General Week 5/6 notes:

Bye Week Team Notes: ATL, NO, NYJ, SF

UP (consecutive weeks) -

- Mike Davis: LDD Snaps 90%, 2MIN Snaps 90%
- Kyle Pitts: TPRR 26% -> *still strong usage with Ridley on field
- Alvin Kamara: Snaps 88%
- Marquez Callaway: Routes 80%, Air Yards 41%
- Michael Carter: Snaps 52%, Routes 41%
- Tyler Johnson: LDD 100%
- Deebo Samuel: ADOT 11.3
- Mohamed Sanu: TPRR 17%, ADOT 10.7
- Ross Dwelley: Routes 79%, Targets 9%, Air Yards 10% -> *Minimal role w/ Trey Lance

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

- Mike Davis: Rush Att 45%
- Cordarelle Patterson: TPRR 31%, 2MIN 20% -> *worked more as WR/less as 2MIN RB
- Juwan Johnson: ADOT 6.0, Air Yards 2%
- Corey Davis: Routes 79%, Air Yards 40%
- Kyle Juszczyk: LDD 92% -> *still dominant in that department/disregard
- Brandon Aiyuk: Air Yards 11%
- Mohamed Sanu: Routes 47%

ATL 27, NYJ 20 (London)

- ATL: Pitts 10-9-119-1 (Long 39), Patterson 9-7-60, Hurst/Smith 8-7-70, Davis 5-2-8
- Ryan 33-45-2-0, now 8 TD/0 INT since throwing three INT's vs Bucs (Week 2)
- NYJ: Davis 7-4-45, Crowder 6-4-24, Carter/Johnson 6-5-42, E Moore 2-0-0

N.O. 33 @ WAS 22

- Kamara 16-71-1 / 8-5-51-1, Callaway 8-4-85-2 (Long 49, Long 58 last week)
- Harris 1-1-72-1, Stills 5-2-17, Winston 15-30-279-4-1 (Taysom carted off)

ARI 17 vs SF 10

- Lance 16-89 (leading rusher), Mitchell 9-43, Samuel/Sermon/Kyle ONE carry each
- Deebo 9-3-58 (Long 26, 26+ in 4 of 5), Aiyuk 4-2-32, Kyle 4-3-35

Cordarrelle Patterson: 17 snaps out wide or slot (season high); routes 50%+ first time this year

<u>Elijah Mitchell</u>: 68% snaps, 46% routes, mostly in green zone packages (Sermon = 3%); avging 15 carries per game & has earned commanding 75% of the running back touches when healthy

Ross Dwelley: route on 74% of dropbacks with George Kittle out, but only two targets

<u>Michael Carter</u>: Since Week 2 has double-digit carries in 3 of 4 games and has at least a dozen opportunities in every game. His snap rate has crept up into the 50s in the past two weeks; Jets want to run the ball more but have trailed on 74% of plays (35% above the NFL average) — which keeps them throwing and averaging a third-worst 19 rushing attempts per game.

TB @ PHI

Last Week: TB 45 vs MIA 17

- Godwin 11-7-70, AB 8-7-124-2 (Long 62, now 27+ in 3 of 4)
- Evans 8-6-113-2 (Long 34, now 26+ in 3 of 5 / *Gronk Replacement*)
- Fournette 12-67-1 / 5-4-43, RoJo/Bernard 9-42 / 3-3-29-1
- Brady 30-41-411-5-0 (10.0 YPA), now 41+ attempts in 4 of 5

Last Week: PHI 21 @ CAR 18

- Hurts 22-37-198-0-1 (season low 5.4 YPA, credit CAR); 9-30-2 (career low rush yds)
- Sanders back to starter -> 11-45 / 5-5-6 (MEH); Gainwell 2-16 / 3-1-8 (SMH)
- Smith 8-7-77 (now 71+ yards in 3 of 5, 6+ targets every game, 6+ catches in 4 of 5)
- Reagor 5-3-24, Goedert 3-2-28, Ertz 6-1-7 (SMDH)
- Watkins 3-3-48 (Long 53, 18+ in 4 of 5, 41+ in 3 of 5)

Steve's Power Rating: PHI +6.5

PFF Grades:

Pass Rush Def - TB #28 / PHI #3

Pass Blk - TB #4 / PHI #7

Run Def - PHI #26
Run Blk - PHI #9

DL: PHI #6, TB #2 **OL**: TB #1, PHI #4

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (UP IN PACE) TB -> After having their way with the Dolphins while turning in their slowest situation-neutral pace thus far, Tampa Bay still ranks ninth fastest on the season. Their contests produce the league's most combined plays (131) and second-highest average point total (57.8). The game's 51.5-point early-week over/under feels a bit light; Bucs opponents are passing against their injury-shredded coverage at a ridiculous 76% rate during neutral situations. DAL is second with a 65% opponent pass rate; only averaging 19.6 carries/game and TB is also averaging an incredible 431.4 total yards

PHI -> The Eagles rank first in situation-neutral pace, while throwing at the league's seventh-highest clip after leading all offenses in Week 5. Their contests average the seventh-most combined snaps; Eagles throw the ball 10% more than the NFL average when trailing by four or more points and 5% more when within three points; Eagles offense (36.6) averaging the 12th most pass attempts per game

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> DeVonta Smith/Jalen Reagor vs. Jamel Dean/Richard Sherman

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Miles Sanders: Snaps 75%, Rush Att 52%

Kenneth Gainwell: TPRR 30%DeVonta Smith: Targets 25%Quez Watkins: Routes 76%

• Zach Ertz: ADOT 10.8, Air Yards 27% -> *Goeder OUT, increased target share expected

• Chris Godwin: Air Yards 21%

OJ Howard: Routes 36%, Targets 5%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Kenneth Gainwell: Rush Att 10%

• Chris Godwin: Routes 72%

Notes: Eagles on Tuesday placed TE Dallas Goedert on Covid list, making it highly unlikely he'll be available for Thursday's game. Expect Zach Ertz to operate as a near-every-down TE vs. TB

Bucs are missing top CB Carlton Davis (quad, I.R.), slot CB Sean Murphy-Bunting (elbow, I.R.), LB Lavonte David (ankle), and potentially FS Antoine Winfield Jr. (concussion)

<u>Jalen Hurts</u>: averages 36% of the designed-rush attempts over the past three weeks; Among 2021 signal callers, only Lamar Jackson has rushed for more yards than Hurts

DeVonta Smith: No defense has allowed more catches to Smith's position (91) than TB (ETR); Hurts' number one target on the season by an 8% margin; leads the Eagles in target share (22.9%) and Air Yards share (42.2%), good for the league's 15th-highest WOPR (.64). Earning 23.7% of his targets 20-plus-yards downfield, Smith's matchup against a Tampa secondary that's allowed the league's most 20-plus-yard completions (25) couldn't be better.

Quez Watkins/Jalen Reagor: Watkins has drawn almost even with Reagor for the Eagles' No. 2 wideout role; Watkins played 10 more Week 5 snaps against the Panthers, although Reagor ran one more route and drew two more targets; Reagor leads Watkins on the season in snaps (73.5% to 60.7%), routes run (77.2% to 61.4%), target share (14.7% to 10.0%), and Air Yards share (16.8% to 14.1%);

Zach Ertz: Splitting time with Goedert, he's run a route on 56.1% of dropbacks, earning a 14.7% target share, including a team-leading five RZ targets and three EZ targets. Bucs defense has allowed the league's most receptions (36) to opposing tight ends.

Miles Sanders/Kenneth Gainwell: TB has allowed an NFC-high 37 running back catches and have yielded a league-high 42 receptions to opposing backs overall (ETR); Sanders played a season-high 75% of snaps, and his targets surged to 16% — another season-high mark. Most notably, he took over 40% of the two-minute offense from Gainwell; TB ranks third in rush defense DVOA compared to 18th in pass defense DVOA; Sanders still has a stranglehold on the rushing work (69.6% to 30.4%) but has ceded pass-down work; Gainwell's still well behind in routes run (29.4% to 54.2%) but has earned more targets (12.4% to 11.2%) and took a sizable chunk of the two-minute offense in Week 5 (60% to 40%).

Leonard Fournette: 3 or more catches in every game this year and is on pace for 65 grabs (ETR); Against MIA, Fournette ran 29 routes to Gio's 8 and out-targeted Bernard 5 to 2; Eagles defense is yielding 4.46 yards per carry and 147.8 total yards per game to RBs (ETR); Fournette retained the two-minute offense despite the return of Giovani Bernard. However, it was only four snaps. Bernard did re-take most of the LDD work; If Fournette owns the role moving forward, it will insulate his weekly value when game scripts or matchups dictate more two-minute offense. For now, it appears we can project the veteran for half the rushing attempts and 10% or so of the targets; On the season, Fournette's handled 65.1% of the team's running back carries with modest 11% target share/running a route on 54.8% of dropbacks.

OJ Howard/Cam Brate: Howard out-snapped Brate 44 to 28 and out-targeted him 3 to 1 in last week's win. Brate did run 20 routes to Howard's 17 though; After nearing the 70%-route mark in Week 4, Brate's utilization fizzled in Week 5. TB cut 12-personnel usage in half (12%) and ran most plays from 11 personnel (76%) and 2nd-most plays out of 10 personnel (7%) on year; PHI has been vulnerable to opposing TEs, targeted at league's sixth-highest rate. Eagles LB's and safeties have allowed a 66/649/6 receiving line on 80 targets to opposing pass catchers.

Mike Evans: maintains a slight edge in target share (20.6%) and Air Yards share (31.5%)

<u>Chris Godwin</u>: 2nd on the team in target share (18.7%) and third in Air Yards share (18.7%); the diminutive Eagles slot CB Avonte Maddox should have his hands full with Godwin

Antonio Brown: In Week 5 played on just 56.8% of snaps, running a route on 72.7% of dropbacks. Making the most of his opportunity; owns a strong 24.6% targets per route run rate

<u>Evans/Godwin/Brown</u>: accounting for 64.7% of the team's total targets compared to just 49.8% in Weeks 1-3 with Gronk active

Vegas Spread: MIA 24.75, JAX 22.25

Steve's Rating: JAX +5

Last Week: TB 45 vs MIA 17

- Gaskin 5-25 / 10-10-74-2; Brown ZERO touches; Ahmed 2-5 / 3-2-16
- Gesicki 7-4-43 (Long 23, now 22+ in 3 straight), Waddle 6-2-31, P Williams 5-3-60

Last Week: TEN 37 @ JAX 19

- Lawrence arguably best game -> 23-33-273-1-1 (8.3 YPA, 70% completions)
- Lawrence 7-28-1, now 21+ rushing in 4 straight, 27+ in 3 straight, 6+ att in 3 straight
- Robinson 18-149-1 (Long 58) / 1-1-(-2); Hyde 5-13 / ZERO targets; Dare 1-1-19 rec
- Darnold 8-6-64, Agnew 8-6-41, Austin 5-5-54, Jones 5-1-25, Shenault 3-1-58

PFF Grades:

Coverage - JAC #29

Pass Rush - JAC #23 Pass Blk - MIA #29

Run Def - MIA #8 / JAC #28 Run Blk - JAC #27 / MIA #20

DL: MIA #29, JAX #30 **OL:** JAX #20, MIA #32

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> MIA -> In Tua's absence the <u>Dolphins</u> have thrown ball at one of highest rates, ranking second in neutral-script pass rate and sixth in pass rate over expectation on the season

JAX -> Jaguars play in trailing scripts (fourth-most in the NFL) which helps boost the plays per minute, but they are bottom tier in time-of-possession

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> Marvin Jones Jr. and Laviska Shenault Jr. vs. Xavien Howard and Byron Jones: second most over expected fantasy points allowed to WR's; aside from TB, MIA also allowed 259 yds to LV WR's in WK3; temper expectations w/ downgrade to JAX offense

DOWNGRADE - Dolphins' DeVante Parker vs. Jaguars' Shaquill Griffin (shadow)

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

- James Robinson: 2MIN 100%
- Marvin Jones: ADOT 19.8 -> *deeper targets w/o Chark equaling less receptions/targets
- Jamal Agnew: Routes 67%, TPRR 24%, Targets 23%
- Dan Arnold: Routes 74%, TPRR 25%, Targets 26%
- Salvon Ahmed: Snaps 20%, Rush Att 29%, Targets 8%

Mike Gesicki: Routes 77%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

James Robinson: Targets 3%, TPRR 4%Marvin Jones: Routes 88%, Targets 13%

• Laviska Shenault: Routes 65%

• Mike Gesicki: TPRR 14%, Targets 14%

Notes: Trevor Lawrence: over 12% of designed rushing attempts in the last three games. The rookie now ranks fifth in that utilization category and is also scrambling more

Dan Arnold: routes on 79% of dropbacks, 8 targets (26%), 25% TPRR, just 2nd game w/ JAX

<u>James Robinson</u>: snaps dropped with the return of Hyde, but he retained a similar share of rushing attempts, over half of the SDD duties and almost 60% of the passing work; Robinson has now recorded at least 15 carries in his last three games

<u>Jaylen Waddle</u>: at least 6 targets in all but 1 game and running a route on 86% of the dropbacks

<u>Mike Gesicki</u>: averaging six targets per game, good for the team's third-highest target share at 18%. His 24% air yards share is also second on the team behind a hobbled <u>DeVante Parker</u>, routes continue to push upward for the fourth consecutive week

<u>Tua Tagovailoa:</u> returns to catch a plus draw against the Jags who provide enemy signal callers with clean pockets, ranking bottom 11 in QB hits (26) and bottom two in sacks (8). (E.S. - ETR)

KC @ WAS (+6.5; 54.5)

Vegas Spread: KC 30.5, WAS 24.0

Steve's Rating: WAS +7

Last Week: N.O. 33 @ WAS 22

- Gibson 20-60-2 / 2-2-12, McKissic 4-1-8 (2 rushes for -1 yards), Patterson 4-13
- Heinickie 5-40 rushing, now 8-21 / 5-43 / 5-40 in last three (5+ carries in 3 straight)
- D. Carter 8-4-62, Humphries 5-3-73, Seals-Jones 8-5-41, McLaurin 11-4-46

Last Week: BUF 38 @ KC 20

- Mahomes career high 54 pass attempts, career-low 5.0 YPA, now 16 TD/6 INT
- Hill 13-7-63, Kelce 10-6-57-1, Hardman 12-9-76, D. Williams 5-3-18
- D. Williams 5-27 rushing, Mahomes 8-61 rushing, McKinnon just 1-2 / 2-2-13

PFF Grades:

Coverage - KC #24 / WFT #30

Pass Blk - WFT #1
Pass Rush - KC #30 / WFT #2
Run Blk - KC #2
Run Def - KC #32 / WFT #9

DL: WAS #5, KC #27 **OL:** KC #8, WAS #17

<u>OL/DL Rank/Notes:</u> UPGRADE -> Antonio Gibson (WAS Run Blocking): Washington projected run block win rate rank: 1st; Chiefs projected run stop win rate rank: 32nd; Kansas City ranks last in both run stop win rate and projected run stop win rate and is allowing 5.2 yards per carry this season, the third-highest in league. One important note: WAS tackle Samuel Cosmi left last week's game against Saints with an ankle injury. If he were to miss the game it would be a huge blow to ground game. Cosmi ranks fourth in run block win rate among tackles.

<u>Snaps & Pace</u>: (UP IN PACE) KC -> still operating at the eighth-quickest situation-neutral pace, their contests have been satisfactorily voluminous (127.4 combined plays; 10th most), and their games lead the league by a mile in average total points (63.4). Kansas City ranks second in ETR's pass rate above expectation

WAS -> According to PFF, only the Lions have a worse-graded coverage unit than the Football Team, who are facing the third-highest situation-neutral pass rate for good reason. Fortunately WAS is also operating at the seventh-quickest pace — which has helped their contests produce the third-most combined plays (130.2). their games also average the fourth-most total points (55.6); Washington keeps hope alive thanks to high plays-per-minute marks. It displays run-heavy tendencies, but the game scripts keep the team throwing — it trails by four points or more on 66% of plays — the third-most in the NFL.

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> Tyreek Hill, Mecole Hardman, Demarcus Robinson vs. WFT's William Jackson III, Kendall Fuller and Benjamin St-Juste: Washington has allowed a league-high five touchdowns on passes that traveled at least 20 yards downfield this season

UPGRADE -> Terry McLaurin vs. Charvarius Ward/Mike Hughes/L'Jarius Sneed

<u>Matchups:</u> **UPGRADE ->** Mecole Hardman: The WFT has allowed 75.0 Total QBR (fifth-most) on throws 10 yards or shorter. He has run half his routes out of the slot thus far

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

- Jerick McKinnon: Snaps 31%, Routes 34%, LDD 57%
- Darrel Williams: Snaps 43%, Routes 41%, Targets 8%
- Mecole Hardman: Routes 71%, TPRR 24%, Targets 25%, ADOT 7.0, Air Yards 26%
- DeAndre Carter: Routes 72%, TPRR 18%, Targets 18%, Air Yards 30%
- Ricky Seals-Jones: Routes 87%, TPRR 20%, Targets 24%, Air Yards 13%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Tyreek Hill: ADOT 7.0

Travis Kelce: TPRR 13%, Targets 17%Antonio Gibson: Targets 5%, TPRR 10%

Notes: Ricky Seals-Jones: routes 88% of dropbacks, 8 targets; 20% TPRR are elite TE markers, also played on 82-of-83 snaps last week, 43 in slot and 10 out wide

<u>Terry McLaurin</u>: 4 catches, 46 yards down game but still had 11 targets, 163 air yards; 32% target share on throws from Heinicke (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Darrel Williams</u>: led Jerick McKinnon in snaps, but there are Marlon Mack rumors and KC may just deprioritize the RB with CEH on IR; Williams 10+ touches in 3 straight weeks; Williams handled 83% of snaps, 67% of attempts and 81% routes over final 3 drives after CEH exit. He was on the field for 75% of LDD work and 100% of SDD snaps. McKinnon took 100% of the two-minute offense in the game at the end of the first half before Edwards-Helaire's injury.

Mecole Hardman: 12 targets for a 22% share just last week (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Demarcus Robinson:</u> Robinson is averaging a lowly two targets per game (E.S. - ETR)

Byron Pringle: Two targets or fewer in 4-of-5 games (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Taylor Heinicke:</u> Chiefs league-high 236 rushing yards to quarterbacks. Heinicke ranks No. 8 at his position in rushing (127) (E.S. - ETR)

Antonio Gibson/J.D. McKissic: McKissic ran five more pass routes, drew two more targets in Week 5. Chiefs give up fourth-most receiving yards to running backs (270). McKissic has drawn 18 targets to Gibson's 13 on the year. (E.S. - ETR)

LAR @ NYG (+10.0; 48)

Vegas Spread: LAR 29, NYG 19 Steve's Rating: NYG +10

Last Week: LAR 26 @ SEA 17

- Woods 14-12-150 (squeaky wheel gets the grease; long 25, 6+ targets in last 4 of 5)
- Kupp 10-7-92 (Long 33, 22+ in every game, 33+ in 4 of 5), VanJ 4-1-16, DJax 3-1-68

Last Week: DAL 44 vs NYG 20

- Toney 13-10-189 !!! (Long 38); Last week 9-6-78; 22-16-267 last two weeks
- Engram 4-4-55, Ross 5-1-13, Golladay/Jones/Barkley/Shepard ALL HURT

PFF Grades:

Coverage - NYG #23

Pass Blk - LAR #3 / NYG #23

Pass Rush - NYG #24

Run Blk - LAR #10 / NYG #23 Run Def - LAR #1 / NYG #23

DL: LAR #21, NYG #28 **OL:** NYG #28, LAR #5

<u>OL/DL Rank/Notes:</u> Rams DL (#21) > Giants OL (#28) - Rams' DL ranks eighth in pass rush win rate, 12th in adjusted sack rate, 12th in pressure percentage, and fifth in QB hurry percentage. Giants' OL ranks 21st in QB hits given up. Mismatch with Donald/Leonard Floyd

Rams OL (#5) > Giants DL (#28) - Given how precise LAR's offense is operating right now, the chances of NYG's below-average pass-rush getting home consistently in this game are bleak

UPGRADE -> Matthew Stafford, Los Angeles Rams (LAR Pass Blocking): Rams projected pass block win rate rank: 2nd; Giants projected pass stop win rate rank: 30th; Rams trailing only the Browns in PBWR. It's all about the tackles: veterans Rob Havenstein and Andrew Whitworth are both in the top 10 in pass block win rate -- and that's actually without a particularly high play-action rate (just 22% of dropbacks, below average), which normally buoys the Rams OL's numbers; Leonard Williams -- who the Giants signed to a megadeal including \$45 million guaranteed this offseason -- ranks 50th in PRWR at defensive tackle. All of the other DTs/DEs on the Giants are below average, too.

Snaps & Pace: (UP IN PACE) LAR -> Rams played increasingly fast during their win over the Seahawks. After an uncharacteristically slow first half (31.2 seconds per snap), they dialed it up to 27.1 seconds per snap in the third quarter, and then 24.3 during their 12 fourth-quarter plays when the game was within seven points. Los Angeles has produced more snaps in each game of the season so far, and their contests now average the fifth-most combined plays. Their situation-neutral pass rate ranks fifth highest on the season (63.7%), and opponents are throwing against them at the ninth-highest clip. Losing starting CB Darious Williams to IR won't reverse that trend. Rams games are producing the seventh-most total points (51.4); Rams averaging 61 plays but are up to 65 over the last three contests, creating an upgrade from poor to average in passing volume. Passing attempts are up 11 per game in that span.

NYG -> Giants turned in the 11th-fastest situation-neutral pace of the week and deployed a Week-5-high 50% no-huddle rate. A meaty 138 combined plays later, New York still lost, but they did not mute the game's overall fantasy production as much as random injuries did; Giants

lead the league in plays played with the score within three points (58%) and have stuck to their pass-heavy ways in those situations. They pass 5% more than the NFL average in close scripts.

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

Robert Woods: Routes 95%Van Jefferson: ADOT 19.3Tyler Higbee: Routes 79%

• Kadarius Toney: TPRR 54%, Targets 35%, ADOT 10.6, Air Yards 34% -> *Monitor

Shepard/Slayton

• Evan Engram: Routes 75%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Cooper Kupp: TPRR 26%, Air Yards 27%

• Van Jefferson: Targets 11%

Notes: Matthew Stafford: After averaging 28 attempts over the first two games, Stafford is at 39 over the last three. He has 986 yards and seven touchdowns over those three games; Giants ranking bottom four in sack rate (4.3%) and dead last in QB Hit Rate (10.3%) (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Kadarius Toney</u>: 0.88 wTPRR for the season (third highest among players with at least 15 routes per game); adds dynamic after-the-catch ability (monitor health this week); electric athlete with 88th % scores or better in the 40yd dash, vertical jump, and broad jump; elite targets-per-route (54% TPRR in Week 5) numbers over past 2 weeks, and he is attacking every area of the field; before injury was on field for 94% routes

<u>Devontae Booker</u>: 88% snap share, 8 HVT, 6 green zone touches replacing Saquon Barkley;Out touched Giants No. 2 RB Gary Brightwell 19 to 0 in Week 5's loss to Dallas (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Darrell Henderson:</u> Weekly touch counts are 17, 16, 19, and 18. including a generous 4.93 yards per carry and 159.4 total yards per game to Henderson's position (E.S. - ETR)

<u>C. Kupp:</u> Kupp has drawn double-digit targets in each of Stafford's starts and caught seven or more balls in 4-of-5. The Giants have permitted the NFL's ninth-most receptions to wide receivers (73) (E.S. - ETR); Even in Robert Woods' eruption game Week 5, Kupp saw 10 targets for a 27% share. He's now seen 32.5% of Stafford's targets on the season.

<u>D. Jones</u>: back from concussion protocol (E.S. - ETR)

<u>E. Engram</u>: Engram is coming off a season-high 74% snap share in Week 5's loss to Dallas and encounters a plus Week 6 draw against the Rams, who've surrendered the NFL's seventh-most yards to tight ends (332) (E.S. - ETR)

HOU @ IND (-10; 43)

Vegas Spread: IND 26.5, HOU 16.5

Steve's Rating: IND -9.5

Last Week: NE 25 @ HOU 22

- Mills 21-29-312-3-0 (PATS' "TB12 LETDOWN SPOT"); bet unders again
- Ingram 16-41, Johnson 2-5 / 6-5-46, Lindsay 5-19
- Cooks 5-3-23, C. Moore 5-5-109-1 (SMH), Conley 4-3-84-1

Last Week: BAL 31 vs IND 25

- Wentz career high 400+ yds/11.5 YPA (only 2x over 10 YPA in '17, 300+ once in 2020)
- Wentz 70%+ in two straight games (4 TD/0 INT), 36+ in 4 straight, 41+ in 3 of 4
- Pittman 7-6-89-1 (Long 42), now 7+ tar, 6+ rec in 4 straight games
- Campbell 6-4-56 (all season highs); Pascal 5-3-48; MAC 4-3-50; Doyle 1-1-4
- Taylor 15-53-1 / 4-3-116-1 (18 of 24 RB touches), Hines 4-18 / 1-0-0, Mack 5-47 / 2-1-7

PFF Grades:

Coverage - IND #30 Pass Blk - IND #30 Pass Rush - IND #22

Run Blk - HOU #28 / IND #26 Run Def - HOU #27 / IND #5

DL: IND #24, HOU #31 **OL:** HOU #31, IND #19

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (SLOW PACED SLOG) HOU -> Texans hand off at the sixth-highest situation-neutral rate; Their games average the sixth-fewest combined snaps (121.8) in part because Houston doesn't play quickly — and when they are losing by at least seven points, they operate at an even slower situation-neutral pace

IND -> Since the start of 2020, Indianapolis has the second-slowest situation-neutral pace when leading by 7+ points; While the Colts are throwing more often than expected (12th), their defense has faced the fourth-highest situation-neutral run rate. Coupled with the second-slowest offensive pace, it's not surprising that their games average the 7th-fewest combined snaps (122)

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> Brandin Cooks vs. Xavier Rhodes/Kenny Moore II/Rock Ya-Sin

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

- David Johnson: Routes 71%, Targets 23%, TPRR 24%, LDD 100%
- Mark Ingram: Rush Att 67%
- Phillip Lindsay: Snaps 22%, Routes 11%

Chris Conley: Targets 15%, Air Yards 31%Pharaoh Brown: TPRR 27%, Targets 12%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Phillip Lindsay: Rush Att 21%

• Brandin Cooks: TPRR 15%, Targets 19%, ADOT 12.0, Air Yards 26%

• Jordan Akins: TPRR 9%, Air Yards 1%

Notes: Texans offense: Texans rank bottom three in points per game (17.8). LT Laremy Tunsil (thumb) questionable to play and QB Mills has absorbed three or more sacks in each of his last three appearances, all with Tunsil in the lineup (E.S. - ETR).

<u>D. Johnson/M. Ingram/P. Lindsay:</u> Three-way RBBC involving Johnson, Ingram, and Lindsay in a low-scoring offense deletes each individual backfield participant's fantasy utility (E.S. - ETR).

<u>B. Cooks:</u> On passes from Mills, Cooks has 20 more targets than the next-closest Texan, 11 more catches, and 101 more yards (E.S. - ETR); still 5% over his career-high TPRR season

<u>J. Taylor:</u> This is an eruption spot for Taylor, who eats in positive game script and should get it here with Indy favored by two scores at home. Running backs have tagged Houston for a cool 4.75 yards per carry and 143.4 total yards per game (E.S. - ETR).

N. Hines/M. Mack: Hines has a scatterbrained touch counts through five weeks..14, 2, 11, 4, and 4. Hines is capable of regaining full-PPR flex valuation if the Colts find a trade partner for Mack, but Mack's recent usage hike is killing Hines' usability (E.S. - ETR).

<u>M. Pittman:</u> With six or more catches in four straight games, Pittman looks to be developing the tight-window chemistry with Wentz (E.S. - ETR).

Z. Pascal: Including playoffs, Pascal has finished below 50 yards in 7 straight (E.S. - ETR).

<u>P. Campbell:</u> Suffers from the Colts' affinity for multiple-tight end sets and hasn't scored an NFL touchdown since Week 2 of the 2019 season (E.S. - ETR).

M. Alie-Cox: Only 13 pass routes in Week 5. Colts' coaching staff's continued unwillingness to promote him above Doyle is obstructing the progress of Indy's superior TE talent (E.S. - ETR).

CIN @ DET (+3.5, 47)

Vegas Spread: CIN 25.25, DET 21.75

Steve's Rating: DET +3.5

Last Week: GB 25 @ CIN 22 (OT)

- Chase 10-6-159-1 (Long 70, now 34+ reception in every game this season)
- Higgins 7-5-32, Boyd 5-4-24, Perine 5-4-24-1, Mixon 1-1-2, Uzomah 2-2-16

Last Week: MIN 19 vs DET 17

- St Brown 8-7-65 (last 2 games now 16-13-135); Cephus only other WR w/ 3+ targets
- Hockenson 3-2-22 (3 or fewer targets/2 catches/22 or less yards in last 2 of 3)
- Swift 11-51-1 / 6-6-53, Williams 13-57 / 2-2-8

PFF Grades:

Coverage - CIN #10 / DET #32
Pass Blk - CIN #20 / DET #31

Pass Rush - CIN #27 Run Blk - CIN #21

Run Def - CIN #7 / DET #23

DL: CIN #23, DET #26 **OL:** DET #25, CIN #23

Snaps & Pace: (SLOW PACED SLOG) CIN -> Over the first 3 weeks, CIN ranked 24th in situation-neutral pass rate (55%). Since then, they rank second (68%). While they still aren't fast on offense, their situation-neutral pace ranked dead last through four weeks (33.3 seconds) and ticked up to 30.9 seconds in Week 5; Despite facing the slothily-paced Packers, the game produced the most combined snaps of any Bengals contest this season (128), albeit with 14 overtime snaps; This week, however we should not expect the Bengals to be pushed by the Lions — despite their plucky reputation; CIN ranks LAST in plays per game adjusting for OT

Cincinnati vs. the NFL average pass rate by game script:

Trail: -10%Close: +1%Lead: -12%

DET -> Since Detroit's wild Week 1 game with the 49ers, their contests average the sixth-fewest combined plays and fifth-fewest total points. On a situation-neutral basis, Detroit operates at the eighth-slowest pace, hands off at the third-highest rate, and faces the second-highest opponent run rate. It is tough to avoid playing Bengals against a bottom-five defense, but we also can't bank on elevated play volume and widespread opportunity; DET trails by 4+ points (2nd-most) and has averaged 339.6 total yards/19.6 points per game, both bottom tier

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> Ja'Marr Chase, Tee Higgins and Tyler Boyd vs. Amani Oruwariye, Jerry Jacobs and AJ Parker: The Lions have faced very little volume, including the fewest WR routes (371), fifth-fewest targets (82) and ninth-fewest end zone targets (four), BUT Detroit is allowing 16.2 yards per receptions and 11.2 yards per target to the position, both worst in the

NFL. Oruwariye (who shadowed Justin Jefferson last week) and undrafted rookie Jacobs will work the perimeter against Chase/Higgins, with an undrafted rookie facing the slot against Boyd

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Samaje Perine: Snaps 61%, Rush Att 48%, Routes 59%, LDD 100%

• Ja'Marr Chase: Air Yards 65%

• CJ Uzomah: Routes 82%

• D'Andre Swift: Snaps 74%, Routes 73%, LDD 100%

Amon-Ra St. Brown: Routes 77%, TPRR 24%, Targets 26%

• Khalif Raymond: ADOT 38.5 (!)

KhaDarel Hodge: Routes 66%, ADOT 15.0,

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Joe Mixon: Snaps 28%, Rush Att 43%, LDD 0%

• Tyler Boyd: Targets 14%, ADOT 2.2, Air Yards 4%

• Khalif Raymond: Routes 68%, TPRR 7%, Targets 6%,

Notes: J. Burrow: Lions defense ranks in the bottom four in QB hits (21) and are allowing a league-high 10.0 yards per pass attempt. Burrow is averaging 35 pass attempts over his last two starts up from 25 per game in Weeks 1-3 (E.S. - ETR)

Bengals WRs: DET has allowed 12th-most yards to enemy wideouts (922) (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Ja'Marr Chase</u>: 10 targets, 185 air yards (third most in Week 5 through Sunday); 5 games in, he sits at a 24% target share. Since 2011, only 7 rookies have eclipsed a 20% target share at WR

<u>T. Higgins:</u> In Higgins' return from his two-week shoulder injury, he logged a 70% snap rate and finished second on the team in targets (7) (E.S. - ETR)

<u>C.J. Uzomah:</u> His Week 4 TNF eruption against Jacksonville is looking like a radar-screen blip with two targets or fewer in each of his other four games (E.S. - ETR).

<u>J. Mixon/S. Perine:</u> S. Perine is out this week with covid giving Mixon the majority of backfield work. C. Evans may cut into some of the target share as Mixon has only six targets over the last month (E.S. - ETR).

Amon Ra St-Brown: has led the team in routes/TPRR/target share over past 2 games.

<u>D. Swift:</u> D'Andre Swift set another season high in playing time (74%) in Week 5's loss to Minnesota, and on the season no defense has allowed more running back catches than Cincinnati's (41). Swift leads all NFL backs in receptions (29) and yards (252) (E.S. - ETR).

GB @ CHI (+5.5; 44.5)

Vegas Spread: GB 25.0, CHI 19.5

Steve's Rating: CHI +7

Last Week: GB 25 @ CIN 22 (OT)

- Rodgers 27-39-344-2-1, first game with 25+ completions/300+ yards
- Adams 16-11-206-1 (Long 59, now 25+ in 4 of 5), Cobb only non-RB with 3+ targets
- A Jones 14-103 (Long 57) / 5-4-6, Dillon 8-30 / 4-4-49-1

Last Week: CHI 20 @ LV 9

- Fields 12-20-111 (QBR 26.2), now 68/209/111 yds in 3 starts (max 64.7 completion %)
- Fields NOT running at all -> first appearance Week 2 = 10-31; since = 3-12, 3-9, 3-4
- Fields MAX 12 completions/20 attempts/209 yards, MAX 5.6 YPA outside of Week 4
- Herbert 18-75 / ZERO targets; Williams 16-64-1 / 3-2-20
- Mooney 5-3-35, A-Rob 5-4-32, Kmet 4-2-22

PFF Grades:

Coverage - CHI #28
Pass Blk - GB #5

Run Blk - GB #29

Run Def - GB #10 / CHI #20

DL: CHI #14, GB #20 **OL:** GB #10, CHI #24

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (SLOW PACED SLOG) GB -> In Week 5 the Packers and Bengals managed to stay under the point total and only muster 128 combined plays — including the extra 14 snaps after regulation. GB has the league's third-slowest situation-neutral snaps pace. It has resulted in contests that average the second-fewest combined plays (119.4), and the Packers ranking 25th in overtime-adjusted snaps per game (60).

CHI -> offense operates at the ninth-slowest situation-neutral pace, while running at the league's highest rate (57%); Bears games also average the third-fewest combined snaps (119.6) and second-fewest total points (36.8); Bears rank dead last in total yards (240) per game and average only 16.8 points per game as an offensive unit

<u>Matchups:</u> **UPGRADE -> Justin Fields:** According to Sports Info Solutions, Fields has generated -36.0 EPA on dropbacks versus pressure, compared +13.3 EPA when not pressured. Since the Packers generate pressure at the seventh-lowest rate (34%), this could be one of the better matchups Fields will face, allowing him to connect with (Darnell) Mooney

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Damien Williams: Snaps 48%, Rush Att 43%, Targets 15%, TPRR 30%

• Khalil Herbert: Snaps 53%, Rush Att 49%, Routes 26%

• Allen Robinson: Routes 93%

Cole Kmet: TPRR 22%, Targets 20%, Air Yards 34%
Aaron Jones: Routes 71%, Targets 14%, TPRR 17%

Robert Tonyan: ADOT 24.5

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Allen Robinson: Air Yards 22%

Cole Kmet: Routes 67%AJ Dillon: Routes 24%Allen Lazard: ADOT (-0.5)

Notes: AJ Dillon: 4 receptions on only 10 routes is noise, and the role didn't expand)

<u>D. Adams:</u> Rodgers is targeting Adams on 39.9% of his throws (E.S.- ETR); last three games with at least 11 targets in each game for an average of 15 targets per game over that stretch. His 46% air yards share is fourth in the league and his 38% target share leads the league, making him one of two receivers with a WOPR above 0.75; what makes his 0.37 targets per route run most impressive is that he is running a route on 91% of the teams' dropbacks.

<u>A. Jones/AJ Dillon:</u> The Packers made a concerted effort to heavily involve A.J. Dillon for a second straight game against the Bengals; this was a neutral-script affair that went to overtime, yet Dillon poached 12 touches — including a surprising 4/49/1 receiving line — leaving Aaron Jones with 18 touches for a rather disappointing 109 scoreless yards (E.S.- ETR).

R. Tonyan: 2020's catch rate = almost 90% has dropped to 2021's catch rate = 50%. Tonyan has been targeted just once inside the 10-yard line this season (E.S.- ETR).

<u>J.Fields:</u> Fields' minuscule pass-attempts totals are 20, 17, and 20 through three starts, and his rushing attempts (3, 3, 3) are even more disappointing (E.S.- ETR).

K. Herbert/D. Williams: RB by committee = 34 snaps, 18 touches, 0 targets (K.H.) vs. 31 snaps, 18 touches, 3 targets (D.W.). Packers allow 7th most RB receptions (E.S.- ETR); Herbert 53% snaps, 18 carries, 75 rush yards; ran 7 routes while Damien Williams ran 10; most importantly took 100% of 2-minute offense/forcing committee w/ Williams

<u>D. Mooney/A. Robinson:</u> Including playoffs, Robinson has 63 yards or fewer in seven straight games (E.S.- ETR); these 2 players account for over half of the team's targets over past 3 weeks. Fields has been good in intermediate areas of field (10-20 yards deep) so far; his sim score vs GB this week is not good, but GB gives up more completions in that area than average; Mooney has seen 28% of the targets over the last three weeks and his aDOT is high

LAC @ BAL (-2.5; 51.5)

Vegas Spread: BAL 27, LAC 24.5

Steve's Rating: BAL -2.5

Last Week: LAC 47 vs CLE 42

- Herbert 26-43-398-4-0 (season high 9.3 YPA/career high yds); last 3 games 11 TD/0 INT
- Ekeler 17-66-2 / 5-5-53-1; Williams 16-8-165-2 (!) Long 37, 20+ in 4 of 5, 27+ in 3 of 5
- Allen 9-6-75 (Long 37); Cook 21+ yard reception in 4 of 5 (23/12/21/22/29)

Last Week: BAL 31 vs IND 25

- Lamar 300+ passing in 2 straight after 0 in entire career regular season (442 yards)
- Lamar pass yards up 5 straights weeks (235-239-287-316-442), 8 TD/3 INT
- Lamar first game 30+ completions (up 3 straight weeks); 43 att (up 4 straight weeks)
- Andrews 13-11-147-2 (Long 28, 24+ in 3 straight, 20+ in 4 of 5); targets up 5 straight
- Brown 10-9-125 (Long 43, Long 29+ in every game, 37+ in 4 straight), 91+ yds 3 of 4
- Duvernay 4-4-35, Freeman 4-3-34, Murray 3-2-13, Watkins 3-2-35 (HURT)
- Lamar 14-62 rushing, Murray 6-17, Williams 4-6, Freeman 1-1

PFF Grades:

Coverage - LAC #6 / BAL #22

Pass Blk - LAC #21

Pass Rush - LAC #6

Run Blk - LAC #6 / BAL #7

Run Def - LAC #29

DL: LAC #8, BAL #13 **OL:** BAL #22, LAC #9

OL/DL Rank/Notes: UPGRADE -> Lamar Jackson/Latavius Murray/Ty'Son Williams (BAL Run Blocking): BAL projected run block win rate rank: 4th; Chargers projected run stop win rate rank: 24th; Under Brandon Staley LAC prioritizes stopping the pass, and the result is that they have 8 men in the box on just 9% of runs (well below the 24% league average) and the offense has at least as many blockers as defenders in the box on 87% of runs, the 2nd-highest rate in the league; BAL isn't running as efficiently as it did in past, but still ranks 6th in run block win rate/yards per carry.

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (UP IN PACE) LAC -> Los Angeles was already operating at the eighth-fastest situation-neutral pace heading into Week 5 (27.7 seconds). They ran a play every 21.5 seconds during their 27 neutral-situation snaps versus the Browns. The Chargers' propensity to go for it on fourth downs (and converting at the third-highest rate) increases play volume and scoring upside, versus punting to flip field position and draining clock. Chargers games average the second-most combined plays (130.6) and sixth-most total points (51.6)

Chargers love to throw the ball in all situations. Pass splits versus the NFL averages in 2021:

Trailing: +3%Close: +6%Leading: +10%

BAL -> Baltimore's games average the 10th-fewest combined snaps (overtime adjusted), BUT they are producing the 10th-most total points (50.6); Their situation-neutral pass rate (51.2%) isn't eye-popping, but it's light-years higher than last season (43.2%). They are roughly neutral in ETR's pass rate above expectation; Both of these teams rank in the top 12 of plays per game

WR/DB: UPGRADE -> Keenan Allen/Mike Williams vs. Anthony Averett/Tavon Young

DOWNGRADE -> Marquise Brown/Watkins vs Michael Davis/Asante Samuel/Chris Harris

Matchups: DOWNGRADE -> Marquise Brown: As Lamar Jackson's preferred deep threat, Brown should see the same 7-9 targets he usually does. The problem, however, is that this is not only an upside-capping matchup for the big-play wideout, but it's also one that significantly lowers his statistical floor. The Chargers have been stifling against opposing No. 1 wide receivers: Terry McLaurin had four targets against them in Week 1 (Week 2-5 McLaurin averages 11.25 targets per game), Amari Cooper and CeeDee Lamb for 14 targets in Week 2, Tyreek Hill totaled 8 targets in Week 3. Brown aligns about one-third of the time out of the slot, but even when he shifts there rather than on the perimeter, he'll draw the talented Chris Harris Jr. in coverage, whereas he'll probably be most commonly aligned with Asante Samuel Jr., who has allowed only 38.9 PPR fantasy points on 129 coverage snaps, on his perimeter routes. This is quite the risky matchup.

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

Jalen Guyton: Targets 7%Jared Cook: ADOT 11.3

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

Austin Ekeler: TPRR 15%

Keenan Allen: TPRR 18%, Targets 22%Jalen Guyton: ADOT 8.3, Air Yards 7%

Jared Cook: Routes 64% Donald Parham: ADOT 2.5

Notes: Austin Ekeler: rushing attempts surged upward to a season-high 77% in Week 5. He handled all of the SDD work and most of the passing-down snaps

-Baltimore has permitted a league-high 342 receiving yards to opposing running backs (E.S. - ETR)

Mike Williams: ADOT has been up over the past two weeks

<u>Lamar Jackson</u>: highest completion % in NFL history in a game with 40+ pass attempts (86%)

Keenan Allen: 161 rec yards over past 3 games (targets, air yards, TPRR, wTPRR all solid)

-Allen has drawn eight-plus targets in all five games and is on pace for a whopping 116 receptions (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Jared Cook:</u> He's cleared 30 yards three times in his last four games (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Donald Parham:</u> Logged a season-high 53% snap clip in Week 5's win over Cleveland and has hit paydirt in consecutive weeks (E.S. - ETR).

<u>Lamar Jackson:</u> Averaging a career-high 9.1 yards per pass attempt and NFL-high 13.6 yards per completion (E.S. - ETR).

Marquise Brown: Ranks No. 8 in the league in receiving yards (451), No. 2 in 20-plus-yard catches (9), and No. 2 in receiving TDs (5) (E.S. - ETR).

<u>Mark Andrews:</u> Andrews ranks third at his position in targets, second in catches (29), and first in yards (400) (E.S. - ETR).

MIN @ CAR (+1; 46)

Vegas Spread: MIN 23.5, CAR 22.5

Steve's Rating: CAR -0.5

Last Week: PHI 21 @ CAR 18

- Darnold 21-37-177-1-3 (season low yards, completion %, YPA 4.8, most turnovers)
- Hubbard 24-101 / 6-5-33 (Rodney Smith last week was likely garbage time routes)
- Moore 7-5-42, Anderson 7-2-30, Thomas 5-4-40, Tremble 4-2-12-1, Marshall 3-2-14

Last Week: MIN 19 vs DET 17

- Mattison 25-113 (Long 48), 7-7-40 (last game starting had 26-112, 8-6-59-1)
- Jefferson 8-7-124 (Long 37, now long reception of 28+ in 4 of 5);
- Thielen 3-2-40 (catchless in fourth quarter, just 1 target through 3 quarters)
- Westbrook 4-3-18, Osborn 4-3-14, Conklin 3-2-25 (muddled behind Jefferson)

PFF Grades:

Coverage - MIN #9 / CAR #5
Pass Blk - MIN #25 / CAR #32
Pass Rush - MIN #9

Run Blk - MIN #22

DL: CAR #6, MIN #10 **OL**: MIN #21, CAR #26

<u>OL/DL Rank & Notes:</u> Vikings DL (#10) > Panthers OL (#26) - Vikings' DL ranks third in adjusted sack rate, second in pressure percentage, and first in QB hurry %. Edge-rushers Everson Griffen & Danielle Hunter each rank top seven in <u>sack score</u>. The Panthers' OL ranks 31st in pass block win rate, 24th in adjusted sack rate, and 27th in pressure %

DOWNGRADE -> <u>Kirk Cousins</u>, <u>Minnesota Vikings</u> (MIN Pass Blocking): Vikings projected pass block win rate rank: 22nd; Panthers projected pass stop win rate rank: 4th; CAR <u>Haason</u> <u>Reddick</u> and <u>Brian Burns</u> both are in the top-12 in PRWR at edge.

UPGRADE -> Danielle Hunter, Vikings (MIN Pass Rush): As expected, Darnold's high sack rate has mostly stuck with him in Carolina. To be fair, the Panthers' offensive line is brutal, ranking 31st in pass block win rate. Depending on Cameron Erving's injury Hunter should face either <u>Taylor Moton</u> -- who has struggled in pass protection this year despite being strong in the past -- or rookie <u>Brady Christensen</u>

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (SLOW PACED SLOG) MIN -> For the second straight week, Minnesota's situation-neutral pass rate sunk — despite deploying a backup running back; the Vikings operate at the 22nd-fastest situation-neutral rate, and they play even slower when games are within three points (24th). Minnesota's contests average the ninth-fewest total points (44.4)

CAR -> Carolina's games are even more anemic (40.4; fifth fewest); Their defenses are ranked eighth and second by DVOA, respectively. Carolina's games produce the eighth-fewest combined plays (122.6) in large part because they allow a league-low 53.8 average. The Vikings also mute opponent play volume (60.6; 10th fewest)

WR/DB: DOWNGRADE -> Vikings' K.J. Osborn vs. Panthers' A.J. Bouye (slot)

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

Robby Anderson: Routes 93%, ADOT 15.3

Ian Thomas: Routes 56%, TPRR 21%, Targets 15%, ADOT 7.6, Air Yards 15%

Justin Jefferson: 100% RoutesAdam Thielen: ADOT 17.3

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• DJ Moore: TPRR 17%, Targets 21%, Air Yards 26% -> *Darnold's downturn

Adam Thielen: TPRR 8%, Targets 10%

• KJ Osborn: Routes 71%

Tyler Conklin: TPRR 12%, Targets 10%

Notes: Sam Darnold: designed-rushing rate = top-four quarterback in that department

Robby Anderson: 41.4% catch rate (15.2 aDOT indicates role has changed from last year, but air yards have been solid four of five weeks)

Chuba Hubbard: 40% routes after 22% in Week 4, a positive sign if CMC misses anymore time

-Handled 29-of-33 running back touches (88%) (E.S. - ETR)

Adam Thielen: 3 targets is mostly NOISE (had at least seven in each of first four games)

<u>Kirk Cousins:</u> Defense has yielded the league's third-fewest yards per pass attempt (6.3) and an NFL-low 184.6 passing yards per game to signal callers (E.S. - ETR)

Justin Jefferson: With 100-plus yards and/or a touchdown in four straight games (E.S. - ETR)

A. Thielen: has cleared 60 yards in just four of his last 15 games and is averaging 1.34 yards per route run, by far his lowest rate in the last half decade (E.S. - ETR)

<u>D.J. Moore:</u> Massive target share — he's been thrown to on 28.6% of Darnold's non-throwaway passes (E.S - ETR)

<u>T. Marshall:</u> continues to log heavy playing time — he appeared on a season-high 76% of last week's snaps — but also continues to fail to earn targets, let alone do anything with them when he does. He's averaging an anemic 8.2 yards per catch and 5.4 yards per target (E.S. - ETR)

ARI @ CLE (-3.5; 49.5)

Vegas Spread: CLE 26.5, ARI 23.0

Steve's Rating: CLE -2.5

Last Week: LAC 47 vs CLE 42

- Chubb 21-161-1 / 1-1-9; Hunt 12-61-2 / 6-5-28 (*PLAY OVER CARRIES VS LAC*)
- Njoku 7-7-149-1 (Long 71), DPJ 6-5-70, Higgins 5-3-29-1, OBJ 3-2-20
- Baker -> actually played well, 23-32-305-2-0, season high completions

Last Week: ARI 17 vs SF 10

• Conner 10-29-1 / 1-1-8, Edmonds 6-15 / 4-3-19, Kyler 7-1, Moore 3-38 (leading rusher)

- Nuke 9-6-87-1 (targets up 4 straight weeks), Kirk 5-5-39, Green 2-1-13
- Moore 6-5-59 (Long 33, now 29+ in 3 of 5), 9 touches for 97 yards

PFF Grades:

Coverage - AZ #3 / CLE #6
Pass Blk - AZ #2 / CLE #10
Pass Rush - AZ #4 / CLE #7
Run Blk - CLE #3
Run Def - AZ #31 / CLE #6

DL: CLE #2, ARI #12 **OL:** ARI #16, CLE #1

<u>OL/DL Rank/Notes:</u> UPGRADE -> <u>Nick Chubb</u> and <u>Kareem Hunt</u>, <u>Cleveland Browns</u> (CLE Run Blocking): CLE projected run block win rate rank: 9th; Cardinals projected run stop win rate rank: 31st; Arizona ranks 31st in both run stop win rate and yards per carry allowed; Browns have, by far, the most efficient run game in the league in terms of EPA per play

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> ARI -> registered the week's 2nd-highest no-huddle rate (42%) – but the 49ers were taking few chances while running at the 5th-highest situation-neutral rate of the week. In fact, ARI has faced the league's highest opponent rushing rate so far, thanks in part to a run defense grading 2nd worst by PFF; Pending a change in approach without ace run-blocking TE Maxx Williams, we need to acknowledge that, while top 12 in pace, average combined plays, and average total points, ARI is yet to deploy the fully-caffeinated offense we love; Cardinals have led the 2nd-highest % of plays over the first five weeks and have trailed the third-least

CLE -> hand off at the second-highest situation-neutral rate and operate at the league's second-slowest pace; of course, they were also the slowest situation-neutral offense of Week 5 while handing off at the third-highest rate, yet Chargers jolted them into a barnburner; Browns run the ball 32.2 times per game — the most in the NFL

<u>Trends:</u> UP (consecutive weeks) -

- DeAndre Hopkins: TPRR 26%, Targets 32%, ADOT 18.4, Air Yards 73%
- Rondale Moore: Routes 57%, TPRR 30%, Targets 21%, ADOT 4.5, Air Yards 12%
- Nick Chubb: Rush Att 62%Kareem Hunt: TPRR 40%
- Rashard Higgins: ADOT 17.2, Air Yards 27%
- David Njoku: TPRR 33%, Targets 23%,

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

- AJ Green TPRR 6%, Air Yards 9%
- Odell Beckham: TPRR 9%, Targets 10%, Air Yards 6%

Notes: DeAndre Hopkins: 15%, 24% and 32% of targets over the past three games

Rondale Moore: season-high 59% routes, ran more routes than Christian Kirk for first time this season, has 11 backfield snaps over past two weeks after just four in first three, made multiple more "wow" plays, going to keep demanding opportunities; ran a route on 57% of Kyler Murray's dropbacks, tying his season-high set in Week 2

-Their desire to feed Moore expanded touches by handing him three Week 5 carries for 38 yards on top of his six targets (E.S. - ETR)

Odell Beckham: Baker's sim score against Arizona is tops for the week, and Odell is seeing 22% of team's targets and 35% of team's air yards over past 3 weeks; ran a season-high in routes in Week 5, and this offensive scheme is similar to those that funnel targets to Davante Adams/Deebo Samuel; hit season-high in routes (89%) in jjust his third week back from injury

<u>C. Edmonds/J. Connor:</u> Edmonds out-snapped Conner 37 to 29 and ran four more pass routes, yet Conner logged 11 touches to Edmonds' nine in Week 5. Conner has yet to exceed 66 total yards and has drawn four targets in five games. The Browns have stymied enemy backs to the tune of 3.2 yards per carry and a minuscule 89.4 total yards per game (E.S. - ETR)

<u>Cardinals WRs:</u> Hopkins, Green, Moore, and Kirk all stand to quietly benefit from Williams' season-ending knee injury, which will force the Cardinals to play more four-wide receiver sets and utilize their tight end corps less (E.S. - ETR)

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<u>K. Hunt:</u> EDGE Chandler Jones(Covid) and C Rodney Hudson (ribs/shoulder) are both out. His backfield teammate, Nick Chubb, is out. Arizona has been trucked for 5.14 yards per carry by enemy backs. Arizona is playing run-funnel defense, yielding the NFL's fifth-fewest yards per pass attempt (6.7) but second-most yards per rush (5.4) (E.S. - ETR)

LV @ DEN (-3.5; 43)

Vegas Spread: DEN 23.25, LV 19.75

Steve's Rating: DEN -4

Last Week: PIT 27 vs DEN 19

• Javonte 8-61 (Long Run 49) / 3-3-25 (11 for 86), Gordon 9-34 / 2-2-9 (11 for 43)

Sutton 11-7-120-1 (Long 39, now 32+ in 3 of last 4); Patrick 9-7-89; Fant 4-3-20

Last Week: CHI 20 @ LV 9

- Carr 5.9/5.8 YPA in last two weeks after starting season 7.8/10.3/9.0
- Carr now 206/196 yards last two weeks after 380+ in last two
- JACOBS BACK HURTS THIS OFFENSIVE SCHEME/FLOW, SORRY NOT SORRY
- Jacobs 15-48-1 / 5-4-19; Waller 8-4-45 (Long 29, 21+ every game -> 24/25/23/21/29
- Renfrow 8-6-56; Edwards 5-2-22, Ruggs 3-3-51 (Long 29 in 4 of 5, 23+ in every game)

PFF Grades:

Coverage - LV #2
Pass Blk - LV #22

Pass Rush - LV #1 / DEN #26
Run Blk - LV #32 / DEN #24
Run Def - LV #21 / DEN #2

DL: DEN #15, LV #22 **OL:** LV #25, DEN #12

<u>OL/DL Rank/Notes:</u> Broncos DL (#15) > Raiders OL (#25) - Broncos' DL ranks top 10 in adjusted sack rate/QB hurry %. Raiders' OL ranks 24th in pass block win rate, 21st in adjusted sack rate, and 21st in QB hurries given up. DEN's pass-rush has been in rut last few weeks generating pressure w/o blitz, but right side of LV's' line is vulnerable where DEN is strongest.

DOWNGRADE -> Josh Jacobs, Las Vegas Raiders (LV Run Blocking): Raiders projected run block win rate rank: 31st; Broncos projected run stop win rate rank: 11th; LV guard John Simpson ranks last at his position in run block win rate, center Andre James ranks second-to-last, and tackles Alex Leatherwood and Kolton Miller are both in the bottom 10 (Leatherwood played guard last week); Add in the fact that Jacobs has achieved negative rush yards over expectation, and his 3.2 yards per carry starts to make a heck of a lot of sense

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> (SLOW) -> Both teams are below average in neutral-script pace of play with each of them having a seconds per play rate below 31 seconds; the <u>Raiders'</u> play count has been inflated by playing two overtime games in their first five games - one of those games went an extra five minutes and the other went the full ten-minute overtime period

<u>WR/DB:</u> DOWNGRADE -> Courtland Sutton/Tim Patrick vs. Casey Hayward Jr. (shadow): strong possibility of Hayward shadow coverage on the docket. Hayward has not shadowed the past two weeks (Chargers, Bears), but did part time against <u>Sammy Watkins</u> in Week 1, a majority of the time against Chase Claypool in Week 2 and on all of Jaylen Waddle's perimeter routes in Week 3. Hayward does not travel to the slot, but Sutton doesn't much either (15%), so these two figure to face off on most plays this week; Note that the Raiders are allowing the fifth-fewest fantasy points to wide receivers this season (second fewest over expected) and the

third fewest to the perimeter, so even if Hayward doesn't shadow, Sutton's outlook is still concerning. He should be downgraded, and the same applies to <u>Tim Patrick</u> (76% perimeter).

DOWNGRADE -> Raiders' <u>Hunter Renfrow</u> vs. Broncos' <u>Bryce Callahan</u> (slot)

<u>Matchups:</u> **UPGRADE -> Javonte Williams:** Through five games, Melvin Gordon III has the advantage in snap count (55%-44% played on offense), total rushing attempts (60-54) and targets (13-12), but Williams leads in goal-to-go rushing opportunities (5-4), receptions (11-10) and red-zone targets (2-1). Williams has two advantages, however: He was the superior runner in Week 5, doubling Gordon's yards per attempt (7.6-3.8), and despite his shared-role status, is perceived as the lesser of the two. Williams is the upside play facing this favorable matchup, however, as the clearly quicker of the two, with 18.5% of his runs clocked at 15-plus mph, compared to Gordon's 8.3%. The Raiders have been especially weak against speedy running backs, having allowed five runs that went for 20-plus yards already, and bear in mind that they haven't played a lot of big-name positional talent: Ty'Son Williams and Malcolm Brown were responsible for two of those long runs.

DOWNGRADE -> Derek Carr: Through three weeks, Carr was the league leader with 1,203 passing yards, seemingly approaching QB1 territory. In two games since, however, he and the Raiders' offense has fallen into a funk, in large part because of difficult matchups against the Los Angeles Chargers and Chicago Bears. A neck injury contributed to the latter, but the pattern underscores Carr's long standing status as a matchups-dependent quarterback. This week is another challenging matchup, as the Broncos join the Bills and Houston Texans as the only defenses to have not yet allowed 20 fantasy points in a game solely on passing plays (totaling all players on opponents' rosters), and have allowed only 0.31 points per pass attempt to quarterbacks, third-fewest in the league. The Broncos have allowed a handful of big rushing plays to the position, but that's not an area of strength for Carr.

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Melvin Gordon: 2MIN 76%

• Javonte Williams: Rush Att 47%, LDD 55%

Courtland Sutton TPRR 26%

• Tim Patrick: Routes 98%

• Kendall Hinton: Routes 67%, ADOT 12.5

Noah Fant: Routes 91%
Henry Ruggs: Routes 87%
Hunter Renfrow: Routes 85%
Darren Waller: TPRR 19%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

Melvin Gordon: LDD 45%Tim Patrick: ADOT 9.3

Kenyan Drake: Snaps 18%, Routes 20%, LDD 18%

• Henry Ruggs: TPRR 8%

Darren Waller: ADOT 9.8

Notes: Derek Carr: yards per attempt are down over the last two games, and his sack rate is u

<u>Courtland Sutton</u>: 11 targets, 151 air yards; despite a late-week ankle injury, he came through with a big day on a monstrous 30% target share and 42% air yards

<u>Tim Patrick</u>: From Week 13 of 2020 through Week 5 of this season, he's had at least four targets in every game. He's seen the same or more targets in each game this season and has been busy in 2 games since Hamler went down, as he has 15 targets and a total of 10 catches.

Noah Fant: 4-3-20 receiving (93% routes season-high = buy low); Fant's routes have been elite with Okwuegbunam out. For the season, his TPRR is on the verge of elite at 19% (BUY LOW)

<u>J. Jacobs:</u> logged season-high touches (19) and snaps (69%) in Week 5. He's ran 20 pass routes and has drawn 5 targets in consecutive games (E.S. - ETR); In 2 games since returning he has 66% snap rate, while Drake has fallen to wayside with only 26% snap share. Jacobs has also earned elite 88% RB touches and 19 opportunities/game; has hit 54% and 48% routes in the last 2 games despite trailing scripts; Week 5 he even took 50% of 2-minute offense; Kenyan Drake running a route a season-low 20% of pass plays in Week 5. Jalen Richard also snuck into the game in Week 5 to snipe the other half of the two-minute offense.

<u>D. Waller:</u> Leads all TE's in targets by a margin of six, and has had Denver's number with stat lines of 9/117/1, 3/37/0, 6/107/0, and 7/70/0 in Vic Fangio head coached games (E.S. - ETR).

<u>Henry Ruggs</u>: routes are trending up over past 3 weeks, but his TPRR is down. operating primarily downfield, while Waller and Renfrow soak up underneath/intermediate looks.

- <u>H. Renfrow:</u> At least five catches in all five games (E.S. ETR); routes up past 2 weeks due to massive trailing scripts pushing up 11-personnel; Renfrow/Waller are top TPRR options (22%)
- B. Edwards: Topped 51 yards just twice in 17 career games (E.S. ETR).
- <u>T. Bridgewater:</u> Las Vegas' to-date ability to limit the explosiveness of opponent passing attacks, only the Bills have allowed fewer yards per pass attempt (6.1) (E.S. ETR).
- <u>J. Williams/M. Gordon:</u> Each handled exactly 11 touches in Week 5. The Raiders have coughed up a crisp 4.45 yards per carry. Williams is already looking more explosive than Gordon, averaging 5.05 yards per carry versus Gordon's 3.69 over the last month (E.S. ETR).
- <u>C. Sutton:</u> His week-to-week results are up and down, but he ranks No. 2 in the NFL in air yards, and the seas have parted for him to continue dominating passing-game opportunities as Albert Okwuegbunam (hamstring) is on I.R., K.J. Hamler (ACL) is done for the season, and Jerry Jeudy (high ankle sprain) looks to be at least another week away (E.S. ETR).

<u>T. Patrick:</u> Patrick has remarkably caught 84% of his targets from Bridgewater and leads the Broncos in first-down conversions delivered by Teddy (17). Albeit by slim margins, Patrick played more snaps and ran more routes in Week 5 than Sutton (E.S. - ETR)

DAL @ NE (+3.5; 50)

Vegas Spread: DAL 26.75, NE 23.25

Steve's Rating: NE +2

Last Week: NE 25 @ HOU 22

Harris 14-58-1 / ZERO targets (got hurt twice); Stevenson 11-23; Bolden 2-25 / 4-4-6

Henry 8-6-75-1, Meyers 5-4-56, Agholor 4-3-32, Bourne 3-3-26

Last Week: DAL 44 vs NYG 20

- Dak 22-32-302-3-1, season high 9.4 YPA, now 13 TD's/3 INT's (10/1 in last 3)
- Zeke 21-110-1 / 3-2-2-1 (carries up 5 straight weeks); Pollard 14-75 / 4-4-28
- Schultz 8-6-79 (Long 30, 6+/6+/45+ in 4 of 5); Last 3 = 23-18-217 (72.3 ypg)
- Lamb 6-4-84-1 (Long 49, 31+ in 4 of 5), Cooper 6-3-60-1 (Long 24, 24+ in 3 of 5)

PFF Grades:

Coverage - DAL #4 / NE #20

Pass Blk - DAL #9

Pass Rush - DAL #20 / NE #25 Run Blk - DAL #1 / NE #30

DL: DAL #9, NE #17 **OL:** *NE #13*, DAL #3

<u>Snaps & Pace:</u> DAL -> Since their opening week barnburner with the Bucs, only Chicago (56.3%) has a higher situation-neutral run rate than Dallas (52.4%). The good news is the shift hasn't neutered points/play volume in their games, and that has a lot to do with tempo. Dallas ranks second in situation-neutral pace this season, and they're still third fastest since the opening week. Cowboys games average the third-most total points on the season (57.4), and fourth most since Week 1 (56.8); The combined-plays average in Cowboys games has taken a haircut, as it ranks fourth on the season (129.8) BUT 15th since Week 1 (127). Considering they've won four in a row, a shift back to a pass-heavy weekly plan is unlikely. DAL is third in plays per game and second in total yards and scoring.

<u>OL/DL Rank & Notes:</u> Cowboys DL (#9) > Patriots OL (*#13*) - Cowboys' DL ranks 12th in QB knockdown percentage. The Patriots' OL ranks 30th in QB hits given up. LT Isaiah Wynn is

still on the Covid-19 list while RT Justin Herron missed Thursday's practice with an abdomen injury. *Patriots still likely without multiple starters this week again*

<u>WR/DB:</u> DOWNGRADE -> <u>J.C. Jackson</u> has shadowed DeVante Parker (part time), Mike Evans and Brandin Cooks this season, so he might travel with <u>Amari Cooper</u> (or perhaps <u>CeeDee Lamb</u>). Regardless, NE has been solid in slowing WR's regardless of route location

<u>Matchups:</u> DOWNGRADE -> Dalton Schultz. Schultz has been heavily involved in the Cowboys' offense, his usage still isn't quite to the level of a Travis Kelce, Darren Waller or even Kyle Pitts, and his matchup against the Patriots is one of the toughest a tight end could draw. They've most commonly had their safeties covering their opponent's tight end, with Kyle Dugger, Devin McCourty and Adrian Phillips affording the position a combined 14.5 PPR fantasy points on 51 coverage snaps, and the team has allowed a league-low 1.1 points per target to the position. Schultz will provide this defense its toughest test yet, and the Cowboys' wide receiver depth might help to create openings for the tight end, but this is probably not a matchup in which he'll match his 19.3 point average the past three weeks.

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

Amari Cooper: TPRR 16%, ADOT 19.4

• Damien Harris: Rush Att 45% -> *TPRR also down, but monitor health reports

• Brandon Bolden: LDD 100%

• Hunter Henry: TPRR 35%, Targets 29%, Air Yards 37%

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Ezekiel Elliott: Routes 49%

CeeDee Lamb: ADOT 10.8

Cedrick Wilson TPRR 3%, Targets 3%

Brandon Bolden: Rush Att 6%

Jakobi Meyers: TPRR 15%

Nelson Agholor: ADOT 9.8

• Kendrick Bourne: Routes 67%, TPRR 14%, Target 11%, ADOT 4.0, Air Yards 5%

Jonnu Smith: Targets 7%

Notes: Brandon Bolden: routes on season-high 55% of dropbacks, 4 targets; Bolden officially owns the James-White role, handling almost all LDD and two-minute offense work

E. Elliott/T. Pollard: Over the last month, 20.3 touches for 117 total yards per game with six all-purpose TDs for E.E vs. 14 touches for 93.8 with one TD for T.P (E.S. - ETR)

<u>D. Schultz/B. Jarwin:</u> Schultz out-snapped TE teammate 57 to 31 and ran 25 routes to Jarwin's 10 in Week 5's win. Patriots have allowed a league-low 106 yards to tight ends (E.S. - ETR).

<u>D. Harris:</u> O-line played Week 5 w/o 4-of-5 starting OL. A lack of confidence in the rest of NE RBs have led to them sticking with Harris rather than their true commitment to him (E.S. - ETR).

<u>J. Meyers:</u> Cowboys allow the NFL's fifth-most yards to wideouts. The slot man continues to dominate every receiving statistic in New England (E.S. - ETR).

<u>H. Henry/J. Smith:</u> Henry has clearly passed Smith as the Patriots' top receiving tight end, last week running 25 routes to Smith's 8 and out-targeting Jonnu 8 to 2 (E.S. - ETR); Jonnu Smith saw his routes dip to 19% of dropbacks; Henry has caught 10 of 13 targets for 107 yards over the past 2 games and <u>Mac Jones</u> has a passer rating of 110.4 when targeting him this season

N. Agholor: In an offense that strives for run-pass balance and rarely challenges deep, top vertical threat Agholor is understandably struggling to make plays (E.S. - ETR).

SEA @ PIT (-5; 42)

Vegas Spread: PIT 23.5, SEA 18.5

Steve's Rating: PIT -4.5

Last Week: LAR 26 @ SEA 17

- Lockett 10-5-57, DK 5-5-98-2, Dissly 4-2-29; Swain 3-1-9
- Collins 3-2-25 (15-47 rushing), Dallas 2-2-32 (4-7 rushing), Homer 1-1-13 (1-5 rushing)

Last Week: PIT 27 vs DEN 19

- Claypool 6-5-130-1 (Long 59, now 29+ in 3 straight, 22+ in all 4 games)
- Diontae 2-2-72-1 (Long 50, just one target after 50 yd TD in first quarter)
- Najee 23-122-1 / 5-2-20

PFF Grades:

Coverage - SEA #25 / PIT #27

Pass Blk - PIT #6

Pass Rush - PIT #5

Run Blk - SEA #25 / PIT #31

Run Def - PIT #3

DL: PIT #7, SEA #19 **OL:** SEA #14, PIT #29

Snaps & Pace: SEA -> ranks last in time of possession with only 41% on the season

<u>OL/DL Rank & Notes:</u> Steelers DL (#7) > Seahawks OL (#14) - Steelers' DL ranks fifth in pass rush win rate, sixth in pressure %, and third in QB hurry %. Seahawks' OL ranks 26th in adjusted sack rate, 30th in pressure %

<u>WR/DB:</u> UPGRADE -> DK Metcalf/Tyler Lockett vs. Joe Haden/James Pierre: PIT has allowed the 5th most over expected fantasy points to WR's; but temper expectations with Geno

UPGRADE -> Chase Claypool/Diontae Johnson/James Washington vs. D.J. Reed/Sidney **Jones IV/Ugo Amadi**: Seahawks have allowed 194-plus yards to WR's in 4 straight games; allowing 8th most over expected fantasy pts to WRs; only TEN has allowed more yds to WR'

DOWNGRADE -> Chris Carson/Alex Collins: Steelers only defense to have not allowed as many as 12 PPR fantasy points to an opposing running back

Trends: UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Eric Ebron: TPRR 13%

Alex Collins: Snaps 71%, Rush Att 68%

• DeeJay Dallas: Snaps 22%

• Tyler Lockett: TPRR 23%, Targets 32%, ADOT 16.6, Air Yards 50%

• Will Dissly: Routes 77%, Targets 14% -> *Everett likely to return soon though

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

Pat Freiermuth: ADOT 2.5

Travis Homer: Snaps 12%, Rush Att 5%

Notes: DK Metcalf: leads the team in target share (28.4%), Air Yards share (39.9%); Metcalf/Geno hooked up on all three targets for 54 yards and a touchdown against the Rams

Tyler Lockett: target share (26.1%) / Air Yards share (38.8%)

<u>Freddie Swain:</u> has become Seattle's de-facto slot wide receiver, playing on 61.7% of snaps and running a route on 66.7% of dropbacks, most of which are coming out of the slot; running 66.7% of his routes from the slot, earning an 11.2% target share

<u>Gerald Everett:</u> in three games this season, Everett's earned a modest 11.3% target share on a lowly 3.3 aDOT. Having seen no targets beyond nine yards from the line of scrimmage

<u>Alex Collins/DeeJay Dallas:</u> handled 75% of the team's running back carries while also leading the backfield in routes run (57.9%). In Week 5, DeeJay Dallas also handled 60% of the team's two-minute snaps to go along with 20% of the rushing attempts

<u>Diontae Johnson/Chase Claypool:</u> Even after last week's two-target performance, Johnson has a target share advantage (27.2% to 22.6%) while Claypool's 12.5 aDOT has resulted in a higher share of the team's air yards (40.2% to 34.4%); Roethlisberger 30.4% completion rate on 20-plus-yard throws; Seahawks have given up the NFL's fourth-most yards to WR's (1,061); in two games where PIT has been down a WR this year, Claypool has 26% and 25% target shares

<u>Eric Ebron/Pat Freiermuth:</u> Despite leading the duo in routes run (53.8% to 42.3%), Ebron's been out-targeted by Freiermuth (10 to 13); Roethlisberger is 11-of-13 (85%) for 100 yards and a touchdown when targeting Freiermuth.

<u>Najee Harris:</u> is handling 86.7% of the team's running back attempts, including 100% of the carries inside the 5-yard line. He also leads the position in target share (20.1%) and RZ targets (9). SEA has allowed the league's third-most DK points (32.5/game) to RB's; Seahawks have also hemorrhaged a whopping 189.4 total yards per game to enemy running backs

Big Ben: SEA allowing 6th-most yards per pass attempt (8.3) while ranking bottom 10 in sacks

BUF @ TEN (+5.5; 53.5)

Vegas Spread: BUF 29.5, TEN 24.0

Steve's Rating: TEN +5.5

Last Week: TEN 37 @ JAX 19

- Henry 29-130-3 / first game with ZERO targets this year (minimum 2/2/19 in 4 straight)
- Brown 6-3-38 (BUY LOW), Firkser 4-3-33, M Johnson 5-3-52, McNichols 2-2-26

Last Week: BUF 38 @ KC 20

- Allen career-high 12.1 YPA, just 3rd career game w/ YPA 10 or higher -> 15-26-315-3-0
- Allen now 12 TD/2 INT on year, completion of 37+ in every game this season
- Knox 4-3-117-1 (Long 53, 19+ in 3 straight); Diggs 5-2-69 (Long 67, 37+ in 3 of 4)
- Sanders 5-3-54-2 (Long 35, 21+ in 4 straight, 35+ in 3 of 4); Davis/Beasley 3-2-21
- Moss 4-3-55, now 2+ catches in 4 of 5 games (every game except Houston 40-0)

PFF Grades:

Coverage - BUF #1 / TEN #8
Pass Blk - BUF #28 / TEN #26
Pass Rush - BUF #10 / TEN #29
Run Blk - TEN #4
Run Def - TEN #25

DL: BUF #11, TEN #25 **OL:** TEN #19, BUF #11

Snaps & Pace: TEN: 22 pass attempts mostly NOISE (Tannehill 37.8 through first 4 weeks)

<u>WR/DB:</u> UPGRADE -> Stefon Diggs, Emmanuel Sanders and Cole Beasley vs. Janoris Jenkins and, Kristian Fulton, Caleb Farley and Chris Jackson: The Titans' have allowed the most receiving yards to wide receivers this season and 6th-highest yards per target (9.7)

DOWNGRADE -> Titans' A.J. Brown vs. Bills' <u>Tre'Davious White</u> (shadow): KC WR's were targeted 30x vs BUF but were limited to 169 yards; Bills have now faced the ninth-most WR targets this season but have allowed the fewest yards (558), as well as lowest yards per target (5.1) and catch rate (57%) to the position; Brown aligns in slot quite a bit (37% of the time this season), so he'll dodge White about one-third of the time, but BUF also has tough slot coverage

<u>Trends:</u> UP (consecutive weeks) -

• Zack Moss: Snaps 74%, Routes 63%, LDD 89%

• Emmanuel Sanders: Targets 24%

Gabriel Davis: Targets 4%Dawson Knox: Air Yards 35%Chester Rodgerts: ADOT 19.0

DOWN (consecutive weeks) -

• Devin Singletary: Routes 25%, LDD 11%

Cole Beasley: Routes 53%Gabriel Davis: ADOT 13.0

• Derrick Henry: Routes 30%, Targets 0% [:(], TPRR 0%,

Notes: Josh Allen: completed so many deep shots/only attempted 26 passes/completed 15 (volume was victim to efficiency, so don't read too much into things like Diggs' five targets)

<u>Dawson Knox</u>: season-high 90% routes, 106 air yards

Zack Moss: season-high 74% snaps, featured back in huge game; over the past 3 games. He is leading team in short-down-distance, long-down-distance & 2-minute offense situations; 63% routes-per-pass play; over the last three weeks he also has 63% of the leading-script totes

<u>Z. Moss/D. Singletary:</u> In Week 5's defeat of Kansas City, Moss out-snapped Singletary 74% to 26% and out-touched him 14 to 7. Moss also ran 19 pass routes to Singletary's eight. Moss has handled nine carries inside the 10-yard line compared to Singletary's three (E.S. - ETR).

<u>E. Sanders:</u> Sanders leads Bills wide receivers in snaps and routes run nearly every week (E.S. - ETR).

<u>D. Knox:</u> Knox has the highest catch rate (75%) and TD count (5) among Buffalo pass catchers on Allen's throws. Knox also leads the team in targets inside the 10-yard line (4). After playing a season-high 96% of the Bills' Week 5 offensive snaps (E.S. - ETR).

R. Tannehill: Tannehill has absorbed a league-high 20 sacks, while the Bills rank No. 7 in sack rate (7.4%) (E.S. - ETR)

<u>AJ. Brown:</u> He figures to command the Week 6 shadow of Tre'Davious White, who's conceded paltry averages of 5.6 yards per target and 10.5 yards per completion on throws into his coverage (E.S. - ETR)

<u>J. Jones:</u> Julio has been highly efficient when on the field for the Titans, averaging 17.0 yards per catch and matching a career high in yards per target (11.3) (E.S. - ETR)

<u>A. Firkser:</u> Since returning from injury three games ago, Firkser is scoreless and hasn't topped 33 yards while rotating with Geoff Swaim and MyCole Pruitt, both of whom out-snapped him last week (E.S. - ETR)