

Division 2 Prologue:

Two-year outlook: It truly is a tale of two different last two seasons for most of the division. In 2021, James and Ed went on strong playoff runs with James ultimately taking the league prize. Tom after a rough rookie season went all the way to the finals while James and Ed had forgettable years. Ray Finn is the only consistent team of the bunch, unfortunately it's not the consistency one would be hoping for. The question for Tom, James and Ray is "What type of season will it be?" and as for Ray Finn... "Is this the year he breaks through?":

Team Ed Healy

Where we last left off: Those of you who follow my team reviews may remember my 2022 evaluation of Ed's team that went something along the lines of this: ***"Unfortunately Mary, this isn't a social visit: I have to tell you about your friend Healy: The man's a killer!"*** Well, I guess that's why they play the games. A solid draft plan by Ed went completely wrong as injury and what I can only assume was a Jedi Mind trick, forced him to trade away the House (Herbert) for a player with more body damage than an Asian woman's New York City cab. The question is, "Can Ed shake off the bad season in pursuit of his first league title, or will he be begging Ray Finn to take Herbert off his hands come week 6 in a one-to-one trade for Sterling Shepard?"

QB: Justin Herbert, Jordan Love, Sam Howell: Excellent start for Ed as he locked up one of the league's best in Herbert, and flanked him with two upside plays with Love and Howell. Herbert should finish no worse than QB 8 while it would be more surprising to see both Love and Howell fail, than it would for one of them finish in the Top 15: It's just one man's opinion, but this man's opinion is "Wheels up!" for Ed's Qbs.

Overall Grade: B+

RB: Rhamondre Stevenson, Cam Akers, Khalil Herbert, Zach Charbonet: As far as the starters go, they're not bad, but lack the overall punch you would want from your RB 1 and 2. Khalil Herbert is a solid #3 with high-end #2 upside, but he is also in a Triple Threat match for the starting job. Us pro wrestling fans know how hard it is to defend your title under that circumstance. Charbonet is a fine option at RB4 and would have huge upside should anything happen to Ken Walker. As far as the group as a whole is concerned, think of it like Tommy Legotte's basement sofa. "It's not as bad everyone makes it out to be, but in my opinion, it's not worth what he paid for it."

Overall Grade: B-

WR Cooper Kupp, Calvin Ridley, Diontae Johnson, Zay Flowers, Jonathan Mingo: Just to shake things up a bit, let's work from the bottom up. Having two rookies (albeit promising rookies) in Flowers and Mingo make up your WR 4 and 5 would be scary, but only if your starters happen to be injury prone, mentally unstable, or allergic to the endzone. Luckily for Ed, he has an amazing sense of humor and outlook on life so nothing that comes to fruition here is likely bother him very much: If I were him, I would contact the Ken Walker owner to see if some sort of trade for WR depth could be worked out. If that owner should reach out to him first I would return his text, only to ignore the entire request, completely, as the two-day window for trade requests expires. All kidding aside, I do like the Top 3, here, but I must knock the grade down a bit due Kupp's uncertainty:

Overall Grade: B

TE: Tyler Higbee, Luke Musgrave: One man's WR trash is that same man's TE treasure. Tyler Higbee was second in targets last season for the Rams and those numbers could spike with Stafford healthier and if Kupp misses significant time. Musgrave is an intriguing depth piece as the unprecedented run on TEs in our draft has rendered him a solid TE2.

Overall Grade: B

What the Magic 8-Ball Tells Me: I'm not sure if these reviews are getting harder, or if I just keep running into teams that can go one of two ways: My gut instinct is to like this team because I believe the QBs and WRs are high end compared to the rest of the league. That being said, I don't see a ton of upside at the RB and TE position and the WR depth with Kupp's health in question is a little scary. While I believe that Ed has done enough to field a solid team, to me it comes up just short, even in a weak division. Magic 8-ball: Will Ed make the playoffs in a soft division? "Outlook, not so good"

Overall Grade: B-