



2022 DRAFT PREVIEW

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the fourth annual UK & Irish Packers Draft Preview.

As in previous years, we've had a lot of fun putting this Preview together. Lots of film has been watched and re-watched, lots of notes written and re-written and an extraordinary amount of time has been spent grading players. Most of all we've just enjoyed having another excuse just to watch and talk about football.

This year we were pleased to welcome back the scouting combine in Indianapolis, after a one year's hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The combine in conjunction with pro days throughout March and April provide us with a last look at players before the draft itself and provide insight – hopefully confirming what we thought we already knew.

Like all football fans at this time of the year, we've been able to imagine what it would be like if our team drafted player “x” or player “y”. For many fans, the excitement leading up to the draft provides an optimism about the future of their team.

After the great feedback that we received regarding last year's Draft Preview, we resolved to try and make this 2022 edition even better. We like to think that we have achieved that – but only you, the reader, will be judge of that! We have made some very minor additions and changes this year which we hope will add to your NFL Draft experience.

As in previous years, our intention in producing this preview is to help inform all of the UK & Irish Packers fans as we head into the NFL Draft – whilst in the process having some fun and most importantly, generating discussion. We know that there are many other Draft Guides and Previews out there – many, many superb publications – so we really appreciate your time in reading our efforts.

The views and opinions expressed in this Preview are simply just that – opinions. We know that not everybody will agree us, but that's ok! If we are able to generate good and constructive discussions, then we will be happy.

We look forward to hearing your feedback. In the meantime we hope that our efforts will go a little way toward enriching your enjoyment of the 2022 NFL Draft. Go Pack Go!!



THE PACKERS DRAFT

DRAFT PICKS & SCHEDULE

PACKER PICKS IN 2022 DRAFT

- 
1. 1st Round, Pick 22 (#22 overall) – *from LV (Davante Adams trade)*
 2. 1st Round, Pick 28 (#28 overall)
 3. 2nd Round, Pick 21 (#53 overall) – *from LV (Davante Adams trade)*
 4. 2nd Round, Pick 27 (#59 overall)
 5. 3rd Round, Pick 28 (#92 overall)
 6. 4th Round, Pick 27 (#132 overall)
 7. 4th Round, Pick 35 (#140 overall) - *Comp Pick (Corey Linsley)*
 8. 5th Round, Pick 28 (#171 overall)
 9. 7th Round, Pick 7 (#228 overall) - *From Hou (Ka'dar Hollman trade)*
 10. 7th Round, Pick 28 (#249 overall)
 11. 7th Round, Pick 37 (#258 overall) - *Comp Pick (Jamaal Williams)*

**** The Packers traded their 6th round pick to Houston in exchange for Randall Cobb in 2021.**

2022 DRAFT SCHEDULE

- Day 1 (Rd 1) - Thursday 28th April at 8pm EST / 1am (29th April) UK Time
- Day 2 (Rd 2-3) - Friday 29th April at 7pm EST / Midnight UK Time
- Day 3 (Rd 4-7) - Saturday 30th April at Noon EST / 5pm UK Time

4 YEARS WITH GUTEY

Brian Gutekunst has now been the Packers GM for 4 years. Here we took look at how "Gutey" has approached the drafted in that time – will that also give us an indication as to how he may act in the 2022 version?

BEST PLAYER AVAILABLE?

As the Packers enter the 2022 draft, they are in an interesting position for a 13-4 team – they can pretty much select the best player available (BPA) at any position and it will immediately improve the football team, with one or two exceptions of course – they are not going to draft a quarterback or running back early.

Selecting the best player available has long been the draft ideal for the Packers, going back to Gutekunst's immediate predecessors, and there's still no reason to believe that things are any different now.

That said, even the best player available approach is in itself subject to some provisos:

- The BPA may be at a position where the team is already set e.g. QB, RB. Rather than reaching for a player, this may be the time to consider a trade.
- There may be "equal bests", so determining positional need is important
- Who the BPA available is, is always in the eye of the beholder (or in this case, the mind of the GM)
- The BPA may be at a position where there is a lot of depth in the draft. This may indicate a time to slightly move from the pure BPA approach, or maybe a time to consider a trade.
- There may not be a player available who is considered value at the pick – again, this looks like trade time.

ATHLETICISM IS KING, BUT...

In Gutey's first three drafts (2018-2020), the Packers drafted 28 players and 24 of them posted a RAS (relative athletic score). Of those 24, all but 3 posted a RAS of 8.17 or higher – that's 87.5%. Indicating that the Packers front office put a premium on the athleticism of draftees.

Interestingly though, in 2021 things changed a little. Of the 9 players they selected in the draft 8 had RAS scores (Josh Myers was suffering from turf toe and therefore didn't perform some of the tests at the combine / pro day). Here's the change – of those 8, 4 of them (50%) had a RAS below 8.17, those players being Amari Rodgers, Kylin Hill, Isaiah McDuffie and Shemar Jean-Charles.

Yes, the Packers had more players below that RAS threshold in one draft, than they had in the previous three drafts combined. And whilst one draft in itself does not set a pattern, it may indicate that Gutey and his front office have grown in confidence and are prepared to be more flexible in their approach to the draft.

GUTEY HAS BEEN BOLD IN THE 1ST ROUND

Fans and analysts may not always like or agree with Gutey's approach to the draft, but it can't be denied that he has been bold in some of his draft day moves and selections. And what always has to be remembered when we wonder if even more boldness in terms of trading up and down may be appropriate – it takes two teams to make a trade, and nobody is going to give players or draft picks away.

History shows that Gutey has made moves in 3 of his 4 drafts:

2018

Gutey's boldness began with his very first draft choice for the Packers:

Sitting with the 14th overall selection in the 2018 draft, Gutey engineered a trade down (with the New Orleans Saints) to the 27th overall selection. For moving down 13 spots in the 1st round Gutey picked up an extra 2018 5th round pick and most significantly an extra 1st round pick in the 2019 draft.

Very quickly afterwards, Gutey engineered a second trade (with the Seattle Seahawks): moving back up from that 27th spot back to the 18th spot. To move up those 9 spots, the Packers traded away their 3rd and 6th round selections and picked up an additional 7th rounder.

All in all, the Packers had moved down 4 spots (14th to 18th) and traded away their 3rd and 6th round picks. In return, the Packers had picked up an extra 1st round pick in 2019, a 5th round pick and a 7th round pick. And then to cap it all, the Packers then selected **Jaire Alexander** – who may well have been the player that they would have selected had they stayed at their original spot. All in all, it worked out fantastically.

2019

With their own selection (overall pick no.12) in the 2019 draft, the Packers selected Rashan Gary, however, they also had the 30th pick in the 1st round – that extra selection that they gained when trading with the Saints in the previous year's draft.

This time around, Gutey clearly had his sights set on safety **Darnell Savage** but obviously had no guarantee that he would drop as far as pick 30. So rather than potentially lose the player he wanted, Gutey traded away two 4th round selections and moved up 9 spots to select Savage.

2020

Gutey's approach to the 1st round of the 2020 draft will probably be forever shrouded in questions. Many of those questions, of course, are driven by the subsequent outcome rather than the approach or process itself.

Sitting with the 30th overall selection, the Packers moved up 4 spots (by trading away a 4th round pick) and selected **Jordan Love** - in the process startling many football analysts and Packers fans. Whatever the thoughts about that selection are, it would be difficult to deny that it was a bold move, especially in a draft that was full of potential at the wide receiver position.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Draft not just for immediate need, but the future – staying a year or two ahead of the game is ideal. Consider the impact of free agency, injuries, and potential retirements. There are some great examples of this in recent Packers drafts.

Players like Rashan Gary, Jordan Love and A.J. Dillon were all selections in the first two rounds of drafts in the last 4 years who were not selected to fill an immediate need – they were chosen to secure the future.

YOU CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

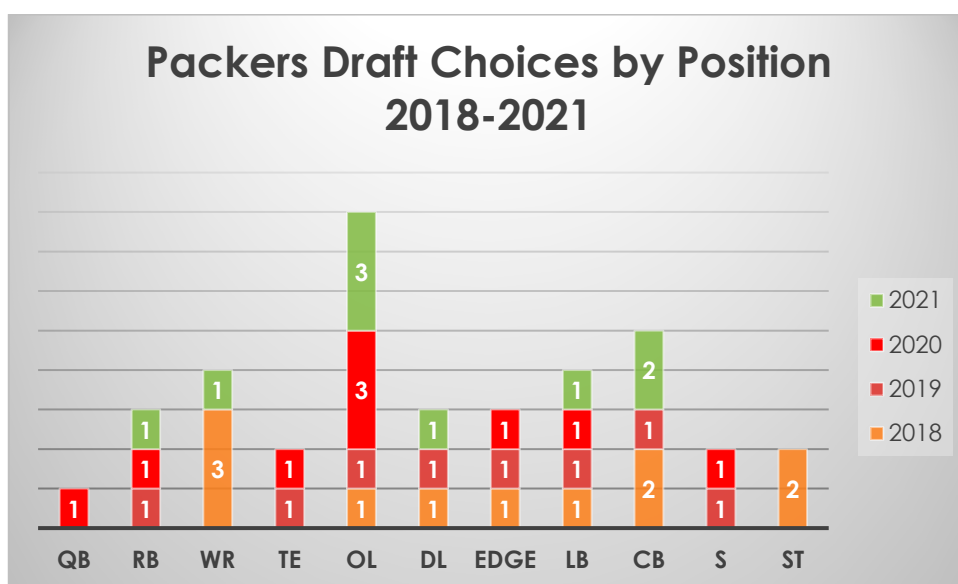
Ok, this one is tongue in cheek but actually there's a little bit of truth in this being an approach and mantra that Gutey may have used.

As the chart below shows, in Gutey's four years as GM, the Packers have drafted more players in the offensive line group (8) than they have at any other position group, in fact only the cornerback group (with 5) has more than 50% of the number of players selected on the offensive line.

In the last two seasons alone, the 6 players Gutey has selected on the offensive line is more than the combined number of players selected at every other offensive position over the same period.

Interestingly, the Packers selections on the offensive line have come all over the draft board, but the 4 in round 6 shows that the team is prepared to select down the draft and give players at the spot time to develop:

- 2 in round 2
- 1 in round 4
- 1 in round 5
- 4 in round 6



PACKERS 1st ROUND DRAFT MOCKERY

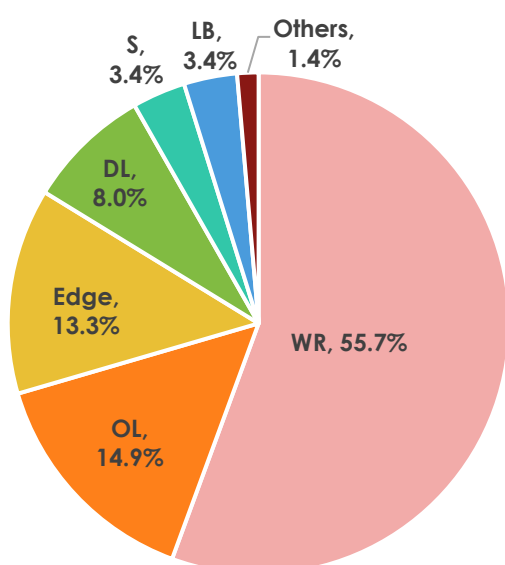
Just for fun, we took a look at **218** recent Packers mock drafts that had been posted on social media, to see what fans, analysts and journalists were predicting/guessing what the Packers may do with picks 22 and 28 in the 1st round of the upcoming draft.

The following tries to summarise, as best we can, what we discovered about which players and which positions were chosen:

Most frequently players and players by position

Those 218 mock drafts of course reported 436 1st round picks. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the wide receiver group represented over half (55.7%) of all players mocked to the Packers in the 1st round. Perhaps also not surprisingly, Chris Olave (WR, Ohio State) was the single most frequently mocked player in the 1st round - appearing in over 16% of those mocks.

Split of all players by position
in Packers mocks (1st Rd)



Most frequently chosen 1st Rd
players (Packers mock drafts)

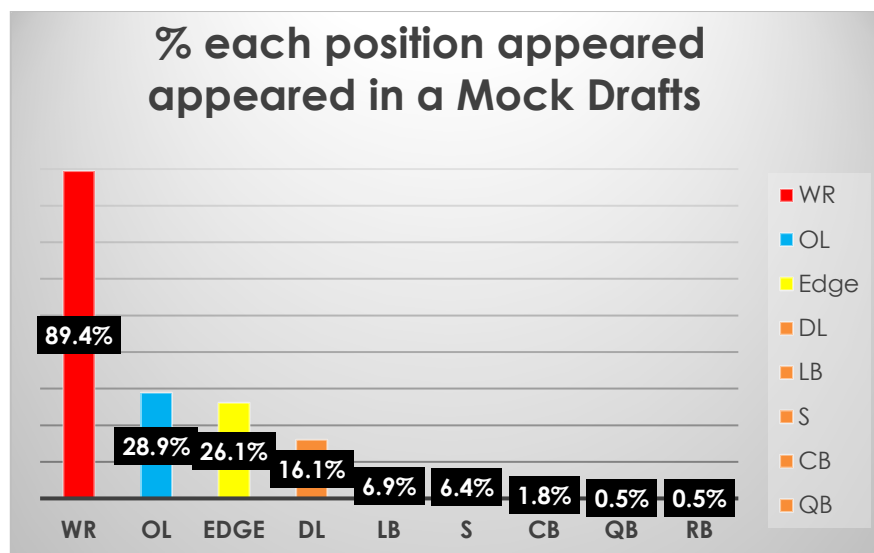
1. Chris Olave, WR, 16.2%
2. Treyton Burks, WR, 15.8%
3. Jahan Dotson, WR, 7.6%
4. Jameson Williams, WR, 6.2%
5. Bernhard Raimann, OT, 4.6%
6. Boye Mafe, Edge, 4.4%
7. Devonte Wyatt, DT, 3.4%
8. Trevor Penning, OT, 3.4%
9. Drake London, WR, 3.2%
10. George Karlaftis, Edge, 3.0%

All in all, 48 different players at 9 position groups were mocked to the Packers in the 1st round in the 218 mock drafts that we reviewed, as follows:

- 12 wide receivers
- 9 offensive linemen
- 7 edge rushers
- 6 defensive linemen
- 5 linebackers
- 4 safeties
- 3 cornerbacks
- 1 running back
- 1 quarterback

The % of times that each positioned appeared in a mock draft

Wide receiver appeared in 89.4% of all the 1st round Packers mock drafts that we looked at. This probably wasn't surprising – behind the wide receivers, offensive linemen and edge players were the next most frequently chosen.



Only 3 position groups – wide receiver, offensive line and edge rusher appeared in any single draft at both picks 22 and 28, as follows:

- 22.0% of the mock drafts included wide receivers at both picks 22 and 28.
- 28.9% of the mock drafts included offensive linemen at both picks 22 and 28.
- 26.1% of the mock drafts included edge rushers at both picks 22 and 28

Positional Combinations

The following table shows how frequently the positions were selected as combinations

		Pick 28								
Pick 22		WR	OL	Edge	DL	LB	CB	S	QB	RB
	WR	22.0%	16.5%	16.5%	6.4%	3.7%	0.0%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	OL	7.3%	0.9%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
	Edge	4.1%	0.9%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
	DL	6.0%	1.8%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	LB	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	CB	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	S	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	QB	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	RB	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

1958 – GREEN BAY'S BEST EVER DRAFT

The 1958 “NFL Annual Player Selection Meeting” (NFL Draft) was 30 rounds in length and took place over two days, nearly two months apart. In fact the first day of the 1958 draft (the first 4 rounds) actually occurred on in 1957 – on 2 December. The teams re-assembled for the second day (rounds 5-30) on 28 January, 1958.

This draft would also be the last in which the first overall selection was a bonus pick - with the team selecting chosen by lottery.

The draft was very different back then

In the 1950s the NFL Draft was nothing like we know it today – scouting was not yet advanced, although former Packer player Eddie Kotal and current Packers scout Jack Vainisi had started the “modernisation” of player evaluation across the league.

There was no NFL Network, no ESPN, no social media, no 24 hour media coverage. There weren't the myriad of mock drafts that we see today. There were no equivalents of Mel Kiper, predicting every move that each team would make. There was no big auditorium with fans - the draft itself took place in a smoky hotel room in Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia. All in all, the draft would pass by almost without notice.

Four rounds was enough for the Packers

Despite have selections throughout the two days, the Packers draft was as good as over by the end of the first day and although they didn't know it at the time, by the end of those 4 rounds, Green Bay had selected 3 future Pro Football Hall of Famers and a future All-Pro. Not before or since, have the Packers selected as many players in a single draft who would reach the very upper echelons of football stardom.

Heading up the Packers draft

The Packers draft was led by their Head Coaches, the aforementioned Scout Jack Vainisi and General Manager Verne Lewellen, although the GM wasn't the role that we know today – it was more of a Business Manager role.

And yes, it was Head Coaches **plural**, because the Packers fired incumbent coach Lisle Blackbourn on January 6, 1958 and replaced him with Ray “Scooter” McLean – meaning that Blackbourn was in place for the first 4 rounds and McLean was in situ for the remainder.

Therefore in a strange twist of timing, McLean would have the benefit of the players that his predecessor played a large part in selecting. Not that McLean would be able take advantage of that during the 1958 season, but that's a story for another day.

Let's get on with looking at who the Packers selected:

In 1947, the NFL instituted a system where the 1st overall pick in the draft was a bonus pick – with the team selecting determined by lottery.

Once a team had been chosen by the lottery they were then removed from future lotteries – meaning by 1958 all 12 teams had been awarded a bonus pick. The system was then discontinued.

Dan Currie, LB/C, Michigan State, 1st Round (no.3 overall)

The Lisle Blackbourn led Packers finished the 1957 season with a poor 3-9 record – the 2nd worst record in the entire NFL, meaning that they would select 3rd overall in the 1st round (the bonus pick pushing them down a slot).

After the Chicago Cardinals picked twice (the bonus pick and their own selection), the Packers were on the clock. With little hesitation, Green Bay selected **Dan Currie** the linebacker/center from Michigan State.

Currie had been star on both sides of the football for Michigan State on a team that ended the season ranked 3rd in AP Poll – a team that featured highly a potent offense coupled with a stingy defense. Currie was selected as the All-American center and finished 8th in the Heisman Trophy voting.

The Packers wouldn't be disappointed with their choice – after initially backing-up at both the center and linebacker positions, Currie became the starter at the left linebacker spot after 5 games of his rookie season and would remain in that role through the 1964 season.

He played in 90 consecutive regular season games during that period, starting in 85 of those games. An injury to his left knee that he first suffered against Philadelphia in 1962 would probably eventually be a factor which led to him being traded to the Los Angeles Rams in 1965 (in exchange for wide receiver Carroll Dale, who would have an excellent career with the Packers).

Currie was an all-round linebacker who stuffed the run, could blitz and was especially strong in pass coverage over the tight end. During his Packer career he had 11 interceptions (including 4 in 1960) and 7 fumble recoveries. Currie's all-round prowess would earn him all-star recognition:

- 1960 – Pro Bowl
- 1961 – UPI & NEA 1st Team All-Pro
- 1962 – Consensus 1st Team All-Pro
- 1963 – NEA & NYDN 1st Team All-Pro, AP 2nd Team All-Pro

For four seasons, "Dapper Dan" as he was known, was as good a player at his position as there was in the NFL. He was an integral part of the Packers teams that won the NFL Championship in both 1961 and 1962. In the tight 1962 Championship Game, he added to his reputation by grabbing a key interception - unfortunately when you watch that interception on film, you can see Dan's knee give way again as he tried to make yards on the return.

After the trade that sent him west to Los Angeles, Currie eventually retired after playing just 10 games for the Rams across the 1965 and 1966 seasons, never having fully recovered from his knee injury.

In 1984, Currie earned more rightful recognition when he was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame.

In his post football years, Currie would live and work in Las Vegas. It was during these years that I was extremely fortunate to get to know Dan a little bit. Sadly, he passed away in 2017, aged 82.

Jim Taylor, FB, LSU, 2nd Round (no.15 overall)

In the 2nd round, the Packers decided to pick a player around whom they hoped that they may be able to base the future running game around. **Jim Taylor** played just two years of football at the college level for LSU, but in two 10 game seasons he rushed for over 500 yards in 1956 and over 700 yards in 1957 – earning FWAA All-American honours in his senior season. When he ran for 171 yards in his final game for the Tigers, Taylor put himself in line to be a high draft choice.

However, we can be quite certain that in selecting LSU's fullback Jim Taylor the Packers didn't realise that they would be getting a great player, who would end his career as the Packers all-time leader in every significant rushing category. He would also become an integral part of what might be the most famous play in the history of the NFL – "The Packer Sweep"

Of course, many of Taylor's record have now been surpassed now, by that doesn't diminish just how significant a player Taylor is in Green Bay Packers' history.

Taylor was a muscular, tough, hard-nosed runner who was just as likely to run through tacklers as to try and avoid them. He brought that running style to the Packers for 9 seasons (1958-66) and 119 games, finishing his Packers career with 8,207 rushing yards and 81 rushing touchdowns. He was also an underrated receiver coming out of the backfield, catching 187 passes during his time in Green Bay.

In his 9 years with the Packers, he was the team's leading rusher in 7 consecutive seasons (including 5 consecutive 1,000 yard rushing seasons). During this time, the Packers won 4 NFL Championships and the first Super Bowl.

After playing for the Packers, Taylor played a single season back at home in Louisiana for the fledgeling New Orleans Saints in 1967, before retiring. At the point of his retirement, Taylor was in 2nd place on the NFL's all-time rushing list, trailing only the Cleveland Browns' Jim Brown.

Taylor's individual contributions during his career are literally too numerous to talk about here, but here's a flavour of some of the recognition he garnered, providing an idea of just how good he was:

- AP & NEA NFL MVP in 1962
- 2-time 1st Team All-Pro (1961 NEA and 1962 Unanimous)
- 4-time 2nd Team All-Pro (1960, 1963-64 and 1966)
- 5-time Pro Bowler (1960-64)

After he retired, the accolades for Jim Taylor kept coming:

- Named to the NFL's All-Decade team for the 1960s
- Inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1975
- Named to the Packers All-Time teams in 1969, 1976 and 1999
- Inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 1974
- Inducted into the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2001

Taylor earned the ultimate recognition for his pro football career when he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1976.

He sadly passed away at the age of 83 in 2018.

Ray Nitschke, LB/FB, Illinois, 3rd Round (no.36 overall)

The Packers actually had two picks in the 3rd round. The first being HB Dick Christy (27th overall pick), but he never played a regular season down for Green Bay – more on him later.

The second of the Packers 3rd round selections was acquired in a trade with the Giants (for John Martinkovic) and it turned out be a great one. With the 36th overall selection Green Bay chose **Ray Nitschke** a fullback and linebacker from the University of Illinois. Nitschke had started his college career playing quarterback before converting.

By selecting Nitschke, the Packers acquired a player who would become one of the greatest players in the history of the franchise and one of the very best middle linebackers who has ever played the game. He made his area of the field a no-go zone and his name is synonymous with the Green Bay Packers of the 1960s.

After being drafted, Nitschke started just 4 of his first 30 games of his Packers career at middle linebacker. Midway through the 1960 season Nitschke became the starter but would still battle with Tom Bettis for that role until 1962. With the exception of when he was injured, Nitschke would remain the Packers starter at the position until 1971.

He ended his career having played in 190 games for the Packers over 15 seasons (1958-72). In Green Bay history, only quarterbacks Bart Starr, Brett Favre and Aaron Rodgers have played in more seasons. Nitschke had 25 career interceptions and 23 fumble recoveries. During his career, the Packers won 5 NFL Championships and the first two Super Bowls. In the second of those Championships (1962) he recovered 2 fumbles and won the game's MVP award.

Nitschke earned numerous accolades during his playing career, including:

- 1962 – AP, NEA 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1963 – NYDN 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1964 – AP, UPI & NY 1st Team All-Pro, Pro Bowl
- 1965 – UPI 1st Team All-Pro, AP & NYDN 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1966 – Unanimous 1st Team All-Pro
- 1967 – AP & NYDN 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1969 – PFWA & NEA 2nd Team All-Pro

The recognition kept coming – both while he was still playing and after he had retired:

- Named to the NFL's All-Decade team for the 1960s
- Named to the NFL's 50th and 75th Anniversary teams in 1969 and 1994
- Inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1978
- Named to the Packers All-Time teams in 1969, 1976 and 1999
- Inducted into the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981
- Number 66 retired by the Packers

Nitschke earned the ultimate recognition for his pro career when he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1978. The Packers would later name one of their practice fields after him. The city of Green Bay would also honour Nitschke by naming a bridge in the city "The Ray Nitschke Memorial Bridge".

Sadly, he passed away in 1998 at the young age of 61.

Jerry Kramer, OG, Idaho, 4th round (no.39 overall)

In the 4th round the Packers looked to provide their offense with help upfront by selecting the University of Idaho's guard **Jerry Kramer**. Despite falling to round 4, Kramer was well regarded at the college level and had just been selected to play in the East-West Shrine Game.

Kramer would also be a starter in the College All-Star game against the NFL Champion Detroit Lions in August 1958 before he joined up with the Packers – Dan Currie also started for the college team.

Like everybody else mentioned so far, the Packers had hopes for Kramer but couldn't have imagined that he would become the player that he did. Kramer would be forever a key part of the most famous play in Vince Lombardi's playbook – The Power Sweep – and of course, a featured player in perhaps the singular biggest play in Packers history – Bart Starr's goal-line sneak at the end of the Ice Bowl.

Kramer would play for the Packers from 1958-68. He shared starting duties in 1958, before becoming the full-time starter in 1959 at right guard – a role that he would maintain throughout his Packers career (except when injured). He was also called into action as a kicker in 1962 and 1963.

During Kramer's 11-year playing career he was widely regarded as one of the best, if not the very best, guards in the NFL. The Packers would win 5 NFL Championships during his career along with wins in the first two Super Bowls. In the 1962 NFL Championship Game Kramer kicked 3 field goals and an extra point to account for 10 points in a 9 point Packers win.

Kramer earned numerous accolades for his play during his career:

- 1960 – AP 1st Team All-Pro, UPI & NYDN 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1961 – NYDN 2nd Team All-Pro
- 1962 – Unanimous 1st Team All-Pro, Pro Bowl
- 1963 – Unanimous 1st Team All-Pro, Pro Bowl
- 1966 – AP, UPI, FWAA & NTDN 1st Team All-Pro
- 1967 – AP, UPI & FWAA 1st Team All-Pro, NEA 2nd Team All-Pro, Pro Bowl
- 1968 – AP 2nd Team All-Pro

The recognition didn't end there. More was to come:

- Named to the NFL's All-Decade team for the 1960s
- Named to the NFL's 50th Anniversary team in 1969
- Named to the Super Bowl Silver Anniversary team in 1990
- Named to the Packers All-Time teams in 1969, 1976 and 1999
- Inducted into the Packers Hall of Fame in 1978
- Named to the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993
- The University of Idaho retired his number 64, in 1963

After long being considered the biggest anomaly for his absence from the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Jerry Kramer finally received his long overdue ultimate level of recognition and when he was inducted in 2018.

To this day, Jerry Kramer remains one of most visible and well respected of all Packers players.

The Packers draft was as good as complete after day 1, but there was one more player that Green Bay drafted in 1958 who would go on to play for the Packers – quarterback Joe Francis:

Joe Francis, QB, Oregon State, 5th Round (no.51 overall)

When the Packers selected **Joe Francis** in round 5, the Packers obtained a player who had been a good quarterback at Oregon State – so good in fact that he would later be inducted into both the Oregon Sports Hall of Fame and the Oregon State Hall of Fame.

Unfortunately for Francis, the Packers already had Bart Starr and Babe Parilli on the roster and whilst Starr hadn't yet developed into the Hall of Famer that he would become, Francis' opportunities in Green Bay were likely to be limited.

And so it proved.

In that rookie season of 1958, Francis saw minor action in 6 games before starting in regular season finale against the Los Angeles Rams – completing 7 of 13 passing attempts for 84 yards with a touchdown and an interception. It would prove to be only start of Francis' NFL career.

He stayed with the Packers through the 1959 season but only saw action as a reserve, completing just 5 passes. Sadly, Francis suffered a broken leg in training camp in 1960 and then a knee injury in 1961 pretty much ending his chances of competing for a role. He was later released and finished his career playing in the CFL.

There would be three more players selected by the Packers who would go on to play in the NFL for other teams: Dick Christy, Ken Gray and Gene Cook. Here's a look at them, plus one other Packers selection from the 1958 draft who is special to me- Norm Jarock:

Dick Christy, HB, North Carolina State, 3rd Round (no.27 overall)

Dick Christy was an outstanding halfback at North Carolina State who earned 1st Team All-American honours for his 1957 season – a season for which he was also recognised as a 1st Team All-ACC player and named ACC Player of the Year.

The Packers selected Christy in the 3rd round to compete for a backfield spot on a roster that already contained Paul Hornung, Don McIlhenny, Al Carmichael, Howie Ferguson and fellow 1958 draftee Jim Taylor.

It was already going to be an uphill battle for Christy to make the Packers roster and after suffering a minor injury in the college All-Star game, he was traded to the Pittsburgh Steelers in exchange for a future draft choice (a 1959 5th round pick that the Packers used on G Andy Cvercko).

Christy would go on to have a 5-year career in the NFL and AFL. Sadly he passed away in 1966 at the very young age of 30.

Ken Gray, G, Howard Payne, 6th Round (no.62 overall)

In the 6th round, the Packers selected another outstanding guard who would reach Pro Bowl and All-Pro level. Unfortunately for Green Bay, **Ken Gray** never played a regular season down for the Packers – all of his achievements in the NFL coming with the Cardinals.

In the days of 35 man rosters, teams could only keep a limited number of reserve players. Such was the case at the guard spot, where in all likelihood the two draftees – Jerry Kramer and Ken Gray – competed for a single roster spot. Kramer won the job and the rest, as they say, is history.

Or not quite. Gray was the very last player released by the Packers in the cutdown to the final 35 man roster. But many teams were still interested in picking him up and he eventually signed for the Chicago Cardinals (the Cardinals would move to St. Louis in 1960).

Gray would up being one of the very best guards in the NFL outside of Green Bay Wisconsin. He would be a 2-time 1st Team All-Pro (1964 and 1969), a 5-time 2nd team All-Pro (1963, 1965-68) and a 6-time Pro Bowler (1961, 1963-64, 1966-68). Not bad at all for a player who couldn't quite make the Packers roster.

He later became an offensive line coach at the pro level for the Denver Broncos and we be inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 2016. Sadly, Ken Gray passed away in 2017, aged 81.

Gene Cook, E, Toledo, 13th Round (no.147 overall)

Only one other player that the Packers drafted would go on to play in the NFL and that just for a single game. Green Bay's 13th round draft choice **Gene Cook**, the 147th overall pick, played 1 game for the Lions in 1959, catching 1 pass.

Norm Jarock, B, St. Norbert, 8th Round (no.99 overall)

It would be remiss of me not to mention the Packers 9th round selection **Norm Jarock**. In my many trips to Green Bay, I got to know Norm and his wife. Norm was a fine football player and long jumper out of local St. Norbert College whose opportunity to challenge for a roster spot with the Packers was extinguished when he suffered a badly broken ankle in the an early practice in 1958. His pro football career was sadly over before it began. He would go on to serve with great distinction in the US Army. Norm sadly passed away in 2018 at the age of 81.

It is without question that the Packers draft of 1958 is one of the greatest in the team's history, but where does it rank in draft history for all teams?

A few years ago, in its Top 10 Series, NFL Network named the Packers 1958 draft as the 4th best for all teams across all drafts. To be named no. 4 in a history of around 2,000 draft classes shows just how great a draft the Green Bay Packers had in 1958.



OUR BIG BOARD THE TOP 300

INTRODUCING OUR BIG BOARD

The following pages contain our list of the Top 300 players available.

Here are some things to know about our Top 300:

It's our Top 300 – not a prediction of the draft order

Our Top 300 isn't necessarily the order in which we think players will be picked - teams will have reasons for (e.g. positional need) to select players in a different order to how we see it – but it does reflect our view of the relative strength of the players available in this draft regardless of position.

A great example of the above point is **Kenny Pickett** (QB, Pittsburgh) who we have ranked 20th overall, but we actually expect that he'll probably get selected higher than this - perhaps as high as the top 10 overall.

Another example of the same point, in this year's draft is **Jalen Wydermyer** (TE, Texas A&M). He recently had what is generally regarded as a poor showing at the Aggies' pro day. The impact on our board was that he dropped about 30 places overall and from being the 3rd to the 5th TE. However, we suspect that many teams may now not consider drafting him until the late rounds. Nonetheless, we are comfortable with where we have Wydermyer ranked, regardless of where he actually gets drafted.

Creating the Top 300

To create our Top 300 players (and our Position-by-Position Rankings), we ranked players as follows:

- Watching and compiling notes on players during their college career. This is done over a number of years, by watching game film and other film that may be widely available.
- Film that we watched since the conclusion of the college football season, zeroing in on players on our draft watch list.
- The combine / pro days - these tend not to change too much what our view already is but may reinforce what we already know or indeed encourage us to go and re-visit film.
- Confirmed injury reports and/or off-the-field concerns reports from reputable public domain sources – making our best judgement as to what impact, if any, this may have on a player's draft chances or status.
- We look at players from a general view and a Packers perspective

Note: Rankings by other draft analysts and fans don't in themselves change our rankings or our view of players – we prefer what we see on tape. However, they may encourage us to go and re-visit tape where appropriate.

Guide to Colours and Icons in the Top 300 Position by Position Breakdown



Indicates that a player has been on the rise in the last few weeks - usually due to an outstanding combine, pro day, or perhaps positive clarification over a previous injury concern.

This is new this year.



Indicates that a player has been falling in the last few weeks - usually due to a poor combine, pro day, or perhaps or a new injury or negative news over a previous injury concern.

This is new this year.



Indicates that a player currently has, or has had, a significant injury concern such that he appears in our "Injury Watchlist" section which can be found later in this Draft Guide.

This is new this year.

We've included our **Packers Watchlist** again this year, however this year we've changed it slightly, creating two lists – in essence a primary list and a secondary list. The players in these lists can be seen in our Position by Position Player Profiles, as follows:

- On their profile page, players whose name is highlighted in **bright green** are part of the primary watch list
- On their profile page, players whose name is highlighted in **bright blue** are part of the secondary watch list.

Players appear on our Packers Watchlist because they may have a special interest for the Packers. These are players who generally meet one or more of the following criteria:

- There's a decent chance they'll be available when the Packers pick.
- They meet some/all of the criteria the Packers are likely to use e.g. outstanding athletic ability
- We like them either because they are just good players or perhaps because they bring something that the Packers don't already have.

And finally...

We do our best! We do not have access to all of the information that many larger organisations have. Nor do we have the resources to be able to keep on top of every change in a player's status or every piece of information that may be important. But we do our very best and are proud of generally how accurate we are.

We know that the Top 300 Big Board is one of the most eagerly awaited parts of this guide. We hope that you find it interesting and useful.

THE TOP 300

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Aidan Hutchinson	Edge	Michigan	1
2.	Evan Neal	OT	Alabama	1
3.	Kyle Hamilton	S	Notre Dame	1
4.	Ikem Ekwonu	OT/OG	North Carolina State	1
5.	Kayvon Thibodeaux	Edge	Oregon	1
6.	Ahmad Gardner	CB	Cincinnati	1
7.	Travon Walker	Edge/DT	Georgia	1
8.	Charles Cross	OT	Mississippi State	1
9.	Derek Stingley Jr.	CB	LSU	1
10.	Garrett Wilson	WR	Ohio State	1
11.	Drake London	WR	USC	1
12.	Jermaine Johnson II	Edge	Florida State	1
13.	Malik Willis	QB	Liberty	1
14.	Jordan Davis	DT	Georgia	1
15.	Jameson Williams	WR	Alabama	1
16.	Tyler Linderbaum	OC	Iowa	1
17.	Devin Lloyd	LB	Utah	1
18.	Chris Olave	WR	Ohio State	1
19.	Trent McDuffie	CB	Washington	1
20.	Kenny Pickett	QB	Pittsburgh	1
21.	Trevor Penning	OT	Northern Iowa	1
22.	George Karlaftis	Edge	Purdue	1
23.	Devonte Wyatt	DT	Georgia	1
24.	Andrew Booth Jr.	CB	Clemson	1
25.	Nakobe Dean	LB	Georgia	1
26.	Zion Johnson	OG	Boston College	1-2
27.	Treyton Burks	WR	Arkansas	1-2
28.	Kenyon Green	OT/OG	Texas A&M	1-2
29.	David Ojabo	Edge	Michigan	1-2
30.	Daxton Hill	S	Michigan	1-2
31.	Boye Mafe	Edge	Minnesota	1-2
32.	Kaiir Elam	CB	Florida	1-2
33.	Jahan Dotson	WR	Penn State	1-2
34.	Matt Corral	QB	Mississippi	1-2
35.	Desmond Ridder	QB	Cincinnati	1-2
36.	Lewis Cine	S	Georgia	1-2
37.	Jaquan Brisker	S	Penn State	1-2
38.	Bernhard Raimann	OT	Central Michigan	1-2
39.	Breece Hall	RB	Iowa State	1-2
40.	Christian Watson	WR	North Dakota State	1-2

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Roger McCreary	CB	Auburn	1-2
42.	Sam Howell	QB	North Carolina	2
43.	George Pickens	WR	Georgia	2
44.	Trey McBride	TE	Colorado State	2
45.	Travis Jones	DT	Connecticut	2
46.	Arnold Ebiketie	Edge	Penn State	2
47.	Logan Hall	DT	Houston	2
48.	Kyler Gordon	CB	Washington	2
49.	Tyler Smith	OT/OG	Tulsa	2
50.	Kenneth Walker III	RB	Michigan State	2
51.	DeMarvin Leal	DT	Texas A&M	2
52.	Jalen Pitre	S	Baylor	2
53.	Christian Harris	LB	Alabama	2
54.	Skyy Moore	WR	Western Michigan	2
55.	Perrion Winfrey	DT	Oklahoma	2
56.	Quay Walker	LB	Georgia	2
57.	Drake Jackson	Edge	USC	2-3
58.	Daniel Faalele	OT	Minnesota	2-3
59.	Chad Muma	LB	Wyoming	2-3
60.	Darian Kinnard	OT	Kentucky	2-3
61.	Nik Bonitto	Edge	Oklahoma	2-3
62.	Tariq Woolen	CB	UTSA	2-3
63.	Kingsley Enagbare	Edge	South Carolina	2-3
64.	Cameron Thomas	Edge	San Diego State	2-3
65.	Jalen Tolbert	WR	South Alabama	2-3
66.	John Metchie III	WR	Alabama	2-3
67.	Nicholas Petit-Frere	OT	Ohio State	2-3
68.	Leo Chenal	LB	Wisconsin	2-3
69.	Martin Emerson	CB	Mississippi State	2-3
70.	Greg Dulcich	TE	UCLA	2-3
71.	David Bell	WR	Purdue	2-3
72.	Sam Williams	Edge	Mississippi	2-3
73.	Phidarian Mathis	DT	Alabama	2-3
74.	Sean Rhyan	OT	UCLA	2-3
75.	Isaiah Spiller	RB	Texas A&M	2-3
76.	Myjai Sanders	Edge	Cincinnati	3
77.	Channing Tindall	LB	Georgia	3
78.	Carson Strong	QB	Nevada	3
79.	Abraham Lucas	OT	Washington State	3
80.	Dylan Parham	OG	Memphis	3
81.	Calvin Austin III	WR	Memphis	3
82.	Isaiah Likely	TE	Coastal Carolina	3
83.	Wan'Dale Robinson	WR	Kentucky	3
84.	Jamaree Salyer	OG	Georgia	3

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
85.	Cole Strange	OG/OC	Chattanooga	3
86.	Alec Pierce	WR	Cincinnati	3
87.	James Cook	RB	Georgia	3
88.	Troy Andersen	LB	Montana State	3
89.	Justyn Ross	WR	Clemson	3
90.	Rachad White	RB	Arizona State	3
91.	Coby Bryant	CB	Cincinnati	3
92.	Kerby Joseph	S	Illinois	3
93.	Bryan Cook	S	Cincinnati	3
94.	Brian Asamoah	LB	Oklahoma	3
95.	Brandon Smith	Edge	Penn State	3
96.	Khalil Shakir	WR	Boise State	3
97.	Ed Ingram	OG	LSU	3
98.	Dameon Pierce	RB	Florida	3
99.	Jelani Woods	TE	Virginia	3
100.	Max Mitchell	OT	Louisiana-Lafayette	3-4
101.	Jalen Wydermyer	TE	Texas A&M	3-4
102.	Jeremy Ruckert	TE	Ohio State	3-4
103.	Brian Robinson Jr.	RB	Alabama	3-4
104.	Nick Cross	S	Maryland	3-4
105.	Darrian Beavers	LB	Cincinnati	3-4
106.	Josh Paschal	Edge	Kentucky	3-4
107.	Josh Jobe	CB	Alabama	3-4
108.	Cade Otton	TE	Washington	3-4
109.	Cam Taylor-Britt	CB	Nebraska	3-4
110.	Derion Kendrick	CB	Georgia	3-4
111.	Zamir White	RB	Georgia	3-4
112.	Tariq Castro-Fields	CB	Penn State	3-4
113.	Rasheed Walker	OT	Penn State	3-4
114.	Marquis Hayes	OG	Oklahoma	3-4
115.	Cameron Jurgens	OC	Nebraska	4-5
116.	Marcus Jones	CB	Houston	4-5
117.	Jerome Ford	RB	Cincinnati	4-5
118.	Verone McKinley III	S	Oregon	4-5
119.	Luke Fortner	OC/OG	Kentucky	4-5
120.	Alontae Taylor	CB	Tennessee	4-5
121.	Jojo Domann	LB	Nebraska	4-5
122.	Braxton Jones	OT	Southern Utah	4-5
123.	Zachary Carter	DT	Florida	4-5
124.	Charlie Kolar	TE	Iowa State	4-5
125.	Kellen Diesch	OT	Arizona State	4-5
126.	Dominique Robinson	Edge	Miami, Ohio	4-5
127.	Haskell Garrett	DT	Ohio State	4-5
128.	Amaré Barno	Edge	Virginia Tech	4-5

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Name	Pos	College	Round*
129. Tyler Allgeier	RB	BYU	4-5
130. DeAngelo Malone	Edge	Western Kentucky	4-5
131. Thayer Munford	OG/OT	Ohio State	4-5
132. Matthew Butler	DT	Tennessee	4-5
133. Romeo Doubs	WR	Nevada	4-5
134. Lecitus Smith	OG	Virginia Tech	4-5
135. Akayleb Evans	CB	Missouri	4-5
136. Mario Goodrich	CB	Clemson	4-5
137. Bailey Zappe	QB	Western Kentucky	4-5
138. Zach Tom	OT	Wake Forest	4-5
139. Leon O'Neal Jr.	S	Texas A&M	4-5
140. Zyon McCollum	CB	Sam Houston	4-5
141. John Ridgeway	DT	Arkansas	4-5
142. Velus Jones Jr.	WR	Tennessee	4-5
143. Mykael Wright	CB	Oregon	4-5
144. Kyren Williams	RB	Notre Dame	4-5
145. Justin Shaffer	OG	Georgia	4-5
146. Neil Farrell Jr.	DT	LSU	4-5
147. Jalyn Armour-Davis	CB	Alabama	4-5
148. Dohnovan West	OC/OG/OT	Arizona State	4-5
149. Alec Lindstrom	OC/OG	Boston College	4-5
150. Jake Ferguson	TE	Wisconsin	4-5
151. Michael Clemons	Edge	Texas A&M	4-5
152. Luke Goedeke	OT	Central Michigan	4-5
153. Damone Clark	LB	LSU	4-5
154. Terrel Bernard	LB	Baylor	4-5
155. J.T. Woods	S	Baylor	4-5
156. Isaiah Thomas	Edge	Oklahoma	4-5
157. Otito Ogbonnia	NT	UCLA	4-5
158. Chris Hinton	DT	Michigan	4-5
159. Bo Melton	WR	Rutgers	4-5
160. Tyquan Thornton	WR	Baylor	4-5
161. Tyreke Smith	Edge	Ohio State	4-5
162. Bubba Bolden	S	Miami, Fla	4-5
163. Tyler Badie	RB	Missouri	4-5
164. Pierre Strong Jr.	RB	South Dakota State	4-5
165. Chigoziem Okonkwo	TE	Maryland	4-5
166. Malcolm Rodriguez	LB	Oklahoma State	4-5
167. Joshua Williams	CB	Fayetteville State	4-5
168. Chris Paul	OT/OG	Tulsa	4-5
169. Danny Gray	WR	SMU	4-5
170. Kyle Philips	WR	UCLA	4-5
171. Kalon Barnes	CB	Baylor	4-5
172. Matt Waletzko	OT	North Dakota	4-5

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
173.	Smoke Monday	S	Auburn	4-5
174.	Jesse Luketa	Edge	Penn State	4-5
175.	Mike Rose	LB	Iowa State	4-5
176.	Thomas Booker	DT	Stanford	4-5
177.	Jeffrey Gunter	Edge	Coastal Carolina	4-5
178.	Grant Calcaterra	TE	SMU	4-5
179.	Jayden Peevy	DT	Texas A&M	4-5
180.	Obinna Eze	OT	TCU	4-5
181.	Erik Ezukanma	WR	Texas Tech	6-7
182.	Hassan Haskins	RB	Michigan	6-7
183.	Alex Wright	Edge	UAB	6-7
184.	D'Marco Jackson	LB	Appalachian State	6-7
185.	Cole Turner	TE	Nevada	6-7
186.	Kaleb Eleby	QB	Western Michigan	6-7
187.	Aaron Hansford	LB	Texas A&M	6-7
188.	Cade Mays	OG	Tennessee	6-7
189.	D'Vonte Price	RB	FIU	6-7
190.	Matt Araiza	P	San Diego State	6-7
191.	Cordale Flott	CB	LSU	6-7
192.	Spencer Burford	OT	UTSA	6-7
193.	Ty Chandler	RB	North Carolina	6-7
194.	Zakoby McClain	LB	Auburn	6-7
195.	Abram Smith	RB	Baylor	6-7
196.	Tycen Anderson	S	Toledo	6-7
197.	Eyioma Uwazurike	DT	Iowa State	6-7
198.	Jack Sanborn	LB	Wisconsin	6-7
199.	Daniel Bellinger	TE	San Diego State	6-7
200.	Tyler Goodson	RB	Iowa	6-7
201.	Zonovan Knight	RB	North Carolina State	6-7
202.	Yusuf Corker	S	Kentucky	6-7
203.	Myron Tagovailoa-Amosa	DT	Notre Dame	6-7
204.	Jaivon Heiligh	WR	Coastal Carolina	6-7
205.	Micah McFadden	LB	Indiana	6-7
206.	Logan Bruss	OG/OT	Wisconsin	6-7
207.	Dontario Drummond	WR	Mississippi	6-7
208.	Dare Rosenthal	OT	Kentucky	6-7
209.	Damarri Mathis	CB	Pittsburgh	6-7
210.	Tré Turner	WR	Virginia Tech	6-7
211.	Jerrion Ealy	RB	Mississippi	6-7
212.	James Mitchell	TE	Virginia Tech	6-7
213.	Jermaine Waller	CB	Virginia Tech	6-7
214.	Reggie Roberson Jr.	WR	SMU	6-7
215.	Markquese Bell	S	Florida A&M	6-7
216.	Jaylen Watson	CB	Washington State	6-7

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

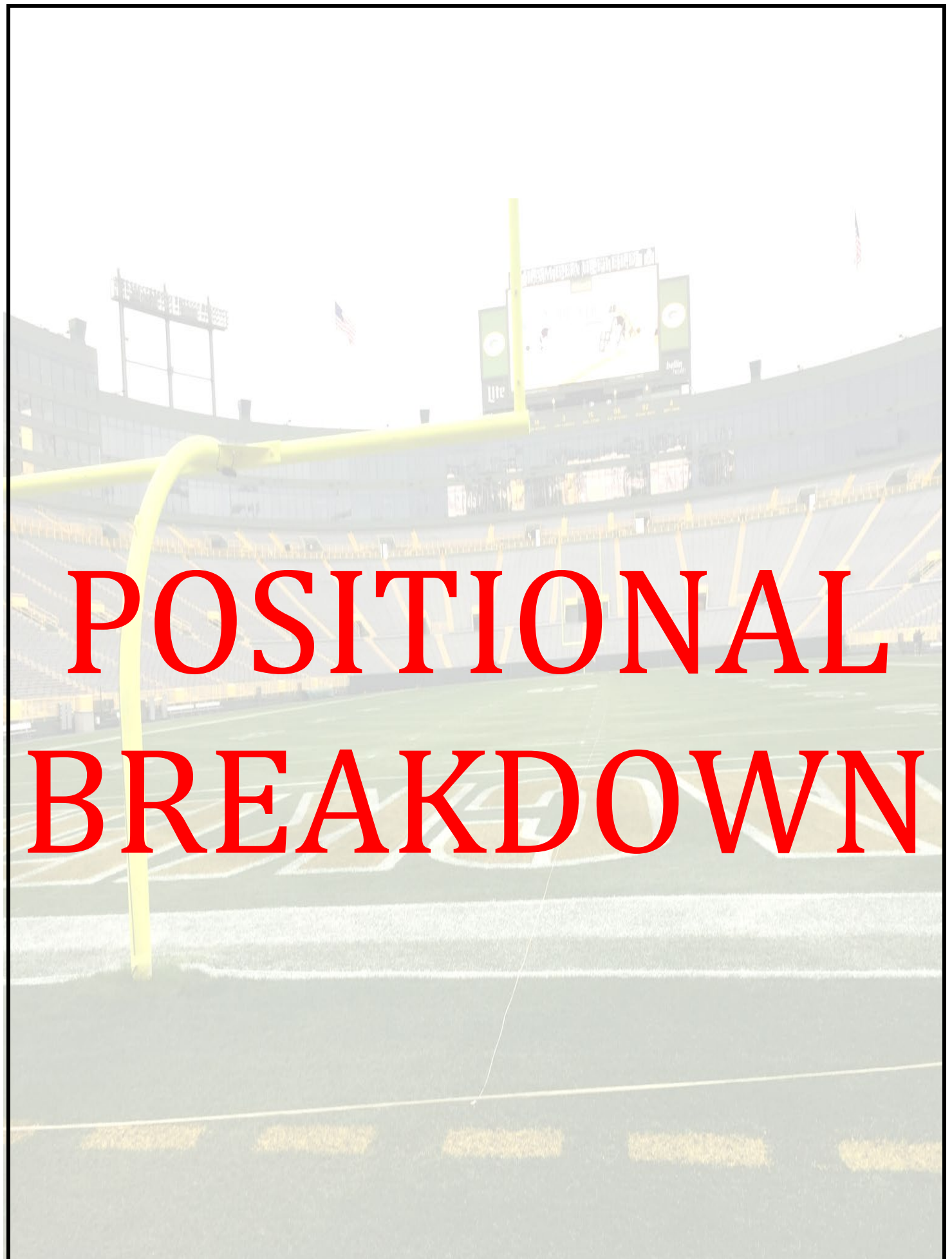
	Name	Pos	College	Round*
217.	Jeremiah Gemmel	LB	North Carolina	6-7
218.	Charleston Rambo	WR	Miami, Fla	6-7
219.	Decobie Durant	CB	South Carolina State	6-7
220.	Kevin Austin Jr.	WR	Notre Dame	6-7
221.	Dane Belton	S	Iowa	6-7
222.	Percy Butler	S	Louisiana-Lafayette	6-7
223.	Jalen Nailor	WR	Michigan State	6-7
224.	Jeremiah Moon	LB/Edge	Florida	6-7
225.	Isaac Taylor-Stuart	CB	USC	6-7
226.	ZaQuandre White	RB	South Carolina	6-7
227.	Chasen Hines	OG	LSU	6-7
228.	Esezi Otomewo	DT	Minnesota	6-7
229.	Dai' Jean Dixon	WR	Nicholls State	6-7
230.	Christopher Allen	Edge	Alabama	6-7
231.	Kolby Harvell-Peel	S	Oklahoma State	6-7
232.	Sincere McCormick	RB	UTSA	6-7
233.	Ty Fryfogle	WR	Indiana	6-7
234.	Luke Wattenberg	OC	Washington	6-7
235.	Jack Jones	CB	Arizona State	6-7
236.	Marquan McCall	DT	Kentucky	6-7
237.	Sterling Weatherford	S	Miami, Ohio	6-7
238.	Jack Coan	QB	Notre Dame	6-7
239.	Joshua Ezeudu	OG	North Carolina	6-7
240.	Nick Zakelj	OT	Fordham	6-7
241.	Kennedy Brooks	RB	Oklahoma	6-7
242.	Cordell Volson	OT	North Dakota State	6-7
243.	Jerreth Sterns	WR	Western Kentucky	6-7
244.	Andrew Stueber	OG/OT	Michigan	6-7
245.	Quentin Lake	S	UCLA	6-7
246.	Derrick Deese Jr.	TE	San Jose State	6-7
247.	Jordan Stout	P	Penn State	6-7
248.	LaBryan Ray	DT	Alabama	6-7
249.	E.J. Perry	QB	Brown	6-7
250.	Luke Tenuta	OT	Virginia Tech	6-7
251.	Chase Lucas	CB	Arizona State	6-7
252.	Ellis Brooks	LB	Penn State	6-7
253.	Connor Heyward	TE	Michigan State	6-7
254.	Isaiah Weston	WR	Northern Iowa	6-7
255.	James Empey	OC	BYU	6-7
256.	Myron Cunningham	OT	Arkansas	6-7
257.	Noah Elliss	DT	Idaho	7-UDFA
258.	Jashaun Corbin	RB	FSU	7-UDFA
259.	Ja'Tyre Carter	OT/OG	Southern University	7-UDFA
260.	Josh Thompson	CB	Texas	7-UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
261.	Cole Kelley	QB	SE Louisiana	7-UDFA
262.	Montaric Brown	CB	Arkansas	7-UDFA
263.	Juanyeh Thomas	S	Georgia Tech	7-UDFA
264.	Chance Campbell	LB	Mississippi	7-UDFA
265.	Nate Landman	LB	Colorado	7-UDFA
266.	Nephi Sewell	LB	Utah	7-UDFA
267.	Kevin Harris	RB	South Carolina	7-UDFA
268.	Tyree Johnson	Edge	Texas A&M	7-UDFA
269.	Vederian Lowe	OT	Illinois	7-UDFA
270.	Vincent Gray	CB	Michigan	7-UDFA
271.	Makai Polk	WR	Mississippi State	7-UDFA
272.	Austin Allen	TE	Nebraska	7-UDFA
273.	Tyrese Robinson	OG	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
274.	Josh Ross	LB	Michigan	7-UDFA
275.	Zachary Thomas	OT/OG	San Diego State	7-UDFA
276.	Reed Blankenship	S	Middle Tennessee	7-UDFA
277.	Keaontay Ingram	RB	USC	7-UDFA
278.	Skylar Thompson	QB	Kansas State	7-UDFA
279.	Lucas Krull	TE	Pittsburgh	7-UDFA
280.	Brock Purdy	QB	Iowa State	7-UDFA
281.	Jake Camarda	P	Georgia	7-UDFA
282.	Tre Williams	Edge	Arkansas	7-UDFA
283.	Eric Johnson	DT	Missouri State	7-UDFA
284.	Kalia Davis	DT	UCF	7-UDFA
285.	Jeremiah Hall	TE	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
286.	Delarrin Turner-Yell	S	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
287.	Slade Bolden	WR	Alabama	7-UDFA
288.	Isiah Pacheco	RB	Rutgers	7-UDFA
289.	Josh Johnson	WR	Tulsa	7-UDFA
290.	C.J. Verdell	RB	Oregon	7-UDFA
291.	Chris Steele	CB	USC	UDFA
292.	David Anenih	Edge	Houston	UDFA
293.	Darien Butler	LB	Arizona State	UDFA
294.	Braylon Sanders	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
295.	Jaquarii Roberson	WR	Wake Forest	UDFA
296.	Ben Brown	OG/OC	Mississippi	UDFA
297.	Gabe Brkic	K	Oklahoma	UDFA
298.	Cameron Dicker	K	Texas	UDFA
299.	Austin Deculus	OT	LSU	UDFA
300.	Max Borghi	RB	Washington State	UDFA

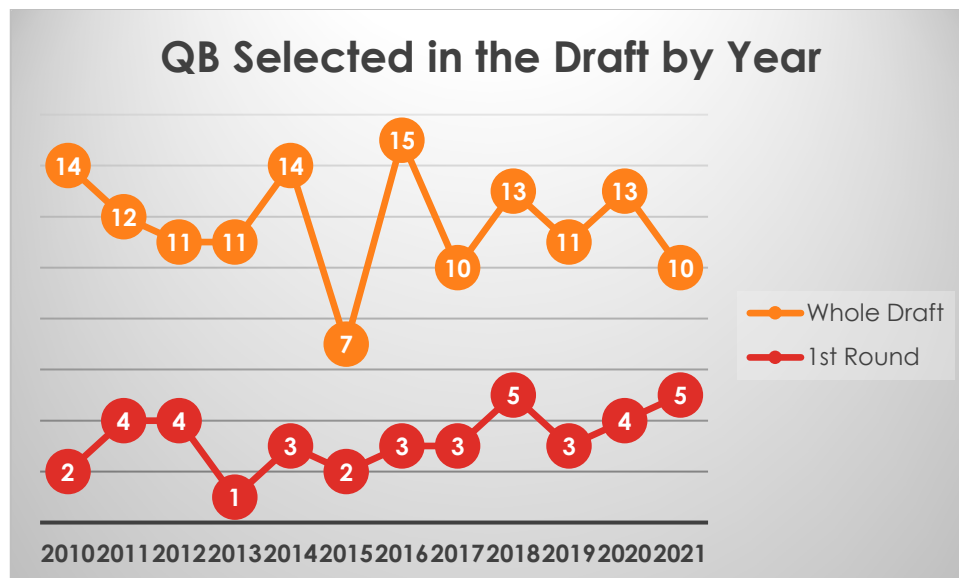
Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)



QUARTERBACKS

2022 General Draft Outlook: This quarterback class is a difficult one to put in order. There isn't an out and out leader amongst the group, but instead there are 2-5 guys that could possibly get selected in the first round. There isn't a sure fire really early pick in this draft but there are a couple of guys – Malik Willis and Kenny Pickett - who could go relatively high in round 1, depending on what teams are looking for, how they grade those players and how they view potential v production.

The others who may have a chance of being selected in round 1 are Matt Corral, Sam Howell and the first round outsider, Desmond Ridder. Each of them brings their own unique mixture of skills to the table. This draft is not deep in quarterbacks beyond the aforementioned five and it's not impossible that only two more passers are selected in the entire draft – Carson Strong (perhaps on day 2) and Bailey Zappe (middle rounds).



Packers Outlook: At the time of writing, the Packers are well set at quarterback with Aaron Rodgers, Jordan Love and Kurt Benkert on the depth chart. Assuming that nothing changes between now and the draft then there is no reason to believe that Green Bay would spend a draft choice on another quarterback.

If, and it's a big if, the Packers make a roster move here – perhaps a team makes a trade offer that is just too good to refuse for Jordan Love (say, a second round pick), then they may look to draft a passer who is a little bit of a project.

Either the super strong armed Carson Strong or the prolific Bailey Zappe could be the option.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers have selected just 3 QBs in the last 13 drafts: Jordan Love (2020), Brett Hundley (2015) and B.J. Coleman (2012)

TOP QUARTERBACKS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Malik Willis	QB	Liberty	1
2.	Kenny Pickett	QB	Pittsburgh	1
3.	Matt Corral	QB	Mississippi	1-2
4.	Desmond Ridder	QB	Cincinnati	1-2
5.	Sam Howell	QB	North Carolina	2
6.	Carson Strong	QB	Nevada	3
7.	Bailey Zappe	QB	Western Kentucky	4-5
8.	Kaleb Eleby	QB	Western Michigan	6-7
9.	Jack Coan	QB	Notre Dame	6-7
10.	E.J. Perry	QB	Brown	6-7
11.	Cole Kelley	QB	Southeastern Louisiana	7-UDFA
12.	Skylar Thompson	QB	Kansas State	7-UDFA
13.	Brock Purdy	QB	Iowa State	7-UDFA
14.	Dustin Crum	QB	Kent State	UDFA
15.	D'Eriq King	QB	Miami, Fla	UDFA
16.	Aqeel Glass	QB	Alabama A&M	UDFA
17.	Chase Garbers	QB	California	UDFA
18.	McKenzie Milton	QB	FSU	UDFA
19.	Brandon Peters	QB	Illinois	UDFA
20.	Levi Lewis	QB	Louisiana-Lafayette	UDFA
21.	Eric Barriere	QB	Eastern Washington	UDFA
22.	Cole Johnson	QB	James Madison	UDFA
23.	Davis Cheek	QB	Elon	UDFA
24.	Chris Oladokun	QB	South Dakota State	UDFA
25.	Anthony Brown	QB	Oregon	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Malik Willis (Liberty)

QB1

Size: 6-1, 220 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Nephew of former NFL linebacker James Anderson. Willis was at Auburn for 2 years (2017-18) but played very little in that time. He then transferred to Liberty where he sat out 2019 before his career took a huge upward turn in 2020 and 2021. Playing at Liberty, Willis lacks college experience at the "top" college level.

Willis is a super talented and dynamic QB with many of the tools needed for the NFL – simply put, there are many times when Willis already looks like a pro QB. He is the athletic epitome of the in-vogue NFL passer – a fine athlete, with great mobility, a huge arm and quick release, although he lacks ideal height. The arm really stands out every time you see him. On the downside he isn't as accurate or as consistent as he needs to be. His athleticism means that Willis can make huge plays with his legs – he's a threat every time he gets outside the pocket and his toughness shows in the difficulty defenses have in bringing him down. Will turn broken plays into big gainers.

College Stats & Highlights: Including his time at both Liberty and Auburn, Willis passed for 5,176 yards and 48 touchdowns, with 18 interceptions while completing 62.8% of his passes. He also rushed for 2,131 yards and 29 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Unitas Award semi-finalist. LendingTree Bowl MVP. **2020** Dudley Award winner. FBC Mortgage Cure Bowl MVP.

DID YOU KNOW?

Former Packers RB Samkon Gado played his college football at Liberty.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Athletic, big play maker with a huge arm
- Exciting prospect with biggest upside of any QB in this draft
- Question marks over level of opposition, but has played well against "bigger" opposition
- Flashed excellence at the Senior Bowl and was really good at the combine
- Great attitude and willingness to learn
- Would be good if he could be drafted by a team who can sit him and give him time to develop - development time is crucial
- Probably off the board in the first 20 picks overall, and perhaps in the top 10

Kenny Pickett (Pittsburgh)

QB2

Size: 6-3, 220 **40:**

Class: Super Senior

Is a very experienced quarterback (49 college start) with leadership ability and poise in the pocket. First became the starter at Pitt in the final game of his freshman season (2017). Held the starting job for the remainder of his time as a Panther, having 3 solid years before finishing his career with an exceptional 2021 season.

Pickett is an extremely consistent and accurate passer with excellent ball placement, which he couples with the ability to throw his receivers open. Pickett's arm strength is ok, without it blowing you away, but he does have a quick release, with the ball getting out of there once the decision to pass has been made.

Has good size and is a nice athlete with the ability to run and gain ground, but has the maturity not take off and run too quickly – allowing pass plays the chance to develop, throwing well on the move. Pickett has small hands which seems to matter to some – some link this to the number of fumbles that he had in college.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 52 games (49 starts) in his Pittsburgh career, completing 62.4% of his passes for 12,303 yards, 81 touchdowns, with 32 interceptions. Ended his career owning the career and single-season school records for passing yards and passing touchdowns. Also rushed for 801 yards and 20 touchdowns whilst at Pitt.

Injury Notes: Had ankle surgery during 2020. Has no apparent ongoing issues.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 3rd in Heisman Trophy voting. Unitas Award winner. Maxwell Award finalist. Manning Award finalist. O'Brien Award finalist. Walter Camp Award finalist. AP 2nd Team All-American. ACC Player of the Year. ACC Offensive Player of the Year. 1st Team All-ACC. Senior CLASS Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Outstanding 2021 after 3 solid seasons
- Came from way down the board in 2021 to become one of the top QBs
- Consistent performance at the Senior Bowl solidified draft status
- Very experienced at the college level
- Small hand size may put off some teams
- Solid rather than spectacular, but he delivers
- May start day 1 in the NFL
- Should be off the board in the 1st round

Matt Corral (Mississippi)

QB3

Size: 6-1, 206 **40:**

Class: Junior

Is a talented and accurate passer who first became a part time starter at Ole Miss in 2019, having been highly recruited out of high school. Broke out in 2020, initially coming off the bench, to bring his name back to the notice of NFL scouts. Followed that up with an excellent 2021. Lacks ideal size but is a talented, accurate passer with good pocket presence. He throws with arm strength but can also put touch on his passes when required. He throws a really nice deep ball. Good athlete who is very mobile and will pick up good yardage with his legs – both scrambling and also by design.

May need to cut down on how much he runs in the pros – lots of hits is not good for a quarterback's longevity. Can throw on the move but could probably do with some work in this area. Is responsible for slightly more turnovers than you would like. Corral is tough and reportedly has a laid back personality, which teammates like. Comes with lots of experience, particularly with running offenses that incorporate RPOs. Has had some personal issues.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 37 games at Ole Miss, completing 67.3% of his passes for 8,281 yards and 57 touchdowns, with 23 interceptions. Had 13 career 300 yard passing games, including 1 over 500 and a further 1 over 400. Also rushed for 1,338 yards and 18 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered a high ankle sprain just prior to the bowl game at the end of the 2021 season, but still opted to play. Injury prevented him from working out at the combine.

Honours: **2021** 7th in Heisman Trophy voting. Unitas & Manning Awards finalist. Conerly Trophy winner. 2nd Team All-SEC. Outback Bowl MVP. **2020** PFF 3rd Team All-SEC. Manning Award finalist. 2020 Davey O'Brien Award semi-finalist.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- 4 year starter, who has improved consistency in last 2 seasons
- Doesn't quite have ideal pro size
- Really good arm strength and release
- Throws with accuracy
- Has mobility
- Will need time to develop in the pros
- Probably a 1st or 2nd round draft choice

Desmond Ridder (Cincinnati)

QB4

Size: 6-3, 211 **40:** 4.52

Class: Senior

Ridder has the close to the ideal size for a quarterback that pro scouts look for. He is also a super athlete who is a dual threat to defenses.

At Cincinnati Ridder redshirted his first season (2017), before winning the starting quarterback role for the Bearcats in 2018. Remained the starter throughout his college career, leading his school through an incredible 2021 season and into the CFP National Championship Playoffs.

As a passer Ridder he has a nice arm – which is much stronger than many give him credit for – and a quick release. He isn't as consistently accurate as you would like but continues to improve in this area. Ridder can move in the pocket and roll-out being able to throw on the run. As a runner he creates plays and has enough speed to outrun many defenders.

Ridder is a very experienced team Leader who knows how to win games and one that his teammates look up to. Plays really well when he gets in a rhythm. Looking in total command of the offense.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games (48 starts) in his Cincinnati career, passing for 10,239 yards and 87 touchdowns, with 28 interceptions. Ridder completed 62.1% of his passes. Also rushed for 2,180 yards and 28 touchdowns. Is one of only 3 quarterbacks in NCAA history to win 44 games. Had 6 career 300 yard passing games.

Injury Notes: Had niggling injuries throughout the 2019 season but was able to play through them. There appears to be no ongoing issues.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 8th in Heisman Trophy voting. Unitas & Manning Awards finalist. 1st Team All-AAC. Academic All-District. **2020 & 2021** AAC Offensive Player of the Year. **2020** 1st Team All-AAC. Manning Award finalist. Maxwell, Walter Camp & O'Brien Awards semi-finalist. AAC Championship Game MVP. Birmingham Bowl MVP. Academic All-District. **2018** AAC Rookie of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Already looks like a pro quarterback
- Great combination of size, athletic ability and passing skills
- Accuracy is improving
- Excellent 2021 has moved him into high round contention
- Probably a 2nd round draft choice, but could sneak into the 1st.

Sam Howell (North Carolina)

QB5

Size: 6-1½, 225 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine or pro day)

Class: Junior

Having set the NC record for passing yards at the HS level, Howell burst onto the college scene when he threw for 38 tds in his freshman season – an FBS record for a freshman. Has been the starter for UNC since the first game of that freshman season. Struggled at the start of the 2021 season but bounced back.

Is a very experienced passer, who exudes confidence and raises the play of those around him. Lacks prototypical size for a pro QB, but he's big and tough enough. He has many of the attributes that you look for in top notch QB prospect including good pocket presence and the patience to go through his progressions.

Really strong arm, being able to throw deep with the best of them but can also pass with touch. Has a nice throwing motion, getting rid of the ball quickly, delivering a nice spiral with good accuracy. Is a nice athlete with game mobility and will complete passes on the run – also using legs to pick up yards – either on designed runs or on broken plays. Possibly takes too many hits for his own good.

College Stats & Highlights: Played and started in 37 games for NC, completing 63.8% of his passes for 10,283 yards and 93 touchdowns, with 23 interceptions. Holds just about every school passing record, including passing yards and touchdowns. Also rushed for 1,009 yards and 17 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Missed a little bit of time in 2021 due to what was described as an "upper-body injury". Appears to have no lasting ill-effects from the injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Honorable Mention All-ACC. **2020** 2nd Team All-ACC. Manning Award finalist. Maxwell Award semi-finalist. **2019** 3rd Team All-ACC. ACC Rookie of the Year. ACC Offensive Rookie of the Year. USA Today Freshman All-American. Military Bowl MVP. All-ACC Academic Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Strong armed QB who can make all the throws
- Been on trajectory to the top since freshman season
- Has overcome the odd bump in the road long the way
- Nice week at the Senior Bowl solidified draft status
- Needs to learn when to throw the ball away rather than take the sack
- Will develop into NFL starter probaby after sitting a year
- Likely a 2nd round draft choice, but some analysts have him going in the 1st

Carson Strong (Nevada)



QB6

Size: 6-4, 215 **40:**

Class: Junior

Strong is the closest thing to prototypical pocket passer in this draft. Has a huge arm – an absolute cannon and nice size. He almost certainly has the strongest arm in this draft (Malik Willis may argue!). This arm strength is coupled with a quick release which makes him a really good looking passer of the football,

Unfortunately he missed his senior year in high school due to a knee injury – and the knee has continued to be a problem on and off. Earned the starting role at Nevada in 2019 (having redshirted the 2018 season) and was the starter for the remainder of his time at Nevada, although he opted out of the Quick Lane Bowl at the end of 2021 in order to commence his preparation for the draft.

Strong needs to work on the consistency of his ball placement – accuracy is sometimes off. Isn't overly mobile and doesn't make many plays when flushed. Won't beat teams with his legs. Ability to deal with pressure is a question mark. Is used to leading a pass-oriented offense.

College Stats & Highlights: In his Nevada career, Strong played in 32 games (30 starts) and passed for 9,379 yards and 74 touchdowns (with 19 interceptions). He completed 68.1% of his passes. Had 17 career 300 yard passing games, which included 5 over 400 yards. Also rushed for 305 yards.

Injury Notes: Has a nagging knee problem that required multiple surgeries between 2017 and 2022. According to reports, the issue relates to a condition called osteochondritis dissecans – hopefully it's a problem that can be resolved.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Manning Award finalist. Unitas & O'Brien Awards semi-finalist. **2020 & 2021** Mountain West Offensive Player of the Year. 1st Team All-Mountain West.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Huge arm - perhaps the strongest in this draft
- Struggled at the Senior Bowl
- Injury history
- Lack of mobility may be an issue
- Pure pocket passer
- Should be a 3rd round draft choice

Bailey Zappe (Western Kentucky)

QB7

Size: 6-0½ , 215 **40:** 4.88 (combine)

Class: Senior

Zappe is a very tidy passer who is a team leader type exuding confidence and raises those around him. Doesn't have great size nor does he have the prototypical NFL type arm strength and release but is smart player who generally makes good decisions, reads the pressure, finds the open receiver, and gets the job done – simply put, he produces

At the college level, Zappe became a prolific passer at HBU (Houston Baptist University) before transferring to Western Kentucky prior to the 2021 season, for his senior season - along with outstanding wide receiver Jerreth Sterns (and offensive Co-Ordinator Zach Kittley). Sterns is also a potential 2022 draftee. Zappe had an incredible 2021 season – truly lighting up the year and putting up huge numbers.

Zappe is an extremely accurate passer. He has some mobility and can throw on the move, but his lack of arm strength hurts him in these situations. Occasionally will zero in on his favourite receiver, missing out on potential plays elsewhere. But on the plus side, Zappe isn't a guy who quickly gives up on his progressions and look to run. Is able to pick up useful yards with his legs but won't beat teams running – that's not his game.

College Stats & Highlights: Passed for 14,433 yards in his college career, with a 64.6% completion rate. Had 135 touchdown passes and just 40 interceptions. In a massive 2021, Zappe broke the FBS records for passing yards and passing touchdowns in a season – notching up 5,967 yards and 62 scoring throws. Threw for 300+ yards in 13 of his 14 games in 2021.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** Manning Award finalist. Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award winner. PFN Offensive Player of the Year. PFN QB of the Year. Davey O'Brien & Walter Camp Awards semi-finalist. PFN 2nd Team All-American. Conference USA MVP. TDN Conference USA Player of the Year. 1st Team All-Conference USA. Bacon Raton Bowl Offensive MVP. **2020** Southland Conference Co-Offensive Player of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks some of the ideal traits for a pro QB
- Tough, accurate passer who produces
- Wasn't great at he Senior Bowl week
- Lack of strength gives him look of NFL back-up
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Kaleb Eleby (Western Michigan)

QB8

Size: 6-1, 210 **40:** 4.91 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Eleby lacks the prototypical height that you'd hope for in a pro quarterback. He is an accurate thrower who makes quick decisions and gets rid of the football on time. Keeps big mistakes to a minimum, rarely turning the ball over.

Eleby was a multi-sport athlete in high school, running track and playing basketball as well as playing football. As a quarterback, he put up big career passing numbers, completing 64% of his passes and throwing for nearly 10,000 yards and 95 touchdowns. Became the starting quarterback at WMU due to injury midway through his freshman season (2018). Then didn't play in 2019 (redshirting), before becoming the starter again in 2020 and 2021. Declared for the draft as an underclassman.

Eleby has a nice release and can throw the deep ball, with a really good arm. But his forte is running an offense that "moves the chains" throwing in the short to intermediate range.

Can move around in the pocket enough to escape the rush but overall isn't an outstanding athlete and has average mobility. Will get outside his comfort zone when he's flushed out of the pocket and isn't a threat to take off and make yards running the football. However, he has a feel for running the QB sneak.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 24 games in his Broncos career, completing 63.4% of his passes and throwing for 6,068 yards and 45 touchdowns, with just 11 interceptions. Had 6 300 yard passing games. Rushed for just 75 yards on 150 carries (0.5 average), with 13 touchdowns. Had a fine 2021 season in which he passed for over 3,000 yards and 23 touchdowns (with just 6 interceptions).

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-MAC. 2020 3rd Team All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Surprisingly opted to enter the draft this year
- Solid QB without having an attribute that will blow scouts away
- Perhaps hasn't developed as much as expected
- Will need time to develop behind an experience starter
- Likely a career back-up in the NFL.
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Jack Coan (Notre Dame)



QB9

Size: 6-3, 221 **40:** 4.90 (combine)

Class: Senior

Coan has good size and is a hard-working team leader type who teammates look up to. He is an intelligent quarterback, who looks at his best as a passer when he leads a tempo, rhythm type offense.

After being a record setting quarterback in high school Coan started 18 games at Wisconsin from 2018-19 before missing 2020 season due to a foot injury. Transferred from the Badgers to Notre Dame between the 2020 and 2021 seasons. Had a very nice 2021 season for the Fighting Irish.

Coan is a really accurate thrower on short and intermediate passes and is careful with the football. Needs to improve that accuracy on the deep ball – has good enough arm strength to make those deep throws. Can move in the pocket to escape the pass rush but won't beat teams with his legs. Showed a level of flexibility when he changed offenses from the Badgers to the Fighting Irish. Appears to be a player who is getting better with each season.

College Stats & Highlights: Played & started in 13 games for the Fighting Irish, completing 66.5% of his passes for 3,150 yards with 25 touchdowns and 7 interceptions. Had 3 300+ yards passing games. Also rushed for 2 touchdowns. Had a huge game in the 2021 Fiesta Bowl, passing for 501 yards and 5 touchdowns.

Played in 25 games (22 starts) for the Badgers, completing 68.0% of his passes for 3,278 yards and 23 touchdowns, with 8 interceptions. Had 1 300+ yard passing game. Also rushed for 5 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Missed hole of the 2020 season due to a right foot injury that required surgery. Came back in 2021 to play well, with no ill-effects from the injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Phil Steele 2nd Team All-Independent. Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award semi-finalist. Senior CLASS Award finalist. **2020** William V. Campbell Award semi-finalist. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2018 & 2019** Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has some traits that will endear him to pro scouts
- Has some upside
- Likely will be a project for team who can spend time developing him
- Will compete for roster spot, although he could wind up on a practice squad
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

E.J. Perry (Brown)

QB10

Size: 6-2, 210 **40:** 4.65 (combine)

Class: Senior

Running the spread offense, Perry was an exciting dual threat QB with the skills and athletic ability to beat teams with both his arm and legs. It has to be kept in mind, that playing at Brown he was performing at a "lower" level of college football.

Previous to Brown, played at Boston College for two years (2017-18) but didn't see much action. Transferred to Brown, where he was able to show what he could do, and his career took a huge leap upwards. Performance at Brown was so good that he earned himself an invite to the East-West Shrine Game and to the Combine – great recognition and the opportunity to mix it with the "big boys" of college football.

Perry has really nice arm strength and release. He is strong and tough and is prepared to take a hit in order to make the play. However, Perry he be much more careful with the football – doesn't always make the best decisions with where he throws. Needs to learn to be more patient and let plays develop.

College Stats & Highlights: In his 2 years at Brown, Perry played in 20 games, completing 64.8% of his passes for 5,981 yards and 45 touchdowns, with 27 interceptions. Had 11 career 300 yard passing games, including 3 of over 400 yards. Also rushed for 1,132 yards (4.5 average) and 15 touchdowns. Caught 2 passes for 66 yards and 1 touchdown. In 2019, his 3,678 total yards was a new Ivy League record. Had an incredible 94 yard touchdown run against Bryant in 2019.

Played in 6 games in his 2 seasons at BC, completing 69.2% of his passes for 277 yards and 2 touchdowns, with no interceptions. Also rushed for 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2022** East-West Shrine Game Offensive MVP. **2020** William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. **2019** 1st Team All-Ivy League. Asa Bushnell Cup finalist (Ivy League Player of the Year Award).

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- College production came at "lower" levels of college football
- Excellent in the East-West Shrine Game, helping his draft chances
- Combine invite meant his skills were intriguing pro scouts
- Skills to perhaps be a Taysom Hill type, although some see him at RB or WR
- Project
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Cole Kelley (SE Louisiana)

QB11

Size: 6-7, 250 **40:**

Class:

Kelley is a huge man playing the quarterback position. He is a traditional pocket passer who throws the football with great accuracy. He also has a good arm to go along with that accuracy, although his release needs work.

Kelley had a highly successful high school career, he started his college career at Arkansas where he started in just 6 games in his 2 years. After the 2018 season, having lost the starting quarterback role, Kelley decided to transfer to Southeastern Louisiana. Played as a back-up for the Lions in 2019 before having two really impressive seasons as the starter (2020-21).

Needs to develop his ability to read defenses and make the appropriate decision, particularly when he is being put under pressure – figuratively and literally.

For such a big man, Kelley is able to pick up some key yards with his legs. Importantly he always a threat to score down near the goal line as evidenced by the number of rushing touchdowns in his career.

College Stats & Highlights: In 3 years for the Lions, Kelley played in 32 games (19 starts) and completed 72% of his passes while throwing for 8,602 yards and 72 touchdowns (with just 16 interceptions). Had 18 career 300 yard passing games, including 7 400 yard passing games and an incredible 647 yards passing against Incarnate Word. He also rushed for 737 yards (2.3 average) and 33 touchdowns. Also caught 2 passes on trick plays – both of them going for touchdowns.

Played in 18 games (6 starts) at Arkansas, completing 56% of his passes, throwing for 1,493 yards and 13 touchdowns (with 9 interceptions). Also rushed for 5 scores. .

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** FCS Walter Payton Award finalist. Southland Conf. Player of the Year. 1st Team All-Southland Conf. **2020** FCS Walter Payton Award winner. PFF 1st Team FCS All-American. Southland Conf. Offensive Player of the Year. 2nd Team All-Southland Conference. **2017** 1st Year SEC Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Brings a mixture of ability and question marks
- Level of opposition is a question
- Intriguing outsider as a prospect
- Lots of development required - likely a practice squad player
- May go undrafted or perhaps a 7th round draft choice

Skylar Thompson (Kansas State)



QB12

Size: 6-2, 217 **40:** 4.91 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Thompson was a very effective multi-purpose quarterback in high school (Missouri), being able to beat teams with both his arm and legs. Opted to attend Kansas State to play his college football. Redshirted his freshman season (2017) before earning the starting quarterback job towards the end of the 2018 season. Remained the starter for the rest of his KSU career, except when injured (he missed all but 3 games in 2020 and missed 2 games in 2021 due to injury).

Thompson has decent size and good athleticism. He is a very experienced (40 starts) signal caller around whom his teammates appear to rally. Thompson is an intelligent player who is skilled in reading defenses. His arm and release are ok, but not outstanding. He is generally a safe passer who is more likely to throw the ball away rather than force a throw into coverage, but he also isn't the most accurate of throwers.

Has the ability to move to escape the pass rush and throw with some accuracy on the run. Thompson can also hurt teams with his legs, so will pick up rushing yards when outside the pocket, utilising a little speed.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 45 games (40 starts) for Kansas State. Completed 62.4% of his passes for 7,124 yards and 42 touchdowns, with just 16 interceptions. Had 3 career 300 yard passing games. Also rushed for 1,087 yards (3.1 average) and 26 touchdowns. Thompson ranks in the top 10 in nearly all of Kansas State's passing records.

Injury Notes: Missed most of 2020 due to a shoulder injury that required surgery. Missed two games at the beginning of 2021 with a minor right knee injury. Seems to have no lasting effects from the injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Texas Bowl MVP. Jason Whitten Collegiate Man of the Year Award semi-finalist. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. **2019** Liberty Bowl Team Offensive MVP. **2017** Honorable Mention Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- After 6 years in college, will turn 25 years old in Jne
- Injury history
- Solid all-round QB at the college level
- Will be in an NFL camp - likely a practice squad player
- May go undrafted or perhaps a 7th round draft choice

Brock Purdy (Iowa State)

QB13

Size: 6-1, 216 **40:** 4.84 (combine)

Class: Senior

Father Shawn was a former pro baseball player. Brock is a confident, team leader type with average size for an NFL quarterback. He is a super experienced passer (46 starts in college), who is tough and has lots of great skills but has struggled to consistently put them all together.

Following a very productive high school career, in which he was rated as the best high school player in the state of Arizona, Brock quickly became the starter at Iowa State – earning the starting role just 3 games into his freshman season. He ended that season with over 3,000 yards passing and remained the starter for the rest of his Iowa State career. Recorded a second 3,000 yard passing season in 2021.

Purdy throws with good accuracy but is a streaky passer – when he is on, he is really hot and can put defenses to the sword but will also go through cold times. Has a decent arm and release. He is extremely mobile, can throw on the run and will pick up extra yards with his legs. Good ball handler and can handle the RPO.

Sometimes seems to try and carry the load for his team by himself and can overreach and errors will creep in. Has to play within the offense.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games (46 starts) at Iowa State. Passed for 12,170 yards and 81 touchdowns while completing 67.7% of his passes – all of which are school records. Also rushed for 1,177 yards and 19 touchdowns. Purdy also owns the school records for career passing efficiency (151.1) and the single-season passing records for yards, touchdowns, and completion percentage.

Injury Notes: Purdy has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big 12. **2nd** Team Academic All-American. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. **2021** 2nd Team Senior Class All-American. **2020 & 2019** Davey O'Brien Award semi-finalist. **2020** Manning & Uitas Awards semi-finalist. Fiesta Bowl MVP. **2019** 2nd Team All-Big 12. **2018** ESPN Big 12 True Freshman of the Year. Outstanding Newcomer of the Year. Academic All-Big 12 Rookie Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Potential far outweighs production
- How much emphasis will an NFL team put on what could be?
- Probably a developmental project
- May go undrafted or perhaps a 7th round draft choice

Dustin Crum (Kent State)

QB14

Size: 6-1, 210 **40:** 4.75 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Crum had a productive high school career in Ohio, earning All-District and All-State honours as dual-purpose quarterback – racking up yards through the air and on the ground. Despite interest from a number of schools, Crum received only offer – from Kent State.

Crum played as a back-up in his first two seasons at KSU (2017-18), making 2 starts. Earned the starting job in 2019 – a role that he remained in for the rest of his college career. Was very good in 2020, which was followed by a Conference MVP season in 2021. Was able to play 5 years in college due to the "Super Senior" rule.

Crum is a very experienced college quarterback (31 starts) who has a nice arm and decent athleticism, being able to move well.

As a passer, Crum has decent arm strength, but the ball can sometimes appear to hang in the air. He also has a release that doesn't look like it's at the prototypical level for the NFL. He reads defenses well, and is really safe with the football, which makes up for some of the release questions – he's an accurate thrower who will take off and run rather than throwing the ball into dangerous spots.

Crum is extremely mobile. He can throw with decent accuracy on the run. Will pick up valuable yards, first downs and touchdowns with his legs. Has the speed and athleticism to avoid tacklers but even so, he probably takes more hits than you'd like your quarterback to take. Crum will take the immediate play that is there, rather than wait for a potential big play to develop.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games (31 starts) for KSU. Completed 67% of his passes for 7,449 yards and 55 touchdowns, with just 12 interceptions. Had 9 career 300 yard passing games, including 1 over 400. Also rushed for 2,071 yards (4.3 average) and 24 touchdowns in his career, with 4 100 yard rushing games.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** MAC MVP. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-MAC. **2019** Frisco Bowl MVP. **2018** Academic All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Successful QB at the MAC level
- Needs development work on a number of aspects of his game
- Looks like he's headed to an NFL practice squad
- Probably goes undrafted

D'Eriq King (Miami, Fla)

QB15

Size: 5-9, 196 **40:** 4.65 (pro day)

Class: Senior

King was a dual-threat star QB in high school in Manvel, Texas – passing for over 10,000 yards and 140 touchdowns, while rushing for more than 3,000 yards and 48 touchdowns. King opted to stay close to home to attend the University of Houston (Manvel is just a few miles south of Houston) to play his college ball.

King filled in at WR in his true freshman season for the Cougars (2016), before moving back to QB for his sophomore year. He became the starting QB for 2018 and 2019, however he opted to redshirt part of the way through 2019.

King transferred from Houston to Miami in early 2020, becoming the starter for the Hurricanes for 2020 and 2021 (although he was injured for much of 2021).

King has a decent arm and release and very nice mobility as QB. However, he lacks the size, especially height, to be an NFL QB - but he is a really excellent athlete. That athleticism, speed and cutting ability means that King has some pre-requisites to be given a shot at wide receiver and perhaps on kick and punt returns. Although there obviously would be a lot to learn.

College Stats & Highlights: King passed for 8,378 yards in his college career, completing 63.1% of his passes. He threw 76 touchdown passes and 19 interceptions.

King also rushed for 2,055 yards and 32 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: King has a history of injuries. Suffered a torn meniscus in his right knee late in the 2018 season, but he came back successfully in 2019. Suffered an ACL tear in the 2020 season ending Cheez-It Bowl Game, again successfully coming back the following year.

Suffered a right shoulder injury early in the 2021 season which required surgery and kept him out for the remainder of the year.

Honours & Awards: **2020** Maxwell Award semi-finalist. Unitas Award semi-finalist. Davey O'Brien Award semi-finalist. **2019** Davey O'Brien Award semi-finalist.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very short - likely rules him out of "standard" QB contention
- One of the oldest players in the draft - will turn 25 in August
- Injury history
- Possible Taysom Hill type QB, although some teams may see him as a WR
- Practice squad possibility
- Probably goes undrafted

Aqeel Glass (Alabama A&M)

QB16

Size: 6-5, 215 **40:**

Class: Super Senior

Glass is a very experienced passer (45 games) – albeit that experience wasn't gained at the FBS level. He is a passer who has prototypical NFL quarterback size. Has a strong arm, with a decent release – although some work may be needed here.

Looks very poised in the pocket and appears to go through his progressions in order to find the right receiver – he's a good decision maker.

Wasn't highly recruited out of high school and eventually decided to attend college at Alabama A&M, where he won the starting QB job in his freshman season (2017). Remained the starter for the rest of his college career.

Earned an invite to the NFLPA Collegiate Bowl but somewhat surprisingly, Glass didn't get an invite to either the Senior Bowl or the combine.

Although Glass has improved his accuracy through his college career, he still doesn't place the football in the best place on consistent basis – there is some further development needed here.

Has some mobility, can throw on the move and will run for yardage when he needs to - but that isn't his forte. Takes more sacks than he should.

College Stats & Highlights: Glass played in 45 games at Alabama A&M. He completed 58.3% of his passes, throwing for 12,36 yards (14th all-time in FCS history) and 109 touchdowns (11th all-time in FCS history), with 41 interceptions.

Had 17 games in which he passed for 300 or more yards, including 7 in which he surpassed 400 passing yards.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Deacon Jones Trophy winner. 2021 SWAC Player of the Year. 2021 SWAC Offensive Player of the Year. 2021 FCS Walter Payton Award finalist. 2021 1st Team All-SWAC. 2020 Deacon Jones Trophy Winner. 2020 SWAC Offensive Player of the Year. 2020 1st Team All-SWAC. 2019 2nd Team All-SWAC. 2018 2nd Team All-SWAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to return for 2021 season rather than declare for 2021 draft
- Didn't get an invite to the Senior Bowl or combine
- Really good week at the NFLPA Collegiate Bowl
- Practice squad chance
- Probably goes undrafted

Chase Garbers (California)

QB17

Size: 6-2, 225 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Garbers is an experienced (35 games in college) dual-threat QB, who completed 62.4% of his passes for 6,580 yards and 50 touchdowns, with 24 interceptions in his 4 years at California. He also rushed for 1,174 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Garbers doesn't have the greatest arm or release but can throw with some accuracy and touch from the pocket and on the move. However, he also has some difficulties when under pressure and can take off from the pocket a little earlier than perhaps he should – not allowing receivers to run their routes and get open. Garbers is a solid runner, with athleticism, but this is a double-edge sword because it leads to the aforementioned willingness to off and run perhaps sooner than he should.

Garbers probably won't get drafted but should wind up at an NFL training camp and could win a practice squad spot somewhere come September.

McKenzie Milton (FSU)

QB18

Size: 5-11, 185 **40:** n/a

Class:

Milton was one of college football's best and most dynamic quarterbacks in 2017 and 2018, putting UCF on the map. But in 2018 he suffered a devastating knee injury which included a serious knee dislocation, torn ligaments, nerve damage and very serious artery damage. Multiple operations were required.

Miraculously, Milton would eventually come back to play football again. He transferred to Florida State, and in 2021 he took to the gridiron for his first game since the injury – around 2 years and 10 months later after the injury occurred.

Milton's strengths on the field really start with his ability to throw on the move and make plays out of nothing. He's a team leader type who will hold onto the football until the last moment, being prepared to take hits in order to create opportunities. He doesn't have a great arm or release but is an exciting and dynamic QB.

Milton almost certainly won't be drafted, but you should see him in a team's training camp in the summer.

Brandon Peters (Illinois)

QB19

Size: 6-5, 220 **40:** n/a

Class: Super Senior

Peters spent 3 years (including a redshirt year) at Michigan, but he made just 4 starts in that time (2016-18). Transferred to Illinois prior to the 2017 season. Immediately became the starter for Illinois, remaining at that spot for the rest of his college career.

Across his time at Michigan and Illinois, Peters completed 53.% of his passes for 4,163 yards and 32 touchdowns, with 15 interceptions.

Peters has a decent arm and can make most of the throws. However, he's not always the most accurate of passers and be inconsistent. Hasn't yet shown that he's the type of QB who can take over a game and win it off the back of his arm.

Peters probably goes undrafted.

Levi Lewis (UL-Lafayette)

QB20

Size: 5-10, 184 **40:** n/a

Class: Super Senior

Lewis is way below the typical height (and overall size) for an NFL quarterback. Some liken him to Kyler Murray but that's probably more of a height comparison than anything else.

Lewis is a very athletic left handed passer who is a dual threat quarterback – able to rack up yards both through the air and with his legs. Has developed the ability to throw with some accuracy on the move.

Lewis completed 61.2% of his passes for 9,203 yards and 74 touchdowns, with 18 interceptions in his career at UL-Lafayette. He also demonstrated his mobility by rushing for more than 1,000 yards.

Lewis has decent arm strength and a nice release, without either appearing to be top echelon. Is able to throw on the move with accuracy.

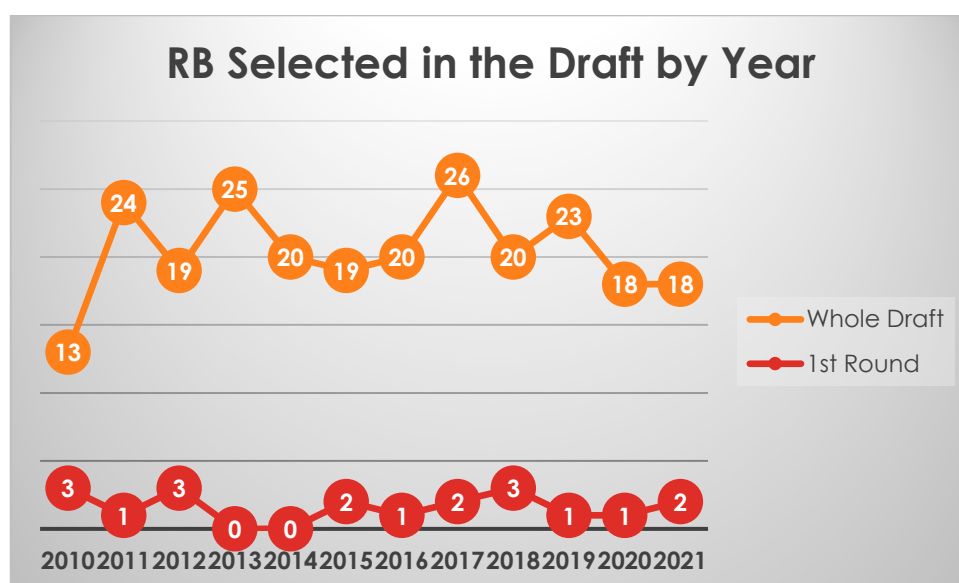
Lewis likely won't be drafted but will get signed as a free agent and compete for a roster spot, although in reality his competition looks like it will more probably be for a place on NFL team's practice squad.

RUNNING BACKS

2022 General Draft Outlook: As seems to generally be the case these days, there are almost certainly no running backs that will be selected in the top 20 of this draft and quite possibly none will be drafted in the first round at all. This is partly caused by NFL teams' current line of thinking that running backs don't offer great value for a first round draft choice.

However, once we get to day 2 of the draft, we should start to see backs coming off the board – expect to see the likes of Breece Hall, Kenneth Walker III and Isaiah Spiller taken in round 2.

This is quite a diverse group of runners with some excellent receivers, some big backs, and some backs with outstanding speed - this is a really fast group of running backs as was demonstrated at the combine when 6 of them ran under 4.4 in the 40.



Packers Outlook: With Aaron Jones and A.J. Dillon on the roster again, the Packers are well set at the starting running back spot for the 2022 season. When you add in 2021's seventh round draft choice Kylin Hill and undrafted free agent Patrick Taylor it would appear that this isn't a group that needs too much bolstering.

However, Hill suffered a torn ACL during the 2021 season and so there is a question mark as to exactly when he will back and at what level of effectiveness.

There is, therefore, an outside chance that Green Bay may look to select a running back late on day 3. If there is a back on the board with some kick returning experience then that player could possibly appeal to the Packers – this could be somebody like the ultra-speedy Ty Chandler of North Carolina or Trestan Ebner of Baylor.

DID YOU KNOW?

It's been 32 years since the Packers selected a running back in the first round of the draft – Darrell Thompson (1990).

TOP RUNNING BACKS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Breece Hall	RB	Iowa State	1-2
2.	Kenneth Walker	RB	Michigan State	2
3.	Isaiah Spiller	RB	Texas A&M	2-3
4.	James Cook	RB	Georgia	3
5.	Rachaad White	RB	Arizona State	3
6.	Dameon Pierce	RB	Florida	3
7.	Brian Robinson Jr.	RB	Alabama	3-4
8.	Zamir White	RB	Georgia	3-4
9.	Jerome Ford	RB	Cincinnati	4-5
10.	Tyler Allgeier	RB	BYU	4-5
11.	Kyren Williams	RB	Notre Dame	4-5
12.	Tyler Badie	RB	Missouri	4-5
13.	Pierre Strong Jr.	RB	South Dakota State	4-5
14.	Hassan Haskins	RB	Michigan	6-7
15.	D'Vonte Price	RB	FIU	6-7
16.	Ty Chandler	RB	North Carolina	6-7
17.	Abram Smith	RB	Baylor	6-7
18.	Tyler Goodson	RB	Iowa	6-7
19.	Zonovan Knight	RB	North Carolina State	6-7
20.	Jerrion Ealy	RB	Mississippi	6-7
21.	ZaQuandre White	RB	South Carolina	6-7
22.	Sincere McCormick	RB	UTSA	6-7
23.	Kennedy Brooks	RB	Oklahoma	6-7
24.	Jashaun Corbin	RB	FSU	7-UDFA
25.	Kevin Harris	RB	South Carolina	7-UDFA
26.	Keaontay Ingram	RB	USC	7-UDFA
27.	Isiah Pacheco	RB	Rutgers	7-UDFA
28.	C.J. Verdell	RB	Oregon	7-UDFA
29.	Max Borghi	RB	Washington State	UDFA
30.	Trestan Ebner	RB	Baylor	UDFA
31.	Cam'Ron Harris	RB	Miami, Fla	UDFA
32.	T.J. Pledger	RB	Utah	UDFA
33.	Tyrion Davis-Price	RB	LSU	UDFA
34.	Snoop Conner	RB	Mississippi	UDFA
35.	Jaylen Warren	RB	Oklahoma State	UDFA
36.	Greg Bell	RB	San Diego State	UDFA
37.	Ronnie Rivers	RB	Fresno State	UDFA
38.	Ricky Person Jr.	RB	North Carolina State	UDFA
39.	Leddie Brown	RB	West Virginia	UDFA
40.	Master Teague	RB	Ohio State	UDFA

List continues on the next page.

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Bryant Koback	RB	Toledo	UDFA
42.	Calvin Turner Jr.	RB	Hawaii	UDFA
43.	Clint Ratkovich	RB	Northern Illinois	UDFA
44.	Mataeo Durant	RB	Duke	UDFA
45.	Vavae Malepai	RB	USC	UDFA
46.	Zander Horvath	RB	Purdue	UDFA
47.	L.D. Brown	RB	Oklahoma State	UDFA
48.	John Lovett	RB	Penn State	UDFA
49.	Raheem Blacksheer	RB	Virginia Tech	UDFA
50.	Stephen Carr	RB	Indiana	UDFA
51.	Julius Chestnut	RB	Sacred Heart	UDFA
52.	Charles Williams	RB	UNLV	UDFA
53.	Robert Washington	RB	Valparaiso	UDFA
54.	Cyrus Habibi-Likio	RB	Boise State	UDFA
55.	Brittain Brown	RB	UCLA	UDFA
56.	Jordan Mason	RB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
57.	Quay Holmes	RB	East Tennessee State	UDFA
58.	B.J. Baylor	RB	Oregon State	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Breece Hall (Iowa State)

RB1

Size: 5-11¼, 217 **40:** 4.39 (combine)

Class: Junior

Hall was a hugely productive back in high school in Kansas, rushing for over 2,000 yards in each of his junior and senior seasons. Became the starter at Iowa State in his freshman season (2019) and was an immediate success. Remained the starter throughout his career in a Cyclones uniform – having outstanding seasons in 2020 and 2021. Opted out of the Cheez-It Bowl at the end of the 2021 season in order to start his preparation for the draft.

Hall has good size and is a consistent, patient runner, who has great vision and is a good, patient, decision maker – finding and picking holes. He appears to be able to explode through the smallest of holes. Hall's long speed isn't great but it's good enough.

His running style is silky smooth as he makes moves on the run utilising his excellent body control and balance. Seems to avoid taking the big hits and makes yards after contact. Knows how to find the end zone.

Hall is an excellent receiver with great hands and the ability to really create mismatches for defenses. Also has some good experience as a pass blocker.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games at Iowa State, rushing for 3,941 yards (5.5 average) and 50 touchdowns. Hall rushed for more than 1,400 yards in each of 2020 and 2021, notching up a highly impressive 20 100 yard rushing games (including 1 200 yard game). In his time at Iowa State, Hall also caught 82 passes for 734 yards and 6 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 10th in Heisman Trophy voting. Doak Walker Award finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All Big 12. **2020** Consensus 1st Team All-American. 6th in Heisman Trophy voting. All-Big12 Offensive Player of the Year. Maxwell Award semi-finalist. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. Doak Walker Award finalist. 1st Team All-Big 12. **2019** 2nd Team All-Big 12. PFF Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- One of the youngest players in the draft - won't turn 21 until May
- Versatile skillset makes him an every down back
- Can be used in multiple formations and sets
- Very impressive at the combine
- Likely 2nd round draft choice, with a chance of sneaking into 1st round

Kenneth Walker III (Michigan St)

RB2

Size: 5-9, 211 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Junior

Followed a highly productive high school career with two so-so seasons at Wake Forest (2019-2020), Walker's career then took a huge leap upwards when he transferred to Michigan State – having an incredible 2021 in his sole season as a Spartan. This prompted him to forego his senior season and enter the 2022 draft.

Walker is a small, but stout and power back, with outstanding speed and quick, nifty feet. Is able to cut and change direction at speed. Makes defenders miss and when they don't, he is a load to bring down thanks to his strength – adding extra yards after contact.

Could do with adding patience to his game but that may come with experience – had only one year in college as the featured back. Wasn't used much as a receiver in college – just 19 catches in 3 seasons but does have a decent amount of receiving experience from his high school days. Was notably also a fine kick returner in high school.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 32 games in his college career (20 at Wake Forest and 12 at Michigan State). Carried 480 times for 2,794 yards and 34 touchdowns in his career.

Had 1,636 yards and 18 touchdowns rushing in his sole year at MSU. Had 13 100 yard rushing games. Included in this total is the incredible first game that Walker had for the Spartans when he ran for 264 yards and 4 touchdowns.

Twice in his career, he had runs of more than 90 yards.

Injury Notes: Has had the odd niggling injury, as most running backs do, but Walker has no recorded major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 6th in 2021 Heisman Trophy voting. 2021 Walter Camp Award winner. 2021 Maxwell Award finalist. 2021 Doak Walker Award winner. 2021 Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 2021 Big 10 Co-Offensive Player of the Year. 2021 Big 10 Ameche-Dayne Running Back of the Year. 2021 1st Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- One exceptional season
- Really good showing at the combine
- Will be one of first 2-3 running backs selected
- Should be a 2nd round draft choice

Isaiah Spiller (Texas A&M)

RB3

Size: 6-1, 225 **40:** 4.63 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Spiller was a very productive high school player in Texas, rushing for over 1,400 yards and 20 touchdowns as a senior. Opted to stay in state to attend college, earning a starting role at Texas A&M in 2019 and having really good seasons in 2020 and 2021 – rushing for over 1,000 yards in each season.

Spiller has nice size and runs with power, strength, and toughness – can bounce off contact and make extra yards. Has explosiveness and quickness through the hole which challenges defenses. Has surprisingly good cutting ability for a man of his size, making defenders miss.

Can be used in multiple running type offenses – being very effective running inside and outside. Keeps going all day and is a 20+ carries a game guy.

Solid receiver, with very good hands who runs nice routes – knows how to get open. Has some passing blocking skills. Spiller is a consistent all-round, every down back.

College Stats & Highlights: Spiller played in 35 games (started 29) in his Aggie career. Rushed for 2,993 yards, at a 5.5 yards per carry average, and 25 touchdowns. Had 16 career 100 yard rushing games.

Also had 74 receptions for 585 yards and 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history, however he was suffering from an abductor injury at the time of the combine and therefore was unable to take part in some of the drills. The injury should be a short term one and likely not of concern to NFL teams.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC. 2020 1st Team All-SEC. 2020 Doak Walker Award semi-finalist. 2019 SEC All-Freshman Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced and productive college back
- One of the youngest players in the draft - turns 21 in August
- Stays on the field regardless of down and distance
- Can be used in multiple offensive systems
- Keeps going all day
- Wasn't impressive at the combine - suffering from injury
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round selection

James Cook (Georgia)

RB4

Size: 5-11, 199 **40:** 4.42 (combine)

Class: Senior

Brother of Vikings running back Dalvin Cook. After a nice high school career, Cook opted to attend the University of Georgia. He follows in the footsteps of recent Bulldogs running backs entering the NFL draft – Sony Michel, D'Andre Swift and Nick Chubb.

Although he saw increasing playing time year on year for Georgia, during the years he was there he never carried the full load – never carrying more than 12 times in a single game. Even in 2021, he had to split time with the excellent Zamir White – another potential 2022 draftee. Demonstrated in the 2021 National Championship Playoffs that he is big game player.

Cook is a good athlete. He is one of those runners who somehow defenders never quite seem to get a clean shot on. He excels running to the outside where he can pick a hole rather than on the inside where his lack of burst hurts him.

Very versatile back – can both run and catch. Is an excellent receiver coming out of the backfield, with superb hands and a feeling for where the open space is. Can even be split out wide on occasion to try and create defensive mismatches. Needs work in pass protection.

Somewhat Surprisingly opted not to take part in the Senior Bowl after receiving an invite, choosing instead to prepare for the combine and his pro day.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games, 6 starts for Georgia, rushing for 1,503 yards (6.5 average) and 14 touchdowns, with 2 100 yard rushing games. Also caught 67 passes for 730 yards (10.9 average) and 6 touchdowns. Had 2 career 100 yard receiving games. Had 112 receiving yards in the 2022 Orange Bowl.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: None

DID YOU KNOW?

Cook attended Miami Central High School – the same school as former Packers Running Back Najeh Davenport.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great change of pace back
- Very versatile back - can line up all over the field
- Has never been an out and out every down player
- Opted not to participate in the Senior Bowl
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Rachaad White (Arizona State)

RB5

Size: 6-0, 214 **40:** 4.48 (combine)

Class: Senior

White is a big back who is a superb athlete with great quickness and explosiveness. He is a down in, down out consistent and durable performer who will mix in the odd big play.

Spent a redshirt year at Nebraska-Kearney (Division II) before transferring to junior college - Mt. San Antonio (California), where he played for two seasons (2018-19) and was a 1,000 yard rusher. Then transferred to Arizona State for the 2020 and 2021 seasons and had an outstanding 2021.

White runs with patience and has vision to see the hole. He has some strength and power but doesn't break many tackles or perhaps gain as many yards after contact as you'd like to see. In summary, as a runner, White doesn't appear to make lots of yards by himself.

White has demonstrated that he can be a threat coming out of the backfield in the passing game. Is an excellent receiver with nice soft hands and the ability to get open. Pass protection is adequate. Also has a little experience as a return man.

College Stats & Highlights: In his two seasons at Arizona State, White rushed for 1,426 yards (6.4 average) and 15 touchdowns. Had 4 career 100 yard rushing games including 1 over 200. Also caught 51 passes for 607 yards (11.9 average) and 2 touchdowns. Also had 15 kick returns for a 23.5 average and 15 punt returns for a 11.8 average.

In 2021, White led ASU in both rushing yards (1,006) and receiving yards (456) - the first player to achieve this feat at the school since 1949.

In his two seasons at Mt. San Antonio College, White rushed for 1,656 yards (6.2 average) and 12 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Every down type of back
- Nice Senior Bowl week helped his draft chances
- Some development required
- Will likely battle for no.2 RB spot on an NFL depth chart
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Dameon Pierce (Florida)



RB6

Size: 5-9, 218 **40:** 4.59 (combine)

Class: Senior

Pierce is a short, stocky, and powerful back who plays with great consistency and attitude – doing everything that his team asked of him. He is a tough, physical runner who seems to enjoy contact and importantly break free from it. With his strength and power, Pierce is extremely difficult to bring down – arm tackles won't get the job done.

Pierce was highly productive as the featured back in high school – rushing for 2,000 yards in his senior season. At the University of Florida though he was never the out and out no.1 guy – spending most of his career splitting time in the backfield (most recently with Malik Davis). Therefore he never had the opportunity to put up really big numbers – but don't be fooled by those numbers, he is an excellent back. Had a productive four years for the Gators, with 2021 being his best season.

Pierce has good vision and a really effective burst and acceleration through the hole, even though he lacks the out and out blazing speed of some backs. Is excellent in the red zone and down near the goal line, picking up some of the hardest yards to get and knowing how to find the end zone.

Pierce wasn't overused as a receiver but demonstrated that he is a fine receiver coming out of the backfield with very good hands.

Is experienced as a pass blocker, reading the defender who comes free and picking up the blitz. Also has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games (11 starts) for the Gators, rushing for 1,806 yards (5.5 average) and 23 touchdowns.

Also caught 45 passes for 422 yards (9.4 average) and 5 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: None

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Versatile back with all-round skills
- Nice Senior Bowl week followed by solid combine helped his draft chances
- Strong, powerful runner
- Running style will wear down defenses
- Has few miles on the legs - wasn't overused in college
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Brian Robinson Jr. (Alabama)

RB7

Size: 6-2, 225 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Robinson is a big bodied running back with an upright style who is a powerful inside runner and a load to tackle – usually one defender can't get it done – adding extra yards after contact. In fact, he seems to enjoy contact.

Followed a nice high school career by initially spending time as a reserve at Alabama (playing behind the likes of 2021 draftee Najee Harris). Became the starter in 2021 and had a break-out season, rushing for more than 1,000 yards.

Robinson has a nice burst and quicker feet than you would expect with decent cutting ability. Robinson showed good skills as a receiver coming out of the backfield in 2021, when he received extended work in that facet of the game for the first time in 2021.

He isn't a prolific receiver, but was very effective catching passes coming out of the backfield. Robinson's hands looked reasonably good and he demonstrated a knack for running decent routes - finding a way of getting open in the passing game. Needs work in pass protection. Has a little bit of kick returning experience and has also played some on special teams. Earlier in his career, Robinson was used as a blocker on some running plays when the Crimson Tide went with a two-back jumbo backfield.

College Stats & Highlights: Robinson played in 66 games for the Crimson Tide, rushing for 2,704 yards (5.0 average) and 29 touchdowns (10th all-time on the school list), with 5 100 yard rushing games (including 1 200 yard game). Also caught 52 passes for 446 yards and 2 touchdowns. Had a 11 kick-off returns at an average of 15.1 yards per return. In 2021, Robinson rushed for 1,343 yards (5.0 average) and 14 touchdowns, including rushing for 204 yards in the Cotton Bowl. Also had 35 receptions for 296 yards (8.5 average) and 2 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered a pulled muscle late in the 2021 season but didn't miss any games. Seemingly has no ongoing issues. Has had no reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-SEC. 2021 Cotton Bowl Classic MVP.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Size, toughness and running style will wear down defenses
- Suited to an offense where he gets 15+ carries per game
- Developing as a receiver
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Zamir White (Georgia)

RB8

Size: 6-0, 214 **40:** 4.40 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nicknamed "Zeus". He is a strong, tough, physical runner who gains most of yardage inside. Is extremely difficult for defenders to bring him down and will make additional yards after contact. White follows in the footsteps of recent Bulldogs running backs entering the NFL draft – Sony Michel, D'Andre Swift and Nick Chubb.

White's early college career was unfortunately blighted by injury and then was stuck down the depth chart at Georgia. Eventually moved up the depth chart, becoming highly productive while splitting time with the likes of James Cook (also available in this draft). Having to split time meant that his numbers weren't quite as big as they otherwise would have been.

White has the speed to hit the hole, and accelerate through it, much more quickly than he perhaps is given credit for – went to the combine and demonstrated his speed in the 40. Is more a straight ahead or single cut runner, than he is a runner who is going to make multiple cuts and move laterally at speed to make the defender miss.

Seems to play less on passing downs – White hasn't been used much as a receiver out of the backfield, nor does he have great experience in pass protection.

Received an invitation to the Senior Bowl although he somewhat surprisingly opted not to take part in order to take more time to prepare for the combine.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 38 games (22 starts) for the Bulldogs, rushing for 2,043 yards (5.3 average) and 25 touchdowns, with 4 100 yard rushing games. Also had 17 receptions for 132 yards.

Injury Notes: Torn ACL in the playoffs in his senior year in high school (2017). Suffered a second torn ACL (in the other knee) just prior to the 2018 season at Georgia.

Honours & Awards: None

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury history
- Opted not to take part in Senior Bowl
- Looked good at the combine, demonstrating excellent speed
- Straight ahead power runner
- Probably a 3rd or 4th round draft choice

Jerome Ford (Cincinnati)

RB9

Size: 5-10½, 210 **40:** 4.46 (combine)

Class: Junior

Ford is a strong and tough runner with a solid, muscular build. Is athletic with some quickness and speed – with long acceleration and the ability take it to the house. His speed was demonstrated in high school when he was a sprinter (100m and 200m), as well as being a successful football player in high school.

Started his college career at Alabama, where he played for two years (2018-19) but didn't see extended action for the Crimson Tide and opted to transfer to Cincinnati. Had a solid first year for the Bearcats before becoming the starter for an outstanding 2021.

On top of Ford's aforementioned speed, he has the body control and foot quickness to be able when running at high velocity. Ford loves to run inside, and his strength and power enable him shake off tacklers and add yards after contact. Knows how to find the creases in short yardage and is excellent down near the end zone.

Ford will catch the occasional pass coming out of the backfield but is improving in this area and was sound when utilised, demonstrating really good hands and catch radius. Fumbles a little more than you'd like to see (3 times in each of 2020 and 2021) – needs to rectify this. Inconsistent in pass protection.

College Stats & Highlights: In his 4 years in college (2 at Alabama, 2 at Cincinnati), Ford rushed for 1,953 yards (6.1 average) and 30 touchdowns. Ford also caught 31 passes for 282 yards (9.1 average) and 1 touchdown.

In 2021 alone, he rushed for 1,319 yards, with 19 scores (equalling the school single season record) and recorded 5 100 yard rushing games. Ford also had 21 receptions in 2021, for 220 yards and 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2021 AAC Championship Game MVP.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lots of athletic traits
- Developing as a receiver
- Not overly used in college - plenty of miles left in the legs
- Has some problems with fumbles
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Tyler Allgeier (BYU)



RB10

Size: 5-11, 224 **40:** 4.60

Class: Junior

Allgeier has a solid, big built body. He is a consistent, strong, and powerful runner who is extremely difficult to bring down and will add extra yards after contact. Will run hard, pounding the football down after down – some of that toughness comes from playing as a linebacker (as well as running back) in both high school and college

Allgeier had to walk on at BYU to get his opportunity and he really took it when it eventually came. After bouncing between the running back and linebacker positions, he became a full time back in 2020 and the had two highly productive seasons (2020-21), rushing for more than 1,000 yards in each of them. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Allgeier has great balance, running with patience and vision. But, unfortunately, he doesn't have a great initial burst, so is more suited to a slower progressing zone running offense. However, when he gets into the open field Allgeier has more long speed than his 40 time may suggest. Has pretty good cutting ability when running at speed. Needs to be a little more aware of ball security.

Allgeier isn't a flashy, exciting receiver coming out of the backfield, but he is solid and has decent hands. Needs work on pass protection.

College Stats & Highlights: Allgeier played in 41 games (21 starts) at BYU, rushing for 2,899 yards (6.4 average) and 36 touchdowns, with 13 100 yard rushing games (including 2 200 yard games). Also caught 46 passes for 437 yards and 1 touchdown. Recorded 26 tackles, 1 tackle for a loss, 0.5 sacks and 1 pass defensed from his time playing linebacker.

His 1,601 yards rushing in 2021 is an all-time school single-season record.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Doak Walker Award semi-finalist. Sporting News 2nd Team All-American. Phil Steele 1st Team Independent. Independence Bowl Offensive MVP. **2020** Honorable Mention All-American. Phil Steele 1st Team All-Independent.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has developed into an all-day running back
- Needs to develop as a receiver
- Has the potential to be a solid NFL back
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Kyren Williams (Notre Dame)

RB11

Size: 5-9, 194 **40:** 4.65 (combine) 4.54 (pro day)

Class: Redshirt Sophomore

Williams is a highly productive, super versatile, all-round back. He is Small in stature but doesn't lack power and toughness.

After a solid high school career, Williams saw little game action at Notre Dame in 2019, before having outstanding seasons in both 2020 and 2021. Declared for the draft while still have college eligibility remaining and sat out the Fiesta Bowl in order to commence his preparation for the draft.

Has superb body control and will make tacklers miss or at least not get a clean shot on him. This is particularly special down in the Red Zone where he knows how to find the end zone.

Williams is extremely versatile, being an excellent receiver coming out of the backfield, with the ability to catch every pass and will also line-up all over the field. For a small guy he is also surprisingly good in pass protection – one of the very best pass blocking backs in this draft. Fumbles more often than you would like.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 28 games for the Fighting Irish, rushing for 2,153 yards and 27 touchdowns. Williams also caught 78 passes for 675 yards and 4 touchdowns whilst at Notre Dame.

Had 1,000 yard rushing seasons in both 2020 and 2021 and also 8 100 yard rushing games in those two seasons.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Hornung Award finalist. 2021 Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 2021 Phil Steele 1st Team All-Independent. 2020 Doak Walker Award semi-finalist. 2020 Sporting News 2nd Team All-American. 2020 ACC Rookie of the Year. 2020 ACC Offensive Rookie of the Year. 2020 2nd Team All-ACC. 2020 FWAA Freshman of the Year finalist. 2020 FWAA & The Athletic Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Highly productive
- Very small
- Versatile back who can run, catch and block
- Has some problems with fumbles
- Has a chance to be an every down back in the NFL
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Tyler Badie (Missouri)

RB12

Size: 5-8, 197 **40:** 4.45 (combine)

Class: Senior

Badie is undersized but he's a good all-round back who can both run and catch passes coming out of the backfield. Demonstrated good speed ever since he was young, taking part in the Junior Olympics (100m, 200m and 400m). Becomes the latest Missouri running back to enter the draft and have a shot at the NFL, following in the footsteps of Damarea Crockett and Larry Roundtree

Became a part of the running back rotation for Mizzou (2018-2020), before becoming the starter in 2021 – a year in which he put in an outstanding performance. Sat out the Armed Forces Bowl at the end of the season, starting his preparation for the NFL draft..

For a short guy with his speed, Badie surprisingly has a penchant for running inside. Although he won't break many tackles, he rarely runs into the pile – has patience to let a play develop and good vision to find the hole. Has acceleration, shifty feet and is faster than many give him credit for.

Badie is a prolific receiver who will catch passes coming out of the backfield and could also be lined up in the slot. He has really good hands, runs nice routes, and has the knack of getting open and making the first tackler miss. Is extremely difficult to catch and bring down in the open field. Excellent ball security. Needs work in pass protection. Has some kick returning experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 46 games at Mizzou, rushing for 2,740 yards (5.3 average) and 23 touchdowns. The yardage total is 7th all-time in school history. Had 6 career 100 yard rushing games. Also had 126 receptions for 1,149 yards (9.1 average) and 11 touchdowns. Had 1 career 100 yard receiving game. Returned 27 kick-offs at 19.4 average. Badie set the Missouri single-season record for rushing yards in 2021 with 1,604 yards – a total which included 5 200 yard rushing games.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. Doak Walker Award finalist. 1st Team All-SEC. SEC Scholar Athlete of the Year. **2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2018** SEC All-Freshman Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Versatile runner and receiver
- Solid Senior Bowl performance
- Has the look of a change of pace or 3rd down back in the NFL
- May also be a kick returner at the next level
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Pierre Strong Jr. (S. Dakota St)

RB13

Size: 5-11, 207 **40:** 4.37 (combine)

Class: Senior

Strong had a really productive career in high school, highlighted by more than 2,000 yards rushing in his junior season. Wasn't recruited by many big schools coming out through and eventually opted for South Dakota State.

After redshirting his true freshman season, Strong became a prolific back for the Jackrabbits, recording three 1,000 yard rushing seasons and over 700 yards in his other season (which was shortened due to the Covid pandemic). His 2021 season included more than 1,600 yards rushing and earned him FCS All-American Honours.

Strong has a great combination of good size, outstanding speed, and excellent athletic ability – some of the physical traits that you immediately look for in a potential NFL running back.

Strong is a patient runner who has excellent vision and burst through the hole. He runs with great body control and has good cutting ability at speed – making would be tacklers miss. And when he gets into the open field it's goodnight – Strong won't be caught from behind. Isn't overly physical and doesn't yet make many yards after contact.

As a receiver. Strong wasn't used that much, but when he did run pass patterns he was very good. Has nice hands and knows how to get open. Has some experience as a pass blocker.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games for SDSU, rushing for 4,527 yards (7.2 average) and 40 touchdowns. Also caught 62 passes for 581 yards (9.4 average) and 3 touchdowns. Had 19 career 100 yard rushing games, including 2 of 200+.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** FCS Walter Payton Award finalist. FCS 1st Team All-American. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-MVFC. **2019** AP FCS 3rd Team All-American. **2018** Phil Steele FCS 2nd Team Freshman All-American. MVFC Freshman of the Year. MVFC All-Newcomer Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Played at the FCS level, so that raises questions
- Little pass receiving experience
- Nice performance at the East-West Shrine Game
- Looks like an NFL back-up
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Hassan Haskins (Michigan)

RB14

Size: 6-1, 220 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine or pro day)

Class: Senior

Brother of former 6 year NFL running back Maurice Alexander (Rams, Seahawks, Bills). Haskins is a big-bodied back who was a multi-sport athlete (football, basketball, and high jump) in high school. On the football field he played both running back and defensive end. Nearly fell through the recruiting process, before getting the opportunity to commit to Michigan.

Played linebacker in his redshirt freshman season for the Wolverines (2018), before moving full time to running back in 2019. Had two solid seasons before having an outstanding 2021, rushing for 1,327 yards and earning some All-American notice.

He plays with strength and toughness and will keep pounding the football all day. Doesn't make too many defenders miss, but they will know it when they tackle him as he is a load to bring down. Makes extra yards after the initial contact. Is a patient runner but when he identifies the hole he is very decisive.

Ball security is outstanding – had no fumbles on more than 470 touches of the football at Michigan.

Wasn't used much as a receiver coming out of the backfield but did demonstrate good skills in pass protection. Has also played some special teams.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games for the Wolverines - 33 at running back (22 starts) and 3 as a linebacker/special teams - rushing for 2,324 yards (5.1 average) and 30 touchdowns, with 10 100 yard rushing games. Also caught 24 passes for 171 yards.

His 20 rushing touchdowns in 2021 are a school single-season record.

Injury Notes: Suffered a high ankle strain in the Orange Bowl at the end of 2021, forcing him out of the Senior Bowl and other than the bench press, he didn't test at the combine.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AFCA 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Michigan's Most Improved Offensive Player.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Back back suited to running between the tackles
- Gets more effective the more carries he has - wears down defenses
- Good pass blocking skills
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

D'Vonte Price (FIU)

RB15

Size: 6-1, 210 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Senior

Price was a dual sport athlete in high school – running track (110m) as well as playing football. He had a nice high school football career without being a dominant player. Wasn't highly recruited coming out and decided to stay in his home state and attend Florida International University to play college football. From 2017-19, Price played mainly as a rotational running back, making the occasional start. In 2020, he earned a starting role, but the season was truncated due to the Covid pandemic. Price opted to return for his fifth year in 2021 as per the NCAA "Super Senior" Covid rule. Had his most productive year in his final college season.

Price has a good combination of size and speed – that speed was demonstrated in the 40 at the combine (4.38).

Price is an extremely patient runner and is particularly effective running between the tackles. Despite that patience, he is quick decision maker once he sees the hole he hits it with decisiveness and has a burst through it. Price is mainly a straight ahead runner with strength and isn't easy to bring down – often, defenders don't seem to get full contact on him in the tackle. However, he hasn't demonstrated great cutting or movement ability at speed.

Price wasn't used much in the passing game in college, but he is a very willing receiver although he has had some problems with drops – needs to work on his hands.

Has some pass protection skills, where he uses his strength and power to full affect.

College Stats & Highlights: Price played in 48 games (19 starts) at FIU, rushing for 2,203 yards (6.0 average) and 15 touchdowns. Had 8 career 100 yard rushing games. Also caught 45 passes for 307 yards (6.8 average) and 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Missed 2 games in 2017 due to a minor ankle injury. Also missed the last 3 games of the 2021 season with a lower leg injury, although he returned for the Senior Bowl and the combine. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2020 & 2021 Honorable Mention All-Conference USA.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Never a dominant player in college
- Decent week at the Senior Bowl helped his draft chances
- Nice showing at the combine
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Ty Chandler (North Carolina)

RB16

Size: 5-11, 204 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Full first name is Tykevious. Chandler had an outstanding high school career in Tennessee rushing for more than 6,000 yards and had 92 touchdowns. Chose to stay in his home state for his college ball and attend the University of Tennessee over a number of offers from other big FBS schools. Chandler had a very good 4 year career for the Volunteers, being the starter at running back for 3 of those years (2018-20). Opted to transfer for his Super Senior season, moving to North Carolina where he earned All-Conference notice for his outstanding 2021 season.

Chandler is a super experienced (38 college starts) running back who has super versatility – being able to run, catch and return kick-offs. He has outstanding straight line speed (as demonstrated by his 40 time at the combine) and nice body control and athleticism. Doesn't have initial explosiveness but once he gets through the hole and into the open field then his long breakaway speed leads to real trouble for defenses.

Chandler is a patient runner who likes to pick and find the hole. Sometimes, this style can seem to be a little tentative. Isn't afraid to take a hit but often can avoid a head on collision thanks to his athleticism. Doesn't yet make lots of additional yards after contact, however. As a receiver, Chandler knows how to get open and has really nice hands. When catching in space, he can turn short passes into big gainers. Was an excellent kick returner early in his college career.

College Stats & Highlights: In his single year (2021) at North Carolina, Chandler played and started in all 13 games. Rushed for 1,092 yards and 13 touchdowns. Had 15 receptions for 216 yards and 1 touchdown.

In 4 years for Tennessee (2017-2020), Chandler played in 45 games, with 25 starts. Rushed for 2,015 yards (4.9 average) and 13 touchdowns. Had 3 career 100 yard rushing games. Also had 58 receptions for 465 yards (8.0 average) and 3 touchdowns. Returned 35 kick-offs at a 22.3 yard average with 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Had a niggling ankle injury in 2019 but bounced back and seemingly has no ongoing aftereffects. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-ACC. 2017 Phil Steele 3rd Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Versatility should earn him a shot at an NFL roster
- Good enough receiving skills to be a 3rd down back
- Can double as a kick returner
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Abram Smith (Baylor)

RB17

Size: 5-11, 221 **40:** 4.50 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Smith was a very effective running back at high school in Texas – setting a number of school rushing records. Opted to stay in state and play his college football at Baylor.

At Baylor, Smith redshirted his true freshman season before playing sparingly as running back for two years (2018-2019). During the 2020 season, he converted to linebacker because of injuries at the position on the Bears roster. After one good season at linebacker, Smith switched back to running back for his senior season in 2021, earning the starting role. And what a 2021 season he had, rushing for over 1,600 yards and in the process breaking Baylor's single season rushing record.

Smith seems to be improving at the running back almost with every game, as his experience and confidence grows. He has nice size and athletic ability and can be a load for defenses to stop once he gets going. Knows how to find the hole and will also battle through tackles, with the ability to gain extra yardage after contact.

Has very limited pass receiving experience, not being utilised very much in this facet of Baylor's offense. Also has a little experience in pass protection where he utilises his physical skills well.

As well as playing running back, Smith also has experience as a kick returner and playing on special teams coverage units – these will stand him in good stead in his quest for an NFL roster spot.

College Stats & Highlights: In his three years as a running back at Baylor, Smith rushed for 1,647 yards (6.1 average) and 13 touchdowns. Also caught 14 passes for 78 yards (5.6 average). Played 8 games at linebacker in 2020, notching up 48 tackles.

Injury Notes: Suffered tears to both an ACL and MCL in the Spring of 2017 – forcing him to redshirt that season. Appears to have fully recovered from those injuries.

Honours: **2021** Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award finalist. 2nd Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Former linebacker - only 1 year as the featured running back
- Not used much as a receiver, but showcased good skills at the Senior Bowl
- All-round excellent week at the Senior Bowl
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Tyler Goodson (Iowa)

RB18

Size: 5-9, 197 **40:** 4.42 (combine)

Class: Junior

Goodson was fine multi-sport athlete in high school, taking part in track and field as well as playing basketball, baseball, and football. On the football field he was an outstanding running back and turned down a number of offers from FBS schools to play his college ball at Iowa. Became a part time starter at running back in his true freshman season (2019), before earning the job in the Covid shortened 2020 season – a season in which he garnered All-Conference honours. Returned as the starter in 2021. Goodson decided to enter the draft as an underclassman and opted out of the Citrus Bowl to begin his preparation.

Goodson lacks size and strength, but he is a dynamic runner who is able to cut and move with foot quickness in order to find a hole. However, he doesn't always get his body squared up to the line of scrimmage when the hole opens, making him inconsistent. Appears to be a more productive runner on plays to the outside as opposed to those running up the gut.

Goodson's lack of strength and power means that he doesn't break many tackles or makes as many yards after contact as you would ideally like. He does however have really nice speed (as demonstrated by his 40 time at the combine) which means that he is capable of running away from defenders once he gets into the open field.

Goodson has demonstrated nice receiving skills which have improved year on year. He has very good hands and will work to get open, helping out his quarterback. Good coming out of the backfield and also was, on occasion, lined up both in the slot and out wide.

Has some experience in pass protection.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games (24 starts) for Iowa, rushing for 2,551 (4.8 average) and 18 touchdowns. Had 9 career 100 yard rushing games. Also recorded 70 receptions for 565 yards (8.1 average) and 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 3rd Team All-Big 10. 2020 1st Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Small in stature
- Good all-round back with chance to earn a 3rd down spot in the NFL
- May have improved draft chances by returning to school for 2022
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Zonovan Knight (N.Carolina St)

RB19

Size: 5-11, 209 **40:** 4.58 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nicknamed "Bam". Knight had an excellent high school career in which he rushed for over 5,000 yards – including more than 2,000 in his senior year alone. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college football at North Carolina State. Earned a starting role for the majority of his freshman season (2019). Was the full-time starter for the remainder of his excellent college career (2020-21), in which earned All-Conference recognition. Opted to enter the draft following his junior season.

Knight brings great versatility to the running back spot, demonstrating all-round ability as both a runner and receiver and supplements these with outstanding skills in the kick returning game. Although Knight lacks out and out speed, he has a nice mixture of quickness, power, and toughness. His childhood nickname "Bam" really seems to fit his running style.

Is a patient runner, with good vision who will identify the hole and burst through it. Good body control and enough movement ability to make the first defender miss or at least not get a clean shot at him. He isn't easy to bring down as a runner.

As a receiver, Knight wasn't overly used in college, but he demonstrated his ability to get open and has really soft hands and a decent catch radius. Knight is a fine kick returner, who uses his patience to allow the blocking to set up in front of him, rather than overtaking his blockers.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games (19 starts) for the Wolfpack, rushing for 2,286 yards (5.5 average) and 18 touchdowns. Had 6 career 100 yard rushing games. Also caught 48 passes for 337 yards (9.4 average). Also returned 30 kick-offs at an average of 30.8 yards per return, with 3 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Underwent shoulder surgery between the 2020 and 2021 seasons but played the 2021 season seemingly with no ill-effects from the injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-ACC. **2020** 3rd Team All-ACC. Ted Brown Award winner (NC State top offensive back). **2019** Ted Brown Award winner (NC State top offensive back). Torrey Holt Award winner (NC State Most Valuable Offensive Player). PFF All-Freshman Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- One of the youngest players in the draft - has only just turned 21
- Versatility should earn him a shot at an NFL roster
- Deceptive player - picks up yardage without having a single outstanding asset
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

Jerrion Ealy (Mississippi)

RB20

Size: 5-8, 189 **40:** 4.52 (combine) 4.43 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Ealy had an extremely productive high school football career, where he was also a high level performer in track and field and baseball. In fact, Ealy was so good at baseball that he was selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the MLB draft. He was highly recruited by a number of major college football programs, eventually opting to attend Ole Miss. Became a part-time starter at running back in his true freshman season (2019), then earned the full-time job for 2020 and 2021 – was effective, rushing for more than 700 yards in each of his three seasons. Opted to declare for the NFL draft as an underclassman.

Although lacking size and height, Ealy is a fantastic athlete who is a tough, strong runner for a player of his size. He is very patient and has vision with good speed and explosion through the line of scrimmage, and he has great cutting ability. Ealy can struggle to shake off contact at times though, as he lacks the strength and power that a bigger back may bring to bear.

Ealy wasn't overly used as a pass receiver coming out of the backfield, but he was very effective when called upon – knows how to get open and demonstrated very nice, consistent hands. Hasn't demonstrated much as a pass blocker during his time at Mississippi.

Was also a very effective kick returner at Ole Miss.

College Stats & Highlights: Ealy played in 33 games (21 starts) for Ole Miss, rushing for 2,235 yards (5.8 average) and 20 touchdowns. Had 6 career 100 yard rushing games. Also had 67 receptions for 545 yards (8.1 average) and 4 touchdowns. Returned 34 kick-offs at a 25.4 average and 2 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Had shoulder surgery early in 2021 but was back in time for the 2021 season, seemingly with no ill-effects.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC. 2020 PFF 3rd Team All-American. 2020 2nd Team All-SEC. 2020 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2019 The Athletic Freshman All-American 2nd Team. 2019 247Sports True Freshman All-American. 2019 2nd Team All-SEC. 2019 SEC All-Freshman team. 2019 First Year Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Production doesn't quite match physical ability
- Can run, catch and return kicks
- Versatility should earn him a shot at an NFL roster
- Probably a 6th or 7th round draft choice

ZaQuandre White (S.Carolina)

RB21

Size: 6-0, 206 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

First name often shortened to "Quan". White started his college career at Florida State where he was converted from running back to linebacker. Moved back to running back when he transferred to junior college and then to South Carolina.

White is a good sized back with some moves. He runs with some patience, has the vision to identify the hole and the burst to accelerate through it, although he lacks long, breakaway speed. White also hasn't been the featured back in college, so whether he can carry the load for an NFL team is questionable.

Is a decent receiver coming out of the backfield, who knows how to get open but doesn't always make the catches that he should.

Will probably be a day 3 draft choice – round 6 or 7.

Sincere McCormick (UTSA)

RB22

Size: 5-8½, 205 **40:** 4.60 (combine)

Class: Junior

McCormick is a short, stocky back with toughness and some quickness. McCormick has really great speed and the ability to make defenders miss. However, he's also not opposed to running into and over defenders to add extra yardage.

McCormick had 3 highly productive seasons at UTSA - just missing the 1,000 yard rushing mark in 2019 but followed that up with consecutive seasons of over 1,400 yards in 2020 and 2021. Also knows how to find the end zone, having racked up 34 rushing scores over the same period. Can sometimes appear to be a little indecisiveness behind the line of scrimmage.

Is a dangerous receiver coming out of the backfield, with good hands and a knack for getting open. Doesn't, as yet, have lots of experience as a pass blocker.

While McCormick's numbers look great, it's worth noting that his production came outside the Power 5 conferences.

Opted to enter the draft as a junior and will likely be a late day 3 draft choice – round 6 or 7.

Kennedy Brooks (Oklahoma)

RB23

Size: 5-11, 209 **40:** 4.59 (combine) 4.40 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Brooks had a stop-start career at Oklahoma - missed the 2017 season due to a shoulder injury (redshirting the season) and also opted out of the 2020 season during the COVID-19 pandemic. But when he was on the field, he was super productive notching up three 1,000 yard seasons.

Brooks is a patient runner and has the vision to find a hole. Has good balance and the ability to make would-be tacklers miss or at the very least not get a clean shot at him. This enables Brooks to get into the open field and run for big gains, utilising some long speed.

Can catch but wasn't utilised very much as a receiver in Oklahoma's offense, so there isn't much on film to assess him in this area – this will be of some concern to NFL scouts.

Will likely be a day 3 draft choice – round 6 or 7.

Jashaun Corbin (Florida State)

RB24

Size: 5-11, 202 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Played 2 seasons at Texas A&M (2018-19), although his 2019 season was limited to just 2 games before he suffered a season ending hamstring injury. Opted to transfer from the Aggies to Florida State for the 2020-21 seasons.

Rushed for 1,771 yards and 14 touchdowns in his 4 college seasons. Also had 60 receptions for 360 yards and 2 touchdowns. Returned 24 kick-offs at a 25.0 average and scored 1 touchdown.

Opted to enter the draft as a junior (redshirt) rather than return to the Seminoles for the 2022 season. It remains to be seen whether this is the right decision. Pro scouts will like Corbin's ability as a "do-everything" type back – the ideal type of guy that teams keep around to fill-in in multiple situations. Unfortunately, however, Corbin isn't dynamic or explosive and doesn't stand out in any particular area, which hurts his draft chances.

Probably a 7th round draft pick or undrafted free agent.

Kevin Harris (South Carolina)

RB25

Size: 5-10, 221 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Harris lacks some height, but he has a very solid frame, ideal for being a tough between the tackles runner – which is exactly what Harris is. He is the type of runner who likes contact and will run into and through defenders to make his yards.

Harris used his running strength to rush for 1,976 yards (5.5 average) and 23 touchdowns in his 3 seasons for the Gamecocks. However, he doesn't have the softest of catching hands and wasn't overly used as a receiver, catching just 35 passes for 274 yards.

Harris has had the occasional injury (ankle, back) during his career and teams will want to ensure that there are no long lasting ill-effects, which there don't appear to be. Harris opted to enter the draft as an underclassman and will suit a team that is looking for a battering ram type of back – perhaps as a second or third option.

Will likely be a 7th round draft pick or an undrafted free agent.

Keaontay Ingram (USC)

RB26

Size: 6-0, 221 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Senior

Transferred to USC for the 2021 season after 3 years at Texas. Ingram is a highly experienced running back, having played in 42 games at the college level and rushing for 2,272 yards at 5.5 yards per carry. Also had 16 rushing touchdowns.

Ingram is a well-built back who won't beat teams with his outright speed but has some quickness and cutting ability which helps him find his way through the hole and to make defenders miss. Is more effective running the football between the tackles than he is to the outside.

Ingram wasn't overly used in the passing game, but when he was he showed that he is a decent receiver coming out of the backfield having caught 89 passes in his 4 college seasons.

Ingram will probably be a late round draft choice (7th round) although he may go undrafted.

Isiah Pacheco (Rutgers)

RB27

Size: 5-10, 216 **40:** 4.37 (combine)

Class: Senior

Pacheco has outstanding speed, as demonstrated by his 40 time at the combine (4.37). Has quick feet that can stutter step and cut with a burst. Also has the ability to swerve to avoid tacklers down the field. Can run between the tackles and to the outside. Needs to become more patient, however.

Pacheco is one of those runners who gets more effective as games go on, having had 17 career games in his 4 years at Rutgers where had 15 or more carries. Finished his college career with 2,442 rushing yards at 4.3 yards a carry and scored 18 rushing touchdowns.

Was only used moderately as a receiver, catching just 47 passes whilst at Rutgers.

Should be selected on day 3 – probably in round 6 or 7.

C.J. Verdell (Oregon)

RB28

Size: 5-9½ , 210 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Verdell is a very physical runner who likes to put the hit on the defender, rather than receive it himself. Will run through and over would-be tacklers as much as make them miss. Was probably at this best in first two seasons at Oregon (2018-19), when he rushed for over 1,000 yards in each season.

Unfortunately Verdell suffered injuries in both 2020 (thumb) and 2021 (leg) which forced him to miss games and reduce his productivity and effectiveness. Hopefully these shouldn't be a factor going forwards, but teams will want to ensure that there are no lingering issues.

Is an underrated pass receiver coming out of the backfield, with 58 career receptions but nearly half of those came in 2018 – again his output was impacted by the injuries and the Covid pandemic.

Opted to return for the 2021 season, when it was thought that he may declare for the draft last year.

May be a late day 3 pick or an undrafted free agent.

Max Borghi (Washington State)

RB29

Size: 5-9, 210 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Borghi is a short, but nicely built running back. Playing in a pass happy offense at WSU has helped him develop excellent receiving skills. Borghi has really good hands and makes lots of yards after the catch – teams could even be interested in seeing how he looks in slot as a receiver.

However, as a runner Borghi appears a little bit boom or bust - he doesn't pick up many yards between the tackles and lacks some initial quickness to get outside, but if he gets out into the open where he has chance to stretch his legs then he can pick up big chunks of yardage. Unfortunately, that's difficult to build a consistent offense around.

There are some injury concerns with Borghi as he missed all but 1 game of the 2020 season due to a back injury. Teams will want to ensure that there are no lingering issues.

Borghi probably goes undrafted but should get signed by a team and compete for a roster spot, or more likely a practice squad position, in camp.

Trestan Ebner (Baylor)

RB30

Size: 5-11, 206 **40:** 4.43 (combine)

Class: Senior

Ebner was a track athlete in high school and as you might expect he has really good speed. He is a super versatile back, who can run, catch, and return kick-offs effectively – in fact he may be a more dynamic receiver and returner than he actually is a runner.

Ran for 1,690 yards (4.9 average), caught 127 passes for 1,515 yards and had 3 kick-off returns for touchdowns in his Baylor career.

Ebner is one of those guys who will possibly go undrafted and have to enter camp as an undrafted free agent - but who may surprise in that camp and pre-season and earn a roster spot due to his outstanding versatility.

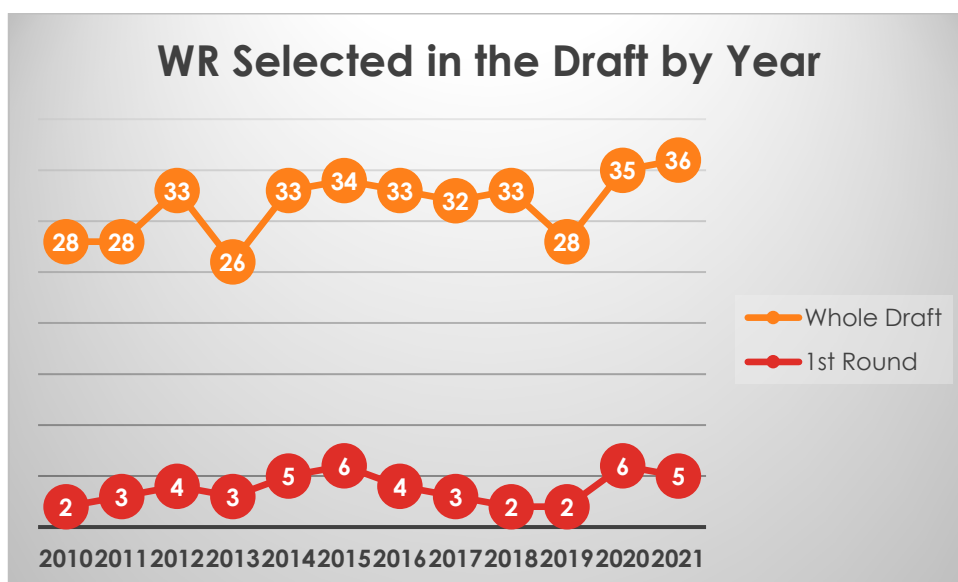
That versatility means that a team like the Packers may be interested in taking a look at Ebner.

WIDE RECEIVERS

2022 General Draft Outlook: Speed, speed, speed...there is speed all over this wide receiver group, as the 40 times at the combine demonstrated, where an amazing 8 wideouts ran under 4.4 for the 40.

For the third year in a row this is a really good class of wide receivers with tremendous depth. There isn't a top 5, Ja'Marr Chase type, in this group but there is a lot of first round talent – with 5 receivers seemingly certain to go in the first round (Wilson, London, Burks, Williams and Olave), plus another (Dotson) who may get selected late in the first or early in the second round.

Beyond that group of 6 the names just keep coming and coming. And there are some receivers who appear to be rapidly moving up draft boards – watch out for the likes of Skyy Moore and Christian Watson.



Packers Outlook: With the trade of Davante Adams to the Raiders, the Packers WR corps is in need of some immediate help. At the time of writing, the Packers hadn't added any free agents at this spot (nor acquired any by trade), so this is a position at which the Packers could be looking at with a lot of interest.

The Packers very rarely select wideouts in the first round but with two picks in the twenties, the likes of a Jameson Williams, Treyton Burks or Chris Olave could be in play here.

Alternatively (or perhaps additionally), the Packers may look at the position in round 2 – the aforementioned Watson or Moore could be possibilities, as could George Pickens and John Metchie III. And don't rule out a mid to later round pick at the position, perhaps the likes of the speedy Tyquan Thornton or Velus Jones Jr.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since the 1970 merger, the Packers have selected a WR in the first round of the draft on only 4 occasions.

TOP WIDE RECEIVERS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Garrett Wilson	WR	Ohio State	1
2.	Drake London	WR	USC	1
3.	Jameson Williams	WR	Alabama	1
4.	Chris Olave	WR	Ohio State	1
5.	Treyton Burks	WR	Arkansas	1-2
6.	Jahan Dotson	WR	Penn State	1-2
7.	Christian Watson	WR	North Dakota State	1-2
8.	George Pickens	WR	Georgia	2
9.	Sky Moore	WR	Western Michigan	2
10.	Jalen Tolbert	WR	South Alabama	2-3
11.	John Metchie III	WR	Alabama	2-3
12.	David Bell	WR	Purdue	2-3
13.	Calvin Austin III	WR	Memphis	3
14.	Wan'Dale Robinson	WR	Kentucky	3
15.	Alec Pierce	WR	Cincinnati	3
16.	Justyn Ross	WR	Clemson	3
17.	Khalil Shakir	WR	Boise State	3
18.	Romeo Doubs	WR	Nevada	4-5
19.	Velus Jones Jr.	WR	Tennessee	4-5
20.	Bo Melton	WR	Rutgers	4-5
21.	Tyquan Thornton	WR	Baylor	4-5
22.	Danny Gray	WR	SMU	4-5
23.	Kyle Philips	WR	UCLA	4-5
24.	Erik Ezukanma	WR	Texas Tech	6-7
25.	Jaivon Heiligh	WR	Coastal Carolina	6-7
26.	Dontario Drummond	WR	Mississippi	6-7
27.	Tré Turner	WR	Virginia Tech	6-7
28.	Reggie Roberson Jr.	WR	SMU	6-7
29.	Charleston Rambo	WR	Miami, Fla	6-7
30.	Kevin Austin Jr.	WR	Notre Dame	6-7
31.	Jalen Nailor	WR	Michigan State	6-7
32.	Dai'Jean Dixon	WR	Nicholls State	6-7
33.	Ty Fryfogle	WR	Indiana	6-7
34.	Jereth Sterns	WR	Western Kentucky	6-7
35.	Isaiah Weston	WR	Northern Iowa	6-7
36.	Makai Polk	WR	Mississippi State	7-UDFA
37.	Slade Bolden	WR	Alabama	7-UDFA
38.	Josh Johnson	WR	Tulsa	7-UDFA
39.	Braylon Sanders	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
40.	Jaquarii Roberson	WR	Wake Forest	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Emeka Emezie	WR	North Carolina State	UDFA
42.	Tay Martin	WR	Oklahoma State	UDFA
43.	Samori Toure	WR	Nebraska	UDFA
44.	Michael Woods II	WR	Oklahoma	UDFA
45.	Tanner Conner	WR	Idaho State	UDFA
46.	Jequez Ezzard	WR	Sam Houston State	UDFA
47.	Kalli Pimbleton	WR	Central Michigan	UDFA
48.	Corey Sutton	WR	Appalachian State	UDFA
49.	Johnny Johnson III	WR	Oregon	UDFA
50.	Deven Thompkins	WR	Utah State	UDFA
51.	Devon Williams	WR	Oregon	UDFA
52.	Dareke Young	WR	Lenoir-Rhyne	UDFA
53.	Justin Hall	WR	Ball State	UDFA
54.	Dennis Houston	WR	Western Illinois	UDFA
55.	Brittain Covey	WR	Utah	UDFA
56.	Kaylon Geiger	WR	Texas Tech	UDFA
57.	Rashee Rice	WR	SMU	UDFA
58.	Stanley Berryhill III	WR	Arizona	UDFA
59.	Danny Davis III	WR	Wisconsin	UDFA
60.	Mike Harley	WR	Miami, Fla	UDFA
61.	Ryan Wisniewski	WR	Wisconsin-Whitewater	UDFA
62.	Kendric Pryor	WR	Wisconsin	UDFA
63.	Jalen Virgil	WR	Appalachian State	UDFA
64.	Neil Pau'u	WR	BYU	UDFA
65.	Tyler Snead	WR	East Carolina	UDFA
66.	Braylon Anderson	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
67.	Tyshaun James	WR	Central Connecticut St.	UDFA
68.	Daylen Baldwin	WR	Michigan	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Garrett Wilson (Ohio State)

WR1 Outside/Slot

Size: 6-0, 191 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Junior

Wilson is an excellent all-round receiver with lots of strengths and very few weaknesses. He can be lined up on the outside as he was for the majority of the year in 2021, or in the slot, where lined up predominantly in 2020 – and it may be that his slim build is better suited to the slot. He's a threat to any defense from either position. Can also be used on running plays such as jet sweeps and reverses.

Prior to OSU, had a highly productive career in HS, setting all of the school (Lake Travis, Texas) receiving records. Got even better in college, capping his career with an outstanding 2021. Opted to declare for the draft as an underclassman.

Is a superb route runner – one of the very best in this draft – capable of running every single route. Runs those routes crisply with precision and gets in and out his breaks quickly – no rounding off routes with him. Will get open simply through his routes but added to that is his great release at the line of scrimmage.

Is really good with the ball in his hands. Making extra yards after the catch by making defenders miss or breaking tackles. Add to that his athleticism, body control and his speed which makes him a downfield threat and you have the potential with Wilson for a big play on nearly any down and distance.

Generally, has soft and secure hands, although does have the occasional drop – makes up for some of that though with the ability to catch some passes he probably has no right to catch.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games for OSU, catching 143 passes for 2,213 yards (15.5 ave.) and 23 touchdowns, including 10 career 100 yard receiving games and a 1,000 yard season in 2021.

Injury Notes: Missed 1 game in 2021 due to an unspecified injury but came back to play the following week. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 10. **2020** 1st Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Will excite scouts with his athleticism, speed and versatility
- All-round threat who can play in any system
- Probably will be the first receiver chosen and will be a day 1 starter in the NFL
- Expect Wilson to be off the board around the 10th overall pick.

Drake London (USC)



WR2

Size: 6-4, 219 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Big receiver – his size and length plus his athleticism make him a physical and athletic freak. Plays predominantly line up on the outside but has, on occasion, spent time lined up as a “big slot”– often creating huge mismatches for DBs.

London attended college at USC, partly because they allowed him to continue playing both sports. Was a starter at WR for USC throughout his college career, starting in his freshman season. Was outstanding in 2021 and was only stopped by a fractured ankle. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

London has an extra-large catch radius – utilising his height and leaping ability to make catches other receivers couldn't make. His ability to make the contested catch means that he is extremely difficult to defend in the red zone. London will out muscle defensive back and break tackles, making yards after the catch. Isn't afraid to go over the middle – indeed he seems to revel in in those types of plays. .

Hasn't always been the sharpest of route runners but has worked hard to improve in this respect. Has quickness rather than out and out speed and won't beat many teams deep – that's not his game. Also needs to work on his release off the line.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 22 games at USC, catching 160 passes for 2,153 yards (13.5 average) and 15 touchdowns. Had 9 career 100 yard receiving games. Had a 1,000 yard receiving season in 2021, in just 8 games.

Injury Notes: Fractured an ankle midway through the 2021 season, ending his season. His rehab prevented him from working out at the combine, and then he suffered a mild hamstring injury which delayed his pro day. However, all indications are that he'll have no problems being ready to go come camp.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Offensive Player of the Year. **2020** 2nd Team All-Pac 12

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Is one of the youngest players in the draft - he won't turn 21 until July
- Game changing big & super-athletic receiver
- Makes big YAC and contested catches
- Lines up outside and as a "big slot" - creates mismatches
- Immediate impact player & day 1 starter
- Should be off the board in the first 15 picks or so picks overall

Jameson Williams (Alabama)



WR3

Size: 6-2½, 179 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Williams is currently recovering from a torn ACL he suffered in the National Championship Game played at the end of the 2021 season. But despite the injury, he is still one of the premier wideouts available in this draft.

Was a stud in high school having multiple 1,000 yard receiving seasons. In college, he had 2 unproductive seasons at Ohio State before transferring to Alabama and having a huge 2021 season – only soured by the aforementioned knee injury.

The place to start with Williams is with his great speed and how he utilises it to be a huge big play threat – as shown by his 4 touchdown receptions of 70+ yards in 2021. Will beat corners through simple straight acceleration and top notch speed on the outside on go routes, but will also use that speed cleverly on stop and go routes or by holding back and then exploding to his maximum velocity.

Runs precise routes helping him to get separation. Turns into a runner once the ball is in his hands, adding extra yards after the catch – so difficult to bring down and won't be caught from behind. Perhaps his biggest downside is that he drops a few too many passes – whether this is a hands problem or concentration, it needs to be worked on. In addition to his receiving skills, he is also an outstanding KR.

College Stats & Highlights: In his college career (at Alabama and OSU), he played in 25 games, catching 94 passes for 1,838 yards (19.6 avge.) and 18 TDs. Had 7 100 yard receiving games, all of which came in 2021, when he had 1,572 receiving yards. Also had 10 kick returns in his career at a 35.2 average, with 2 TDs.

Injury Notes: Suffered a torn ACL in the National Championship Game played in January 2022 – an injury that may keep him out of some, or all, of the 2022 season.

Honours: **2021** Biletnikoff Award finalist. AP 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. SEC Co-Special Teams POTY. **2020** 1st Team All-Big 10. **2019** 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Teams' reaction to his injury status will determine where he is picked
- Possibly the top receiver in the draft until the injury
- Great speed and acceleration, takes the top off defenses
- Runs superb routes
- When ready, he becomes an immediate NFL starter
- Should still be picked in the top 20 overall. despite the injury

Chris Olave (Ohio State)

WR4

Size: 6-1, 189 **40:** 4.39 (combine)

Class: Senior

Olave is a very consistent receiver with decent size, good athletic ability, and fantastic hands – it seems like he catches everything thrown in his direction. In a strange way, perhaps his all-round ability is so good that not having a single standout trait does him a disservice in the eyes of some analysts.

Olave was a multi-sport athlete in high school, playing football, basketball, running the 100m and doing the long jump. But it was as a wide receiver that he excelled – setting multiple school records. Was a hugely productive receiver at Ohio State from his sophomore year onwards – having more than 700 yards receiving in each of his final three seasons.

Before he ran an outstanding 40 time at the combine, we may have described Olave as having sneaky speed – but not now. He is fast. Added to that is his quickness and acceleration which enables him to make plays deep down the field. He is very smart and knows how to use his body and foot quickness to create separation and get open

Like his OSU teammate (and potential 2022 draftee) Garrett Wilson, Olave is a super route runner – right up there with the very best in this draft. Is tough and can outmuscle defenders for the football. Finds the end zone. Doesn't make yards after the catch – not asked to do very much of that in OSU's offense.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games (24 starts) for the Buckeyes, catching 176 passes for 2,711 yards (15.4 average) and 35 touchdowns (a school record). Had 11 career 100 yard receiving games.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** AFCA 1st Team & AP 2nd Team All-American. Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2020** 1st Team All-Big 10. **2019** 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Super consistent receiver who makes plays
- Extremely difficult for any DB to cover and sgut down
- Looks like a 100 receptions a season receiver in today's NFL
- Runs superb routes, but doesn't make yards after the catch
- Will be an immediate contributor - starts on day 1
- Should be picked in the top 15-25 overall

Treylon Burks (Arkansas)

WR5

Size: 6-2, 225 **40:** 4.55 (combine)

Class: Junior

For a wide receiver, Burks has an unusual combination of height and thick set body. For his body shape, he is an athlete with quick feet whose speed on the field appears to be faster than his 40 time would indicate.

He was a superb multi-sport athlete in high school, playing football, basketball, and baseball who unfortunately suffered a torn ACL in his senior high school season. Nonetheless, Burks quickly bounced back and earned a starting wide receiver spot in his freshman year at Arkansas (2019). Capped his Arkansas career with an outstanding 2021. Opted out of the Outback Bowl at the end of the 2021 season, in order to start preparing for the draft (he declared as a junior).

Burks is great adding yards after the catch, making would-be tacklers miss or bounce off him with his strength and power and thanks to his aforementioned speed Burks is difficult/impossible to catch from behind. His height makes Burks a difficult defensive match-up in the red zone.

Has big, good hands but has the occasional problem with drops. Has some versatility in that he has on occasion lined up in the backfield – can even be used to run the football from that spot. However, the majority of the time in his college career he lined up as a “big slot” receiver.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 31 games (29 starts) for Arkansas, catching 146 passes for 2,399 yards and 18 TDs. Had a 1,000 yard receiving season in 2021.

Injury Notes: Suffered a torn ACL in his senior year in high school (2018) but has suffered no long lasting effects from that injury. Battled through a nagging injury at times in 2021, but this is not expected to be a factor going forwards.

Honours: **2021** 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC All-Freshman Team. First Year Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Improved and got more productive each year in college
- Should be an outstanding receiver in the NFL for years - day 1 starter
- Not many have his combination of body type and athleticism
- Big body - makes lots of contested catches
- Plays faster than he timed in the 40
- Should be picked in the top 20-30 overall

Jahan Dotson (Penn State)

WR6 Slot/Outside

Size: 5-11, 184 **40:** 4.43 (combine)

Class: Senior

Is a fine athlete with great speed, explosion, and the ability to run precise routes. Also brings versatility as a receiver with experience lining up outside and in the slot.

After setting multiple high school receiving records, he quickly earned a starting job at PSU in his freshman season (2018). Had a huge 2021 season, putting up outstanding numbers and raising his already high profile for this draft. Opted out of the Outback Bowl at the end of the season in order to start his draft preparation.

Dotson has great athleticism with the ability to cut sharply on a dime and consistently get a step on covering defenders – and do it quickly. His speed and acceleration also make him a potent deep threat.

Dotson Has really good hands, a large catch radius, and will make catches in traffic. Changes from receiver to runner when in possession of the football after the catch and will make tacklers miss thanks to his moves. Can get jammed by physical defensive backs. Nonetheless, In summary, Dotson simply makes plays.

College Stats & Highlights: In his Penn State career, Dotson recorded 183 receptions for 2,757 yards and 25 touchdowns – all of these marks are in the top 5 in school history. Also recorded 11 career 100 yard receiving games (including 1 200 yard game). As a punt returner. Dotson had 19 returns (17.8 avg.), with 1 touchdown. In an outstanding 2021, he had 91 catches for 1,182 yards and 12 scores (again all of these marks are in the top 5 in school records). Also set the PSU record for receiving yards in a game with 242 yards against Maryland in 2021.

Injury Notes: Suffered a broken leg during his junior year in high school (2016). Returned with apparent ill-effects.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. 3rd Team All-Big 10. **2020** 3rd Team All-Big 10. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Probable slot receiver in the NFL
- Super talented
- Dynamic playmaker with the ball in his hands
- Surprisingly, chose not to take part in the Senior Bowl
- Day 1 starter in the NFL
- Will likely be off the board late in the 1st round or early in the 2nd

Christian Watson (N.Dakota St)



WR7

Size: 6-4 ½, 208 **40:** 4.36 (combine)

Class: Senior

Watson is a great athlete with blazing speed who will take the top off of defenses. He is a receiver with exceptional size and length who puts those attributes to great effect, which really shows in his huge catch radius. Watson has improved his release skills at the line of scrimmage and been able to get open more quickly than previously in his career.

Earned a full-time starting role at NDSU in 2019, his sophomore season. Was outstanding continuing that starting role in 2020 and 2021. Caught passes from the likes of Easton Stick and Trey Lance. Watson earned invitations to both the Senior Bowl and the combine.

Has really nice hands and will fight and muscle for the contested catch if he needs to. Will reach and make catches over the top of defenders. Not the most refined of route runners – needs more experience in this area. Was used the majority of the time lined up on the outside but has spent some time running routes from the slot. Very willing blocker in the running game. Also used on jet sweeps and reverses. Excellent kick returner.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 52 games (33 starts), catching 105 passes for 2,140 yards (20.4 ave.) and 14 TDs. Both the receptions and yardage mark are in the top 10 in NDSU history. Had 4 career 100 yard receiving games. Also rushed for 392 yards (8.0 ave.) and 2 TDs. Returned 26 kick-offs (26.4 ave.) with 2 TDs.

Injury Notes: Missed 3 games late in 2021 due to a hamstring injury. Recovered and came back to play in the FCS Championship game. Then starred at the Senior Bowl and combine – so the injury looks like it's well behind him.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-MVFC. **2018** MVFC Honor Roll.

DID YOU KNOW?

Watson's father Tim was selected by the Packers in the 6th round of the 1993 draft. He never played for the Packers but did play in the NFL for 5 seasons.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great speed combined with excellent size
- Very athletic with huge upside
- Excellent Senior Bowl
- Standout athletic performances at the combine and his pro day
- Will likely be off the board in the 2nd round but could sneak into the 1st round

George Pickens (Georgia)



WR8

Size: 6-3, 195 **40:** 4.47 (combine)

Class: Junior

Pickens is a tall receiver with a long, lean body. He is an excellent athlete with body control, quick feet, and really nice speed. Perhaps is not yet all the way back from the ACL injury that he suffered early in 2021.

Pickens was an outstanding high school player with over 2,500 receiving yards. Brought that level of play immediately into his college career, having an excellent freshman season at Georgia in 2019, followed by a good year in 2020. The knee injury meant he missed most of the 2021 season. Nonetheless, he still opted to enter this draft as an underclassman.

Pickens has really good soft hands and can make all of the catches thanks to an enormous catch radius (making the most of his length) and the willingness to fight for the football and make catches in traffic.

Was an excellent route runner prior to the injury and, assuming that he is fully fit, Pickens will get open using his cutting ability, sharp breaks and running with precision. Also has a good release off the line, when not in press man, thanks to his quick feet. However, doesn't have as much strength or ability to beat press coverage as some receivers. Has a frame that could probably bulk up (without losing speed) in order to help his physicality.

College Stats & Highlights: In 26 games (10 starts) for Georgia, he caught 90 passes for 1,347 yards (15.0 average) and 14 touchdowns. Had 3 career 100 yard games.

Injury Notes: Missed a little bit of time in 2020 due to an upper body injury during 202. Then suffered a torn ACL in a non-contact practice in March 2021 which required surgery repair. Missed all but the last regular game of the 2021 season and then played all 3 games in the postseason.

Honours: **2019** Freshman All-SEC Team. SEC Co-Offensive Newcomer of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- 2021 ACL injury hurt his draft chances - may have been 1st rounder without it
- Opted to enter this draft with eligibility remaining
- Outstanding freshman season pre-injury
- At this stage, is as much upside and potential as production
- If injury free can be starter in his rookie season
- Will likely be off the board in the 2nd round but could sneak into the 1st round

Skyy Moore (Western Michigan)

WR9 Slot/Outside

Size: 5-10, 195 **40:** 4.41 (combine)

Class: Junior

Moore played both QB and DB in high school. Opted to play his college ball in Kalamazoo for Western Michigan. Originally due to play CB at WMU, switched positions to WR, with immediate success – earning a starting job in his true freshman season (2019).

Remained the starter for the rest of his Broncos career including an excellent 2021 (1,292 yards receiving). Decided to declare for the draft as a junior.

Moore is a small-ish receiver who is who has good speed and is explosive off the line. As well as having that speed, Moore uses his feet well, runs precise routes and knows how to get open. Has really soft hands, with great catching ability. Those hands were also the largest for any WR at this year's combine.

For a smaller receiver, Moore is tough and will fight for the football in the air, which makes him a red zone threat. Once the ball is in his hands, Moore breaks tackles and adds good yardage after the catch.

Can line up in the slot and on the outside, but with his size, athletic ability, and shiftiness, plus superb body control, Moore is probably at his best as a slot receiver.

College Stats & Highlights: Moore played 30 games for the Broncos, catching 171 passes for 2,482 yards (14.5 average) and 16 touchdowns. Also scored 1 touchdown rushing and returned 3 kick-offs.

Injury Notes: Suffered a fractured ankle in his Senior high school year (2018). Came back with no ill-effects the following year. Has no further reports of major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2019, 2020 & 2021 1st Team All-MAC

DID YOU KNOW?

The last time Green Bay drafted a player from Western Michigan, he was also a WR. That player was Greg Jennings who in 2006 was chosen in round 2 – quite possibly also the round in which Moore might be selected. The similarities don't end there as Moore and Jennings are similar height, weight and ran a similar 40 time.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent 3 year career at WMU
- Outstanding performance at the combine
- Lacks size but has really good speed
- Possibly projects to the slot in the NFL
- Will likely be off the board in the 2nd round

Jalen Tolbert (South Alabama)

WR10

Size: 6-1, 194 **40:** 4.49 (combine)

Class: Senior

The place to start with Tolbert has to be with his speed. His ability to accelerate off the line of scrimmage and get to top speed (which is really fast) quickly is sight to behold. Almost makes defenders look like they are in slow motion – yes, that's an exaggeration but you get the point. Add his long lean body and all-round athleticism to his speed and you have a potent, dynamic threat.

Multi-sport athlete who didn't have a stellar high school football career until his senior season. Opted to stay in his home state and enrol at South Alabama. Contributed for two years (2018-2019), before breaking out with a 1,000 yard season in 2020 – which he then followed with an even better season in 2021.

Runs good routes, getting separation – could do with getting a little sharper in his breaks though. He has good hands, although he probably drops more passes than he should – conversely though, he will catch balls that he probably has no right to grab. Is a willing blocker. Level of opposition will be a question mark.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 40 games for USM, catching 178 passes for 3,140 yards (17.6 average). Also had 22 touchdown receptions and 10 100+ yards receiving games. All of the aforementioned numbers are school record.

Also set single school season records in 2021 for receptions (82), yards (1,474) and receiving touchdowns (8). Set a school single game record with 252 yards receiving against Arkansas in 2020.

Injury Notes: Tolbert suffered a knee injury prior to the 2017 season (college freshman year) that required surgery – he missed the whole season.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Sun Belt Conference Offensive Player of the Year. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Sun Belt Conference.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Level of opposition will be questioned
- Combination of decent size and speed
- Outstanding performance at the Senior Bowl
- Underrated receiver with big upside
- Will be a deep threat 4th receiver in his rookie season
- Has chance to become an NFL starter
- Should be off the board in the 2nd or 3rd round

John Metchie III (Alabama)



WR11 Outside/Slot

Size: 5-11, 187 **40:** n/a

Class: Junior

Metchie found a roundabout way to get to play college football at Alabama. He was born in Taiwan and grew up in Canada before moving to the US as a teenager. Was an excellent high school player and followed this up with an outstanding college career for the Crimson Tide – being really good in 2020 and following that with an exceptional 2021. However, his season was marred when he suffered a knee injury in the SEC Championship Game. Is another that in Alabama's recent history of outstanding wide receivers – which has included the likes of Jerry Jeudy, Henry Ruggs III, Jaylen Waddle and DeVonta Smith, not to mention the other Crimson Tide wideouts coming out in this draft.

Metchie is a top notch route runner – one of the very best in this draft. Has nice speed without being an out and blazer but does have the sneaky ability to up a gear and deceive defensive backs. Has good hands although he's not quite as consistent a pass catcher as you'd like. Uses his strength to fight for the football and is a very willing blocker in the running game. Could do with adding more yards after the catch. Has experience lining up both on the outside and in the slot. Is a good blocking receiver in the running game.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games for Alabama, catching 155 passes for 2,081 yards (13.4 ave.) and 14 TDs, with 6 100 yard receiving games. Had an outstanding 2021 in which he had 96 receptions for 1,142 yards and 8 touchdowns.

Injury/Illness Notes: Metchie Was diagnosed with an enlarged heart while at high school, but, according to reports, doctors didn't consider the condition serious enough to prevent him from continuing to play football. Suffered a torn ACL in the 2021 SEC Championship game, which will impact how teams see him for the 2022 draft and puts his status for the 2022 season in question.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC. 2020 Jon Cornish Trophy winner (top Canadian player in College Football).

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Recovery from ACL injury is key to draft status and future
- Very talented
- Runs good routes and has good hands
- Possibly a slot receiver in the NFL
- Has chance to become an NFL starter
- Should be off the board in the 2nd or 3rd round

David Bell (Purdue)

WR12

Size: 6-1, 212 **40:** 4.65 (combine) 4.68 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Bell has really good size and is a super smart and clever receiver who runs super routes and understands the nuances of being a receiver in order to get open. As demonstrated at the combine, he doesn't have the out and out speed to stretch defenses vertically, but he does so many other things to give defenses difficulties.

Bell had an outstanding high school career, which included two 1,000 yard receiving seasons. He then followed this with an outstanding career at Purdue where he earned the starting job in his freshman season (2019). Bell had huge seasons in both 2019 and 2021 and would have done so in 2020 had the season not been shortened by Covid. Opted to declare for the draft as an underclassman and chose to sit out of the Music City Bowl at the end of the 2021 season in order to start his preparation for the draft.

Bell uses his size well, bringing strength and toughness – using his body well as a shield from the defender. Bell can make just about any catch including getting up for the contested pass, utilising his excellent hands and big catch radius. Is also really good with the ball in his hands, making would-be tacklers miss. Is extremely consistent – turns up to play, week in, week out.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 29 games for the Boilermakers, catching 232 passes for 2,946 yards (12.7 average) and 21 touchdowns. Had 17 career 100 yard receiving games (including 2 200 yard games). Had 1,000 yard receiving seasons in each of 2019 and 2021.

Injury Notes: Missed just 1 game (concussion) in 2021. No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Biletnikoff Award finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. Richter-Howard Award winner (Big 10's Best Receiver). **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big 10. **2020** Academic All Big 10. **2019** AP 1st Team Freshman All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 10. Big 10 Freshman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very productive career
- Very disappointing showing at the combine
- Will slip further than he should
- Will contribute as a rookie
- Should be off the board in the 2nd or more likely the 3rd round

Calvin Austin III (Memphis)

WR13 Slot/PR

Size: 5-8, 170 **40:** 4.32 (combine)

Class: Senior

Austin ran track and played football in high school and then continued doing the same in college at Memphis. Was a track star (100m and 4x100m relay) who had to walk-on as a football player for Tigers. Redshirted his true freshman season (2017) at Memphis. Contributed as a reserve receiver and punt returner in 2018 and 2019. Won a starting job in 2020, having a 1,000 yard receiving season and followed that with an another excellent 1,000 yard season in 2021.

Austin lacks height and may be very undersized, but he is a great athlete. He has blazing speed (as demonstrated by his combine time) which he utilises to get open – can absolutely destroy single coverage.

Austin has really quick feet and cutting ability. Also knows how to release off the line of scrimmage and is a very underrated route runner, who gets in and out of his breaks with extremes sharpness.

For a small guy, Austin is an aggressive receiver who isn't afraid to get physical with defensive backs although it's difficult for him to out-muscle much bigger corners. Will fight for the football in the air but won't win many of those battles.

Is also an excellent punt returner but will take chances about how and when he fields the football. With his quick feet, he's capable of making a gunner miss and taking any put all the way. If he gets into the open field than you can forget it – he's gone.

College Stats & Highlights: Austin played in 49 games for the Tigers. He recorded 156 receptions for 2,541 yards (16.3 average) and 22 touchdowns. Had 12 career 100 yard games, including 2 over 200 yards. Also had 29 punt returns at an 11.1 yard average per return with 2 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2020 Burlsworth Trophy finalist. 2020 1st Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Blazing speed
- Diminutive receiver who will play in the slot in the NFL
- Will be a menace from the slot if used correctly
- Nice Senior Bowl performance boosted his chances
- Excellent punt returner
- Probably a 3rd round pick

Wan'Dale Robinson (Kentucky)

WR14 Slot/Outside

Size: 5-8, 178 **40:** 4.44 (combine)

Class: Junior

Robinson is diminutive in size but has quick feet and the speed to give defensive back fits. Has great versatility, being able to be used in a number of ways including lining up in the slot and in the backfield. Can be used on jet sweeps and reverses as well as being a pure receiver. He's one of those receivers where you want to get the ball in his hands quickly and then "let him do his thing".

Played 2 years of college ball at Nebraska before transferring "home" to Kentucky (he had a highly successful high school career in Kentucky). Playing just his final, exceptional, college season (his junior year) for the Wildcats. Opted to enter the draft as underclassman.

Robinson is excellent when lined up in the slot, particularly when facing off coverage – using his quick feet and sharp cutting ability to get open early. Can struggle to disengage from physical, press man corners.

Robinson is also effective on the outside but isn't yet the most refined of route runners. His aforementioned speed and great cutting ability also helps him as an excellent and elusive runner with the ball in his hands adding considerable yards after the catch.

College Stats & Highlights: Finished his college career having played in 31 games (including his team with both Nebraska and Kentucky), with 25 starts. Caught 185 passes for 2,078 yards (11.2 average) and 10 touchdowns, with 8 100 yard receiving games. In his career, he also rushed 141 times for 691 yards and 4 touchdowns.

Had an incredible 2021 season in which he had 104 receptions for 1,334 yards (both school records) and 7 scores.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** PFF 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-SEC. USA Today All-Bowl Team. Citrus Bowl MVP. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2019** Hornung Award finalist. 2nd Team Freshman All-American Team. 2nd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very small, versatile, gadget type receiver
- Nice speed
- Should be able to contribute as a rookie if used correctly
- Probably a 3rd round pick

Alec Pierce (Cincinnati)

WR15

Size: 6-3, 211 **40:** 4.41 (combine)

Class: Senior

Pierce was a multi-sport athlete in high school – running track and playing basketball and volleyball as well as football. On the football field he was a productive player playing on both sides of the ball. Had a number of scholarship offers and ended up opting to play his college football at Cincinnati.

Played as a reserve receiver and on special teams coverage units as a true freshman. Won a starting job at wide receiver in 2019 and remained in that role for the rest of his career as a Bearcat.

Pierce is an experienced (36 games) receiver with some nice athletic traits. He is a tall and rangy receiver with great length and very nice speed. Plays with some strength and will put his body in and block. Pierce is a decent route runner although didn't seem to run the full route tree at Cincinnati.

Pierce has great hands and the knack for making spectacular catches. Will beat defenses deep with his burning speed. Is also willing to go over the middle to make the catch – will use his strength and fight for the football. With his speed he probably should add more yards after the catch than he does – needs to make defenders miss a little more.

Has some problems up against press man coverage, not getting a great release and getting caught up at the line of scrimmage.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games for Cincinnati, catching 106 passes for 1,851 yards (17.5 average) and 13 touchdowns. Had 5 career 100 yard games.

Injury Notes: Had both a knee injury and a shoulder injury during the 2020 season which saw him miss a number of games. Came back in 2021 demonstrating no apparent long lasting effects from the injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-AAC. 2021 CoSIDA Academic All-American. 2021 CoSIDA Academic All-District.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced, productive receiver
- Great combination of size and speed
- Tall, strong and will block
- Disappointing at the Senior Bowl but bounced back at the combine
- Probably a 3rd round pick

Justyn Ross (Clemson)



WR16

Size: 6-4, 205 **40:** 4.63 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Ross was highly recruited out of high school in Alabama. Opted to attend Clemson and immediately became Trevor Lawrence's go-to guy in his true freshman season (having a 1,000 yard receiving season). Was very good again in 2019, before having to undergo spinal surgery on his neck in 2020 – missing the whole season. Bounced back in 2021 with a solid season (but suffered a foot injury). Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman. Ross is the latest talented wide receiver out of that school to enter the draft – following the likes of Hunter Renfrow, Tee Higgins, and the Packers' Amari Rodgers.

Ross is a tall receiver with a great physique. Uses his physical ability to outmuscle defenders for the football. Has good hands and a huge catch radius. Is an outstanding deep threat with the ability to take the top off of defenses. Strong receiver on the outside who also has experience lining up as a "big slot".

In 2021, Ross ran more shorter and intermediate routes than previously, demonstrating some quick feet and cutting ability and the ability to get separation. Can get caught up in press coverage at the line of scrimmage – needs to work on his release.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games (24 starts) for Clemson. Recorded 158 receptions for 2,379 yards (15.1 ave.) and 20 TDs. Ranks in the top 10 in school history for receiving yards and receiving touchdowns and 11th in receptions.

Injury Notes: Suffered an MCL sprain and an ACL tear during his high school days. Missed the whole of the 2020 season due to a serious neck problem which required spinal fusion surgery – leaving his return to the football field was highly questionable. However he did come back to play in 2021 but then suffered a foot injury which cut short his 2021 season to 10 games.

Honours & Awards: 2021 ACC Brian Piccolo Award co-winner. 2019 Honorable Mention All-ACC. 2018 247Sports Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Serious injury history
- Really explosive pre-injury freshman season
- Would be a really high pick without the neck injury
- Ran shorter routes in 2021 than before the injury
- Probably a 3rd round pick

Khalil Shakir (Boise State)

WR17 Slot/Outside

Size: 6-0, 196 **40:** 4.43 (combine)

Class: Senior

Was an effective player in high school, playing predominantly at RB. Wasn't highly recruited by some of the major FBS schools – opting to attend Boise State. Shakir contributed in his true freshman season at Boise State (2018), before becoming a part-time starter in 2019. Earned the full-time starting job for a fine 2020 season and followed it with an All-Conference 2021 season (1,117 receiving yards).

Shakir has decent size and good speed. He is an all-round threat from the wide receiver position. Almost anything you need a wide receiver to do – Shakir can do it to at least a decent level, and in most cases better than that.

Playing from both the slot and lined up on the outside, Shakir is a super route runner, who is sharp getting in and out of his breaks at speed. Has good hands and a big catch radius. Is taller and stronger than many slot receivers and he has strength that helps him release at the line of scrimmage. Once the ball is in his hands, Shakir utilises his athleticism and cutting ability to add yards after the catch.

Shakir has been used on reverses and jet sweeps with some success. Has also on occasion lined up in the backfield in a wild cat formation. Shakir has also utilised his skills returning both kick-offs and punts.

College Stats & Highlights: Shakir played in 43 games for Boise State, catching 208 passes for 2,878 yards (13.8 average) and 20 touchdowns. Had 10 career 100 yard receiving games. Also had 71 rushing attempts for 414 yards (5.8 average) and 4 touchdowns. In addition, he had 24 punt returns and 8 kick-off returns.

Injury Notes: Had off-season surgery between the 2020 and 2021 seasons for an undisclosed injury. Bounced back in 2021, showing that the injury was behind him.

Honours & Awards: **2021** CoSIDA 2nd Team Academic All-American. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Mountain West. CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2018, 2019 & 2020** Academic All-Mountain West. **2020** Polynesian Football Player of the Year finalist. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Mountain West

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Slot receiver with some size and speed
- Experienced and productive at the college level
- Excellent 2021 season followed by a nice week at the Senior Bowl
- Can return kicks and punts
- Probably a 3rd round pick

Romeo Doubs (Nevada)

WR18 Outside/Slot

Size: 6-2, 201 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Wasn't highly recruited coming out of high school, where he was a multi-sport athlete. Opted to play his college football at Nevada. Doubs earned a starting role during his true freshman season (2018) and remained as the starter through the rest of his Nevada career. Finished that career with consecutive 1,000 yard seasons (2020 and 2021), catching passes from Carson Strong. Opted out of the Quick Lane Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to start his preparation for the draft, however he then didn't take part in any of the tests at the combine for a reason that wasn't immediately apparent.

Has good size and is a physical receiver who won't get outmuscled on his routes by DBs. Uses his body to shield the football and hold off defenders. Couples these size traits with decent speed and quickness. Isn't an elusive runner with the ball in his hands – doesn't make as many yards after the catch as you'd like.

Doubs has nice soft hands and a large catch radius. Runs some nice routes and has the ability to create separation with those routes – especially against defensive backs in off coverage. Has a little less success when facing press man – needs work on developing his release off the line. Has versatility having lined up on the outside and in the slot at Nevada. Also is a really good punt returner.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 45 games for Nevada, recording 225 receptions for 3,322 yards (14.8 avge.) and 26 touchdowns. Had 13 career 100 yard receiving games, which includes 2 games of over 200 yards. Also returned 39 punts (11.8 avge.) with 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Suffered a concussion in 2019 which saw him miss 1 game. Also missed the end of that same season with a shoulder injury. Missed 1 game in 2021 due to a minor injury.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Mountain West. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Mountain West.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced college receiver
- Can line up in the slot and on the outside
- Nice physical traits
- Good upside
- Reliable punt returner
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Velus Jones Jr. (Tennessee)

WR19 Slot/KR/PR

Size: 6-0, 204 **40:** 4.31 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Had an outstanding high school career having over 2,000 yards receiving in his last 2 seasons. Eventually committed to play his college football at USC. He redshirted his true freshman season at USC (2016) before playing as a reserve WR (with the occasional start) and KR & PR for the next 3 seasons – during that time he earned himself some All-Conference notice, mainly for his contributions as a return man. Opted to transfer to Tennessee for his senior season in 2020 - earned more playing time on offense and continued his excellence in the return game. Returned for 2021 under the "Super Senior" rule. Finished his college career with his best season in 2021, garnering 1st Team All-Conference honours.

Has incredible speed – as demonstrated by his combine 40 time (4.31). He is a super athlete who can hurt teams with his speed and ability to make the really difficult catch. Is predominantly a slot receiver who has quick feet, getting open underneath very quickly. Is an impressive runner with the ball in his hands, which really shows when he is utilised in the return game – he is an excellent kick and punt returner. Can also play on special teams coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 23 games (15 starts) for Tennessee and had 84 receptions for 1,087 yards (12.9 avge.) and 10 touchdowns. Had 4 100 yard receiving games. He returned 41 kick-offs (25.0 avge.), with 1 touchdown. Also returned 18 punts (15.1 avge.).

In his time at USC, he played in 37 games (6 starts) and caught 37 passes for 347 yards (9.4 average) and 1 touchdown. Returned 81 kick-offs at a 24.0 average.

Injury Notes: Had a hamstring injury just prior to the 2021 season but seemed to have no ill-effects once the season began. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** SEC Co-Special Teams Player of the Year. 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** Phil Steele 4th Team All-SEC. **2019** 2nd Team All-Pac 12. **2018** PFF 2nd Team All-Pac 12. **2017** CFN 1st Team All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Is one of the oldest players in the draft - will be 25 shortly after the draft
- Slot receiver
- Outstanding speed
- Dynamic kick and punt returner
- Really impressive showing at the combine helped his draft stock
- Tested well at the combine
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Bo Melton (Rutgers)

WR20

Size: 5-11, 191 **40:** 4.34 (combine)

Class: Senior

Was a multi-sport athlete in high school, taking part in track and field and playing basketball as well as football. On the football field, he played both wide receiver and running back, earning All-State recognition. Opted to stay close to home and attend Rutgers over offers from a number of other FBS schools.

Playing as a wide receiver, Melton was a part-time starter in his first two college seasons (2017-18), before earning the full-time role in 2019. Continued as the starter in 2020. After the 2020 season, Melton opted to return for a fifth college season in 2021, utilising the NCAA's "Super Senior" Covid rule. Chose not to play in the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl at the end of the 2021 season, in order to commence his preparation for the draft.

Melton is an extremely experienced wide receiver (42 starts in college) who makes the most of around average size for a wideout. He has out and out blazing speed – clocking a 4.34 in the 40 at the combine, although in fairness, he wasn't overly utilised down the field in his college offense.

Has the ability to make just about every catch, but his hands can be unreliable. Has nifty feet which helps his release and enables him to get open very early. Nice runner with the ball in his hands and those aforementioned quick feet mean that he's also a threat as a punt returner. Was also used on occasion running the football, making Melton a truly versatile football player. Also has some special teams coverage unit experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 56 games (42 starts) for Rutgers. Recorded 164 receptions (12.3 ave.) for 2,011 yards and 11 touchdowns. Had 5 career 100-yard receiving games. On running plays he had 165 yards and scored 2 touchdowns. Also had 16 combined returns (kick-offs and punts).

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 PFF 3rd Team All-Big 10. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced
- Versatile football player
- Hands need work
- Up and down at the Senior Bowl but showed potential as both a WR & PR
- Really good runner with the ball in his hands - was a RB in high school
- Can play special teams
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Tyquan Thornton (Baylor)

WR21

Size: 6-2, 181 **40:** 4.28 (combine)

Class: Senior

Thornton was a dual sport athlete in high school in Florida, running track (sprints) as well as playing football. He had a nice high school football career, in which played multiple positions, including wide receiver and quarterback. Had a number of offers from FBS schools – eventually opted to play his college football at Baylor. Was a reserve and occasional starter in his true freshman season (2018) for the Bears, before winning a starting role full-time in 2019. Remained the full-time starter for the 2020 and 2021 seasons – a season in which he won some All-Conference notice for his 62 receptions and 10 touchdowns.

Thornton is a very experienced (33 college starts) wideout, with a long, slim body. He has exceptional straight line speed, as demonstrated by his 4.28 time in the 40 at the combine. Thornton knows how to get open on routes which allow him to use his speed down the field, although he needs work getting in and out of his breaks on shorter routes.

Is a real red zone threat – had 10 receiving touchdowns in 2021. Has nice hands and a good size catch radius. Uses his height to pull down passes at their highest point. Is surprisingly physical fighting for the football when making the contested catch. May need to get more physical in his release and routes though.

Thornton has a little bit of kick returning experience. With his ability to run with the football, which he did during his high school career, it was somewhat surprising that he was hardly used in this role (e.g. on jet sweeps and reverses) at Baylor.

College Stats & Highlights: Thornton played in 47 games (33 starts) for Baylor. Recorded 143 receptions for 2,242 yards (15.7 average) and 19 touchdowns – all of these marks being in the top 15 all-time in Baylor history.

Injury Notes: Suffered from niggling injuries in 2020, missing 2 games. Came back with no apparent ill-effects in 2021. No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Big 12. 2019 Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Really slim body
- One of the very fastest players in college football
- Stretches defenses, although he has more than just pure speed
- Really nice hands and catch radius
- Needs work on route running
- Can be out-muscled by defensive backs at the release and on routes
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Danny Gray (SMU)



WR22

Size: 6-0, 186 **40:** 4.33 (combine)

Class: Senior

Gray was a fine track and field athlete (a 100m sprinter) as well as having a highly productive football career. Was academically ineligible to play NCAA Division 1 football and instead went to play at the junior college level. Played two years (2018-19) at Blinn College, TX before transferring in state to SMU. Was a 2-year starter at SMU, earning all-conference recognition for his very good 2021 season.

Gray is an outstanding athlete with the ability to stretch defenses deep thanks to his excellent long speed – speed that was demonstrated by his 4.33 40 time at the combine. He is a real home run threat, and that speed will set up a lot of shorter passes as defensive backs play off him. Underneath, Gray also has quickness and the ability to cut on a dime. And once the ball is in his hands he will make extra yards after the catch. Knows how to find the end zone (as evidenced by his 9 touchdown receptions in 2021).

Gray needs to get more physical as he can get out-muscled on his routes and when fighting for the football. Is an inconsistent pass catcher – will make some fantastic catches but Gray has also had some problems with the occasional dropped pass.

Has a little experience returning kick-offs and punts and also has been used some on reverses.

College Stats & Highlights: Gray played and started in 18 games at SMU, recording 82 receptions for 1,251 yards (15.3 average) and 13 touchdowns. Had 3 career 100 yard games. Also returned 9 kick-offs (20.0 avge.) and 2 punts (13.0 avge.)

At Blinn College, Gray recorded 69 receptions for 1,286 yards (18.6 avge.) and 14 touchdowns. Also returned 15 kick-offs (22.6 avge.) and 16 punts (5.9 avge.)

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-ACC. 2021 DCTFB 2nd Team All-Texas.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Former sprinter with blazing speed who will stretch defenses
- Needs to get stronger
- Needs to improve his hands
- Experience as a return man should help secure him a roster spot
- Should contribute on offense and as a return man as a rookie
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Kyle Phillips (UCLA)

WR23 Slot/PR

Size: 5-11¼, 189 **40:** 4.58 (combine)

Class: Junior

Phillips played both sides of the football in high school but was especially productive as a wide receiver. And it was at this position that he was highly recruited by FBS colleges – choosing to attend UCLA.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2019, before winning the starting job for good in 2019. Had 3 solid seasons as the starter, earning All-Conference honours in 2021. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Phillips' outstanding traits are a very quick burst and sharp cutting ability that are ideal for a slot receiver – enabling him to get open quickly. Phillips runs good routes and knows how to get open either through his routes or by just finding the open spot in the zone.

Phillips is very slightly undersized and lacks the deep speed to scare defenses. He is, however, a very reliable possession receiver from the slot who will move the chains.

Phillips has good hands and will hang onto the passes that he should catch but won't make many big yardage plays as a receiver. In other words he is extremely consistent without being a world beater.

Phillips is also an outstanding punt returner.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games for UCLA, recording 163 receptions for 1,821 yards (11.2 average) and 17 touchdowns. Had 4 career 100 yard receiving games.

Also returned 25 punts at an incredible 19.8 yards average per return with 2 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-Pac 12. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Slot receiver who gets open quickly
- Nice week of practice at the East-West Shrine Game which helped his draft stock but didn't stand out at the combine
- Dynamic and exciting punt returner
- Should contribute on offense and as a return man as a rookie
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick.

Erik Ezukanma (Texas Tech)

WR24

Size: 6-2, 209 **40:** 4.53 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Real first name is Chukwuerika – shortened to Erik. Was highly recruited out of high school, opting to stay in state and attend Texas Tech over a number of other FBS schools. Redshirted his true freshman season (2018), before becoming a part-time starter in 2019. Earned the full-time starting job for the 2020 and 2021 seasons – during which he garnered some All-Conference notice. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman and sat out the AutoZone Liberty Bowl at the end of the 2021 season in order to commence his preparation for the draft.

Ezukanma has a really nice combination of size and athletic ability. His size comes with strength and power that enables him to fight off press coverage, make the contested catch and to shake off would be tacklers when he has the ball in his hands. Has good hands and will make the difficult catches.

Ezukanma's aforementioned speed and quickness is a threat to defenses – either to beat them deep or to get open quickly in shorter routes, although he needs to do this more consistently. Could do with some work on the sharpness and precision of his routes. Was also used on occasion on reverses and jet sweeps. This experience may be useful to NFL teams.

For a player with all of his ability and physical and athletic traits, Ezukanma perhaps doesn't quite dominate as much as you would like to see. This will hurt his pro chances.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games for the Red Raiders, catching 138 passes for 2,165 yards (15.7 average) and 15 touchdowns. Also had 2 rushing touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered a broken arm in Spring 2021 but recovered sufficiently to be back for the first game of the season. Later missed 1 game in the middle of the season with an unrelated minor injury. Has no other reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Big 12. 2020 1st Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice combination of size, speed and athletic ability
- Dynamic player who lacks consistency
- Doesn't dominate like his talent suggests he should
- Needs to improve his route running
- Will challenge for a fifth or sixth receiver spot on an NFL roster
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick.

Jaivon Heiligh (Coastal Carolina)

WR25 Outside/Slot

Size: 6-0¼, 200 **40:** 4.63 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Heiligh is a really nice athlete, with body control and agility, who will have been disappointed not to get an invitation to the combine and then to follow that up with an up and down time at his pro day.

Heiligh doesn't have the long speed to beat defenses deep but has immediate quickness and will run extremely crisp and precise routes, meaning that he can get open early in short and intermediate routes. Heiligh can be an inconsistent catcher of the football – he can clutch the football out of the air thanks to his ability to leap and high point the ball but will occasionally drop a pass he should catch.

Heiligh is a versatile receiver who can line up on the outside and in the slot. He also has experience as a punt returner.

Heiligh's athletic ability will have earned him a spot on the radar of NFL scouts. He'll probably be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Dontario Drummond (Mississippi)

WR26 Slot

Size: 6-1, 215 **40:** 4.65 (combine)

Class: Senior

Played two seasons (2017-18) in junior college before transferring to Ole Miss for his junior season.

Drummond has good size and length and frequently lines up as a “big slot” receiver – this may be his potential role in the NFL. Although he lacks out and out long speed Drummond has quickness and cutting ability which allows him to get open early. Drummond plays faster than his 40 time.

Drummond has improved year on year in college and had by far his best year in 2021 (with over 1,000 yards receiving). Unfortunately, he struggled a little at the Senior Bowl week and then didn't blow scouts away with his testing results at the combine.

Drummond is a receiver who appears to be on the up. He is may well get selected in round 6 or 7, although that lack of speed will be of concern.

Tré Turner (Virginia Tech)

WR27

Size: 6-1, 184 **40:** 4.51 (combine)

Class: Senior

Turner is a solid all-round receiver who has some speed and quickness to stretch defenses and these attributes, coupled with excellent route running, helps him get open. Turner gets in and out of his breaks quickly and runs very precise routes.

Turner is super versatile lining up on the outside and in the slot as a receiver and has also been utilised in the running game with great effectiveness on jet sweeps and, on occasion, lined up in the backfield.

Has had some problems with his hands at times during his career. Can also be physically out-muscled by strong defensive backs both at the release off the line and when running down the field. There is some work to do.

Turner's versatility and all-round ability should mean that he'll be off the board on the second half of day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Reggie Roberson Jr. (SMU)

WR28

Size: 5-11, 192 **40:** 4.42 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Roberson spent 1 year at West Virginia before transferring to SMU. He is a fine deep threat with superb body control especially on the longer routes. Can struggle getting off the line against press man coverage – could do with getting a little more physical in developing some release moves at the line. Will add extra yards after the catch and is extremely difficult to bring down in the open field.

Roberson has had some injury problems during his college career – he missed the final 5 games of the 2019 due to a foot injury and then he played just 5 games in 2020 due to a torn ACL. Didn't look as explosive in 2021 as he had previously.

Somewhat surprisingly opted out of the Senior Bowl after receiving an invitation and then didn't take part in some of the tests at the combine. However, at the SMU pro day he ran an excellent 4.42 in the 40 to allay some of the fears of NFL teams about his fitness.

Roberson is also an excellent return man which will help his pro chances. Should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Charleston Rambo (Miami, Fla)



WR29

Size: 6-1, 177 **40:** 4.57 (combine) 4.53 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Spent 4 years (3 playing seasons) at Oklahoma before transferring to Miami for his senior season. And what a season it was, as Rambo set school single season records for receptions (79) and receiving yards (1,172).

Rambo has sneaky speed and the ability to deceive defensive backs by varying that speed in-route. Rambo has inconsistent hands – will make the spectacular catch but can also drop the much easier pass.

Rambo's slim frame means that he lacks the physical presence at the line of scrimmage and during his routes – corners that get their hands on Rambo can take him out of the play. However, once he gets the ball in his hands he's a real threat running with the ball and adding extra yards.

Rambo's 2021 season should have earned him a draft selection late on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Kevin Austin Jr. (Notre Dame)

WR30

Size: 6-2, 200 **40:** 4.43 (combine)

Class: Junior

Austin had a stop-start career at Notre Dame, before finally having a break-out season in 2021 (888 receiving yards). He only caught 54 passes whilst playing for the Fighting Irish – but 48 of those receptions came in 2021.

Previously Austin had missed the 2019 season due to a rumoured suspension (never officially confirmed) and then twice broke his foot during 2020, which limited him to just 2 games.

Austin is a fine athlete who, at this stage in his career, is most effective on longer routes where he can use his speed and ball tracking skills effectively. Needs development work on how to deal with physical corners and on running more precise shorter routes.

Receivers with Austin's speed and athleticism will always garner notice from NFL scouts. Expect Austin to be selected somewhere in the late round of the draft (round 6 or 7).

Jalen Nailor (Michigan State)

WR31

Size: 5-11, 186 **40:** 4.50 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nailor is a speedy wide receiver who can take the top off a defense – he was an outstanding sprinter in high school. Didn't quite run as fast at the combine in the 40 as was expected/hoped for, but he did well in some of the other tests, particularly in the broad jump and vertical, demonstrating excellent athletic ability.

Unfortunately, Nailor has an injury history – he missed 5 games in 2018, missed 9 games in 2019 due to a broken foot and missed 4 games in 2021 due to a hand injury. This history is bound to be of concern to NFL teams.

Has an explosive release off the line of scrimmage and can beat defensive backs early because of it. Is also a clever route runner, fooling defenders with speed variation and couples this was excellent, sharp, cutting ability.

Sometimes has problems with being out-muscled and with drops but when gets the ball in his hands, Nailor will add yards after the catch.

Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman when perhaps he could have returned for the 2022 season. Will likely be selected in round 6 or 7.

Dai'Jean Dixon (Nicholls State)

WR32

Size: 6-3, 205 **40:** 4.62 (combine)

Class: Senior

Dixon was a very productive receiver at Nicholls State, finishing his college career with 236 receptions for 3,802 yards (16.1 average) and 35 touchdowns. Had 13 career 100 yard receiving games.

Dixon lacks speed and won't often beat defenses deep, but he has really good size and is physical. He is a tough and durable receiver who will catch passes in traffic and add yards after the catch – isn't easy to bring down and can make would be tacklers miss.

Playing at the FCS level meant that Dixon didn't come up against the very top level corners and that will raise some questions.

Likely to be selected in round 6 or 7.

Ty Fryfogle (Indiana)

WR33

Size: 6-1, 204 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Senior

Very productive at wide receiver in his high school career in Missouri, having over 1,000 yards receiving in his senior season. Received limited offers from the "big" college and eventually opted to play his college ball at Indiana. Played mainly as a reserve in his two years for the Hoosiers (2017-18) before becoming the starter for the final three seasons of his college career. Was outstanding in the 2020 season earning All-Conference notice and the Big 10 Receiver of the Year Award. Not quite as dominant in 2021.

Fryfogle is an experienced receiver (34 starts at the college level) who has nice size which converts to the physicality he utilises to provide him with separation from defensive backs. That physicality and strength also helps him make contested catches. His athleticism and speed are ok, without being explosive or game breaking.

Fryfogle is one of the better route runners in this draft. He gets in and out of his breaks quickly and with precision, without rounding off. Will battle for yardage after the catch, being extremely difficult to bring down – typically one tackler won't do the job.

In 2021 in particular, Fryfogle had some real problems with his hands – dropping passes that he would previously have held onto, some of them looking like relatively easy catches to make. He coupled these problems by also muffing a punt return.

College Stats & Highlights: Fryfogle played in 53 games (34 starts) for Indiana, catching 158 passes for 2,231 yards (14.1 average) and 14 touchdowns. Had 4 career 100-yard receiving games, including 2 over 200 yards.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2020 AP 3rd Team All-American. Richter-Howard Award winner (Big 10 Receiver of the Year). 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Good size, but lacks some speed
- Disappointing 2021, particularly when compared to 2020.
- Had problems dropping some very catchable passes
- Was probably considered a better draft prospect after 2020 than he is now
- Nice route runner
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick.

Jerreth Sterns (W.Kentucky)

WR34 Slot

Size: 5-8, 183 **40:** n/a

Class: Junior

Has three brothers who are also football players, including Caden Sterns who currently plays for the Denver Broncos. Jerreth is a very small, but exciting receiver who lines up predominantly in the slot. He's a good athlete with quick feet and the ability to get open in a heartbeat.

Started his college career at Houston Baptist University (HBU) before transferring to Western Kentucky prior to the 2021 season, along with his quarterback Bailey Zappe (and offensive Co-Ordinator Zach Kittley). Zappe is also a potential 2022 draftee. Throughout his college career, Sterns has been a highly prolific receiver, setting records at both HBU and WK.

Sterns is explosive off the line of scrimmage and has great cutting and stopping ability to get open early. He's a guy that defenders need to jam at the line of scrimmage to keep him quiet. Perhaps his biggest strength is turning short passes over middle caught on the run, into big gainers. Has really good hands. Has some experience as a punt returner from his time at HBU.

College Stats & Highlights: Notched up 370 receptions for 3,873 yards and 35 touchdowns in his college career, including 3 years at HBU where he had 220 receptions for 1,971 yards and 18 touchdowns (setting nearly every HBU receiving record in the process).

Had an incredible single season at Western Kentucky in 2021 during which he caught 150 passes for 1,902 yards and 17 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist. Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award semi-finalist. PFN 1st Team All-American. AP 2nd Team All-American. FWAA & The Athletic 2nd Team All-American. PFF 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-C-USA. C-USA Newcomer of the Year. **2019** 3rd Team All-Southland Conf. Southland Conf. All-Academic Team. **2018** Honorable Mention All-Southland Conf.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very small - short and lacks bulk - will discourage most teams
- Very productive college receiver
- Level of opposition is questionable
- Primarily a slot receiver who can double as a punt returner
- Good runner after the catch
- Maybe somebody takes a shot on him in the 6th or 7th rounds.

TIGHT ENDS

2022 General Draft Outlook: This tight end class lacks the big name first round pick (like Kyle Pitts from last year), but outside of this this is a really interesting and deep group.

It's possible that no tight ends get selected in the first round, but after that we should expect 2-3 players (on average) at the position to be chosen in every round.

If a tight end does sneak into round 1, then it's likely to be the excellent Trey McBride, with Jalen Wydermyer not too far behind him. Following behind them should be the likes of Jeremy Ruckert, Greg Dulcich and Isaiah Likely.

As always with the tight end class, what determines the order in which they are selected is likely to be the type of tight end that a team is looking for e.g. a receiver, a blocker, a multi-purpose guy or an H-Back type.



Packers Outlook: With the March re-signing of Unrestricted Free Agent Robert Tonyan, the Packers depth chart at the time of writing looks identical to that of the 2021 season – Tonyan, Mercedes Lewis, Josiah Deguara, Dominique Dafney and Tyler Davis.

However, Green Bay seems to have been on a search for its long term answer at the position for many years and now seems to be living from year to year at the position. Therefore this may be another year in which the Packers attempt to solve (or go part of the way to solving) their tight end issues.

It's not beyond the realms of possibility that the Packers would take McBride late in round 1, but it seems more likely that they may use one of their 2nd round picks or their 3rd rounder on a tight end – any of the aforementioned Ruckert, Dulcich, Likely or Cade Otton could be in play here. So could Wisconsin's Jake Ferguson.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the last 20 drafts (2002-2021), the Packers have selected a total of just 9 tight ends.

TOP TIGHT ENDS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Trey McBride	TE	Colorado State	2
2.	Greg Dulcich	TE	UCLA	2-3
3.	Isaiah Likely	TE	Coastal Carolina	3
4.	Jelani Woods	TE	Virginia	3
5.	Jalen Wydermyer	TE	Texas A&M	3-4
6.	Jeremy Ruckert	TE	Ohio State	3-4
7.	Cade Otton	TE	Washington	3-4
8.	Charlie Kolar	TE	Iowa State	4-5
9.	Jake Ferguson	TE	Wisconsin	4-5
10.	Chigoziem Okonkwo	TE	Maryland	4-5
11.	Grant Calcaterra	TE	SMU	4-5
12.	Cole Turner	TE	Nevada	6-7
13.	Daniel Bellinger	TE	San Diego State	6-7
14.	James Mitchell	TE	Virginia Tech	6-7
15.	Derrick Deese Jr.	TE	San Jose State	6-7
16.	Connor Heyward	TE	Michigan State	6-7
17.	Austin Allen	TE	Nebraska	7-UDFA
18.	Lucas Krull	TE	Pittsburgh	7-UDFA
19.	Jeremiah Hall	TE	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
20.	Chase Allen	TE	Iowa State	UDFA
21.	Trae Barry	TE	Boston College	UDFA
22.	Peyton Hendershot	TE	Indiana	UDFA
23.	Gerrit Prince	TE	UAB	UDFA
24.	Andrew Ogletree	TE	Youngstown State	UDFA
25.	Curtis Hodges	TE	Arizona State	UDFA
26.	Teagan Quitoriano	TE	Oregon State	UDFA
27.	Armani Rogers	TE	Ohio	UDFA
28.	Braden Galloway	TE	Clemson	UDFA
29.	John Chenal	FB	Wisconsin	UDFA
30.	Josh Babicz	TE	North Dakota State	UDFA
31.	Cole Fotheringham	TE	Utah	UDFA
32.	Nick Muse	TE	South Carolina	UDFA
33.	Daniel Barker	TE	Illinois	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Note: This group includes tight ends, h-backs, and those fullbacks who are primarily blockers.

Trey McBride (Colorado State)

TE1 TE/H-Back

Size: 6-3½, 246 **40:** 4.54 (pro day)

Class: Senior

McBride was a multi-sport athlete in high school, playing baseball and basketball as well as football. Achieved all-state honours twice. Chose to stay near home and attend Colorado State. Contributed at TE and on special teams as a true freshman in 2018, before becoming a full-time starter at TE in his sophomore season (2019). Capped a very good college career with an outstanding 2021 in which he won the Mackey Award as the nation's top tight end.

McBride is a multi-purpose TE who can both block and catch – is one of the best receiving tight ends in this draft. Has been used lined up tight, in the slot and on the outside and is a prolific receiver all over the short to intermediate ranges. Slightly smaller than the prototypical NFL TE and could wind up as an H-back type.

Nice athlete who brings physicality and really soft hands to the position. McBride is a very consistent route runner, with some quickness despite not having great speed. Will add extra yards after the catch. On occasion will get deep but wouldn't be regarded as a TE who is going to stretch defenses down the seam.

Hard-working, all-out effort guy. Could do with adding a little more bulk. As a blocker, he has improved year on year and is very effective,

College Stats & Highlights: Finished his career at CSU having played in 40 games, recording 157 receptions for 2,011 yards (both school records for a tight end) and 10 touchdowns. Had 8 career 100 yard receiving games.

Had an incredible 2021 when he had 90 receptions for 1,121 yards (both marks being school single-season records) and 1 touchdown.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Mackey Award winner. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. **2019 & 2021** 1st Team All-Mountain West. **2020** PFF Honorable Mention All-American. 2nd Team All-Mountain West **2019** 1st Team All-Mountain West **2018** Academic All-Mountain West. NFF 1st Team Academic All-Colorado.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Outstanding 2021 after opting to return to school
- Best week of any tight end at the Senior Bowl
- Disappointing at the combine
- Should become a 50 catch as season tight end or H-back in the NFL
- Will be the first tight end selected in this draft
- Probably a 2nd round pick who could sneak into round 1

Greg Dulcich (UCLA)

TE2 H-Back/TE

Size: 6-4, 243 **40:** 4.69 (combine)

Class: Junior

Dulcich lacks the prototypical size for an in-line tight end, but he has the athletic ability and sneaky speed (plays faster than he times) to stretch defenses and be a real receiving threat down the field. This is supported by his 17.6 yards per catch career average – a number that would be impressive for a wide receiver. Probably projects to an H-Back in the NFL.

Dulcich had a good high school career in California that was capped by a 1,000 yard receiving season as a senior. Despite other possibilities, Dulcich opted to walk on at UCLA. Developed well at UCLA becoming a part time starter in 2020, earning the full time role in 2021 – earning accolades as one of the better college tight ends in the nation.

Dulcich is a good receiving tight end, with excellent hands. He is improving as a route runner and knows how to get separation. Is a long strider with acceleration that helps him get open later in routes. Has some strength and physicality to help release at the line and to shake off would-be tacklers in order to add yards after the catch.

Dulcich is a work in progress when it comes to blocking skills – he's lacking in technique rather than willingness. He works hard – has added some bulk to try and help in this area.

Dulcich is also a proficient special teams player.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games (17 starts), catching 77 passes for 1,353 yards (17.6 average) and 11 touchdowns. Had 4 career 100 yard receiving games. Had a really good 2021 season in which he caught 42 passes for 725 yards (17.3 average) and 5 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Mackey Award semi-finalist. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 1st Team All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll. **2020** 2nd Team All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice receiver who had really good 2021
- Improving as a blocker
- Great week at the Senior Bowl really helped draft chances
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Isaiah Likely (Coastal Carolina)

TE3

Size: 6-4½, 245 **40:** 4.80 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Likely is an outstanding athlete, although he is slightly undersized for a pro tight end. Likely is a versatile receiving tight end who actually lined up more frequently in the slot and on the outside more frequently than he did in the traditional tight end spot.

Had a highly productive high school career as a WR, including have more than 900 yards receiving as a junior. In college, at Coastal Carolina, he switched from WR to TE, becoming a contributor in 2018 as a true freshman, before becoming the starter. Had a good college career, capped by an excellent 2021 season.

Likely is an excellent receiver – perhaps as good as any TE in this draft – with very soft hands and the ability to make the difficult or contested catch. Has very nice speed, which enables him to stretch defenses down the seam and get separation as well as adding extra yards after the catch. Is also a really good route runner.

Has some physicality for his size, which he will use as a willing blocker – could do with adding a few pounds to help in this area.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games in his college career, catching 133 passes for 2050 yards (15.4 average) and 27 touchdowns. Had 4 career 100 yard receiving games, including a 232 yard game against Arkansas State in 2021.

In an outstanding 2021 season, Likely scored 12 touchdowns and had 912 yards receiving.

Injury Notes: Had a niggling foot injury for the majority of the 2020 season, although he played through it – missing just 1 game. Had surgery after the season had finished. Seemingly has no ongoing issues. Has no major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** John Mackey Award Semi-Finalist. FWAA, Walter Camp Foundation & PFN 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Sun Belt Conference. **2020** PFF 2nd Team All-America. 1st Team All-Sun Belt Conference. **2019** 3rd Team All-Sun Belt Conference. **2018** Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Super receiving tight end, with some blocking ability
- Can line up in multiple spots
- May have gone under the radar, playing at Coastal Carolina
- Excellent Senior Bowl week which was crucial as he played at a "smaller" FBS school
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Jelani Woods (Virginia)

TE4

Size: 6-6½, 259 **40:** 4.61 (combine)

Class: Senior

Woods is a big man, with length, and the frame with the potential to grow even more. He's a nice athlete with acceleration and long speed. Is a dependable tight end with decent ability as both a receiver and a blocker. Has physicality and is plays tough.

Played both football and basketball in high school. On the football field, Woods was an accomplished quarterback earning all-state and all-district honours. At the college level, Woods spent 4 years, including a redshirt year, at Oklahoma State before transferring to Virginia for the 2021 season. Had an outstanding single year for the Cavaliers, earning all-conference honours.

Woods knows how to use his physicality to get open and has a knack for finding the open space in the underneath zones. Runs some nice routes but has development work to do in this area. Woods is a good red zone threat, who will fight for the football in the air.

As yet, Woods' hands aren't yet as good as they could be. He doesn't always make huge yards after the catch, but will, on occasion, find the strength to break tackles and pick up extra yards. Woods is a reliable in-line blocker, using his strength and power to move linebackers off the ball.

College Stats & Highlights: In his one year at Virginia, Woods played in 11 games (10 starts), catching 44 passes for 598 yards (13.6 average) and 8 touchdowns. Had 1 100 yard receiving game.

Whilst at Oklahoma State, Woods played in 34 games (28 starts), catching 31 passes for 361 yards (11.6 average) and 4 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered from a niggling foot and ankle injury during the 2021 season. But had recovered in time to work out at the combine in March.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-ACC. **2020** All-Academic 2nd Team All-Big 12. **2018 & 2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- All-round ability without glaring flaws, although hands need some work
- Fine week at East-West Shrine Game really helped pro chances
- Looked really good at pro day
- Should make an NFL roster as a tight end and initially a special teams player
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Jalen Wydermyer (Texas A&M)



TE5

Size: 6-4, 255 **40:** 5.03 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Let's start with the elephant in the room, Wydermyer had a really poor pro day in terms of testing, and this may have significantly hurt his draft chances.

Wydermyer was a highly productive tight end at high school in Texas – with over 1,000 career receiving yards. In college, he immediately became a big part of the Aggies' offense and had 3 food seasons before opting to enter the 2022 Draft as an underclassman. Skipped the Gator Bowl to begin his preparation for the draft.

He has fine size and can be a big receiving threat from the tight end spot. He is a physical, muscular athlete who can line up tight, in the slot, as an H-Back and even out wide. Knows how to get open, running good routes but he doesn't, as yet, add many additional yards after the catch. Wydermyer is a super receiver with really good hands and catch radius. All in all, he is generally a reliable, consistent receiver, although he had some concentration lapses in 2021.

Thanks to his size and length, Wydermyer is a real red zone and end zone threat – he's a tight end that will get up and make the catch at its highest point and leap over defenders to get to the football. Wydermyer's all-round blocking, particularly in-line run blocking needs some development, to ensure that he gets more effective in this part of the game. Added aggression may also help.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 35 games (33 starts) for the Aggies. Had 118 career receptions for 1,468 yards (12.4 average) and 16 touchdowns. Both the yards and touchdown marks are school records for a tight end.

Injury Notes: Suffered a finger (tendon) injury in the Spring of 2021 that required surgery. Appears to have fully recovered. Has no reported history of major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Mackey Award finalist. 2nd Team All-SEC. Texas A&M Offensive Skill Award winner. **2020** Mackey Award finalist. 2nd Team All-SEC. **2019** 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC All-Freshman Team. Texas A&M Top Offensive Newcomer.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has intrigued scouts as a prospect for a few years
- Hasn't progressed much as hoped
- But still have a lot of untapped upside
- Is a huge end zone and red zone threat
- Disappointing Pro day really hurt draft chances
- Likely 4th round pick but may slip after pro day showing

Jeremy Ruckert (Ohio State)

TE6

Size: 6-5, 250 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Is a very experienced tight end (45 college games) with good size and a little room to grow. May be underestimated as a receiver, as he didn't see much action in this aspect of the game at OSU – firstly playing behind Luke Farrell and secondly because of the top talent on the outside that the Buckeyes have.

Ruckert had been a highly productive receiver at the high school player level – notching up a 1,000 yard receiving season as a senior. Then contributed at the college level for the Buckeyes for 4 seasons, without ever posting huge numbers. However, NFL scouts saw plenty of potential and he earned invitations to the Senior Bowl and the combine. Unfortunately he suffered a minor injury at the Senior Bowl that subsequently prevented him from working out at the combine.

Has soft hands and the ability to make the spectacular catch. Is reliable in the short to intermediate range. Can run nice routes. Ruckert is underrated as an athlete with better than average speed but thus far hasn't shown much adding yards after the catch.

Is an outstanding in-line blocker, one of the very best from the tight end spot in this draft, who really brings his physicality to bear in the running game. Can also pass protect and work well in unison with the tackle on double teams.

College Stats & Highlights: In his OSU career, Ruckert played in 45 games and caught 54 passes for 615 yards (11.4 average) and 12 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Ruckert suffered a minor foot injury during the Senior Bowl practices in February – the injury would also keep him out of taking part in any of the athletic activities at the Senior Bowl (other than the bench press). Is expected to make a quick and full recovery from the injury. He has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2020 Academic All-Big 10. **2018, 2019 & 2020** Ohio State Scholar-Athlete. **2019** Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Returned for 2021 season rather than declare for draft
- Didn't quite put up the expected numbers in 2021
- Spent week at the Senior Bowl
- Should earn NFL roster spot and contribute immediately.
- Probably a 4th round draft choice
- Likely 4th round pick but may slip after pro day showing

Cade Otton (Washington)

TE7

Size: 6-5, 247 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Otton has good size and is a very fine blocker – one of the best from the tight end spot in this draft. Likes to mix it up physically. Has added a little bulk over the years which has improved his power and strength and helped him become the blocker that he is. Could still add a little more weight.

Otton was an all-area high school football player, playing both offense and defense – having more than 700 yards receiving in his senior season. In college, he redshirted his freshman season for the Huskies, before becoming a starter at tight end the following year (2018). Otton remained in that role for the remainder of his time as a Husky. Put up solid numbers throughout his career, without having a single outstanding season.

Is a consistent, underrated, receiver, running good routes and demonstrating really good, soft hands. Isn't a great athlete and doesn't have great speed and won't often stretch defenses down the seam. He will use his physical strength and fight for extra yards after the catch.

In summary, Otton is a very experienced player (4 year starter) who brings consistency and reliability to the tight end position.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games (35 starts) for the Huskies, catching 91 passes for 1,026 yards (11.3 average) and 9 touchdowns. Had 2 career 100 yard receiving games.

Injury Notes: Missed the end of the 2021 season after suffering a left foot/ankle injury that required surgery. Otton's recovery from the surgery appears to have gone well. Has no further reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Guy Flaherty Most Inspirational Award winner. **2020** John Mackey Award semi-finalist. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. Washington Offensive MVP. 1st Team All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll. **2019** Husky Excellence Award winner. **2018** Washington Travis Spring Most Outstanding Freshman Award winner. Academic All-Pac 12 Honorable Mention.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent blocker
- Developing as a receiver
- Contributes in his first year in the NFL
- Probably a 4th round pick

Charlie Kolar (Iowa State)

TE8

Size: 6-6½, 252 **40:** 4.62 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Kolar is a really big tight end, who could even add some more bulk to his frame. Has some versatility, being able to line up tight, in the slot or even out wide.

Kolar was an outstanding high school athlete in both football and basketball. As a TE he had over 1,000 yards receiving in his senior season. At the college level, Kolar was ultra productive at Iowa State from his sophomore year onwards. Capped his college career with a particularly outstanding senior season in 2021.

He is a very good receiving TE with the potential to get even better. Is reliable and consistent with outstanding, soft hands and a large catch radius.

Doesn't have great speed so won't hurt teams down the field or after the catch, but with his size he is a huge threat in the red zone and at the goal line – is extremely difficult for a defender to physically match up to.

Doesn't yet put his physicality to full effect as a blocker, so this is an area that needs some improvement.

Kolar is very smart and is a hard worker and all-effort player.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 49 games (starting 29) at Iowa State, recording 168 receptions for 2,181 yards (13.0 average) and 23 touchdowns. Had 3 100 yard receiving games.

Injury Notes: Had surgery for a sports hernia injury prior to the 2020 season. Showed in the 2021 season that he had no ongoing issues. Has no other reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** William V. Campbell Trophy winner. Phil Steele 3rd Team All-American. Big 12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year. **2020 & 2021** Mackey Award finalist. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big 12. 1st Team Academic All-American. **2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Academic Big 12. **2020** AFCA 2nd Team All-American. Dr. Gerald Lage Academic Award. **2019** Mackey Award semi-finalist. FWAA & PFF 3rd Team All-American. **2018** 2nd Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Returned for 2021 season when some expected him to come out
- Was excellent in 2021, justifying decision to return
- Disappointing at the Senior Bowl
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick

Jake Ferguson (Wisconsin)

TE9

Size: 6-5, 250 **40:** 4.81 (combine) 4.71 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Ferguson is the grandson of legendary former Wisconsin Badgers coach Barry Alvarez. Jake's elder brother, Joe, also played for the Badgers from 2013-17. Jake played both wide receiver and linebacker in high school in Madison, Wisconsin – so becoming a Wisconsin Badger was a natural choice when it came to choosing colleges. Redshirted his true freshman season (2017) at Wisconsin, before becoming a contributor and later a starter.

Ferguson has really good size and length and has the frame that could even add a few more pounds. Has some versatility, having lined up in the traditional tight spot and sometimes in the slot in his Badgers career.

Is strong and physical and is an excellent in-line blocker in the running game and he was used more and more this way as his college career progressed. Is a decent athlete without having great speed or quickness.

Very underrated as a pass catcher, Ferguson has soft hands and a large catch radius – will catch anything that is thrown near him. Will fight defenders to get to the football and will also shake them off having made the catch – adding extra yardage. Ferguson is an improving route runner, who gets in and out of his breaks well most of the time.

Consistent, reliable, and hard-working, Ferguson is one of most durable players, at any position, in this draft.

College Stats & Highlights: Finished his Badgers career having played in 56 games, recording 145 receptions for 1,618 yards (11.2 average) and 13 touchdowns.

During the 2021 season, against Illinois, Ferguson broke the Badgers record (39) for consecutive games with a reception.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 John Mackey Award finalist. 2020 1st Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Returned for 2021 season when some expected him to come out
- Solid and reliable in every regard
- Had a very nice Senior Bowl week which helped his draft chances
- Has the look of a long term NFL no.2 tight end
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick

Chigoziem Okonkwo (Maryland)

TE10 TE/H-Back/FB

Size: 6-2½, 238 **40:** 4.52

Class: Senior

Okonkwo was a productive player in high school who received a number of offers from FBS schools before deciding to attend Maryland to play his college ball. Became a part time starter for the Terrapins in 2018 and 2019 – playing sometimes at tight end and sometimes at wide receiver. Unfortunately had to sit out the 2020 season due to illness. Okonkwo bounced back with a very good 2021 season, playing as the full-time starter at tight end.

Has excellent speed for a tight end as demonstrated by his outstanding 40 time (4.52) that he ran at the combine – the fastest tight end on show. He is also an exceptional athlete. However he is short and undersized for a full-time NFL tight end so probably projects to be a move tight end or H-Back.

Okonkwo is a good receiver for a tight end (skills learned playing wide receiver) and he has really nice hands. He runs very precise routes and knows how to get open. He runs his routes sharply and can explode out of his breaks – can be difficult to cover in the short to intermediate zones. Also can stretch the field with his speed. That speed, couple with his acceleration, means that he has the ability to add yards after the catch.

Isn't a great in-line blocker, Okonkwo just isn't physically strong enough to deal with the size and strength of linebackers and linemen in-line. However, he has some effectiveness when blocking on the move.

College Stats & Highlights: Okonkwo played in 36 games for Maryland. He had 76 receptions for 709 yards and 8 touchdowns. Had 1 career 100 yard receiving game.

Injury/Illness Notes: Okonkwo missed the whole of the 2020 season due to myocarditis. Came back successfully in 2021 with no apparent ill-effects.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- H-back type, similar to the Packers Josiah Deguara
- Teams will want to ensure that there are no long term affects from the myocarditis Okonkwo suffered from in 2020
- Good week at the East-West Shrine Game and then at the combine
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick

Grant Calcaterra (SMU)



TE11

Size: 6-4, 241 **40:** 4.62 (combine)

Class: Senior

Calcaterra followed a highly productive high school career in California by opting to play his college ball at the University of Oklahoma. After two solid seasons at tight end for the Sooners, Calcaterra was having a nice junior season (2019) when, after suffering multiple concussions, he decided to retire.

Late in 2020 he announced he was coming back and would enrol at Auburn. However, he never attended Auburn and instead transferred to SMU – where he played his excellent senior season in 2021.

Calcaterra has nice size and very good athletic ability. He's a productive receiver from the tight end spot who gets separation running really nice routes. However, physical defenders can impact those routes and sometimes he can struggle to release. Having said that, Calcaterra will leverage off defenders when fighting for the football in the air. He has good, soft hands.

After the catch, Calcaterra can get extra yards utilising his speed and acceleration to keep defenders at bay. Calcaterra is a decent in-line blocker without being a physical, aggressive blow you away type. He gets his body in excellent positions and will battle to the whistle to get the job done. Can be overpowered by really strong linebackers and linemen.

College Stats & Highlights: In his single year at SMU, Calcaterra played and started in 12 games, recording 38 receptions for 465 yards and 4 touchdowns.

In his 3 years at Oklahoma, he played in 33 games (14 starts), catching 41 passes for 637 yards and 9 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered multiple concussions in his career. These will surely be of ongoing concern.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-AAC. 2018 1st Team All-Big 12. 2017 Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Concussion history may be big concern
- Nice physical attributes and playing ability
- Potential to be back-up tight end in the NFL.
- Probably a 4th or 5th round pick

Cole Turner (Nevada)

TE12

Size: 6-6, 246 **40:** 4.76 (combine)

Class: Senior

Real first name is Nicolas. Turner is a big-framed tight end who is a former wide receiver. He's a good receiver in the short to intermediate areas but needs development as a blocker – could do with adding a few pounds to help in this regard.

Played both football and basketball in high school. Was named all-league and all-state in football and all-league in basketball. Turner had over 1,300 yards receiving in his senior year in high school. Opted to attend Nevada over a number of offers from other schools.

For a former wideout, who only switch to tight end in 2020, Turner doesn't have great speed or foot quickness and therefore isn't really a threat to defenses in these regards. However, he is a decent athlete with body control, flexibility, and some physical ability. Good receiver with long arms and excellent hands.

Turner will fight for the football and win the contested catch. He is a huge red zone threat, being extremely difficult to defend in the end zone, as evidenced by his 20 career touchdown receptions. Has some versatility, with the ability to line up as a "big slot" as well as in-line.

Turner lacks strength and power as a blocker and has work to do but is improving in this area.

College Stats & Highlights: In his Nevada career Turner played in 45 games, had 117 receptions for 1,370 yards (11.7 average) and 20 touchdowns. Had 3 career 100 yard receiving games, including a career high 175 yards (on 12 catches) against Hawaii in 2021. In an outstanding 2021 season, Turner caught 62 passes for 667 yards (10.9 average) and 10 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Mountain West. 2020 1st Team All-Mountain West.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Really good 2021 season boosted drafted chances
- Length and end zone ability will be intriguing to pro scouts
- Short area receiver who lacks speed
- Needs to improve as a blocker
- Will be in a battle to make an NFL roster, probably as a no.3 tight end
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick as developmental project

Daniel Bellinger (San Diego St.)

TE13

Size: 6-5, 253 **40:** 4.63 (combine)

Class: Senior

Bellinger is a very experienced player – 33 career starts at tight end, having previously played both tight end and outside linebacker in high school. He added bulk during his time at San Diego State and now has really good size for a pro tight end and is an excellent in-line blocker.

Bellinger contributed as a reserve and on special teams in his true freshman season (2018) at San Diego State, before becoming the starter at tight end in 2019 – a spot he retained for the remainder of his successful college career. Bellinger earned invitations to both the Senior Bowl and to the combine.

He has strength and power, to go along with his aforementioned nice size, and uses all of these attributes in the running game – he will move defenders off the football. Is also good in pass protection and working with the tackle on double teams.

Whilst the receiving part of his game hasn't been his primary role, Bellinger is an underrated part of the passing game who can get open and has the ability to stretch defenses on occasion – demonstrated good speed and athleticism at the combine. Bellinger has a safe pair of hands in the short to intermediate passing game and will also use his muscular build and physicality to fight for the football when he needs to and to add some extra yards after the catch.

Has special teams coverage units experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 42 games (33 starts) for SDSU, recording 68 receptions for 771 yards (11.3 average) and 5 touchdowns. Had 1 career 100 yard receiving game.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2020 Honorable Mention All-Mountain West Conference. 2020 Mountain West Conference All-Academic Team. 2019 Mountain West Conference All-Academic Team. 2018 Mountain West Conference All-Academic Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice blocker
- Has a little pass receiving ability
- Had a really good Senior Bowl week followed by a good combine
- Has the look of a long term NFL back-up tight end
- Can contribute on special teams
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick

James Mitchell (Virginia Tech)

TE14 TE/H-Back

Size: 6-4, 249 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Mitchell is a fine athlete with speed who is a good receiving threat. Makes big plays stretching the defense down the seam and will also add lots of yards after the catch on shorter passes. Mitchell has some versatility in terms of where he lines up – has been used in the slot and on the outside as well as lined up tight.

Mitchell was a hugely successful multi-sport athlete in high school – starring in both basketball and football. Opted to stay in state and play his college football at Virginia Tech.

Mitchell contributed as a reserve tight end and on special teams in his true freshman season (2018), before becoming a starter in 2019 – a spot which he held for the remainder of his college career when he wasn't out through injury. Despite being out through injury, Mitchell earned an invite to the combine.

Isn't a great in-line blocker and probably needs to add some bulk to help in this area – but will also need development work on his technique. Mitchell has some inconsistency to his play – really good one week, not as good the following, this is clearly another development area.

Has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 38 games (20 starts) for the Hokies, recording 52 receptions for 838 yards (16.1 average) and 7 touchdowns. Had 1 career 100 yard receiving game.

Injury Notes: Suffered a season ending torn ACL injury in September of this past season which required surgical repair. The recovery from this injury is obviously crucial to Mitchell's chances of being drafted.

Honours & Awards: 2020 2nd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Recovery from knee injury is paramount to draft chances
- Currently is a one dimensional tight end - receiver
- Needs to develop blocking skills
- May be considered as an H-back rather than tight end
- Can play special teams
- Will challenge for a back-up spot in the NFL
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick

Derrick Deese Jr. (San Jose St)

TE15 TE/H-Back/FB

Size: 6-4, 235 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Son of former NFL offensive lineman Derrick Deese Sr. (who spent 12 years with the San Francisco 49ers and 2 years with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers). Deese Jr. was a wide receiver in high school in California but didn't receive scholarship offers and therefore opted to stay in state and attend junior college (Golden West). Spent two years at the JUCO level (2016-17), before transferring to San Jose State for the 2018 season (which he redshirted). Played as a reserve at the TE spot in 2019 before earning a starting role in 2020. Was the starter again in 2021 and he responded with his best college season.

Deese has some size and length but could do with adding a few pounds – if he doesn't then he probably lacks the size to be a full-time TE in the NFL and will project to h-back or fullback - has at times already lined up in the backfield and as a wing as well as at the in-line tight end spot. Was also split out wide at times.

Deese has nice hands and a large catch radius. But hasn't yet developed great route and running - therefore doesn't get open as often as he could. But has the speed to stretch defenses down the seam and make big plays. Will also use that speed to make yards after the catch – powerful runner once the ball is in hands.

Deese has some strength and toughness and uses these attributes in the blocking game where he is very willing. However, he needs some work in this area.

College Stats & Highlights: Deese played in 30 games for SJSU, catching 86 passes for 1,149 yards (13.4 average) and 11 touchdowns. Had 3 career 100 yard games, all of them coming during the 2021 season.

In 2 seasons at Golden West, he caught 47 passes for 813 yards and 9 scores.

Injury Notes: Injured when landing in his head in the Arizona Bowl at the end of the 2020 season. Came back to play in 2021 with no apparent long term effects.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** Honorable Mention All-Mountain West. **2020** John Mackey Award semi-finalist. **2019 & 2020** Mountain West All-Academic Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- One of the oldest players in the draft - will turn 25 in August
- Nice receiving ability - with best year coming in 2021
- Possible H-Back or even fullback type at the pro level
- Didn't receive an invite to the combine
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick and will have to battle to make an NFL roster

Connor Heyward (Michigan St.)

TE16 H-Back/FB/TE

Size: 5-11, 233 **40:** 4.72 (combine)

Class: Senior

Son of former 11 year (Saints, Bears, Falcons, Rams, and Colts) NFL veteran fullback, the late Craig "Ironhead" Heyward. Is also the brother of multiple time NFL All-Pro Cameron Heyward who plays for the Steelers.

Connor was an outstanding athlete at high school in Georgia, playing both basketball and football. On the football field he played at both sides of the ball and in a number of positions including quarterback, running back and wide receiver on offense and safety on defense. And he punted as well. Opted to attend Michigan State and play as a running back.

Heyward was a part-time starting RB at Michigan State from 2017-20, but his opportunities at that position became increasingly limited and he converted to tight end in 2021 – playing some traditional TE and some H-Back.

Heyward lacks size, height and length in particular, but is a willing blocker despite those disadvantages. Doesn't have outstanding strength or power but is effective when used on the move.

Heyward has nice hands and a decent catch radius and while he doesn't have great speed, he does have some quickness, cutting ability and runs some good routes to get open. Most importantly, he is improving all the time.

Also has good experience on special teams – both as a KR and on coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 49 games for MSU, starting in 28 games – 15 at RB and 13 at TE. He recorded 96 receptions for 711 yards (7.4 average) and 6 touchdowns. Also had 211 carries for 825 yards (3.9 average) and 5 touchdowns. Had 1 career 100 yard rushing game. Returned 33 kick-offs at a 21.9 average.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours: 2018 Paul Hornung Award finalist. Honourable Mention All-Big 10. MSU Downtown Coaches Club (most outstanding offensive player) Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Former running back
- Extremely small for a TE and therefore more likely an H-back
- Has experience on special teams - coverage and kick returner
- In a battle to make an NFL roster
- Probably a 6th or 7th round pick

Austin Allen (Nebraska)

TE17

Size: 6-8, 253 **40:** 4.83 (combine)

Class: Senior

Played both football and basketball in high school – earning all-state and all-district honours in football. Chose to attend Nebraska over a number of FBS schools. At 6 feet and 8 inches – yes, you read that right – Allen has incredible size and in particular length that is extremely difficult to defend. Has the frame to add more bulk.

Allen has really good hands and for man of his size is able to separate through running excellent routes. Also has more athleticism, agility, and body control than you might expect. But Allen lacks speed and won't challenge defenses down the field. Wasn't utilised as often down at the goal line as you would have liked to have seen.

Is a solid, but not outstanding blocker. Drives well at the snap of the football into the linebacker in front of him, but with his size he doesn't dominate like he should. Needs work here.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 44 games with 24 starts in his Cornhusker career. He caught 65 passes for 975 yards (15.0 average) and 3 touchdowns. Set school single-season marks for receptions (38) and receiving yards (602) for a tight end in 2021.

Also set the school single game record for a tight end with 143 yards against Wisconsin in 2021.

Injury Notes: Suffered a meniscus tear in his knee prior to his senior year in high school (2016) – the injury required surgery to repair. Has since played a full college career with no apparent long lasting impact.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Kwalick-Clark Big 10 Tight End of the Year Award winner. Nebraska Offensive MVP. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021** Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll. **2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021** Academic All-Big 10. Brook Berringer Citizenship Team. Tom Osborne Citizenship Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Height and length makes him huge end zone threat
- Just an adequate blocker
- Lacks speed
- Chances of making an NFL roster may depend on team utilising him as specialist end zone threat
- Probably a 7th round pick or goes undrafted

Lucas Krull (Pittsburgh)

TE18

Size: 6-6½, 253 **40:** 4.54 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Played WR in high school, catching more than 50 passes in his senior season. After HS, he opted to attend Jefferson College (Missouri) to play baseball before enrolling at the University of Florida in 2018 to pursue his football career. Krull played 2 seasons for the Gators (2018-19) but mainly as a reserve TE and on special teams. After the 2019 season, Krull transferred from Florida to Pittsburgh. He played the final two years of his college career for the Panthers, although his 2020 was cut short due to injury. Had the best season of his college career in 2021.

Krull lacks experience, having only a single year as a starting tight end at the college level. For the tight end spot, Krull has a great mixture of size and speed. His frame could also handle a little added weight, if he can ass it without losing any of his excellent speed.

Krull isn't yet the finished product as a blocker or as a pass receiver. He is a very willing in-blocker but still has some work on his technique to ensure he brings his full size to bear. As a receiver, Krull looked good in the short to intermediate areas in 2021 and has become a red zone threat. Has plenty of special teams coverage unit experience.

Was drafted as a pitcher by the San Francisco Giants, in the 34th round of the 2018 MLB draft

College Stats & Highlights: In two seasons at Pittsburgh, Krull played in 15 games (12 starts), catching 39 passes for 457 yards (11.7 average) and 6 touchdowns.

In his two seasons at Florida, Krull played in 25 games (1 start) and caught 9 passes for 108 yards (12.0 average).

Injury Notes: Only played on 1 game in the 2020 season due to an undisclosed injury. Came back to play a full season in 2021 with no apparent lingering issues.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has just 1 year of college starting experience
- Didn't receive an invitation to the combine
- Is improving bit by bit - especially as a blocker
- Has special teams coverage unit experience
- Outside chance of making an NFL roster
- Probably a 7th round pick or goes undrafted.

Jeremiah Hall (Oklahoma)

TE19 H-Back/FB/TE

Size: 6-1½, 239 **40:** 4.96 (combine) 4.79 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Hall is small for a tight end – probably too small to fulfil the role in the NFL – so he likely projects to H-Back or fullback at the next level. The problem is that he also isn't particularly fast (4.96 in the 40 at the combine, although he improved on that with 4.79 at the Oklahoma pro day). Also doesn't have outstanding athleticism.

Was a solid receiver at Oklahoma, although he wasn't overly used in that role, catching just 68 passes total across his 4 seasons with the Sooners. 32 was his best single season mark, that number coming in 2021. Was twice a 1st Team All-Big 12 selection.

Hall is reliable as both a pass receiver and as a positional blocker – although he lacks that physical presence and can simply be out-muscled.

Probably goes undrafted, although he may sneak into round 7.

Chase Allen (Iowa State)

TE20

Size: 6-6, 251 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Allen was a multi-sport athlete in high school (basketball, football, and track & field). Has lots of experience playing tight end at a good level, being a multi-year starter and earning 2nd Team All-Big 12 recognition four times.

Allen has really good size, with the frame to add more. He utilises that size well as a very willing in-line blocker, however he is currently more of a positional blocker than he is a dominator. There is some development work to be done here.

Allen isn't a dynamic or highly productive receiver, although he does have some quickness off the line of scrimmage. He caught just 74 passes across his 5 year college career and never having more than 26 receptions in any single year (2021).

Hasn't yet shown that he can be a consistent red zone threat yet either – although with his height this is an area where he has a chance.

Is one of the oldest players in the draft – he will turn 25 in July. Probably goes undrafted.

Trae Barry (Boston College)

TE21

Size: 6-6, 244 **40:** n/a

Class: Super Senior

Barry transferred to Boston College for the 2021 season, having played 4 seasons at Jacksonville State. Could have come out for the 2021 draft but instead opted to play a final college season under the "Super Senior" rule in the hope of getting onto the draft radar of NFL teams.

Barry has a good combination of excellent athleticism, length, and size – his body can probably take a few added pounds. He is a really nice receiving tight end with good hands and a large catch radius. However, he lacks initial quickness and therefore has some difficulties getting open in the short to intermediate range. Is a threat down the field.

Needs work as an in-line blocker, which is not yet a strength for him. His tall, wiry frame doesn't lead to great power.

Will probably be an undrafted free agent.

Peyton Hendershot (Indiana)

TE22

Size: 6-4, 250 **40:** 4.80 (combine) 4.78 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Hendershot is an experienced tight end, having started in 43 games for Indiana. Finished his Hoosier career with 136 receptions for 1,479 yards (10.9 average) and 14 touchdowns.

Hendershot is at his best in the passing game, especially once he gets the ball in his hands – he's a real threat to add additional yards after the catch, running through defenders if necessary. Runs nice routes, which help him get open on short to intermediate routes. However, his hands are inconsistent, and he needs work in this area. Nor does he have great speed to stretch defenses down the seam.

Hendershot doesn't have the great strength or power to be an outstanding in-line blocker. It's probable, therefore, that he's more likely to be an H-Back rather than a traditional tight end in the NFL.

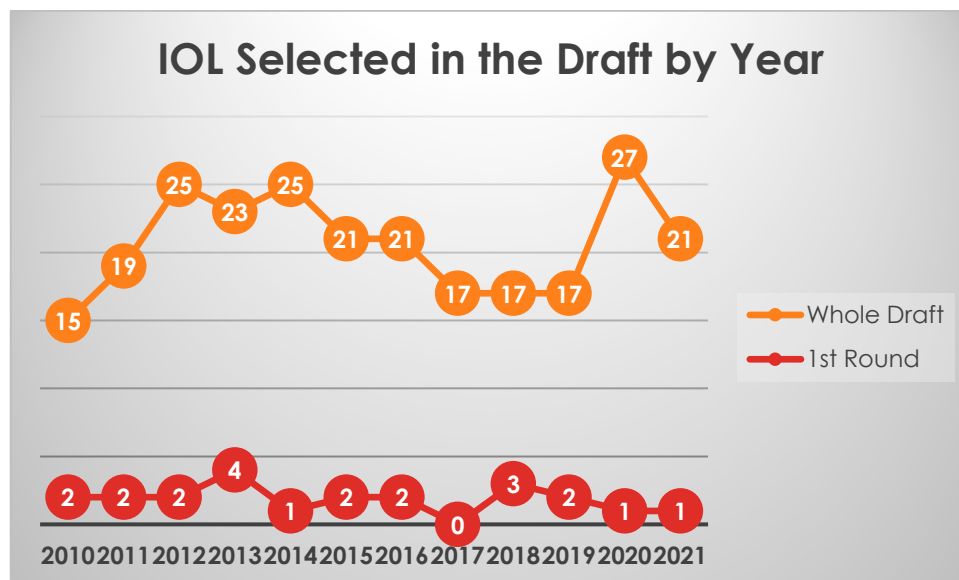
Will probably be an undrafted free agent.

INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

2022 General Draft Outlook: Often teams are reticent to select a player from the interior offensive line in the first round but given the success in 2021 of rookie Creed Humphrey (who should have been a first round pick but wasn't), that may change a little this year.

This year's class of interior offensive linemen is led by an outstanding center in Tyler Linderbaum who should be off the board somewhere around the middle of round 1. Following not too far behind him is the versatile Zion Johnson.

On day 2, there are a number of players who are likely to be selected and they will be boosted, as always, by a players in the offensive tackle group who may at some point move inside in the pros.



Packers Outlook: Despite losing Lucas Patrick, the Packers are still well stocked in this position with Elgton Jenkins, Josh Myers, Jon Runyan, Royce Newman, and Jake Hanson.

However, with Jenkins' status uncertain due to his ACL injury and the need to always upgrade the line, it seems likely that the Packers will do what they always do and look to add to the depth here.

Some of the players that could be in scope for the Packers are Zion Johnson (rd1), Cole Strange, Dylan Parham, and Zach Tom. Right near the end of the draft they may look at a player like Nick Ford.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers haven't selected an interior offensive lineman in the first round of the draft since 1994 – Guard Aaron Taylor

TOP INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Tyler Linderbaum	OC	Iowa	1
2.	Zion Johnson	OG	Boston College	1-2
3.	Dylan Parham	OG	Memphis	3
4.	Jamaree Salyer	OG	Georgia	3
5.	Cole Strange	OG/OC	Chattanooga	3
6.	Ed Ingram	OG	LSU	3
7.	Marquis Hayes	OG	Oklahoma	3-4
8.	Cameron Jurgens	OC	Nebraska	4-5
9.	Luke Fortner	OC/OG	Kentucky	4-5
10.	Thayer Munford	OG/OT	Ohio State	4-5
11.	Lecitus Smith	OG	Virginia Tech	4-5
12.	Zach Tom	OC/OG/OT	Wake Forest	4-5
13.	Justin Shaffer	OG	Georgia	4-5
14.	Dohnovan West	OC/OG/OT	Arizona State	4-5
15.	Alec Lindstrom	OC/OG	Boston College	4-5
16.	Cade Mays	OG	Tennessee	6-7
17.	Logan Bruss	OG/OT	Wisconsin	6-7
18.	Chasen Hines	OG	LSU	6-7
19.	Luke Wattenberg	OC	Washington	6-7
20.	Joshua Ezeudu	OG	North Carolina	6-7
21.	Andrew Stueber	OG/OT	Michigan	6-7
22.	James Empey	OC	BYU	6-7
23.	Tyrese Robinson	OG	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
24.	Ben Brown	OG/OC	Mississippi	UDFA
25.	Dawson Deaton	OC	Texas Tech	UDFA
26.	Nick Ford	OC/OG	Utah	UDFA
27.	Marcus McKethan	OG	North Carolina	UDFA
28.	Josh Rivas	OG	Kansas State	UDFA
29.	Doug Kramer	OC	Illinois	UDFA
30.	Josh Sills	OG	Oklahoma State	UDFA
31.	Xavier Newman-Johnson	OG	Baylor	UDFA
32.	Jason Poe	OG	Mercer	UDFA
33.	Brock Hoffman	OC/OG	Virginia Tech	UDFA
34.	Sam Gerak	OC	Northwestern	UDFA
35.	Josh Seltzner	OG	Wisconsin	UDFA
36.	Michael Maietti	OC	Missouri	UDFA
37.	Tyler Orsini	OC/OG	Nevada	UDFA
38.	Keegan Cryder	OC	Wyoming	UDFA
39.	Matt Bockhorst	OG/OC/OT	Clemson	UDFA
40.	Jack Snyder	OG	San Jose State	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Hayden Howerton	OG	SMU	UDFA
42.	Liam Shanahan	OC	LSU	UDFA
43.	Jack Wohlabough	OC	Duke	UDFA
44.	Kevin Jarvis	OG	Michigan State	UDFA
45.	Jahmir Johnson	OG	Texas A&M	UDFA
46.	Andrew Vastardis	OC	Michigan	UDFA
47.	Chris Owens	OG/OT/OC	Alabama	UDFA
48.	Aaron Frost	OG	Nevada	UDFA
49.	Kody Russey	OC	Houston	UDFA
50.	Grant Gibson	OC	North Carolina State	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Tyler Linderbaum (Iowa)

IOL1 **OC/OG**

Size: 6-2, 296 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Linderbaum is the no.1 center in this draft, despite the fact that he lacks the prototypical size and length for an NFL interior offensive lineman. He is very experienced (34 starts) and despite the aforementioned lack of ideal size, Linderbaum has great power and strength. Is outstanding in both the running game and the passing game.

Linderbaum was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Iowa – excelling in wrestling and baseball as well as football. On the football field, he played on both the offensive and defensive lines. Opted to stay in state and attend college at the University of Iowa. Began his Hawkeye career as a defensive tackle before switching to center in 2019, where he has been the starter ever since – excelling and receiving multiple accolades.

Linderbaum has excellent athletic ability and is nimble on his feet. Angle blocks well in zone and uses his mobility to move laterally along the line of scrimmage. Also utilises his athletic ability to get out to the second level. All in all, he is a really good technician.

Linderbaum uses his hands well getting them on the defensive lineman with a punch, speed and accuracy – gets his hands in the optimum place time and time again.

College Stats & Highlights: In his Hawkeye career, Linderbaum played in 36 games, with 34 starts. All of his starts came at the center spot (2019-21), with the other 2 games coming at defensive tackle (2018).

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Rimington Award winner. 2021 Lombardi Award finalist. 2021 Outland Trophy finalist. 2021 Rimington-Pace (Top Offensive Lineman in the Big 10) Award winner. 2021 Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 Rimington Award finalist. 2020 AP 2nd Team All-American. 2020 1st Team All-Big 10. 2019 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Best pure center in this draft by a distance
- One of the best centers to come out in a number of years
- Should start immediately
- Will likely be selected in the 1st round, somewhere between pick 12 and 20

Zion Johnson (Boston College)

IOL2 **OG/OC**

Size: 6-3, 316 **40:** 5.18 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Wasn't recruited out of high school in Maryland and his only football offer, a non-scholarship one, was from "small school" Davidson in North Carolina. After two years at Davidson (2017-18) he transferred to Boston College for the 2019 season, where he started at left guard. Moved to left tackle for the 2020 season before moving back to guard in 2021.

Johnson is a highly experienced (58 college games played) and extremely versatile lineman – having started at both guard and tackle. Also may have the potential and ability play the center position. He is a smart, hard worker who learns fast. Johnson is a decent athlete with nice size to play one of the interior offensive line spots. Lacks the ideal height and length.

He is a very strong, tough, and physical lineman who overpowers the majority of defensive linemen he comes up against – is a great straight ahead and angle blocker. Will get out to the second level. Has great balance and body control.

Has improved in pass protection throughout his college career. Will dominate defensive linemen that attempt to bullrush him. Can struggle against the more athletic linemen with speed or multiple pass rush moves.

With his versatility, Johnson is somewhat reminiscent of the Packers' Elgton Jenkins.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 58 games at the college level – 36 at Boston College and 22 at Davidson.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries during his career.

Honours & Awards: 2021 AP 1st Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-ACC. 2020 3rd Team All-ACC. 2020 Academic All-ACC Team. 2019 2nd Team All-ACC. 2019 Academic All-ACC Team. 2018 1st Team All-Pioneer Football League. 2018 Honorable Mention Hero Sports All-Sophomore. 2018 All-Pioneer Football League Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Should be an immediate starter at guard
- May also be able to play center at the pro level
- Suoer versatility - also played some tackle at the college level
- Excellent Senior Bowl - workout warrior
- Will likely be selected in the 1st round or 2nd round

Dylan Parham (Memphis)

IOL3 OG/OC/OT

Size: 6-3, 311 **40:** 4.93 (combine)

Class: Senior

Parham is highly experienced (50 college starts) and very good athlete for a man of his size – has good feet and moves well. Is undersized though and lacks some length and bulk – could do with adding some weight in order to add extra power and strength. Parham is extremely versatile – can (and has) play multiple positions on the offensive line. Very smart and a good technician.

Parham was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Georgia – taking part in track and field (triple jumping, sprinting) and basketball as well as football. In football he played both linebacker and tight end. Converted to the offensive line in college at Memphis. Became the starting left guard in both 2018 and 2019, before moving to start at right tackle in 2020. Moved again to become the starter at RG in 2021.

Parham is a nice run blocker especially in the straight ahead running game, where Parham uses his quick feet to get off at the snap of the football. Will sustain his blocks using surprising power and strength. Will always look for somebody to block and will get out to the second level. Uses his athleticism to move effectively laterally. Blocks to the whistle.

Will set his base and anchor against the pass rush. Will fight and maul to keep pass rushers away from the quarterback – when he gets his hands on defenders he doesn't let go. Isn't as good with athletic pass rushers where he will struggle with speed and movement.

Parham uses his athletic ability and speed to get out on screen plays, where he is particularly effective. Parham works hard, plays with effort, and keeps going – doesn't give up on a block.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games for Memphis, starting in every one of them. Had 28 starts at left guard, 11 at right guard and 11 at right tackle.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours: 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2018 Academic All-AAC. 2017 Academic All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Worked out at center and guard at the Senior Bowl
- Has a chance to become a starter eventually at guard or center
- Should be an immediate solid back-up at multiple spots
- Some questions about level of opposition in college
- Likely a 3rd round draft choice

Jamaree Salyer (Georgia)



IOL4 **OG/OT**

Size: 6-4, 325 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Salyer has the size and body shape which makes him look like an NFL guard. Has good strength (31 in the bench press at the combine) and power which wasn't lost when he worked hard to bring his weight down. Really nice blocker in both the run and pass games. For a big man, Salyer is a fine athlete who is quick and nimble on his feet. Very versatile lineman.

After an excellent high school career in Atlanta, Salyer opted to stay in state at the University of Georgia. Became a starter at left tackle for the Bulldogs in 2020, before moving to left guard for end of season Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl. Went back to left tackle in 2021, while seeing some playing time at guard.

In the running game he helped pave the way for the successful double headed Georgia running attack of Zamir White and James Cook. Salyer has the movement ability to get to the outside and pull as a lead blocker – although these are probably not his forte. Can get out to the second level. Is very adept as a straight-ahead blocker using his upper body strength and leg drive to move defenders off the line of scrimmage.

Uses his hands well in pass protection, consistently getting the in the right position. Has a good base, sets a solid anchor, and has the agility to be able to move his feet quickly – adjusting to pass rush moves. For all of his power and strength, Salyer could play with more aggression and ferocity.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games in his Georgia career, starting in 23 (20 at right tackle, 1 at left guard and 2 at right tackle).

Injury Notes: Missed 4 games in 2021 due to a foot injury. Came back at the end of the season with showing any ill-effects. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AFCA & Walter Camp 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-SEC. **2019** Georgia Co-Special Teams Most Improved Player Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Could play guard or right tackle in the NFL - started in both spots in college
- Outside chance that he may also be able to play center
- Has a chance to become a starter in time
- Should be an immediate solid back-up at multiple spots
- Nearly declared for 2021 draft, but returned for 2021 season
- Likely a 3rd round selection

Cole Strange (Chattanooga)

IOL5 **OG/OC**

Size: 6-5, 307 **40:** 5.03 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Although tall, Strange has close to the ideal body shape for an NFL interior offensive lineman but also has the frame to add some more weight. He is a nice athlete with good body control and the ability to move fluidly – is light on his feet for a big man. Is tough and competitive. Is super experienced as a multi-year starter in college (44 starts), with the majority of his college career at left guard.

Predominantly played on the defensive line in high school, before switching full-time to the offensive side of the ball at Tennessee-Chattanooga. Redshirted his freshman season (2016), before becoming the starting left guard in 2017 through the rest of his college career. Earned honours and accolades throughout his college career culminating in being selected as an FCS All-American in 2021 and earning an invite to the combine.

Currently, he is probably a better run blocker than pass protector. Moves well and can block laterally along the line in the running game. Uses his aggressive approach to drive block and will get out to the second level. Is a block finisher.

Strange is inconsistent as a pass blocker and can on occasion get beaten by both power and speed – he can overreach and lunge against rushers and get beaten by second moves. These are technique problems that will require some work, but he can be developed.

College Stats & Highlights: Strange played in 49 games for Tenn-Chattanooga, starting in 44 games – 41 at left guard, 2 at left tackle and 1 at center.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** FCS 1st Team All-American. Southern Conf. Jacobs Blocking Award winner. 1st Team All-Southern Conf. Academic All-Southern Conf. Academic All-District. **2020** Southern Conf. Jacobs Blocking Award winner. 3rd Team All-Southern Conf. **2019** 3rd Team All-Southern Conf. **2018** 3rd Team All-Southern Conf. **2017** Phil Steele Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks some experience against top notch opposition
- But played well against the "big boys" at the Senior Bowl
- Should earn a role as an immediate back-up at guard
- Has a chance to eventually become an NFL starter
- Really nice showing at his pro day
- Likely a 3rd round selection

Ed Ingram (LSU)



Size: 6-3, 307 **40:** 5.02 (combine)

Class: Senior

Ingram was very highly recruited out of college in Texas, including by the Longhorns. But he opted for LSU over the likes of Texas, Georgia, and Alabama.

Became the starter at right guard at LSU in his true freshman season (2017). Was suspended by the school for the entire 2018 season due to a "violation of team rules" – however, all charges were later dismissed, and he came back in 2019. Ingram moved to the left side in 2019 and was the starter at left guard in both 2020 and 2021.

Ingram is very slightly under the prototypical size for an NFL guard but it's not a huge concern. Ingram is powerful, strong, and tough, which makes him extremely difficult to move at the point of attack. He is an outstanding straight ahead drive blocker who has some explosiveness at the snap of the football and will finish blocks up to the whistle.

Ingram has some athletic ability but doesn't have overly quick feet and this shows up when in space and when he has to move laterally in the running game. But he is a good technician, using his hands well with force and places them consistently. Is difficult to get around when in pass protection, although he can be beaten by speed rushers.

Ingram is a highly experienced (34 starts), reliable and consistent prospect who plays with ferocity and aggression and keeps going until the whistle. Is a hard-working all-effort guy.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 45 games for LSU, with 34 starts. 22 of those starts came at left guard, with the other 12 coming at right guard.

Injury Notes: Missed 1 game in 2021 due to injury. Has no reported history of major injury issues.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Out and out guard
- Outstanding Senior Bowl - earned Top OL Award from his teammates
- Very consistent and reliable
- Immediate contributor at the NFL level
- Chance to become eventual NFL starter
- Likely a 3rd round selection

Marquis Hayes (Oklahoma)



Size: 6-5, 318 **40:** 5.30 (combine)

Class: Senior

Hayes is an aggressive and highly experienced (37 college starts) guard. He has a really big frame for an interior offensive lineman and can even add a little more weight to it if he wants – he actually already physically looks more like a tackle than a guard. Hayes already brings immense power and strength with that size.

Highly recruited out of high school in Missouri, where he was 2nd Team all-state, and 1st Team all-district. Hayes received offers from multiple FBS schools before opting to attend Oklahoma. In being a likely draftee, Hayes follows in the footsteps of Oklahoma linemen who made the jump to the NFL – the most recent being Creed Humphrey from 2021.

Hayes is a dominating straight ahead run blocker, where he will literally put defensive linemen and linebackers on the ground – can sometimes simply be an overpowering blocker. Will play to the whistle and finish blocks. Doesn't have outstanding athleticism and lateral movement but is better than might be expected for someone of his size.

Hayes needs a little work on his pass protection, where he isn't the most polished of blockers at this stage. But he is still able to be effective in this area because he sets a quick base, gets good position and it's extremely difficult for a defensive lineman to overpower him. Some speed guys will sometimes give him problems because he doesn't have quick feet and the athleticism to adjust. Will keep fighting until the play is over, demonstrating some ability to recover if initially beaten.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 40 games for the Oklahoma Sooners. Started in 37 games at guard.

Injury Notes: Missed just a single game (2019) due to injury in his Sooners career.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Big 12. 2021 Academic 1st Team All-Big 12. 2020 Academic 1st Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced starter at guard at the college level
- Outstanding Senior Bowl - helping his draft chances
- Physically looks as much like a tackle as a guard, but has never played tackle
- Will contribute at the NFL level
- Will challenge to be an NFL starter at some point in his career
- Likely a 3rd or 4th round selection

Cameron Jurgens (Nebraska)



Size: 6-3, 303 **40:** 4.92

Class: Junior

Jurgens played tight end on offense and linebacker on defense while playing high school football in Nebraska. He earned lots of notice for his fine performances. Jurgens opted to stay in his home state for college and attend the University of Nebraska. At Nebraska, Jurgens redshirted his true freshman season (2018) converting to Center and then winning the starting pivot job in 2019. Remained the starter center for the Huskers in 2020 and 2021. Had a fine 2021 season, in which earned some All-Conference notice. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Jurgens has decent, but not outstanding size. However, he is big enough and brings athleticism and some physicality to the position. His athletic ability was demonstrated by his excellent testing at the combine. Jurgens is an out and out center, with no experience playing another offensive line position.

Jurgens has nice movement ability, with a quick first step and the ability to angle block well and to move laterally, pulling. Doesn't always demonstrate the greatest strength but can stand up the nose tackle lined up directly over him. Jurgens has a fast snap of the football and the ability to get his hands on the defender quickly.

Perhaps isn't as good in pass protection as he is in run blocking. Will sometimes struggle with both speed and bull rushers, but he is a battler who will fight to keep pass rushers off his quarterback. Will work hard and recover.

College Stats & Highlights: Jurgens played in 33 games for Nebraska, starting in 31 of them at center.

Injury Notes: Had a foot injury in 2018 which saw him redshirt the season, and then had another foot injury early 2019, but didn't miss any further playing time.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 3rd Team All-Big 10. Nebraska Offensive Lineman of the Year. **2019, 2020 & 2021:** Academic All-Big 10. Nebraska Scholar-Athlete. **2018:** Brook Berringer Citizenship Team. Tom Osborne Citizenship Team. Nebraska Scholar-Athlete.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Out and out center - no versatility
- Opted to declare for the draft early - time will tell if that's the right move
- Tested excellently at the combine, helping his draft chances
- Will challenge to be an NFL starter at some point in his career
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Luke Fortner (Kentucky)

IOL9 **OC/OG**

Size: 6-4, 307 **40:** 5.21 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Fortner is a highly experienced, team leader type reportedly with a great attitude and character. Comes with great versatility being able to play multiple offensive line positions – he started at both center (2021) and right guard (2019-20) at Kentucky, after playing just about every offensive line position in high school. Won lots of accolades during his college career both for his play on the field and for his academic ability.

Fortner is a decent athlete with above average movement ability. He has nice length for the position and the frame to add a little bit more bulk. Already has some power and strength, so if he can add to this without losing any of his speed and quickness that would be great.

Fortner is a very good pass blocker. He gets his hands on defensive linemen quickly and has good length – is able to reach block. His athletic skills allow him to move while keeping his body under control, keeping him in front of pass rushers.

Is a good technician in the running game, who can angle block and move laterally. Fortner won't overpower defenders though, looking more convincing on plays that call for him to move rather than block straight ahead. However, he does his utmost to finish plays and will find somebody to block, if necessary. Fortner isn't as aggressive and physical as he could be – he has some power, but this is an area to be worked on.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 55 games (36 starts) for Kentucky.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** PFF & Phil Steele 2nd Team All-SEC. 2nd Team Academic All-American. AFCA Good Works team. **2020 & 2021:** William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. **2020:** Wuerffel Trophy semi-finalist. SEC Community Service Team. **2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020:** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2016** SEC First-Year Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Developmental project at center, with potential
- Could be able to fill-in at guard
- Highly experienced at the college level
- NFL coaching should help his development & improvement
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Thayer Munford (Ohio State)

IOL10 **OG/OT**

Size: 6-6, 328 **40:** 5.39 (combine) 5.33 (pro day)

Class: Super Senior

Combine: Yes

Munford has great size and length for the tackle spot and would be huge for a guard – especially if he were to put on more bulk, which his frame could handle. He is a super experienced, four-year starter. Munford is very versatile – has played guard and both tackle spots. Is a hardworking, effort guy who will keep going all day.

Munford became the starter at left tackle for the Buckeyes in 2018. Moved inside from tackle to guard for the 2021 season (with fellow potential 2022 draftee Nicholas Petit-Frere playing outside him). Then Moved back to tackle for his final college game – The Rose Bowl.

Can be inconsistent in pass protection and was probably better in this regard in 2020 than he was in 2021. Will use his power and strength to deal with bull rushers but his foot speed is questionable and therefore he can struggle dealing athletic, speed rushers. Munford is aggressive but this sometimes works against him as he can overreach.

Is a good straight ahead run blocker, utilising his size, power, and strength, although he doesn't quite dominate as much as he perhaps should. Doesn't have quick enough movement for plays which required him to move laterally along the line of scrimmage.

College Stats & Highlights: Munford played in 57 games for the Buckeyes, starting in 45. Played more than 3,100 snaps during his OSU career. Allowed just 19 pressures over the last two seasons.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 AFCA 1st Team & AP 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 1st Team All-Big 10. 2019 2nd Team All-Big 10. 2018 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to stay in school for the 2021 season rather than come out
- Moved inside to guard for 2021 season - wasn't as good as previous years
- Still learning new position - may be a guard or right tackle in the pros
- Versatility is a huge plus and should earn him an NFL roster spot
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Lecitus Smith (Virginia Tech)

IOL11 **OG**

Size: 6-3, 314 **40:** 5.18 (combine)

Class: Senior

Smith has decent but not great size and length. But is a really nice athlete. He is a very experienced guard (37 starts) who has, occasion, filled in at tackle, so has some versatility in a pinch – but really, he's an out and out guard who can play on either side (his lack of length prevents him from having consideration for being a tackle). Smith is extremely powerful and strong.

Had a nice high school career being named all-region 3 times. Redshirted his freshman year (2017) at Va. Tech before becoming a part time starter in 2018. Earned a full time starting role in 2019 through the end of his college career. Played solidly throughout his college career at a good level of football in the ACC.

As a run blocker, Smith has some explosion off the ball and can overpower defenders right in front of him with his strength. He is happy to maul defenders in the running game. Smith has decent foot speed and quickness when pulling laterally and playing in space. Will get out to the second level and look for somebody to block.

Can be good in pass protection but can be inconsistent. When he gets his hands on the defender quickly with punch and grab, he blocks well but this doesn't always happen. Can be beaten to the punch and have leverage used against him. Will struggle against athletic rushers with speed, in space.

Smith is aggressive and plays hard for four quarters and is a play finisher – keeps going until the whistle.

College Stats & Highlights: 45 games played including 37 games started in his 4 years at Virginia Tech. All but one of those starts came at LG – the other at LT.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Honorable Mention All-ACC. 2020 Honorable Mention All-ACC. 2019 Honorable Mention All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Strength and movement makes him scheme versatile
- Very experienced
- All but 1 of his college starts came at guard
- Looks like a back-up guard in the NFL
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Zach Tom (Wake Forest)



IOL12 OC/OG/OT

Size: 6-4, 304 **40:** 4.94 (combine)

Class:

Was a fine player in high school who earned all-state recognition playing OT. Opted to attend Wake Forest to play college football. Sat out his true freshman season (2017) before playing mainly as a reserve in 2018. Switched to center and earned the starting role for the 2019 season. Then for 2020, he moved to OT – where he remained the starter for both of his final college seasons (2020-21). Tom played exceptionally well in 2021, garnering some All-American recognition.

Tom is a very experienced (37 starts) interior offensive lineman, who comes with decent but not outstanding size, however he has the frame to add 10-15 pounds. Tom's versatility is a huge plus, having played most of the positions on the offensive line at some point.

Tom is outstanding in pass protection. Has a good base and anchor and the agility to quickly reset. Tom has good technical skills – his feet are light, and he gets his hands up quickly with good positioning. Is very committed and will do everything to protect his quarterback.

Tom is solid but doesn't dominate in the run game. Has some movement ability laterally along the line, but it hasn't proven to be outstanding. Has some strength and can drive block but won't consistently overwhelm defenders lined up directly over him. Will maul and fight if he has to but could probably do with adding some aggression to his game.

College Stats & Highlights: Tom played in 48 games for Wake Forest, with 37 starts.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** PFWA, Phil Steele & The Athletic 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-ACC. Jim Tatum Award winner (ACC Top Student-Athlete). William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. ACC All-Academic Team. ACC Postgraduate Scholarship Recipient. **2020** ACC All-Academic Team. **2019** Honorable Mention All-ACC. ACC All-Academic Team. **2017** ACC All-Academic Team

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Probable center at the pro level, but has versatility
- Very experienced at the college level, playing center and tackle
- Worked at both guard and center at the Senior Bowl
- Looks like a multi-positional back-up in the NFL
- Perhaps can challenge to start down the road
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Justin Shaffer (Georgia)

IOL13 **OG**

Size: 6-4, 314 **40:** 5.14

Class: Super Senior

Shaffer played his high school football in Georgia, earning same rave reviews for his play on the offensive line. Turned down offers from a number of FBS schools in order to stay in his home state and plays his college ball at the University of Georgia.

Shaffer was mainly a reserve, with the occasional start, in his first 3 years (2017-2019) for the Bulldogs. Became the full-time starter at left guard in the 2020 season. Opted to return for his Super Senior season (enabled by the NCAA Covid rules) in 2021 – having his best season in his last year at Georgia, earning some All-Conference recognition.

Shaffer is an experienced (28 starts) guard who has played both guard spots in his time for Georgia. He has really nice size and decent athleticism, without being outstanding in this area.

Shaffer can be an inconsistent run blocker. He doesn't have great movement skills, particularly laterally, in the running game. Is better as a straight ahead drive blocker. Will maul and fight defenders to at least a stalemate position. Plays tough and keeps going.

Shaffer is better in pass protection than as a run blocker. Can set a good anchor and has quick hands which he gets in good position on the defender. Will use his aforementioned mauling skills to fight a pass rusher to the whistle. Doesn't give up and has some recovery ability. Plays with hustle and will find somebody to block.

College Stats & Highlights: Shaffer played in 51 games at Georgia, starting in 28 of them (27 at left guard, 1 at right guard)

Injury Notes: Missed the final 8 games of the 2019 due to a neck injury. However, he came back to play successfully in 2020 and 2021, apparently with no ill-effects from the injury.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC. 2020 Phil Steele 3rd Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- No signs of any ongoing medical issues (neck) - but teams will want to check
- Very experienced at the college level
- Out and out guard
- Looks like a back-up in the NFL
- Perhaps can challenge to start later in career, with development
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Dohnovan West (Arizona State)

IOL14 OC/OG

Size: 6-3, 296 **40:** 5.27 (combine)

Class: Junior

West lacks the ideal size for a pro interior offensive lineman, but he has good versatility, being able to play both center and guard.

West was a multi-sport athlete at high school – wrestled as well as playing football – at both center and tackle. Won a starting job at guard at Arizona State in his freshman season (2019). After two years playing guard, West moved to center for the 2021 season. Overall, West has improved year on year, getting better in every aspect of the game. Somewhat surprisingly, West opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

West is a very nice athlete with some footspeed and nimbleness. Is able to move extremely well laterally, pulling with ease. Won't overpower defensive linemen in front of him but will use his wrestling background to maul and hold his ground. With his good movement, he may be better suited to a running game that features pulls, traps and outside runs.

Can be solid in pass protection and has a nice base and anchor. But his lack of length and power can show when he is given trouble by both extreme speed and power. If he can't increase his strength then he needs to work on his technique to get better positioning and more leverage. However, he will preserve and not give up if beaten and recovers well.

West is a consistent, smart player who plays with aggression and determination.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 29 games for Arizona State – starting in all of them.

Injury Notes: Missed the Las Vegas Bowl at the end of the 2021 season due to a hand injury which required surgery. Should not provide any long term issues.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Pac 12. 2019 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to declare for this draft early - perhaps should have stayed in school for another year
- Good level of starting experience in college
- Versatile - played both center and guard in college
- Experience in outside zone running scheme
- Looks like multi-positional back-up in the NFL
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Alec Lindstrom (Boston College)

IOL15 **OC**

Size: 6-3, 296 **40:** 5.18 (combine)

Class: Senior

Alec is the younger brother of Chris Lindstrom (who also attended Boston College) who was selected in the first round of the 2019 draft by the Atlanta Falcons. Alec played on both sides of the line in high school before becoming a permanent fixture on the offensive line in college.

Lindstrom is a very intelligent and experienced, three year college starter at center. Unfortunately, he lacks the ideal size and length for the prototypical NFL interior offensive lineman and also doesn't have the top notch power and strength that you'd like. However, he is an intelligent, ultra-competitive player who doesn't give up.

Lindstrom is a fine athlete who moves well laterally, backwards and forward – getting out to the second level in the running game. Uses his hands well and gets good leg drive. Can be a really good run blocker in an offense that requires movement rather than power.

Lindstrom has nice foot work as a pass blocker, but he has an inconsistent anchor – perhaps due to his lack of strength, power and length. Therefore he can be pushed back by power rushers and defensive linemen with good technique. Is able to win sometimes thanks to positioning and persistence. Lindstrom is much better in the passing game when he is used outside on screen plays – this is where his mobility and movement really comes to the fore.

Lindstrom is a reliable hard worker who gives it everything on every play and is someone that keeps going all day.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games in his Boston College career.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Rimington Award finalist. 2021 AP 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-ACC. 2020 1st Team All-ACC. 2019 3rd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced at the college level
- Played exclusively at center
- Spent some time at the Senior Bowl trying out at guard
- Looks like a developmental back-up center in the NFL
- Likely a 4th or 5th round selection

Cade Mays (Tennessee)

IOL16 OG/OT/OC

Size: 6-5, 311 **40:** 5.24 (combine)

Class: Senior

Mays was a highly decorated OT in high school (Tennessee) and received multiple scholarship offers before opting to attend the University of Georgia. Made starts at both RG and LT in his true freshman season for the Bulldogs, before starting all but 3 games in 2019 – again in multiple spots (RG, LT, LG, LT) and also saw time at OC. After two seasons with Georgia, Mays transferred to his home state to play at the University of Tennessee. In his two seasons (2020-21) for the Volunteers, Mays was the starter in two positions – but the majority of those starts came at right tackle, earning All-Conference recognition for his play at that spot in 2021.

Mays is a very experienced (35 college starts) lineman who is super strong and who brings with him the ultimate level of versatility, having spent time at every spot on the line. Mays has nice size and length, with frame to play either OG or OT.

Is a better run blocker than pass blocker. In the running game he can really bring strength and power to bear, especially in a straight ahead, pound the football type offense – although he does have better than average movement skills also.

In pass protection his strength really helps against the bull-rush, and he gets his hands up quickly with a punch, but he can struggle against athletic pass rushers with speed or bend around the edge.

College Stats & Highlights: In his 2 seasons at Tennessee, Mays played and started in 17 games (6 at RG and 11 at RT). Played 25 games in 2 seasons at UGA – had 18 starts (13 at RG, 2 at LG and 2 LT).

Injury Notes: Missed 3 games in 2018 due to injury. Missed 3 games in 2020 due to a lower leg injury. Missed the last 2 games of 2021 due to a foot injury. Showed no long lasting effects from any of the these injuries at the Senior Bowl and combine.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 2nd Team All-SEC. **2019** UGA Charley Trippi Award (most versatile player) co-winner. **2018** FWAA Freshman All-American. Freshman All-SEC. UGA Offensive Newcomer of the Year Award co-winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced at the college level
- Super versatility having played guard, tackle and a little center in college
- However, looks mostly like a guard in the NFL
- Perhaps a multi-positional back-up at the pro level
- Likely a 6th or 7th round selection

Logan Bruss (Wisconsin)

IOL17 **OG/OT**

Size: 6-5, 309 **40:** 5.32 (combine)

Class: Senior

Bruss is from Appleton, WI and was a solid high school player in Kimberly who opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball for the Badgers. Bruss redshirted the 2017 season, before becoming a part-time starter for the Badgers in 2018. Earned a full time starting role at RT in 2019 (with 1 start at RG). Started again in 2020, this time at RG (with 1 at RT) and earning some All-Conference notice. Has his best year in 2021 starting at RT and again earning All-Conference notice.

Bruss is an experienced offensive lineman with good size and length, with a frame that could carry a little more weight. Lacks explosion and some quickness but is a decent athlete. Bruss is versatile having started games at tackle, guard and as a blocking tight end.

Bruss doesn't have outstanding strength or power but will maul defenders at the point. Can angle block well and will move some laterally in the running game. Also has sufficient athleticism to get out to the second level. Will find defenders to block right up until the whistle.

In pass protection, Bruss has a good base and nice, light, foot movement. He uses his hands well but doesn't have a dominant punch. Can have difficulty with re-setting when facing fast, athletic pass rushers with moves. Doesn't give up and has some recovery ability.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 42 games for the Badgers, starting in 35 of them – with 26 of the starts coming at RT and 6 at RG. Also made 3 starts at TE.

Injury Notes: Missed 2 games early in 2021 due a neck injury but came back to play seemingly with no long lasting injury impact. Played through a nagging foot injury for much of the 2021 season until the final game (Las Vegas Bowl), which he missed. Recovered in time to take part in the combine.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Big 10. 2020 3rd Team All-Big 10. 2020 Academic All-Big 10. 2019 Academic All-Big 10. 2018 Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Another from the Badgers OL factory
- Very experienced at the college level
- Played mainly at tackle, but also started a few games at guard
- Likely a guard in the NFL
- Will challenge for a roster spot, perhaps as a mutli-positional back-up
- Likely a 6th or 7th round selection

Chasen Hines (LSU)

IOL18

OG

Size: 6-3, 327 **40:** 5.22 (combine)

Class: Senior

Hines has a thick, well set body, looking like the prototypical NFL guard. Hines also has some versatility having played at both guard spots and center while at LSU.

Has initial aggressive drive off the line of scrimmage being able to push defensive linemen backwards with his power and strength. Can also combi block and come off that block to get to the second level. However, he doesn't get a firm grip and latch onto opponents allowing them to get past him.

Sets a good initial anchor in pass protection and will deal with power directly in front of him. Gets his hands up quickly with a punch but doesn't get them consistently positioned.

Should be off the board late on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Luke Wattenberg (Washington)

IOL19

OC/OG

Size: 6-4, 299 **40:** 5.20 (combine)

Class: Senior

Wattenberg is very experienced with 48 starts at the college level. He has nice versatility, having started games at center, guard and tackle. Demonstrated this versatility at the East-West Shrine Game where he showed his ability at both center and guard.

Is better in pass protection than as a run blocker. Has nice feet which allow to drop into his pass set smoothly. Uses his hands well with a little bit of a punch. Will struggle when bull-rushed as he doesn't have a solid enough anchor to deal with that power.

In the running game, Wattenberg again lacks the strength and power to be a dominating blocker. He also gets tied up at the line of scrimmage and doesn't get to the second level as much as you'd like to see.

Is going to be in a battle to win an NFL roster spot, but his versatility gives him a shot – that ability to play multiple spots is always in demand.

Should be selected on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Joshua Ezeudu (North Carolina)

IOL20 **OG**

Size: 6-4, 308 **40:** 5.19

Class: Junior

Nice level of experience at the college level (28 starts). Ezeudu has good size and decent speed and physically looks like a pro guard in the making.

Ezeudu has excellent movement skills and some quickness to move laterally along the line and to the outside and is very suited to a running game which features that movement and pulling guards.

Is solid in pass protection as he is nimble on his feet, setting a really quick anchor. Has some difficulties with speed but may have the physical tools to overcome this with pro development.

Ezeudu opted to enter the draft as an underclassman and should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Andrew Stueber (Michigan)

IOL21 **OG/OT**

Size: 6-7, 325 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine or pro day)

Class: Senior

Nicknamed "Stuebs". Stueber is a huge guy, with a frame that could handle even more weight. Has the ideal size to play tackle in the NFL but he has versatility having started at both right tackle and guard during his UM career. Despite his length, Stueber probably looks more like a guard than a tackle in the pros.

Stueber is strong and powerful and can dominate defensive linemen in the straight ahead running game. Will willingly get out to the second level and look for somebody else to block. Keeps going until the whistle. However, he lacks some foot speed and quickness and won't be utilised much in a running system that feature a lot of movement and outside runs.

In pass protection, Stueber has a nice base and sets a good anchor and will see off initial bull-rush type pass rushers. But may get into difficulty when he needs to re-adjust or deal with speed and bend around the edge and with pass rushers who have a number of moves.

Stueber's versatility will be of interest to NFL scouts, and he should be off the board late on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

James Empey (BYU)

IOL22 **OC**

Size: 6-4, 303 **40:** 5.37 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Empey is a very experienced player at the pivot position, having started in 41 games at the position for BYU. Empey is more of a technician than an overpowering blocker, using technique, positioning and body control to get the job done.

As a run blocker, Empey will use his foot speed and quickness to angle block and get out to the second level. Can also move laterally along the line of scrimmage and get to the outside. Won't overpower defenders but does get good position to block them out of the play.

Not as good in pass protection as he is in the running game. Empey's size and lack of power mean that he can have problems with both speed rushers and those with great strength. His foot speed helps him to get anchored quickly, but that anchor doesn't always hold.

May be selected in round 6 or round 7.

Tyrese Robinson (Oklahoma)

IOL23 **OG**

Size: 6-3, 317 **40:** 5.25 (combine) 5.13 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Robinson is an experienced offensive lineman with 36 starts for the Sooners. Has some versatility, having started games at both right guard and right tackle – but given his size and physical make-up, Robinson looks like a pure guard possibility for the NFL.

Robinson is a tough, mauling type of guard who will battle and fight defensive linemen to attempt to gain superiority. However, he will struggle with opponents who get good arm leverage and have moves which prevent him getting a clean shot and hold on them.

Robinson can move a little in the running game but is a much better straight-ahead drive blocker than he is a run blocker on the move. In the inside running game he can use power to push defenders backwards.

May be selected in round 7 or possibly will go undrafted.

Ben Brown (Mississippi)

IOL24 OG/OC

Size: 6-5, 312 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Brown comes from a family that includes a number of past Ole Miss football players.

He has good size, which is suitable for any of the interior offensive line spots and could also enable him to play tackle in a pinch also. Has started at both center and guard for Ole Miss, meaning that he brings the versatility to the line that many teams look for – especially as he is likely to be competing for a back-up spot on a roster.

Brown is solid in most areas without being dominant. He doesn't appear to have traits that make him stand out, but his versatility and strength probably give him an outside chance of making an NFL roster – although he is more likely to go undrafted and wind up as a practice squad player.

DID YOU KNOW?

Brown is the grandson of former Packers tight end Allen Brown, who was part of the Packers team which won the first two Super Bowls

Dawson Deaton (Texas Tech)

IOL25 OC

Size: 6-5½, 306 **40:** 5.12 (combine)

Class: Senior

Deaton is much taller than you normally see from somebody playing the center spot in the NFL. He has nice experience at the college level, being a 3-year starter.

Deaton is a good pass blocker, which is what you would expect playing in a pass first offense for the Red Raiders. Has nice feet, with a decent drop and he anchors pretty well, although he can get into difficulty against short nose tackles who get their pads lower.

As a run blocker Deaton can move well but won't overpower defenders and at best will fight them to a stalemate. Needs more work and experience as a run blocker.

Will probably go undrafted.

Nick Ford (Utah)

IOL26 OC/OG

Size: 6-5, 317 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Ford is a highly experienced lineman, having started in 40 games for Utah, earning All-Conference recognition along the way.

What makes Ford's experience even more impressive is that he's started at every position on the line – 15 of those starts coming at OC, 13 at RG, 9 at LG, 2 at RT and 1 at LT. This versatility is huge plus for him; however it also means that he has never become totally comfortable at a single position and nor has he had chance to develop at any single spot.

In the running game, Ford is a mauler and uses his strength well, He also has enough athletic ability to get out to the second level. He isn't yet as proficient in pass protection where he can get his feet stuck at times and not be able to react to moves or speed.

Likely to go undrafted.

Marcus McKethan (N.Carolina)

IOL27 OG

Size: 6-6½, 340 **40:** 5.31 (combine)

Class: Senior

McKethan is very experienced (37 college starts) offensive lineman who brings huge size and length to the table. In fact, McKethan is so big that it's difficult to recall any guard in recent NFL history who was much bigger than him. McKethan's size is intriguing but there is a lot of development needed.

As you would expect, McKethan's size converts to some power and strength and really helps him in a couple of areas – as a straight ahead drive blocker in the running game and in handling bull-rushers in pass protection. In both instances, defensive linemen get no change from him.

However, on the downside, McKethan's movement skills are limited, meaning that he can struggle with athletic pass rushers with moves or speed. Also will have difficulty reacting to extra rushers coming on a blitz. He's also not likely to be overly effective in an outside running game in the NFL.

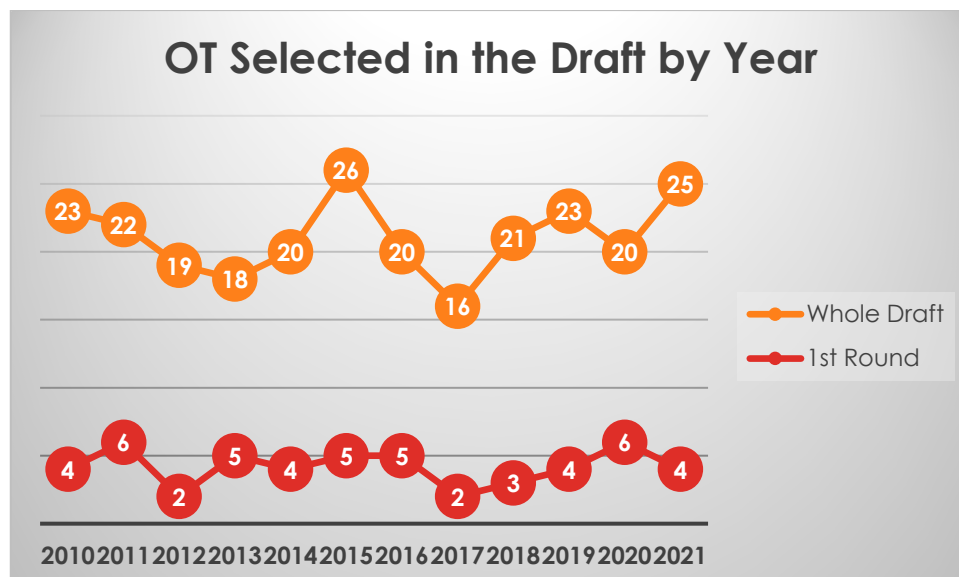
This means that is likely that he goes undrafted.

OFFENSIVE TACKLES

2022 General Draft Outlook:

This is a really good tackle class both in terms of depth and at the top of the draft. Evan Neal and the fast rising Ikem Ekwonu and Charles Cross are all vying to be the first tackle selected. With Jacksonville selecting first, and potentially looking for help for Trevor Lawrence, it's not out of the question one of them could possibly be the first overall pick.

There are 3-4 more tackles that could also be selected in the first round, giving us as many 6-7 tackles in totals that could be off the board on day 1. And day 2 could see yet another 5-6 tackles taken. And so it goes on, round by round. This really has the potential to be a generational tackle class.



Packers Outlook: There are question marks. LT David Bakhtiari returns but after missing most of 2021 there will be concerns until he starts a number of games. There is also uncertainty at RT where starter Billy Turner was released, and Dennis Kelly wasn't re-signed (at the time of writing).

It's likely that Yosh Nijman, who played so well in 2021, will be given the first shot to start at RT. But even assuming that goes well, the Packers are without depth at the position.

It would be of no surprise if the Packers used one of their two first round picks at the position – perhaps targeting Trevor Penning, Bernhard Raimann or Tyler Smith, depending on who is left on the board when they pick.

If they opt not to go OT in the first round, but look at the position on day 2, then perhaps Daniel Faalele or Darian Kinnard could be the pick. Later in draft they may consider a tackle as a project and look at a player like Kellen Diesch.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers have never used the 28th overall pick on an OT – they have previously had the 28th pick five times.

TOP OFFENSIVE TACKLES

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Evan Neal	OT	Alabama	1
2.	Ikem Ekwonu	OT/OG	North Carolina State	1
3.	Charles Cross	OT	Mississippi State	1
4.	Trevor Penning	OT	Northern Iowa	1
5.	Kenyon Green	OT/OG	Texas A&M	1-2
6.	Bernhard Raimann	OT	Central Michigan	1-2
7.	Tyler Smith	OT/OG	Tulsa	2
8.	Daniel Faalele	OT	Minnesota	2-3
9.	Darian Kinnard	OT	Kentucky	2-3
10.	Nicholas Petit-Frere	OT	Ohio State	2-3
11.	Sean Rhyan	OT	UCLA	2-3
12.	Abraham Lucas	OT	Washington State	3
13.	Max Mitchell	OT	Louisiana-Lafayette	3-4
14.	Rasheed Walker	OT	Penn State	3-4
15.	Braxton Jones	OT	Southern Utah	4-5
16.	Kellen Diesch	OT	Arizona State	4-5
17.	Luke Goedeke	OT	Central Michigan	4-5
18.	Chris Paul	OT/OG	Tulsa	4-5
19.	Matt Waletzko	OT	North Dakota	4-5
20.	Obinna Eze	OT	TCU	4-5
21.	Spencer Burford	OT	UTSA	6-7
22.	Dare Rosenthal	OT	Kentucky	6-7
23.	Nick Zakelj	OT	Fordham	6-7
24.	Cordell Volson	OT	North Dakota State	6-7
25.	Luke Tenuta	OT	Virginia Tech	6-7
26.	Myron Cunningham	OT	Arkansas	6-7
27.	Ja'Tyre Carter	OT/OG	Southern University	7-UDFA
28.	Vederian Lowe	OT	Illinois	7-UDFA
29.	Zachary Thomas	OT/OG	San Diego State	7-UDFA
30.	Austin Deculus	OT	LSU	UDFA
31.	William Dunkle	OT	San Diego State	UDFA
32.	Tyler Vrabel	OT	Boston College	UDFA
33.	Ryan Van Demark	OT	Connecticut	UDFA
34.	Blaise Andries	OT	Minnesota	UDFA
35.	Andrew Ruppich	OT	Culver-Stockton	UDFA
36.	Bamidale Olaseni	OT	Utah	UDFA
37.	Dylan Cook	OT	Montana	UDFA
38.	Derek Kerstetter	OT/OG	Texas	UDFA
39.	Marcus Tatum	OT	UCF	UDFA
40.	Devin Cochran	OT	Georgia Tech	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	A.J. Arcuri	OT	Michigan State	UDFA
42.	Jordan Tucker	OT	North Carolina	UDFA
43.	Caleb Jones	OT	Indiana	UDFA
44.	Kadeem Telfort	OT	UAB	UDFA
45.	Jalen McKenzie	OT	USC	UDFA
46.	Jean Delance	OT	Florida	UDFA
47.	Jarrid Williams	OT	Miami, Fla	UDFA
48.	George Moore	OT	Oregon	UDFA
49.	Alec Anderson	OT	UCLA	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Evan Neal (Alabama)

OT1 OT/OG

Size: 6-7½, 337 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Is a huge man with length, strength and immense power. Also has surprising athleticism for a man of his size – with unusually quick feet and can really move. Is extremely experienced, with starts at LG (2019), RT (2020) and LT (2021). Playing the LT spot in his 2021 has moved him up draft boards, but what his best position is remains to be seen. Very intelligent player with a great work ethic.

Very highly recruited out of high school (Florida), where he was ranked as one of the top HS players in the country, regardless of position. Opted to attend Alabama over a number of high profile FBS schools. Was very good throughout his career at Alabama, culminating in a 2021 season in which earned All-American recognition.

Is an excellent, physical run blocker who will completely overwhelm defenders in front of him. Has sufficient athleticism to get out to the second level in the running game. Keeps going until the whistle – has a non-stop motor – and he plays with aggressiveness and ferociousness.

Generally good in pass protection, Neal sets a nice anchor and gets his hands on his opponent quickly with punch. Handles speed rushers round the edge very well although he needs to ensure he doesn't overset and then get beaten to the inside, but this is a minor development need.

College Stats & Highlights: 40 games (all starts) at Alabama, including 15 at LT, 12 at RT and 13 at LG. Played over 3,200 career snaps, only allowing a reported 3 sacks. According to PFF was responsible for just 22 pressures over the same period.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Outland Trophy finalist. Lombardi Award semi-finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** Freshman All-American. Freshman All-SEC team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced starter at the college level
- Very versatile, with 12+ starts at each of LT, RT and LG
- Super athlete with great size and a great work ethic
- Will be a day 1 starter in the NFL - the only question is at which position?
- Probably a long term LT, but may start at RT or even at guard initially
- Should be selected in the top 10 overall picks in this draft, possibly top 3.

Ikem Ekwonu (N.Carolina St)

OT2 **OT/OG**

Size: 6-4, 310 **40:** 4.93 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nicknamed "Ickey". Twin brother Osita plays linebacker at Notre Dame. Ekwonu is tenacious, aggressive, hard-working, and very intelligent – a great mix for an offensive lineman. Doesn't quite have the prototypical size for an NFL tackle – it remains to be seen whether this impacts how teams see him (both regard to playing position and draft spot).

Was a state champion (NC) wrestler in high school, in addition to being an outstanding lineman on both sides of the ball. Had multiple recruitment offers before settling to stay in state at NC State. At NC State, Ekwonu started well and has continued to develop. Capped his career with the 2021 season in which he was named All-American. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Ekwonu is a versatile lineman, having started more than two years at left tackle, but also with multiple starts at left guard. Superb run blocker, who can really move for a big man, getting to the second level and finishing blocks – always seems to be looking for somebody to hit and put on the floor.

Has developed into a good pass blocker who anchors securely, getting his hands on his opponent quickly. Has power and strength – won't be overpowered by a bull rush. Working against speed has given him some minor issues.

College Stats & Highlights: 36 games played for NC State.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Outland Trophy finalist. Jacobs Blocking Award winner. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-ACC. **2019, 2020 & 2021** Academic All-ACC. **2020** 3rd Team All-ACC. NC State Offensive Lineman of the Year (Jim Ritcher Award). **2019** FWAA Freshman All-American. NC State Rookie of the Year (Philip Rivers Award). NC State Co-Offensive Lineman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice experience at the college level
- Very versatile, having played both tackle and guard
- Has great upside, is improving year on year
- Will start on day 1, perhaps at guard with a view to move to LT later
- Should be a long term starter at LT in the NFL
- Should be a top 10 overall pick, perhaps as high as the top 5.

Charles Cross (Mississippi State)

OT3

Size: 6-6, 309 **40:** 4.95 (combine)

Class: Redshirt Sophomore

Cross is a big man who is a nice athlete for that size. Has excellent length for a pro left tackle – and perhaps could do with adding some extra bulk but has the frame to carry it. Enters the 2022 draft as an underclassman with two years of starting experience at left tackle.

Cross was highly recruited out of high school in Laurel, Mississippi, eventually opting to stay close to home and attend Mississippi State – the same school that the Packers' Elgton Jenkins was also a star offensive lineman at.

At MSU, Cross redshirted the 2019 season after playing in 3 games and then earned the starting left tackle role in 2020. After being good in 2021, Cross was even better in 2021.

Cross has lots of experience in a pass oriented offense and it shows – is very good in pass protection, utilising his above average feet and athleticism to anchor well. Has developed significantly playing against speed rushers on the edge. Cross is a very intelligent football player, demonstrated by the way he recognises blitzes and stunts and seemingly routinely picks them up. Can play in space.

Doesn't have as much experience as a run blocker as he does as a pass blocker and in the run game is more of a mauler than an overpowering type, so could do with adding some extra power and strength – that should hopefully come with the added bulk. Will get to the second level but doesn't always finish those blocks.

College Stats & Highlights: 25 games played at MSU, with 21 starts.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: Sporting News 1st Team All-American. 2021 Kent Hull Award winner (best college offensive lineman in Mississippi). 2021 1st Team All-SEC. 2020 Freshman All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to declare for this draft, when he may have been the top tackle in the 2023 draft
- Nice experience at the college level
- Better in pass protection than as a run blocker
- Has the size and frame to be an NFL LT, could play RT with more size
- Should be selected in the top half of the 1st round

Trevor Penning (Northern Iowa)

OT4

Size: 6-7, 325 **40:** 4.89 (combine)

Class:

Penning has all the size you could need for an NFL left tackle and has the frame to add some more. Is a also a good athlete for that size. Plays with aggression and nastiness – exactly what you look for in a pro offensive lineman – but is also a hard-working, intelligent player who continues to develop.

Penning was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Iowa – playing football, basketball and competing in track and field (discus and shot put). Opted to stay in state for college and attend Northern Iowa where has been a starter since 2019, earning increasing amounts of recognition for his play.

He can be a dominating pass protector, playing with great strength. Power and strength. But with Penning it's not just about those attributes – he moves his feet smoothly and get to his pass blocking set quickly. He has good hands and arm extension, getting a punch on the defender quickly. Has held up well against speed rushers at the FCS level.

Penning can use his physicality and dominate as a run blocker but needs to get a little more consistent in this area – particularly when he's asked to move laterally.

Penning plays with an all-out motor and tenacity and will keep going to the whistle. Makes very few mental errors.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 37 games at Northern Iowa with 33 starts. 32 of the starts came at left tackle, the other at right tackle.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** FCS Walter Payton Award finalist. FCS 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-MVFC. **2020** Honorable Mention All-MVFC (Note 2020 season was played in Spring of 2021 – rescheduled due to Covid).

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Outstanding week at the Senior Bowl raised draft stock
- Outstanding physical specimen
- Level of opposition question mark
- Not quite the finished article but upside is huge
- Should a long time starter at LT or RT in the NFL
- Should be a 1st round draft pick.

Kenyon Green (Texas A&M)

OT5 OT/OG

Size: 6-4, 325 **40:** 5.24 (combine) 4.25 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Green plays with aggression and is really versatile – able to play tackle or guard – has experience playing every position on the offensive line other than center. Is a refined athlete for a man of his size. Green plays with excellent body control, balance, and quick, nimble feet. While Green has good size, physically he looks more like a guard than a tackle.

Green was highly recruited out by FBS schools coming out of high school in Humble, Texas – opted to attend college just up the road at Texas A&M. Earned the starting right guard spot at A&M in his freshman season (2019). Moved to left guard in 2020 and then to during the 2021 season he started at every offensive line position other than center. Opted to enter the 2022 draft as an underclassman.

Green is an probably a better run blocker than he is in pass protection. He has good movement both laterally and straight ahead and will get to the second level. Plays with strength and power and will maul defenders if he needs to. Finishes his blocks and will find somebody to block when he's in space.

In pass protection he uses that power to ensure he won't be out-muscled on the bull rush. He anchors well and gets his hands on defenders quickly and aggressively. However he can be inconsistent as he seems to get his feet stuck in place and therefore will struggle with some pass rush moves and with speed rushers around the edge.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 35 games in his Aggies career, all starts.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Lombardi Award finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. Texas A&M Offensive MVP. Texas A&M Leadership Award. **2020** Consensus All-American. 2nd Team All-SEC. Texas A&M Offensive MVP. **2019** SEC All-Freshman Team. Texas A&M Top Offensive Newcomer Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Super versatility - has started at every position other than center
- Very experienced at the college level
- Should be a day 1 starter in the NFL, but at what position?
- May begin his NFL career at guard and move to tackle later
- Should be selected in either the 1st or 2nd round

Bernhard Raimann (C.Michigan)

OT6

Size: 6-6, 303 **40:** 5.05 (combine)

Class: Senior

Born in Steinbrunn, Austria. He played WR and CB for his local Vienna team before moving to the US, initially as part of a student exchange. Was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Michigan – excelling in wrestling and track and field as well as football. Opted to attend college at Central Michigan. Started off playing TE at CMU before switching to LT in his third season (2020) – continuing in that spot for his outstanding 2021, earning some All-American and All-Conference accolades.

Raimann has just two years of experience at offensive tackle. He's a big man, with great length, who has a frame that could do with adding a little more weight. Has nice feet for a guy of his size. Has super strength and power, utilising his hands quickly to get a hit on defensive linemen. Sets a good anchor and has great balance but can overreach at times.

In the running game, Raimann will fire out quickly at the snap overwhelming a lineman in front of him or on an angle block. Is aggressive and will finish one block and get out to the second level looking for somebody else to block. Keeps blocking until the whistle.

Has decent athleticism which allows him to move well laterally, this can be seen when he gets out in front of the receiver on screen plays. Is continuing to learn quickly and is developing – should only get better with experience. Is very smart.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 44 games, with 28 starts at Central Michigan. Caught 20 passes for 164 yards in the two seasons he played at tight end.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** PFF MAC Offensive Player of the Year. Sporting News 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-MAC. **2020** Phil Steele 4th Team All-MAC. Academic All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Is chasing Trevor Penning up draft boards
- Former TE, with limited experience at tackle
- Huge physical specimen
- Big upside but needs development at the pro level
- With time, he will be a long time starter at tackle in the NFL
- Should be selected in either the 1st or 2nd round

Tyler Smith (Tulsa)

OT7 **OT/OG**

Size: 6-5, 324 **40:** 5.02 (combine)

Class: Redshirt Sophomore

Smith has decent experience (23 starts) and is a big man with the ideal size to play tackle in the NFL. Smith is strong with the ability to overwhelm defensive linemen with his power and aggressiveness. And for a man of his size, he is also a really good athlete.

Nice high school career in Fort Worth, Texas was followed by the choice to play his college ball at Tulsa. Redshirted his freshman season (2019) before playing two good years as the starter at left tackle for Tulsa (2020-21). Smith opted to declare for the draft as an underclassman with still 3 years (including a potential Super Senior year) eligibility remaining.

Smith moves really well both forwards and laterally and will often be seen getting out to the second level on straight ahead runs. Is always looking for somebody to hit on those plays. Is a literal people mover, mauling defenders when he has to and making holes for the ball carrier.

Smith isn't yet quite as good a pass blocker as he is in the running game. He loses some of his physical advantage when he drops and doesn't always get his hands positioned correctly. This leaves him susceptible to being beaten by the best pass rushers. Isn't as consistent as you'd like to see and gives up too many penalties, but he is young. With his inherent traits, all of this can be corrected.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 25 games for Tulsa with 23 starts – all of the starts coming at left tackle.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-AAC. 2020 FWAA & The Athletic Freshman All-American. 2020 1st Team All-AAC

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Played just 2 years in college - opting to come out early. Should he have stayed in school for another year?
- Has a big upside
- Currently better run blocker than pass blocker
- May begin NFL career inside at guard before moving to tackle
- Should challenge for a starting spot in his rookie season.
- Will probably be a 2nd round draft choice.

Daniel Faalele (Minnesota)

OT8

Size: 6-8, 384 **40:** 5.60 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Pronounced "Far-uh-lay-lay".

Faalele was born in Melbourne, Australia and only started playing football in 2016 when he moved to the United States. Attended high school in Florida where he was highly recruited – opted to attend Minnesota over the likes of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida State.

Became a starter at RT during his true freshman year at Minnesota (2018), a role that he continued in 2019. Sat out 2020 due to pandemic before returning for 2021. By the time he had finished his college career, Faalele had started in 31 games.

Faalele is an absolutely huge man with length, strength, and power. Will just consume any pass rusher who attempts to bull rush him. Once he gets his hands gripped on a defender, it's over. Can struggle with out and out speed rushers – particularly those with great bend around the edge or those pass rushers with multiple moves.

Faalele is a really good straight ahead drive blocker in the running game who will overpower and blow away defenders right in front of him. Isn't suited to a running game where has to move laterally. Lack of foot speed hinders him when he is getting to the second level.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 34 games for Minnesota (31 starts at RT). Scored on a 2 yard run in the 2021 Guaranteed Rate Bowl – the only carry of his career.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-Big 10. 2021 Academic All-Big 10. **2020** Academic All-Big 10. **2018 & 2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2018** Minnesota Outstanding Offensive Freshman.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Huge man with great strength
- Nearly declared for 2021 draft but opted to return to school
- Nice starting experience in college, but lacks long term football experience
- Disappointing at the Senior Bowl
- More suited to RT than LT in the NFL
- Should challenge for a starting spot at some point in his rookie season
- Should be a 2nd or 3rd round pick

Darian Kinnard (Kentucky)

OT9 OT/OG

Size: 6-5, 322 **40:** 5.31 (combine)

Class: Senior

Nicknamed "D.K.". Kinnard is a distant cousin of country music megastar Dolly Parton. Kinnard attended high schools in Tennessee and Ohio, where he had a very productive career. Had a number of offers from FBS schools and eventually chose to attend Kentucky. Became a part time starter in his true freshman season (2019) at Kentucky, before becoming the full time starter at right tackle for good the following year – a spot he continued in for the remainder of his college career. Had an excellent 2021 earning All-American selection.

Kinnard is a very experience right tackle (39 starts) who also spent some time at other spots on the line early in his career. It's quite possible that his skills may be better suited to guard. His size is that of the normal NFL tackle, but he would be big for an interior guy.

Kinnard is a mauling type of blocker who will fight defensive lineman. He has good strength that allows him to shift those linemen off the line of scrimmage. Has some short distance mobility, but lacks longer foot speed. Is therefore suited to a system that allows him to drive block straight ahead in the running game.

Is an inconsistent pass blocker with some technique areas that need work – for example needs work on setting a steady anchor. Can be a little inconsistent but is a smart football player who has improved every year.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 46 games at Kentucky, with 39 starts – all at RT

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Outland Trophy semi-finalist. Lombardi Award semi-finalist. SEC Jacobs Blocking Award winner. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nearly declared for 2021 draft but surprisingly opted to return to school
- Very experienced at the college level
- Disappointing at the Senior Bowl
- Played exclusively at right tackle in college, but may project to guard in the NFL
- Should challenge for a starting spot in his first or second season
- Likely a round 2 or 3 pick.

Nicholas Petit-Frere (Ohio State)

OT10

Size: 6-5, 316 **40:** 5.14 (combine)

Class: Junior

Petit-Frere has a decent but not huge amount of starting experience at the college level (20 college starts) – experience that includes play at both tackle spots. Still has some inconsistencies to his game, but he has developed quickly as a player, having improved each year at the college level.

Highly recruited out of high school where he played both football and basketball. Was somewhat underweight when he arrived at OSU – had to work hard to add bulk. Made 1 start in 2019, before becoming the full time starter at RT in 2020.

Moved to LT prior to his outstanding final college season (2021) – following the season he opted to enter the draft as an underclassman. Sat out the Rose Bowl in order to begin his preparation for the draft. As an aside, in 2019 Petit-Frere spent the summer as intern at WWE, learning about the business of professional wrestling.

Petit-Frere is a good athlete who moves well and has quick feet. Has really good body control. Has some power but needs to work on being more aggressive and physical. Is a versatile run blocker who has demonstrated prowess both as a driver blocker and on the move laterally.

Is a very good pass blocker with the agility to mirror pass rush moves. Has a solid anchor most of the time and the ability to adjust his feet smoothly and quickly. Gets his hands on opponents with good placement.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games at Ohio State, starting in 20.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Outland Trophy finalist. AP 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2020** 2nd Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Academic All-Big 10. **2018, 2019 & 2020** OSU Scholar-Athlete.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Just 20 college starts, but still opted to enter this draft rather than return to OSU
- Has played both tackle spots
- Has upside and flashes good stuff, but is inconsistent - needs development
- Probably won't challenge for a starting spot until second season
- Could develop into long time NFL starter
- Likely a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Sean Rhyan (UCLA)



OT11

OT/OG

Size: 6-5, 321 **40:** 5.25 (combine)

Class: Junior

Is a very experienced LT (31 college starts) with nearly ideal size to play the position in the NFL – however his athletic profile may determine where he plays in the pros – he could wind up playing on the right side or even at guard, Rhyan has consistently played at a good level and is improving and developing all the time.

Rhyan was a multi-sport athlete in high school, playing football and taking part in track and field (discus and was section champion in shot put). Won the starting job at left tackle at UCLA in his true freshman season (2019), which he held for the rest of his college career. Has his best season in 2021, earning all-conference honours. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Rhyan has some good athletic traits, including an explosion off the line of scrimmage. He's a powerful run blocker, particularly as a straight ahead or angle drive blocker, who can overwhelm defenders and use his quickness to get out to the second level.

Rhyan is decent pass blocker who gets his hands on defenders quickly. He has a good anchor and can adjust his feet well, but he has average foot quickness meaning that he can struggle at times against speed rushers and those with multiple pass rushing moves.

Rhyan is a team leader type who works really hard. Plays with all-out effort on every play, in every game - playing with hustle to the whistle, finishing his blocks.

College Stats & Highlights: Played and started in 31 games for UCLA, all at LT.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-Pac 12. 2019 FWAA & USA Today Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced starter at left tackle
- Improving year on year
- Opted to enter this draft early - may have been better staying in school
- Excellent run blocker - meaning he may play RT or guard in the NFL
- Will challenge for a starting spot in year 1
- Likely a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Abraham Lucas (Washington St)

OT12

Size: 6-6, 315 **40:** 4.92 (combine)

Class: Senior

Lucas is an ultra-experienced and consistent starter at right tackle, with 42 starts at the college level. He has excellent size, good arm length and the frame to which he could add even more bulk to.

Attended high school in Washington, playing on both the offensive and defensive lines. Also was a pretty good basketball player. Opted to stay in his home state to attend college and become a Washington State Cougar. After redshirting his freshman season (2017), Lucas permanently moved to the offensive line and became the starter at right tackle in 2018, a spot he remained at throughout his college career, playing at a consistently high level – even garnering some All-American notice in 2021.

Lucas is a solid athlete with some lateral movement ability but doesn't have outstanding change of direction. Has explosion at the snap of the football, with the power and strength to quickly overwhelm a defensive player directly in front of him. Would fit well in an offense with a straight ahead running attack.

In pass protection, he has a nice drop and anchor and will deal with bull rushers effectively. Struggles sometimes to get his hands in the best spot and has some difficulties with speed rushers on the outside, which can cause him to give up too many penalties.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 42 games for Washington State, starting at right tackle in all of them.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Phil Steele All-American. 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2018, 2019 & 2020** 2nd Team All-Pac 12. **2018** USA Today & The Athletic Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Hugely Experienced starter at right tackle
- Opted to come back for the 2021 season rather than enter last year's draft
- Could move inside to guard in the NFL
- Showed better than expected athletic ability at the combine
- Should be a solid player in the NFL for years
- Possible starting potential
- Will challenge for a starting spot in year 1
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Max Mitchell (UL-Lafayette)

OT13

Size: 6-6, 307 **40:** 5.32 (combine)

Class: Senior

Very experienced (37 college starts) tackle who is competitive and tough. Has the height and length to play tackle in the NFL and the frame to add more weight to get him to ideal NFL tackle proportions. Added weight should help him improve his power and strength. Has some versatility having spent time at RT, LT, and LG.

He wasn't highly recruited out of high school, opting to stay in state and play at Louisiana-Lafayette. Mitchell contributed in every game as a freshman (2018), before winning a starting job in 2019 – remained a starter for the rest of his college career, which he capped with an outstanding 2021 season for which earned some All-American notice.

Louisiana ran a very run oriented offense, so Mitchell has a lot of experience as a run blocker. In this area, he has some explosion at the snap of the football. Can dominate defenders as a straight drive blocker and on angle blocks. Will get out to the second level and find somebody to be block. Not quite as dominant when he has to move laterally due to some lack of speed. Perhaps needs to do a better job finishing blocks.

Mitchell didn't have to pass protect as much as run block in college. However. He was generally good in pass protection having quick hands which he positions well. Has good enough agility and body control to adjust to most pass rush moves. Will struggle with some of the fastest pass rushers if they get some space. But generally that doesn't happen. Will battle and fight to stop pass rushers.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 51 games at Louisiana, starting in 37.

Injury Notes: Missed 1 game in 2020 (hand injury). No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Sun Belt Conf. **2020** 2nd Team All-Sun Belt Conf. Joe Moore Award semi-finalist (whole offensive line)

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Highly experienced starter at tackle in college
- Played both tackle spots
- Question marks over level of opposition at college level
- But was excellent at the Senior Bowl
- Has upside but needs pro development
- NFL back-up who may develop into a starter
- Probably a 3rd or 4th round draft choice

Rasheed Walker (Penn State)

OT14

Size: 6-6, 313 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Walker had a really impressive high school career playing at tackle for Maryland - earning lots of notice and offers from multiple FBS schools. Opted to attend Penn State.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) for the Nittany Lions before winning the starting job at left tackle the following season. Remained as the starter at the all-important "blindside tackle" spot for the rest of his college career. Had a fine season in 2021. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Walker is huge man with prototypical size for an NFL left tackle, with the frame to add even more weight. He is physically very strong with decent athleticism and movement for a man of his size.

Is inconsistent in pass protection. He has a good base and sets up with as solid anchor against the rush. Can move and reset if required. Has long arms to keep rushers off him. However, he struggles against speed rushers with bend around the edge – as evidenced by the 2021 match-up against Michigan. This struggle against speed makes you think that he may be better suited to RT in the NFL.

Walker is a really good run blocker who uses his physicality and strength to move defenders off the line of scrimmage. He works especially well as a straight ahead drive blocker. Has good enough athleticism to get out to second level. Probably not at this best when he needs to move laterally.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games for Penn State, starting in 32 at LT.

Injury Notes: Missed 3 games at the end of the 2021 season due to a minor knee injury (bone bruise). It's not expected to be an ongoing concern.

Honours & Awards: 2020 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Highly experienced starter at left tackle in college
- May project to right tackle in the NFL due to run prowess and problems with speed rushers
- Opted to declare early for the draft rather than return to school
- Initially a back-up in the NFL
- Will challenge for starting spot down the road
- Probably a 3rd or 4th round draft choice

Braxton Jones (Southern Utah)

OT15

Size: 6-5, 310 **40:** 4.97 (combine)

Class: Senior

Was a fine dual sport athlete in high school, excelling in both basketball and football. Earned All-Region honours but wasn't highly recruited and opted to stay in state and play his college ball at FCS level Southern Utah. Redshirted his first season for the Thunderbirds, then played mainly as a reserve role in 2018. In 2019 he earned the starting job at LT – a role in which he remained for the rest of his college career. Earned multiple All-Conference and FCS All-American selections.

Is an experienced 3-year starting LT who has close to NFL LT prototypical size and length. He also has a frame which could probably handle another 10-15 pounds. Jones has good speed, athleticism, and body control.

In pass protection, Jones has some good skills and some areas to be developed. His feet move softly and smoothly when dropping to his pass set and he takes small steps being able to adjust to set square. However once set, re-adjusting to a pass rusher becomes more of an issue – this makes dealing with defenders who have moves and speed a challenge. Jones also doesn't yet have ideal strength and power to deal with linemen who do have those attributes.

In the running game Jones has good foot quickness and the ability to move. Will angle block and move block laterally successfully. His aforementioned lack of strength and power means that he generally won't blow away linemen, but he will battle and maul, to fight them to a stalemate. Plays to the whistle.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games for Southern Utah, starting in 29.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP FCS 1st Team All-American. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big Sky. **2020 (spring 2021)** Phil Steele FCS 1st Team All-American. Big Sky All-Academic Team. **2019** 3rd Team All-Big Sky. HERO Sports FCS Sophomore All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced starter at left tackle
- Question marks over level of opposition in college
- But was excellent at the Senior Bowl amongst the "big boys"
- Lots of upside - but pro development needed
- Nice size, length and frame to play left tackle in the NFL
- Will start pro career as a back-up
- Has a chance to challenge for starting role in a few years
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Kellen Diesch (Arizona State)

OT16

Size: 6-7, 301 **40:** 4.89 (combine)

Class: Senior

Diesch was a highly recruited offensive tackle coming out of high school in Texas. Opted to stay in state at attend college at Texas A&M (over offers from a number of the top FBS schools). Diesch redshirted his freshman season (2016) at the Aggies, before spending this next 3 seasons as a reserve. Transferred to Arizona State and became the starter at left tackle for the Covid impacted 2020 season. Remained the starter for the 2021 season, earning some All-Conference notice.

With basically one and a bit seasons of starting experience, Diesch lacks the quantity of plays to describe his skills and ability with much degree of certainty. Diesch has great size, with the frame to add 20-30 pounds as long as there's no loss of athleticism or speed. He's a nice athlete with good body control and excellent agility.

Diesch is a good run blocker, playing in an offense at Arizona State that featured the ground game. Uses his athletic ability to move well both laterally and on angle blocks. Is impressive getting out to the second level.

Diesch has slightly short arms which can cause him the odd problem in pass protection, with defenders who get leverage on him. Has some strength to deal with straight on bull rushers. Is aggressive and will fight to maintain his block and has decent recovery ability. There is no doubt, that while pass blocking isn't Diesch's forte, he is improving in this area.

College Stats & Highlights: Diesch played in 36 games in his college career at Arizona State and Texas A&M.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks starting experience - just 1.5 seasons as a starter
- Has some upside and is improving
- Good size
- Nice athletic showing at the combine
- Looks like an NFL back-up initially, but with time may challenge to start
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Luke Goedeke (C.Michigan)



OT17

OT/OG

Size: 6-5, 312 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Suffered a shoulder injury in his senior year in high school and decided to stop playing football. Goedeke opted to attend college and continue his education at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he had a change of heart and decided to play football again. After one season (2017) playing at TE for UWSP, he transferred to Central Michigan who offered him a football scholarship. Redshirted 2018 and switched positions to OT. Earned the starting RT job in 2019. Was injured in 2020. Had the best season of his career in 2021, earning All-Conference honours.

Goedeke is a good run blocker where he utilises his size, power, and strength well to overwhelm some defenders. Has decent quickness and movement ability enabling him to get to the second level in the running game and to move laterally, so he can deliver in both inside and outside running schemes.

In pass protection, Goedeke has a good anchor, and his strength enables him to deal with power rushers. However, he has some difficulties with pass rushers who get their hands on him first and with those rushers who have good moves and speed around the edge. These struggles in pass protection coupled with his slightly short arms, mean that Goedeke may be better suited to OG in the NFL.

College Stats & Highlights: Played and started in 25 games for Central Michigan. Played 9 games at Wisconsin-Stevens point, catching 12 passes for 132 yards.

Injury Notes: Had a shoulder injury during his HS senior year (2016) which may have been a factor in him deciding to retire. However, he played again in 2017, with no apparent ill-effects. Suffered a knee injury in 2020 which required surgery, keeping him out for the whole season. Came back to play in 2021. Goedeke then had a hamstring injury at the Senior Bowl which would prevent him from taking part in most of the work-outs at the combine – it shouldn't be a long term issue, however.

Honours: **2021** 1st Team All-MAC. **2019** PFF 1st Team All-MAC. Academic All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- 2 year starter at right tackle but has injury history
- Joins fellow CMU tackle Bernhard Raimann in this draft
- May be a right tackle or guard in the NFL
- Initially a back-up but could develop into a starter
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Chris Paul (Tulsa)

OT18 OT/OG

Size: 6-4, 323 **40:** 4.89 (combine)

Class: Senior

Well respected and well regarded offensive and defensive lineman at the high school level at Jersey Village HS in Houston. Opted to play his college ball at Tulsa, where he was a 4 year starter – 2 years at tackle and 2 at guard.

Paul is a very intelligent and super-versatile lineman having started at 3 spots – RT, LG and RG as well as having spent some playing time at left tackle. He has really nice size to play in the NFL - but that size makes him look slightly more like a guard than tackle. Only time will tell where NFL teams see him – if it's at tackle, it seems that would be on the right side because of his strong run blocking skills.

As a run blocker, he can drive block straight ahead although he perhaps doesn't always make the most of his power and strength. Has nice, quick feet which enable him to move well laterally and angle block. Also works well on combi blocks and can get out to the second level.

Paul has some facets of his game to work on, particularly in pass protection, where he can over commit and get off balance. Uses his hands well and has a quick, aggressive punch. Paul drops well and has a decent set and anchor but can struggle a little to re-adjust or recover. With his foot speed, this may be correctable. Plays with savvy and will pick up stunts and blitzers off the edge.

Paul plays with an all-out motor on every down, week in and week out. He keeps going to the whistle and will find somebody to block.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 42 games for Tulsa, with 38 starts.

Injury Notes: Has had the occasional injury while at Tulsa but while he missed a little playing time here and there, he has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Honourable Mention All-ACC. 2020 2nd Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Highly experienced college starter
- Versatile having started 2 years each at tackle and guard
- Has some upside but needs pro development
- May begin his NFL career at tackle and kick inside if it doesn't work
- Will be a back-up in early NFL seasons, may challenge to start later
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Matt Waletzko (North Dakota)



OT19

Size: 6-8, 312 **40:** 5.03 (combine)

Class: Senior

Was a multi-sport athlete in high school. Unfortunately, he wasn't highly recruited out of high school to play football and didn't receive any scholarship offers from FBS schools. Opted to play his college ball at the FCS level at North Dakota. Was a part-time starter in his true freshman season before winning the full-time role in 2019 – although his season was cut short due to injury. Starting again in 2020, the season was cut short to Covid. Was the full-time starter for the season in 2021, earning All-Conference and some FCS 2nd Team All-American recognition.

Is a huge man, who could yet even add more weight to his massive frame. Has outstanding length, as demonstrated by his 36 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches arms. Add his good speed and on the face of it, Waletzko has everything you need in an NFL tackle. While Waletzko's size is a huge plus, his size may also contribute to some of his issues with body control and balance – he doesn't set a really solid enough anchor when in pass protection which can lead to him being able to be moved around by DL much more frequently than he should. This is an area which requires development.

In the running game, Waletzko has decent quickness and movement both laterally and straight ahead. Gets out to the second level and will find defenders to block. As a run blocker, he can dominate opponents with strength and power.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 32 games (28 starts) at LT for North Dakota.

Injury Notes: Played only about half of 2019 before suffering a season ending injury. Came back in 2020. Missed the final game of 2021 due to a minor shoulder injury. Came back successfully for the combine and pro day.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Ap & Phil Steele FCS 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-MVFC. **2020** 2nd Team All-MVFC. 1st Team All-Academic MVFC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Solid level of college starting experience at left tackle
- Question marks over level of opposition
- Nice showing at his pro day
- Probably projects to right tackle at the NFL level but will need time to develop
- Huge size
- Begins NFL career as a back-up, may challenge to start down the road
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Obinna Eze (TCU)

OT20

Size: 6-6½, 321 **40:** 5.17 (combine)

Class: Senior

Eze played 3 seasons (plus a redshirt freshman year) at Memphis before transferring to TCU for his senior season. Was the starter at left tackle for each of his last 3 seasons at the college level.

Eze has really good size and length – he physically looks like the prototypical NFL left tackle. He anchors well in pass protection with a nice drop. However, he can sometimes get into difficulty when he has to re-adjust his feet, especially against speed or bend around the edge. Also needs some work on his hand placement which will help him get a strong grip on the pass rusher.

Eze is extremely strong and powerful in the running game with the ability to overwhelm defensive linemen. However, he can be somewhat inconsistent in this regard. Has enough athleticism and agility to get out to the second level.

Eze has some upside and will probably be a day 3 selection (round 4 or 5).

Spencer Burford (UTSA)

OT21 **OT/OG**

Size: 6-4, 304 **40:** 5.19 (combine)

Class: Senior

Burford is an experienced 3-year starter (45 starts) and is extremely versatile having started games at each of left guard, right tackle, and left tackle over that period. His most recent starts coming at left tackle throughout 2021.

On paper, Burford's height and weight make him look more like a guard than a tackle in the NFL. However, he has extremely long arms which gives him a shot at playing tackle – it will be interesting to see how pro teams see him.

Burford is a nice athlete for a man of his size, with good agility and body control. In the running game he can move and block laterally and get out to the second level, although he can get into trouble with linemen who are strong and powerful. The same applies in pass protection, where his main difficulty is with aggressive bull-rushers.

Should be off the board on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Dare Rosenthal (Kentucky)

OT22

Size: 6-7, 290 **40:** 4.88 (combine)

Class: Junior

Transferred to Kentucky from LSU prior to the 2020 season.

Rosenthal has good height and passable arm length to play tackle in the NFL but needs to add some bulk and strength (having weighed in lighter than expected at the combine). Has outstanding speed as demonstrated by the 4.88 time that he ran in the 40 at the combine – the fastest time by any OL in this year's event.

All in all, Rosenthal has some really nice physical attributes that give him an opportunity to make an NFL roster providing that he can develop and improve some of his technique.

Needs work on some body positioning and control in order to bring his size fully to bear in both pass protection (particularly against the bull-rush) and in a straight-ahead running game.

Opted to declare for the draft as an underclassman – although it's possible that another year in college would have helped his draft stock. Rosenthal is a tackle project with some upside. He's likely to be selected on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Nick Zakelj (Fordham)

OT23

Size: 6-6, 316 **40:** 5.13 (combine)

Class: Senior

Zakelj has really good size and length for an NFL tackle. He has great experience as a 4 year starter in college, albeit that experience came at the FCS level.

Zakelj lacks some strength as a drive blocker, but has nice movement, can get to the outside and to the second level.

Generally handles an initial straight up pass rush decently, but when he has to deal with rushers who come again with moves, Zakelj can struggle some to re-adjust and reset his feet. Also has difficulty dealing with speed around the edge. Likely to either be a 6th or 7th round draft pick.

DID YOU KNOW?

Vince Lombardi played his college football as an offensive lineman (guard) at Fordham.

Cordell Volson (North Dakota St)

OT24 OT/OG

Size: 6-6, 315 **40:** 5.27 (combine)

Class: Senior

Volson is a highly decorated offensive lineman at the FCS level – earning recognition such as being an FCS All-American and multiple time All-Conference player. Volson is a really nice athlete with really good size and strength.

Volson has lots of experience having played in 56 games, with 41 starts for North Dakota State. He is extremely versatile with those starts having come at right tackle, left tackle, and left guard and also played some time at right guard.

Had a nice week at the East-West Shrine Game, especially in pass protection where he really showed what he can do. As a pass blocker, Volson has a really solid anchor and typically won't be overpowered. But can get into difficulties against speed and moves when he can't re-adjust. In the running game, Volson is a good mover who can run in space to the outside and get out to the second level.

Should be selected on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Luke Tenuta (Virginia Tech)

OT25

Size: 6-8, 319 **40:** 5.41 (combine)

Class: Junior

Started games for Virginia Tech at both right tackle and left tackle.

Tenuta is a huge man with a frame that could carry more weight. However, he lacks the ideal arm length to play tackle in the NFL nor does he have quick enough feet.

Tenuta is a solid and very experienced athlete who is reliable and consistent but isn't outstanding in any particular facet of his game. There are some elements of his play that can be improved with coaching and time, but the physical aspects are troublesome with regards to a possible NFL career.

Tenuta opted to enter the draft as an underclassman, which was slightly surprising – may have been able to help his draft chances with another year in college. His possible shot at making an NFL roster may be at right tackle and it's likely that he'll be a 6th or 7th round draft choice.

Myron Cunningham (Arkansas)

OT26

Size: 6-5, 320 **40:** 5.38 (combine)

Class: Senior

Cunningham played at the juco level (Iowa Central Community College) before transferring to Arkansas where he was a 3-year starter at left tackle – so he has a good level of experience.

Cunningham has good size for the tackle position in the NFL. Is good with his arms and hands getting a decent punch but he doesn't dominate as a pass blocker – getting by more with hard work and non-stop effort. He keeps going and doesn't give up on a block, even when he's initially beaten. Will struggle with speed on the outside.

Cunningham is a better straight ahead drive blocker than he is when he has to move. Again, he doesn't dominate but can fight defensive linemen to a stalemate.

Probably a day 3 selection (round 6 or 7).

Ja'Tyre Carter (Southern Univ)

OT27

OT/OG

Size: 6-3, 311 **40:** 5.13 (combine)

Class: Senior

Carter getting the opportunity to play and workout alongside players who attended some of the “bigger” football schools than Carter played at, was important for him and so receiving invitations to the Senior Bowl and the combine was key.

He was 1 of just 4 HBCU players invited to the combine, 3 more than were invited to the last combine (2020) but still a disappointingly low number.

Carter struggled a little at the Senior Bowl, and this coupled with his official measurements from the combine, means that it's possible that he projects to guard rather than tackle in the NFL but for now he remains in our tackle rankings.

As both a run blocker and pass protector, coupled with athleticism, Carter has some upside, but playing in the FCS, coupled with his improvement needs, and possible position change, likely means that he falls to the 7th round or even goes undrafted.

Vederian Lowe (Illinois)

OT28

Size: 6-5, 314 **40:** 5.22 (combine)

Class: Senior

Lowe is highly experienced, being a 5 year starter thanks to the NCAA's "Super Senior" Covid rule – started 52 games at tackle for Illinois.

Savvy, team leader type who comes to play every week and does so with a non-stop motor, setting the example to those around him. Lowe is a consistent and reliable player who could quite possibly find his way onto an NFL roster as a back-up at tackle and guard.

Lowe has a good combination of size and some athletic ability. Has good movement in the running game leading the ball carrier to the outside as well as being able to get to the second level.

Has improved in pass protection but still has work to do, with a number of technique areas needing development. Lowe is a bit of a project, but he has some upside. Will likely be selected in the 7th round or may go undrafted.

Zach Thomas (San Diego St)

OT29 **OT/OG**

Size: 6-5, 308 **40:** 4.96 (combine)

Class: Senior

Brother of DE Cameron Thomas (also from San Diego State) who is also a candidate to be selected in this draft. Zach has nice size, although he could do with adding 10-12 pounds (assuming that would add weight without him losing any speed). His arm length is passable for an NFL tackle, but perhaps a conversion to guard is on the cards for Thomas.

Thomas is a nice athlete with decent speed and quickness, which shows up with his movement in the running game. He runs well laterally to block to the outside and will also combi block and get out to the second level to pick off linebackers. Doesn't have the power to dominate as a drive blocker.

Is able to set an anchor and re-adjust in pass protection, thanks to his nimble feet. However, he lacks some power technique to keep pass rushers off him and eventually they will use arm leverage and moves to get Thomas into trouble on the outside.

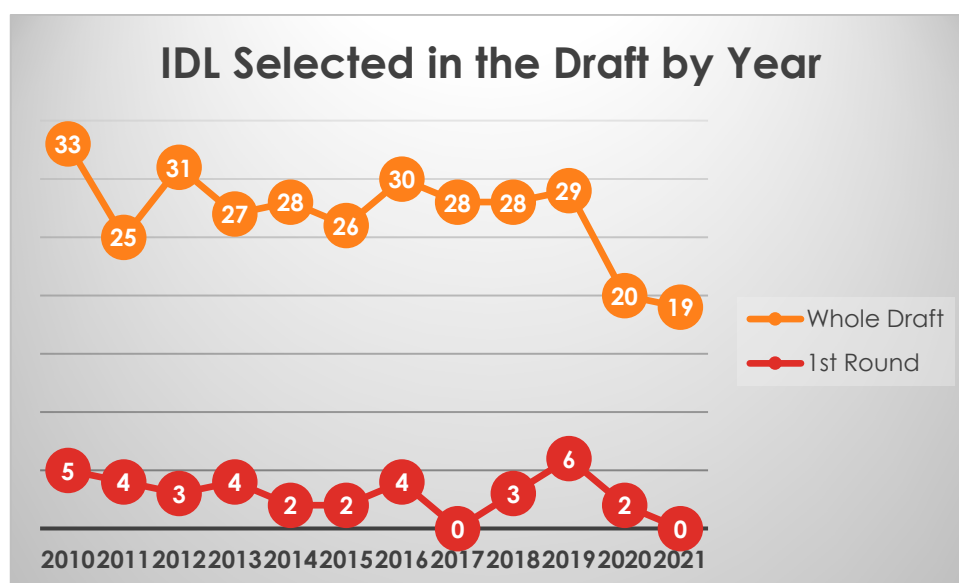
May be a late 7th round pick or may go undrafted.

INTERIOR DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

2022 General Draft Outlook: This is the best group of defensive linemen entering the draft since 2019 – both the top end and depth is excellent. It seems probable that 2 defensive linemen will be selected in the first round – Jordan Davis and Devonte Wyatt. If you count Travon Walker, who is versatile and could be an edge or defensive tackle in the pros, then that would be 3.

Note: We have Travon Walker listed amongst the edge players available in this draft.

There are a three other players at the position who could also sneak into the back end of the first round – DeMarvin Leal, Travis Jones and Logan Hall – and if not, they will for sure come off the board early on day 2. Beyond that, the depth is really good, and we should expect to see more players at the position selected this year than in either of the last 2 drafts.



Packers Outlook: The Packers have the outstanding Kenny Clark and the solid Dean Lowry on the defensive line. 2021 rookie T.J. Slaton and recent free agent signing Jarran Reed are also in the mix. But this remains a position at which the Packers are likely keen to get additional help.

If any of the three (almost) certain first rounders – Davis, or Wyatt – were to fall to the Packers at pick 22, then Green Bay would get great value. More likely one of Leal, Hall or Jones seems a more probable pick 28. Further down the draft, a player like Haskell Garrett or Eyioma Uwazurike would be a nice pick.

DID YOU KNOW?

2016 first round draft choice, DT Kenny Clark, was the Packers youngest opening day starter since 1930

TOP DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Jordan Davis	DT	Georgia	1
2.	Devonte Wyatt	DT	Georgia	1
3.	Travis Jones	DT	Connecticut	2
4.	Logan Hall	DT	Houston	2
5.	DeMarvin Leal	DT	Texas A&M	2
6.	Perrion Winfrey	DT	Oklahoma	2
7.	Phidarian Mathis	DT	Alabama	2-3
8.	Zachary Carter	DT	Florida	4-5
9.	Haskell Garrett	DT	Ohio State	4-5
10.	Matthew Butler	DT	Tennessee	4-5
11.	John Ridgeway	DT	Arkansas	4-5
12.	Neil Farrell Jr.	NT	LSU	4-5
13.	Otito Ogbonnia	NT	UCLA	4-5
14.	Chris Hinton	DT	Michigan	4-5
15.	Thomas Booker	DT	Stanford	4-5
16.	Jayden Peevy	DT	Texas A&M	4-5
17.	Eyioma Uwazurike	DT	Iowa State	6-7
18.	Myron Tagovailoa-Amosa	DT	Notre Dame	6-7
19.	Esezi Otomewo	DT	Minnesota	6-7
20.	Marquan McCall	NT	Kentucky	6-7
21.	LaBryan Ray	DT	Alabama	6-7
22.	Noah Elliss	DT	Idaho	7-UDFA
23.	Eric Johnson	DT	Missouri State	7-UDFA
24.	Kalia Davis	DT	UCF	7-UDFA
25.	D.J. Davidson	DT	Arizona State	UDFA
26.	Matt Henningsen	DT	Wisconsin	UDFA
27.	Jonathan Ford	DT	Miami, Fla	UDFA
28.	Jordan Jackson	DT	Air Force	UDFA
29.	Damion Daniels	DT	Nebraska	UDFA
30.	Tayland Humphrey	DT	Louisiana-Lafayette	UDFA
31.	Julius Turner	DT	Rutgers	UDFA
32.	C.J. Wright	DT	Georgia Southern	UDFA
33.	Kobie Whiteside	DT	Missouri	UDFA
34.	McKinley Williams	DT	Syracuse	UDFA
35.	Ben Stille	DT	Nebraska	UDFA
36.	Ryder Anderson	DT	Indiana	UDFA
37.	Glen Logan	DT	LSU	UDFA
38.	Demetrius Taylor	DT	Appalachian State	UDFA
39.	Cody Roscoe	DT	Syracuse	UDFA
40.	Akial Byers	DT	Missouri	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Keyshon Camp	DT	Pittsburgh	UDFA
42.	Sam Roberts	DT	NW Missouri State	UDFA
43.	Jordan Williams	DT	Virginia Tech	UDFA
44.	Tyrone Truesdell	DT	Florida	UDFA
45.	Derrick Tangelo	DT	Penn State	UDFA
46.	P.J. Mustipher	DT	Penn State	UDFA
47.	Keyshawn James	DT	Fayetteville State	UDFA
48.	Sam Okuayinou	DT	Florida	UDFA
49.	Avien Peah	DT	Massachusetts	UDFA
50.	Elijah Pierre	DT	Michigan	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Jordan Davis (Georgia)

DL1 **NT**

Size: 6-6, 341 **40:** 4.78 (combine)

Class: Senior

Davis blew everybody away with his outstanding 40 run at the combine – demonstrating his excellent speed. He is huge guy who is smart, team leader type, with the look of a 0 or 1 technique player on the defensive line in the pros. Is highly experienced having started in 33 games for Georgia – first earning some starts during his freshman season.

Simply plugs up the middle of the line making it a no-go area. Is physical, powerful, and strong and will dominate interior OL in the running game. Because of his length, it's difficult for those offensive linemen to get any leverage on him.

Davis is not a player that can be easily single blocked, and he's used to having to deal with double teams in the run game. He has good lateral movement for a big guy utilising the speed already mentioned. For such a physical load he will keep going and chase plays down from behind.

With his size and power, Davis gets push as a pass rusher as you would expect with the ability to collapse the pocket. He isn't a consistent dominating force in this area by any means, but he has demonstrated that he is improving. Could still do with adding some pass rush moves.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games (with 33 starts) in his Georgia career. Notched up 7 sacks and had 91 tackles (including 37 solos), with 12.5 TFL. Had 26 QB hurries, 1 pass defended and 1 blocked kick. Lined up in the offensive backfield and scored a rushing touchdown against Charleston Southern in 2021.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 9th Heisman Trophy voting. Outland Trophy & Bednarik Award winner. Finalist for Walter Camp Award, Lott Impact Trophy and Nagurski Award finalist. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** AFCA 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-SEC. **2018** FWAA Freshman All-American. SEC All-Freshman Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very talented athlete
- Disrupter from the inside
- Huge performance at the combine in the tests he took part in
- Will become a starter as a rookie
- Should be selected in round 1, somewhere in the top 20 picks overall

Devonte Wyatt (Georgia)

DL2 3-4 DE

Size: 6-3, 304 **40:** 4.77 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Wyatt is an experienced and very talented player with decent size and body shape for playing on the interior defensive line, although he lacks a little length. He has excellent speed (as evidenced by his combine 40 time) and explosion off the snap. Looks like he would be a nice 3-4 defensive end in the NFL.

Wyatt was a multi-sport athlete in high school who competed in football, wrestling, basketball, and baseball. Began his college career at Hutchinson Community College after being ruled academically ineligible to attend Georgia. Attended one year at Hutchinson before qualifying to go to Georgia.

Immediately became an integral part of the Bulldog's defensive line depth before becoming the full time starter in his senior season (2020). Opted to go back to Georgia for his Super Senior season (2021), made possible by the Covid situation. Had his best year in 2021, earning All-American notice.

Is light on his feet and can really move which, coupled with his pass rushing moves, gives him the ability to get pressure on the quarterback. However, he doesn't yet always finish the job by turning those pressures into sacks. Is improving in this area.

Is stout against the run without being overpowering and has the speed, agility, and body control to get along the line of scrimmage laterally to make plays.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 49 games for Georgia (with 25 starts), recording 5 sacks, 66 quarterback hurries and 12 TFL. Also had 113 tackles (49 solo), 3 passes defended, 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery and 1 blocked field goal.

In his one year at Hutchinson Community College, Wyatt played in 11 games and notched up 3 sacks, 4.5 tackles for a loss, a blocked PAT and 30 total tackles.

Injury Notes: Suffered a minor ankle injury at Senior Bowl practices that kept him out of the game. But was fully recovered in time to take part in the combine.

Honours & Awards: 2021 AP 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very talented
- Huge upside
- Production hasn't quite matched potential but time and coaching will help
- One of the premier DL in this draft - should be a day 1 starter
- Will be selected in the 1st round

Travis Jones (Connecticut)

DL3 **NT**

Size: 6-4, 325 **40:** 4.92 (combine)

Class: Senior

Jones is a big man, but he has surprisingly good athletic ability and appears to have worked hard to make the most of it - improving his speed and quickness. Jones is an extremely strong and physical player. Will disrupt plays if left single blocked. Looks like an out and out nose tackle in the NFL.

Jones played his high school football in Connecticut, on both offense and defense, earning all-area honours. Opted to stay in his home state to attend college.

Chose to opt out of the 2020 season due to the Covid pandemic, before having a really nice 2021 season. Worked hard in college to lose some weight in order to stay on the field more often. Decided to enter the 2021 draft, although he could have returned for the 2022 season (as a Super Senior). Earned invitations to the Senior Bowl and the combine.

Really good against the run - makes his area a "no-run" zone. One of those guys who can simply clog up the middle of the line. Is extremely difficult for a center or guard to single block.

Needs work as a pass rusher but has demonstrated some ability to pressure and get to the quarterback - flashed at the Senior Bowl in this area. Can get caught up when blockers get their hands on him - so needs development in working on moves and ways to get release.

Jones is a hard worker on and off the field who plays with hustle and a non-stop motor on every down.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games for Connecticut, recording 8.5 sacks and 19 tackles for a loss. Also had 134 tackles (47 solo) and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: None

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Clogs up the middle of the line
- Has some potential rushing the passer - but needs to make more plays
- Level of opposition will be questioned
- Really nice outing at the Senior Bowl
- Should challenge for a starting role in his rookie season
- Likely will be a 2nd round draft choice

Logan Hall (Houston)

DL4

Size: 6-6, 283 **40:** 4.88 (combine)

Class: Senior

After playing the last two years of high school football in Texas, and earning all-district honour, Hall opted to stay in state for his college career and attend the University of Houston. Contributed for the Cougars on the defensive line for two years, before earning the starting role for his junior and senior years (2020-21) when he played really well. Is following in the footsteps of fellow Houston Cougar defensive linemen Ed Oliver who was a first round pick in 2019.

Is an experienced (46 games) DL who is a really nice athlete. He has size and excellent length – although his frame is a little too lean and therefore he could do with adding a few pounds, as long as it doesn't take away from his quickness. Likely projects to be a 4-3 defensive tackle in the NFL, but different teams may see him differently as Hall doesn't appear to be an exact fit for any particular spot.

Hall is super quick at the snap of the football and really gives interior offensive linemen fits. Add to that his excellent pass rushing moves and in Hall you have a guy that can get to the quarterback from the inside. Uses his hands really well and will knock down offensive linemen's hands.

Doesn't always play with the greatest power and strength against the run – adding more bulk may help. However, he will battle and hold offensive linemen and often turn "losing" blocks into a tie. Hall has long legs which appear to make him very susceptible to cut blocks. Hall has a non-stop motor and plays with hustle.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 46 games for Houston, recording 8 sacks, 7 quarterback hurries and 20.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 99 tackles (50 solo), 1 pass defended, 1 forced fumble and 2 blocked kicks.

Injury Notes: Had an elbow injury towards the end of the 2021 season which required surgery and forced him to miss the Birmingham Bowl. However, his recovery went well, and he was fit to participate in the Senior Bowl.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Currently more upside and potential than production
- Intriguing size and skills
- Best question is exactly what position does he project to in the NFL?
- Wasn't great at the Senior Bowl.
- May earn a starting job as a rookie
- Should be selected in the 2nd round

DeMarvin Leal (Texas A&M)

DL5 4-3 DT/3-4 DE

Size: 6-4, 283 **40:** 5.00 (combine) 5.04 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Leal has a nice combination of size and athleticism. Has a non-stop motor and keeps going all day. He's super versatile, having lined up in multiple positions on the Texas A&M defensive line – most likely projects to 4-3 DT or 3-4 DE in the pros. Could do with adding some bulk – has the frame to do it.

Highly recruited out of high school where he made 2nd Team all-state. Opted to play college in his home state, choosing to go to College Station and attend Texas A&M. Became a part-time start in his freshman season (2019), before gaining the full-time role for both 2020 and 2021. Split time between playing on the edge and on inside. Leal's 2021 season saw him earn win All-American honours. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Gets upfield with some explosion off the snap. Is more likely to beat defensive linemen with his speed than his power, however he has worked on his leverage and developing more pass rush moves and this showed in his 2021 production. Still needs to turn more pressures into sacks.

Leal is really solid against the run. Uses his strength to neutralise offensive linemen. But also has the athleticism and first step to play the gap. Leal's great movement enables him to get along the line laterally and run plays down from behind.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 35 games (29 starts) in his Aggie career. Recorded 13 sacks, 133 tackles (59 solos) and 25 tackles for a loss. Had 1 interception, 6 passes defensed, 15 quarterback hurries, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Had a minor cartilage tear in early 2019 but recovered quickly and missed no playing time. Has had no further reports of major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Hendricks Award finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. Texas A&M Defensive MVP. Texas A&M Community Service Award winner. **2020** Texas A&M Defensive MVP. **2019** Texas A&M Defensive Newcomer Award winner. Texas A&M Freshman Strength Award.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great versatility, although exactly what his best role is remains to be seen
- Has a huge upside and potential
- Nice combination of size and athleticism
- With development could become a long term NFL starter
- Should be a 2nd round pick

Perrion Winfrey (Oklahoma)

DL6 4-3 DT/3-4 DE

Size: 6-4, 290 **40:** 4.89 (combine)

Class: Senior

Has good length and a frame that could do with adding a few more pounds. Has immense talent but can be a bit hit and miss at times – when he's on, he's really good and will make big plays. Needs to become more consistent. Is very versatile having lined up in multiple spots on the defensive line during his college career. Probably projects to be a 4-3 DT or 3-4 DE in the NFL.

After high school, Winfrey began his college career in juco at Iowa Western Community College – where he had two highly productive years. Was then highly recruited by many FBS schools before he chose to transfer to Oklahoma. Earned himself a starting job for the Sooners in 2020, consolidating the role in 2021. Was a two-year starter at defensive tackle for the Sooners. Opted out of the Alamo Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to commence his preparation for the draft.

Winfrey isn't an outstanding pass rusher, but he does have aggression and the ability to get off the snap which helps him in this area. He also appears to be developing some pass rush moves – so overall, he appears to be developing.

Can be physically manhandled in the running game – getting moved off the football. Really needs some work with that aspect of his game. However, he partially makes up for this with his ability to use leverage and some speed to play through the gap and make tackles behind the line of scrimmage. Backs need to make quick and decisive moves to avoid him being caught up by him. However, conversely, he will also, on occasion, run himself out of a play.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 23 games (started 20) for Oklahoma, recording 6 sacks, 3 quarterback hurries and 17 tackles for a loss. Also had 42 tackles (20 solo), 3 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 1 blocked field goal.

In his 2 seasons at Iowa Western C.C., Winfrey had 9.5 sacks and 23 TFL.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2022** Senior Bowl MVP. **2020 & 2021** 2nd Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Improving - had just two years at the FBS level
- Big upside
- MVP of the Senior Bowl - really helping his draft stock
- Good length and frame size
- May be a starter as a rookie
- Should be a 2nd round pick

Phidarian Mathis (Alabama)

DL7

Size: 6-4, 310 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Mathis is a super experienced (55 games) interior defensive lineman with good size, strength, and power. These attributes enable him to push offensive linemen backwards and collapse the pocket. He is durable, willing and plays hard on every down in which he is the game.

Mathis is super versatile – looks like he could play every position on the defensive line other than 4-3 edge defensive end.

Mathis was highly recruited coming out of high school in Louisiana, Mathis opted to attend Alabama ahead of offers from the likes of Georgia, LSU, Florida, and TCU. After redshirting his freshman season (2017), Mathis was mainly a reserve for two seasons before earning a starting role in 2020 and again in 2021. Had his best season at Alabama in 2021.

Isn't an outstanding pass rusher but he has improved in this area year on year. He has a decent first step and while he typically won't beat you with his speed, he does have long arms which enable him to get good leverage on blockers. Uses his hands well to remove offensive lineman's hands off of him. When his pass rush is stopped, he will get his hands up to knock passes down at the line of scrimmage.

Is good against the run using that aforementioned power and strength to combat offensive linemen. Mathis also has surprisingly good athleticism and movement ability which helps him to make tackles on plays that aren't run directly at him. Will also hustle and chase plays down from behind.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 55 games in his Crimson Tide career, recording 10.5 sacks and 17.5 tackles for a loss. He also had 129 tackles (53 solo), 11 quarterback hurries, 5 passes defended, 3 forced fumbles and 3 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AFCA 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-SEC. **2018** Freshman All-SEC Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice experience and versatility
- Good player already against the run
- Has upside as a pass rusher
- With time and development could become a long term NFL starter
- Should be a 2nd or 3rd round pick

Zachary Carter (Florida)

DL8 4-3 DT/3-4 DE

Size: 6-4, 282 **40:** 4.99 (combine) 5.06 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Has decent experience at the college level and appears to be one of those solid and consistent players that every team looks for from the defensive interior. He won't dominate games, but he is very reliable and will make his fair share of plays.

Carter was a productive high school player in both football and basketball. Chose to remain in his home state for his college football career and become a Florida Gator. Became a truly effective full-time player for the Gators in the 2019 season. Became the starter in 2021.

Carter has some positional versatility with the potential to play almost anywhere on the defensive line. Seems to project either inside as defensive tackle in the 4-3 or as a defensive end in the 3-4. May need to add a little weight (which his frame can handle) to play in the 3-4.

Carter has improved as a pass rusher from the inside, giving centers and guards real difficulties when trying to block him – especially when he's not double teamed. Uses his hands well to get offensive linemen off of him. When he's blocked on the pass rush, Carter gets his hands up and will knock down passes.

Carter is a solid player against the run. Uses his power and strength on the inside to make it difficult to run in his area. Also has good speed and will make plays along the line of scrimmage. Will also chase plays down from the backside. Carter is an all-effort guy who plays with aggression and hustle on every down, game in and game out.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 46 games for the Gators (25 starts). Recorded 17.5 sacks and 28.5 tackles for a loss. Also notched up 107 tackles (39 solo), 8 passes defended, 21 quarterback hurries, 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery returned for a touchdown. Also had 2 blocked kicks..

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 SEC Community Service Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Reliable and consistent without being dominant
- Improving - Looked better in 2021 than in previous years
- Has some versatility
- Probable NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Haskell Garrett (Ohio State)

DL9 3-4 DE

Size: 6-2, 300 **40:** 5.07

Class: Senior

Garrett lacks some size but is an interesting prospect, with possibilities to fit in a couple of positions on a 3-4 defensive line (mainly DE but could play NT with some added weight). He has an all-round toolset working against the run and the pass – consistently solid rather than explosive or dominant.

Notched up 25 sacks in his high school career and was one of the top defensive tackles in the country. Playing his college ball at Ohio State, Garrett finally started to get quality playing time during the 2020 season. Easily had the best season of his OSU career in 2021, earning some All-American notices. Opted out of the Rose Bowl at the end of the season to commence preparation for the draft.

Garrett has good movement and agility, coupled with a nice first step, which enable him to quickly get into the gap between offensive linemen. Also uses his hands well to try and get an initial push in the pass rush and to avoid getting locked up. In essence, he can be an effective pass rusher if he avoids getting locked up – he can be out-physiqued by bigger and more powerful linemen.

Is solid against the run and can control his gap. Uses good body control and balance to make his (lack of) height an advantage to get upward leverage and hold his ground. Has some lateral movement ability in small space. Garrett is an all-effort guy. He plays hard on every down and keeps going to the whistle all-day.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 53 games for the Buckeyes, notching up 7.5 sacks and 13.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 62 tackles (35 solo), 1 interception which he returned for a touchdown, 4 passes defended and 2 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: Garrett suffered a gunshot wound to the face prior to the 2020 season, when he was reportedly trying to break up an argument. Fortunately, he quickly recovered. Battled niggling injuries for much of the 2021 season but he appears to be back to 100%. Has no other reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2020** 2nd Team All-American. 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks height - looks like probable NT in the NFL
- Does a job without garnering much notice
- Has some upside
- Has some pass rushing skills
- Probable NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Matthew Butler (Tennessee)

DL10

Size: 6-4, 295 **40:** 5.00 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Butler had a fine high school career, playing both defensive tackle and tight end. Had an incredible 36 sacks in his final two seasons but surprisingly he still wasn't ranked in the top 50 players in the nation at defensive tackle. Opted to play his college football at the University of Tennessee. Spent his first three seasons at Tennessee (2017-19) as a reserve and part-time starter on the defensive line. Became a starter in 2020, and then followed that up with a very good year as the starter in 2021 – taking advantage of the NCAA's Super Senior rule.

Butler is an experienced defensive tackle who brings better than expected athleticism and agility to the table for such a big man. Has some versatility lining up at various positions of the defensive line.

Butler is a really nice pass rusher from the inside. He has a really quick first step that can put interior offensive linemen in difficulties quickly. Butler uses his hands well and gets leverage on pass blockers. Can struggle when his initial pass rush is stopped – needs to work on recovery and perhaps add some secondary moves.

Butler lacks some power and strength and so can struggle in the running game, particularly on plays run straight at him. His movement skills, however, help him chase plays down along the line of scrimmage when the play is an outside run.

Butler plays with determination and hustle. Has lots of effort although his stamina is questionable at times.

College Stats & Highlights: Butler played in 53 games (26 starts) for the Volunteers recording 9.5 sacks, 16 TFL, 152 tackles, 3 passes defended and 2 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. CoSIDA 2nd Team Academic All-American. SEC Community Service Team. NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Recipient. **2020** SEC McWhorter Award Nominee. **2019** SEC Community Service Team. **2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019, 2020 & 2021** CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2017** SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Improving - noticeably better in 2021 than in previous seasons
- Nice pass rusher from the inside
- Solid athlete with a little upside
- Probable NFL back-up with a chance to compete for a starting role
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

John Ridgeway (Arkansas)

DL11

Size: 6-5, 321 **40:** 5.30 (combine)

Class: Senior

Ridgeway is a really big defensive lineman, with the frame to get even bigger. Is a good athlete for his size. Played the majority of his college ball as a 0 and 1 technique nose tackle but looks like he could also play DT in the 4-3 or even as a 3-4 DE.

Was a multi-sport athlete in high school, playing on both sides of the line in football as well as excelling in track and field (shot put and discus). Was also a highly successful wrestler – winning the state Heavyweight title. Somehow, he wasn't highly recruited and opted to attend Illinois State, where after redshirting his freshman season (2017), he had 3 successful years. After the 2020 season (played in the Spring of 2021 due to Covid), Ridgeway transferred to Arkansas for his senior season.

Has strength and power and plugs the middle of the line, often drawing double teams. Extremely difficult to run in his area. Has strength and power Is a decent athlete. Doesn't generate much of a pass rush but this can be worked on – needs to develop his pass rush technique. Gets his hands up to know down passes at the line of scrimmage. Works hard and plays with hustle and a great attitude.

College Stats & Highlights: In his one year playing for Arkansas, Ridgeway played in 12 games and recorded 2 sacks and 4 tackles for a loss. Also notched up 39 tackles (11 solo).

Played in 30 games (29 starts) for Illinois State, recording 1 sack and 8 tackles for a loss. Also had 102 tackles (51 solo), 1 interception, 4 passes defended, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Underwent an appendectomy just prior to the season opener in 2021 but missed just 1 game. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2020 1st Team All-MVFC. 2019 Honorable Mention All-MVFC. 2018 Phil Steele FCS Freshman All-American. 2018 MVFC All-Newcomer Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Probable nose tackle in the NFL
- Run stuffer up the middle
- Is improving
- Really nice Senior Bowl performance
- Likely NFL back-up with a chance to compete for a starting role
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Neil Farrell Jr. (LSU)



DL12 **NT**

Size: 6-4, 330 **40:** 5.41

Class: Super Senior

Farrell is a big framed, experienced (51 games, 21 starts) and reliable interior defensive lineman who mans the nose tackle spot and plugs up the middle of the line against the run. He draws lots of double teams, simply because he's a load for any offensive lineman to try and single block. Farrell is strong, tough, and powerful and has a little bit of initial first step quickness for his size whilst lacking overall speed.

Farrell had a good high school career in Alabama, earning all-state honours, recording 13 sacks in his senior season. Opted to attend LSU where he contributed as a part-time starter and rotational player for 4 seasons - becoming the full-time starter for the 2021 season. Opted out of the Texas Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to begin his preparation for the 2022 draft.

Farrell doesn't have great movement or speed to get to the quarterback but will bull rush using his power – getting adequate pressure on the passer. Doesn't give up on plays and will get some sacks through pure persistence. Will get his hands up to knock down passes at the line of scrimmage.

Farrell will bully offensive linemen in the running game, making his area into a no-go zone for running backs. Utilises his strength and power to stand up centers and guards and stop them in their tracks. Simply put, Farrell can be a dominant force against the run.

Will hustle and play with all-out effort all game long.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 51 games for LSU, starting in 21. Recorded 144 tackles (55 solo), 23 tackles for a loss, 7.5 sacks and 8 quarterback hurries. Also had 5 passes defensed and 2 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Suffered a leg injury in 2018 but missed just 1 game (the Fiesta Bowl). Has no reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 PFF All-American. 2021 2nd Team All-SEC. 2021 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2020 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Out and out nose tackle in the NFL
- Run stuffer up the middle
- Has a little upside
- Likely NFL back-up with a chance to compete for a starting role
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Otito Ogbonnia (UCLA)

DL13 **NT**

Size: 6-4, 324 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

As well as being a fine high school football player, Ogbonnia was an outstanding shot putter and discus thrower – good enough to win the Texas state championship in both events in 2018. Ogbonnia received multiple college scholarship offers and opted to attend UCLA.

In 2018 and 2019, Ogbonnia continued his track and field career, while becoming a part-time starter on the defensive line for the Bruins. Was a part-time starter again in the Covid shortened 2020 season, before starting every game in 2021 – earning some All-Conference notice. Didn't play in the Holiday Bowl at the end of 2021 in order to commence his preparation for the draft.

Ogbonnia has really good size for an interior defensive lineman, but he doesn't have outstanding athletic ability. However, he plays all-out on every down with a non-stop motor. Looks like he probably projects to the nose tackle position in the NFL.

Ogbonnia is predominantly a stay at home run-stuffer who is extremely difficult to shift. Will clog up the middle of the line and has sufficient movement and excellent strength in order to tie up both the center and a guard.

Doesn't have great pass rushing skills, although he does have some power which can help stuff the center backwards towards the backfield. Gets his hands up when his pass rush is stopped – knocking down passes at the line of scrimmage.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 43 games (starting 27) for the Bruins. He recorded 4.5 sacks, 4 quarterback hurries and 8.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 79 tackles (39 solo), 6 passes defensed and 2 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Played through a niggling injury throughout the 2021 season, although he didn't miss any games because of it. Later suffered a hamstring injury at the combine which stopped his continued participation, although it isn't considered to be serious.

Honours & Awards: 2021 PFF 2nd Team All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Solid run stuffer
- Early down player in the NFL
- Likely NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Chris Hinton (Michigan)

DL14 **4-3 DT**

Size: 6-4, 305 **40:** 5.28 (combine)

Class: Junior

Hinton is the son of former outstanding NFL offensive lineman Chris Hinton (Colts, Falcons and Vikings) – who was a 7-time Pro Bowler. Hinton (jr.) had a nice high school career in Georgia and was highly recruited by a number of FBS colleges. Opted to attend the University of Michigan. Contributed as a reserve in his true freshman season (2019), before becoming a starter in 2020. Started every game in 2021, having the best season of his college career. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Hinton has really good size for playing defensive tackle in the NFL. He has strength and power and a quick first step but lacks outstanding speed. He plays solidly against both the run and the pass. Has some versatility having played at both defensive tackle and nose tackle.

Against the run, Hinton will occupy blockers and fill gaps, making it difficult to run in his area. Utilises his arms to get leverage and has good hand usage to remove the grip of offensive linemen. Is a good tackler who wraps up. Will move laterally along the line and make some plays.

In the passing game, Hinton gets decent pressure, thanks mainly to his first step quickness. However, he hasn't yet developed many pass rushing moves, nor has he demonstrated the ability to come again on a play in which his initial pass rush is halted.

Hinton has some smarts, being able to diagnose draws and screens – playing both well. Also has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 32 games (19 starts) for Michigan. Finished his Michigan career with 2 sacks and 4 tackles for a loss. Also had 56 tackles (28 solo), 4 passes defended, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2020 & 2021** Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Perhaps should have returned for 2022 season rather than declare for this draft
- Has upside but lots of development needed - he's a project
- Possible NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Thomas Booker (Stanford)



DL15

Size: 6-3, 301 **40:** 4.94 (combine)

Class: Senior

Booker was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Maryland. On the football field, he played on well on both sides of the ball earning himself a number of scholarship offers before opting to attend Stanford. Booker was a part time starter in each of his freshman and sophomore seasons (2018-19) before becoming the full-time starter for his final two college seasons (2020-21). He garnered All-Conference notice in each of those two years.

Booker is an extremely intelligent, team leader type who has a good combination of decent size and strength to play on the defensive line. Where exactly is his best spot on the line is another question – he is really versatile having played in just about every defensive line spot.

When rushing the passer, Booker has a quick first step which enables him to hit a gap and pressure the quarterback. He also uses his hands well in order to shed blockers. However, Booker doesn't get enough sacks to match up to the skills that he has. Booker plays the run well and with some strength. He also has the movement ability to get along the line laterally and attack the ball carrier in the running game. Booker is an all-out, all-effort guy, who plays with hustle.

College Stats & Highlights: Booker played in 43 games (27 starts) for Stanford, recording 9.5 sacks, 20.5 tackles for loss, 159 tackles (89 solo), 1 interception, 8 passes defended, 2 fumble recoveries, 1 forced fumble and 3 blocked PATs.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. Lott Impact Trophy quarter-finalist. 2nd Team All-Pac 12. Stanford Outstanding Senior Award. CoSIDA 1st Team Academic All-American & All-District. **2019, 2020 & 2021** Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll. **2020** Lott Impact Trophy semi-finalist. 1st Team All-Pac 12. Phil Moffatt Award winner (team best special teams player). Frank Rehm Award winner. CoSIDA 1st Team Academic All-American & All-District. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2018** 247Sports True Freshman All-American. Pacific Takes Freshman All-Pac 12 Team. Sun Bowl Most Valuable Lineman.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lots of potential
- Versatility will impress pro scouts
- Should be a solid NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Jayden Peevy (Texas A&M)

DL16 3-4 NT/3-4 DE

Size: 6-5, 308 **40:** 5.30 (combine)

Class: Senior

Peevy didn't play football until his junior year in high school (in Houston), but quickly developed into a player who would become a highly recruited prospect. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball just up the road at Texas A&M. Contributed as a rotational reserve in his first two seasons with the Aggies (2017-18), before becoming a part-time starter in 2019. Earned a full-time starting job in both 2020 and 2021.

Peevy is a solid and reliable DL, with good experience who brings some versatility being able to line up in all spots in a 3-4 defensive front and as a DT in the 4-3. He has some athletic ability and nice size and length - with a frame that could handle adding more weight, although he already has good power and strength.

Peevy is a good player against the run, where he will occupy blockers in the middle of the line, making it extremely difficult to run his area. Has power and strength to push interior linemen, lined up opposite him, into the offensive backfield. This attribute makes him especially difficult to contend with when he's lined up as O technique nose tackle – although he is tall for that position in the NFL.

Doesn't pick up many sacks on the pass rush because he doesn't have great first step quickness or moves, but will use his aforementioned power and can, on occasion, collapse the pocket. Will hustle and keep going – doesn't take himself out of plays even when halted. When his initial pass rush is halted, Peevy will get his hands up and knock passes down at the line of scrimmage.

Has a knack for blocking kicks (4 in his career).

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 58 games (24 starts) for Texas A&M, recording 7.5 sacks, 8 QB hurries, and 19 TFL. Also had 137 tackles (49 solo), 1 interception, 8 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery and 4 blocked kicks.

Injury Notes: Had surgery in early 2018 but missed no playing time. Missed 1 game in 2021 due to a minor injury. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Texas A&M Defensive Mr. Dependable Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Does the tough unfashionable work in the middle of the line
- Run plugger
- Should be a solid NFL back-up
- Should be a 4th or 5th round pick

Eyioma Uwazurike (Iowa State)

DL17 3-4 DE/3-4 NT

Size: 6-6, 316 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Uwazurike was a solid player in high school in Michigan. Opted to attend Iowa State over offers from a number of other schools. Played as a reserve on the defensive line in his true freshman season (2017), before earning a starting role in his sophomore year. Remained a starter for the rest of his career at Iowa State – predominantly at defensive tackle, but also made some starts at defensive end.

Is a huge man playing the DL. And he has the frame to grow even more. Brings power and strength the table and is a good athlete for a man of his size.

Uwazurike is highly experienced (46 starts) and has some versatility having played both defensive tackle and defensive end – with his size, it is likely that he can play any position on the line in the 3-4.

Is a productive pass rusher from the inside – he can bullrush linemen and collapse the pocket as well as you a quick first step to get into the gap. He's difficult to hold up without being double teamed. Doesn't have great closing speed on the quarterback. As his time at Iowa State has progressed, Uwazurike has developed some pass rush moves.

Is strong and powerful against any run in his area. Clogs that area up, making it difficult for runners to find a hole. Uwazurike lacks the speed to chase too many plays down from behind when running plays are made to the outside. Plays with effort and hustle. Works hard.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 60 games (46 starts) at Iowa State – only one player has played in more games in school history. He notched up 15 sacks, 22 quarterback hurries and 34.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 144 tackles (70 solo), 3 passes defended, 2 fumble recoveries and 2 blocked field goals.

Injury Notes: Missed 4 games in 2018 (groin injury). No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-Big 12. 2021 2nd Team Academic All-Big 12. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big 12. 2019 Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very consistent and reliable
- Very versatile
- Has some athletic upside
- Has chance to make NFL roster
- Should be a 6th or 7th round pick

Myron Tagovailoa-Amosa

(Notre Dame)

DL18

Size: 6-2, 270 **40:** 4.81 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Is the cousin of the Dolphins' Tua Tagovailoa. Unfortunately, because of his size.

Unfortunately, Tagovailoa-Amosa is a bit of a 'tweener between defensive tackle and edge – he doesn't quite have the size to play inside nor does have ideal speed to play on the outside. So exactly what position teams see him playing remains to be seen.

Finished his college career with 5.5 sacks, 17 tackles for a loss, 4 fumble recoveries, 2 forced fumbles and 81 total tackles (49 solo). His numbers would have been higher had he not missed most of the 2018 season due to a broken foot.

Tagovailoa-Amosa plays with an all-out motor on every play. He has some pass rushing skills including developing moves.

It just may be that there is no NFL position that Tagovailoa-Amosa quite fits. However, with his athletic ability, he's worth a late round shot – likely to be selected in round 6 or 7.

Esezi Otomewo (Minnesota)

DL19 **3-4 DE/4-3 DT**

Size: 6-5, 282 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Really great size which will give teams options as to where he may play in the NFL. Otomewo probably projects to be a 3-4 defensive end but could also have a shot as a big 4-3 defensive tackle.

Finished his college career with 7.5 sacks, 13.5 tackles for a loss, 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery and 81 tackles (50 solo).

Seems a little one dimensional on film – being more productive against the run than as a pass rusher. Needs to develop some pass rush skills and moves to that he can turn his physical attributes into more pass rush productivity.

Likely to be selected in round 6 or 7.

Marquan McCall (Kentucky)

DL20 3-4 NT

Size: 6-3, 342 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

McCall is a huge man, who has played at even bigger size than that which he weighed at the combine. Is an out and out 3-4 nose tackle type who clogs up the middle of the defense, making it extremely difficult to run in his area – he has the potential to be the no-frills type of early down lineman that many teams look for.

McCall lacks some experience however, having played for 3 years mainly as a reserve and part-time starter before only earning a full-time starting role in 2021.

Won't offer very much as a pass rusher, having just 1.5 sacks during his time at Kentucky.

Suffered a torn ACL in his junior year in high school but appeared to fully recover. Also missed 4 games in 2021 due to an ankle injury and later chose not to test at the combine.

Will likely be a day 3 selection in the draft (round 6 or 7).

LaBryan Ray (Alabama)

DL21 3-4 DE

Size: 6-5, 295 **40:**

Class: Senior

Ray was highly recruited out of high school but unfortunately hasn't fully lived up to his billing at the college level. Part of this is due to a number of nagging injuries that he has suffered including a foot injury in 2017, a leg injury in 2019 and an elbow injury in 2020. Ended up having played in 45 games in his time with the Crimson Tide but started just 9 of them.

Ray has good strength and the power to hold up against the run. Has decent technique and uses his hands cleverly, which helps to play both the inside and outside gap against the run.

Didn't show overly as a pass rusher in college. The hope is that if he stays healthy, that he may improve in this area and still develop into the player that he looked like he might become coming out of high school.

At this stage though, Ray looks like an early down player who will likely be a day 3 selection in the draft (round 6 or 7).

Noah Elliss (Idaho)

DL22

Size: 6-4, 346 **40:** 5.66 (combine)

Class: Junior

Is the son of former Detroit Lions Pro Bowl defensive lineman Luther Elliss. Noah somewhat surprisingly opted to enter the draft as a junior – surprising because 2021 was the only full season of play that he had at the college level, meaning that he only played 21 games for Idaho.

Elliss has size, strength, and power, playing tough against the run. He stuffs the middle of the line and if he's single blocked he can collapse the pocket and disrupt the play.

Elliss isn't much of a pass rusher from the inside. Doesn't have an explosive quick first step and needs to work on some body positioning and technique.

He put in a nice performance at the East-West Shrine Game, which was important for a player from the FCS level like Elliss.

May be selected in round 7 or possibly goes undrafted.

Eric Johnson (Missouri State)

DL23

Size: 6-5, 298 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Johnson is a physically imposing defensive tackle who will stuff the run from the inside. Can give interior offensive linemen problems with combination of size and a quick first step. Wasn't as productive as a pass rusher in college as he was in high school, but there is some potential there.

Johnson is known as a good character guy who plays with a non-stop motor and hustle on every play.

Johnson had a solid performance at the Senior Bowl, which was important as it was probably the only chance that he had to show what he can do matched up directly against players from "big" football schools.

In the last few months Johnson has started to garner some draft notice – this may be enough to see him selected in round 7 of the draft, although he still may go undrafted.

Kalia Davis (UCF)

DL24

Size: 6-1, 302 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Came to UCF out of high school as a 225 pound linebacker – more than 75 pounds later and Davis is a fixture on the defensive line.

Unfortunately, Davis suffered a torn ACL midway through the 2021 season, ending his season immediately and putting him on the back foot when it comes to this draft. Nonetheless, he comes into the "process" with ability and some good things on tape.

Davis can line up in multiple spots on the defensive line. Has the look of a 3-4 nose tackle but doesn't always demonstrate the strength and power that you would expect from that spot. Could be better as a 4-3 defensive tackle where he's likely to get double team blocked.

He is a decent athlete who can give interior offensive linemen some problems with his quick first step.

Davis' draft position will probably be determined by the status of his recovery from the ACL injury, but it seems likely that he'll either be picked in round 7 or go undrafted.

D.J. Davidson (Arizona State)

DL25 3-4 NT

Size: 6-3, 327 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Davidson is a huge guy in the middle of the line. At this stage of his career he is the epitome of a one dimensional player – a run stuffer, who provides very little against the pass.

Davidson is a classic 0 technique nose tackle. Line him up over center and nobody is running in his direction unless he's double team blocked. He has great upper body strength, power, and leg drive. But he's not going to move much and won't make plays along the line of scrimmage.

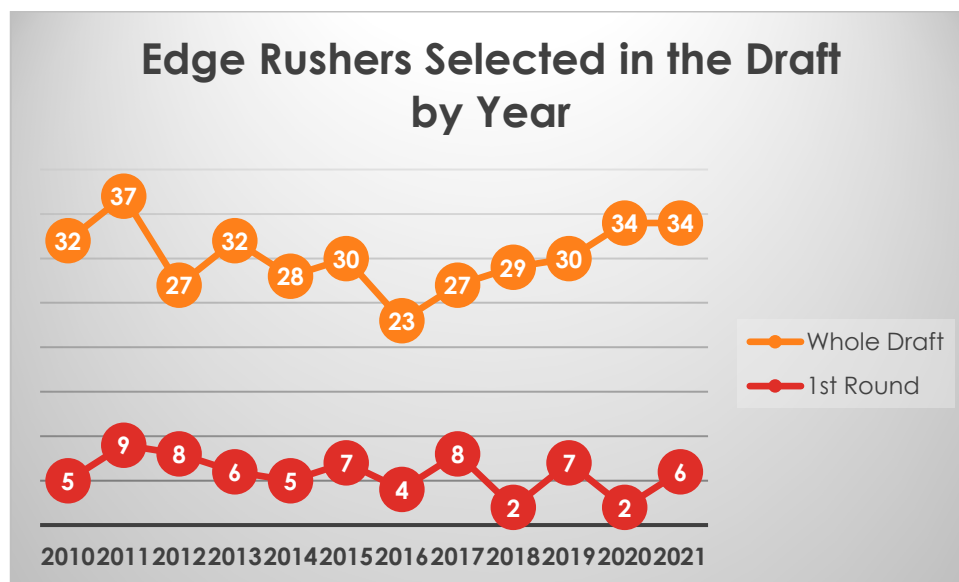
Davidson has the occasional sack when pass plays have broken down and the passer has come to him, but he's really not going to create much of a rush at this stage of his career. It's likely that Davidson goes undrafted.

EDGE RUSHERS

2022 General Draft Outlook:

Each year it seems like the edge class is really good. This year is no exception – in fact it almost certainly one of the best classes for upfront talent and depth that we have seen in a number of years. It even possible that the first two picks in this draft will come from the elite edge rusher group – Aidan Hutchinson, Kayvon Thibodeaux and Travon Walker. Not since 1988 have the first two selections been edge type players. Walker may also project as one of the interior defensive linemen in this draft – it just depends on how teams see him.

Behind Hutchinson, Walker and Thibodeaux there are a number of excellent Edge guys including David Ojabo, Jermaine Johnson II and George Karlaftis. All of these players are likely to get selected in the first round.



Packers Outlook: Despite releasing Za'Darius Smith, the Packers are currently set for starters at the Edge position, with Preston Smith (newly extended) and Rashan Gary in situ. However, in today's NFL teams are always looking to have three starting calibre players at the Edge position with a fourth guy who play as a reserve and spell the starters. Green Bay does have the likes of Jonathan Garvin and Tip Galeai on the roster but will surely be looking to add additional help here.

It wouldn't be a surprise if the Packers used either of their first round picks at this position. If the injured David Ojabo were to slip to pick 22, then he could be a steal here. Also in play at pick 28 could be Boye Mafe. A little bit further down, the likes of Nik Bonitto, Drake Jackson and Sam Williams look like they could be possible picks for the Packers.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers have selected 5 Edge players in the first round of the draft in the last 22 years. – the last one being Rashan Gary in 2019.

TOP EDGE RUSHERS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Aidan Hutchinson	Edge	Michigan	1
2.	Kayvon Thibodeaux	Edge	Oregon	1
3.	Travon Walker	Edge/DT	Georgia	1
4.	Jermaine Johnson II	Edge	Florida State	1
5.	George Karlaftis	Edge	Purdue	1
6.	David Ojabo	Edge	Michigan	1-2
7.	Boye Mafe	Edge	Minnesota	1-2
8.	Arnold Ebiketie	Edge	Penn State	2
9.	Drake Jackson	Edge	USC	2-3
10.	Nik Bonitto	Edge	Oklahoma	2-3
11.	Kingsley Enagbare	Edge	South Carolina	2-3
12.	Cameron Thomas	Edge	San Diego State	2-3
13.	Sam Williams	Edge	Mississippi	2-3
14.	Myjai Sanders	Edge	Cincinnati	3
15.	Josh Paschal	Edge	Kentucky	3-4
16.	Dominique Robinson	Edge	Miami, Ohio	4-5
17.	Amaré Barno	Edge	Virginia Tech	4-5
18.	DeAngelo Malone	Edge	Western Kentucky	4-5
19.	Michael Clemons	Edge	Texas A&M	4-5
20.	Isaiah Thomas	Edge	Oklahoma	4-5
21.	Tyreke Smith	Edge	Ohio State	4-5
22.	Jesse Luketa	Edge	Penn State	4-5
23.	Jeffrey Gunter	Edge	Coastal Carolina	4-5
24.	Alex Wright	Edge	UAB	6-7
25.	Christopher Allen	Edge	Alabama	6-7
26.	Tyree Johnson	Edge	Texas A&M	7-UDFA
27.	Tre Williams	Edge	Arkansas	7-UDFA
28.	David Anenih	Edge	Houston	UDFA
29.	Ali Fayad	Edge	Western Michigan	UDFA
30.	Zach VanValkenburg	Edge	Iowa	UDFA
31.	Arron Mosby	Edge	Fresno State	UDFA
32.	Mike Tafua	Edge	Utah	UDFA
33.	Benton Whitley	Edge	Holy Cross	UDFA
34.	Jacub Panasiuk	Edge	Michigan State	UDFA
35.	James Houston	Edge	Jackson State	UDFA
36.	Cameron Goode	Edge	California	UDFA
37.	Luiji Vilain	Edge	Wake Forest	UDFA
38.	Big Kat Bryant	Edge	UCF	UDFA
39.	De'Shaan Dixon	Edge	Norfolk State	UDFA
40.	Scott Patchan	Edge	Colorado State	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Keir Thomas	Edge	Florida State	UDFA
42.	Zach McCloud	Edge	Miami, Fla	UDFA
43.	Isaiah Chambers	Edge	McNeese State	UDFA
44.	Tormon Fox	Edge	North Carolina	UDFA
45.	Tyler Johnson	Edge	Arizona State	UDFA
46.	Cade Hall	Edge	San Jose State	UDFA
47.	Jaylan Alexander	Edge	Purdue	UDFA
48.	Noah Burks	Edge	Wisconsin	UDFA
N/A	Adam Anderson	Edge	Georgia	N/A

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Aidan Hutchinson (Michigan)

Edge1 **4-3 DE**

Size: 6-7, 270 **40:** 4.74 (combine)

Class: Senior

Son of former Michigan star Chris Hutchinson. Aidan was a star player in HS in Michigan and by 2019 (his sophomore year) he was a dynamic starter for the Maize & Blue. After an injury hit 2020, he rebounded with a fantastic 2021, which was recognised when he was voted as runner-up for the Heisman Trophy – becoming just the 5th defensive player to finish in the top-2 for that award.

Hutchinson has great size for a 4-3 DE with the frame to add more bulk. Also can be moved around the line. He's a very experienced team leader type with great character who plays with consistency, game in, game out and has an all-out non-stop motor. He plays hard and on every down and hustles to the ball carrier.

Uses his power and strength very effectively. Add the great leverage he gets from his length and his technique with his hands and body position, and you have one of the best technical players in this draft. Hutchinson also has speed and quickness at the snap of the football. Is equally as proficient against the run as he is rushing the passer. All in all, he's just a load for any offensive lineman to have to block.

College Stats & Highlights: 43 games (30 starts) for UM, recording 18.5 sacks, 19 QB hurries, 26.5 TFL, 153 tackles (81 solo), 9 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 4 forced fumbles. In 2021, he had 14 sacks (a school record) and 15 TFL.

Injury Notes: Suffered an ankle injury in 2020 which limited his season to just 3 games. His 2021 season demonstrated that there's no long lasting issues.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Heisman Trophy Runner-up. Winner of the Lott Impact Trophy, Hendricks Award, Lombardi Award, Nagurski-Woodson Big 10 Defensive Player of the Year Award & Smith-Brown Big 10 Defensive Lineman of the Year Award. Finalist for the Walter Camp Award & William V. Campbell Trophy. Semi-finalist for the Bednarik & Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Awards. Big 10 Championship Game MVP. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2019, 2020 & 2021** Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Richard-Katcher Award co-Winner (Michigan best defensive lineman/linebacker). 3rd Team All-Big 10. Big 10 Distinguished Scholar. **2018** UM Rookie of the Year Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Immediate impact player - for play and attitude
- Will likely post 10+ sacks as a rookie
- Will be the first edge player selected
- Will likely be the very first player chosen in the entire draft

Kayvon Thibodeaux (Oregon)

Edge2 DE 4-3/OLB 3-4

Size: 6-4, 254 **40:** 4.58 (combine)

Class: Junior

After his freshman season at Oregon (2019), in which he set a school record with 9 sack, Thibodeaux was already being thought of as a potential high draft choice for the 2021 draft. This was confirmed by his showing in the 2020 season. Prior to his college career, Thibodeaux was perhaps the most sought after player for most colleges after notching up 54 sacks in his high school career and being named the USA Today High School player of the Year.

Became a part-time starter for the Ducks in his freshman year before becoming the starter in 2020 and 2021. Primarily played hybrid DE/OLB – known as the “Joker” position in Oregon’s defense but was also used in multiple spots on the line.

Has great athleticism, he is very explosive with a burst off the snap, has super speed and the ability to change direction quickly. Is an outstanding pass rusher with great bend around the edge. Is simply a hugely talented, relentless chaser of QBs. Has improved against the run and will chase plays down from behind.

Was hugely dominant in the 2020 Pac 12 Championship game, when he came up against future (2021) 1st round draft choice Alijah Vera-Tucker. In that game, Thibodeaux had an incredible 12 QB pressures, 1 sack, 2 TFL and 1 pass defended.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 32 games at Oregon. Recorded 19 sacks and 35.5 TFL, 123 tackles (82 solos), 14 quarterback hurries, 3 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery, 7 passes defended and 1 blocked punt.

Injury Notes: Missed 2 games early in 2021 with a sprained ankle. But returned from this injury with no apparent ongoing issues. Has no reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Finalist for the Bednarik Award, Hendricks Award & Nagurski Trophy. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. Pac 12 Defensive Player of the Year. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2020** Pac 12 Championship Game MVP. Morris Trophy Winner. FWAA, The Athletic & Phil Steele 2nd Team All-American. **2019** Pac 12 Defensive Freshman of the Year. USA Today, FWAA & The Athletic Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Immediate day 1 starter in the NFL with a huge upside
- Fine pass rusher who may get even better with pro coaching
- Would have been a high 1st round pick in last year's draft if eligible
- Has long been seen as a potential top 5 pick in this draft
- Should be off the board in the top 10 and possibly the top 5 overall

Travon Walker (Georgia)

Edge3 **Edge/DT**

Size: 6-5, 272 **40:** 4.51 (combine)

Class: Junior

Of all the prospects in this draft, Travon Walker may be the one whose stock has risen the most off the back the combine. He has a great combination of athletic ability and size (with outstanding length). But what position is his best – edge, 4-3 defensive tackle or 3-4 defensive end?

Attended high school close to Atlanta where he was an outstanding player at both football and basketball. Opted to attend college in his home state and become a Georgia Bulldog – he was highly recruited and had offers from a number of FBS schools. After contributing at DT in 2019, Walker split time as a reserve at both tackle and end in 2020. He became a starter for Georgia in his third year (2021). Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Walker is very talented athletically and is super versatile, being able to play both inside and on the edge. Interestingly was also dropped into coverage occasionally when he was lined up on the edge. Gets to the passer using a combination of power, strength, speed, and pass rush moves. Ideally, needs to take the next step and turn his quarterback pressures and hits into more sacks.

Is really active and stands up well against the run where he can use that aforementioned strength to stick to offensive linemen and bully them. Will use his athleticism to make plays laterally along the line of scrimmage. Can be a slightly inconsistent tackler at times.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games for the Bulldogs. Recorded 65 tackles, including 34 solos and 13 tackles for a loss. Also notched up 9.5 sacks, 55 quarterback hurries, 1 forced fumble, 2 fumble recoveries and 4 passes defended.

Injury Notes: Had surgery on a broken left wrist in 2019. However he only missed 2 games due to the injury. Has no further reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: None.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent athlete for his size - tested really well at the combine
- Huge upside
- Stock is sky high
- But is he an edge or DT? And is he really good at both but not dominant at either?
- Immediate day 1 starter in the NFL
- Should be a top 10 overall pick and maybe as high as top 5

Jermaine Johnson II (Florida St)

Edge4 3-4 OLB/4-3 DE

Size: 6-5, 254 **40:** 4.58 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Johnson went to high school in Minnesota where he had a successful time, but unfortunately was academically ineligible to play NCCA Division I football coming out. So he commenced his collegiate level career playing at Independence Community College in Kansas.

After two years (2017-18) at Independence, he regained his eligibility and transferred to Georgia. He then played two years (2019-20) at Georgia before transferring to Florida State for his outstanding 2021 season.

Johnson is a superb athlete with size and length who is a really dynamic pass rusher - using his explosion off the snap and long arms to get leverage. Also has strength and power which enables him to bullrush offensive linemen. Johnson plays the run extremely well, playing with good discipline and setting the edge. Plays with hustle and will chase plays down from the backside.

Is very versatile and has lined up in multiple spots in his college career – along the line and at outside linebacker. Has the frame to add a few pounds, so could project to either of those spots.

College Stats & Highlights: In his one year at FSU, Johnson had 12 sacks and 12 TFL. Also had 70 tackles (34 solo), 2 forced fumbles and 2 passes defensed. In his 2 years at Georgia, Johnson played in 21 games (4 starts) recording 7.5 sacks, 24 quarterback hurries, 8 TFL, 36 total tackles, 1 forced fumble and 2 pass break-ups.

In his two years at Independence Community College, he played in 20 games and recorded 12.5 sacks, 4 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries and 96 tackles

Injury Notes: Suffered a minor ankle injury at the Senior Bowl practices but had recovered sufficiently to take part in the tests at the combine.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Hendricks Award finalist. 2021 ACC Defensive Player of the Year. 2021 AP 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent pass rusher off the edge
- Will be either a 4-3 end or 3-4 OLB in the pros
- Outstanding Senior Bowl week, helping raise his draft stock.
- Immediate day 1 starter in the NFL
- Should be selected in round 1, perhaps around pick 15 overall

George Karlaftis (Purdue)

Edge5 **4-3 DE**

Size: 6-4, 266 **40:** 4.71 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Given name is Yoros Karlaftis. Was born in Athens, Greece. Nicknamed "The Purdue Greek Freak". Moved to the United States as a teenager and became a multi-sport athlete in high school – playing basketball, track and field (he was state shot put champion) and football. Was highly recruited after notching up 41 sacks and being named All-American in his high school career, opting to stay in state in Indiana and attend Purdue.

Earned an immediate starting job at Purdue as freshman (2019), having a really good year. His 2020 season was cut short due to injury and the Covid pandemic. Bounced back in 2021 with another excellent season. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Karlaftis is an excellent pass rusher with outstanding strength and power – can bullrush his way through all but the best pass blockers. He has a number of good pass rush moves and uses his hands well. And has some burst off the snap without having quite the ideal speed and bend around the edge.

His strength, power and aggressiveness enable Karlaftis to stand up well against the run. He is a disrupter of plays. Karlaftis is a hard working, all out effort guy who plays non-stop and will chase plays down from behind. Isn't always a consistent tackler.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 26 games at Purdue, recording 14 sacks and 29 TFL. Also had 97 tackles (61 solo), 6 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles and 4 fumble recoveries. Scored a touchdown on a fumble recovery return.

Injury Notes: Missed 3 games in 2020 due to a shoulder injury. Recovered to play a full season in 2020, so there doesn't appear to be any lingering problems.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Lott Impact Trophy semi-finalist. AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. **2020** 2nd Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2019** AP 1st Team Freshman All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Stuffs the run
- Uses strength and power to get to the passer
- Not quite as athletic as some above him in this draft - but it's all relative
- Will be a 4-3 end in the pros
- Immediate day 1 starter in the NFL
- Should be off the board in round 1

David Ojabo (Michigan)



Edge6 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-4, 250 **40:** 4.55 (combine)

Class: Junior

Unfortunately, we have to start with the sad news that Ojabo suffered a torn achilles tendon at his pro day in the middle of March. At the time of writing, the length of his absence is unknown, but it must be a significant number of months.

Was born in Nigeria and brought up in Scotland where his family had moved to when he was young. Moved to the US as a teenager, and it was only as a late teen that he started playing football in high school. Opted to attend UM, where he saw limited time in 2020 before becoming a starter for his outstanding 2021.

Is a hugely dynamic player with immense potential, but lacks experience, having had just a few years in football. Has the size and length to be an excellent stand up pass rusher – also has the athletic and physical skills to support this.

Ojabo has great explosion, burst, and speed off the edge which makes it extremely difficult for tackles to get clean hands on him. But when they do, this is where Ojabo needs to develop some more pass rush moves – experience will help. Has a knack for forcing fumbles. Needs work on his strength and technique to help him in the running game - will make the occasional play here thanks to his athleticism but generally he's not much of a factor against the run.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 20 games (8 starts) for UM, recording 11 sacks, 8 QB hurries and 12 TFL (all coming in the 2021 season). Also had 36 total tackles (25 solo), 3 passes defended, 5 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Suffered no major injuries until the very sad achilles tear that we mentioned earlier. It remains to be seen whether he can return at all this year.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. 2nd Team Academic All-American. 2nd Team Academic All-Big 10. **2020** Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Michigan Defensive Scout Team Player of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury obviously hugely impacts draft status
- When ready he'll be a 3-4 OLB in the pros
- Super athlete
- Lack of experience is a concern but upside is enormous
- Pre-injury combine testing was outstanding
- Would have been a top 10-15 pick overall, now may fall to bottom of round 1 - somebody may get a bargain

Boye Mafe (Minnesota)

Edge7 3-4 OLB/4-3 DE

Size: 6-4, 261 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Senior

Mafe has decent size – having bulked up during his college career - and length which he uses to get leverage on offensive lineman. Needs work on developing more pass rush moves. Is a fantastic athlete who has an explosive first step which also gives those linemen big issues.

Played his high school football in Minnesota where he starred in track and field as well as in football. It was no surprise when he opted to stay home and attend the University of Minnesota. Redshirted in 2017, before contributing as a rotational and depth player from 2018 to 2020, before becoming a near full-time starter in 2021. Opted to enter the draft with college eligibility still remaining.

During his college career, Mafe worked hard on his physicality, improving his strength and power to the point where those are also pluses for him. Needs work against the run, where his pad level is high and he seems to get stuck on offensive tackles, sometimes being unable to break free to make the tackle. However he has improved setting the edge as he has grown in experience.

Uses his exceptional speed and athleticism to put pressure on the quarterback. Has added some pass rush moves to help him. Is renowned as a guy with a great attitude and has a motor which appears to be non-stop on film. Although he played predominantly at defensive end in college, it's possible that because of his size and speed that he may be a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL.

College Stats & Highlights: 42 games for Minnesota, recording 8 sacks, 7 QB hurries and 9.5 TFL. Also had 87 tackles (59 solo), 3 passes defensed and 3 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Suffered from niggling injuries throughout his college career prior to 2021 but battled through them without missing significant playing time.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 2nd Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very talented athlete
- Excellent Senior Bowl practice and game performance
- Super impressive showing at the combine and pro day
- Has areas to develop, especially if he becomes a 3-4 OLB in the pros
- Will become a starter as a rookie
- Should be selected either at the end of round 1 or early in round 2

Arnold Ebiketie (Penn State)



Edge8

Size: 6-2, 250 **40:** 4.65 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Born in Yaoundé, Cameroon. As a LB, Ebiketie had a highly productive HS career, capped by his senior season in which he had 21.5 sacks. Opted to attend college at Temple. Was at Temple from 2017 to 2020 (he redshirted in 2017), before transferring to Penn State for the 2021 season. Was a starter in his only year at Penn State, having the best season of his college career.

Is really undersized but makes up for some of that with extra-long arms which enables him to get leverage on offensive linemen. He also has an exceptional explosiveness off the line of scrimmage. Because of his size, it seems like he must project to a 3-4 OLB in the NFL.

As a pass rusher, he has good bend around the edge. He has also developed a number of pass rush moves, which enable him to work on OTs. Also, he doesn't stop – will keep going after his initial pass rush, reworking time and again to try and get to the quarterback. All in all, he is a relentless disruptor in the passing game.

Has some power and strength which he utilises to play the run, although this is not his strong suit. At his best when he can play in the gap between linemen and beat them with an explosive first step and leverage. Plays with a non-stop motor.

College Stats & Highlights: In his one year as a Nittany Lion (2021), Ebiketie recorded 9.5 sacks 7 quarterback hurries, and 18 tackles for a loss. Also had 62 tackles (34 solo), 1 pass defensed, 2 forced fumbles and 2 blocked kicks.

In his three playing years at Temple, Ebiketie played in 25 games (6 starts), recording 6 sacks and 10.5 tackles for a loss. He also had 59 tackles (42 solo), 3 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery (returned for a touchdown).

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 PFWAA 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 2nd Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lack of ideal size is a little bit of a concern
- Had an excellent 2021 season - followed by a nice Senior Bowl
- Fine pass rusher but needs development playing the run
- May start his pro career as a situational pass rusher
- Probably a 2nd round choice

Drake Jackson (USC)

Edge9 3-4 OLB/4-3 DE

Size: 6-3, 254 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Is very slightly undersized but has the potential to play either defensive end or outside linebacker in the NFL (4-3 End, 3-4 OLB) – especially as he has played both spots whilst at USC. He is a fine athlete with an explosive first step and good speed.

Attended high school in California, where he was extremely productive – earning himself a scholarship to stay close to home and go to college at USC. Became a starter at DE at USC in his true freshman season (2019). Lost weight between the 2019 and 2020 seasons and moved to Outside Linebacker for the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

Has a combination of that aforementioned speed and athletic ability coupled with improving pass rush moves. Utilises nice bend around the edge to beat offensive tackles. His main downside as a pass rusher is that he doesn't always finish the play when he's in position to do so – this will surely get corrected with pro coaching.

Jackson plays well in the running game when he can hit the gap quickly, using his arms and leverage to get off the offensive lineman. Moves superbly well laterally along the line of scrimmage and will chase runners down from behind. Not as impressive when he has to beat power and strength right in front of him – can be blocked right out of the play. Is also an inconsistent tackler. Perhaps hasn't yet reached the level of production that matches his skills and potential.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 27 game for the Trojans, starting in all of them, recording 12.5 sacks and 25 TFL. Also notched up 103 tackles (57 solo), 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery, 2 interceptions, 4 passes defended and 1 safety.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury issues.

Honours & Awards: 2019, 2020 & 2021 2nd Team All-Pac 12. 2019 PFF 2nd Team Freshman All-American. 2019 Honorable Mention Pac 12 Defensive Freshman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lots of potential but production hasn't quite matched it yet
- Excellent pass rushing ability which will excite pro scouts
- Needs to add strength and power to play the run
- May start his pro career as a situational pass rusher
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Nik Bonitto (Oklahoma)

Edge10 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-3, 248 **40:** 4.54

Class: Junior

Bonitto is a fine athlete, with a real burst - the acceleration and speed which will give offensive tackles real problems off the edge. Doesn't quite have the ideal length to play OLB but compensates with his athleticism.

Bonitto was a highly productive player in high school in Florida, recording 17 sacks and 26.5 tackles for a loss. Opted to attend Oklahoma over the likes of Alabama, Texas, Auburn and Louisville.

Redshirted his freshman season at Oklahoma (2018), before earning starting spot the following year. Was a starter for the remainder of his Sooners' career. Had an outstanding 2021 season, prompting him to declared for the draft as a junior. Opted out of the Bowl game (Alamo Bowl) at the end of the 2021 season.

Bonitto is an excellent player especially when he can play in space or at least avoid full on contact. Has great speed, athleticism, and agility to chase down quarterbacks and running backs. Doesn't have ideal strength and can be overpowered on plays run straight at him. Needs to get better in this regard.

Can be used to blitz from the outside but also can be used as a surprise blitz up the middle – this gives Bonitto some versatility that teams will like. He's intelligent in timing the inside blitz particularly well.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games for the Sooners, starting in 29. He recorded 18.5 sacks and 32 TFL. Also had 117 tackles (68 solo), 1 interception, 8 pass break-ups, 24 quarterback hurries, 3 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble. Returned one of his fumble recoveries in 2021 for 70 yards – a new school record.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** PFF Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. AP 3rd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 12. **2020** AP 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 10. Academic 2nd Team All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks the prototypical length, size and power for a 3-4 OLB in the NFL
- But still produces due to outstanding athletic ability
- Will be interesting to see how NFL teams utilise him
- May start his pro career as a situational player
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Kingsley Enagbare (S.Carolina)

Edge11 **DE 4-3**

Size: 6-4, 258 **40:** 4.87 (combine)

Class: Senior

Enagbare is a hugely experienced defensive lineman (39 college games), who looks like an every down 4-3 defensive end in the pros. Has a mixture of size and athletic ability – although perhaps could do with adding just a little more bulk. Also may have a little versatility, having played some defensive tackle at South Carolina.

Nicknamed "J.J.". Enagbare opted to attend South Carolina (over the likes of Notre Dame) after a nice high school career in Atlanta in which he was named 1st team all-state. Played defensive tackle in his freshman season for the Gamecocks (2018) before moving to defensive end for his sophomore year in 2019. Stayed on the edge for the remainder of his college career.

Enagbare is a productive pass rusher off the edge with a long frame and long arms which allows him to get great leverage on offensive tackles. Enagbare, an intelligent player, plays with all out effort on every play, in every game – he is super competitive.

Plays solidly well against the run. Is often able to keep offensive linemen off, or at least minimise their contact, by using his long arms. Is also disciplined in the running game, setting the edge well.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games for South Carolina, recording 15 sacks, 18 quarterback hurries and 24 tackles for a loss. He also had 120 tackles (72 solo), 4 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 3 forced fumbles. Also blocked 1 PAT.

Injury Notes: Had hip surgery between the 2019 and 2020 seasons – but came back and played well in 2020 without any apparent ill effects. Missed 2 games in 2020 due to an unrelated injury.

Honours & Awards: 2020 1st Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Good level of experience
- Productive pass rusher
- Combination of athletic ability and size will intrigue pro scouts
- Currently more potential than production
- Should challenge for a starting role as a rookie
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Cameron Thomas (San Diego St)

Edge12 **DE 4-3**

Size: 6-4, 267 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Brother of OT Zach Thomas (also from San Diego State) who is also a candidate to be selected in this draft. Cameron played his high school football in California where he was both a defensive end and tight end. Opted to stay in state and attend college at San Diego State.

Redshirted his freshman season (2018), before becoming a starter in 2019 (remaining so for the rest of his SDSU career). Declared for the 2022 draft while still having college eligibility remaining.

Thomas is listed here amongst the edge defenders because that's where he's most impactful, but he can also play inside at tackle. He is a solid all-round player who is reliable and effective, occasionally being explosive and dynamic. Thomas is a hard-working, all-effort guy who plays all out on every down.

Thomas' main strength is as a pass rusher where he demonstrates some quickness and athleticism to get to the quarterback. Also has developed a number of pass rushing moves.

Can also play tough against the run. Has some strength and power but his main ability against the run is being able to use his agility and movement skills to rush into the gaps between linemen and make the play behind the line of scrimmage.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games (34 starts) for SDSU, recording 21 sacks, 52 quarterback hurries and 39 tackles for a loss. Also had 155 tackles (71 solo), 3 passes defended and 1 forced fumble. Had an excellent 2021 in which he notched up 11.5 sacks, 20.5 tackles for a loss and 19 quarterback hurries.

Injury Notes: Suffered a hamstring injury at the Senior Bowl in February.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 2nd Team All-American. All-Mountain West Defensive POTY. **2020** Bednarik Award semi-finalist. **2019** The Athletic 2nd Team Freshman All-American. **2019, 2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Mountain West.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very versatile - can play multiple roles
- Could be a bit of a 'tweener though
- Is an outstanding pass rusher
- May well be a starter as a rookie
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Sam Williams (Mississippi)

Edge13 **OLB 3-4**

Size: 6-4, 255 **40:** 4.46

Class: Super Senior

Williams was a good high school player in Alabama but coming out had to attend junior college before he could get himself to the FBS level. At the junior college level for Northeast Mississippi Community College, Williams was a hugely dominant player for two seasons (2017-18) – notching up 17.5 sacks in 2018 alone. Transferred to Mississippi for his junior season in college and then played two more years – taking advantage of the NCAA Covid related rule that enabled players to have a “Super” Senior season. Earned All-American notice for his outstanding 2021 season.

Has the ideal size to play 3-4 OLB in the NFL, although if he wanted he could possibly add 10-15 pounds and play as 4-3 DT. Most impressively, he has great quickness and speed – as evidenced by his 40 time at the combine (4.46).

Williams is an explosive and dynamic pass rusher with the ability to beat offensive tackles both with outstanding speed and quickness and great bend around edge and with a surprisingly powerful bull rush. He has the great knack of causing fumbles. Williams isn't as good against the run as he is rushing the passer. He can get moved off the ball by strong, physical linemen and plays run straight at him.

Has some character related issues in 2020, although all charges against him were dropped.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 35 games in 3 seasons in Mississippi, notching up 22.5 sacks, 16 quarterback hurries and 33.5 TFL. Also had 134 tackles (76 solo), 1 interception, 2 passes defensed, 6 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

In his two seasons at Northeast Mississippi C.C. Williams notched up 21 sacks and 39.5 TFL. Also had 128 tackles, 6 forced fumbles and 3 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2018** Junior College All-American. MACJC Defensive Lineman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent pass rusher - may be a bit one-dimensional
- Needs to get stronger against the run
- Probably projects to 3-4 OLB in the NFL
- May start his pro career as a situational pass rusher
- Probably a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Myjai Sanders (Cincinnati)

Edge14 DE 4-3/OLB 3-4

Size: 6-5, 228 **40:** 4.67 (combine)

Class: Senior

Sanders is an experience defensive end who has nice length and had been adding weight and bulk ever since he arrived at Cincinnati. However, he weighed in at a shockingly light 228 pound at the combine – although he has since reportedly been seen weighing 248.

His weight could be a huge problem is he wants to play as 4-3 DE in the pros. He needs to add some bulk if he wants to play the position in the NFL or else he will definitely project to OLB. But a lack of experience here would likely hurt him.

Sanders was named all-region in high school. Opted to attend Cincinnati over offers from multiple other FBS schools. Three year starter at Cincinnati, including a really good year in 2021 when he was named All-Conference.

Sanders is a fine speed rusher round the edge with excellent quickness and works well with his hands. Won't overpower offensive linemen – adding strength and power with the additional bulk will help here. When he doesn't get to the quarterback, Sanders will get his hands up and knock down passes. No experience dropping back into coverage.

Very fine, consistent, tackler, who has improved year on year playing the run. Lacks the ideal strength and therefore can be overpowered but will use his athletic ability and length to avoid full contact. Has the speed to chase plays down from behind. Sanders has a very high motor and keeps hustling all day.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games at Cincinnati. Recorded 13.5 sacks and 25 tackles for a loss. Also had 115 tackles (60 solo), 25 quarterback hurries, 13 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2020 Bednarik Award semi-finalist. 2020 1st Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lack of weight at the combine was shocking
- May project to 4-3 DE in the pros - but what about the weight?
- Nice pass rushing skills
- Difficult to know how NFL teams see him right now
- May start his pro career as a situational player
- Probably a 3rd round draft choice

Josh Paschal (Kentucky)

Edge15 **DE 4-3**

Size: 6-3, 268 **40:** 4.77 (combine)

Class: Senior

Nicknamed "J.P." Paschal was highly recruited coming out of high school – received a number of offers before opting to commit to Kentucky. Had a good true freshman season in 2017 playing mainly as a reserve before illness kept him out for most of 2018. Bounced back in 2019, earning a starting job at defensive end. Remained the starter for the rest of his college career (2020-21).

Paschal is a super experienced (37 starts) player who has decent speed and size to play as a 4-3 DE. Has some athletic ability. Brings some positional versatility to the game, being able to line up in a variety of positions on the defensive line – inside as well as on the edge.

Paschal is a good pass rusher, who uses a mixture of strength, athleticism and moves to get to the quarterback. Has a good bull-rush and uses his hands extremely well to get leverage on the offensive lineman. Is a solid player against the run. Isn't easily moved off the line due to his great power and strength. Can move a little laterally and chase runners down from behind. Good tackler.

College Stats & Highlights: Paschal played in 52 games (37 starts) for Kentucky. Recorded 13.5 sacks, 12 quarterback hurries and 37 tackles for a loss. Also had 139 tackles, 3 forced fumbles and 3 blocked kicks.

Injury/Illness Notes: Was diagnosed with a melanoma on his foot in 2018, recovered after treatment. Missed the Citrus Bowl at the end of the 2021 season due to injury. No further reported injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Phil Steele 4th Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. Jason Whitten Collegiate Man of the Year Award winner. CoSIDA 2nd Team Academic All-American. **2020** PFF Honorable Mention All-SEC. 2020 Jason Whitten Collegiate Man of the Year semi-finalist. **2019** CoSIDA Mayo Clinic Honorable Mention Comback Player of the Year. FWAA Orange Bowl Courage Award nominee. **2018, 2019 & 2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020 & 2021** CoSIDA 1st Team Academic All-District.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced
- Nice mixture of skills without being dominant in any one area
- Is improving all the time - has some upside
- Good pass rush skills which continue to develop
- Will challenge for a starting spot or primary back-up role as a rookie
- Probably a 3rd or 4th round draft choice

Dominique Robinson (Miami, Ohio)

Edge16 OLB 3-4/4-3 DE

Size: 6-5, 253 **40:** 4.72 (combine) 4.59 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Robinson had a nice high school career where he was a dual-purpose quarterback. Eventually committed to playing his college ball at Miami, Ohio where he would convert to wide receiver. Played as a reserve receiver and on special teams in 2017, before seeing more action (without be a featured player) at WR in both 2018 and 2019. Converted from WR to DE prior to the 2020 season. Unfortunately the 2020 season was limited to just 3 games due to Covid but in 2021 Robinson made some nice strides, showing what he can do off the edge.

Has good height but lacks the weight to play DE in the NFL. Needs to add 10-15 pounds to play as a 4-3 defensive end or more likely stays close to where he is now and project to be a 3-4 outside linebacker. Robinson is a really nice athlete with good body control and agility – can change direction with quickness.

Can be an explosive pass rusher off the edge. For an inexperienced edge guy, Robinson has good timing on the pass rush. However, he doesn't do much with his hands nor does he make much use of strength and power. Also needs to work on developing more pass rush moves.

Was often used in pure passing situations, so his experience playing the run is somewhat limited. Against the run he doesn't yet set a good edge and can be caught out by misdirection. He does, however, utilise his quickness and decent speed to be able to chase runners laterally along the line of scrimmage and make the tackle from behind – hence the number of tackles for a loss that he has generated in limited playing time.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 48 games for Miami, recording 6.5 sacks, 11 tackles for a loss, 37 tackles (18 solo) and 1 pass defensed. On offense, he caught 27 passes for 452 yards (20.1 average) and 4 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 3rd Team All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Fine athlete, with great size
- Lacks experience on the edge - just one full season
- Will be a real project for however drafts him
- Not likely to over contribute as a rookie
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Amaré Barno (Virginia Tech)

Edge17 **OLB 3-4**

Size: 6-5, 246 **40:** 4.36 (combine)

Class: Senior

Had an effective high school career playing the safety spot for the majority of the time. Unfortunately, coming out of HS, he was declared academically ineligible to play football at the Division 1 level and he enrolled in juco. He spent two very productive seasons (2017-18) playing for Butler Community College at the OLB position, before transferring to Virginia Tech. Redshirted his first season at Virginia Tech before moving to the DE position and becoming a part-time starter in 2020. In 2021, he won the full-time starting job at defensive end. Opted out of the Pinstripe Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to begin his preparation for the draft.

Barno has nice size and length for an OLB – assuming that is where he projects in the NFL. And that is what it looks like. Added to his size, Barno has great athleticism and absolutely blazing speed.

He is a nice pass rusher, with a quick first step and some developing moves. Has a nice bend around the edge for a guy with his length. Doesn't have great strength as yet, so he can struggle to deal with the most powerful of OTs. Against the run, his lack of strength really shows, and he can get simply overwhelmed at times. Also needs to work on his discipline. On the plus side, his speed will enable him to chase plays down from behind. Also has good special teams coverage unit skills.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 26 games (17 starts) for Va Tech recording 10 sacks, 13 QB hurries and 21.5 TFL. He also notched up 78 tackles (48 solo), 3 passes defended, 1 fumble recovery and 3 forced fumbles.

In two seasons at Butler C.C., Barno played in 17 games, and had 5.5 sacks and 13 TFL. Also recorded 91 tackles (52 solo), 2 interceptions, 4 passes defended and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Suffered a minor hip injury in 2020.

Honours & Awards: 2020 Honorable Mention All-ACC

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Incredible speed as demonstrated at the combine
- Perhaps stuck between positions - OLB where his size fits best and DE where he played most recently in college
- It will be interesting to see how teams utilise him
- Very nice pass rusher - may start his NFL career as a situational rusher
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

DeAngelo Malone (W.Kentucky)

Edge18 **OLB 3-4**

Size: 6-3, 243 **40:** 4.56 (pro day)

Class: Super Senior

Wasn't recruited by the "big" FBS schools coming out of high school in Georgia. Opted to attend Western Kentucky. Became a part-time starter in his true freshman season (2017) before becoming a full-time starter in his sophomore year (2018). Remained the starter for the rest of his college career (2019-21), taking advantage of the "Super Senior" rule to play a full fifth season. Was a multiple time All-Conference selection.

Malone is a highly experienced (53 starts) player with a long body, although he could do with adding a little extra bulk (his frame will carry it).

Has nice speed and athleticism to rush the passer. Also has some excellent pass rushing moves which he has developed as his college career has progressed. He had outstanding bend around the edge. Will work hard and hustle to make a play even if his initial pass rush is halted. Malone also has a knack for forcing fumbles.

Isn't a dominant player against the run where he lacks some size and strength to keep offensive linemen off of him. Also struggles to track runners down from behind when plays are run away from him or by misdirection. Is an all-out effort guy who keeps going all day. Can contribute on special teams coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 62 games, with 53 starts, in his career at Western Kentucky - notching up 34 sacks (all-time school leader), with 349 tackles (179 solo), including 60 tackles for a loss (2nd in school history). Also had 9 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery, 1 interception, 8 passes defended and 45 quarterback hurries. In addition, on special teams. He blocked 1 field goal and 1 extra point.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Conference USA Defensive Player of the Year. 2021 1st Team All-Conference USA. 2020 1st Team All-Conference USA. 2019 Conference USA defensive Player of the Year. 2019 1st Team All-Conference USA. 2018 Honorable Mention All-Conference USA.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very productive player throughout his college career
- Excellent pass rusher off the edge
- Likely projects to 3-4 OLB in the NFL
- Will need time to develop and learn nuances of position
- May start his NFL career as a situational player
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Michael Clemons (Texas A&M)

Edge19 4-3 DE

Size: 6-5, 263 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Played one year at the junior college level (2016) before transferring to Texas A&M. Has some injury history with Aggies, including a foot injury in 2018 which cost him the whole season and an ankle injury in 2020. Has also had some off field issues which may be of concern to NFL teams.

Clemons has a really nice combination of good size and athletic ability and has the look of a 4-3 defensive end in the NFL. He put that combination to really good use in 2021 as a fine pass rusher off the edge – showing improvement over previous seasons.

Isn't as strong against the run as he could, and this area will need some work to prevent him becoming a one dimensional player at the pro level. But he has shown some improvement in this facet of the game.

Likely a 4th or 5th round draft choice.

Isaiah Thomas (Oklahoma)

Edge20 4-3 DE

Size: 6-5, 266 **40:** 4.70 (combine)

Class: Senior

Thomas has good size and excellent length to be a 4-3 defensive end in the NFL - there may be teams, like the Packers for example, who like their outside linebackers to be his kind of size (e.g. Rashan Gary, Preston Smith) but generally speaking Thomas fits into the classic 4-3 DE mold.

Thomas has really good speed and quickness off the edge, and he uses these extremely well as a pass rusher. Has also developed some pass rush moves which compliment that athletic ability. All in all, he's productive in getting to the quarterback.

Isn't as effective against the run, where he lacks some strength and power and can get overwhelmed by big offensive tackles.

Has suffered some off the field issues, which may concern NFL teams. Nonetheless, with his pass rushing skills, Thomas should be off the board in the 4th or 5th round.

Tyreke Smith (Ohio State)



Edge21 OLB 3-4/4-3 DE

Size: 6-3, 254 **40:** 4.86 (combine)

Class: Senior

Smith lacks the ideal size to be a full-time 4-3 defensive end at the pro level and therefore likely either projects primarily as a pass rusher or he becomes a 3-4 outside linebacker. It will be interesting to see how NFL teams look at him.

Smith is a nice pass rusher who doesn't have explosiveness off the snap but has bend around edge coupled with some power and impressively a non-stop motor. This means that he comes coming on the pass rush, even if initially halted.

Lacks some strength when defending the run which limits his effectiveness and production in this facet of the game. Will also struggle to disengage once offensive lineman have a grip on him.

The ability to rush the passer is always at a premium in the NFL and, despite other flaws, it wouldn't be a surprise to see Smith selected somewhere in the middle rounds – likely round 4 or 5.

Jesse Luketa (Penn State)

Edge22

Size: 6-3, 253 **40:** 4.89 (combine)

Class: Senior

Born in Ottawa, Canada. Luketa had a fine performance at the Senior Bowl which likely saw him jump up boards or even appear on some team's radars for the first time. However, it's quite difficult to exactly tell where he fits in the NFL. Has some of the pass rushing skills and the size to be a 3-4 outside linebacker and yet he appears to lack the explosive first step quickness to play that role full-time – therefore may be better playing as 4-3 outside linebacker.

Luketa plays well against the running game in his area, using his strength and power to release from blockers and make the tackle. Is disciplined in setting the edge against the outside running game. However, again his lack of outright speed means Luketa won't run many plays down from behind.

Luketa has some pass coverage experience, but whichever position he ends up in it likely means that he is going to have some development work to do in this regard. Will probably be a day 3 draft choice (round 4 or 5).

Jeffrey Gunter (Coastal Carolina)

Edge23 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-4, 258 **40:** 4.70 (combine)

Class: Senior

Gunter played in a kind of hybrid outside linebacker-defensive end at Coastal Carolina – a position that the team calls their “bandit”. In the NFL, Gunter looks like an 3-4 outside linebacker.

For that NFL OLB spot, Gunter has a great combination of size, quickness, and athletic ability. He is really effective at finding his way into offensive backfield, as both a pass rusher and in chopping down RBs before they get started. He does need to find a way of converting QB pressure into more sacks. Has the outstanding habit of separating QBs and RBs from the football.

Has some issues with the running game straight him or to his outside. Needs to become more disciplined. Wasn't overly used in pass coverage but his athletic ability and agility helps him in this area.

Playing outside the Power 5 conferences, Gunter needed to really make his mark to get draft notice – and he did that. Whilst he still has a lot of developing as a player to do, he does have a number of positives and some upside.

We should expect teams to be looking at him sometime on day 3 (round 4 or round 5).

Alex Wright (UAB)

Edge24 4-3 DE

Size: 6-5, 271 **40:**

Class: Junior

Wright has great size and especially great length. He is really nice athlete with an explosive first step and really quick burst at the snap of the football. Knows how to get to the quarterback. Needs work playing the run.

As a 3 year, true junior it was perhaps slightly surprising that he opted to declare for this draft. It seems that he may have been selected higher in the draft after another year of development and production in college.

Looks like he projects to be a 4-3 defensive end in the NFL, although he actually fits the size profile of a Packers edge guy (outside linebacker) like Rashan Gary.

Will likely be off the board on day 3 (round 6 or 7).

Christopher Allen (Alabama)



Edge25 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-3½, 241 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Allen played in just a part of one game in 2021 before a broken foot ended his season. This was the second major injury of his Crimson Tide career, having also missed the 2018 season due to injury. Had the opportunity to return to Alabama for the 2022 season as a "Super Senior" but perhaps somewhat surprisingly decided to enter the draft now, off the back of that 2021 injury.

When fully fit, Allen is a fine all-round player – with ability rushing the passer, playing the run, and dropping back in coverage. Is a nice athlete with decent size and some power and strength. Probably projects to an OLB spot in the 3-4 in the NFL.

Had Allen been able to play injury free in 2021 and repeated his 2020 form, then he would have probably been selected around round 3 or 4 of this draft. As it is, Allen will likely get selected in round 6 or 7.

Tyree Johnson (Texas A&M)

Edge26 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-2½, 248 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Johnson is slightly undersized for a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL but he stills fits this position best. He is a fine pass rusher off the edge who has improved in this facet of his game in each year he has spent with the Aggies. He has a number of ways to get into the backfield – these include an explosive first step and a bend around the edge. Spending all of that time in the offensive backfield also means that Johnson has also picked up a fair number of tackles for loss.

The downside to Johnson's game is mainly in his run defense. He struggles with power at the point of attack, and he can be pushed backwards and sometimes overwhelmed. Also he will struggle to disengage from blockers and make plays along the line of scrimmage against the run.

Johnson's pass rush ability means that he should get drafted, but he will have to improve against the run to have a chance to be an every down player in the NFL. Right now he has the look of a situational pass rusher which means that he will probably be a either a 7th round draft choice or an undrafted free agent.

Tre Williams (Arkansas)

Edge27 4-3 DE/3-4 OLB

Size: 6-4, 253 **40:** 5.08 (combine)

Class: Senior

Williams played at Missouri from 2017-20, before transferring to Arkansas for his senior season. Had a nice 2021 season for the Razorbacks in which he started every game and had 6 sacks (he had 14.5 in his whole college career).

Unfortunately, Williams looks like the classic 'tweener, potentially stuck between two positions at the NFL level – 4-3 defensive end for which he is slightly smaller than the ideal size and 3-4 outside linebacker for which he is slightly slower than you would normally hope for.

Williams has a nice first step, getting off the snap really quickly and gets his hands up quickly to get leverage in the pass rush. Also has some developing pass rush moves.

Isn't as active against the run as he is as a pass rusher and this may mean that his best chance of making an NFL roster is as a situational player on passing downs, rushing off the edge.

Will probably be a either a 7th round draft choice or an undrafted free agent.

David Anenih (Houston)

Edge28 3-4 OLB

Size: 6-3, 254 **40:** 4.66 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Anenih is an experienced 3-year starter from the University of Houston who has really good speed and explosion off the edge which gives offensive tackles fits.

Anenih is a fine athlete, who played in both a 3-point stance and in a 2-point stance during his time as a Cougar. He looks most like a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL, although he possibly could be utilised as a situational pass rusher in a 40man front as a 4-3 defensive end.

Anenih has good size and converts that into decent strength and power which he uses to stand up well against the run. He still needs some work in this area and may need to learn to set the edge consistently.

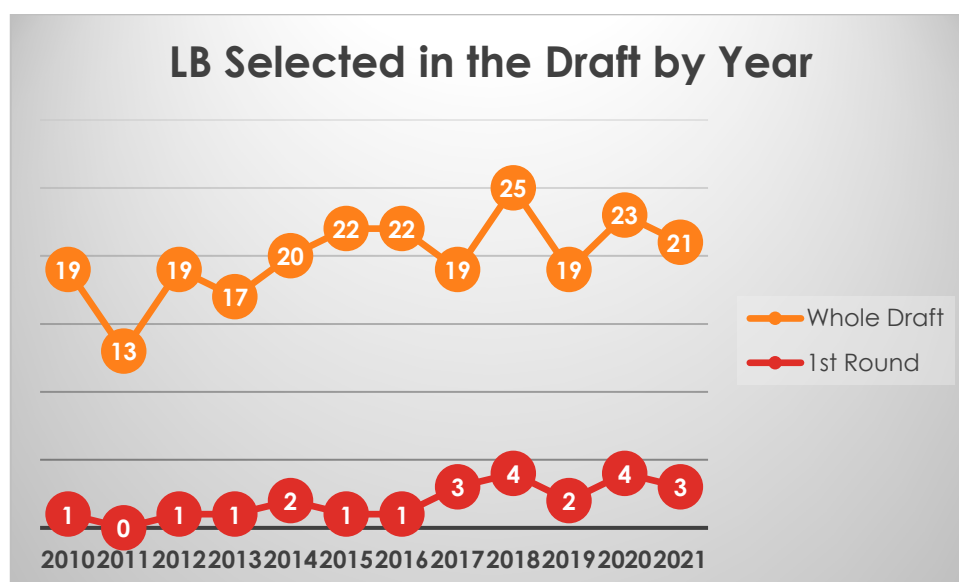
Anenih is one of those players who is borderline to be chosen in the draft. Will probably go undrafted.

LINEBACKERS

2022 General Draft Outlook: This class of linebackers is a solid group without looking like a class that will blow scouts away. Remember, this generally isn't a position that teams spend high first round draft picks on – unless the player under consideration is a 3 down player being able to fully contribute on passing downs.

Over the last 12 drafts, the average number of “off-the-ball” linebackers who have been selected in the first round is just below 2 and it looks very likely that the number selected in this draft is right at that number. Devin Lloyd and Nakobe Dean are two names that we should look for to be off the board on day 1.

The second group of players within this class i.e. those that may get selected on day 2 is a deep group and may consist of as many as 9 or 10 players – this is a group that includes Leo Chenal of Wisconsin. Day 3 may also see a similar number of players selected.



Packers Outlook: The Packers were able to come to a contract agreement with the 2021 star De’Vondre Campbell and will welcome him back along with Krys Barnes. Also returning will be reserve Ty Summers and 2021 draftee Isaiah McDuffie. Oren Burks has moved on in Free Agency

Given the return of Campbell, Green Bay likely won't be looking to select a player at this position in the 1st round, although the Badgers' Leo Chenal would be a very popular choice in round 2 or 3. The Packers will surely be looking to add depth to the roster, probably anywhere from round 3 onwards. Perhaps they will be looking at a player like Quay Walker or Troy Anderson on day 2 or further down the draft, Mike Rose, or D'Marco Jackson.

DID YOU KNOW?

The last time that the Packers selected an “off the ball” linebacker in the first round of the draft was 2006 – A.J. Hawk.

TOP LINEBACKERS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Devin Lloyd	LB	Utah	1
2.	Nakobe Dean	LB	Georgia	1
3.	Christian Harris	LB	Alabama	2
4.	Quay Walker	LB	Georgia	2
5.	Chad Muma	LB	Wyoming	2-3
6.	Leo Chenal	LB	Wisconsin	2-3
7.	Channing Tindall	LB	Georgia	3
8.	Troy Andersen	LB	Montana State	3
9.	Brian Asamoah	LB	Oklahoma	3
10.	Brandon Smith	LB	Penn State	3
11.	Darrian Beavers	LB	Cincinnati	4-5
12.	Jojo Domann	LB	Nebraska	4-5
13.	Damone Clark	LB	LSU	4-5
14.	Terrel Bernard	LB	Baylor	4-5
15.	Malcolm Rodriguez	LB	Oklahoma State	4-5
16.	Mike Rose	LB	Iowa State	4-5
17.	D'Marco Jackson	LB	Appalachian State	6-7
18.	Aaron Hansford	LB	Texas A&M	6-7
19.	Zakoby McClain	LB	Auburn	6-7
20.	Jack Sanborn	LB	Wisconsin	6-7
21.	Micah McFadden	LB	Indiana	6-7
22.	Jeremiah Gemmel	LB	North Carolina	6-7
23.	Jeremiah Moon	LB/Edge	Florida	6-7
24.	Ellis Brooks	LB	Penn State	6-7
25.	Chance Campbell	LB	Mississippi	7-UDFA
26.	Nate Landman	LB	Colorado	7-UDFA
27.	Nephi Sewell	LB	Utah	7-UDFA
28.	Josh Ross	LB	Michigan	7-UDFA
29.	Darien Butler	LB	Arizona State	UDFA
30.	Jake Hansen	LB	Illinois	UDFA
31.	Kyron Johnson	LB	Kansas	UDFA
32.	Carson Wells	LB	Colorado	UDFA
33.	Baylon Spector	LB	Clemson	UDFA
34.	James Skalski	LB	Clemson	UDFA
35.	Isaiah Graham-Mobley	LB	Boston College	UDFA
36.	Jack Gibbens	LB	Minnesota	UDFA
37.	Kadofi Wright	LB	Buffalo	UDFA
38.	Olakunle Fatukasi	LB	Rutgers	UDFA
39.	Colin Schooler	LB	Texas Tech	UDFA
40.	Avery Roberts	LB	Oregon State	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Grant Morgan	LB	Arkansas	UDFA
42.	Chandler Wooten	LB	Auburn	UDFA
43.	Noah Harvey	LB	Michigan State	UDFA
44.	Riley Whimpey	LB	Boise State	UDFA
45.	Diego Fagot	LB	Navy	UDFA
46.	Devin Harper	LB	Oklahoma State	UDFA
47.	James Patterson	LB	Buffalo	UDFA
48.	Silas Kelly	LB	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
49.	Jahad Woods	LB	Washington State	UDFA
50.	Jake Hummel	LB	Iowa State	UDFA
51.	Clarence Hicks	LB	UTSA	UDFA
52.	Dee Winters	LB	TCU	UDFA
53.	Khalan Tolson	LB	Illinois	UDFA
54.	Tyler Dressler	LB	Richmond	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Devin Lloyd (Utah)

LB1

Size: 6-3, 237 **40:** 4.66 (combine)

Class: Senior

Lloyd is "Mr. Do-It-All" from the inside linebacker spot. He is a team leader type who typically lines up in the mike spot, but has been used in a variety of ways, including as a coverage outside linebacker and as a stand up pass rusher off the edge. As with all really good linebackers, Lloyd plays with aggression and passion and loves to hit. His disappointing 40 time at the combine raised eyebrows because he appears much faster on the field.

Lloyd showed his athletic skills when he played multiple positions (wide receiver, running back, safety and punter) in high school. Once at Utah he converted from safety to linebacker for his second season (2018) and then earned a starting role in 2019. Had an outstanding 2021 season.

Against the run Lloyd uses his instincts to diagnose the play and speed to shoot the gap. Occasionally will overrun the play which is something he needs to work on. Will use his physicality to shrug off blockers and make the tackle on straight ahead plays. Has the range to get from sideline to sideline – and does.

Lloyd has the on-field speed and quickness to get to the passer, which is an added bonus to his outstanding skills against the run. Times up his pass rush excellently. Can cover running backs and tight ends, but perhaps needs a little more work in this area. Also has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games (32 starts) for the Utes, recording 256 tackles (150 solo), 43 tackles for a loss. Also had 5 interceptions (3 returned for scores), 8 passes defensed, 15.5 sacks, 1 fumble recovery and 2 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** AP Defensive Player of the Year. Butkus Award finalist. Lott Impact Trophy finalist. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. Pat Tillman Pac 12 Defensive Player of the Year Award winner. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2020** Butkus Award finalist. Pop Warner College Football Award finalist. Sporting News 2nd Team All-American. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Hugely versatile from the inside linebacker spot
- Boosted his draft position by returning for the 2021 season
- Combine performance was disappointing
- Will probably be the first off-the-ball linebacker chosen
- Expect Lloyd to be selected in the first 20 picks (or so) overall

Nakobe Dean (Georgia)

LB2

Size: 5-11, 229 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Is a dynamic, confident and aggressive team leader type who plays at 100 miles an hour all time. Is the type of player who raises the level of those around him. Lacking A1 size, which may be seen as a problem, but Dean is an intelligent LB who diagnoses and reacts quickly to what he sees.

Had a successful high school career winning the HS Butkus Award (nation's top LB) in his senior season. Was highly recruited and opted to attend Georgia over many offers from FBS schools. Contributed in 2019 as a reserve and on special teams before earning a starting LB role in 2020. Had an outstanding 2021 season.

Dean is an instinctive player against the run. Has excellent range getting from sideline to sideline and is very effective shooting the gap to cut down running plays before they get underway. Is a strong tackler with good technique. Can, on occasion, get caught up by blockers.

Is a very productive blitzing, who times his pass rush with precision. Has experience in covering TEs and RBs and is very effective in this area. It's possible that his size means that he could struggle to match up with big, physical receivers (e.g. TEs).

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games (25 starts) for Georgia, recording 168 tackles (89 solo), including 13.5 TFL. Also notched up 7.5 sacks, 45 QB hurries, 2 interceptions, 10 passes defended and 3 forced fumbles. Had 4 career games with 10+ tackles including a 15 tackles in a single game against Florida in 2020.

Injury Notes: Suffered a torn labrum in his right shoulder during the 2020 season but played through the injury. Had surgery to repair the tear early in 2021. Has no apparent ongoing issues with the shoulder. However did suffer a minor pectoral injury which limited him at Georgia's pro day.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Butkus Award winner. Lott Impact Trophy finalist. Wuerffel Trophy finalist. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. PFF Defensive Player of the Year. Unanimous 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** Butkus Award semi-finalist. **2019** Georgia Co-Defensive Newcomer of the Year Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks size
- Every down linebacker with great instincts
- Nice athlete
- Will be a day 1 starter in the NFL
- Will be the second linebacker selected
- Probably off the board in the first 20-25 picks

Christian Harris (Alabama)

LB3

Size: 6-0½, 226 **40:** 4.44 (combine)

Class: Junior

Harris may be a little undersized but he's an aggressive, physical player who is a tackling machine – he's a very good tackler and somebody who loves to hit. Is a read and react type player who shows a little burst but generally uses smarts and intelligence, rather than great athleticism, to be around the football and make the play.

Interestingly Harris probably showed a level of athleticism and speed working out at the combine that he hasn't always demonstrated on the field.

Harris was a high school wide receiver, tight end, defensive back, and kick returner who converted to linebacker at Alabama. He became an immediate starter at linebacker in 2019 - his true freshman season - and remained the starter for the remainder of his Crimson Tide career. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Has good experience in pass coverage and it showed at Alabama as he played really well in this facet of the game. Can also be used to rush the passer, where he know how to time up the blitz. Perhaps needs to make more big plays than he currently makes to be considered a difference maker but seems to be improving year on year. Team leader type.

Harris has played some of his best games in the biggest games – for example he had a huge game in the 2021 National Championship Game against Georgia in which he had 7 tackles, including 3 sacks, 4 tackles for a loss and 1 forced fumble.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 41 games for the Crimson Tide, recording 221 tackles (126 solo), including 27 TFL. Also had 10 sacks, 15 quarterback hurries, 1 interception, 7 passes defended, 3 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Butkus Award semi-finalist. Lombardi Award semi-finalist. **2020** Butkus Award semi-finalist. **2019** Freshman All-American. Freshman All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice athletic ability
- Developing player with skills and an upside
- Possibly projects to a 4-3 OLB spot in the NFL
- Will expect to win a starting job on day 1
- Probably a 2nd round selection.

Quay Walker (Georgia)

LB4

Size: 6-4, 241 **40:** 4.52 (combine)

Class: Senior

Full first name is Jaquavian. Attended high school in Georgia where he was an all-state performer and was highly recruited. Walker originally committed to Alabama, but eventually opted to stay in state and attend the University of Georgia.

After contributing as a reserve and on special teams in 2018 and 2019, Walker became a part-time starter for the Bulldogs in 2020. Earned the full-time starting role in 2021, having an excellent season. Received invitations to the Senior Bowl and the combine but was unable to take part in the Senior Bowl due to injury.

Walker is big – he has excellent size and great length for a linebacker. Along with his physical attributes he also has athleticism - really fine quickness and speed. Walker is very versatile being able to play the run, cover and rush the passer.

He is especially good against the run – Walker uses his instincts to diagnose plays very quickly and act as a disruptor, making the tackle. Is physical and tough and has the ability to shed blockers. Loves to hit.

Walker has been used to cover backs and tight ends and has ability in this area but needs some development here. Is an all-out effort, hard-working guy. Also has good special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 52 games (16 starts) for the Bulldogs, notching up 139 tackles (81 solo), with 11 tackles for a loss. Also had 5 sacks, 41 quarterback hurries, 3 passes defended and 1 fumble recovery. Had a big game in the 2021 National Championship Game, recording 8 tackles and 6 quarterback pressures.

Injury Notes: Was unable to take part in the Senior Bowl in early February due to injury but put this behind him with a nice performance at the combine.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AFCA 2nd Team All-American. **2019** Georgia Co-Defensive Most Improved Player Award winner. **2018** Georgia Co-Special Teams Defensive Newcomer of the Year Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great size and speed combination
- Walker was underrated because he played alongside Nakobe Dean
- Lots of potential
- Will compete for a starting spot as a rookie
- Should be a 2nd round draft choice

Chad Muma (Wyoming)

LB5

Size: 6-3, 242 **40:** 4.63 (combine)

Class: Senior

Mainly played safety at high school in Colorado. Opted to attend Wyoming to play college football – where both his father and grandfather also played. Converted to LB and after two productive seasons as a rotational player and on special teams, Muma became a starter in his junior (2020) season. Was the starter again in 2021, when he had an outstanding season – earning All-American notice.

Is a team leader type with good size and physicality. Isn't necessarily an out and out athlete but he makes up for that with other skills. Is an intelligent reader of the game who diagnoses plays and reacts very quickly to what's in front of him. Gets around the football thanks to that intelligence and those fast reactions.

Muma is aggressive and plays tough against the run and is an outstanding wrap-up tackler who also loves to lay a hit on ball carriers – in fact if you called him a tackling machine you would be right. Muma uses his strength and physicality to shake off would-be blockers to get to the ball carrier. Plays hard with effort on every play. Muma hustles to the football and will use his athletic skills to chase plays down from behind.

Muma is an experienced and consistent operator in pass coverage, with the ability to cover tight ends and backs in the underneath areas – although he can struggle to cover the fastest players at these positions.

Has experience playing special teams.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 43 games for Wyoming, recording 254 tackles (142 solo), including 11 tackles for a loss. Also had 4 sacks, 3 interceptions (returning 2 for touchdowns), 6 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Suffered a torn patella tendon in high school, but seemingly has no long lasting effects from it.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Butkus Award finalist. AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Mountain West Conference. **2020** 1st Team All-Mountain West Conference.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Every down linebacker
- Fine performance at Senior Bowl, helping his draft chances
- Very good testing at the combine
- Will compete for a starting spot as a rookie
- Should be a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Leo Chenal (Wisconsin)

LB6

Size: 6-3, 250 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Junior

Chenal had a highly decorated high school career in Grantsburg, Wisconsin, being very productive playing both running back and linebacker. Not surprisingly, he opted to stay in state and become a Wisconsin Badger. Became a contributor for the Badgers in his true freshman season (2019) before earning a starting linebacker role in 2020 and 2021.

Garnered some All-American recognition for his outstanding 2021 season which perhaps prompted Chenal to go ahead and declare for the 2022 draft as an underclassman. Leo's brother John, a fullback also from Wisconsin, is also entering the draft.

Chenal has good size to play at inside linebacker in the NFL. Plays downhill and is a disruptive player against the run who will shoot the gaps and make tackles in the offensive backfield. Is an intelligent diagnoser of plays who plays aggressively down in, down out. Is strong, tough and extremely physical – will fight through blocks to get to the ball carrier. Can occasionally overrun a play.

Chenal can be a little inconsistent in the passing game. He will drop nicely in zone coverage and has some ability to cover backs and tight ends short but can have difficulties with some routes and speed and when trying to find the football.

Chenal can be used to blitz from the inside. He times up the pass rush extremely well to get to the QB and can also overpower pass blocking backs if required.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 25 games for the Badgers, recording 178 tackles (106 solo), including 25.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 sack, 1 interception, 1 pass defensed and 3 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history. Missed 2 games in 2021 (Covid).

Honours & Awards: 2021 Butkus Award finalist. 2021 Butkus-Fitzgerald Big 10 Linebacker of the Year Award winner. 2021 AP 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Every down linebacker
- Excellent run defender who is underrated in pass coverage
- Better athletic ability and speed than given credit for
- Had an excellent combine and pro day
- May well become a starter as a rookie
- Should be a 2nd or 3rd round draft choice

Channing Tindall (Georgia)

LB7

Size: 6-2, 230 **40:** 4.47 (combine)

Class: Senior

Tindall played his high school football in South Carolina but turned down the opportunity to become a South Carolina Gamecock and instead chose to play his college ball at the University of Georgia (he also had visits with Florida and Clemson). Contributed as a reserve for three seasons (2018-2) for the Bulldogs, before becoming a starter in 2021.

Tindall has great speed and decent size to be a pro linebacker. He is an exceptional all-round athlete with outstanding speed and acceleration. Tindall reads and diagnoses plays well and will shoot the gap to cut down running plays in the backfield.

Tindall has the range and acceleration to get from sideline to sideline with velocity. He also has decent physicality and the strength to enable him to fight off blockers in order to make the tackle. And he is a very good tackler, who likes to hit. Lacked experience in pass coverage entering the 2021 season but Tindall has learned on the job. Is improving in this area, and has some nice skills, but still has a way to go.

Is a very fine nice pass rusher – Tindall times up the blitz nicely. Can shoot through the A Gap to get to the quarterback and also has some skills in rushing off the edge. Is a real threat in this area. Has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: In 50 games for Georgia, Tindall recorded 108 tackles (54 solo), including 16.5 TFL. Also had 12 sacks, 29 quarterback hurries and 1 forced fumble. Had 3 sacks, 8 tackles and a forced fumble in an outstanding game against Tennessee in 2021. Also had a big game in the CFP National Championship against Alabama, recording 8 tackles, 1.5 TFL, 1 sack and 5 quarterback pressures.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 2nd Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Just one year as a starter - but was excellent
- Can play the run, rush the passer and drop into coverage
- Lots of potential and upside
- Will challenge for a starting role maybe in year 2
- Should be a 3rd round draft choice

Troy Andersen (Montana State)

LB8

Size: 6-3½, 243 **40:** 4.42 (combine)

Class: Senior

Andersen was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Montana, taking part in track and field and playing basketball as well as football. Played both sides of the ball on the football team, excelling as both a multi-purpose quarterback and as a safety. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at Montana State.

Is one of the most versatile of football players you could ever imagine, following on from his high school career, here's how his college career went position wise:

- 2017 – Part-time starter at running back and linebacker
- 2018 – Starter at quarterback
- 2019 – Played fullback and linebacker
- 2020 – Sat out due to injury
- 2021 – Starter at linebacker

As you would image from his versatility, Andersen is an outstanding athlete with great speed for a linebacker – as shown by his 4.42 time in the 40 at the combine.

Plays downhill, shooting the gap and is also a nice pass rusher from the inside. Has improved in coverage to the point where he's really good. Plays hard, down in and down out. Gets caught out sometimes due to over eagerness and others due to indecision but this is only to be expected given his lack of playing position consistency.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 50 games (35 starts) for the Bobcats. Recorded 217 tackles (134 solo), 11.5 sacks and 3 interceptions. Passed for 1,200 yards and 4 touchdowns (7 interceptions) and rushed for 1,835 yards and 33 touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Missed the 2020 season due to injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Buchanan Award finalist. William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. Big Sky Defensive Player of the Year. FCS All-American. **2018, 2019 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big Sky. **2017** Big Sky Freshman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Played multiple positions
- Very athletic
- Excellent week at the Senior Bowl - extra important because played at the FCS level
- Outstanding in testing at the combine
- Should eventually develop into a starter
- Likely a 3rd round draft choice

Brian Asamoah (Oklahoma)

LB9

Size: 6-0, 226 **40:** 4.56 (combine) 4.56 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Like many players, Asamoah played both offense and defense in high school before committing to Oklahoma to play his college ball. Redshirted his first year at Oklahoma (2018), before contributing in 2019 and becoming a full time starter in 2020. Had a good season in 2021. Asamoah sat out of the Alamo Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to start his preparation for the draft – he declared for the draft as an underclassman.

Asamoah is a very intelligent player who is a little undersized for a pro linebacker - but he plays with athleticism, speed, and excellent acceleration. Is able to shoot the gap between the center and guard and tackle the ball carrier in the backfield. Asamoah will also use his acceleration to chase down running backs from behind.

Asamoah also plays with range, getting from sideline to sideline. Lack of some physical ability and strength shows up in his difficulty in shedding blocks from offensive linemen. Will also occasionally miss tackles, not fully wrapping up on strong runners.

Asamoah has some nice coverage skills on backs and tight ends, although he can get out-muscled by physical receivers (tight ends). Lack of height also hurts him here. Asamoah drops into zone nicely, with smooth movement and identifies plays unfolding in front of him. Has some skills in rushing the passer and getting to the quarterback on the occasional blitz.

Has good experience playing on special teams coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Asamoah played in 37 games (19 starts) for the Sooners, recording 179 tackles (100 solo), including 13 TFL. He also had 5 sacks, 7 QB hurries, 1 interception, 5 pass break-ups and 3 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Butkus Award semi-finalist. 2nd Team All-Big 12. 2021 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. **2020** 2nd Team Academic All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Productive career, especially against the run
- Lacks ideal size
- Really good week at the Senior Bowl
- Should challenge for a starting role during his first 2 seasons
- Likely a 3rd round draft choice

Brandon Smith (Penn State)

LB10

Size: 6-3½, 250 **40:** 4.52 (combine)

Class: Junior

Smith's productive high school career was capped by an outstanding senior season in which he was selected 1st team all-region and was named the Gatorade Player of the Year in Virginia. He visited a number of colleges before choosing to commit to Penn State. Played throughout his true freshman season (2019) for the Nittany Lions, before being a starter in 2020 and 2021 – having two very good seasons. Opted to declare for this draft as an underclassman. Smith could possibly be the latest in a long line of Penn State linebackers to be drafted, most recently Micah Parsons in 2021.

Smith is an aggressive, team leader type who plays with high energy throughout – game in, game out. He has really great size for an off-the-ball linebacker, and he is a truly outstanding athlete. He is really quick and has the speed and range to get all over the field.

Smith can be a really strong defender against the run, using his speed and quickness to play downhill and shoot through gaps. Is excellent chasing runners down from behind and will face up to stop running plays right at him – although he does need to improve his tackling. Sometimes, Smith can be drawn out of a play by misdirection – so his speed is really helpful in making up for not anticipating or diagnosing the play correctly.

Smith is able to cover backs and receivers when asked to drop back to drop back in coverage. Uses his excellent speed to keep pace with athletic receivers (backs and tight ends). Smith's pass coverage ability means that he's a multi-dimensional player who can be used in different ways.

College Stats & Highlights: Smith played 34 games for the Nittany Lions, recording 132 tackles (68 solo), including 14 TFL. He also notched up 2 sacks, 5 QB hurries, 1 interception, 7 passes defended, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Super versatile off the ball linebacker
- Looks like he has a big upside
- Has the athletic and physical skills to contribute as a rookie
- May challenge to start
- Likely a 3rd round draft choice

Darrian Beavers (Cincinnati)

LB11 **ILB**

Size: 6-4, 237 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Super Senior

Like many in high school, Beavers played on both sides of the ball – being effective at both safety and WR, as well as taking part in other sports – basketball and track. Having played his high school ball in Cincinnati, he opted to attend college at Connecticut, where he converted to DE. However, after playing 2 years at Connecticut Beavers transferred back home to the University of Cincinnati. Was a starter for each of his three seasons as a Bearcat at the OLB spot. Was really good in 2021, earning All-Conference honours.

Beavers has really good size to play as an off-the-ball linebacker in the NFL. His frame could even bear adding a few more pounds. Beavers is an extremely intelligent and very versatile player who has lined up in a number of positions during his college career.

Beavers is a decent athlete with nice size and strength and couples these attributes with decent mobility – however, he's much more effective on plays run at him than he is having to track plays from sideline to sideline. His aforementioned strength enables him to shake off blockers and make the play.

Is inconsistent but improving in pass coverage. Beavers has a nice drop in pass coverage – finding his spot in the zone. However, he can struggle when required to cover backs or tight end in man or through the zone. Can be beaten by speedy or athletic receivers. Beavers has demonstrated some skills in rushing the passer. Will time the blitz extremely effectively.

College Stats & Highlights: In his 3 seasons at Cincinnati, he played in 28 games (24 starts), recording 193 tackles (106 solo), with 21 TFL. Also had 7.5 sacks, 5 QB hurries, 3 interceptions, 6 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

In his two years at UConn, Beavers played in 24 games (6 starts), notching up 38 tackles, including 7.5 tackles for a loss and 7 sacks.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** Butkus Award finalist. 1st Team All-AAC. **2020** 2nd Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent run stuffer
- Improving in pass coverage
- May develop into an every down linebacker
- Likely back-up and special teams player as a rookie
- Likely a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Jojo Domann (Nebraska)

LB12

Size: 6-1, 228 **40:** 4.62 (combine) 4.60 (pro day)

Class: Super Senior

Played both sides of the football in high school – starring at both wide receiver and safety and earning the Gatorade State Player of the Year Award for Colorado in 2016. Opted to attend college at Nebraska. Became a full time starter at outside linebacker in 2020 after contributing for 3 seasons (and redshirting 1) at both safety and linebacker and on special teams. Had an excellent 2021 season in which he received some All-American notice.

Domann is very versatile – having played both linebacker and safety. He is a really undersized to play linebacker in the NFL - although he did put on a little bit of weight as a Cornhusker to facilitate playing on the second line of defense. Also lacks ideal speed.

Despite the lack of all-out speed, Domann is very athletic. He will often line up opposite the slot receiver and he is excellent in pass coverage. Improving as a run defender. Knows how to time up the blitz and get to the passer. Has a great knack of forcing fumbles. Domann is a very smart football player. Domann has special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 51 games (24 start) in his Cornhuskers' career, recording 209 tackles (133 solo), including 25.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 5.5 sacks, 2 interceptions, 18 passes defensed, 9 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries. Had 4 career games with 10+ tackles, including 13 in the game against Purdue in 2021.

Injury Notes: Twice had ACL surgery in 2017. Suffered a stress fracture in his back in 2018. Underwent surgery near the end of the 2021 season to repair a ruptured tendon in a finger.

Honours: **2021** Lott Impact Trophy quarter-finalist. AP 2nd Team All-American. 2nd Team All-Big 10. Nebraska Defensive MVP. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2018** Academic All-Big 10. **2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020** Tom Osborne & Brook Berringer Citizenship Teams. **2016, 2018 & 2020** Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury history
- Hybrid linebacker-safety type
- Lacks ideal size and speed
- Likely a back-up LB and special teams player as a rookie
- Probably a 4th or 5th round draft choice

Damone Clark (LSU)



LB13

Size: 6-2½, 239 **40:** 4.57 (combine)

Class: Senior

Unfortunately, we have to start our look at Clark by noting that he underwent spinal fusion surgery in March, on a herniated disk that was reportedly discovered by an MRI at the combine. Clark will probably miss the whole of the 2022 season as he recovers but is expected to make a full recovery and return to football.

Is a well-built LB who utilised his excellent athleticism in HS to play multiple positions – WR, TE, S and LB. The chance to play his college ball close to home at LSU was too good to turn down. Was an immediate contributor for the Tigers, providing both LB depth and ST prowess. Became a starter in his junior season (2020), before having an outstanding 2021.

Clark is a really nice athlete with good speed and agility. He utilises his previously acquired defensive back skills (from high school) demonstrating his excellence in coverage. Most running backs coming out of the backfield get little change in his area. Clark is also a very good pass rusher who times up the blitz nicely.

Clark plays with great football smarts, being able to diagnose and disrupt running plays quickly. He has a nose for the football – seemingly always being around it. He is a fine tackler who also has a knack for making the big play. Clark is strong, tough, and aggressive and utilises those skills to get loose from offensive linemen who get their hands on him. For all the skills that Clark has, he can be inconsistent.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games (20 starts), recording 248 tackles (133 solo) with 23.5 TFL, 10 sacks, 1 interception, 5 passes defended, 1 fumble recovery and 2 forced fumbles. Had 10 career games with 10+ tackles. Racked up 135 tackles in 2021 season, including 18 tackles in a single game against Ole Miss.

Injury Notes: Had no reported major injury history until the current injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Butkus Award finalist. Lott Impact Trophy semi-finalist. Sporting News & Walter Camp 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury almost certainly keeps him out of 2022 season
- Still has chance to eventually be an NFL starter
- Good ability and athleticism but very inconsistent
- Probably projects to a 4-3 OLB or 3-4 ILB in the pros
- Draft stock falling because of injury - Probably drops a couple of rounds to be a 4th or 5th round pick

Terrel Bernard (Baylor)

LB14

Size: 6-1, 224 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Bernard had a fine high school career where he earned All-State recognition and he received a number of college offers from FBS schools. Opted to stay in his home state of Texas and attend Baylor. Played just 2 games in his first season for the Bears (2017) before missing the rest through injury. Became a part-time starter in 2018, before earning a starting job for good in 2019. Finished his career with two excellent seasons (2020 and 2021).

Bernard is a vastly experienced player (31 starts at the college level). And he has some versatility having played both at middle linebacker and at weakside linebacker. Is undersize though and lacks the ideal length for a linebacker.

Bernard is a tough tackler who plays downhill with some speed. Reads and diagnoses plays well. Is a tackling machine. Works hard and plays all-out on every down. Lots of hustle.

Bernard has some decent skills in the passing game. Has shown good ability in coverage, although he will struggle if matched up with tight ends. Drops well into zone coverage and will find the football in the air. Can also rush the passer. Times up the blitz well and uses his burst to get to the quarterback.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 45 games (31 starts) for Baylor. Finished his career with 320 tackles (173 solo), including 22.5 TFL. Also had 12 sacks, 3 fumble recoveries, 3 interceptions and 11 passes defensed. In the last game of his college career, in the Sugar Bowl, Bernard had an incredible 20 tackles and 2 sacks.

Injury Notes: Suffered a foot injury in 2017, limiting his season to just 2 games – which then redshirted. Suffered a shoulder injury during the 2020 season which saw him miss the last few games of the season. Came back with no ill-effects in 2021.

Honours & Awards: **2022** Sugar Bowl MVP. **2021** Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year Award semi-finalist. 1st Team All-Big 12. DCTFB Texas Best LB. DCTFB All-Texas 1st Team. **2020** Pop Warner College Football Award finalist. 2nd Team All-Big 12. **2019** 2nd Team All-Big 12. 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. DCTFB All-Texas Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks ideal size to be an every down LB in the NFL
- Could be that he'll be a hybrid LB-Safety on passing downs
- Has some injury concerns
- Likely back-up and special teams player as a rookie
- Likely a 4th or 5th round pick

Malcolm Rodriguez (Oklahoma St)



LB15

Size: 5-11, 232 **40:** 4.52 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Multi-sport athlete in high school in Oklahoma, including being State wrestling champion in his junior and senior years. Was also a standout quarterback (passing for more than 6,000 yards and rushing for more than 2,000) and safety in high school but didn't get many offers from FBS schools – however, one of those was close to home and he chose to stay in state to go to college at Oklahoma State. Started life at OSU at safety before switching to linebacker prior to the 2019 season.

Rodriguez is an extremely experienced (59 games) player having played an extra year as a Super Senior. He is an intelligent, cerebral, hard-working player who anticipates plays well. At 5-11, Rodriguez lacks the ideal height for a linebacker, however he is very strong and powerful and has decent speed. Likes to make the big hit, rather than wrap up securely. Plays better downhill than in space.

Only occasionally used to rush the passer. Rodriguez is willing in pass coverage but needs work. Is around the football a lot and has a knack for forcing fumbles. Good special teams player.

College Stats & Highlights: 59 games, 47 starts. Finished his career at OSU with 398 tackles, including 250 solos and 41 tackles for a loss. Also had 7.5 sacks, 8 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries, 2 interceptions, 11 pass break-ups and 20 quarterback hurries. Had 17 career games at the college level with double digit tackles. Led the Big 12 in tackles in 2021 (119). This total included 15 tackles against Missouri State in the 2021 opener.

Injury Notes: No known major injury history,

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP & FWAA 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 12. **2020** 2nd Team All-Big 12. Butkus Award semi-finalist. 2nd Team Academic All-Big 12. **2019** OSU Defensive POTY (Leslie O'Neal Award). 2nd Team All-Big 12. **2018** Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks height and length which may concern pro scouts
- May find himself between positions - 3-4 ILB or 4-3 OLB or even safety
- Huge level of production on defense and special teams
- Needs to improve tackling
- Excellent workout at the combine helped his pro chances
- Likely back-up and special teams player as a rookie
- Likely a 4th or 5th round pick

Mike Rose (Iowa State)

LB16 3-4 ILB/4-3 OLB

Size: 6-4, 245 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Played both football and basketball in high school. Earned All-Conference and All-District honours on the football field. Opted to attend Iowa State to play his college football. Became the starter at linebacker in the first game of his true freshman season – and remained as the starter through the rest of his college career. Garnered lots of all-star recognition throughout his college career.

Great size and length to play LB in the NFL. Very intelligent with football smarts but doesn't appear to have outstanding athleticism. Is solid against the run - diagnoses plays well and is very active on plays happening in front of him. Has the strength to shrug off blockers and make the play. Lacks great athleticism and speed and can struggle if he has to chase plays down or change direction.

inconsistent in pass coverage – will come up with a number of big plays, but at other times can look a bit lost. Biggest difficulty is generally against speedy and agile backs coming out of the backfield. Knows how to shoot the gap on the blitz and can also use his physicality to challenge offensive linemen.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 49 games (all starts) for Iowa State, had 321 tackles (170 solo) including 41 TFL. Also had 9.5 sacks, 6 interceptions, 14 passes defended, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery which he returned for a touchdown. Rose's 5 interceptions in 2020, were the most by a LB in a single season in school history.

Injury Notes: Suffered a shoulder injury during the 2021 season that he was able to come back and play from. Was scheduled to undergo surgery in early 2022 but should be ready to go soon.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Lombardi Award finalist. The Athletic & Phil Steele 1st Team All-American. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-Big 12. 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. **2020** Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. Big 12 Defensive POTY. USA Today 1st Team All-American. Greater **2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. 1st Team Academic All-Big 12. **2018** FWAA & The Athletic Freshman All-American. 247Sports True Freshman All-American. Honorable Mention All-Big 12. Dury Moss Outstanding Newcomer Award. Academic All-Big 12 Rookie Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Nice combination of size and skills
- Solid all-round linebacker
- Likely a back-up and special teams player as a rookie
- Likely a 6th or 7th round pick

D'Marco Jackson (Appalachian St)

LB17 3-4 ILB/4-3 OLB

Size: 6-1, 233 **40:** 4.55 (combine)

Class: Senior

Jackson's cousin, running back Maurice Morris, was a second round draft choice of the Seattle Seahawks in 2002. Like Morris, Jackson also played his high school football in South Carolina, where he had a solid career without garnering huge notice. Didn't receive any scholarship offers from the "big" FBS football schools and opted to attend Appalachian State in North Carolina.

Jackson redshirted his freshman season before contributing as a reserve linebacker and special teams guy in 2018. As a sophomore in 2019 he became a part-time starter at inside linebacker before winning a full-time starting role in 2020. Was the starter again in an outstanding 2021 – earning Conference Defensive Player of the Year honours.

Lacks the A1 size to play ILB in the NFL but does have some nice athletic ability. Jackson is solid against the run, playing downhill with speed and intent, although he lacks some strength and can get tied up with blockers. Also will, on occasion, overrun or over pursue a play. Jackson has good range and the ability to get from sideline to sideline. Will run plays down from behind. Is an excellent tackler.

Jackson is excellent in pass coverage, matching up really well with both running backs and tight ends. Takes good drops into zone coverage. Will find and fight for the football in the air. Jackson can also be used to rush the passer – he times up the blitz well, hitting the A gap with some speed and explosion. Has special teams coverage unit experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Jackson played in 53 games (32 starts) for the Mountaineers, recording 295 tackles (133 solo), including 35 tackles for a loss and 11.5 sacks. Also notched up 3 interceptions, 17 passes defended, 18 quarterback hurries, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Sun Belt Conference Defensive POTY. 1st Team All-Sun Belt Conf. Phil Steele 4th Team All-American. **2020** 2nd Team All-Sun Belt Conf.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced
- Productive player at the college level
- Lacks ideal size
- Tested really well at the combine
- Special teams experience helps his pro chances
- Probably projects to 4-3 LB in the NFL
- Likely a 6th or 7th round pick

Aaron Hansford (Texas A&M)

LB18

Size: 6-2, 239 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Hansford is a former wide receiver who switched to linebacker between the 2018 and 2019 seasons. Lacks a little length to be the ideal physical specimen on the inside in the NFL.

Hansford has good football intelligence, being able to diagnose what he sees and react accordingly with quickness. This helps him make a lot plays inside in the running game, where he is a solid tackler. Lacks the plus speed to consistently get to the outside, however.

Is ok in pass coverage but can be inconsistent when asked to cover backs or tight ends in man. Plays better dropping into zone. Has some pass rushing ability.

Played just 2 games in his true freshman season (2016) due to injury, then missed the whole of 2018 with a serious knee injury. Bounced back but teams will want to ensure that there are no long lasting medical concerns.

Teams will likely be looking at Hansford as a day 3 choice (round 6 or 7).

Zakoby McClain (Auburn)

LB19 **3-4 ILB/4-3 OLB**

Size: 5-11, 228 **40:** 4.69 (combine) 4.67 (pro day)

Class: Senior

McClain plays much bigger than his height (he's under 6 feet tall). He is a tackling machine who makes play after play in the running game and yet, his outstanding tackle numbers could be even larger if it weren't for the occasional miss. But all in all, he's a nice player against the run, who makes plays and gets around the football a lot.

He's inconsistent in pass coverage, will drop well into zone coverage and can cover some in man, but because he is so strong against the run, and appears to think run first, he can be caught out by play action – and he doesn't have the height or length to recover from that.

Despite his lack of size, McClain is good enough as an early down linebacker to get drafted at some point on day 3 (probably round 6 or 7). At the very least, McClain has a shot at making an NFL roster as a back-up and special teams contributor.

Jack Sanborn (Wisconsin)

LB20 3-4 ILB

Size: 6-2, 234 **40:** 4.73 (combine)

Class: Senior

Sanborn is a solid all-round inside linebacker who is consistent and reliable rather than spectacular. He is very slightly undersized for the position in the NFL and lacks the speed and quickness that you'd like to see.

Plays as a read and react linebacker against the run who can play downhill in order to make the play. He's generally a sound tackler but will struggle at times with ball carriers who are able to cut and change direction in front of him – he doesn't have the out and out athletic ability to mirror those moves.

Sanborn is disciplined in zone in pass coverage, where he takes the appropriate drop level. He can cover backs and tight ends short but may be challenged if those routes are extended.

Likely a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7) who will probably compete for a back-up role in the NFL.

Micah McFadden (Indiana)

LB21

Size: 6-1, 240 **40:** 4.63 (pro day)

Class: Senior

McFadden is very experienced inside linebacker who racked up some fine numbers at Indiana – 216 total tackles, 37 tackles for a loss, 14 sacks, 4 interceptions, 3 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery. Earned some All-Conference notice for his 2021 season performance.

McFadden plays tough against the run in the middle field – is particularly good defending any runs between the tackles. Likes to tackle and lay a hit on the ball carrier. Although he doesn't have great speed or athleticism he will play downhill and shoot through the A or B gap to make tackles in the backfield or put pressure on the passer.

Takes good drops into zone coverage but doesn't quite have the athletic skills to stay with backs or tight ends in man coverage. Therefore he quite possibly projects as an early down linebacker in the NFL who also plays on special teams coverage units.

Likely a day 3 selection (round 6 or 7).

Jeremiah Gemmel (N.Carolina)

LB22

Size: 6-1, 226 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Gemmel is a multi-year starter (38 starts) who plays with hustle and all-out effort on every down. He isn't known for his big play ability but rather for his consistency and reliability play in, play out.

Gemmel is a nice athlete with good speed and football intelligence. He diagnoses plays well and reacts to them with quickness, closing on the ball carrier to make the tackle. Can sometimes get tied up with blockers and traffic though, being taken out of the play.

Has had a number of nagging injuries during his career but generally has played through them. Underwent off-season surgery which prompted him not to take part in any of the work-outs at the combine.

Likely a day 3 selection (round 6 or 7).

Jeremiah Moon (Florida)



LB23 **MLB/3-4 OLB**

Size: 6-5, 249 **40:** 4.76 (combine) 4.89 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Moon's Florida career has been stop-start, injuries entwined with some promise. He unfortunately had three seasons cut short due to injury during his Gator career – 2016, 2019 and 2020. But was persistent and kept coming back. Was able to return for 2021 – his sixth college season, thanks to the NCAA's "Super Senior" Covid rule.

Converted from playing on the edge to the middle linebacker spot early in 2021 season, and this is perhaps where his shot at the surely where his shot in the NFL will come. Has some development to come at the position, especially dropping back into coverage. Has the size and quickness to play even up against the run.

Moon will always have his pass rushing background to help and fall back on – he may use these skills as a blitzer from the middle.

Will likely be a 6th or 7th round draft choice. Without the injuries he would surely have been selected earlier.

Ellis Brooks (Penn State)

LB24 4-3 MLB

Size: 6-1, 241 **40:** n/a

Class:

Brooks has a nice level of experience as a 4-year player and 2-year starter for the Nittany Lions. He is a consistent and reliable player, without being dynamic.

Brooks is well-built with a solid body but lacks the ideal height for a pro linebacker. Nonetheless, he played well as a middle linebacker when stuffing run plays. Brooks makes running inside a difficult task as he reads and reacts to the between the tackles run really well. Has improved making more plays to the outside.

Brooks has some skills in the passing game, but was inconsistent, particularly when covering backs and tight ends short. Has special teams coverage units experience.

Perhaps a little surprisingly, Brooks didn't earn an invite to the combine which perhaps give some indication as to how NFL teams view him. However, he has enough ability and upside to be a possible day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Chance Campbell (Mississippi)

LB25

Size: 6-2, 232 **40:** 4.57 (combine)

Class: Senior

After 3 solid years at Maryland, firstly as a back-up and special teams guy, Campbell transferred to Ole Miss for his Senior season and had the best year of his college career.

Campbell has average size for an NFL linebacker and doesn't have the athletic profile that scouts would like to see. However, if his outstanding 2021 season is anything to go by, Campbell can be more productive than his pure physical numbers would suggest he should be.

Campbell played particularly well close to the line of scrimmage, whether playing the run between the tackles or timing his pass rush well. Will read, react, and diagnose the play in front of him. Is a good tackler

Campbell is little less effective when asked to drop into zone coverage. This is an area of development for him.

Campbell has some potential and is likely a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Nate Landman (Colorado)

LB26 3-4 ILB

Size: 6-2½, 238 **40:** 4.86 (combine)

Class: Senior

Born in Harare, Zimbabwe. Son of former Zimbabwe international rugby union player Shaun Landman.

Nate Landman is a multi-year starter in college at the linebacker spot with ok size and athleticism, but not A1 in either area. He is a smart, read and react linebacker who uses his experience and knowledge to diagnose plays happening in front of him. Landman's game savvy allows him to make up for some lack of speed and quickness.

Takes reliable drops into zone but isn't as effective when he ends up in man coverage.

Unfortunately Landman has had some problems with injuries suffering a reported ruptured achilles tendon in 2020 and shoulder injury in 2021. On film, he didn't look quite as good in 2021 as previously but that may have been an injury carry over that resolves itself with time.

Likely a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Nephi Sewell (Utah)

LB27

Size: 5-11½, 226 **40:** 4.67 (combine)

Class: Senior

Nephi is the brother of last year's 1st round draft choice Penei Sewell (no.7 to the Lions). Nephi played in 23 games at Nevada (2017-18) before transferring to Utah.

Sewell was previously a safety before converting to linebacker, but at under 6-feet and 230 pounds, he lacks the size to play linebacker in the NFL and finds himself stuck between positions.

Sewell is a nice athlete, and as you would expect from somebody who played in the defensive backfield, his play in pass coverage is as good as you would expect from a linebacker. Struggles against the run somewhat, particularly in shedding himself from blocking offensive linemen.

He had a solid week at the Senior Bowl, and he has a chance of being a late round draft choice – round 6 or 7.

Josh Ross (Michigan)

LB28

Size: 6-0, 227 **40:** 4.79 (combine) 4.81 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Ross is a vocal, team leader type who plays with intelligence and smarts. Reads the game well and diagnoses and reacts to what's in front of him. He lacks the ideal size to be a full-time linebacker in the NFL and although he has some athletic ability and quickness, he doesn't demonstrate the level of speed that scouts would look for.

Ross plays tough against the run. Likes to get downhill and make the hit, although he needs to improve his tackling consistency. Can also be deceived by misdirection.

Ross is willing in pass coverage but can struggle. Anticipates the run so much that he will get caught out by RPOs and play action.

Has special teams coverage unit experience.

Followed a solid performance at the Senior Bowl, with an extremely disappointing showing at the combine. It's still likely that he'll be off the board in the latter rounds of the draft (round 6 or 7).

Darien Butler (Arizona State)

LB29

Size: 5-10, 221 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Butler is an undersized LB who makes plays. Always appears to be around the football and ended his ASU career with 243 total tackles (121 solo), including 24.5 tackles for a loss and 4 sacks. Also had 3 forced fumbles and 4 fumble recoveries.

Plays with ferocity against the run. The ferocity can sometimes work against him as he can overrun plays and get caught out by deception. Nonetheless, Butler plays with non-stop hustle and is all out on every play.

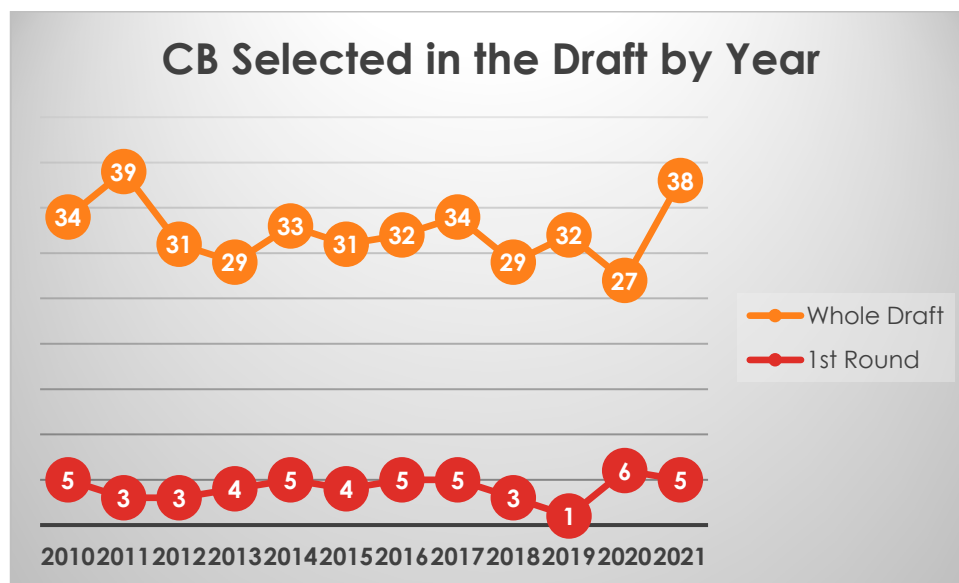
Has improved as a pass defender as shown by the 3 interceptions he had in 2021 (the only 3 of his college career). Also finished his college career with 7 passes defended (6 in 2021).

Lack of size and strength hurts Butler's draft chances and it's likely he goes undrafted.

CORNERBACKS

2022 General Draft Outlook: 2022 brings as a good class of cornerbacks led by Ahmad “sauce” Gardner of Cincinnati who should be a top 10 overall pick. He's probably move ahead of the long time no.1 tared corner in this draft, Derek Stingley Jr. Stingley's career has been injury impacted since his freshman season but he's still a real talent and shouldn't be too far behind Gardner in being selected.

The first round may feature anywhere between 2 and 4 more corners being selected – the likes of Trent McDuffie and Andrew Booth Jr. should be off the board by the time Day 1 is over. Day 2 and day 3 may then see another 8-10 cornerbacks being selected on each day.



Packers Outlook: With the re-signing of 2021 surprise star Rasul Douglas, the Packers have an excellent looking cornerback room led by Jaire Alexander, Eric Stokes and Douglas. Also in the room are recently signed free agent Keisean Nixon along with Shemar Jean-Charles and Kabion Ento.

Having lost Chandon Sullivan it's likely that the Packers will look to the corner position from the middle rounds onwards (even though they have signed Nixon). The big outsider for the Packers to select here is Marcus Jones of Houston. He's an outside bet because he's small and doesn't fit the Packers physical profile of a corner – but, and it's a big but, he's one of the most talented return men to come out in years.

More likely to be in play for the Packers further down the draft, could be Tariq Castro-Fields, Tariq Woolen (an absolute speedster) and Cam Taylor-Britt.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers have selected at least one Cornerback in 8 of the last 11 drafts.

TOP CORNERBACKS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Ahmad Gardner	CB	Cincinnati	1
2.	Derek Stingley Jr.	CB	LSU	1
3.	Trent McDuffie	CB	Washington	1
4.	Andrew Booth Jr.	CB	Clemson	1
5.	Kaiir Elam	CB	Florida	1-2
6.	Roger McCreary	CB	Auburn	1-2
7.	Kyler Gordon	CB	Washington	2
8.	Tariq Woolen	CB	UTSA	2-3
9.	Martin Emerson	CB	Mississippi State	2-3
10.	Coby Bryant	CB	Cincinnati	3-4
11.	Josh Jobe	CB	Alabama	3-4
12.	Cam Taylor-Britt	CB	Nebraska	3-4
13.	Derion Kendrick	CB	Georgia	3-4
14.	Tariq Castro-Fields	CB	Penn State	4-5
15.	Marcus Jones	CB	Houston	4-5
16.	Alontae Taylor	CB	Tennessee	4-5
17.	Akayleb Evans	CB	Missouri	4-5
18.	Mario Goodrich	CB	Clemson	4-5
19.	Zyon McCollum	CB	Sam Houston	4-5
20.	Mykael Wright	CB	Oregon	4-5
21.	Jalyn Armour-Davis	CB	Alabama	4-5
22.	Joshua Williams	CB	Fayetteville State	4-5
23.	Kalon Barnes	CB	Baylor	4-5
24.	Cordale Flott	CB	LSU	6-7
25.	Damarri Mathis	CB	Pittsburgh	6-7
26.	Jermaine Waller	CB	Virginia Tech	6-7
27.	Jaylen Watson	CB	Washington State	6-7
28.	Decobie Durant	CB	South Carolina State	6-7
29.	Isaac Taylor-Stuart	CB	USC	6-7
30.	Jack Jones	CB	Arizona State	6-7
31.	Chase Lucas	CB	Arizona State	6-7
32.	Josh Thompson	CB	Texas	7-UDFA
33.	Montaric Brown	CB	Arkansas	7-UDFA
34.	Vincent Gray	CB	Michigan	7-UDFA
35.	Chris Steele	CB	USC	UDFA
36.	Damarion Williams	CB	Houston	UDFA
37.	Gregory Junior	CB	Ouchita Baptist	UDFA
38.	DaMarcus Fields	CB	Texas Tech	UDFA
39.	Sam Webb	CB	Missouri Western St	UDFA
40.	Shaun Jolly	CB	Appalachian State	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Ja'Sir Taylor	CB	Wake Forest	UDFA
42.	Faion Hicks	CB	Wisconsin	UDFA
43.	Matt Hankins	CB	Iowa	UDFA
44.	Kyler McMichael	CB	North Carolina	UDFA
45.	Evan Fields	CB	Arizona State	UDFA
46.	Ja'Quan McMillian	CB	East Carolina	UDFA
47.	Brendan Bailey-Hiles	CB	Washington	UDFA
48.	Dallis Flowers	CB	Pittsburg State	UDFA
49.	Dishon McNary	CB	Central Michigan	UDFA
50.	Russ Yeast	CB	Kansas State	UDFA
51.	Taylor Hawkins	CB	San Diego State	UDFA
52.	Allie Green IV	CB	Missouri	UDFA
53.	Leonard Johnson	CB	Duke	UDFA
54.	T.J. Carter	CB	TCU	UDFA
55.	Sam Womack	CB	Toledo	UDFA
56.	Devin Taylor	CB	Bowling Green	UDFA
57.	DaRon Bland	CB	Fresno State	UDFA
58.	Josh Blackwell	CB	Duke	UDFA
59.	Kekaula Kaniho	CB	Boise State	UDFA
60.	Brandon Sebastian	CB	Boston College	UDFA
61.	Quandre Mosley	CB	Kentucky	UDFA
62.	Christian Benford	CB	Villanova	UDFA
63.	Tre Swilling	CB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
64.	David Rockette	CB	South Alabama	UDFA
65.	Adrian Frye	CB	Texas Tech	UDFA
66.	Darrell Baker Jr.	CB	Georgia Southern	UDFA
67.	De'Jahn Warren	CB	Jackson State	UDFA
68.	Trey Dean	CB	Florida	UDFA
69.	Bryce Watts	CB	Massachusetts	UDFA
70.	Caesar Williams	CB	Wisconsin	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Ahmad Gardner (Cincinnati)

CB1

Size: 6-3, 190 **40:** 4.41 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nicknamed "sauce". Played both cornerback and wide receiver in high school, where he was named 1st Team all-state (Michigan). Received multiple offers before opting to attend Cincinnati. Became an immediate starter at corner and had three outstanding seasons at Cincinnati, including an exceptional season in 2021 which earned him All-American selection.

Gardner is really big for a corner, with great length, but he is also an athlete. He has such excellent skills to go along with his size that he can be utilised in press man, off coverage, zone and even covering the slot receiver.

Thanks to his long stride, Gardner can cover receivers all over the field and will use his physicality to sneakily knock them off their routes. That combination of size and physicality also comes into play when he out-muscles receivers to get to the football. For a guy of his size, Gardner also has good closing speed to the football.

He doesn't quite have the interception numbers that some other defensive backs do, but that's because teams are throwing in Gardner's direction with much less frequency – he's just too good. Has been extremely consistent throughout his college career.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games for Cincinnati, recording 9 interceptions (2 returned for touchdowns) and 16 passes defended. Also notched up 99 tackles (68 solo) and 5.5 tackles for a loss. Scored a touchdown on a blocked field goal return in 2021.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Thorpe Award semi-finalist. 2021 Consensus 1st Team All-American. 2021 AAC Defensive Player of the Year. 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2020 FWA 1st Team All-American. 2020 1st Team All-AAC. 2019 PFF 3rd Team All-American. 2019 PFF, FWA & The Athletic Freshman All-American. 2019 1st Team All-AAC. 2019 ACC All-Academic Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- All the qualities to be a true shutdown corner in the NFL
- Outstanding athletic skills
- Great attitude and self confidence
- Will be a day 1 starter on the outside
- Should be the first corner chosen
- Should be off the board in the Top 10 picks overall

Derek Stingley Jr. (LSU)

CB2

Size: 6-0, 188 **40:** 4.37 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Grandson of former Patriots wide receiver Darryl Stingley and son of Arena League player Derek Stingley Sr. After being highly recruited out of high school, Derek Jr. opted for LSU, continuing the tradition of fine DBs from that school - a list that includes Tyrann Mathieu, Patrick Peterson and Jamal Adams.

Stingley had a brilliant freshman season at LSU in 2019 – immediately earning notice as a potential high round selection for the 2022 NFL draft. Unfortunately, he had injury affected seasons in 2020 and 2021. Opted to enter this year's draft as an underclassman.

Stingley has the size and length that you look for in a corner. Super talented shutdown corner – excellent in man coverage - will cover the opposition's top receiver all over the field. Stingley is very athletic and has top notch speed and equally as importantly, he transitions from backpedal to full running speed really quickly and smoothly.

Stingley also has short distance quickness and closing speed. Has really good hands and finds the football in the air, however he can on occasion be outfought and outmuscled for the football. This lack of strength sometimes shows up in his tackling. Has receivers hands and an abundance of self-confidence.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 25 games for LSU, starting in all of them. Stingley recorded 6 interceptions and 26 passes defensed. He also had 73 tackles (56 solo), 7 tackles for a loss and 2 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Stingley had a foot injury in 2021 that restricted his season to just 3 games. Injuries previously limited him to just 7 games in 2020.

Honours & Awards: **2020** AFCA 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2019** Consensus All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. SEC All-Freshman Team. SEC Newcomer of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Fantastically talented - skills and athleticism
- Injury history - has played just 10 games over the last 2 years
- Has never matched the production of his freshman season
- Huge potential
- Had a great pro day - running 4.37 in the 40
- Likely will be the second corner selected
- Should be off the board in the first 15 picks overall and will be a day 1 starter

Trent McDuffie (Washington)

CB3

Size: 5-11, 193 **40:** 4.44 (combine)

Class: Junior

Attended high school in California, where he ran some track (100m) as well as playing football. Committed to attend Washington to play at the collegiate level.

McDuffie earned a starting job at corner for the Huskies as a true freshman (2019) and remained the starter through the following two seasons. Earned some All-American notice for his 2021 season. Following the season, he opted to enter the draft as an underclassman. McDuffie will challenge Kyler Gordon to be the first Washington cornerback of the board in this draft.

Lacks the ideal size and length for a corner but isn't small. McDuffie is a developing, super smart corner with the ability to diagnose plays and close quickly. Is very aggressive and is an excellent tackler who liked to hit.

Very versatile – can line up in press man on the outside, in the slot, in off coverage and play zone. Is a good athlete with speed and a closing burst to the football. Finds the football in the air and will fight the receiver for it. However, he could do with some work on his hands.

Aside from playing corner, McDuffie is also a really good punt return guy – although most of his returning was done in his high school days.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 28 games (25 starts) for the Huskies, recording 2 interceptions and 10 passes defended. Also had 94 tackles (71 solo), 1.5 tackles for a loss, 3 forced fumbles and 3 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: Suffered a minor ankle injury during the 2021 season, missing 1 game. Came back with no apparent ill effects. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2020** 2nd Team All-Pac 12. **2019** PFF 2nd Team Freshman All-American. PFF 2nd Team Freshman All-Pac 12. Honorable Mention Pac 12 Freshman Defensive Player of the Year. Washington Travis Spring Mos Outstanding Freshman Award winner. Washington Chuck Niemi Big Hit Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Quickly developing corner with even more upside
- Very athletic
- Likely day 1 starter
- Skilled punt returner in high school
- Should be off the board in the middle of the 1st round

Andrew Booth Jr. (Clemson)



CB4

Size: 6-0, 194 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Booth was highly recruited out of high school in Georgia, where he was an all-state and all-region selection - opted to attend Clemson. Contributed as a part time starter and reserve in the nickel defense in his first two years at Clemson (2019-20), before becoming a full time starter in an outstanding 2021. His CB partner at Clemson, Mario Goodrich, is also a potential draftee this year.

Booth is a really good athlete, with acceleration and speed. Good versatility being able to play bump and run on the outside and in zone coverage. Has fluid hips and a smooth transition out of his backpedal. Booth also has enough foot quickness to cover slot receivers. Likes to be physical and aggressive in coverage. Finds the football in the air and makes a play on it, showing really good hands.

For all of his skills, Booth can occasionally be a little inconsistent. He isn't yet the finished article. Isn't the most polished of tacklers – needs to wrap up more. Has continued to improve and develop year on year. Has some dynamic returning ability from his high school days.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 35 games for Clemson (with 15 starts), recording 5 interceptions and 14 passes defensed. Also had 68 tackles (50 solo), 5.5 TFL, 1 sack and 1 fumble recovery that he returned for a touchdown.

Injury Notes: Suffered with a knee problem as a child, then had a niggling knee injury during HS (tendinitis) which continued into his first year at Clemson – was able to play through it. He then underwent surgery for a torn patellar tendon following the 2019 season - fortunately has no reported ongoing issues. Hopefully, the surgery has resolved his knee problems once and for all. Missed the testing at the combine due to a reported quad injury and then recently underwent surgery for a sports hernia injury - he should be ready to go by training camp.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Blanchard-Rodgers Trophy finalist. 2021 1st Team All-ACC. 2020 2nd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury history
- Very athletic
- Rapidly improving and still has lots of upside
- Dynamic kick returner in high school
- Should be a starter at some point in his rookie season
- Should be off the board in the first 20-25 picks overall

Kair Elam (Florida)

CB5

Size: 6-1½, 191 **40:** 4.39 (combine) 4.39 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Son of former NFL safety Abram Elam who had a 7 year pro career with the Cowboys, Jets, Browns and Chiefs. Kair was a multi-sport athlete in high school competing in basketball and track as well as in football. Had an incredible Senior season in high school when he intercepted 9 passes.

Opted to attend Florida, where he was a part time starter in 2019, before earning a full time starting role in 2020 and 2021. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman. If (when) drafted, Elam will be the next in the lineage of Gator defensive backs who have made it to the NFL – one of which was his uncle, Matt Elam, who was a 2013 1st round draft pick of the Ravens.

Elam has nice size, with good length and speed and acceleration. Uses his long stride to build speed and stay with receivers on deep routes - although in 2021 he was beaten deep a few times – something that wasn't there on earlier years' film. His speed was demonstrated at the combine when he ran an impressive 40. Has quick feet. Is good in both man and zone coverage, with an impressive transition out of his back pedal. Has improved at finding the football in the air.

Elam also brings some strength and physicality – won't be outmuscled. Sometimes his physicality gets the better of him and he gives up a few more penalties than you'd like to see. Generally, doesn't give up much separation. Is an aggressive but inconsistent tackler. Smart football player.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games for the Gators, with 26 starts. Recorded 6 interceptions and 26 passes defended. Also had 79 tackles (52 solo), 2.5 tackles for a loss and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Missed 3 games due to a knee injury in 2021. He came back to play seemingly with no ill-effects.

Honours & Awards: **2020** 1st Team All-SEC. Jim Thorpe Award semi-finalist. **2019** Freshman All-SEC Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great athletic ability with blazing speed
- Nice skillset
- Was inconsistent in 2021 - needs to bounce back from this
- Impressive at the combine
- May earn a starting job at some point in his rookie season
- Should be off the board in the 1st or 2nd round

Roger McCreary (Auburn)

CB6

Size: 5-11, 190 **40:** 4.50 (combine) 4.46 (pro day)

Class: Senior

McCreary had a nice high school career playing in multiple positions - defensive back, wide receiver and running back. Opted to attend Auburn to play football at the collegiate level. Played as a reserve and on special teams in his first two seasons as a Tiger (2018-19) before becoming a starter in 2020. Had an excellent 2021 in which he earned All-American honours.

McCreary isn't short but he does lack the prototypical height to play corner in the NFL. Also his arm length, as measured at the Senior Bowl, is shorter than you'd like to see. Despite these physical limitations, McCreary is an aggressive, tough, and physical corner who can play both press man and zone, although possibly at his best in man. Transitions well from his backpedal. Is skilled at turning his head and finding the football in the air. His lack of A1 height means that tall receivers can sometimes outreach him for the football.

McCreary perhaps doesn't have the out and out athleticism or speed of some, but it's generally good enough and he has demonstrated a closing burst to the football. Is a confident and intelligent football player who has shown that he is able to play some of his best ball against the best receivers. Hard hitting tackler, who wraps up well.

McCreary also has lots of special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 42 games for Auburn, recording 6 interceptions (returning 1 for a touchdown) and 38 passes defended. Also had 135 tackles (111 solo), 10 tackles for a loss, 1 sack, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Bednarik Award semi-finalist. AP 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. **2020** Phil Steele 4th Team All-SEC. **2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to return to school for 2021 rather than come out early - this looks like a wise decision
- Very experienced
- Aggressive corner who is better in man coverage
- Under 6 feet with just speed just short of ideal but is physical
- Should be chosen in the 2nd round with a chance he sneaks into the 1st

Kyler Gordon (Washington)

CB7

Size: 5-11½, 194 **40:** 4.52 (combine)

Class: Junior

Gordon was a fine athlete in high school, playing both wide receiver and cornerback and earning all-state (Washington) and all-league honours. Opted to stay in his home state and play college football for the Huskies. Redshirted in 2018 before becoming a part time starter and special teams player in 2019 and 2020, before fully earning the job in 2021. Declared for this year's draft while still having college eligibility remaining.

Gordon will challenge Trent McDuffie to be the first Washington cornerback of the board in this draft. Playing opposite McDuffie gave Gordon good experience as he faced more balls thrown in his direction that he perhaps otherwise would have – passers choosing not to challenge McDuffie.

Is a very athletic cornerback who doesn't have blazing speed but does have quick feet and change of direction skills. He has a really impressive closing burst on the football. Gordon is a physical and aggressive cover guy, who also uses that physicality to get up and play the run – but can be an inconsistent tackler.

Gordon doesn't often lose track of the football in the air and will play the ball or battle the receiver for it. Could do with turning more of the times he has his hands on the football into interceptions.

Has been used in a variety of ways including playing on the outside in both press man and off man, covering the slot receiver and as a blitz. Also has experience playing in zone coverages. Is also a fine special teams player on coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games (17 starts) for the Huskies, recording 2 interceptions and 14 passes defended. Also had 98 tackles (76 solo), 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Great combination of athletic ability and physicality
- Ultra versatile - can be used in multiple ways
- Plays faster than his 40 time suggests
- Also a fine special teams player
- Should become an NFL starter in time
- Likely a 2nd round pick

Tariq Woolen (UTSA)

CB8

Size: 6-4, 205 **40:** 4.26 (combine)

Class: Senior

Woolen has great physical attributes that start with his exceptional straight line speed, as demonstrated by his 4.26 time in the 40 at the combine. Alongside his speed, Woolen is a really tall corner with great length.

Was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Texas, earning all-district honours as a senior on the gridiron, playing WR. Opted to play his college football in state at UTSA (University of Texas-San Antonio).

At UTSA, he redshirted his true freshman season in 2017, before playing as a reserve wide receiver in 2018 and for the first part of 2019. Converted to cornerback in 2019, where he remained for the rest of his college career. The move to corner really raised Woolen's career trajectory. He became a starter at corner in 2020.

Has improved year on year at the corner spot since 2019. Works well in man coverage where he can concentrate on a single receiver. Not surprisingly he won't be beaten deep by speed. Allows receivers separation on underneath routes. As you would expect for an ex-WR, he finds the football in the air and has excellent hands. His length and size enables him to get to passes that he otherwise might not get to.

Woolen has less experience playing in zone. The ability to change direction quickly may be an issue, as is recognition of plays happening in front of him. This will likely improve with experience. Will use his physicality to get up to play the run.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 41 games (22 starts), recording 2 interceptions and 11 passes defensed. Also had 62 tackles (38 solo), 5 TFL, 1.5 sacks and 1 blocked kick. When playing as a receiver, he also had 24 receptions for 263 yards (11.0 avge.) and 1 touchdown

Injury Notes: Missed some playing time in 2021 with a hand injury, but seemingly has no ongoing issues.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Honorable Mention All-Conference USA.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has absolute blazing speed
- Combines great size and length with nice athletic ability
- Is a work in progress having played corner for just 2 whole seasons
- Up and down during Senior Bowl practices
- Will need time to develop as an NFL corner
- Should be off the board in the 2nd or 3rd round

Martin Emerson (Mississippi St)



CB9

Size: 6-2, 201 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Junior

Nicknamed "M.J.". Played WR and CB at his Florida high school. Opted to attend college at Mississippi State – becoming a full-time CB. Was a part time starter for Mississippi State in his true freshman season (2019) and then earned a starting role in both 2020 and 2021. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Emerson has good experience playing corner in college football's toughest conference, the SEC. He has really good size and length for a corner and is a decent athlete. Emerson is aggressive and physical at the line of scrimmage in press man coverage – not allowing receivers a quick release. Will knock down a lot of passes on short and quick throws.

Has fluid hips and a good transition enabling him to track receivers down the field. However, conversely to how he plays on short passes, Emerson really struggles on intermediate and deep routes particularly with finding the football in the air – therefore he gives up receptions that he shouldn't. When he does find the ball, he doesn't hang on to it often enough - doesn't have the best of hands.

Emerson is willing to get up and make tackles in the running game. However, sometimes he will struggle to get through traffic and also isn't the most consistent of tacklers. Has good special teams experience playing on coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 36 games (28 starts) for Mississippi State, recording 1 interception and 16 passes defended. Also had 154 tackles (94 solo), 3 tackles for a loss and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2020** PFF Honorable mention All-American. PFF 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** PFF Honorable Mention Freshman All-American. **2019** SEC 1st Year Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Good size
- Nice ability but is inconsistent
- Very talented with upside
- Pro development needed
- Looks like an NFL back-up and special teams guy for the immediate future
- Should challenge to be an NFL starter down the road
- Should be off the board in the 2nd or 3rd round

Coby Bryant (Cincinnati)

CB10

Size: 6-3, 195 **40:** 4.54 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Brother of former Ohio State and 3-year NFL safety Christian Bryant (Rams, Cardinals). Coby had a fine HS career that surprisingly wasn't followed by many FBS scholarship offers. Opted to attend the University of Cincinnati. Had an outstanding 2021 season, winning the Jim Thorpe Award for the nation's best DB.

Bryant is hugely experienced, having played 5 seasons at Cincinnati (thanks to the "Super Senior" covid rule), recording an amazing 51 starts in his college career. Saw lots of action on his side as teams didn't throw much at his corner partner, the outstanding Ahmad Gardner (Gardner is a probable first round pick in this draft).

Is a really tall corner and has good length. He is a really good athlete with better straight line speed than his 40 time would indicate, but lacks a little quickness in and out of breaks. Is super confident and aggressive in coverage – although has some inconsistencies here and can be manoeuvred out of position on occasion by smart WRs. Finds the football in the air, makes plays on it and has excellent hands.

Bryant is a big play corner, for along with his interceptions, he also has an uncanny knack for forcing fumbles. Bryant is very versatile, playing both man and zone schemes. Has been used to blitz off the corner. Will also get up and play the run with aggressiveness and is a decent tackler. Has experience playing special teams.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 63 games (51 starts) for the Bearcats, recording 10 interceptions and 42 passes defended. Also notched up 171 tackles (135 solo), 5 tackles for a loss and 5 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Suffered a broken hand in 2019, however he played 9 games with a cast on his hand. Has no reported further major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Thorpe Award winner. Lott Impact Trophy semi-finalist. 2021 AP 2nd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2020 1st Team All-AAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Tall corner with length and slim body
- Good athlete but lacks ideal speed
- Some technique areas to brush up on
- Made good decision to return to school for 2021
- Can play special teams - which will be his initial role in the NFL
- Will likely be off the board in the 3rd or 4th round

Josh Jobe (Alabama)

CB11

Size: 5-11½, 182 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Played high school football in Miami before moving to Connecticut for his senior year. Opted to attend Alabama over a number of offers from other big FBS schools. Contributed well for two seasons (2018-19), before becoming the starter at cornerback for 2020 and 2021. Will be the latest in a recent line of Crimson Tide corners to make the jump to the NFL, including the likes of Patrick Surtain II and Trevon Diggs.

Jobe has decent, but not outstanding, size but is a feisty, aggressive, and physical corner. He seems to enjoy playing in press man. Jobe will challenge receivers with his physicality all over the field – sometimes can get a bit too “handsy” and give up some penalties. Knows how to track the football and will fight receivers for it when necessary – but still gives up too many completions.

Jobe can be a little inconsistent in zone coverage. He can get a little lost when playing in space, and he doesn't have the quickest of breaks to the football. Conversely though he is an intelligent football player and will make big plays by fooling quarterbacks into throwing in his direction.

Jobe has some versatility and can play on the outside and move inside to cover the slot receiver. Will also get up to play the run.

He is also a good special teams coverage player.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 51 games for Alabama, recording 3 interceptions and 22 passes defended. Also had 129 tackles (95 solo), 3.5 tackles for a loss, 2 sacks, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Suffered a turf toe injury late in the 2021 season, which he played through for a while but eventually required surgery keeping him out of CFP National Championship play-off games.

Honours & Awards: 2020 PFF Honorable Mention All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Probably didn't play as well in 2021 as he did in 2020
- Played through turf toe injury in 2021
- Looks like an NFL back-up while he learns and develops
- Will contribute on special teams
- Will likely be off the board in the 3rd or 4th round

Cam Taylor-Britt (Nebraska)

CB12

Size: 5-11, 196 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Senior

Taylor-Britt was a fine dual purpose quarterback in high school, who received a number of scholarship offers to play college football. Eventually decided to attend Nebraska, where he was converted to play defensive back. Played as a reserve and on special teams in his freshman season before becoming a full-time starter in his sophomore season (2019), playing at both cornerback and safety. Was the starter at cornerback in 2020 and 2021 and garnered some All-Conference honours.

Taylor-Britt has outstanding straight line speed, as evidenced by his outstanding 40 time at the combine (4.38). This enables him to stay with the fastest of receivers – he is excellent in coverage on deep routes where he does a fine job tracking the football in the air. However, he can struggle on shorter routes with receivers who can cut and break sharply.

Likes to get up and play the run, although he always isn't the most secure of tacklers – needs to wrap-up more. Taylor-Britt has positional versatility, can return punts, and also has excellent special teams coverage unit experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 40 games (30 starts) at Nebraska. Had 6 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and 27 passes defended. Also notched up 140 tackles (96 solo), 2.5 sacks, 9 tackles for a loss, 4 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 blocked kick. Also returned 9 punts (9.0 avge.).

Injury Notes: Had a quad injury at the Senior Bowl but had recovered sufficiently by the time of the combine to participate in the 40. No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** 2nd Team All-Big 10. Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Brook Berringer Citizenship Team. Tom Osborne Citizenship Team. Boyd Epley Lifter of the Year Award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Excellent speed
- Great versatility - can play CB & S and return kicks and punts
- Solid performance at the Senior Bowl battling through a quad injury
- Great 40 showing at the combine
- Will contribute on special teams and as a reserve corner in year 1
- Will likely be off the board in the 3rd or 4th round

Derion Kendrick (Georgia)



CB13

Size: 6-0, 205 **40:** 4.75 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Nicknamed "D.K.". Highly recruited out of high school, where he was successful at quarterback, running back, wide receiver and defensive back. Opted to stay in state and attend Clemson, where he began as a wide receiver before converting to corner – initially, he made the switch due to an injury crisis in the Tigers' defensive backfield.

Kendrick's first year as a starter for the Tigers came in 2019. However, questions began to surface after he missed playing time in 2020 due to disciplinary issues – although the charges were later completely expunged. Was later dismissed from Clemson in early 2021 by coach Dabo Swinney after unrelated issues arose during the Spring. Enrolled at Georgia for the 2021 season, becoming a starter at CB on a team that won the National Championship.

Kendrick is a very experienced corner who has seen playing time in schemes that run both man and zone coverage. He's an aggressive corner who plays with physicality, however, this aggressive nature can sometimes work against him in man coverage where he's inconsistent and can get caught out. He's probably better in zone. Despite being a former wide receiver, Kendrick he could do with work on his hands. Also has some kick returning experience from his Clemson days.

College Stats & Highlights: In 1 year at Georgia, played in 15 games, recording 4 interceptions and 3 passes defended. Also had 41 tackles (24 solo) and 2 TFL. In his 3 seasons for Clemson, Kendrick played 34 games, recording 3 interceptions (1 returned for a touchdown) and 11 passes defended. Also notched up 63 tackles (43 solo), 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries (1 returned for a touchdown).

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 2nd Team All-SEC. Orange Bowl MVP. **2020** 1st Team All-ACC. **2019** 2nd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Highly experienced corner
- Physical and aggressive
- Disappointing in both combine and pro day
- Experience at KR may give him extra string to his bow
- Discipline issues may be a concern for some teams
- Will likely be off the board in the 3rd or 4th round

Tariq Castro-Fields (Penn State)

CB14

Size: 6-1, 197 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Castro-Fields was highly recruited by colleges after an outstanding high school career. Opted to attend Penn State over a number of other offers. Played as a reserve corner and on special teams in his true freshman season (2017) for the Nittany Lions, before becoming a part-time starter in 2018.

Won a full-time starting job in 2019 and was also the starter in 2020 but missed much of the season due to injury. Came back for the 2021 season, utilising the NCAA's Covid "Super Senior" role, and again being a starter at corner. Perhaps wasn't as good in 2021 as in some previous years.

Is an experienced corner (30 starts) with decent size and length. He has great speed (4.36 in the 40 at the combine) and has quick burst to the football. Castro-Fields provides outstanding straight line close coverage but will struggle to handle receivers with great moves and those who run great routes. Finds the football in the air and will battle receivers for it. He gets his hands on the football a lot, but doesn't convert that into interceptions – needs to work on his hands.

Castro-Fields has some scheme versatility, but especially likes to play press man coverage where he can be physical and aggressive. Whilst these are pluses, they can also get him into trouble on stop and go type patterns. Castro-Fields does well identifying the run and will make some plays in the ground game, using his physicality. Needs to improve his tackling.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 51 games for PSU (30 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 28 passes defended, 138 tackles (93 solo), 10 TFL, 1 sack and 1 FF.

Injury Notes: Had a minor shoulder injury in 2019 which he played through, He then missed 6 games (out of 9) in 2020 due to an undisclosed injury. Came back and played the whole of 2021, so there appears to be no long lasting issues. Has no other reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2020** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Ridge Riley Memorial Award co-winner. **2019** 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Has nice upside
- Good versatility
- Will contribute in nickel and dime defenses and on special teams as a rookie
- Will likely be off the board in the 4th or 5th round

Marcus Jones (Houston)



CB15 Slot/KR/PR

Size: 5-8, 189 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Was an All-State performer in HS before attending Troy. Played 2 fine college seasons at Troy (2017-18) as a CB and KR/PR before choosing to transfer to Houston. Had to sit out 2019 due to transfer rules and then had 2 outstanding seasons for the Cougars, including an exceptional 2021. Sat out the 2021 Birmingham Bowl to prepare for the draft.

With Jones, it's difficult to know where to start. Is it with his ability to play corner or as a dynamic return man? Or do you start with his size or rather lack of it? He is perhaps a generational talent as a return man and whilst this may not be seen as being as important in today's NFL, his skills in this area cannot be overlooked.

As a corner, Jones is better covering the slot receiver than on the outside, where his small stature gets more exposed – although he is exceptionally physical for a man of his size. Jones is a great athlete with exceptional speed and quick feet. Knows how to locate the football in the air and has really good hands.

College Stats & Highlights: For Houston, Jones played in 20 games and had 6 interceptions and 23 passes defended. Also had 72 tackles (55 solo), 3 TFL and 1 FF. Averaged 30.6 yards per kick return with 2 TDs and 16.5 yards on punt returns with 3 TDs. In an exceptional 2021 season, he had 5 interceptions and returned 2 punts and 2 kicks for TDs. At Troy, Jones had 4 interceptions (1 returned for a score) and 83 tackles. Returned 3 kick-offs for touchdowns (all in 2017 - a new school record). Jones' 9 career returns for touchdowns are tied for the NCAA all-time record.

Injury Notes: Underwent surgery on both of his shoulders recently and continues his recovery. Was unable to work out at the combine and at Houston's pro day, but reportedly will be ready to go by training camp.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Paul Hornung Award winner. Consensus 1st Team All-American. AAC Special Teams Player of the Year. **2020 & 2021** 1st Team All-AAC. **2020** FWAA, Phil Steele & CBS All-American. **2018** 1st Team All Sun Belt Conf. **2017** Phil Steele 3rd Team All-American. FWAA & ESPN Freshman All-American. 2nd Team All Sun Belt Conf. Sun Belt Conf. Freshman of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Lacks size and length to play outside corner - may be able to play slot
- Has good corner skills despite lack of size
- Dynamic, exciting, outstanding PR and KR - best in this draft
- Teams will need to be ok with his recovery from shoulder surgery
- Will likely be off the board in the 4th or 5th round

Alontae Taylor (Tennessee)

CB16

Size: 6-0, 199 **40:** 4.36

Class: Senior

Was a very productive dual-purpose QB in high school in Tennessee. Despite getting some offers from FBS schools to stay at QB, Taylor opted to stay in his home state and attend the University of Tennessee as a WR. Converted from WR to CB at Tennessee in 2018 and earned a starting job part way through the season. Was a part time starter for each of the following two seasons (2019-20) before becoming a full-time starter for his excellent 2021 season. Opted out of the Music City Bowl at the end of the 2021 season to begin his preparation for the draft.

Taylor is a very experienced (31 starts) corner with outstanding long speed, as evidenced by his 40 time at the combine (4.36), and decent size and length. Has decent foot quickness.

Is a physical corner who is aggressive in coverage and when playing press man. Will fight receivers for the football. But he can be beaten by good route runners who have quick change of direction skills, as Taylor sometimes struggles to cut quickly. Much better when he can cover deep or in zone where his long speed comes into play – which also enables him to recover on deep passes if beaten.

Taylor will get up to play in run support but sometimes can get seem hesitant to do so and will get caught up in traffic. Also needs work on his tackling – needs to learn to wrap-up more frequently. Is an outstanding player on special teams coverage units – with lots of experience in this area.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 45 games (31 starts) for the Volunteers. Recorded 4 interceptions, including 1 returned for a touchdown, and 19 passes defended. Also had 162 tackles (115 solo), 3 forced fumbles and 1 blocked kick.

Injury Notes: Played through a niggling hamstring injury in 2020 and then a higgling foot injury towards the end of the 2021 season. Showed no after-effects of the injuries when working out at the combine. No other reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Phil Steele 4th Team All-SEC. **2019, 2020 & 2021** SEC Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Blazing speed
- Very experienced corner
- Some nice traits and physical ability
- Outstanding special teams player
- Probable 4th or 5th round draft choice

Akayleb Evans (Missouri)

CB17

Size: 6-2, 197 **40:** 4.46 (combine)

Class: Senior

Evans played 4 seasons (2017-20) for Tulsa, including a redshirt year, playing mainly as a starting corner except when injured / recovering from injury. Opted to transfer prior to the 2021 season, eventually choosing Missouri over offers from other FBS schools.

Evans has a good combination of nice size and length along with serviceable speed. He uses this combination well in man coverage. Will impact a receiver's release off the line of scrimmage with good strong hands when in press man and will physically challenge receivers down the field.

Evans can struggle a little when in off-man, with receivers who have good quickness and with those that are fine route runners with sharp breaks and cutting ability.

Evans tracks the ball well and knows how to find the football in the air and will make a play on it – needs to improve his hands however, having just 1 career interception.

Will diagnose running plays and is prepared to get up and make the tackle, although he has some difficulties shaking off blockers at times.

College Stats & Highlights: In his single season at Missouri, Evans played in 11 games (8 starts) and had 1 interception. He also recorded 28 tackles (25 solo), 1 tackle for a loss, 6 passes defended and 2 forced fumbles.

In 4 seasons at Tulsa, Evans played in 30 games (23 starts). He recorded 82 tackles (59 solo), 1 tackle for a loss, 11 passes defended, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Missed playing time in 2018 and 2021 with niggling injuries and also had a shoulder injury in 2019, which limited his season to just 3 games (and earned him a medical redshirt). Came back to play successfully for the 2020 season.

Honours & Awards: **2019** NFF/Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame POTY award winner.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Injury history
- Excellent physical attributes for an NFL CB
- Had a really solid week at the Senior Bowl
- Needs to make more plays
- Will likely be off the board in the 4th or 5th round

Mario Goodrich (Clemson)

CB18

Size: 6-0, 176 **40:** 4.52 (combine) 4.60 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Goodrich played on both sides of the football in high school – being a very productive player at both wide receiver and cornerback. Opted to play his college ball at Clemson despite offers from a number of other FBS schools. Became a full time cornerback at Clemson. Contributed as a reserve and on special teams for his first two seasons (2018-19) as a Tiger, before becoming a part-time starter in 2020. Became the full-time starter in 2021, having an All-Conference year whilst also earning some All-American notice. Goodrich's starting cornerback partner at Clemson, Andrew Booth Jr., is also a potential draftee this year.

Has decent height but a slim looking body – could probably do with adding a few pounds, providing that he doesn't lose any speed or quickness as he isn't the fastest to begin with. He's a nice athlete but lacks that outstanding speed and foot quickness which separates the very good corners from the good ones.

Despite not being physically imposing, he is a tough, strong corner who matches up well in man coverage. Goodrich is a smart corner who is more likely to give up the underneath completion than risk getting beat deep. Unfortunately doesn't have the quick closing speed to stop some of that underneath stuff. Knows how to track the football in the air but doesn't quite pick off as many passes as you'd like.

Goodrich plays strong and tough. Receivers who make a catch in his area will know about it as he lays a hit on them. Loves to get up and play the run. Is a nice tackler. Has special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 47 games (16 starts) for Clemson, recording 5 interceptions, 21 passes defensed, 69 tackles (39 solo), 0.5 tackle for a loss, 1 fumble recovery and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Played most of the 2021 season with a niggling ankle injury. Was then suffering from a minor rib injury at the combine, so only took part in the 40.

Honours & Awards: 2021 PFF 3rd Team All-American. 2021 1st Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Minor recent injury history
- Physical corner with potential
- Nice Senior Bowl week helped his draft chances
- Good special teams player and this is where he will begin his NFL career
- Should be off the board in the 4th or 5th round

Zyon McCollum (Sam Houston St)



CB19

Size: 6-2, 199 **40:** 4.33 (combine)

Class: Senior

McCollum is an experienced, 5-year starter at the cornerback tall for a corner, meeting those height requirements that some teams, including the Packers, have at the cornerback position.

Is a super athlete and has blazing straight line speed – as demonstrated at combine (4.33 in the 40). However, can be beaten quickly on go routes as he takes a few strides to get up to speed, also doesn't always find the football in the air.

Had some nice performances at the Senior Bowl practices, which helped his draft case – it was particularly important for McCollum to show what he could do when up against the "big boys", having played his college ball at the FCS level.

McCollum is versatile in coverage, being able to press man, off man and deep in zone. He is also a good player on special teams coverage units.

Likely a day 3 selection (round 4 or 5).

Mykael Wright (Oregon)

CB20 CB/KR

Size: 5-10½, 173 **40:** 4.57 (combine)

Class: Junior

On the face of it, Wright lacks the physical attributes for the ideal NFL corner. He is undersized and lacks speed. However, when you watch the film you see a much better corner than his raw numbers might suggest.

Wright is a feisty and physical corner who can play press man and tough coverage in short and tight spaces – particularly when he has deep help behind. Will struggle in off-man coverage – so teams that pick Wright shouldn't expect to play it – square pegs and round holes.

Wright has an extra string to his bow – he is an excellent kick returner, which really helps his draft chances.

Opted to declare for the draft as an underclassman. This appears like a sound decision as his physical ability is what it is.

Likely to be selected in round 4 or 5.

Jalyn Armour-Davis (Alabama)

CB21

Size: 6-1, 197 **40:** 4.39

Class: Junior

Armor-Davis is known for being a cerebral player, who played mainly on special teams (with a little defensive experience) prior to 2021. Became the starter for just one year (2021) at Alabama, so it was a little bit of a surprise that he opted to enter this draft as an underclassman, rather than return for the 2022 season. Finished his Crimson Tide career with 3 interceptions, 9 passes defended and 36 tackles.

Has nice size and physicality, coupled with speed and athleticism, although he doesn't have the smoothest of transitions out of his backpedal.

Armor-Davis' special teams experience will prove invaluable as challenges for a roster spot. Especially as it's likely he'll be competing for a no.4 or no.5 cornerback spot on the depth chart.

Will probably be a day 3 draft choice (round 4 or 5).

Joshua Williams (Fayetteville St)

CB22

Size: 6-3, 195 **40:** 4.53 (combine)

Class: Senior

Williams is one of the leading players from the HBCU schools as was demonstrated by him receiving an invite to the combine.

According to footballdb.com, Fayetteville State have only had 3 players selected in the NFL draft since 1960 and none since 1976. Joshua Williams has a really good chance of adding to that short list. His performance during Senior Bowl week will surely have convinced NFL scouts that he can compete at a high level.

Williams has excellent size and length and was a track star in college, although his 40 time at the combine didn't necessarily reflect that. Nonetheless, he does have quickness, body control and athleticism. He also plays with some physicality and intelligence. Will find the football in the air.

Williams has system versatility, and it will be interesting to see how NFL teams view the best way of utilising him.

Is likely to be selected in round 4 or 5.

Kalon Barnes (Baylor)

CB23

Size: 5-11½, 183 **40:** 4.23 (combine)

Class: Senior

Barnes was an outstanding sprinter in high school, so perhaps it was somewhat unsurprising that he ran an exceptional time in the 40 at the combine – his 4.23 was the fastest at this year's event and was within 1/hundredth of the fastest ever recorded combine time (John Ross, 4.22, 2017).

Added to his straight line speed, Barnes has really good agility and quickness with the burst to close on the football particularly when in zone. However, when matched up in man with receivers, he still needs to do a better job finding the football in the air and with staying with good route running receivers.

There is much for pro teams to work on with Barnes' technique and skills – plenty of development is required. However, with his speed and athletic ability he has to have a chance and is worth a team taking a shot.

Will probably be a day 3 draft choice (round 4 or 5).

Cordale Flott (LSU)

CB24

Size: 6-0½, 175 **40:** 4.40 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Flott is a 2-year starter at corner, playing week in, week out at the tough SEC level. Has experience playing in the "traditional" outside cornerback position and in lining up over the slot receiver.

Flott is a really good athlete with standout speed and a smooth transition out of his backpedal. He has nice length, although he could do with adding a little bit of bulk (providing he doesn't lose speed) – currently lacks some physical presence to compete with big, muscular wide receivers. Doesn't yet get his hands on the football enough (1 interception, 12 passes defensed in his LSU career).

Isn't afraid to get up and play the run, although he needs to become a more consistent tackler.

Junior who opted to enter the draft early. Perhaps would have moved up draft boards with another year in college.

Likely a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Damarri Mathis (Pittsburgh)

CB25

Size: 5-11, 196 **40:** 4.39 (combine)

Class: Senior

Mathis has ok size for an NFL corner but does have fast straight line speed (as demonstrated at the combine) and is a fine athlete. Despite that however, he can struggle to stay with receivers who run good routes or those who are clever with their speed.

Mathis is physical and aggressive and can play press man at the line of scrimmage well, jamming receivers and preventing release. But sometimes that physical nature gets the better of him and he will give away penalties down the field especially when he loses the football in the air.

In off-man and zone coverage he does demonstrate good closing speed and a burst on the football.

Unfortunately missed the whole of the 2020 season with a shoulder injury and while he successfully came back in 2021, teams will still want to ensure that all is ok.

Likely a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Jermaine Waller (Virginia Tech)

CB26

Size: 6-0, 180 **40:** 4.68 (combine)

Class: Senior

Waller is an experienced 4-year (22 starts) corner who has a knack for anticipating routes and jumping them – finds and plays the football in the air. Has 7 career interceptions. Waller has decent short quickness but lacks speed and will get into trouble when covering in man down the field.

Is physical and will challenge receivers but can also get handsy and will give up penalties. Is an inconsistent tackler in the open field after the catch.

Waller is very willing in the run game and will get up and make the tackle on bigger running backs.

Waller's lack of speed may mean that he is best suited for a shot playing inside at safety in the NFL.

Likely a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Jaylen Watson (Washington St)

CB27

Size: 6-2, 197 **40:** 4.51 (combine)

Class:

Watson played two years at the junior college level before transferring to Washington State, so doesn't have the amount of top level experience that some other players (particularly corners) in this draft have. He has a number of areas to work on, but he is improving – looked better in 2021 than he did in 2020.

Watson has great size and length, which will catch the eye of NFL scouts. Unfortunately, he doesn't quite have the speed to match, although his speed is passable. It's not impossible that he could convert to safety in the NFL.

Also has really good punt returning experience.

Teams will probably see Watson as a project with some upside – how high the ceiling is on that upside, who knows? But it should be enough for a team to take a chance on him by drafting him late on day 3 (in round 6 or 7).

Decobie Durant (S.Carolina St.)

CB28

Size: 5-10, 180 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Senior

Durant was one of just four HBCU players invited to the combine, and he took his opportunity by demonstrating his outstanding speed – ran a 4.38 in the 40. Is a good athlete with quickness and a smooth transition out of his backpedal.

Although he played the majority of his football against fellow FCS level players, Durant has stepped up and played well against FBS schools in the few opportunities he has had.

Unfortunately, Durant lacks the ideal size and length for an outside corner in the NFL and this can see him struggle against bigger and physical receivers. This will likely put some teams off altogether while others may see him as purely a situational player (e.g. nickel corner covering the slot receiver).

However, Durant is an experienced cover corner (37 games, 30 starts) who knows how to track and find the football in the air as demonstrated by his 12 career interceptions. Also has good experience on special teams which will help his chances of making an NFL roster spot. Likely to be a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Isaac Taylor-Stuart (USC)

CB29

Size: 6-1½, 201 **40:** 4.42 (combine) 4.43 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Taylor-Stuart has really nice size and length – good for an NFL corner. He is also a really nice athlete with some speed and quickness.

The fear with Taylor-Stuart is that his physical tools haven't yet fully translated into production on the field. That may be a big downside or conversely it may indicate that there is yet an upside and potential to Taylor-Stuart that just hasn't been tapped yet.

Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman, whether that was the best decision for him or whether he would have been improved his draft position by returning to school for another year is the question.

Likely a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Jack Jones (Arizona State)

CB30

Size: 5-11, 171 **40:** 4.51 (combine) 4.42 (pro day)

Class: Senior

After being highly recruited out of high school, Jones has had quite a playing journey. He played two seasons at USC (2017-18) before academic problems forced him to transfer to the junior college level (Moorpark College, CA) for the 2018 season. After one year in juco, he then transferred back to the Pac12 and found his home at Arizona State for the final three seasons (2019-21) of this college career.

Jones isn't short but he lacks the size and length that you would ideally like for a pro corner. This means that he can struggle to match up physically with receivers in their routes and in challenging for the football.

On the plus side, Jones is a good athlete who plays with excellent anticipation. Will diagnose and jump routes to make plays on the football and receiver in the short to intermediate areas.

Has some experience in special teams, both on coverage units and as a punt returner earlier in his college career. This experience will come in useful as he battles for an NFL roster spot. Likely to be a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Chase Lucas (Arizona State)

CB31

Size: 5-11, 180 **40:** 4.48 (combine)

Class: Senior

Lucas is a good cover corner, particularly on longer, deep routes. He has decent speed and acceleration and will use his hands and arm leverage down the field. . Lucas finds the football and in the air and plays it well, fighting the receiver for it if necessary. However, he can get outmuscled at the line of scrimmage by receivers with a smart, physical release.

Lucas can struggle to keep close coverage with receivers who run precise routes. Hasn't yet developed some of the skills to read and/or anticipate those routes. Also needs to work on those diagnosis and anticipation skills when in zone coverage so that he close on the football/receiver more quickly – he has the burst to do so.

Lucas has some potential but there is also much work to do to convert him from a good college level player into an NFL level contributor. NFL coaching will give him a chance to develop.

Will likely be a late day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Josh Thompson (Texas)

CB32

Size: 5-11½, 194 **40:** 4.40 (combine) 4.40 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Thompson is an experience corner (45 games, 24 starts) who is a fine athlete with good speed and quickness. Lacks the A1 size and length for the ideal pro corner but he's not small and will play with physicality and strength. Is prepared to get and play the run.

Has spent the majority of his career playing zone rather than man coverage. Thompson can sometimes struggle to find the football in the air and doesn't make as many plays on it as you would like. Has only 2 career interceptions.

It could be that Thompson is a little bit in between positions (corner and safety) for the NFL. He has some special teams coverage unit experience which will help his chances of making an NFL roster.

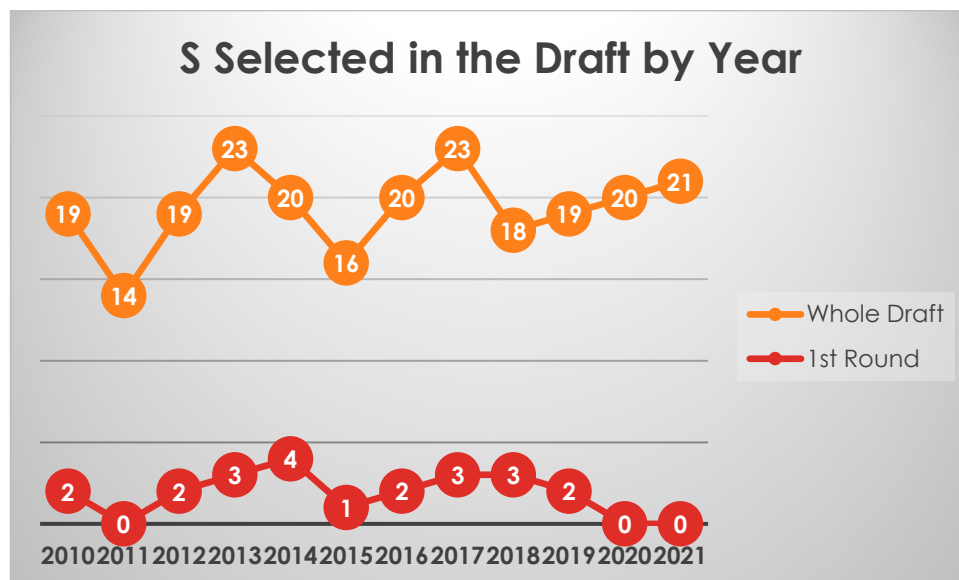
May be a 7th round draft choice but could possibly go undrafted.

SAFETIES

2022 General Draft Outlook: No safety has been selected in the Top 10 in the last 4 drafts. That run will come to an end this year when Notre Dame's Kyle Hamilton is chosen early. As one of the very best safeties coming out in years, Hamilton could literally be taken at any spot in the top 10, depending purely upon the priority needs of the team selecting.

But beyond Hamilton this isn't an outstanding class at the safety position. Dax Hill is probably the only other safety who has a shot at being a first round pick – he should either be selected late in the round or early in round 2.

Beyond the aforementioned Hamilton and Hill, there are a number of players who may come off the board in the first few rounds probably led by Jaquan Brisker and the rising Lewis Cine.



Packers Outlook: The Packers are set with their starting safeties for the 2022 season – with the excellent Adrian Amos and Darnell Savage being one of the top safety duos in the NFL. But behind them, there is a lack of experience, and the Packers are likely to consider adding a player, or two, at the safety spot in this draft.

Green Bay may consider Dax Hill towards the end of the first round, but it would seem more likely that they would wait before selecting at the position – a round 2 or round 3 selection may be a possibility with the likes of Lewis Cine or Jalen Pitre being possibilities.

Further down the draft, the Packers may consider some really good athletes who can also play special teams – Nick Cross, J.T. Woods and Tycen Anderson come to mind.

DID YOU KNOW?

When the Packers drafted safety Darnell Savage in 2019, he was just the second player from Maryland that the Packers have chosen since 1985.

TOP SAFETIES

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Kyle Hamilton	S	Notre Dame	1
2.	Daxton Hill	S	Michigan	1-2
3.	Lewis Cine	S	Georgia	1-2
4.	Jaquan Brisker	S	Penn State	1-2
5.	Jalen Pitre	S	Baylor	2
6.	Kerby Joseph	S	Illinois	3
7.	Bryan Cook	S	Cincinnati	3
8.	Nick Cross	S	Maryland	3-4
9.	Verone McKinley III	S	Oregon	4-5
10.	Leon O'Neal Jr.	S	Texas A&M	4-5
11.	J.T. Woods	S	Baylor	4-5
12.	Bubba Bolden	S	Miami, Fla	4-5
13.	Smoke Monday	S	Auburn	4-5
14.	Tycen Anderson	S	Toledo	6-7
15.	Yusuf Corker	S	Kentucky	6-7
16.	Markquese Bell	S	Florida A&M	6-7
17.	Dane Belton	S	Iowa	6-7
18.	Percy Butler	S	Louisiana-Lafayette	6-7
19.	Kolby Harvell-Peel	S	Oklahoma State	6-7
20.	Sterling Weatherford	S	Miami, Ohio	6-7
21.	Quentin Lake	S	UCLA	6-7
22.	Juanyeh Thomas	S	Georgia Tech	7-UDFA
23.	Reed Blankenship	S	Middle Tennessee	7-UDFA
24.	Delarrin Turner-Yell	S	Oklahoma	7-UDFA
25.	Brad Hawkins	S	Michigan	UDFA
26.	Daniel Wright	S	Alabama	UDFA
27.	Tre Sterling	S	Oklahoma State	UDFA
28.	Isaiah Pola-Mao	S	USC	UDFA
29.	Qwynnterio Cole	S	Louisville	UDFA
30.	Nolan Turner	S	Clemson	UDFA
31.	Greg Eisworth II	S	Iowa State	UDFA
32.	Kenderick Duncan	S	Louisville	UDFA
33.	Elijah Hicks	S	California	UDFA
34.	Tariq Carpenter	S	Georgia Tech	UDFA
35.	Antwan Collier	S	Florida A&M	UDFA
36.	Jaylan Foster	S	South Carolina	UDFA
37.	D'Anthony Bell	S	West Florida	UDFA
38.	Joey Blount	S	Virginia	UDFA
39.	Zyon Gilbert	S	FAU	UDFA
40.	Amari Burney	S	Florida	UDFA

List continues on the next page

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Cory McCoy	S	Marshall	UDFA
42.	Scott Nelson	S	Wisconsin	UDFA
43.	Keith Gallmon	S	South Alabama	UDFA
44.	Will Adams	S	Virginia	UDFA
45.	Qwuantrezz Knight	S	UCLA	UDFA
46.	Greg Johnson	S	USC	UDFA
47.	Marcelino McCrary-Ball	S	Indiana	UDFA
48.	Trenton Thompson	S	San Diego State	UDFA
49.	Mike Brown	S	Miami, Ohio	UDFA
50.	Jack Koerner	S	Iowa	UDFA
51.	Devonni Reed	S	Central Michigan	UDFA
52.	Nasir Greer	S	Wake Forest	UDFA
53.	Nick Grant	S	Virginia	UDFA
54.	Amari Carter	S	Miami, Fla	UDFA
55.	Tykee Smith	S	Georgia	UDFA
56.	Madison Cone	S	Appalachian State	UDFA
57.	Marcus Williams	S	Ohio State	UDFA
58.	Patrick Peek	S	New Mexico	UDFA
59.	Collin Wilder	S	Wisconsin	UDFA
60.	Marcel Dabo	S	Stuttgart	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Kyle Hamilton (Notre Dame)

S1

Size: 6-4, 219 **40:** 4.59 (combine) 4.56 (pro day)

Class: Junior

Is the son of a professional basketball player and was born in Greece while his father was playing there. Kyle played his HS football in Georgia and was highly recruited before committing to Notre Dame for his college career. He became a starter for the Fighting Irish in 2020. Was excellent in 2020 and for the first part of 2021, before an injury ended his season.

Is really big for a safety – a fantastic physical and athletic specimen who moves smoothly. He plays with great instincts and has a knack for making plays and being around the football. Super versatile - can play close to the line of scrimmage, cover tight ends or deep in zone. Is very physical.

When up in the box, Hamilton plays like a LB and his ability to diagnose plays early allows him to get downhill and attack ball carriers. This enables him to overcome a minor lack of immediate quickness, so much so that this "downside" isn't overly noticable. Likes to make the big hit, rather than wrap up – this needs a little work.

Because of his size, he can be matched up with TEs, athletically and physically giving them all they can handle. In deep zone coverage, he doesn't have out and out blazing speed but thanks to his long striding running motion, he is fast enough, being able to get from sideline to sideline. Like all good DBs he finds the football in the air, utilising his height and leaping ability. Can be used as a blitzer.

College Stats & Highlights: In his Notre Dame career, Hamilton played in 31 games recording 8 interceptions, 24 passes defensed, 138 tackles (97 solo) and 7.5 TFL.

Injury Notes: Suffered a knee injury in 2021 ending his season – limiting it to just 7 games. May been ready to play if the Fighting Irish had made the playoffs, but they didn't, and he opted not to attempt to play in the Fiesta Bowl.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Bednarik Award finalist. Thorpe Award semi-finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. **2020** FWAA 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-ACC. Bednarik Award semi-finalist.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Most exciting, and perhaps best, safety prospect in years
- Size and athletic ability combination
- Versatility is a huge plus
- Doesn't have outstanding speed
- Long term NFL starter
- Could be off the board in the first 5 overall picks

Daxton Hill (Michigan)

S2

Size: 6-0, 191 **40:** 4.38 (combine)

Class: Junior

Often goes by "Dax". He is the brother of current Baltimore Raven running back Justice Hill. Highly recruited coming out of high school, winning state (Oklahoma) Player of the Year, Hill had multiple offers before deciding on Michigan. Played as a reserve cornerback early in 2019, before becoming a starter at safety for the Wolverines before the end of the 2019 season. Remained a starter for the rest of his excellent Michigan career. 2021 was his best season, earning All-Conference honours.

Hill is a fine athlete, with really good speed, who gets all over the field and seems to always be around the football. Has a really smooth transition out of his backpedal. With this level of athleticism, he has great versatility and can be used in multiple roles, including covering the slot receiver in man and playing in zone. Talking of playing zone, he is really good underneath and deep either in cover 2 or as a single high safety – getting from sideline to sideline.

Hill is a tough and physical defender against the run, and he loves to hit – although he could wrap up a little more when making the tackle. Is a good timer of the blitz from the slot/outside. Super smart and intelligent football player, who diagnoses what is in front of him and plays with anticipation. Has a burst which gets him to the ball carrier quickly. As an aside, Hill also has good experience playing on special teams coverage units.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 33 games (23 starts) for Michigan, recording 4 interceptions and 20 passes defensed. He also notched up 151 tackles (96 solo), 7.5 tackles for a loss, 0.5 sack, 4 quarterback hurries and 3 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-Big 10. Michigan Co-Defensive Skill Player of the Year. **2020** Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Michigan Defensive Rookie of the Year. PFF 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Outstanding athlete who is also tough and physical
- Versatile - teams will need to devise ways to make best use of him
- Would be the first safety in many years' drafts
- Looked really good at the combine
- Probably off the board towards the end of the 1st round

Lewis Cine (Georgia)

S3

Size: 6-2, 199 **40:** 4.37 (combine)

Class: Junior

Lastname is pronounced "Seen". Born in Haiti. Family moved to the US when he was young. Attended multiple high schools and gained a reputation as a fine high school safety and special teams player, before settling in Texas where his profile was raised. Was highly recruited by multiple FBS colleges before choosing to attend Georgia. Played mainly as a reserve in his True freshman season (2019), before earning a starting role for the 2020 season. Was excellent as the starter again in 2021, earning some All-American notice.

Cine is a good athlete with excellent speed and he is a really fluid mover with the ability to change direction quickly. Very intelligent football player who will diagnose and anticipate plays. Cine is tough, physical safety with good tackling skills who is excellent playing in the box and stuffing the run. Loves to hit. Despite, his physicality Cine sometimes struggles to shrug off blockers in the box – work on technique is likely needed here.

Cine works well in zone coverage where he can diagnose, read and react to the play in front of him. He also has the athletic skills to play man coverage, although he needs more experience here. Needs to improve his hands, so that he can turn pass break-ups into interceptions. Should end up being the type of safety who can be used in multiple ways. Also has useful special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 39 games (27 starts) at Georgia, intercepting 2 passes and having 16 passes defensed. Also had 145 tackles (96 solo), 3 quarterback hurries and 3.5 tackles for a loss. In his outstanding 2021 season, Cine led the Bulldogs in both total tackles (79) and passes defensed (9).

Injury Notes: No reported major injuries.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Thorpe Award semi-finalist. AP 3rd Team All-American. 1st Team All-SEC. CFP National Championship Game Defensive MVP (played in January 2022). **2019** Georgia Co-Special Teams Newcomer of the Year.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Solid and reliable but perhaps doesn't make as many big plays as you'd like
- Great combination of speed, athleticism, skills and experience
- Excellent combine
- Big upside
- Probably off the board in round 2 and could possibly sneak into round 1

Jaquan Brisker (Penn State)

S4

Size: 6-1, 199 **40:** 4.49 (combine) 4.43 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Brisker is a high intensity, team leader type that others look up to. He was a multi-sport athlete in high school, where he had a fine football career winning all-state honours. Unfortunately was initially academically ineligible to play FBS football and ended up playing two years at Community College before transferring to Penn State. He chose the Nittany Lions over a number of other FBS schools.

He became the starter at Penn State in his second year (2020) and remained in that spot for his excellent 2021 season, earning All-American Notice. Opted out of the Outback Bowl at the end of the season to start his preparation for the draft. Earned invitations to the Senior Bowl and the combine, however Brisker chose not to participate in the Senior Bowl – possibly because of an (unreported) injury.

Is an athletic and physical safety who has played both SS and FS. Loves to play close to the line of scrimmage and diagnose and stuff the run. Is hugely explosive and gets downhill quickly to get to the ball carrier. Is a fine tackler who loves to hit.

Has experience playing deep in zone, where generally he has performed well – using his speed to get from sideline to sideline. Because of his propensity to get up and play the run, and hit somebody, he can get caught out peeking. Was excellent rushing the passer when at Community College (9 sacks in 2018).

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 34 games (21 starts) at Penn State, recording 5 interceptions and 19 passes defended. Also notched up 153 tackles (86 solo), 7.5 tackles for a loss, 1 fumble recovery and 4 quarterback hurries.

Injury Notes: Suffered from a niggling back injury during the 2021 season and presumably this is the reason that he sat out of the Senior Bowl. Fought through some pain to take part in the combine and did so successfully.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Thorpe Award semi-finalist. AP 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. Penn State Defensive MVP. **2020** PFF 1st Team All-American. 3rd Team All-Big 10. 2020 Penn State Co-Defensive MVP. 2019 PFF 3rd Team All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Two year starter - can play deep or in the box
- Athletic and physical
- Teams will want to be happy that his back problem will be resolved quickly
- Had to opt out of the Senior Bowl
- Should be off the board in round 2

Jalen Pitre (Baylor)

S5

Size: 5-11, 198 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Pitre's very nice high school career was interrupted by an ACL injury. Had already committed, prior to his injury, to stay in state in Texas to go to college at Baylor. As he recovered from the injury, both parties kept the commitment for him to go the Bears. Contributed for the Bears in 2017 and 2018, before suffering a shoulder injury in 2019. Came back with two excellent seasons (2020-21). Earned selection as a 1st Team All-American for the 2021 season.

Pitre is a fine athlete with good speed, albeit a bit undersized. Has more experience playing closer to the line of scrimmage than playing deep. Is good playing in the box, diagnosing and reacting to running plays. He's a tough and a big hitter, although he needs to wrap up on his tackles more than he does.

Is also better in coverage than he's given credit for, meaning that he Pitre provides a good level of positional versatility. You can add to that his ability to rush the passer, timing his blitzes well. Finds the football in the air, but doesn't yet demonstrate great hands.

Has good special teams coverage experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 46 games in his Baylor career, notching up 4 interceptions and 10 passes defensed. Also recorded 195 tackles (140 solo), 36 tackles for a loss, 8 sacks, 3 fumble recoveries and 4 forced fumbles. Returned 2 interceptions for touchdowns.

Injury Notes: Suffered a torn ACL in his junior year in high school (October 2015). Suffered a shoulder injury in 2019 which saw him ending up redshirting that year. Showed no signs of these injuries in 2021.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Thorpe Award finalist. 2021 Consensus 1st Team All-American. 2021 Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. 2021 1st Team All-Big 12. 2020 1st Team All-Big 12. 2020 Honorable Mention Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. 2020 2nd Team Academic All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Outstanding 2021 season
- Lacks ideal size for a pro safety
- Reliable and consistent with some upside
- Excellent Senior Bowl week
- Should be off the board in round 2

Kerby Joseph (Illinois)

S6

Size: 6-1, 203 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Attended high school in Florida where he was a fine multi-sport athlete. Opted to attend college at the University of Illinois where he played as a reserve and on special teams for two seasons (2018-19) before earning a starting job in 2020. Really raised his performance to have an outstanding 2021 season in which garnered some All-American notice.

Joseph is a good athlete who moves very smoothly and has quick feet enabling him to change direction at speed. Has pretty good size and length to play the safety position – could add a few pounds if it doesn't affect his seed.

Joseph is versatile – being able to play both close to the line of scrimmage and in coverage. However, all in all, he's probably better playing in deep zone coverage than he is up in the box. Joseph has good range to play as a single high safety – but may be more comfortable in Cover 2. He tracks the football really well in the air and will receivers for it. Has really excellent hands and a penchant for the big play as he demonstrated in 2021.

Joseph will diagnose running plays and get up to make the tackle. Perhaps needs to trust himself a little more to get to the play slightly quicker. Is a solid and reliable tackler. When he's in the box he will get caught up with blockers and struggles to extract himself. Perhaps could be more aggressive.

Joseph is also an excellent special teams coverage unit player.

College Stats & Highlights: Played 39 games for Illinois, recording 5 interceptions and 11 passes defensed. Also had 115 tackles (74 solo), 1 TFL and 3 fumble recoveries. All 5 of his career interceptions came in an outstanding 2021 season.

Injury Notes: Suffered a hamstring injury not long before the combine, so didn't take part in any of the running drills. The injury is not expected to be a long term problem and should clear up quickly.

Honours: **2021** PFF 2nd Team All-American. 1st Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Traditional deep free safety type
- Excellent 2021 season
- Outstanding at the Senior Bowl
- May need time at the pro level to fully develop
- Should be off the board in round 3

Bryan Cook (Cincinnati)

S7

Size: 6-1, 206 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Started his college career at Howard University, where he played for 2 seasons (2017-18), before transferring to Cincinnati. Missed most of 2019 due to transfer rules and then played mainly as back-up in 2020. Became the full-time starter at safety for the Bearcats in 2021 – and put together an outstanding final collegiate season in which he earned All-Conference honours.

Cook is solid in every area of the game, with no glaring weaknesses. Doesn't make as many game changing plays as you'd like to see though. Cook has good size but tackles and hits like a guy much bigger. He's athletic, physical, and tough – an ideal mix for the modern day safety.

Is excellent in coverage in the short to intermediate areas and can be used to match up with receivers in the slot. Doesn't quite have the speed to match up with the fastest of receivers - that's not his game. When playing zone, with the play happening in front of him, he plays with anticipation and can excellently diagnose and react – he has good quickness and will break on the ball with a burst. Just occasionally, he can get caught out by being over aggressive.

Against the run, Cook isn't shy to get involved and make his presence felt. Loves the physical aspect of the game and putting a hit on the ball carrier. Sometimes he struggles to avoid blockers but is a really good tackler once he finds the ball.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 21 games for Cincinnati, recording 2 interceptions and 11 passes defensed. Also had 124 tackles (78 solo), 6 tackles for a loss and 1 sack. Had 14 tackles in a game against Tulsa in 2021.

Also played in 21 games for Howard, recording 5 interceptions (1 returned for a touchdown), 17 passes defensed, 93 tackles (77 solo), 5 TFL, 2 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

Injury Notes: No reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-AAC. 2019 Academic All-AAC Team.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Team leader type
- Consistent all-round player who plays hard and tough
- Doesn't make as many big plays as you'd like to see
- Should contribute as a rookie
- Should be off the board in round 3

Nick Cross (Maryland)

S8

Size: 6-0, 212 **40:** 4.34 (combine)

Class: Junior

Cross was a productive player in high school in Maryland, so much so that he had many offers from FBS schools and after nearly opting to attend Florida State, he eventually decided that pursuing his college career in his home state was right for him. At Maryland, Cross became a part-time starter in his true freshman season (2019), before earning the job full-time in 2020. Was again the starter in 2021. Played at a reliably consistent level throughout his college career. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Cross has decent size and a really thick set body. He is a tough, physical, and aggressive safety who loves to hit. Cross is a really good athlete with excellent speed – as demonstrated by his outstanding showing in the 40 (4.34) at the combine.

Cross brings a good amount of versatility to the safety position. In coverage, he can play deep in zone, but also has the quickness to cover receivers in the slot. Cross has the physical strength to fight and battle tight ends in the short to intermediate areas. Has the speed and range to get from sideline to sideline and tracks the football in the air really well. Will knock down passes and battle receivers for the football.

When up in the box, Cross has the speed and agility to get up and stuff the run. He loves to hit the ball carrier and send a message. He isn't always the best of wrap up tacklers however, so he needs work in this area. Also sometimes appears a little tentative when faced with blockers.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 29 games (21 starts) at Maryland, recording 5 interceptions and 10 passes defended. Also had 134 tackles (88 solo), with 5.5 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks, 1 quarterback hurry and 3 forced fumbles.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2019, 2020 & 2021 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to enter this draft with college eligibility remaining
- Lots of physical and athletic ability
- Has a big upside but requires development
- Should contribute as a rookie
- Will likely be a 3rd or 4th round pick.

Verone McKinley III (Oregon)

S9

Size: 5-10, 198 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Lots of high profile FBS colleges attempted to recruit McKinley out of high school, where had a successful career playing cornerback. McKinley opted to go to college at Oregon (over a number of other offers from FBS schools). Converted to safety at Oregon and became the starter for the Ducks in 2019 after redshirting the 2018 season. Remained the starter for 2020 and in an exceptional 2021, in which he earned All-American honours.

McKinley is a very intelligent, super confident, team leader type. Unfortunately, he lacks the prototypical size and length for an NFL safety however McKinley makes up some of that with his athletic ability and physicality. He doesn't have out and out blazing speed but has good quickness and agility, enabling him to change direction impressively.

Plays with great anticipation, has closing speed and uses his ability to read the game to make big plays - and he has a habit of seemingly always being around the football. This is one of the things you look for at the safety position - a guy who is in position to make a play and to benefit from a bounce of the ball.

In the passing game, McKinley finds the football in the air and has fantastic hands. Suited to playing as a deep safety in zone coverage or can play closer to the line of scrimmage and cover the slot receiver in man.

McKinley isn't overly physical or aggressive and is an inconsistent tackler, meaning that he's not as good playing closer to the line of scrimmage as a run defender.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 38 games for Oregon, recording 11 interceptions and 21 passes defended. Also had 168 tackles (97 solo), 2 tackles for a loss, 1 quarterback hit, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Thorpe Award finalist. Consensus 1st Team All-American. 1st Team All-Pac 12. **2019** FWAA Freshman All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Is smart and athletic
- Lack of size and strength will be of concern to pro teams
- But some smaller safeties like the Colts' Bob Sanders have been successful in the NFL (and Sanders was even smaller than McKinley)
- Should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

Leon O'Neal Jr. (Texas A&M)



S10

Size: 6-0½, 204 **40:** 4.70 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Cypress, Texas native who was a 2nd team all-district player as a defensive back in high school before moving just up the road to College Station to play his college ball for Texas A&M. Played mainly as a reserve in 2018, before securing a spot as a starting safety for the Aggies in his sophomore year (2019). Remained the starter for the rest of his college career.

O'Neal is a very experienced player (32 college starts), who brings good athleticism and decent size to the table. While he moves well and has short distance quickness, O'Neal doesn't have great long speed.

O'Neal looks at his best when he's playing close to the line of scrimmage. Plays tough against the run and hits hard, although sometimes he will let a runner get through his grasp. Has decent coverage skills against tight ends and backs coming out the of backfield. Has good enough speed and quickness to stay with receivers in the underneath areas.

O'Neal will struggle a little at times when he plays deep in zone. Doesn't have out and out speed so can be beaten deep – ideally needs to keep the play in front of him. Also doesn't have the range to play as the deep guy in a Cover 1 defense.

Is a team leader type who brings it on every down, playing hard and tough with hustle.

College Stats & Highlights: In his four year Aggies playing career, O'Neal played in 48 games, starting in 32. In those four years, he notched up 161 tackles (108 solos), including 10.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 6 interceptions (1 returned for a touchdown), 18 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 1 sack.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Texas A&M Aggie Heart Award winner. 2021 Texas A&M Defensive Attitude Award winner. 2021 Texas A&M Defensive Aggie Award for Strength & Conditioning.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Opted to remain in school for 2021 rather than declare early
- Excellent week at teh Senior Bowl really helped his draft chances
- Probably projects to be a box safety in the NFL.
- Con contribute as big nickel and on special teams early in NFL career
- Should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

J.T. Woods (Baylor)

S11

Size: 6-2, 188 **40:** 4.36 (combine)

Class: Senior

Woods has exceptional straight line speed, as demonstrated by his 4.36 time in the 40 at the combine. He first showed this speed when he was an outstanding track athlete (running sprints and hurdles) in high school. Also played defensive back and earned the notice of FBS schools. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at Baylor.

Woods contributed as a true freshman for Baylor in 2018, before becoming a part-time starter in 2019 - whilst still taking part in track and field. Won a full-time starting role at safety for the 2020 and 2021 seasons. Had an outstanding 2021.

Woods is a safety with good size and fine athletic ability and great speed. His athleticism and acceleration gives him great range, enabling him to get from the centre of the field to the sideline with ease.

Is inconsistent when used in man coverage, so lining him up to cover the slot receiver may not be his best use at this time. Likes to play with physicality and will get up into the box to play the run – but is better playing in zone deep where he can read and react to the play in front of him. Then he can find the football in the air, make the pick (he has really good hands) or lay a hit on the receiver.

Can be over aggressive and taken out plays by play action and misdirection, although his supreme athletic skills sometimes allow him to recover. Needs to improve as a tackler.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games (28 starts) for Baylor, intercepting 9 passes and having 14 passes defensed. Also had 157 tackles (113 solo), 2.5 TFL, 1 sack and 3 fumble recoveries. Had 6 interceptions in his excellent 2021 season.

Injury Notes: Suffered a broken collarbone in Spring practice in 2019 but bounced back to play that season. The injury has apparently caused no long term issues.

Honours & Awards: **2020 & 2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. **2018, 2019, 2020 & 2021** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Experienced safety with blazing speed
- Good combination of size and athleticism
- Requires development
- Likely a contributor on special teams early
- Should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

Bubba Bolden (Miami, Fla)

S12

Size: 6-2, 209 **40:** 4.47 (combine)

Class: Junior

Bolden was a productive player in high school in Nevada who had a number of offers at the collegiate level, opting to attend USC over the likes of Ohio State and Florida. Was at USC for just one year (2017) where he didn't see huge amounts of action and he decided to transfer to Miami.

Under the NCAA transfer rules at the time, Bolden had to sit out the 2018 season. He then missed part of 2019 due to injury before earning a starting job for good in 2020. If he's drafted, Bolden will be the latest in a line of Miami safeties to become NFL players – a line that includes superstars like Ed Reed and the late Sean Taylor.

Nice size, with length, although could add a little extra bulk. Is very versatile – can cover and play close to the line of scrimmage. Is aggressive in all aspects of the game. Bolden's play recognition skills are excellent, and he has a quick burst to the football – and when he gets there, he likes to lay a hit on the runner or receiver. Has fluid hips and transitions from his backpedal quickly – very smooth.

Bolden makes plays on the ball in the pass game, but his hands are not the greatest. Doesn't quite make as many plays as you'd like. But he continues to improve and has lots of potential. Isn't the most consistent of tacklers, doesn't always wrap-up

College Stats & Highlights: Whilst at Miami, Bolden played in 23 games and recorded 2 interceptions and 8 passes defensed. He also notched up 135 tackles (92 solo), with 10 tackles for a loss and 5 forced fumbles.

In his one year at USC, Bolden played in 13 games and recorded 8 tackles (7 solo).

Injury Notes: Played in just 5 games in 2019, missing the remainder of the season due to injury. Suffered a shoulder injury in 2021 which forced him to miss around half of the season. All reports are that the recovery from the injury has been going extremely well, so hopefully it shouldn't be an issue going forwards.

Honours & Awards: 2020 Jim Thorpe Award semi-finalist. 2020 2nd Team All-ACC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Shoulder injury may be of concern
- Has decent combination of size and speed
- Requires development
- Likely a contributor on special teams early
- Should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

Smoke Monday (Auburn)

S13

Size: 6-2, 207 **40:** 4.52 (combine)

Class: Senior

Real first name is Quindarious. Was nicknamed "Smoke" by his grandfather. Was highly recruited out of high school and opted to attend Auburn over offers from multiple FBS schools including Clemson, Michigan, Michigan State and Florida State. Played two years as a reserve safety for the Tigers before earning a starting job for his final two years (2020-21).

Monday has excellent size to play safety (could even add just a few pounds) with the length that you love to see in a defensive back.

Monday plays best as a box safety. He is tough, physical, and muscular and gets up to play the run with relish. Is an aggressive tackler who wraps up well and brings down the ball carrier. Monday will also use his football smarts to find the right timing to shoot the gap and get to the running back in the backfield. All in all, Monday is a very good safety defending the running game.

Lacks speed, so how Monday has to be used appropriately in the passing game. Again, he is best close to the line of scrimmage covering backs and tight ends in the short to intermediate zones – uses his size and length extremely well in this facet of the game. But as soon as he needs to cover any receiver going down the field, he will struggle to maintain that coverage.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games for the Tigers, recording 5 interceptions (including 3 returned for touchdowns) and 13 passes defended. Also had 172 tackles (106 solo), 17 TFL, 6 sacks, 1 forced fumble and 1 blocked punt. His 3 interceptions returned for touchdowns in his career is tied for a school record.

Injury Notes: Suffered a shoulder injury that kept him out of some practices in 2019 but he didn't miss any playing time. Has demonstrated no ill-effects from the injury. Has no reported major injury history.

Honours: **2021** PFF 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020** 2nd Team All-SEC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced
- Makes big plays - 3 interceptions returned for touchdowns
- Tough and competitive
- Plays better the closer to the line of scrimmage he gets
- Should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

Tycen Anderson (Toledo)

S14

Size: 6-2, 209 **40:** 4.36 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Toledo, playing basketball and taking part in the long jump as well as playing football. He excelled on the football field playing defensive back and on special teams and earning All-District and All-State honours. Opted to stay to stay in his hometown and play his college football at the University of Toledo. At Toledo, Anderson contributed immediately in his true freshman and sophomore seasons (2017-18). Became a starter in 2019, a role he remained in for the rest of his college career. Had a very good season in 2021, earning All-Conference honours and taking advantage of the "Super Senior" rule.

Anderson is very experienced having played in 55 games at the college level. He has blazing speed, as demonstrated by his 40 time at the combine (4.36). Also has really nice size to play the safety position. Anderson is versatile having started games for Toledo at both free safety and strong safety.

Likes to get up and play the run, where he is an aggressive tackler. Plays downhill and stops ball carriers in their tracks. Can also get out wide and stop outside plays.

Has some skills in pass coverage. Is probably better in zone where can use his range to get all over the field. Tracks the flight of the football in the air well and gets his hands on it often – but doesn't turn enough of those plays into picks. Could do with some work on his hands. Has special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 55 games for Toledo, recording 2 interceptions and 21 passes defended. Also had 237 tackles (134 solo), 9 tackles for a loss, 2 sacks, 1 quarterback hurry and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Suffered a knee injury in the summer of 2021, which forced him to miss the first 3 games of the season. Came back and played well in 2021 with no ill-effects from the injury.

Honours & Awards: **2021** 1st Team All-MAC. **2020** 2nd Team All-MAC. CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2018, 2019 & 2020** Academic All-MAC.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced
- Nice versatility
- Reliable all-round player with good range
- Good on special teams coverage units
- Should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Yusuf Corker (Kentucky)

\$15

Size: 6-0, 203 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Corker was highly recruited out of high school in Georgia, where he starred as both a wide receiver and cornerback. Also was a fine special teams player. Opted to attend college at Kentucky after receiving many offer from top FBS schools. Corker redshirted his first season at Kentucky (2017) before playing as a reserve and on special teams in 2018. Earned the starting role for good in 2019. Had good seasons in both 2020 and 2021.

Corker is a very experienced college defensive back (37 starts) with decent, but not great, size and length. He is a versatile, passionate, and aggressive safety who plays hard on every down.

Against the running game, Corker reads the play extremely well and utilises a great burst which enables him to get up and play the run both from in the box and deep. Loves to hit but isn't always the best of tacklers – sometimes needs to wrap up rather than going for the big hit. Is tough and aggressive but sometimes that aggressiveness will see him overrun plays and get caught out by counters.

In the passing game, Corker has been effective playing deep – he has decent range and in addition can match up with many tight ends thanks to his strength and physicality. Can also line up against the slot receiver and cover him in the short to intermediate areas. Corker will find the football in the air, fight for it and he also has decent hands. Has some special teams experience.

College Stats & Highlights: Played in 50 games (37 starts) for Kentucky. Recorded 3 interceptions and 14 passes defended. Also had 240 tackles, 6.5 TFL, 2 quarterback hurries, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble. Had 4 career games with 10+ tackles which includes 18 tackles in a single game against Missouri in 2020.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: **2021** Lott Impact Trophy semi-finalist. **2020** 2nd Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Very experienced safety
- Good athletic ability
- Development needed
- Special teams experience
- Should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Markquese Bell (Florida A&M)

S16

Size: 6-2, 212 **40:** 4.41 (combine)

Class: Senior

Was a productive high school football player, playing QB, WR and DB. Was also a star performer in the high jump. Opted to Maryland to play his college ball. However, he was suspended for undisclosed reasons, and never played there. Bell ended up transferring to junior college Coffeyville C.C. (KS) for the 2018 season. He had an excellent season before transferring to the FCS level to play at Florida A&M. Bell played two seasons (2019 and 2021 – 2020 was lost due to Covid) and was outstanding. Earned FCS All-American notice for his 2021 season.

Bell is an intelligent team leader type who has a really good combination of size and athleticism. He is a strong all-round safety with excellent speed especially over a longer distance thanks to his long striding style.

Bell plays with aggression and passion – attributes which he utilises in both the running and passing game. Bell gets himself around the football and has the knack for separating the ball carrier from the football – forcing lots of fumbles. Against the run, Bell will diagnose the play in front of him and get downhill and tackle the RB. He loves to tackle and hit, but sometimes he doesn't wrap up.

Against the pass, Bell plays better in zone than in man. Has the range to get from sideline to sideline from Cover 1. Struggles to cover in short zones because he doesn't change direction quickly. Can be used on the safety blitz.

College Stats & Highlights: 23 games (22 starts) at Florida A&M, recording 6 interceptions, 10 passes defended, 156 tackles, 11.5 TFL, 7 forced fumbles and 2 sacks. Had 6 games with 10+ tackles including a 16 tackle game in 2021 against SE Louisiana.

In his single year at Coffeyville Community College, Bell played in 8 games and recorded 2 interceptions, 52 tackles (28 solo), 6.5 tackles for a loss and 0.5 sack.

Injury Notes: Has no major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 FCS 3rd Team All-American.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Intriguing player due to his fantastic athletic ability and speed
- Some questions about level of opposition
- Makes plays
- Should make an NFL roster as a developmental fourth or fifth safety
- Should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Dane Belton (Iowa)



S17

Size: 6-1, 205 **40:** 4.43 (combine)

Class: Junior

Belton had a very productive high school career earning All-State and All-County notice, playing WR, S and KR. Opted to attend Iowa at the college level. Was a part time starter in his freshman season (2019) before becoming the full-time starter for both 2020 and 2021. Belton played a number of positions in his time at Iowa, including SS, OLB and in their "Cash" position which is a hybrid Safety/ Outside linebacker spot. Decided to declare for the draft as an underclassman.

Belton's size is ok, but could with adding a few pounds, along with corresponding strength. Excellent straight line speed, as demonstrated by his 40 time at the combine (4.43), however he isn't at his best when he has to change direction and break on the football quickly.

In pass coverage, Belton works well in the short to intermediate zones where he will anticipate and play the football. He is also good at the back end when the play is happening in front of him, and he can use his speed and close on the football and receivers coming into his area. Where he may struggle against the pass is in attempting to cover longer routes in man, and in routes that are designed to work him deep (deep fly routes, deep post routes). Belton has excellent hands.

Belton will play downhill utilising his speed to get up to play the run. Can sometimes get out of position or not diagnose the play as quickly as you would like – this should improve with more playing time. Belton needs a little work on his tackling. Has past experience as a kick returner.

College Stats & Highlights: Belton played in 30 games (26 starts) for Iowa, recording 5 interceptions and 17 passes defensed. He also notched up 112 tackles (68 solo), 6.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble.

Injury Notes: Has no reported major injury history.

Honours & Awards: 2021 1st Team All-Big 10. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. 2019 Academic All-Big 10.

NFL PROJECTION/OUTLOOK

- Speedy and athletic
- Has some upside
- Has some areas that require improvement and pro development needed
- Kick returning experience from high school may be useful
- Should be off the board in round 6 or 7.

Percy Butler (UL-Lafayette)

S18

Size: 6-0, 194 **40:** 4.36

Class: Senior

Butler is slightly undersized for a safety but has blazing straight line speed (as he showed at the combine). Uses that speed well in zone coverage getting from sideline to sideline and making the tackle on plays in front of him – likes to put a big hit on the receiver.

Lacks strength and playing the run up in the box isn't his forte. Will get tied up by blockers the closer to the line of scrimmage he gets. Needs some work on his tackling on defense, needing to wrap up more.

Finished his college career with 3 interceptions, 13 passes defended and over 150 tackles.

Butler is a very good special teams coverage unit player, which will really help his chances of being drafted. Butler will likely be either a 7th round draft choice or perhaps may go undrafted.

Kolby Harvell-Peel (Oklahoma St)

S19

Size: 6-0, 213 **40:** 4.54 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Harvell-Peel is much better playing deep in zone coverage than anywhere else. As a single high safety he has the ability to get from sideline to sideline and to anticipate plays happening in front of him. Gets around the football a lot, making tackles (185 in his career, with 122 solos) and forcing fumbles (3) and recovering fumbles (3)

In pass defense, he does an excellent job of tracking and finding the football in the air, from deep, as evidenced by his 10 career interceptions. Has also been used to cover the slot receiver at times during his career, but this has resulted in inconsistent results.

In the running game, Harvell-Peel will read and diagnose plays and quickly get downhill to make the hit, although he isn't always the best of tacklers. More worryingly, he can get at times get over aggressive and completely fly past the play.

Likely a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Sterling Weatherford (Miami, Oh)

S20 S/4-3 OLB

Size: 6-4, 225 **40:** 4.57 (pro day)

Class: Senior

Weatherford is one of those guys who is stuck between positions. He is a hybrid safety-linebacker and interestingly, practiced really well at the Senior Bowl at linebacker – it's possible that he may project there in the NFL. His 4.59 40 time at his pro day demonstrates what would be good speed for a pro linebacker but would be slow for a pro safety.

Weatherford is a very savvy player with lots of experience, albeit outside of the Power 5 conferences. He plays well in zone defenses, taking a really good drop and very rarely gets out of position. All in all he's a solid player in pass defense.

Isn't quite as strong in diagnosing running plays, so there's some development needed here.

Likely a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Quentin Lake (UCLA)

S21

Size: 6-1, 201 **40:** 4.59 (combine)

Class: Senior

Lake is the son of former NFL All-Pro and All-Decade (90s) player Carnell Lake of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Lake has decent size for an NFL safety, even though he lacks the prototypical speed and athleticism for the spot in the pro game. He makes up for some of that lack of speed with intelligence and experience that usually gets him to the right spot – around the football.

Lake isn't great in deep coverage and is much better playing close to the line of scrimmage dealing with short to intermediate passes in zone coverage. Plays solidly against the run.

Was an excellent special teams coverage guy early in his college career before he earned a starting role. This should really help him when it comes to challenging for an NFL roster spot.

Lake will probably be a day 3 draft choice (round 6 or 7).

Juanyeh Thomas (Georgia Tech)

S22

Size: 6-1, 212 **40:** 4.55 (combine)

Class: Senior

Thomas is an experienced 3-year starter at safety. He is a close to the line of scrimmage safety with nice size – kind of a traditional strong safety type. Reads and diagnoses the run well and gets to the ball carrier to make the tackle. He loves to make the hit.

Thomas is a good athlete but doesn't quite have the speed to cover receivers in single coverage for any length of time but has nice experience in over the top double coverage. Has also demonstrated some good skills when lined up in zone.

Early in his college career Thomas was an outstanding kick-off returner who returned who averaged 25.3 yards per return in his first season for Georgia Tech – returning 2 for touchdowns. Also has excellent special teams coverage unit experience, which will stand him in good stead as he battles for an NFL roster spot.

Thomas is an improving player who has a chance to play on Sundays. May be a 7th round draft choice or go undrafted.

Reed Blankenship (M.Tennessee)

S23

Size: 6-1, 204 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Blankenship is an extremely experienced (53 games, 5 year starter) at safety who is a tackling machine – recording more than 400 tackles at Middle Tennessee State. Is very strong against the run.

Is a traditional strong safety type who is much better playing close to the line of scrimmage than he is deep. However, has had some success covering tight ends and backs on short and underneath routes – finishing his college career with 9 interceptions and 19 passes defensed. Can be used on the occasional blitz.

Has been used a little bit on punt returns at Middle Tennessee, so that could be an extra string to his bow to help him challenge for an NFL roster spot – played at a “smaller” college level of football, so everything that may help his chances is a plus.

Likely to be either a 7th round draft choice or to go undrafted.

Delarrin Turner-Yell (Oklahoma)

S24

Size: 5-10, 197 **40:** 4.47 (combine)

Class: Senior

Turner-Yell is a traditional strong safety type, who is an experienced 3-year starter (31 starts) at the college level who earned 2nd Team All-Big 12 recognition in 2021. He lacks the ideal size for a pro safety but has good athleticism and really nice speed.

For all of his athletic ability, Turner-Yell has problems in coverage where he can get physically out-muscled by tight ends and also struggles with receivers and backs with moves and good route running ability. He also doesn't get his hands on the football as much as you like to see – only 4 career interceptions and 6 passes defended.

Plays better close to the line of scrimmage, reading and diagnosing running plays - making lots of tackles but he can be an inconsistent tackler at times.

Likely to be either a 7th round draft choice or to go undrafted.

Brad Hawkins (Michigan)

S25

Size: 6-1, 221 **40:** 4.57 (pro day)

Class:

Hawkins is an experienced, 3-year starter at safety for Michigan. He is a physical player who is at his best when he plays close to the line of scrimmage. Is a good tackler who loves to hit. Had 178 tackles (113 solos) during his time in the Maize and Blue.

Hawkins isn't as effective when used in coverage and has some struggles finding the football in the air – finishing his Wolverine career without an interception and just 8 passes defended.

Very experienced special teams player.

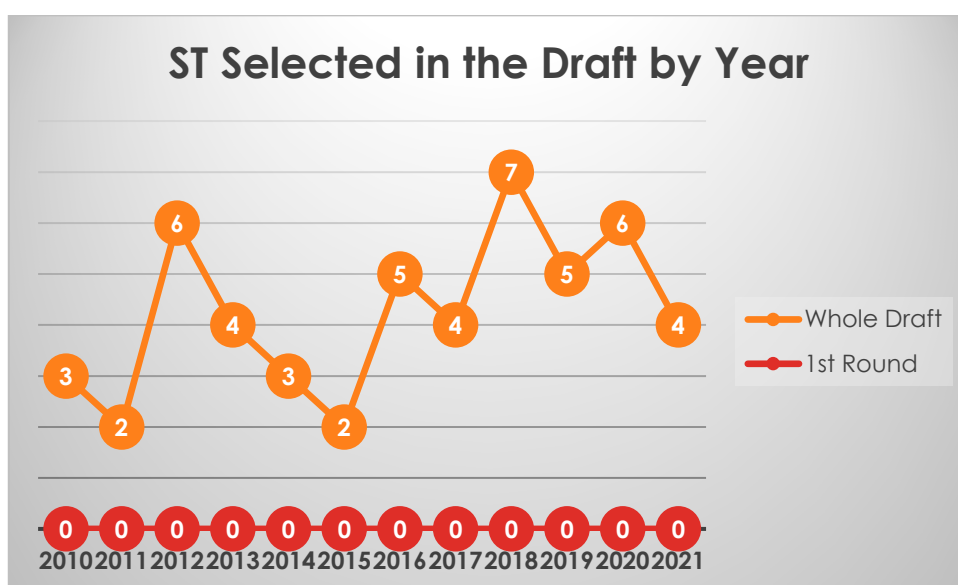
Hawkins earned an invite to the all-star East-West Shrine Game but wasn't chosen to participate at the combine – this perhaps gives an indication of how his pro chances are viewed.

It could be that Hawkins' best chance of making an NFL roster is as a hybrid linebacker-safety. Likely to go undrafted

SPECIAL TEAMS SPECIALISTS

2022 General Draft Outlook: As always with the Special Teams Specialists (kickers, punters, and long-snappers), we can expect around 5 of these guys (give or take 2 or 3) to be drafted probably in round 6 or 7 – essentially to fill specific gaps that teams have.

The one exception may be punter Matt Araiza who may have enough pro potential to be selected much earlier on day 3.



Packers Outlook: The Packers have had ongoing problems with their special teams for a few years now. Fortunately, the consistent element through much of this time has been kicker Mason Crosby.

Crosby and two other kickers (J.J. Molson and Dominik Eberle) are currently on the roster, so we shouldn't expect Green Bay to look at another player here.

But that's not the case at punter. Although the Packers recently signed Free Agent Pat O'Donnell, it's still very possible that they may consider drafting a punter – Matt Araiza, Jordan Stout and Jake Camarda would be the possibilities here.

The Packers may also consider drafting a long-snapper – just like they did in 2018. Although Steven Wirtel is on the roster, don't be surprised if the Packers think about drafting long-snapper Cal Adomitis in round 6 or 7.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Packers have selected just 2 specialists in the last 13 drafts. Both of them being chosen in the 2018 draft – P J.K. Scott and LSN Hunter Bradley.

TOP SPECIAL TEAMS SPECIALISTS

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Matt Araiza	P	San Diego State	6-7
2.	Jordan Stout	P	Penn State	6-7
3.	Jake Camarda	P	Georgia	7-UDFA
4.	Gabe Brkic	K	Oklahoma	UDFA
5.	Cameron Dicker	K	Texas	UDFA
6.	Cade York	K	LSU	UDFA
7.	Cal Adomitis	LSN	Pittsburgh	UDFA
8.	Ryan Stonehouse	P	Colorado State	UDFA
9.	Blake Hayes	P	Illinois	UDFA
10.	Trenton Gill	P	North Carolina State	UDFA
11.	Daniel Gutierrez	K	UNLV	UDFA
12.	Chandler Staton	K	Appalachian State	UDFA
13.	Parker White	K	South Carolina	UDFA
14.	Andrew Mevis	K	Iowa State	UDFA
15.	Jordan Silver	LSN	Arkansas	UDFA
16.	Nick Sciba	K	Wake Forest	UDFA
17.	Ross Reiter	LSN	Colorado State	UDFA
18.	Michael Turk	P	Oklahoma	UDFA
19.	Jonathan Garibay	K	Texas Tech	UDFA
20.	Daniel Cantrell	LSN	Boise State	UDFA
21.	Billy Taylor	LSN	Rutgers	UDFA

Round* = Projected round of selection in this draft (UDFA = Undrafted Free Agent)

Matt Araiza (San Diego State)

ST1 Punter/Kicker/Kick-off Specialist

Size: 6-1, 200 **40:** 4.68 (combine)

Class: Junior

Araiza has a huge leg and is an all-round kicking specialist who can punt, kick field goals and kick-off. Started his career at SDSU as a kicker (73.5% on field goals), but it is most likely as a punter that Araiza will get most of his draft notice – although it should be born in mind that he had only 1 season as the punter at the FBS level.

Araiza has one of the strongest legs that we've seen in a punter entering the draft for a number of years and can be a good directional punter as well – although he needs a little bit of work in this area. Averaged 51.19 gross yards per punt in 2021 – the highest single-season average in college football history – earning himself the 2021 Ray Guy Award as the nation's top punter and he also garnered All-American and All-Conference honours.

Araiza is a left-footer which is always intriguing to NFL scouts. Opted to enter the draft as an underclassman.

Likely a day 3 selection, who could be of interest to the Packers.

Jordan Stout (Penn State)

ST2 Punter/Kicker/Kick-off Specialist

Size: 6-3, 209 **40:** 4.65 (combine)

Class: Senior

Stout, who spent 1 year at Virginia Tech before transferring to Penn State, was probably the second best punter in college football in 2021 – a season in which he had a 46.0 gross average and an outstanding 44.5 net average per punt. Was a finalist for the Ray Guy Award and won 1st Team All-Big 10 and 3rd Team All-American honours.

Is also a kicker (62.5% on field goals in his career) but it will be as a punter that his chances at being drafted and making an NFL roster lie. Also could be utilised as a kick-off specialist.

Stout has great hang time and is an exceptional directional punter who during his career at Penn State placed 43 punts inside the 20, as opposed to having just 4 touchbacks.

Will probably be a late day 3 draft choice.

Jake Camarda (Georgia)

ST3 Punter

Size: 6-31 193 **40:** 4.56 (combine)

Class: Senior

For a punter, Camarda is a really nice athlete – as evidenced by his 40 time at the combine. Talking of the combine, it's really unusual for punters to really stand out at the Senior Bowl, but Camarda did just that as he demonstrated a huge leg.

Camarda was probably slightly better in 2020 than he was in 2021. In 2020, he was a finalist for the Ray Guy Award, was the SEC's Special Teams Player of the Year and also earned 1st Team All-SEC honours. But 2021 wasn't a bad season by any means – he still repeated as a 1st Team All-SEC selection.

Camarda is extremely consistent – he finished his college career as the Bulldogs all-time leader in gross punting average – 45.78 yards per punt. He has a booming leg but occasionally lacks hang time – this is something to be worked on.

Likely a day 3 selection or go undrafted. Could be a consideration for the Packers.

Gabe Brkic (Oklahoma)

ST4 Kicker

Size: 6-2, 197 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

Brkic played for 3 years for Oklahoma before opting to enter the 2021 draft as an underclassman. He has a strong leg, which is accurate from distance, with a career long field goal of 56 yards – achieved on multiple occasions. Had a game against Tulsa in 2021 in which he kicked 3 field goals of over 50 yards (equalling an FBS record).

Brkic perhaps had his best year in 2019 as a true freshman when he made every one of his kicking attempts – going 17/17 on field goals and 52/52 on extra points. Earned All-American, Freshman All-American, and All-Conference notice.

Brkic followed his outstanding 2019 season with two solid seasons. In 2020 he was a semi-finalist for the Lou Groza Award (nation's top kicker). And he followed that by being a finalist for the award in 2021. Earned All-Conference notice in both seasons.

Likely goes undrafted and get signed by a team to challenge for a job. Could end up on a Practice Squad.

Cameron Dicker (Texas)

ST5 Kicker/Punter/Kick-off Specialist

Size: 6-1, 220 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Dicker was born in Hong Kong and grew up in Shanghai. He made an immediate mark at Texas, setting UT freshman records with 18 field goals and 105 points in 2018. By the end of his Longhorns' career, Dicker had scored 386 points – the most by a kicker in school history.

Interestingly, was also UT's punter in 2021, adding an extra string to his bow. While he will be seen by pro teams predominantly as a kicker, having versatility is always useful to those teams and to the player himself.

Earned All-Conference notice throughout his career, but probably had his best season in his final year (2021) – converting on 86.7% of his field goal attempts. Dicker has a really nice leg which includes a 57 yard field goal he made against Rice in 2019.

Dicker will likely go undrafted and will possibly enter training camp battling an established veteran for a roster spot.

Cade York (LSU)

ST6 Kicker

Size: 6-1, 206 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Junior

York is a fine kicker with a really strong leg. He had an average freshman season (2019) but has since had 2 really good years – earning recognition and all-star notice in both of them. In 2020, York was also a semi-finalist for the Lou Groza Award (nation's top placekicker). In that 2020 season, he also kicked a game-winning 57 yard field goal – the longest successful attempt in LSU's history.

York had a career 81.8% field goal percentage in his college career, which includes a mark of 84.6% across the last two seasons. Has an excellent 78.9% mark on field goals of 50+ yards – demonstrating how strong his leg is.

Wasn't the number one kick-off guy for the Tigers – in fact he only attempted 2 kick-offs in his college career but both of them went for touchbacks.

Will likely be an undrafted free agent who fights for an NFL roster spot in training camp and pre-season.

Cal Adomitis (Pittsburgh)

ST7 LSN

Size: 6-2, 235 **40:** 4.97 (combine)

Class: Super Senior

Adomitis had an excellent 2021 season in which he earned 1st Team All-American recognition and was awarded the Pat Mannelly Award (for the nation's best long-snapper). Has consistent placement and speed on his snaps.

Played in 64 consecutive games for the Panthers – stretching his career to 5 playing years thanks to the NCAA's "Super Senior" rule.

Adomitis is the number one at his position in this draft and if there's a team out there desperately looking for a long-snapper then Adomitis may well get drafted, otherwise he'll likely be an undrafted free agent who will get signed and challenge for a job during the Summer.

Given the Packers struggles in the kicking game in 2021, is there a possibility that Adomitis could be under consideration for Green Bay?

Ryan Stonehouse (Colorado St.)

ST8 Punter

Size: 5-11, 185 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Stonehouse has punting in his blood – his father and two uncles all punted in college. He is a hugely experienced punter having played 5 seasons at Colorado State. He has a booming leg, including a career high 81 yarder in 2021, ending his college career with a gross average of 47.8 yards per punt, on 244 punts. That gross average is the highest career mark in the history of NCAA football – although some may point to him playing in the elevated air of Colorado.

Sometimes his booming leg can perhaps get the better of him, kicking slightly too many touchbacks.

Stonehouse won lots of recognition throughout his college career, including multiple 1st Team All-Mountain West Conference selections and some All-American notice.

Will probably go undrafted, but certainly has a chance to compete for an NFL job in training camp.

Blake Hayes (Illinois)

ST9 Punter

Size: 6-4, 226 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Super Senior

Hayes was born in Melbourne, Australia and grew up playing Australian Rules Football – honing his kicking skills. Played in 57 games over five seasons (2017-21) at the University of Illinois, using the NCAA “Super Senior” rule to extend his career into 2021. Earned All-Conference notice in each of those five years – with 2021 being the best season of his career, being a Ray Guy Award semi-finalist. By the end of his career, Hayes held nearly all of Illinois' major punting records.

Hayes has a decent leg, but his real forte is his ability to punt directionally superbly well, pinning teams back inside their 20 yard line – finishing his career with an incredible 123 punts placed inside the 20 as opposed to just 12 touchbacks. Needs work on his hang time, however.

Hayes probably won't be drafted and will likely end up in an NFL training camp in the Summer. Could be a Practice Squad candidate.

Trenton Gill (North Carolina)

ST10 Punter/Kick-off specialist

Size: 6-4, 220 **40:** n/a (didn't run the 40 at the combine)

Class: Senior

Gill was a walk-on at North Carolina, but later earned a scholarship. By the time his college career came to an end, Gill held a number of the school's punting records.

Gill has big frame for a punter and yet doesn't have the cannon for a leg that you might expect. Instead, Gill's strength is as a directional punter who limits the returns on his kicks. Gill is also a kick-off specialist, with 57.3% of his kick-offs being touchbacks.

Across his North Carolina career, Gill has a gross average of 45.6 yards per punt, with a 40.5y yard net average. 58 of his 173 punts were fair catches, while he placed 65 inside the 20 as opposed to just 18 touchbacks. Needs to work on his hang time.

It would be a surprise if Gill gets drafted. But he should compete for a job during training camp. He may end up on a Practice Squad.

Daniel Gutierrez (UNLV)

ST11 Kicker

Size: 5-11, 220 **40:** n/a

Class: Senior

Gutierrez didn't receive scholarship offers coming out of high school and was a walk-on at UNLV.

Gutierrez attempted only 45 field goals in his career at UNLV, finishing with an 82.2% success rate which included an 88.9% rate (16/18) in 2021 – his best season. Also hit a career best 53 yard field goal in 2021. Owns many of UNLV's school kicking records, including making 16 consecutive field goals.

Although Gutierrez was also the Kick-off guy for UNLV, he isn't outstanding in this area – not having have the greatest leg strength – only 19.6% of his career kick-offs were touchbacks.

Don't expect Gutierrez to be drafted but do expect him to be get try-outs for one or more NFL teams. Is a long shot to make an NFL roster.

Chandler Staton (Appalachian St)

ST12 Kicker

Size: 5-11, 195 **40:** n/a

Class: Super Senior

Staton had easily the best season of his career in 2021, making 95.2% (20/21) of his field goal attempts. This performance earned him some All-American notice, All-Conference honours and he was a semi-finalist for the Lou Groza Award (best placekicker in the nation).

On the downside, Staton is only a career 79% field goal kicker, but the hope is that he is improving and that his 2021 season is more of a portent of what is to come. He also doesn't have the strongest of legs, having made only a single field goal of over 50 yards and that was back in 2017. In fact, he's only attempted 1 field goal of over 50 yards in the last three seasons combined.

Wasn't Appalachian State's kick-off specialist in 2021 but had previously done the job. But again his lack of leg strength showed up here, with only 26.2% of his kick-offs being touchbacks.

Staton probably won't get drafted. If he wants a shot at an NFL roster, he'll have to demonstrate in camp that his 2021 season is more reflective of his worth.



DRAFT EXTRAS

INJURY WATCHLIST

Each year there are a number of players who head into the NFL draft with injury questions. Often they fit into one of the following three categories:

- Players whose injury occurs so late in the draft "process" that it's difficult to truly know how their draft stock will be impacted.*
- Players who may not have a current injury but have a history of multiple injuries over a number of seasons, which may impact their prospects of having a long NFL career.*
- Players who have made a recovery from an extremely serious injury*

Here we take a quick look at some of the players in this year's draft who fall into one of the categories above.

JAMESON WILLIAMS, WR, ALABAMA

It's just possible that Jameson Williams is the best wideout available in this draft. If not the very best, he certainly may be the best deep threat with the ability to stretch the field and take the top off of a defense.

But unfortunately for Williams, in the very last game of the 2021 season, the National Championship Game, he suffered a torn ACL in his left knee on a play where he wasn't touched by another player - the injury occurred on a huge reception where he tried to cut, and his knee just appeared to give way.

As we know, ACL injuries can take anything up to around a year to come back from, although in Williams' case it was originally thought that the injury would likely keep him out for significantly less than that because there was reportedly no other associated knee damage. This meant that the ACL could be surgically repaired more quickly than is often the case.

Williams had a was simply outstanding 2021. He had 79 receptions for 1,572 yards and 15 touchdowns. His 19.9 yards per reception average was exceptional and demonstrates his ability to get big yardage. This was just the type of performance he had hoped for when he transferred to Alabama after two seasons at Ohio State in which he didn't see too much action in a very deep OSU receiver depth chart.

Williams' 79 catches is the 5th highest single season mark in school history, while the receiving yards and touchdowns are the 3rd highest seasonal marks for Alabama.

Because of the injury and the uncertainty that brings, Williams will drop a few places in the 1st round of the draft, perhaps to somewhere around pick 20. If he falls any further than that, then a team will be getting a bargain. The good news is that Williams' recovery is widely reported to be ahead of schedule, so a team that selects in the upcoming draft will be hopeful that he'll be able to practice around July or August.

JOHN METCHIE III, WR, ALABAMA

John Metchie is yet another excellent wide receiver from the Alabama Crimson Tide, a school that has spent the last few years producing outstanding wideout after outstanding wideout - players like DeVonta Smith, Calvin Ridley, Amari Cooper and Jerry Jeudy have graced the Alabama passing game and now Metchie and his 2021 teammate Jameson Williams join that group.

Metchie finished his career at Alabama ranked 7th on the school's all-time receiving list in receptions and receiving yards.

Unfortunately, just like Jameson Williams, Metchie suffered a torn ACL very late in the 2021 season – the injury coming in the SEC Championship Game against Georgia in early December (about five weeks earlier than Williams' own injury occurred).

And the similarities with Williams don't end there. Metchie's injury also unfortunately came on a play where he wasn't touched by a defender – his knee appeared to give way when he stopped to change direction. It was confirmed as an ACL injury the following day.

Metchie was coming off the back of two very fine seasons in which he had 916 receiving yards in 2020, followed by 1,142 receiving yards in 2021. In the process he had solidified his draft stock as probably a high 2nd round pick with a possibility to sneak into the 1st round.

But the injury obviously raises questions about where he will be selected and quite probably dropped him a few spots in the draft towards the end of the 2nd round or perhaps into the early 3rd round. That draft positioning may also be impacted by the glut of very good receivers that may be available in round 2 and round 3.

The positive news is that all reports are indicating that Metchie's recovery is on schedule and that he may be able to commence practicing as early as June. Metchie is yet another player who will get selected outside of the 1st round because of injury but yet become an NFL star.

DRAKE LONDON, WR, USC

London is a big bodied wide receiver with great length. At 6-4, 219 he brings a physical presence to the wideout spot that many teams look for.

After two solid seasons at USC in 2019-20 (2020 was curtailed to 6 games due to Covid), London was on the verge of a great 2021 season when injury struck. In the eighth game of the season (against Arizona in October), having already surpassed the 1,000 yard receiving mark, London unfortunately suffered a fractured ankle. The injury bringing a premature end to his season and USC career.

The good news is that London's recovery from the fractured ankle has, by all reports, been fully successful. He didn't test at the combine, and has since suffered a mild hamstring strain, delaying his pro day by a few days, but there appears to be no reasons for concern and London should take his rightful place near the top of the wide receiver group come draft day at the end of April. He quite possibly will be the second wideout to have his name called.

JUSTYN ROSS, WR, CLEMSON

Ross is a super-talented receiver who after his freshman season at Clemson (2018) was surely already well on the way to being an NFL 1st round draft choice. However in the spring of 2020, after reportedly suffering a stinger injury in practice, Ross was diagnosed with a serious neck problem – a congenital fusion which would require spinal surgery to resolve.

It was the latest, but most serious, injury in a career which appears to have been littered with injury problems. Ross' injury problems appear to have started in high school in 2015 with a sprain to his MCL in his right knee that occurred playing basketball. After returning from that injury, he shortly afterwards suffered a torn ACL in the same knee also while playing basketball. He returned from the injury to play football in 2016 and 2017 eventually opted to attend Clemson to play college football.

As mentioned above, he had an outstanding freshman season in conjunction with fellow freshman Trevor Lawrence and Ross followed it up with a good 2019, in which he missed 1 game due to a minor hip injury.

And then came the devastating neck problem in 2020 – it was so concerning that at one point it was reported that Ross was retiring from football. But he is nothing if not resilient and despite around 18 months of recovery and rehab, Ross came back to play in 2021.

But if that wasn't enough, Ross then suffered a stress fracture of his foot towards the end of the 2021 season, limiting his season to 10 games.

Where does all of this leave Justyn Ross with regard to the draft?

Ross didn't take part in the physical testing at the combine as he recovered from the foot fracture, but he did participate in Clemson's pro day – running a below average 4.63 in the 40. However, Ross has physical traits such as his height (6-4) and length which will endear him to pro scouts, as will his really nice hands and the ability to run routes which enable him to get open. But ultimately, his Ross's draft chances will come down to how teams view his medical situation, and that we can only guess at.

But we will guess – and we think that he still has a chance to be selected around the 3rd round.

GRANT CALCATERRA, TE, SMU

Grant Calcaterra has a history of concussions – so much so that at one point in his college career he decided to retire. Quite how many concussion Calcaterra had actually suffered prior to his short retirement isn't clear but clearly it was enough of a concern to him at the time. There are no reports of him suffering a concussion since returning to the game, which is obviously good news.

Although he has seemingly successfully returned to football, it is really difficult to know how NFL teams will view that history. With increased emphasis on safety around head injuries in the NFL, it may be that teams will simply shy away from drafting Calcaterra.

DAVID OJABO, EDGE, MICHIGAN

David Ojabo is inexperienced as a football player and that in itself raised some question marks around his draft positioning. But he is an exceptionally skilled and athletic pass rusher off the edge with a huge upside – and players that can put pressure on the passer are always popular amongst NFL teams.

During his outstanding 2021 season, Ojabo had 11 sacks and 12 TFL and appeared to spend most of his time playing in the offensive backfield. Ojabo moved rapidly up draft boards, to the point that many were projecting him as a possible Top 10 overall pick. These projections appeared to be confirmed by an outstanding performance at the combine, where he demonstrated speed, agility, and all-round athletic prowess.

And then came the Michigan pro day. Ojabo pulled up while running with what looked like a serious foot/ankle injury – the following day it was confirmed that he had torn an achilles tendon. A torn achilles is obviously a serious injury but fortunately is one that most players come back successfully from.

Whilst every injury is different, it may be worth looking back to our 2021 UKPackers Draft Guide and to this very section, where we talked about Dayo Odeyingbo from Vanderbilt. Odeyingbo suffered a torn achilles tendon early in 2021. He probably fell 15-20 places in the draft because of the injury – but the good news was that he had recovered sufficiently to play for the Indianapolis Colts by around mid-season.

Perhaps this is an indicator as to what may happen with Ojabo. Certainly it would seem that he's more likely to be selected late in the first round than early, but he's also a steal in the making for a team prepared to take a chance on him.

CARSON STRONG, QB, NEVADA

Strong has suffered from knee problems dating back to his time in high school. He underwent his first knee surgery just prior to his senior high school season in 2017 – forcing him to miss that season of football.

At the combine, Strong revealed that he has a condition called osteochondritis dissecans, where the cartilage starts to detach itself from the bone. He underwent surgery for the condition in February 2021 – a surgery which it is hoped will be the long term solution to his problems.

Despite the 2021 surgery, Strong played the whole of the season – even though that wasn't expected. His mobility was somewhat inhibited as he wore a knee brace while his knee fully recovered. The good news is that by the time of the Senior Bowl this past February, Strong was able to play without the knee brace.

Strong is a super-talented passer and he probably has the strongest arm in this draft. Any player with a history of knee problems like his is always going to come under close scrutiny of NFL medical staff and it surely must impact his draft position – the lower he is selected, the less of a risk teams will be taking.

But Strong has the potential to be an NFL starter, and it wouldn't be a surprise, despite the injury history, for him to be off the board by the end of day 2.

McKENZIE MILTON, QB, FLORIDA STATE

In 2015, prior to McKenzie Milton being at the school, the University of Central Florida (UCF) finished the season winless. But in 2016, Milton's freshman season, he led them to a Bowl game, and this was just the start - In an outstanding 2017 season, Milton quarterbacked UCF to an unbeaten 13-0 record and yet despite them being the nation's only unbeaten team, they weren't chosen to take part in the National Championship play-offs.

On to 2018 and Milton again led the Knights to an unbeaten 10-0 record with one game of the regular season to come. He had quarterbacked his team to 23 consecutive victories. And yes, it was obviously a great team effort, but there is no doubt that Milton was the heartbeat of the team – a true inspirational leader.

On November 23rd, Milton's career would change forever. Playing at South Florida, Milton was tackled in the 2nd quarter on a play that initially looked much like many others. But this time, it was clear that the young passer had suffered a serious looking knee injury, although quite how serious wasn't known at the time. It was initially reported as a dislocation.

The details of Milton's injuries have been reported on numerous occasions, and the graphic detail need not be reported here, suffice to say that there were multiple injuries involving dislocation, arteries, lack of blood flow and ligament damage which put Milton's leg in danger of requiring amputation. Fortunately, thanks to great medical expertise, surgeons were able to save his leg.

It was later reported that around 50% of patients with his level of injury would likely have the leg amputated. It was also reported that if the injury had occurred outside of 20 minutes from a major trauma centre he would have lost the leg.

Over the coming months, Milton would undergo a number of surgeries that would miraculously enable him to eventually return to the football field. He transferred from UCF to Florida State and around 34 months after his injury, McKenzie Milton played football again. And here we are with the 2022 NFL draft looming, he appears in this guide as one of the quarterbacks who is available.

He almost certainly won't be drafted. But for Milton just to be in this position is amazing.

McKenzie Milton's story is little short of a modern medical miracle. It is a story of perseverance and hard work by both Milton and by medical experts.

MARCUS JONES, CB/KR/PR, HOUSTON

Jones is perhaps the most exciting and dynamic player in the return game that we have seen enter the draft for a few years. He is also a good corner, particularly covering the slot receiver. The big concern about Jones is his lack of size – the big concern that is until recently.

Jones has recently undergone surgeries on both of his shoulders and while he fully expects to be ready to go by training camp, this news coming so late in the draft "process" may impact his draft stock with some teams.

GEORGE PICKENS, WR, GEORGIA

Just like Justyn Ross (read more about Ross elsewhere in this section), Pickens started his college career with an outstanding freshman season – in his case in 2019 – before the injury bug hit. After that early promise, in the following two seasons he didn't again reach the same level of production, largely thanks to those injuries.

In 2020, Pickens spent much of the season battling a nagging upper-body injury which forced him to miss one game, and severely impacted his ability to play at full speed.

And then in the spring of 2021, he suffered a torn ACL in a non-contact practice, initially ruling him out of the 2021 season. But Pickens recovered quicker than was hoped for and came back to play in the final regular game of the 2021 season and then played in all 3 games in the postseason.

Perhaps is not yet all the way back from that ACL injury but he ran a fine 4.47 in the 40 at the combine and when he's fully fit, Pickens is a physically dominating receiver with excellent hands. There's no apparent reason to suspect that he won't be back to his best for the 2022 season, although teams will obviously have to assess his situation.

JEREMIAH MOON, LB/EDGE, FLORIDA

Unfortunately, Jeremiah Moon is one of those players who appears to have injuries follow him. And sadly, these injuries always seems to be much more than the normal bumps and bruises that any football player can expect. Moon suffered season ending injuries 3 times in his Gator career:

- 2016 – A serious thumb fracture limited his season to just 2 games
- 2019 – A foot injury limited his season to 9 games (missing the final 4)
- 2020 – A stress fracture of the foot limited his season to just 4 games.

He played without major injury in 2021 and despite the injury history Moon still has a chance of being drafted in the late rounds – his career taking a turn upwards when he moved inside to middle linebacker this part season – ironically to take the place of an injured teammate (Ventrell Miller).

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN, EDGE, ALABAMA

Allen is a an athletically talented outside linebacker who has an injury history that may be of concern to NFL teams. Currently he is recovering from a broken foot which he suffered in the opening game of the 2021 season. He subsequently didn't participate in the testing at the combine, and this may raise question marks with NFL teams.

Allen previously had to sit out the whole of the 2018 season due to a torn ACL which occurred just prior to the season commencing.

Whilst the injuries will have knocked Allen down draft boards, he has sufficient athletic prowess and ability, particularly as a pass rusher around the edge, to justify a team selecting him late on in the draft – he would surely have gone much higher without his injury history.

LUKE GOEDEKE, OT, CENTRAL MICHIGAN

Goedeke is a little bit of an under the radar prospect who could surprise in the NFL. Unfortunately some of his play and progress has been overshadowed by a little bit of an injury history.

As a senior in high school, Goedeke suffered a shoulder injury which prevented him from playing for most of that season (2016). He later missed the whole of his junior season in college (2020) due to a knee injury which required surgery.

In 2022, he suffered a strained hamstring during the first Senior Bowl week practice which shortened his time at the all-star gathering and prevented him from playing in the game. He had recovered sufficiently for the combine, around a month later, to take part in the testing and workouts.

A player with an injury history is always likely to raise some red flags with NFL teams. However, like everybody else on this list that medical history will be fully assessed by NFL medical staff before a team selects him. The good news is, that on the face of it (and I'm not a doctor) none of Goedeke's injuries appear to be related.

ANDREW BOOTH JR., CB, CLEMSON

Booth is one of those talented players who never quite seems to shake off the injury bug. When not hurt he is one of top cornerbacks in the nation and providing teams are comfortable with his injury situation that will be reflected by his draft position – he may well be selected in the 1st round.

Unfortunately, Booth's injury history is extensive. After having a knee problem in his childhood, he then suffered from tendinitis in his knee during high school and his freshman 2019 season at Clemson. Booth played through that pain but subsequently underwent surgery immediately after the season to deal with a torn patellar tendon.

After playing the whole of the 2020 season seemingly without injury, Booth's bad luck returned during and after the 2021 season. In the last few months, he has reportedly suffered a number of injuries including two since the season ended – a quad injury that kept him out of the combine and then a sports hernia for which he has recently undergone surgery. It is expected however that he should be ready to go by camp.

DAMONE CLARK, LB, LSU

Clark looked like he was going to be a 2nd or 3rd round pick in the draft as he headed for the combine at the end of February and then things changed. Reportedly, as part of the medical testing at the event, a herniated disk was discovered in an MRI.

Clark subsequently had to undergo spinal fusion surgery in March, meaning that he will probably miss the whole of the 2022 season as he recovers but is expected to make a full recovery and return to football.

Teams will of course need to decide how much draft collateral they are prepared to spend on a player who likely won't be available to play until the 2023 season.

BADGER WATCH

Many readers of this draft guide will also be fans of the Wisconsin Badgers, so we thought it may be a good idea to take a very quick look at all of the Badgers who could gain some notice in the upcoming draft:

Players likely to be drafted

Leo Chenal will very likely be the first Badger selected in this draft. The linebacker is 65th overall player on our Top 300 board, and our 6th highest ranked player at his position. He is a fine player against the run and very underrated in pass coverage. Reliable and consistent, Chenal can expect to be chosen on day 2 – most likely in **round 3**, with an outside chance of sneaking into the end of round 2.

There is a large group of tight ends in this draft who are candidates to be selected somewhere between rounds 3 and 6 – we have 11 tight ends on our big board between positions 100 and 212 (inclusive). Right in the middle of that group of 11 is **Jake Ferguson**, the 151st player overall on our big board, and the 9th tight end in our position grouping. Ferguson was born to be a Badger and he proved to be highly durable as he delivered week in, week out. Probably gets chosen around **round 5**.

The Badgers has strong play at the linebacker spot and playing alongside Leo Chenal, **Jack Sanborn** made his mark and can also expect to be selected in this draft. He is the 20th linebacker on our board and the 198th player overall. Sanborn can add positional depth and play on special teams for the team that selects him somewhere around the **6th round**.

Wisconsin has a reputation for producing offensive linemen who are NFL calibre. This year **Logan Bruss** is the player who should continue the tradition of Badgers' linemen getting drafted. Bruss was a multi-year starter at right tackle, with a few starts inside at guard and it is at the interior spot where his best chance in the pros is likely to be. Bruss is ranked as our 17th interior offensive lineman and the 206th player overall on our board. He is likely to selected around **round 6**.

Outside our top 300, but they have a draft chance

The remaining Badgers players available in the NFL draft all sit outside our Top 300 Big Board and therefore on the face of it we would expect them to go undrafted. However, it only takes 1 of the 32 teams to have them higher on their board for the player to have a chance of being taken. This is especially the case with the following three players:

Cornerback **Faion Hicks** was excellent at the Wisconsin pro day at which he ran a super-fast 4.37 in the 40. That performance in itself will get Hicks lots of notice from NFL teams and you have to believe at least one of those teams (if not more than one) has placed on their board in a draftable spot. So despite the fact that he's the 42nd corner on our list, it wouldn't be a shock if Hicks were drafted. He's a very experienced 39 game starter at the college level who at the very least will compete for an NFL roster spot as a free agent (if not drafted).

Scott Nelson is the 42nd ranked safety on our board and given that only around 20 safeties are selected each year, his chance of being drafted are obviously extremely slim. However, a bit like Hicks (above), Nelson performed excellently at the Wisconsin pro day, being outstanding in all of the tests – including running a 4.38 in the 40. Again like Hicks, Nelson is an experience starter who could have given himself an outside chance of appearing on somebody's board very late in the draft.

Third on the list of the remaining players is defensive lineman **Matt Henningsen**, who is the 26th interior defensive lineman on our list. An experienced, multi-year starter, Henningsen is an effective run defender who doesn't generate much of a pass rush. If he does indeed go undrafted, we should expect to see him in training camp with a team, competing for a roster spot or a practice squad role.

Players unlikely to be drafted

We suspect that the following players will probably go undrafted:

John Seltzner, guard, the 35th ranked interior offensive lineman on our board. Ran a 5.12 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

John Chenal, fullback, the 29th ranked player on our composite TE/FB/H-Back list. Ran a 4.76 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day. Is the brother of fellow potential draftee Leo Chenal.

Danny Davis III, wide receiver, the 59th ranked wide receiver on our board. Ran a 4.50 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

Noah Burks, Edge, the 48th ranked edge player on our board. Ran a 4.71 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

Caesar Williams, cornerback, the 70th ranked cornerback on our board. Ran a 4.59 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

Collin Wilder, safety, the 59th ranked safety on our board. Ran a 4.57 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

Kendric Pryor, wide receiver, the 67th ranked wide receiver on our board. Ran a 4.38 in the 40 at the Badgers' pro day.

For completeness, there are two other players who are entering the draft this year who previously played for the Wisconsin Badgers but had transferred to another school – QB **Jack Coan** (Notre Dame) and safety **Madison Cone** (Appalachian State).

More detail about Jack Coan can be found in the quarterback position by position section of this guide. He is our 9th ranked quarterback and our 238th ranked player overall.

Madison Cone is the 56th ranked safety on our board. He played in 33 games for the Badgers from 2017-2020, before transferring to Appalachian State to complete his college career in 2021. We don't expect him to be drafted. In a nice touch, he took part in the Badgers' pro day (running a 4.59 in the 40), testing and working out for pro scouts. .

DOUBLES & TRIPLES

When putting together our Top 300 Big Board, it's always interesting to see how many times there are multiple players at the same position from the same school entering the draft in the same year. Such is the case again this year – here is a list of some of those players and schools “doubling up” in the 2022 NFL Draft, and in a couple of cases “tripling up”, including in brackets each of their positions on our board:

Tripling Up:

1. Georgia linebackers – Nakobe Dean (25), Quay Walker (56) & Channing Tindall (77)

2. Alabama wide receivers – Jameson Williams (15), John Metchie III (66) & Slade Bolden (287)

Doubling Up:

1. Ohio State wide receivers – Garrett Wilson (10) & Chris Olave (18)

2. Michigan edge rushers – Aidan Hutchinson (1) & David Ojabo (29)

3. Georgia defensive tackles – Jordan Davis (14) & Devonte Wyatt (23)

4. Washington cornerbacks – Trent McDuffie (19) & Kyler Gordon (48)

5. Cincinnati cornerbacks – Ahmad Gardner (6) & Coby Bryant (91)

6. Clemson cornerbacks – Andrew Booth Jr. (24) & Mario Goodrich (136)

7. Georgia running backs – James Cook (87) & Zamir White (111)

8. Central Michigan offensive tackles – Bernhard Raimann (38) & Luke Goedeke (152)

9. Baylor safeties – Jalen Pitre (52) & J.T. Woods (155)

10. Oklahoma edge rushers – Nik Bonitto (61) & Isaiah Thomas (156)

11. Georgia guards – Jamaree Salyer (84) & Justin Shaffer (145)

12. Boston College interior offensive linemen – Zion Johnson (26) & Alec Lindstrom (149)

13. LSU cornerbacks – Derek Stingley Jr. (8) & Cordale Flott (191)

14. Tulsa offensive tackles – Tyler Smith (49) & Chris Paul (168)

15. Penn State edge rushers – Arnold Ebiketie (46) & Jesse Luketa (174)

16. Texas A&M defensive tackles – DeMarvin Leal (51) & Jayden Peevy (179)

17. Alabama cornerbacks – Josh Jobe (107) & Jalyn Armour-Davis (147)

18. Wisconsin inside linebackers – Leo Chenal (68) & Jack Sanborn (198)

2023 NFL DRAFT WATCHLIST

At the time of writing it appears that the 2023 NFL draft may well feature quarterbacks right at the very top. However, both Ohio State's **C.J. Stroud** and Alabama's **Bryce Young** will have significant amount of college eligibility remaining after the 2022 season – Stroud will be a redshirt sophomore during 2022 and Young will be a true junior – so it is possible that neither or just one of them actually declares for the 2023 draft.

The other player who appears to be in contention, at the time of writing, to the overall pick in 2023 is yet another of Alabama's stars - outstanding outside linebacker **Will Anderson**, the 2021 Bronco Nagurski Trophy winner and SEC Defensive Player of the Year.

And of course, we are only guessing as to what type of seasons any of the above mentioned players will have in 2022 and how their draft chances may be impacted. When making predictions - let's call them guesses - more than a year in advance it's worth reminding ourselves of **Spencer Rattler** of South Carolina (formerly of Oklahoma), who this time last year was expected to be a really high pick in this 2022 draft. However, Rattler's 2021 season didn't go to plan, and rather than declaring for the 2022 draft, he opted to stay in college and transfer to South Carolina – he again appears in our watch list.

Here's our very early – make that way too early - watchlist for the 2023 NFL Draft:

	Name	Pos	College
1.	C.J. Stroud	QB	Ohio State
2.	Bryce Young	QB	Alabama
3.	Will Anderson Jr.	Edge	Alabama
4.	Bryan Bresee	DT	Clemson
5.	Kelee Ringo	CB	Georgia
6.	Jaxon Smith-Njigba	WR	Ohio State
7.	Malachi Moore	DB	Alabama
8.	Bijan Robinson	RB	Texas
9.	Jalen Carter	DT	Georgia
10.	Eli Ricks	CB	Alabama
11.	Michael Mayer	TE	Notre Dame
12.	Paris Johnson Jr.	OT	Ohio State
13.	B.J. Ojulari	Edge	LSU
14.	Kayshon Boutte	WR	LSU
15.	Myles Murphy	DT	Clemson

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	Name	Pos	College
16.	Jahmyr Gibbs	RB	Alabama
17.	Brandon Joseph	S	Notre Dame
18.	Spencer Rattler	QB	South Carolina
19.	Joey Porter Jr.	CB	Penn State
20.	Jordan Addison	WR	Pittsburgh
21.	Trenton Simpson	LB	138Clemson
22.	Isaiah Foskey	DL	Notre Dame
23.	Noah Sewell	LB	Oregon
24.	Phil Jurkovec	QB	Boston College
25.	Zach Evans	RB	Mississippi
26.	Marvin Mims	WR	Oklahoma
27.	Nolan Smith	Edge	Georgia
28.	Byron Young	DL	Alabama
29.	Peter Skoronski	OT	Northwestern
30.	Robert Scott Jr.	OT	FSU
31.	Tank Bigsby	RB	Auburn
32.	Henry To'oto'o	Edge	Alabama
33.	Derick Hall	Edge	Auburn
34.	Antonio Johnson	CB	Texas A&M
35.	Zion Tupuola-Fetui	Edge	Washington
36.	Jalen Catalon	S	Arkansas
37.	Rashad Torrence II	S	Florida
38.	Rakim Jarrett	WR	Maryland
39.	Garrett Williams	CB	Syracuse
40.	Justin Eboigbe	DL	Alabama
41.	Jaheel Billingsley	TE	Texas
42.	Sedrick Van Pran	IOL	Georgia
9	Quentin Johnston	WR	TCU
44.	Sam LaPorta	TE	Iowa
45.	Parker Washington	WR	Penn State
46.	Ainias Smith	WR	Texas A&M
47.	Dawand Jones	OT	Ohio State
48.	Anthony Richardson	QB	Florida
49.	Jordan Battle	S	Alabama
50.	Jarrett Patterson	IOL	Notre Dame
51.	Will McDonald IV	DL	Iowa State
52.	Hendon Hooker	QB	Tennessee
53.	John Michael Schmitz	IOL	Minnesota
54.	Devon Achane	RB	Texas A&M
55.	Jack Campbell	LB	Iowa
56.	DeMarcco Hellams	S	Alabama
57.	Ricky Stromberg	IOL	Arkansas
58.	Kyu Blu Kelly	CB	Stanford
59.	Dalton Kincaid	TE	Utah
60.	Ochaun Mathis	DL	Texas

List continues on the next page

	Name	Pos	College
61.	Walker Parks	OT	Clemson
62.	Zach Harrison	DL	Ohio State
63.	Justin Flowe	LB	Oregon
64.	Jaelyn Duncan	OT	Maryland
65.	Habakkuk Baldonado	DL	Pittsburgh
66.	Carter Warren	IOL	Pittsburgh
67.	Payton Wilson	Edge	North Carolina State
68.	Will Levis	QB	Kentucky
69.	Tre'Vius Hodges-Tomlinson	CB	TCU
70.	Tony Grimes	CB	North Carolina
71.	Zach Charbonnet	RB	UCLA
72.	Xavier Hutchinson	WR	Iowa State
73.	Broderick Jones	OT	Georgia
74.	Noah Daniels	CB	TCU
75.	Tiawan Mullen	CB	Indiana
76.	Brenton Cox Jr.	Edge	Florida
77.	Gervon Dexter	DL	Florida
78.	Trey Dean III	S	Florida
79.	Robert Beal Jr.	Edge	Georgia
80.	Deuce Vaughn	RB	Kansas State
81.	Jaylon Jones	CB	Texas A&M
82.	Will Mallory	TE	Miami, Fla
83.	Josh Whyte	TE	Cincinnati
84.	David Spaulding	CB	North Carolina
85.	Anton Harrison	OT	Oklahoma
86.	Jake Haener	QB	Fresno State
87.	Nathan Pickering	DL	Mississippi State
88.	Beejay Williamson	S	Louisiana Tech
89.	Jonathan Mingo	WR	Mississippi
90.	Akeem Dent	S	Florida State
91.	Lucas Van Ness	DL	Iowa
92.	DeMarvion Overshown	Edge	Texas
93.	Jaren Hall	QB	BYU
94.	Avery Young	CB	Rutgers
95.	Zacch Pickens	DL	South Carolina
96.	Lathan Ransom	CB	Ohio State
97.	Zay Flowers	WR	Boston College
98.	Zion Nelson	OT	Miami, Fla
99.	Clark Phillips III	CB	Utah
100.	D.J. Dale	DL	Alabama
101.	P.J. Mustipher	DL	Penn State
102.	Javion Cohen	IOL	Alabama
103.	Brennan Armstrong	QB	Virginia
104.	Robert Cooper	DL	Eastern Washington
105.	Will Rogers	QB	Mississippi State



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