

The Mind Behind the Decisions

Greg Kellogg is the mind behind the Angst.

This is his 1998 Analysis Draft team and the reasoning for the selections made.

QB:  **Bledsoe**  **Mitchell**

RB:  **Sanders**  **Hearst**  **Barber**  **Shehee** 

WR:  **Martin**  **Small**  **Hilliard**

WR:  **CJones**  **Ricks**  **Hastings**

TE:  **Coates**  **Mayes**

PK:  **Andersen**  **Hall**

Pick	Player	NFL	Analysis
1.02	RB Sanders		<p>I was set to trade this pick away if Barry were taken with the first pick of the draft. With the Lenz pick of Brett Favre, I decided to stay with the one player I have always coveted, yet never had.</p> <p>Barry, to me, is an obvious pick over Terrell due to his consistency. Also, with the Elway "I don't know if I will play or retire" situation, I felt that Davis was not as sure a bet for the upcoming season as Barry is.</p> <p>Anyway, with 4 straight 1500 plus yard seasons behind him, and a 2000 yarder just last year, I expect Barry to once again break the 1500 yard barrier and to match last season's 14 TDs.</p>
2.11	RB Garrison Hearst		<p>This choice presented me with a multitude of options. I really liked Napoleon Kaufman with this pick but opted for Garrison based on the changes made in the off season.</p> <p>I feel the release of Terry Kirby (7 TDs) and William Floyd (4 TDs) will mean an increased use of Garrison Hearst. San Francisco showed that they</p>

			<p>could run the ball last season and Hearst showed that he could get the job done. Teamed up with Barry Sanders, I feel I have the nucleus to put last year's shame well behind me.</p> <p>Just think, last season I had Jamal Anderson and Chris Warren. This year I have Barry Sanders (2358 total yards and 14 TDs) and Garrison Hearst (1213 total yards and 6 TDs) to start. Quite an upgrade. Now if Hearst can pick up a third of Kirby and Floyd's production, I will be adding I could be adding 218 rushing yards and 3 rushing TDs and 200 receiving yards and 1 receiving TD to those totals. And if he can play the whole year instead of just 13 games, those numbers could put him in top 5 status.</p>
3.02	QB Drew Bledsoe		<p>Again I was presented with a quandary concerning a Raiders player. Do I take last year's 3rd rated FanEx QB (Jeff George - 174 Pts - 10.9 ppg) and risk a repeat of Jeff's temper tantrums or do I take a safer pick with a tougher schedule?</p> <p>I opted for what I consider to be the safer pick by selecting New England's Drew Bledsoe. Drew managed to throw for 3706 yards and 28 TDs despite being without his top receiver most of last season. With the loss of Curtis Martin, I feel that Drew will be forced into even more passing attempts this season, and he is a very accurate thrower, regardless of who is on the receiving end.</p> <p>I look for 3800 yards passing and 30 TDs from Drew Bledsoe this season, and am hoping he can cut down on last year's 15 picks. I had considered trading down with this pick, but what was offered, when compared to where I would have been picking made it impossible to justify.</p>
TRADE	.		<p>.Atlanta Angst Kellogg 4.11 + 6.11 for Team Kneivel Harris-Bryant 3.10 + 9.10</p> <p>I had to drop 3 rounds (from the 6th to the 9th) to acquire the pick that made this selection possible, but I feel that it will be much easier to get quality WRs from here out than it ever would have to get a quality TE had I not made the deal.</p>
3.10	TE Ben Coats		<p>I believe that to win in a competitive league, you must dominate at each position. Year after year Shannon Sharpe and Ben Coates lead TEs in scoring.</p> <p>This season I see Coates as the top TE in the league and with my 3rd round pick of Bledsoe, this was a hookup I really wanted to get. I might have gone with Sharpe had it not been for two considerations. One, he has fought injury problems his entire career and two, I am convinced that Elway will retire and that this will have a very negative effect on all of the Broncos.</p>
5.02	WR Tony Martin		<p>I had hoped to be able to select Isaac Bruce or Carl Pickens here. I had figured that their poor seasons last year would drop them to this area. But that was not to be.</p> <p>Still T-Mart is a valuable commodity at this position. He is a player that is certainly the dominate WR on his team and I can remember vividly how disgusted he got last season when he would break free to see the ball sail 10 yards behind him.</p>

			<p>Last season Martin "dropped" to 900+ yards and 6 scores. I am expecting a great improvement with the addition of Leaf. I am counting on him for 80+ catches for 1200 yards and 10 TDs in the coming year.</p> <p>[Note: A few days after this selection, Martin was traded from SD to ATL.]</p>
7.02	QB Scott Mitchell		<p>I had thought about going for a WR with this pick. I am still two starters shy. But I feel all of the WRs that are available have some question marks. Alexander is on a new team that has never featured two WRs, and reports have not been all that glowing anyway.</p> <p>So why Scott Mitchell? With Bledsoe, I have a solid starter who should produce week in and week out. In the scoring of the analysis teams, the top scorers at each position will automatically be counted. So while I should get steady and sometimes spectacular results with Drew, Scott offers me the potential to dominate at the QB position on any given week.</p> <p>A quick glance at 1997 shows that Scott scored in double digits 7 times. Mitchell finished 1995 second in the QB rankings with just 1.5 points per game less than Favre. He finished ninth in 1996 and eleventh in 1997. Each season in the top twelve.</p> <p>I had considered Blake (too risky) and Moon (close here) but decided to go with another Lion in the hopes of a return to near 1995 numbers.</p>
8.11	RB Tiki Barber		<p>Yeah I know I need a WR. But in looking over who the remaining RBs were I noticed that there was only one possible starter remaining.</p> <p>Okay, so I have been tooting Wheatley's horn for 3 years. After awhile you have to put pure talent away and go with attitude.</p> <p>After talking to Bob Harris last night I became convinced that Barber will be the starter for the Giants this year. And think how sweet it will be if it comes to pass, that I chose this player because my biggest rival not only tipped me to his status, but also selected Charles Way the pick before I got Barber.</p> <p>Barber managed 500 yards and 3 TDs rushing combined with another 300 yards and 1 TD receiving in limited time last season. If he does just that I will be happy, but if he is given the nod as the starter, I can see 800-900 yards rushing with 5-7 TDs and another 400 yards receiving with one or two more TDs, which would make him a much better addition than any of the WRs that are currently available.</p>
9.02	WR Torrance Small		<p>I had hoped to nab Chrebet here, but Lenz must have read my mind. Instead I select an underrated WR that has spent the off season working with new incoming rookie QB Peyton Manning.</p> <p>Torrance is another of those big receivers that I covet. He stands in at 6'3" and 201 pounds. Though he has never exceeded 50 catches, 800 yards or 5 TDs, this is only the second season that he will start as a clear cut number 2 receiver and he will be doing it with a very poised and talented rookie quarterback. One would imagine that Harrison will be the top receiver on this year's Colt's team, I really like the fact that it is Small and not Harrison working out with Manning.</p>

			<p>It can't hurt to develop a chemistry early. I am hopeful for 800 yards and 7 TDs from Torrance.</p>
9.10	WR Ike Hilliard		<p>It is time for a little risk. Hilliard, though coming off an injury, is reported to be fine. And if last season's preseason is any indication of how this kid can perform, then I look for a very nice return for a late ninth round pick.</p> <p>Though he only played in two regular season games and was limited to 2 receptions for 42 yards, I believe he is well worth the risk this season. Ike's six foot frame gives me my third six foot plus WR. I feel that QBs looking for a WR in the red zone tend to focus in on those big guys, so look for that theme to continue in my next several picks of WRs.</p> <p>Kanell has shown growth and we know that Fassel was widely believed to be the force behind the resurgence of the Cardinal's offensive improvements. I believe that Hilliard, if he returns from his injury, could be a 1000 yard, 8 TD kind of receiver.</p>
10.11	WR Charlie Jones		<p>My pick for the surprise of the 1998 season is smurf-like WR Charlie Jones of San Diego.</p> <p>I feel that Charlie has quite a future in this league. He came into the league as a little known receiver out of Fresno State. After a stellar college career that saw him set an FSU record for career receptions at 187 for 3,344 yards and 25 TDs Charlie surprised everyone by outperforming the more highly publicized Brian Still.</p> <p>He appeared in 14 games, starting 4 and finished his rookie season second on the Chargers in receiving yards and TDs. He finished third in receptions. Charlie followed up his rookie season by starting in 11 of the 16 games he appeared in. And though his 97 numbers were down from his rookie season, I attribute that more to the problems at the QB position than to any problems that Jones might have had.</p> <p>With the departure of talented Tony Martin, someone will have to pick up the slack. And, coincidentally, handle all those extra throws. Why not Jones?</p>
11.02	WR Mikhael Ricks		<p>Wow Greg, what are you thinking taking two Charger WRs in a row? And why the rookie?</p> <p>Well, we all know that Leaf will look for one WR to become comfortable with. We also know that SD will be trailing much of the time.</p> <p>With the player I really think will be the top receiver already on my roster, I decided to go for a little insurance. So I looked closely at the choices.</p> <p>You have Bryan Still, the perennial disappointment. You also have Webster Slaughter, a great pro that has 12 years of experience, but is 33 years old and couldn't catch on with anyone last season. And you have rookie Mikhael Ricks, the rookie from Stephen F. Austin.</p> <p>As I said earlier, I love size on a WR and Ricks definitely</p>

			<p>fits that description. This guy is a monster at 6'5" and 237 pounds. Nice target when he matches up against a 5'8" CB on a fade route wouldn't you say?</p> <p>This pick is a stretch. I know that. But name a rookie receiver in a better situation. And I would rather go with an unknown rookie than a guy that I know will only get me 5 scores a year.</p>
12.11	RB Rashaan Shehee		<p>Rashaan Shehee was one of my picks as a rookie sleeper, due to a couple of things.</p> <p>First he showed that, when healthy, he can play ball with anyone. He has had trouble staying healthy, but was able to come back very quickly from a partially torn ACL to dominate a pretty good Michigan State team last season.</p> <p>Second, Shehee is in what I consider to be an ideal situation. He is on a team that has very good run blockers. He has a coach that likes to run first. And there is no breakaway, take it to the house, type back other than him on the roster.</p> <p>These things combine to make Shehee well worth a 12th round pick.</p>
13.02	TE Alonzo Mayes		<p>I considered (briefly) snagging the recently freed Greg Clark here, but decided against it for a couple of reasons. <i>[Editor note: TE Clark was announced as selected at #13.01, but not accepted by the commissioner due to the team missing the selection deadline.]</i></p> <p>I didn't think it the most ethical of moves, so even had I wanted him badly I would have passed. Also, I am concerned that Irv Smith will limit his touches this upcoming season.</p> <p>So in deciding who to choose, I came down to two TEs that were desirable to me. Itula Mili, thought to be the best pass receiving TE in last season's draft, or Alonzo Mayes who was projected by many to be the top TE in this year's draft.</p> <p>I took the advice of an Internet friend (who shall remain nameless just in case he also wants to try and snag Mayes late) who assured me that Mayes' combination of size, speed and hands would create problems similar to those of Eric Green for defensive coordinators this season.</p> <p>If the kid can live up to that, he should be an outstanding addition to the Angst stable of receivers.</p>
14.11	PK Morten Andersen		<p>Arguably the finest place kicker in the history of the NFL, Morten was limited in his chances last season.</p> <p>But the Falcon's showed they could win finishing with six wins in their final eight games. They already have addressed a couple of need areas on defense and have brought in Tony Martin and Mark Rypien (if he doesn't retire). These two should provide some spark to the offense. Tony throughout the season, and Mark when Chandler suffers his annual injuries.</p>

			<p>I feel that Morten still has the 50+ yard strength in his leg and his accuracy has never been questioned (well maybe after that miss that put the Jags into the playoffs a couple of years ago). We look at him as a solid addition to the Angst squad.</p>
15.02	PK John Hall		<p>I had considered taking my last WR here but there are about 3 or 4 that I am considering and by waiting until the next to last pick I am hoping some more information will come out about their prospective chances to play this season.</p> <p>So I opted for the strong legged kicker from the New York Jets. With the addition of Testeverde and Martin, I believe the Jets will have a much more potent offense which will in turn open up more pportunities for Mr. Hall.</p> <p>Last season John tied for 5th in the league (with Ryan Longwell) by scoring 120 points. He did this even though he converted a pitiful 68.3% of his attempts. If he can improve that to an unremarkable 75% then he could be the leading scorer at his position.</p> <p>I felt I had a steady performer in Andersen, and now with the streaky Hall, I have the ability to score a lot of points on any given week from the PK position, while having the security of knowing that I should score at least average points when Hall is off.</p>
16.12	WR Andre Hastings		<p>Hastings is a steady player who has proved both in Pittsburgh and in New Orleans that he can handle the role of #1 WR. He has gained over 700 yards in each of the last two seasons. In addition he has tallied 11 TDs over that same time span.</p> <p>I look for 800 yards and 6 TDs from Andre this year and perhaps 2 or 3 starts. These are very reasonable numbers for Mr. Irrelevant and will outdo many of the players drafted ahead of him.</p>