

LONG FIELDS FOR FEAGLES' FOES

No player in NFL history has placed more punts inside his opponents' 20-yard line than the New York Giants' **JEFF FEAGLES**.

In 19 seasons, Feagles has pinned his opponents inside the 20 on 483 occasions – more than any other punter since 1976, which is when the category became an official statistic.

According to Feagles, there are several strategies to keep in mind when aiming for that perfect punt.

"One of the keys to landing a ball inside the 20 is understanding the weather conditions," says Feagles. "Are you kicking with the wind or against the wind? Once you identify that, it's all about angles. You have to take the right angle to the goal line and to the right pylon and make sure you don't hit it too far so that it doesn't go into the end zone for a touchback."

But how do you find that "right angle?" According to Feagles, picking out a target is crucial.

"One of your aiming spots should be around the 10-yard line," he says. "That way, if you do hit it a little further, you have a little bit larger margin of error. Maybe it goes out to the five instead of the goal line."

After accounting for the wind and aiming accordingly, hang time is the final element.

"You need to get good hang time so that your cover team can get down there," Feagles says. "That way if the punt does hit the ground, they are already down there in enough time to stop it from rolling into the end zone."

Feagles' expert accuracy has helped the Giants neutralize many of the NFL's most dangerous punt returners, including Carolina's **STEVE SMITH**.

In the Giants' 27-13 win over the Panthers last December, Feagles punted nine times (39.8-yard net average), downing six punts inside the 20-yard-line, including three that landed inside the 10. Smith managed to return just three punts for a total of 11 yards, and credited Feagles for neutralizing him better than any punter he has faced.

"I can't remember a time – in high school, college or the pros – when a punter controlled me the way Feagles did," Smith told listeners on his Sirius Satellite Radio program after the game. "He should punt until he's 50."

Following are the top five players with the most punts placed inside the 20 (since 1976):

PUNTER	YEARS	PUNTS INSIDE 20
Jeff Feagles	19	483*
Sean Landeta	21	381
Craig Hentrich	13	345*
Bryan Barker	16	326
Chris Gardocki	16	322*

* Active

PLAYERS' CHOICE AWARDS

These players might not be household names yet, but they have been picked by their peers as those most worthy of credit despite a lack of recognition.

Even though they might not have been given more than a passing glance in the past, these are the underestimated players that are quietly working their way up to the top of the league, according to their teammates and opponents.

Both Philadelphia Eagles quarterback **DONOVAN MC NABB** and Jacksonville Jaguars running back **FRED TAYLOR** chose Tennessee Titans linebacker **KEITH BULLUCK** as their pick for the most underrated player in the NFL for his relentless intensity and love for the game.

Here are some other NFL players' thoughts on who they think deserves some time in the limelight:

PLAYER	PLAYER WHO DESERVES MORE CREDIT
Kelly Gregg, Baltimore	"Chiefs center CASEY WIEGMANN is a terrific player who never gets any attention. He is quick, tough and a key reason Kansas City runs the ball so well. He is by far one of the best I've played against."
Antonio Gates, San Diego	"My teammate ERIC PARKER doesn't get the credit he deserves. He's one of the finest receivers that I've ever seen as far as being able to run routes, catch the ball and make plays down the field. Every time you hear people talk about the Chargers they talk about certain guys, but he's never one of them. He should be."

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