

Dynasty Buy Candidates

Heading into week 11, the trade deadline in your league is rapidly approaching. At this point you should have an idea of where your team stands for the current year. What you want to avoid doing, is being stationary. If you're firmly in the playoff hunt, you need to try and bulk up for a playoff run. If you're firmly out of the playoffs, you need to be preparing for the future. If you're in the middle, and you're a coin flip to make the playoffs, you need to make a decision. I'll break this article down into contenders and rebuilders, offering up 3 candidates to buy for each situation. Hopefully you'll read this and it will help guide you down which ever path you'd like to choose. I'll state the obvious here, any player with a top 24 at their position ranking, over the age of 27, and sitting on a rebuilding team, is a target for contenders. I will do my best to avoid the obvious candidates.

Contenders

1. Aaron Jones, RB MIN - Since returning from injury Jones has been the most effective RB in the Vikings backfield. In the last 3 games, On the ground, Jones has carried the ball 23 times for 140 yards for an average of 6.0 ypc. Jordan has carried the ball 18 times for only 64 yards, holding a ypc of 3.5. In the passing game, Jones has averaged 4 targets a game, good for 2.3 receptions. Mason has received exactly 1 target and 1 reception in each of those 3 games. Jones is getting more of the RB touches in the offense and has been producing at a low end RB2 range during that time. He is seeing nearly 55% of the RB rush share while maintaining a 12% target share since his return. It appears that Minnesota's offense is not going to be placed solely on the shoulders of JJ McCarthy. Jones is in his year 30 season, but we are seeing year after year that these guys stick around longer and longer. Gone are the days of him being a fantasy stud, but he is showing that he's still got some juice in the tank and can provide flex level play as a pass catching back. He will help you get into the playoffs and will be a solid piece moving into next year to have on your bench as a bye week or injury replacement flex play. The advice here is for contenders, or those making a push to get into the playoffs, to target him at a cheap price, most commonly going for a 3rd rd pick.
2. Jakobi Meyers, WR, JAX - He got moved at the NFL trade deadline and finds himself in a nice prospective situation. It's a very small sample size, but he led the team in receiving yards in his first game action and was tied for the team lead in receptions. With Travis Hunter on the IR, and Brian Thomas Jr, injured as well, there is plenty of room for Meyers to carve out his typical WR2 role in Jacksonville. Parker Washington appears to be a favorite of Lawrence's, however I'm willing to bet that this has more to do with familiarity than it does ability. The more Meyers works with Lawrence, the more they will get on the same page and quicker his talent rises to the top. I think there's a good chance that Meyers becomes the top pass catcher in JAX for the remainder of the season. He has a nice Rest of Season Schedule as well, only facing a tough defense in week 16. We just saw Dillion Gabriel score the most fantasy points he's scored all season and the most points the Browns have scored as team all season as well. In the

first weeks of most playoff leagues (week 15) Meyers will face off against a soft Jets defense without Sauce Gardner and Quinnen Williams. Jaokbi just turned 29 on 11/9 so he will be 29 through most of next season. Provided he lands in a position where he can be a focal point he still has the skill set to be a fantasy asset. He should have a nice uptick the remainder of this season to help you make a push, and will be a WR3, guy with potential to be his normal back end WR2, in the right situation. Meyers can be had for a 2nd rd pick, but i'd look for a manager looking to get younger and pair up some 3rd rd picks, or add a 3rd to a younger dart throw WR.

3. Jameson Williams, WR, DET - Yes he just came off his best game of the year. Yes Jamo, is a roller coaster ride of a WR. Here's the thing though, He's a potential league winner. Right now there might be some managers who have labored through the first half of the season with Jamo, waiting for this game. Prior to last week, he had just 2 weeks as a WR1 and one week as a WR2. Those WR1 performances were both at WR12 in standard PPR leagues. Nothing great. There are likely some managers that have grown tired of the all or nothing approach that is Jamo as a fantasy WR. Here's what they don't know: Dan Campbell just took over offensive play calling last week. He spent all off season talking about getting Williams more involved. So much so that many fantasy analysts had him as a sleeper or potential break out candidate. I don't think it's a coincidence that Campbell takes over, and the guy he's been raving about has his best game of the season. Strike now, before it's too late. He can be had for a 2nd rd pick, but I'm pairing up a 3rd and a young WR in the mold of a Pat Bryant, Jayden Higgins, or Elic Ayomanor and Tiering up. Jamo is 24, and on the rise, he should head into next season in a similar position he was in heading into this season, but there may be some player fatigue on him and his style of fantasy play that you should take advantage of.

Rebuilders

1. Tory Horton, WR, SEA - Every game this season in which Horton has received 4 or more targets, he has caught a TD. Is this sustainable? No. Is it a sign of his potential fantasy potential? Yes. Horton was a great College prospect, who scored high on many analysts rankings going into his last year of College. However, a season ending injury which slowed him at the combine lowered his athletic scores and led to him falling on draft boards. Seattle snagged him late in the draft and have appeared to have found themselves a steal. Horton finally got his big break in week 9, when Cooper Kupp was out due to injury. He didn't disappoint, catching all 4 of his targets including 2 TDs. Then, Seattle went out and traded a good amount for Rashid Shaheed at the deadline. This looks bad for Horton, and I'll admit, it isn't great. However, you're a rebuilder, you don't care how things look for the rest of this year. What you care about, is that this just opened up a window to buy a bit lower, than what would have been there following that 2 TD performance, had they not made a deadline move. I do not think that their trade was a reflection of how they felt about Horton. I think this was more about the health and general ineffectiveness of Cooper Kupp. I believe that Seattle has found themselves in playoff contention a year earlier than they actually expected. With a good chance to win the division, I think they felt like they had to go out and make a move. Shaheed played

in this offense last season with the Saints, and should be able to pick things up relatively quickly. Remember last year when Shaheed started out the first two weeks catching back to back 50+ yard TDs from Derek Carr? That was under the same coach, and he wants to run it back. The problem is, he's a FA after the season. Enter Horton. He's shown the ability to get down field as well, and with Kupp likely moving on after this season, there is a no obstacle to being the WR2 in Seattle. With Darnold thus far proving that last year's explosion was not a fluke, this Seattle passing game should be fruitful. He's 6'2" and 190 lbs, with a 37+ inch vertical and runs a 4.41 40 yard dash. He is pretty close to the prototypical WR in the NFL today. Think Jameson Williams but .2 seconds slower but 5" higher on the vertical jump. The goal there is to tier down from a current WR2/WE3 type guy and pick up Horton and a pick. How great a pick depends on the WR you're tiering down from. At this point would I take Horton and a mid 2nd for AJ Brown? I just might. Do I have to pay that to get him? Probably not.

2. Kenneth Walker, RB, SEA - Most people would say this is a down year for Walker. They wouldn't be wrong. Thing is, they are missing something. Walker is actually averaging 4.5 yards per carry. This is actually his second highest mark of his career after his 4.6 ypc during his rookie season. What's the difference? Touchdowns. The Seahawks have found a niche for Zach Charbonet. Is he better around the goal line? Sure, but is walker bad? No. Seattle just has the luxury of a superior goalline back. Walker's peripherals look the same as they usually do, he's still effective. He's even been effective in the passing game when given the chance. The good news is, Walker is a FA after this season and can go somewhere that will have less competition. Going somewhere else next year where they will pay him for a multi-year contract to be their top option will lead to increased value for KWIII. Is there a chance he signs to a team that has a passing downs back already on the roster? In this day and age in the NFL, of course there is. However, Walker has shown the ability to contribute well in the passing game and i believe there are plenty of teams across the league that will be able to use his skill set better than Seattle has this year. Most managers are tired of this with him, they all know he's got the potential, but Charbonet is holding him back, go get him now before he hits the open market and finds a better situation. Disgruntled managers are dealing him for a 2nd roud pick but you could and should try and snag him at the cost of a young back up and a 3rd rd pick. Think Jaydon Blue, Bayshal Tuten, Tyrone Tracy, or even some of those rookie WR like Noel, Ayomanor, or Harris.
3. Tyler Allgeier, RB, ATL - There's a theme here, Allgeier is a FA after the season. He was a surprise rookie, and was a league winner that year, rushing for over 1,000 yards. Unfortunately for him, Atlanta couldn't pass on Bijan Robinson the following year. Turns out, they weren't wrong. Bijan is a stud. While spending the last 3 years backing up Bijan, Allgeier has done nothing but show that he can be a productive back given the opportunity. There's a chance that he resigns in Atlanta and fills the high end back up role, but he's showing that he can provide flex value as a standalone in this offense. If he lands in a new situation next season he could sky rocket in value. In the market he is being dealt for young un proven guys or old vets. Keenan Allen, Stephon Diggs, Jayden

Higgins, or Keon Coleman could be used to target Allgeier. You could even land a late round pick to pair with him when giving up one of those players. He's going to be entering his age 25 season next year and should find himself in nothing worse than the situation he is currently in. That carries value, especially at that price.