

2018 Packers Individual Report Card:Offense

By Bob McGinn

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Position-by-position series in which the 70 players on the Green Bay Packers' 53-man roster, reserve/injured and reserve/did not report lists at the end of the season are graded. Playing-time percentages are for offense and defense only.

WIDE RECEIVERS (9)

DAVANTE ADAMS (88.7%): Adams' overwhelming importance to the offense if not the entire team was never more evident than in Game 16. With Adams sitting out (knee), the Packers gained 175 yards and were shut out at home by Detroit. He meant almost everything to this losing team. If it was first and 10 and the offense was backed up, Adams could flank wide and beat any cornerback in the league on a deep out. On third and 4, he could line up anywhere and slip his man. When a big play was needed, he'd usually win deep. Adams was almost impossible to jam because of his fast feet and technically sound hands. The most improved area of his game was simply catching the ball. In Adams' first four seasons his drop rate was 7.6%. He dropped 33 passes from 2014-'17. This season, he dropped merely three of 168. The last receiver in Green Bay with at least 100 targets and a lower drop rate was Donald Driver in 2007 (two of 134). Adams' next order of business should be improvement after the catch. His YAC average of 3.94 ranked last among the five leading wide receivers. Grade: A.

GERONIMO ALLISON (22.4%): Allison was off to a solid start when a core muscle injury ended his season after five games. On a one-back, three-wideout team, he was one of the two starting outside receivers. He dropped too many balls (three of 29) but was No. 1 after the catch (5.50). In three seasons he tightened his routes and became more fluent in the offense. A big body, he is well-schooled at pushing off defenders on third down and in the red zone. Allison isn't a burner but does possess a second gear and can be effective on take-off routes. Grade: C+.

RANDALL COBB (43.3%): Cobb does some good things every season. Without his nine-catch, 142-yard explosion in the opener, the Packers don't beat the Bears in what turned out to be their biggest victory of the year. Strutting about in trademark fashion with his chest stuck out, he looks ready to conquer the world every Sunday. Alas, he has been in street clothes for too many of those Sundays in recent seasons. There's always something wrong. Knee surgery in June limited Cobb to seven snaps in exhibition games. Then he missed Games 4-6 with a hamstring, Games 9-11 with another hamstring and Game 15 with a concussion. He still has some short-area quickness from the slot, posting a YAC average of 5.34. Still, that was just the fifth-best average of his eight-year career. As far as separating deep, forget that. Cobb also dropped too many (six of 60); it wasn't his horrendous catching season of 2015 (14 of 138), but it also was a far cry from 2016 (two of 105). Cobb isn't old (he'll be 29 in August); he's just beat up. If Matt LaFleur insists that he needs Cobb and can convince the bean counters, he'll be back. Grade: C-.

TREVOR DAVIS (0.0%): Recognizing that the young wide receivers had passed Davis by, the Packers worked hard trying to trade him before and after the final roster reduction. They struck out. One hamstring ruined the first half of his season before another sent him to the sidelines after two games returning punts (4-44) in November. With him went the return game. Even now, Davis is head and shoulders above any of the team's motley collection of return men. Other than unrefined speed, he offers next to nothing as a receiver. Because of his cheap contract, he'll likely return. Grade: Incomplete.

JAKE KUMEROW (12.7%): High ankle sprains two straight years in Cincinnati wrecked Kumerow's career there or else he would have been making plays for the Bengals. When GM Brian Gutekunst championed his cause late in 2017, the Packers brought him in and before long saw the size, strength, speed and smarts. At times during August, Kumerow looked like the team's second- or third-best wideout. Then he made a foolish mistake somersaulting into the end zone after a long touchdown catch Aug. 16 against Pittsburgh. By the time the Packers shifted him off injured reserve only five games remained. Other than Adams, he might be the team's most precise route runner even at 6-4 ½ and 209. He also understands zones and knows how to work back to the quarterback. He's set to turn 27 next month so 2019 probably represents his last chance. Grade: D+.

ALLEN LAZARD (0.1%): Gutekunst has a thing for towering receivers. Of the nine, the only one shorter than 6-1 is Cobb at 5-10. On Dec. 18, Gutekunst grabbed Lazard off the Jaguars' practice squad. He's 6-4 ½ and 227, owns a 38-inch vertical jump, a score of 25 on the Wonderlic, and ran 4.58. With a better 40 time, Lazard was productive enough at Iowa State that he would have been drafted. He had just two weeks of practice in Green Bay but was impressive. Grade: Incomplete.

J'MON MOORE (6.9%): He can run routes, he can jump (38-inch vertical) and he can get open. His rookie year was a non-starter, however, because he couldn't catch the ball and the game seemed too big for him mentally. Moore posted a double-digit drop total at Missouri in 2016 before showing the worst hands of any receiver at training camp. The coaches gave him a 42-play shot in Games 4-6 before granting merely 16 snaps in the next nine games. Just one of his three targets was thrown by Aaron Rodgers. Moore doesn't have natural hands, doesn't detail his work and is a slow study. He'll get one more chance in 2019. Grade: F.

EQUANIMEOUS ST. BROWN (33.3%): St. Brown wasn't any better than Moore early. In fact, he never got off the bench in the first month. Unlike Moore, however, he's sharp (Wonderlic of 27) and, as the season wore on, dramatic improvement was evident. Scouts killed St. Brown for lacking toughness at Notre Dame, but in Green Bay it was his ticket for getting on the field. Big and willing, St. Brown's surprising ability as a blocker led the coaches to feature him at times at the point of attack. As a receiver, he showed some pizzazz after the catch (5.38 average). More impressively, he didn't drop any of his 36 targets. And, he runs 4.47. St. Brown offered promise of a bright future. Grade: C.

MARQUEZ VALDES-SCANTLING (64.4%): Only five rookie wideouts topped MVS's 581 receiving yards: Calvin Ridley (821), DJ Moore (788), Courtland Sutton (704), Christian Kirk (590) and Antonio Callaway (586). MVS, the 19th wide receiver selected, used his burning speed to get deep after becoming the No. 2 following injuries to Cobb, Allison and Kumerow. He had four of the team's 16 receptions of 40 yards or more. If Rodgers hadn't been so inaccurate deep, he might have doubled that total. A lean 6-4 and 206, he's better outside the numbers but didn't seem timid inside. He needs work on his releases against press and finding openings in the red zone (two touchdowns). His drop rate (four of 71) and YAC mark (5.32) will be encouraging to the new staff. Grade: C+.

TIGHT ENDS (4)

JIMMY GRAHAM (74.0%): It can be assumed that a major reason the Packers gave Graham \$11 million guaranteed on a three-year deal was the 10 touchdowns he scored for Seattle in 2017 and the 69 he put up in eight NFL seasons. In a way, he would replace Jordy Nelson as Aaron Rodgers' end-zone binky. It never happened. His scant total of two TDs included a 3-yard pick route against Buffalo and a 15-yard over route against New England. He did catch 55 balls, mostly in the short flat, short middle and short on check-downs. His lone reception for more than 35 yards was a 54-yard over route against the 49ers that was caught 16 yards downfield following a blown assignment. His second longest gain (34 yards) came when Vikings CB Mackenzie Alexander just let him go on a wheel route. His days of stretching a defense vertically are beyond him. Graham was OK at everything. He dropped six of 83 targets, drew two penalties and averaged 4.49 after the catch. His blocking wasn't awful, either, with only 1 ½ "bad" runs. He lined up in a three-point stance on just 25.2% of his snaps. The Packers used him primarily as a split receiver but he didn't have the legs to make it a success. Grade: C.

LANCE KENDRICKS (29.3%): He averaged 22.4 snaps in Mike McCarthy's 12 games and 11.5 in Joe Philbin's four games. That was due in part to the fact the Packers didn't have a fullback until Dec. 1. When the Packers used a two-back set before that Kendrick performed as the fullback on 65 snaps. In 2018, Kendrick sliced his "bad" run total from six to one-half and his dropped passes from four to three. He also averaged 5.84 after the catch compared to 4.67 in his first season with the Packers. The Milwaukee native played all 32 games in Green Bay as a base tight end, H-back, wing, split receiver and fullback. He earned his two-year, \$4 million contract. He'll be 31 next week and his contract has expired. Teams could do worse than employing Kendrick in a backup capacity. Grade: D+.

MARCEDES LEWIS (17.8%): The Packers took a shot on Lewis a month after the draft with \$500,000 guaranteed in a one-year deal. A monster of a man, the 34-year-old Lewis was the type of aging, block-first tight end that Mike McCarthy never wanted. If the Packers had made a serious attempt to run the ball, the move would have made some sense. Lewis played with his hand down on 79.6% of his 191 snaps. There were instances, especially on down blocks, in which he controlled a defensive end. Too often, however, he would make contact and then either slide off or fail to sustain the block. As a result of athletic slippage, Lewis was less effective blocking in space. The coaching staff tried to use his size as an in-close touchdown-maker (he had five for Jacksonville in 2017) but that never went anywhere. His first targeted pass came in Game 8, and he finished with three receptions and no scores. Retirement awaits. Grade: D.

ROBERT TONYAN (6.2%): A Lions' reject, Tonyan separated himself from an excellent corps of tight ends in August and made the team. He was the only tight end with speed but the coaches just didn't trust him. Tonyan didn't play a snap in the first month and had to settle for 23 snaps in McCarthy's 12 games. Under Philbin, he received 44 snaps. With his hand down (26.9%), Tonyan showed a surprising degree of aggressiveness as a blocker for someone that weighed just 231 in March 2017. On his first target of the season he used his big frame to shield Seahawks SS Bradley McDougald for a 54-yard catch. But then, on his fifth and final target, he dropped a fourth-and-5 inside route at the Detroit 11. Tonyan should have played more. Grade: D.

OFFENSIVE LINE (12)

DAVID BAKHTIARI (96%): Turned in another solid season but it was hardly his best. Bakhtiari broke down more often in pass protection, most notably off the edge and on secondary moves. Early in his career he got beat inside too much. Now, for some reason, outside rushes tend to be more of a problem. He allowed 29 ½ pressures, which I've always defined as the combination of sacks, knockdowns and hurries. That's his most since 2014 (33), and well above his totals last year (17 ½) and in 2016 (19). He was charged with six sacks, his highest total since his rookie season of 2013 (6 ½). He allowed 8 ½ "bad" runs, up from six a year ago. The staff to a degree featured Bakhtiari's ability to hit on the move with 14 runs in which he pulled outside and the gain was 93 yards (6.6). He had four penalties, giving him just 11 from 2016-'18 compared to 28 from 2013-'15. Grade: B.

BYRON BELL (49%): When the Packers elected not to re-sign 35-year-old Jahri Evans, who had 87.1% playing time at right guard in 2017, they signed Bell on May 30 (one year, \$1.6 million, \$500,000 guaranteed) as a security blanket. His 74 starts for the Panthers, Titans and Cowboys included 66 at tackle and eight at guard (one at RG). With Justin McCray not playing well and then suffering an injury in Game 3, Bell got the call at right guard and remained there until suffering a season-ending knee injury in Game 12. At 30, Bell is a massive plodder (6-5 ½, 339) who offers next to nothing at the linebacker level, either in the run game or on screens. Yet, for all the knocks he surely took from opposing scouts, his level of performance wasn't bad. Although he didn't play nearly as much as Evans his pressure total of 13 ½ compared favorably to Evans' 28 ½. Not only were his 13 ½ pressures the fewest of the top eight offensive linemen but so was his sack total of one-half. His "bad" run count of 8 ½ also looked good compared to Evans' 15 ½. Bell knows how to use his mass and 34 ½-inch arms to his advantage. He was the least effective pull-blocker on the No. 1 line (9-28) but he wasn't penalized all season. Bell plays like he really loves the game. No team would enter a season with Bell as its starter but the Packers could do worse than to bring him back. Grade: C.

BRYAN BULAGA (72.7%): Ever since they signed Bulaga to a five-year, \$33.75 million deal in March 2015 the Packers have been praying he could somehow get to the end of it without suffering a career-ending injury and leaving them with a pile of dead money. Well, he made it, and now the Packers are off the hook other than his \$5.8 million base salary in 2019. This season, knee and back injuries knocked him out of four games but he kept fighting back and made 14 starts. Bulaga isn't what he once was due to the avalanche of injuries but the man still can play. His pressure total of 18 ½ ranked fourth fewest on the line. His "bad" run count of five was the fewest. His worst statistic was eight penalties, the most of his career since 2010 (10). At this point, the Packers are a much better team with Bulaga on the field even if it won't be 100% of the time. Grade: B-.

ALEX LIGHT (2.4%): Light made the club as a rookie free agent from Richmond but wasn't active until Game 13. In all, he played 26 snaps, all but one at right guard. Light made an impression because he looked respectable at left tackle in camp. He can't run at all (5.55) but has enormous hands (11 ¼ inches) and an aggressive play style. Grade: Incomplete.

COREY LINSLEY (100%): This was the third time in Linsley's five seasons that he played every snap (1,075). His efficiency can't be denied. He didn't have a single penalty or bad shotgun snap. He isn't big, overly powerful or a top athlete. He is really smart and maximizes his ability. Much like Bakhtiari, the other mainstay of the unit, Linsley didn't have his best season. His pressure total of 19 was the highest of his career. Included in that total were 4 ½ sacks, his high since allowing seven in '15. Linsley also had more misses in the run game reflected by his team-high total of 12 "bad" runs. Still, that was a decrease from 15 in 2017. The Packers would be lost without Linsley. The three-year, \$25.5 million (\$8M guaranteed) extension that he was given in December 2017 was money well spent. Grade: B.

COLE MADISON (0.0%): A fifth-round draft from Washington State, he participated in off-season work but didn't report for training camp July 25 and hasn't been heard from since. It was a poor year in the draft for guards but the Packers rolled the dice and made him the sixth guard taken. He played 47 games at right tackle for the Cougars but marginal arm length (32 ¼) probably mandated a move to guard in the NFL. Big, muscular bodies change fast without stringent workout programs. It might not be too late for a return but if he plans to play Madison would need to start heavy training now. Grade: Incomplete.

JUSTIN MCCRAY (44.7%): When Madison was a no-show the No. 1 berth at right guard went by default to McCray. He proved incapable of being a reliable starter in the first three games, lost his position and then was a healthy inactive for Games 7-8. When injuries struck teammates he played extensively in five more games down the stretch, including two starts at right guard. McCray is physical. He uses his mass pretty well in close quarters. He tries to finish. Faster-twitched defensive linemen give him fits when they get to his sides. He doesn't move well laterally and his balance is suspect. His pressure total of 17 was a significant decrease from 28 a year ago when he played 56.7%. However, his "bad" run count rose from five to nine. The fact McCray can play all five positions in a pinch together with his top character give him a chance to play in the league for several more years. Grade: D+.

ADAM PANKEY (0.1%): In two seasons on scholarship Pankey has played one snap from scrimmage. An undrafted player from West Virginia, Pankey played all four positions in training camp. The old staff saw something in Pankey: maybe it was his large hands (10 5/8), solid arm length (34) or adequate intelligence (22 on the Wonderlic). His height (6-4 ½) says guard. The new staff might just move on, but any offensive lineman with experience these days is hard to dismiss out of hand. Grade: Incomplete.

LUCAS PATRICK (26%): He had to be content as the non-playing top reserve at the three interior positions for 12 weeks. Then Lane Taylor and Bell went down and Patrick had to play 91.8% in Games 13-16. The best thing that can be said about Patrick is he plays his butt off. He goes to the whistle and sometimes beyond, working to finish no matter how decorated his opponent might be. Last year, he played 21.7%. His numbers in 2018 were worse: 14 pressures compared to nine, five "bad" runs compared to one. Much like McCray, he's a liability against quickness and can't do much downfield. They say tough guys play, but even the toughest of guys need to have more ability than Patrick possesses. It's possible center could be his best position, but with Linsley being such a rock the Packers don't know for sure. Grade: D.

NICO SIRAGUSA (0.0%): The Packers plucked Siragusa off Baltimore's practice squad on Dec. 12 and he was inactive for three games. The Ravens' fourth-round draft choice in 2017 spent his entire rookie season on injured reserve with a knee injury. Then he was let go on the final cut in his second training camp and spent 14 weeks on the practice squad. A massive man (6-4, 320, 5.34), he was a three-year starter at left guard for San Diego State. His vertical jump of 32 inches led the guards in the '17 draft. Smart (Wonderlic of 28), big hands (10 5/8), OK arm length (33 ½). Before that draft some scouts wondered just how much he loved the game. Grade: Incomplete.

JASON SPRIGGS (27.1%): Before his third season Spriggs decided to add a bunch of weight in an effort to avoid getting tossed about so often. It did help him to an extent as a run blocker; his “bad” run total was just 3 ½ after seasons of seven in 2017 and 7 ½ in ’16. Spriggs obviously isn’t capable of displacing stout defensive linemen but he didn’t end up on the ground as often. Bulking up, however, had the opposite effect when it came to halting the up-field rush. Playing 281 snaps at right tackle and 10 more at left, he was constantly beat around the corner by speed, foot movement and hand placement. Spriggs was penalized seven times, seven more than last year and five more than in 2016. He lacked concentration (four false starts) and fundamentals (three holds). In all, Spriggs gave up 16 pressures compared to 17 in ’17 and 14 in ’16. Ted Thompson’s decision to give up fourth- and seventh-round picks in order to move up nine slots and select Spriggs in the middle of the second round in 2016 was a failure. The Packers have to move on from Spriggs and force themselves to find another backup tackle. Grade: F.

LANE TAYLOR (82%): Taylor’s career had been on a steady upward arc since 2015 when his vulnerabilities against both quick-footed and power pass rushers were exposed like never before this season. He couldn’t cope on a consistent basis with people on his edges or players that tried to walk him back down the middle. In his first two seasons as a starter, Taylor covered up his weaknesses with a hands-outside style of pass blocking and a big, barrel chest. He absorbed on impact. At 29, Taylor could no longer do it. His sack total of 8 ½ was the most yielded in Green Bay since Don Barclay was gouged for nine in 2015. Taylor had given up only three and two sacks in his first two years as a regular. He also was charged with a team-leading 30 ½ pressures compared to 21 ½ last year and 28 ½ in 2016. Josh Sitton, the left guard that Taylor replaced, never allowed more than 18 ½ pressures in his seven seasons as a starter. Taylor’s run blocking remained steady; his total of 9 ½ “bad” runs was comparable to the nine and 13 that he allowed in 2016-’17. Plus, the coaches didn’t pull him nearly as much as they did the year before. The ineffectiveness of the screen game was due in large part to the marginal athleticism and speed at guard from Taylor, Bell, McCray and Patrick. Grade: D+.

QUARTERBACKS (3)

TIM BOYLE (0.0%): When Brett Hundley was traded the day before the last exhibition game, Boyle was kept as a No. 3. It was the fourth time in five years that the Packers retained a No. 3 quarterback on their opening-day 53: Scott Tolzien in 2014, Hundley in ’15, Joe Callahan in ’16 and Boyle in ’18. In ’17, the Packers went with two after releasing rookie Taysom Hill, who was claimed by the Saints. Boyle never took a snap after playing 107 in the exhibition season, 62 more than Hill had the summer before. He’s big (6-3 ½, 232) and he can run (4.78). A pocket passer, he stood tall in the pocket and delivered a fairly accurate ball. As a collegian at Connecticut and Eastern Kentucky, he threw 26 interceptions compared to 12 touchdowns. Mike McCarthy liked him. Matt LaFleur might not. Grade: Incomplete.

DESHONE KIZER (5.8%): In effect, GM Brian Gutekunst gave up Hundley for Kizer, a player he liked coming out of Notre Dame and in his 15 winless starts for the Browns in 2017. The new staff in Cleveland rejected Kizer out of hand and didn’t want him around; when the Packers offered Damarious Randall, they immediately accepted. During a 14-play stint in relief of an injured Aaron Rodgers in the opener, Kizer couldn’t have looked worse. After a four-month wait, he played 47 snaps for an injured Rodgers in the finale and was equally inept. He ended up with two interceptions (there were two other awful passes that should have been picked) and one lost fumble. After completing 51% of his passes in the 2017 exhibition season and 53.6% in the ’17 regular season, he finished with 53.3% in the 2018 exhibition games and 47.6% in the regular season. Kizer has a big arm and can make impressive throws. He also doesn’t know where the ball’s going too often and makes frequent bone-headed decisions. After extensive experience over two injury-free seasons he remains erratic and untrustworthy. His best asset is getting his big body moving and taking off. Grade: F.

AARON RODGERS (94.2%): Began the season as the odds-on favorite to be the league's MVP and ended it having played his poorest season. In August, there were practices in which Rodgers was way off the mark and struggled even to complete a pass downfield. When the season started, not much changed. Week after week he failed to hit open receivers on the type of passes he would have completed in his sleep during his salad days. His 62.3% accuracy rate included 30 dropped passes, the team's lowest total since 2013, and 41 throwaways, nine more than in his last full season (2016). He played a too-cautious game, which led in part to breaking Damon Huard's NFL record for lowest interception percentage (0.3%). Statistically, it was Rodgers' lone achievement in a lost season. He was healthy enough to start 16 games. The highlights were come-from-behind rallies that defeated the Bears, 49ers and Jets. His late-game efforts failed against the Vikings, Cardinals and Bears. Rodgers was an effective runner, ranking 12th among quarterbacks with 269 yards (6.3). He hesitated to stand tall and trade a hit for the additional time required for a receiver to clear. He was responsible for 13 sacks (nine full, eight half), a team-leading number that doubled his total of 6 ½ in 2011, which was his greatest statistical season. Rushers were more alert to his sorties through the middle and came off blocks to trap him. At times, Rodgers exhibited a body language unbecoming the highest-paid player in the league. He appeared to quibble with play calls, disregard coaching and disrespect teammates. Tight end Mercedes Lewis detailed a situation in which Rodgers blatantly blew off the play from the sidelines and simply did his own thing. Others painted the same kind of picture. In a tweet, former assistant head coach Winston Moss took a rip at the quarterback for being difficult to handle. Despite incessant hard counts, Rodgers goaded the opponent into only six off-sides penalties. His own teammates jumped more often. He caught the opposition with 12 men on the field four times. Most weeks, Rodgers would make a throw or two that could take your breath away. He has a phenomenal release, uncanny ability to manipulate a defense with his eyes and spins a tight spiral that is eminently catchable. The assumption by many is that Rodgers' career will proceed onward and upward even as he's set to turn 36 next season. Since the 6-0 start in 2015, however, his regular-season record stands at 24-24-1. What that translates to is mediocrity. In other words, it's possible we've seen the best of Rodgers. Grade: C+.

RUNNING BACKS (6)

KAPRI BIBBS (1.6%): When the Packers needed a No. 2 back to replace injured Aaron Jones they claimed Bibbs off waivers from Washington Dec. 18. He played 17 snaps in the finale and caught three check-downs. The Broncos thought enough of Bibbs, an undrafted player from Colorado State in 2014, to keep him around for three years before trading him to the 49ers in April 2017. Bibbs is experienced (71 carries, 311 yards, 4.4-yard average, 32 receptions) to warrant another look. He just doesn't run fast (4.65) for his size (5-9 ½, 203). Grade: D.

TRA CARSON (0.0%): He spent five weeks on the 53 but the coaches never played him a down from scrimmage before a rib injury suffered on special teams sent him to injured reserve. Carson had one big season (1,165 yards) at Texas A&M but wasn't drafted in 2016 due in part to a 4.65 clocking at pro day. He has a long list of injuries in college, in two seasons for the Bengals and now for the Packers. Grade: Incomplete.

LAVON COLEMAN (0.0%): Coleman was signed to the practice squad the same day (Oct. 31) that Carson was promoted from there to the 53. Much like Bibbs and Carson, Coleman wasn't drafted in large part because he can't run. His 40 time at the combine was 4.67. Less than a week later, he ran 4.65 at his pro day. At 5-11, 216, that isn't good enough. The Texans thought enough of Coleman after the draft to give him \$24,000 in guaranteed money before letting him go on the cut to 53. He also spent eight weeks on Seattle's practice squad. Grade: Incomplete.

AARON JONES (35%): As a rookie, Jones averaged 5.53 yards in 81 carries. In 2018, he averaged 5.47 in 133 carries. He also increased his reception total from nine to 26 and trimmed his pressures allowed total from six to one. All in all, it was a successful second season for Jones, the Packers' first legitimate threat in the backfield since Eddie Lacy in 2013-'14. Late in the season an NFC North personnel man said of Jones, "He's electric." And he is. If a hole is there, Jones will exploit it in a hurry. He beats defenders to the spot with a jackrabbit start and courageous acceleration through the opening. His torrid average isn't the result of breaking an abnormal number of tackles. It's more the fact that he's a quick hitter and often gains an extra yard or two by hitting tacklers before they're ready to knock him back. In two seasons Jones has a manageable three drops in 48 targets. He's not the quickest of studies by any means, but his assignments seemed to be somewhat improved in Year 2. The only red flag is injury. Knee injuries knocked him out of three games as a rookie. In 2018, he sat out the first two exhibition games with a hamstring and missed the last 2 ½ games in December with another sprained knee. Even coach Mike McCarthy's conservative plan not to overwork Jones both seasons in fear of injury didn't bear fruit. Grade: B.

DANNY VITALE (1.8%): After releasing Aaron Ripkowski Sept. 1, the Packers went without a fullback until Vitale was moved up from the practice squad for the last five games. In some ways, Vitale is a fullback in name only. He logged just 19 snaps in Games 12-16 (all five were played in 45 degrees or less) because he isn't really a blocker. The Browns drafted him in the sixth round out of Northwestern in 2016, and started him nine times in 24 games in 2016-'17. For the Wildcats, Vitale's position was "superback." He caught 135 passes for 11 touchdowns as a three-year starter. His 40 time of 4.59 surpassed that of Bibbs, Carson and Coleman. Grade: D.

JAMAAL WILLIAMS (48.7%): Durability, dependability and toughness make Williams an asset. He hasn't missed a game in two seasons despite 330 touches. He doesn't have a fumble, either. Unlike Jones, he isn't a breakaway threat even though his 40 time of 4.54 bettered Jones' 4.58. Williams' only gain for more than 30 yards was a 54-yard screen pass at Pittsburgh in 2017. His average per rush in two seasons is 3.72. He gets what's blocked, maybe a little bit more. Williams plays with perpetual fury. If defenders aren't prepared for his intensity, they'll pay a price. The coaches couldn't ask for a more willing participant against the blitz. Protection, however, isn't just blood and guts. His pressures allowed total jumped from one to 6 ½ for a variety of reasons, but obviously that needs to be improved. Williams won't win games by himself. In a complementary arrangement, however, he can be a valuable contributor. Grade: B-