

2016 Packers Individual Report Card:Specialists

By Bob McGinn

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SPECIALISTS (3)

Hunter Bradley (31.4%): When the Packers drafted Bradley in the seventh round, he became the fourth long snapper selected in the last eight drafts. At least Bradley, who had three torn ACLs from 2011-'13, played every game. By far Bradley's worst moment was his missed block that led to a blocked punt by Miami RB Brandon Bolden. Four days later in Seattle his snap on Mason Crosby's miss from 47 yards was low and on another JK Scott had to field it off the turf. That seemingly left Bradley on thin ice but the Packers stayed with him and he probably did his best work in the last six games. Bradley wasn't as consistent or as accurate as Brett Goode during most of his 10 seasons in Green Bay. He made one tackle. Given Bradley's up-and-down rookie season, the Packers still can't be comfortable at long snapper. **Grade: D.**

Mason Crosby (33.3%): After an exceptional August, Crosby made his first six field goals in the regular season. Then, after being iced by Vikings coach Mike Zimmer just before a successful boot from 52 yards, Crosby was wide left on the reload as time expired in regulation. He had two other game-winning attempts: he connected from 27 as time expired to beat San Francisco and he missed from 49 wide right as time expired in a 20-17 loss to Arizona that cost Mike McCarthy his job. Crosby's poorest game ever came in a dome, of all places. At Ford Field, he missed an extra point and field goals from 41, 42, 38 and 56 yards, with two of the five misfires in the 31-23 defeat bouncing off an upright. His long, 53 yards, came against the Rams in Los Angeles, and on a 25-degree day against Atlanta he made difficult kicks from 50 and 48, starting him on an eight-for-eight streak to end the season. In all, Crosby made 30 of 37 for 81.1%, a mark that ranked 23rd in the league and was the sixth best of his career, and 34 of 36 extra points (94.4%). His 80 kickoffs averaged 67.6 yards, his low since 2013, and 3.86 seconds of hang time. He had 41 touchbacks. Crosby had been able to take pride in his tackling over the years but, at 34, he was strangely unable to get people down or rerouted in his 12th season. **Grade: C-.**

JK Scott (31.6%): Scott, a fifth-round pick and the second of four punters drafted, ranked fifth in net average among the seven rookie punters. In order, the rookies were Seattle's Michael Dickson (sixth, 42.5, fifth round), Jacksonville's Logan Cooke (11th, 41.3, seventh round), Buffalo's Corey Bojorquez (tied for 20th, 39.4, free agent), Houston's Trevor Daniel (tied for 23rd, 39.1, free agent), Scott (tied for 26th, 38.8, fifth round), Oakland's Johnny Townsend (29th, 38.3, fifth round) and Denver's Colby Wadman (32nd, 37.9, free agent). Scott tied for 22nd in gross average at 44.7, which tied for the third highest mark in team history. GM Brian Gutekunst, in making Scott the 10th punter drafted by Green Bay in the last 38 years, said he was a "rare" prospect. Shortly after the Packers selected Scott, personnel man Matt Malaspina said, "It's just competition. By no means is it over." It certainly was over because six days later the Packers released Justin Vogel, their All-NFC North rookie punter who had ranked seventh in net with a club-record average of 41.7. Vogel's agent, Drew Rosenhaus, had requested his client's release. Since when does an agent tell a team what to do? Besides, Scott was just two years removed from almost quitting football because of tendinitis in his knees. Protect yourself, let the best man win and maybe find a trade partner at the end of training camp. Scott turned out to be just the way several special-teams coaches portrayed him before the draft: a hang-time specialist whose directional punting needed work. Scott's average hang time of 4.55 seconds was the best by a Packer from 2000-'18, surpassing Tim Masthay's 4.35 in 2012. Ten of Scott's 71 punts hung for more than 5 seconds. By the same token, five of the 71 hung for less than 4. Probably the most disappointing aspect was his directional work. His inside-the-20 mark of 26.8% (19 of 71) ranked 30th and his touchback mark of 12.7% (9 of 71) ranked 32nd. Vogel was fourth in touchback rate (two of 71). There were too many games in which Scott had one lousy punt (middle of the field, low, short or out of bounds), and it cost the team. His holding was solid, although he was fortunate not to have been intercepted in Washington on a panicky pass after a low snap on a field-goal attempt. Scott is a worker with a pleasing personality. His seven kickoffs in exhibition games showed promise. His career could go either way. **Grade: D.**