

Division 1 Prologue:

Right out of the gate we get our 2024 version of the have and the have-nots. Ed managed to shake two years of mediocrity by not only winning 10-games, but by winning the whole... fucking... thing. Tommy did his perennial 6-seed thing by scratching out a 3rd playoff birth in 3-years despite a .500 record. It was a year to forget for both Dukes and Manzo. Because I always like to end these things with a question, I am just going to ask... “How do people with excessive amounts of children expect to compete at a high level in Fantasy Football?”

Team Manzo:

2024 Record: 5-9

Last 3 years: 22-20

Where we last left off: Last year was a tough one for Manzo as his pension for overachieving finally caught up with him, as he had his first losing season in 3-years. Despite some good-natured ribbing, Manzo has constructed top of the league teams on more than one occasion, but usually falls apart due to a lack of depth. The question is, can he finally construct a complete roster that can overcome injury and inefficiency?

QB: Burrow, Murray, R. Wilson:

Good start here for Manzo as he managed to snag two Top 10 QBs out of the gate. Burrow is as solid as they come as he has more weapons at his disposal than Snake Plissken. It also doesn't hurt that the Bengals' defense is more pregnable than whatever Tyreke Hill is coming inside of these days. Murray may be a wild ride, but it's usually one that ends up well in the box score on Mondays. Although Russell Wilson is the 3, here, he may have a lot to say with how Manzo finishes the season. Both Murray and Burrow have later byes and if Jaxon Dart gets the job sooner than expected, he may just be dead space on the roster:

Overall Grade: A-

RB: Henry, Pacheco, Dobbins, Ray Davis, Rachad White:

It's not that I don't like these RBs where they were drafted, individually, I just don't like them in the aggregate. Henry, Pacheco and Dobbins make great 1-3 RBs, (respectfully), however none of them offer much upside and all 3 are likely to wear down as the season goes on. I believe this group will go as Ray Davis, does. His snap share increased throughout the 2024 season and if he takes some goal line pressure off of Allen and Cook, he could be a steal. Then again, Allen is a machine and the Bills will most likely want to justify their investment in Cook. I have no comment on Rachad White other than he's most likely more cuttable than a Stein invite to Happy hour after the year 2017: Overall, it's not a bad group, just think of it like Taco Bell: You feel great ordering it, and eating it, but there's nothing but downside from there.

Overall Grade: B-

WR: Hill, Ridley, Olave, Legette, Allen

The more I look into Manzo's roster, the more I hope that it came with a case of antacids. Once again, on the surface I have no issue with the talent here, but there is major risk. Since I already used best Tyreke Hill joke, let me just be succinct by saying that he's 31, injury prone, and more mercurial than James Curran at a.... no wait... I promised to be succinct. I like Ridley, but would like him more as a WR 3. 1000 yards are well within range, but he'll have get 8+ TDs to justify his position on the team and that may be asking a lot of him. From a talent standpoint, Chris Olave may have been the steal of the draft, however, we have to acknowledge that his RD9 selection is probably pretty fair as the Saints will feature one of the league's worst QBs, and he's one hit away from giving postgame press conferences talking like he's Evander Holyfield. Legette is intriguing as an upside-depth piece and Keenen Allen is more than credible if he's needed from the WR5 spot. If everything goes right, this group will be better than average. If anything goes wrong, we've got a problem.

Overall Grade: C+

TE: Kelce

It would be easy to label Manzo as a Chief mark that just can't help himself, but I actually believe that there is upside, here. Despite what most people felt was a down year, Kelce finished as TE 6 and that was only 3 TDs on the season. This year, the Chiefs are threatening to throw the ball down the field more which should open up the underneath stuff for Kelce, especially while Rashee Rice is enjoying 6 game sabbatical for his real-life simulation of Grand Theft Auto. I'm expecting a Top 5 finish, here.

Overall Grade: B

Kicker/Defense: B-

How he'll fare: I promised myself I would be more decisive this year and to that end... I'm out on this team. By the time Russ Wilson, I doubt he'll have the job and there is just too much that can go wrong at the RB/WR position. I like Kelce and the QBs should keep Manzo competitive most weeks, but I think he'll ultimately follow the pattern of a strong start with a gradual fade as injuries, bye weeks and the case of Henry, Hill and Kelce are concerned, age sets in. Sorry Manzo, but the good news is that as the great Ryan Curran once said, "What makes me the expert" when it comes to reviewing teams?

Overall Grade: C+

Division 1 Prologue: On the surface, I feel this division is beatable, and it's possible that we'll only see one playoff team come from here. I think Ed has the most well constructed roster and should be considered the front runner to come out, here. While I don't love their teams, Greg and Manzo have a lot of upside and if things break right injury wise, they'll be fine. The real wild card, here is Tommy. I don't love his team as much as I usually do, but he usually manages well in season. He'll most likely need things to break badly for either Greg or Manzo, but it's not impossible that he sneaks in once again as a Wild Card team.

How they'll finish:

1. Ed (Division Winner)
2. Greg (Misses playoffs)
3. Tommy (Misses playoffs)
4. Manzo (Misses playoffs)