

ROOKIE REPORT

These five rookies are not the most popular names but have an opportunity to make an impact on your roster as a quality depth option.

JONATHAN MINGO (WR) - CAR (7)

While I'm not overly optimistic about the CAR offense, I cannot deny the upside of the potential WR1 role. Before I go any further, no receiver on this team will finish in the top 24. This is purely a WR5 option you grab in the last few rounds because I think the path to that role will be possible by the season's mid-point.

Adam Thielen is 33, and D.J. Chark is battling a hamstring injury. There's plenty of opportunity for Mingo to be a solid bye-week fill-in as a WR4 with WR3 upside after Week 7.



ROSCHON JOHNSON (RB) - CHI (13)

I'm not thrilled about the idea of a rookie RB leading the team in touches and not being the most dangerous rusher on the offense. There's a real concern about the red-zone opportunities even if Johnson were to be the lead back in the committee.

However, D'onta Foreman and Khalil Herbert are not cornerstone pieces of the offense, and if they were to underperform or get hurt, then that could be the opening to a top-30 RB (similar to Devin Singletary last season).

ZAY FLOWERS (WR) - BAL (13)

Similar to Roschon Johnson, I'm not thrilled about a rookie WR trying to carve out a role as the primary receiving threat when the TE is the WR1 of the offense. Add onto the fact that this is historically not a pass-heavy offense. Despite that, when you need to add a WR4, he's an interesting player to add.

Competing with Rashod Bateman and Odell Beckham returning from injury, it may not be a consistent ride, but I don't see him finishing as the 3rd option behind those two at the end of the year.



TANK BIGSBY (RB) - JAX (9)

Disclaimer: I don't expect you to draft him as more than an RB5 or handcuff to Travis Etienne. The reason he's on this list is because he's a handcuff that can fill in as a top-24 if he became the starter due to the lack of RB competition.

Unfortunately, I don't see a way that Bigsby can become the lead option without an injury to Etienne, and he will need more touches on a weekly basis to be worth starting as a flex option.

TYJAE SPEARS (RB) - TEN (7)

He's another handcuff that can actually produce if given the opportunity to be a starter. There's not much more to this recommendation than that. Spears will not have any value as the backup to Derrick Henry, and the offense isn't too impressive.

To be honest, I would likely draft the above options before Spears unless I drafted Derrick Henry in the first two rounds.

