I correctly predicted that Josh Allen under center would lead to a fall from grace for one of the league’s highest paid running backs (yes, McCoy is still a top-5 salaried RB. Ouch!). He suffered from the same problem David Johnson faced last year in Arizona. When teams can’t throw the ball successfully, defenses can stack the box and take away the running game. I think it’s more likely McCoy is released from Buffalo than that he plays in week one. If he ends up in a good situation, keep an eye out. For now, pretend he doesn’t exist.

Devin Singletary: 22 Years Old
2018: N/A (Rookie)
You’ll hear more hype surrounding other rookie RBs, but I like Singletary the most when combining skillset and opportunity. While the lack of passing game will hurt all RBs in Buffalo, there’s enough upside for Singletary. He might start out slowly, like Chubb in Cleveland last year, but I expect him to end the year with the most fantasy points of this group. Add him to your list of sleepers and if you’re a dynasty player, pull the trigger.

Frank Gore: 36 Years Old
2018: 14 Games, 156 Att 722 Rush Yards, 0 TDs, 38 Targets, 12 Rec, 124 Yards, 1 TD
I remember Frank Gore had a couple of ACL injuries at the University of Miami. While preparing for my dynasty draft during his rookie season, I downgraded him based on durability. Here he is at 36 years old and still putting up impressive splits. If McCoy gets waived, Gore will have value as a short yardage back and complement to Singletary. If Buffalo uses a three-headed RB attack, it’s best to punt into the later rounds. For now, that’s where I have him ranked, but stay tuned.

Key Wide Receivers:

Zay Jones: 24 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 102 Targets, 56 Rec, 652 Yards, 7 TDs
Zay Jones is an over the top threat. 600+ yards and 7 TDs made him an effective play and he looks to have nice chemistry with Allen. Still, I’m down on the Bills receivers until Allen proves he is a 250-yards-per-game QB. That may happen this season, but I want proof before spending draft capital.
John Brown: 29 Years Old  
2018: 16 Games, 97 Targets, 42 Recs, 715 Yards, 5 TDs  
With Joe Flacco throwing the ball in 2018, Brown had 34 receptions, 620 Yards and 4 TDs in 9 games. Compare that to 8 catches, 95 yards and 1 TD over his final 7 games with Lamar Jackson slinging the rock. The potential is there for Brown, but Allen’s QB play will be inconsistent, which will affect the entire passing attack. I view Brown as a waiver plugin.

Cole Beasley: 30 Years Old  
2018: 16 Games, 87 Targets, 65 Rec, 672 Yards, 3 TDs  
Beasley is interesting. There were two or three game stretches in Dallas where he was essential to the offense and then you wouldn’t hear from him for weeks at a time. Based on my analytics, this didn’t have as much to do with personnel matchup as it did with coaching preferences. In an offense coached by a member of the Belichick tree, it seems as though they will try to utilize him as the Edelman-type player. I think this is a role that fits, but you know… the Allen factor. Keep a close watch here.

Key Tight Ends:

Tyler Kroft: 27 Years Old  
2018: 16 Games, 6 Targets, 4 Rec, 36 Yards, 0 TDs  
Kroft is ok, but he could never fill the shoes of Tyler Eifert while he was in Cincinnati. I don’t like him as a breakout candidate, but he can be a fill-in against teams with poor coverage linebackers, assuming his foot injury is behind him. Check our weekly rankings for those scenarios.

Defense / Special Teams:
2018 Ranks: Total D: 2nd, Pass D: 1st, Run D: 16th, Points Against: 18th, Sacks: 26th, Turnovers: 8th (tie)  
The defense plays tough and as bad as last year was, they’re only 2 years removed from a playoff berth. My issue with Buffalo’s defense is that they are likely to be on the field longer due to the inconsistency of the offense.
Miami Dolphins
2019 Offseason Analysis
Coaching Changes
Miami cleaned house last year and moved forward with previous Patriots defensive coordinator, Brian Flores. Flores brought along Chad O’Shea, previous New England OC, and Patrick Graham, most recently Green Bay’s linebackers coach, to round out the staff.

Flores will focus on the defensive side of the ball. For fantasy purposes, we need to zero-in on what Chad O’Shea will do with this position grouping. His resume doesn’t include play calling responsibility. He has, however, worked for the Patriots since 2009 and also had a bit of experience with the Vikings under Brad Childress. He is likely to have strong Josh McDaniels/New England Patriots tendencies along with a bit of the Andy Reid tree (via Brad Childress). This has the makings of a heavily balanced offensive attack.

Draft Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>College</th>
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2019 Fantasy Outlook

Player Opportunity Score Last Updated May 28th

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<th>Position</th>
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<td>Wide Receiver 1</td>
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<td>Kicker:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Position Commentary:

Quarterback:
Ryan Fitzpatrick: 37 Years Old
2018: 8 Games, 2,366 Yards, 17 TDs, 36 Rushes, 152 Yards, 2 TDs

-or-

Josh Rosen: 22 Years Old
2018: 14 Games, 2,278 Yards, 11 TDs, 23 Rush, 138 Yards, 0 TDs
Call me crazy, but if I were a Dolphins fan, I’d be happy with this QB situation. Acquiring Rosen for what amounts to a second-round pick was a steal. I know his completion percentage was only 55%, but his numbers look very similar to Jared Goff’s numbers from Goff’s rookie year. Rosen was worth the shot.

As for Fitzpatrick, he’s been an adequate starter his entire career. I think he’ll win the job early in 2019 and once the Patriots have their typical stronghold on the division, Rosen will take over the job later in the year. As for fantasy, I don’t want either.

Key Running Backs:

Kenyan Drake: 25 Years Old
2018: 120 Att, 535 Yards, 4 TDs, 73 Targets, 53 Rec, 477 Yards 5 TDs
Drake’s lack of productivity resulted more from the previous regime’s play calling and personnel groupings than his talent. With a new coaching staff, I expect Drake to come closer to realizing his NFL potential. He has three-down back skills, but you can expect a true committee situation in Miami. I’ll be paying close attention and updating readers throughout the preseason, but I expect Drake to handle most of the running duties which will make him a solid back for your team.

Kalen Ballage: 24 Years Old
2018: 12 Games, 36 Att, 191 Yards, 1 TD, 11 Targets, 9 Rec, 56 Yards 0 TDs
Ballage is a bit of an unknown. When he gets the ball, he looks impressive. I think he’ll be used this year, but how often is up in the air. I view him as a deep sleeper. I imagine the hype on him this offseason will continue to increase, but let’s wait and see what the preseason games hold for the young back. Deep keeper and dynasty leagues should be taking a closer look. I highly recommend signing up for the free updates for my in-game analysis.

Key Wide Receivers:

Kenny Stills: 27 Years Old
2018: 15 Games, 64 Targets, 37 Rec, 553 Yards, 6 TDs
Stills hasn’t impressed me on tape or in the stat line. He’s little more than a daily fantasy bargain or waiver play. There’s better value to be had in this system. If I am seeing 6-7 targets and 60+ yards receiving in the preseason games, I’ll boost him in the rankings. Until then, he’s waiver fodder.
Albert Wilson: 27 Years Old
2018: 7 Games, 35 Targets, 26 Rec, 391 Yards, 4 TDs
Wilson is a lesser version of Kenny Stills, so I’m selling on him.

DaVante Parker: 25 Years Old
2018: 11 Games, 47 Targets, 24 Rec, 309 Yards, 1 TD
What an enigma. The guy has the talent to be a legit #1 receiver in the league, but Adam Gase was down on him. If he takes advantage of a fresh start with the new coaching staff, he could be a gem for you. Because of this, I’ll list him as a hibernator. If you have a deep bench and can afford to buy and sit a guy for the first 2-3 weeks of the year, pull the trigger.

Key Tight Ends:

Mike Gesicki: 24 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 32 Targets, 22 Rec, 202 Yds, 0 TDs
Because of Gesicki’s draft position last season, the hype train took off on him. A lot of fantasy drafters were led astray. Talent or not, Gesicki was never going to produce in Miami’s scheme in 2018. 2019? That could be a different story. With an offense looking for a TE with pass catching and blocking skills, Gesicki will get opportunities. If you’re in a keeper league and need a TE, take a flyer. For all other leagues, I’m identifying him as a sleeper candidate.

Defense / Special Teams:
2018 Ranks: Total D: 29th, Pass D: 21st, Run D: 31st, Points Against: 27th, Sacks: 29th, Turnovers: 5th (tie)
I was surprised to see the Dolphins defense rank as highly in opportunity as they did, but their turnover numbers are better than you’d expect. Either way, I wouldn’t draft them. They will be on waivers for you week after week.
New England Patriots

2019 Offseason Analysis

Coaching Changes
For the second year in a row, the Patriots lost their defensive coordinator to a head coaching position. I said it last year and I’ll say it again … it doesn’t matter. Bill Belichick will still be overseeing the defense and the team will perform well. The defensive scheme will continue to morph into whatever makes them the most effective that specific week. They will play the run well, they will get to the passer and they will generate turnovers. They aren’t a sexy defense where fantasy owners are concerned, but they are consistent.

Draft Summary

<table>
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<tr>
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10
Position Commentary:

Quarterback:
Tom Brady: 42 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 4355 Yards, 29 TDs, 11 INTs, 35 Yards Rushing, 2 TDs
Although he is still one of the best QBs in the league, New England commits to the run. It feels weird to say, but 4,000+ yards and 30 TDs might not be enough to vault him into the top 5 of fantasy QBs. That said, you can take a 3:1 TD to INT ratio to the bank. He’ll be consistent and unless you’re in a league packed full of Patriot fans, he’ll be available for you in the mid rounds. I endorse Brady, but don’t overpay!

Key Running Backs:

Sony Michel: 24 Years Old
2018: 13 Games, 209 Att, 931 Yards, 6 TDs, 11 Targets, 7 Rec, 0 TDs
I wasn’t as high on Michel as others were last year, but 931 yards in 13 games of action proved me wrong. The Patriots did a very un-Patriot thing and committed to a single running back throughout the season. I can’t remember that happening since the Corey Dillon days. If you draft him, the TDs taken away from you by other RBs will frustrate you, but when healthy, there aren’t many runners that will out produce him in 2019.

James White: 27 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 94 Att, 425 Yards, 5 TDs, 123 Targets, 87 Rec, 751 Yards
He’s the darling of PPR leagues. He’s often drafted far too late, but take another look at Michel’s stats. 13 games and 11 targets. Now take another look at Brady’s stats: over 4,000 yards and 29 TDs. James White gives you WR2 production at the valuable RB slot. He’ll be worth your pick in both standard and PPR leagues.

Rex Burkhead: 29 Years Old
2018: 8 Games, 57 Att, 186 Yards, 0 TDs, 20 Targets, 14 Rec, 131 Yards, 1 TD
Burkhead intrigues me because New England historically has utilized him as an H-Back when Gronk is out. He offers a rare combination of blocking, running and receiving skills and the Patriots will feature him in certain weeks. Given Gronk’s retirement, Burkhead could end up being an admirable waiver plug-and-play this year.

Key Wide Receivers:

Julian Edelman: 27 Yards
2018: 12 Games, 9 Att, 107 Yards, 0 TDs, 108 Targets, 74 Rec, 850 Yards, 6 TDs
Edelman had 108 targets in 12 games. Had he played a full slate of 16 games, his stat line would have yielded close to 100 receptions, just over 1,100 yards and 8 TDs. He’s a legit WR2 in any league format.

Demaryius Thomas: 32 Years Old
2018: 15 Games, 89 Targets, 59 Rec, 677 Yards, 5 TDs
I was shocked Denver traded Thomas mid-2018. I was even more shocked to see New England snatch him up in free agency for $3-4m. He’s spent time with Josh McDaniels in Denver, so he has an understanding of play calling and concepts. Thomas is flying very far under everyone’s radar in fantasy drafts and you can use this to your advantage.
N’Keal Harry: Years Old
2018: NA (Rookie)
The book on Harry says that he’s a beast in the red zone. The thought here is that he won’t produce many receptions or wow you with yardage accumulation, but 6-8 TDs isn’t unreasonable for a big target in a high-powered offense. The other services will no doubt have him listed as a sleeper or deep sleeper. Dynasty leagues can draft him a bit higher, but before you spend your mid-round pick on Harry, can you tell me who the last stud fantasy WR the Patriots drafted is (the answer is Edelman, and it took a few years for it to happen).

Key Tight Ends:

Austin Seferian-Jenkins: 27 Years Old
2018: 5 Games, 19 Targets, 11 Rec, 90 Yards, 1 Touchdown
He has talent, but the work ethic hasn’t always been there. If this coaching staff can help him fulfill his potential, he could be a monster in this system. The more likely scenario is that he finishes 2019 ranked somewhere between 8 and 15 (assuming he survives the cuts).

Ben Watson: 39 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 46 Targets, 400 Yards, 2 Touchdown
At least the Patriots talked one tight end out of retirement this season! As for fantasy value, forgive me for passing on him. In 14 seasons, he’s eclipsed 50 receptions three times. If the Patriots cut Seferian-Jenkins, I’ll be more interested.

Defense / Special Teams:
2018 Ranks: Total D: 22nd, Pass D: 22nd, Run D: 11th, Points Against: 7th, Sacks: 30th, Turnovers: 5th (tie)
Football fans will know the drill by now, but if you’re new to the sport and to fantasy football, here’s the gist: the Patriots game plan very well and no matter who is starting for them, they are always relevant. They’ll be a starting caliber defense all season.
New York Jets
2019 Offseason Analysis

Coaching Changes
Adam Gase couldn’t get anything going in Miami in recent years. To be fair, he had a winning record when his starting QB was healthy. Adam Gase has had success at the OC level and I felt he was underrated at the Head Coach level as well. To round out his staff, he brought Dowell Loggains with him from Miami and hired Gregg Williams, who had a successful 2018 as the defensive coordinator of the Browns.

Gase has shown an ability to make offenses work. Outside of his very successful stint calling plays in Denver with a healthy Peyton Manning, Gase has been able to coach both Jay Cutler and Ryan Tannehill to respectable seasons (and Tebow to a playoff victory!). He will coach Darnold well and this offense will improve as a result. The addition of Le’Veon Bell won’t hurt either.

I was looking over the Miami Dolphins stats while he was head coach and I didn’t like the personnel comparisons. This team looks a lot more like his position grouping with the Bears during the 2015 season (except Herndon is no Martellus Bennet).

I think Gregg Williams will improve the overall score value of the Jets, which should boost their ranking a bit.

Draft Summary

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<tr>
<th>Round</th>
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2019 Fantasy Outlook
Player Opportunity Score Last Updated May 28th

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Position Commentary:

Quarterback:
Sam Darnold: 22 Years Old
2018: 13 Games, 2865 Yards, 17 TDs, 15 INTs, 44 Rushes, 138 Yards, 1 TD
Mayfield outplayed Darnold in 2018, but the Jets QB can close that gap in 2019 with an offense-minded head coach. Don’t forget that Adam Gase was routinely winning games with Ryan Tannehill at QB. Darnold has a much higher ceiling. His 57% completion percentage and 17:15 TD:INT ratio needs to improve, but I expect it to. Darnold could be a nice matchup waiver play in 2019, but don’t draft him.

Key Running Backs:
Le’Veon Bell: 27 Years Old
2018: NA (Holdout)
I’m sure Bell will be well-rested. I know he’s hyped. I know people assume he’ll get a lot of value and will be a top-10 player. In the Gase system, I don’t see that panning out. Though talented, remember he’s one bad decision from a full year suspension. Also, we all saw how well James Conner played in relief last year. Can anyone properly measure how Bell’s productivity will be impacted by a new system and with a diminished passing game to support him? Well, yes, actually. And that person is me.

Still not convinced? Think of it this way. If you draft Bell in the first round, your best-case scenario is that he MEETS expectations. I will be letting someone else draft Bell or waiting until round 2. I suggest you do the same. Let someone else take on that risk.

Elijah McGuire: 25 Years Old
2018: 8 Games, 92 Att, 276 Yards, 3 TDs, 31 Targets, 19 Rec, 1 TD
Given Gase’s play calling and personnel grouping style, I think McGuire will have opportunities. I’ve liked what he’s been able to do when given a legitimate chance to play, but the previous Jets offense employed a three-man rushing attack. You can expect McGuire to be the change of pace guy this season.

Key Wide Receivers:
Quincy Enunwa: 27 Yards
2018: 11 Games, 68 Targets, 38 Rec, 449 Yards, 1 TD
I liked that Darnold heavily targeted Enunwa early last year. That combination reminded me of the old RG3 to Garcon connection back in Washington. Unfortunately, Enunwa injured his ankle early in the year and the QB/WR pairing couldn’t build on that momentum. I like Enunwa’s potential quite a bit this year and see him as a deep sleeper candidate.

Robby Anderson: 26 Years Old
2018: 14 Games, 94 Targets, 50 Rec, 752 Yards, 6 TDs
Anderson gives a nice dynamic and I’m eager to see how Gase utilizes him within his system. I think he has more potential than Kenny Stills does. He’s a young guy who quietly produced on a bad offense the past couple of years. I’m beginning the offseason viewing him as low flex player, but that could change when we get into training camp. Consider him a sleeper.
Jamison Crowder: 26 Years Old
2018: 9 Games, 49 Targets, 29 Rec, 388 Yards, 2 TDs
I’ve followed his career in Washington and he has potential. He will operate mostly out of the slot and Gase does feature the slot quite a bit in his system when he trusts that receiver. Jarvis Landry made his career from this position, but Crowder is no Landry and I’m more impressed with the two WRs above him in the depth chart. You should view Crowder as a waiver fill in until proven otherwise.

Key Tight Ends:

Chris Herndon: 23 Years
2018: 16 Games, 56 Targets, 39 Rec, 502 Yards, 4 TDs
I like Herndon’s talent, but Adam Gase hasn’t used the TE in the passing game for years. I’m staying far, far away from him.

Defense / Special Teams:
2018 Ranks: Total D: 25th, Pass D: 24th, Run D: 26th, Points Against: 29th, Sacks: 16th (tie), Turnovers: 16th (tie)
The addition of Gregg Williams as defensive coordinator will likely boost their turnover numbers. Their sack numbers were fine where they were, but I think those will improve as well. This will be a team that is available for you late or after the draft, so if you’re really hurting at the position or like to carry two defenses (I don’t recommend that), then they’ll be a nice starting unit with upward potential.
**AFC North**  
**Baltimore Ravens**

**2019 Offseason Analysis**

**Coaching Changes**  
In spite of being one of the most consistently relevant teams of the 2010s, coach Harbaugh has come under fire. Predictably, he made a switch at offensive coordinator with the promotion of Greg Roman. This is a very interesting move. As far as compatibility between offensive scheme and player personnel, I don’t think the Ravens could have done any better here. I love it.

Roman ran the offenses of San Francisco (with Colin Kaepernick) and Buffalo (with Tyrod Taylor). I expect the play calling and player distribution to be a combination of those two systems. We know from 2018 that Taylor can run, and the addition of Mark Ingram to the backfield to pair with Gus Edwards will make for a formidable running attack. I question the viability of wide receivers in fantasy. Roman’s systems only had Taylor/Kaepernick throwing for about 20 TDs. Barring something unexpected, that will hold with Lamar Jackson in 2019.

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<td>Gus Edwards</td>
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Position Commentary:

Quarterback:

Lamar Jackson: 22 Years Old
2018: 16 Games (7 Starts), 1201 Yards, 6 TDs, 3 INTs, 147 Rushes, 695 Yards, 5 TDs
Like Josh Allen in Buffalo, I felt Lamar Jackson was far too raw to be an effective passer in the NFL. When Flacco got hurt, Baltimore made the switch to Jackson and their dominant running attack and strong defense led them to the playoffs. Forgive me Baltimore fans, but Jackson isn’t ready to be an NFL passer just yet. That said, the hiring of Greg Roman as offensive coordinator is very intriguing. The Ravens know Jackson isn’t going to win many games as a pocket passer at this stage of his career and Greg Roman will allow Jackson to use his legs in this offense. I’m terrified of hinging my team on a QB that is subjected to so many hits, but he will have value. He’s a great daily fantasy play based on the rushing yards and is especially strong in fantasy leagues that reward rushing TDs more than passing TDs.

Key Running Backs:

Mark Ingram: 30 Years old
2018: 12 Games, 138 Att, 645 Yards, 6 TDs, 27 Targets, 21 Rec, 170 Yards
It seems like Mark Ingram is thought of as the starter in Baltimore, but I’m not entirely sold that that will be the case. Gus Edwards was a revelation the back half of last season and Ingram looked a bit slow when he returned to New Orleans. 2019 marks his age-30 season, so I’m going to hit the brakes a bit on his value. That said, Baltimore will run, and run often. He will have his opportunities.

Gus Edwards: 24 Years Old
2018: 11 Games, 137 Att, 718 Yards, 2 TDs, 2 Targets, 2 Rec, 20 Yards
Expect Gus Edwards to battle Ingram for touches. This could be a true 50/50 carries split and if so, Edwards will have value. Be a little cautious when it comes to draft time. Pay very close attention to preseason snap distribution and sign up for my free offseason rankings. My gut tells me Edwards is the Ravens back you’ll want.

Key Wide Receivers:

Marquise Brown: 22 Years Old
2018: NA (Rookie)
He has a lot of talent, but the Ravens receivers fell off the map after Jackson took over as QB in 2018. If you’re in a dynasty or deep keeper league, I think he could be worth the investment. In all other league formats, wait and see.
Willie Snead: 27 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 95 Targets, 62 Rec, 651 Yards, 1 TD
Has he ever impressed you? Me neither. This job could go to Seth Roberts by the end of training camp.

Chris Moore: 26 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 25 Targets, 19 Rec, 196 Yards
He’s young and he produces, but coming off a 19-catch season, I can’t even call him a hibernator. When it comes to Ravens receivers, play the waiver game. Don’t draft.

Key Tight Ends:

Mark Andrews: 23 Years Old
2018: 16 Games, 50 Targets, 34 Rec, 552 Yards, 3 TDs
TEs will have more value in this system than WRs and Mark Andrews is ascending. He’ll have to battle Hayden Hurst in camp, but if he’s the primary ball catcher at the position, he’ll be a nice TE2 or bye week fill-in.

Hayden Hurst: 26 Yards
2018: 23 Targets, 13 Rec, 163 Yards, 1 TD
I’m shocked Hurst is 26 years old. This is his second season! I loved what I saw from him in preseason last year and thought he reminded me of a healthy Tyler Eifert, but he suffered a stress fracture early and could barely crack the lineup after that. If Hurst can overtake Andrews, I think he’ll be worthy of a roster spot.

Defense / Special Teams:
2018 Ranks: Total D: 1st, Pass D: 5th, Run D: 4th, Points Against: 2nd, Sacks: 11th, Turnovers: 23rd
They lost three big pieces of their defense in Terrell Suggs, C.J. Mosley and Za’Darius Smith, but the addition of Earl Thomas should help their secondary a bit. I don’t love seeing them lose a few key veteran players, but this is a fast team that has been a consistent fantasy producer for over a decade. I would guess they’ll end the season ranked between 5th and 10th at the position in your league.