2006 Green Bay Packers: Player grades

Posted: Jan. 6, 2007

Specialists

Rob Davis: He had another blunder-free snapping season, tied for seventh in special-teams tackles with eight and forced the only fumble. He's 38 and wants to keep playing, but with an expired contract the next call is Ted Thompson's. **Grade:** C

Dave Rayner: Reacted well to the pressure of replacing Ryan Longwell. Ranked 26th in field-goal accuracy (74.3%) and was 18th in average distance per attempt (35.7). Drilled a 44-yarder to beat Minnesota in his only late game-deciding opportunity. According to the NFL, Rayner tied for eighth in average kickoff distance. His average of 66.79, including 68.19 in the first half of the season and 65.26 in the second half, dwarfed Longwell's mark of 62.66 in '05. Rayner's average hang time of 3.88 also was far better than Longwell's 3.60 last year. **Grade: C-**

Jon Ryan: His gross average of 44.5 tied for third best in club annals and was tied for eighth in the league. His net of 35.7, though tied for just 26th in the NFL, was the best in Green Bay since Josh Bidwell also averaged 35.7 in '02. Surprisingly, Ryan had better hang time in Weeks 9-16 (4.08) than he did in Weeks 1-8 (3.90), putting him at 4.0 overall. Ryan didn't have a bad hold all year, a remarkable accomplishment given the fact he never held in Canada. **Grade:** C-

- Bob McGinn

From the Jan. 7, 2007 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel