

[SPORTS★★] RUSSELL WILSON'S MASSIVE NEW CONTRACT IS GOING TO MAKE IT HARD FOR THE SEAHAWKS TO FIX THEIR BIGGEST WEAKNESS

(P1) Despite some big plays from some **UNHERALDED** wide receivers in the Super Bowl — like **CHRIS MATTHEWS' BREAKOUT** game and **JERMAINE KEARSE**'s insane catch — the **SEATTLE SEAHAWKS** are still in need of a game-changing receiver.

(P2) Seattle's leading receiver during the regular season, **DOUG BALDWIN**, finished the Super Bowl with just one catch for three yards — a touchdown in which he got open only because **DARRELLE REVIS** ran into a **REFEREE**. Kearse, despite his big catch, finished with just 45 yards on three catches, and Matthews' four catches for 109 yards were the first four catches of his career.

(P3) With a **DOMINANT** defense, a league-best running game, and one of the best young quarterbacks in the NFL, wide receiver is Seattle's only real weakness.

(P4) The Seahawks will have trouble upgrading their receivers this **OFFSEASON** because the two **STAPLES** of their offense, **RUSSELL WILSON** and **MARSHAWN LYNCH**, are both **DUE CONTRACT EXTENSIONS**.

(P5) Wilson's **ROOKIE** salary has been one of Seattle's biggest advantages. Wilson made less than \$1 million per year in his first three seasons, allowing the team to spend money elsewhere on the **ROSTER**. But his contract extension could pay him more than \$20 million per season going forward.

(P6) Lynch was thought to be a **GONER** this offseason, but the Seahawks are **REPORTEDLY** working on an extension that could double his expected salary to \$10 million a season.

(P7) **COMPLICATING** matters for Seattle, Kearse and Ricardo Lockette are both **FREE AGENTS COMING OFF** team-friendly contracts that paid each of them less than \$600,000. Kearse in particular may **COMMAND** far more money than his rookie contract after a breakout year in which he had more than 550 receiving yards.

(P8) Seahawks general manager John Schneider **ACKNOWLEDGED** that free agency would be a struggle, particularly with Wilson's extension:

(P9) It presents challenges, there is no question. We are still going to be **DRAFTING** young players and playing young players, so we might not be able to **DIP INTO** free agency like you may want to here and there or **COMPENSATE** somebody else that you want to compensate that is already on your team.

(P10) The Seahawks have done well finding talented players **DEEP IN THE DRAFT** — or completely out of the draft, as they did with Baldwin, Kearse, and Matthews — but with a lack of financial resources, filling their holes at wide receiver may be difficult.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you found the passage difficult to read or had problems understanding specific words or idiomatic expressions, please discuss them with your tutor. The following discussion questions should be answered in your own words and with your own arguments.

1. Briefly summarize the content of the article in your own words.
2. Who are the key players of the Seattle Seahawks? Why does the author say the Seahawks need a better receiver?
3. Why will the contract extension with Russell Wilson and Marshawn Lynch present an obstacle in allowing the Seahawks to upgrade their receivers (P4-6)?
4. What is an undrafted free agent? How is this going to cause problem for the Seahawks?
5. Have you watched the Super Bowl? Share what you thought about the game (and the article) with your Cambly tutor!

EXPRESSIONS TO PRACTICE

“The Seahawks have done well finding talented players deep in the draft— or completely out of the draft, as they did with Baldwin, Kearsse, and Matthews — but with a lack of financial resources, filling their holes at wide receiver may be difficult. (P10)”

What does “find something deep in ~” and “fill a hole” mean? Practice using each expression in a sentence.

WHAT/WHO/WHERE ARE THEY?

CHRIS MATTHEWS

(Person) Christopher Douglas "Chris" Matthews (born October 6, 1989) is an American football wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks in the National Football League (NFL). He played college football for Los Angeles Harbor College and the University of Kentucky, and played for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers of the Canadian Football League (CFL). Matthews was undrafted out of college, and signed with the Cleveland Browns. The Browns cut Matthews, and he played for Winnipeg, winning the CFL's Most Outstanding Rookie Award in his first season, but limited by injuries in his second year. Released, Matthews was working for Foot Locker when he received an offer to tryout with the Seahawks. During the 2014–15 NFL playoffs, Matthews recovered an onside kick during the National Football Conference Championship Game, and made his first career receptions in Super Bowl XLIX.

JERMAINE KEARSE

(Person) Jermaine Kearsse (born February 6, 1990) is an American football wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks of the National Football League. He was signed by the Seattle Seahawks as an undrafted free agent in 2012. Kearsse played college football at University of Washington.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

(Football Team) The Seattle Seahawks are a professional American football franchise based in Seattle, Washington. They are members of the West division of the National Football Conference (NFC) in the National Football League (NFL).

DOUG BALDWIN

(Person) Douglas Dewayne "Doug" Baldwin, Jr. (born September 21, 1988) is an American football wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks of the National Football League. He was signed by the Seahawks as an undrafted free agent in 2011. He played college football at Stanford University.

RUSSELL WILSON

(Person) Russell Carrington Wilson is an American football quarterback for the Seattle Seahawks of the National Football League. Wilson was selected by the Seahawks with the 12th pick in the third round of the 2012 NFL Draft. Wilson played college football for the University of Wisconsin during the 2011 season, in which he set the single season FBS record for passing efficiency and led the team to a Big Ten title and the 2012 Rose Bowl. Wilson received the Big Ten Quarterback of the Year award and was named a consensus first-team All-Big Ten and third-team All-American by Yahoo! Sports.

MARSHAWN LYNCH

(Person) Marshawn "Debo" Terrell Lynch, is an American football running back for the Seattle Seahawks of the National Football League. He is nicknamed "Beast Mode" for his aggressive running style and penchant for breaking tackles. Lynch played college football for the University of California, Berkeley where he became the school's second all-time career rusher. He was drafted by the Buffalo Bills in the first round of the 2007 NFL Draft.

UNDRAFTED FREE AGENT

(Contract) Players who are not drafted in a league's annual draft of amateur players are considered to be unrestricted free agents and are free to sign contracts with any team. In most North American professional sports, players are drafted by sequentially aligning each team from worst to best (according to the teams' records in the immediately preceding season alone, sometimes with a draft lottery factor to avoid having teams intentionally lose their last games to gain higher draft position) and allowing said teams to claim rights to the top players entering the league that year. Players that pass through an entire draft (usually several rounds) without being selected by any of the league's teams become unrestricted free agents, and these players are sometimes identified simply as an undrafted free agent or undrafted sportsperson and are free to sign with any team they choose. The term "undrafted free agent" is most common in the National Football League, where rookies enter directly into the NFL and do not play in a minor league system. It can also occasionally be seen in the National Hockey League, which increasingly uses college hockey as a source; the NHL Entry Draft usually drafts players during high school age (i.e., junior leagues), which allows overlooked players who excel at the college level to bypass the draft and sign directly with the NHL.

VOCABULARY

Unheralded	(adj) 미리 언급되지 않은
Breakout	(n) an instance of surpassing any previous achievement
Referee	(n) (스포츠 경기의) 심판
Dominant	(adj) 우세한, 지배적인
Offseason	(n) 제철이 아님(아닌)
Staple	(n) (한 국가의) 주요 산물; 본문에서는 key players로 쓰임
Due	(adj) ~하기로 되어 있는
Contract	(n) 계약(서)
Extension	(n) (기간의) 연장
Rookie	(n) (스포츠 팀의) 신참, 신인 선수
Roster	(n) (근무가 가능한) 직원 명단; (팀의) 선수 명단
Goner	(n) (살리거나 구할) 가망이 없는 사람
Reportedly	(adv) 전하는 바에 따르면, 소문에 의하면
Complicate	(v) (더) 복잡하게 만들다
Come off	(expression) 벗어나다
Command	(v) (응당 받아야 할 것을) 받다
Acknowledged	(adj) (일반적으로) 인정된; 승인된; 정평 있는
Draft	(v) (특별 임무를 위해) 선발하다[뽑다]
Dip into	(expression) ~을 부분적으로만 쓰다[읽다]
Compensate	(v) 보상하다