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# Introduction



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

As in previous years, we have 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 to watch and talk about football.

And then we have The Combine in March and pro days throughout March and April which have provided us with a last look at players before the draft itself - providing us with some final insight and hopefully confirming what we thought we already knew.

More than anything, like all football fans at 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 2024 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 with 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 2024 NFL Draft. Go Pack Go!!

### Round 1

Thursday, April 25, beginning at 8 p.m. ET

Friday, April 26, beginning at 1 a.m. BST

### Rounds 2 and 3

Friday, April 26, beginning at 7 p.m. ET

Saturday, April 27 beginning at 12 a.m. BST

### Rounds 4 through 7

Saturday, April 27, beginning at noon ET

Saturday, April 27 beginning at 5 p.m. BST



**1ST ROUND, PICK 25** 

#25 overall



2ND ROUND, PICK 9 from NYJ

#41 overall



**3RD ROUND, PICK 24** 

#88 overall



2ND ROUND, PICK 26

#58 overall



**3RD ROUND, PICK 27** from BUF

#91 overall





4TH ROUND, PICK 26

#126 overall



5TH ROUND, PICK 34 compensatory

#169 overall



6TH ROUND, PICK 26

#202 overall



6TH ROUND, PICK 43 compensatory

#219 overall



**7TH ROUND, PICK 25** 

#245 overall



7TH ROUND, PICK 35 compensatory

#255 overall

### **ROUND ONE ORDER**

- 1) Chicago Bears (from Carolina)
- 2) Washington Commanders
- 3) New England Patriots
- 4) Arizona Cardinals
- 5) Los Angeles Chargers
- 6) New York Giants
- 7) Tennessee Titans
- 8) Atlanta Falcons
- 9) Chicago Bears
- 10) New York Jets
- 11) Minnesota Vikings
- 12) Denver Broncos
- 13) Las Vegas Raiders
- 14) New Orleans Saints
- 15) Indianapolis Colts
- 16) Seattle Seahawks
- 17) Jacksonville Jaguars
- 18) Cincinnati Bengals
- 19) Los Angeles Rams
- 20) Pittsburgh Steelers
- 21) Miami Dolphins
- 22) Philadelphia Eagles
- 23) Minnesota Vikings (from
- Cleveland through Houston)

- 24) Dallas Cowboys
- 25) Green Bay Packers
- 26) Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- 27) Arizona Cardinals (from
- Houston)
- 28) Buffalo Bills
- 29) Detroit Lions
- 30) Baltimore Ravens
- 31) San Francisco 49ers
- 32) Kansas City Chiefs

# PACKERS 1st ROUND MOCK DRAFTS

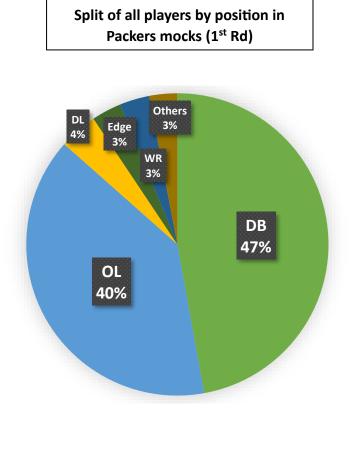
Just for fun, we took a look at **220** recent Packers mock drafts that had been posted on social media, to see what fans, analysts and journalists were predicting/guessing what the Packers may do with pick 25 in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the upcoming draft.

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

(Nb. We didn't include those mocks which included trades that gave the Packers additional 1<sup>st</sup> round picks or moved the Packers from pick 25)

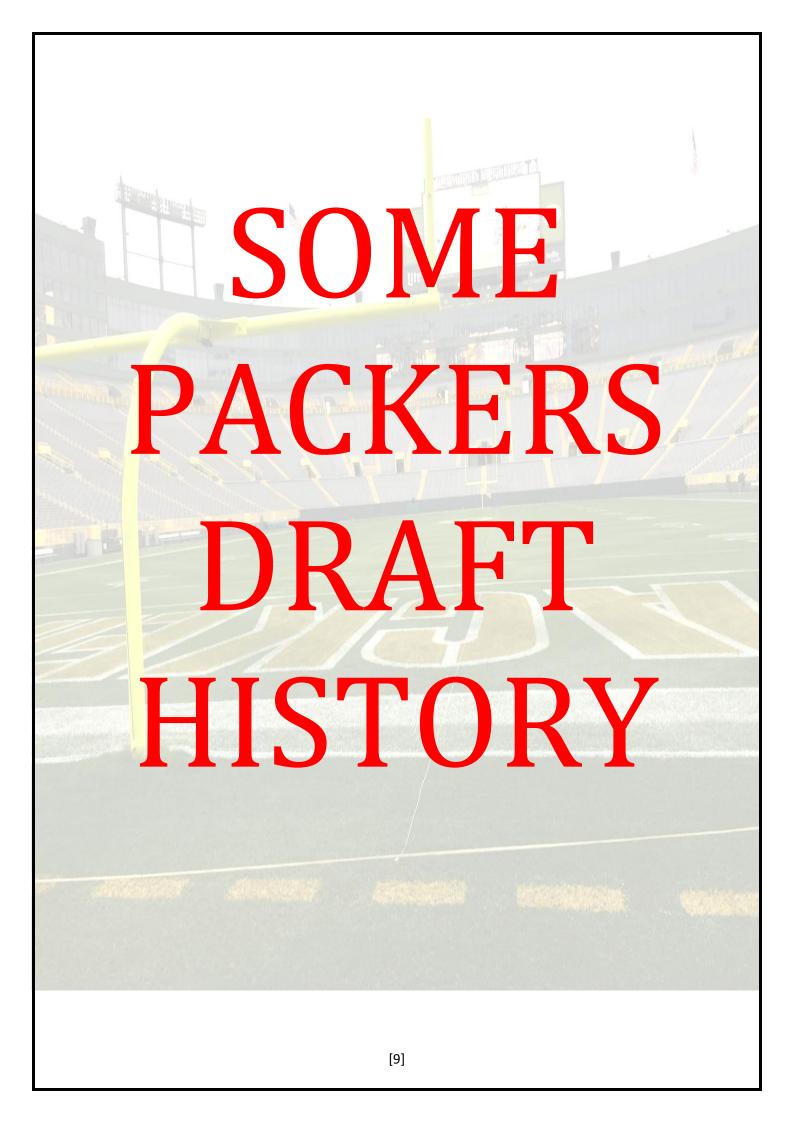
#### Most frequently mocked players and players by position

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the two most frequently mocked position groups were defensive back (with a massive 47.3%) and offensive line (39.5%). The third most frequently mocked position group was defensive line (way down at 4.1%). Perhaps also not surprisingly, Cooper DeJean (DB, Iowa) was the single most frequently mocked player in the 1<sup>st</sup> round - appearing in a huge 28.2% of those mocks. Second, behind DeJean, was Graham Barton (OL, Duke) with 14.5%.



Most frequently chosen 1<sup>st</sup> Rd players (Packers mock drafts)

- 1. Cooper DeJean, DB, 28.2%
- 2. Graham Barton, OL, 14.5%
- 3. Kool-Aid McKinstry, CB, 11.8%
- 4= Amarius Mims, OL, 6.8%
- 4= Tyler Guyton, OL, 6.8%
- 6= Jordan Morgan, OL, 3.2%
- 6= Nate Wiggins, CB, 3.2%
- 8= Jackson Powers-Johnson, OL, 2.3%
- 8= Byron Murphy, DL, 2.3%
- 10. 5 players at 1.8% each



# LOOKING BACK TO 2023

Just for fun we thought we'd take a look back at a recent Packers draft and re-visit what we said, BEFORE the draft, about some of the players that the Packers selected. As last year's draft has, thus far, turned out to be an excellent one, we decided to look back to see what we said about the Packers 2023 selections – before they were the Packers 2023 selections.

Here is what we said (edited for expediency only)...

#### LUKAS VAN NESS - 1st Round Pick

"...Entered this draft with a substantial amount of college eligibility remaining...really helped his cause with a fine showing at the combine. It will be interesting to see what position pro teams project him to play – it's certainly possible that he could be either 4-3 DE or big 3-4 OLB, with potential also to play inside. Perhaps the most exciting thing about Van Ness is that he appears to be just scratching the surface of what his production may become...Expect him to be off the board somewhere around the middle of round 1"

#### JAYDEN REED - 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Pick

"Is an exciting, dynamic playmaking wide receiver, with experience and game versatility – also having good kick-off and punt return ability (he returned 3 punts for touchdowns during his college career). Will need to develop his route running, route tree and his hands to become a full-time starter at receiver. Nonetheless, the team that drafts him is getting a good football player. Should be off the board in round 3 or 4"

#### COLBY WOODEN - 4th Round Pick

"...was probably wise for Wooden to decide to return to school for the 2022 season rather than enter last year's draft...has some potential both as a pass rusher and against the run, and his versatility and work ethic will help him with NFL scouts...is also inconsistent and doesn't have the production that that those scouts would hope for. It's also unclear exactly what Wooden's best spot will be at the next level. He looks like a developmental project who will be selected around round 4 or 5"

#### KARL BROOKS – 6th Round Pick

"...put together an impressive week at the Senior Bowl, which makes his non-invite to the combine even stranger...Nevertheless, this won't prevent him from being drafted – he is way too good and has too much upside for a team not to spend a middle round pick on him...One of the questions for NFL teams is exactly what role they see fitting into at the pro level...expect him to be selected around round 4 or 5, although it wouldn't be a surprise to see a team pick him a round or so higher than that"

#### LUKE MUSGRAVE - 2<sup>nd</sup> Round Pick

"Is a dynamic athlete who will peak a lot of interest with NFL scouts because he looks like a player with a huge amount of upside – he appears to be barely have scratched the surface of his potential. Any team selecting Musgrave will be doing so based as much on that potential as production, and it may take a year or two for him to fully develop, but there's no doubt that he lots of the attributes to be a starting tight end in the NFL. Look for him to be selected on Day 2...with the outside chance that he could sneak into Round 1"

#### TUCKER KRAFT – 3rd Round Pick

"Playing at the FCS level at SDSU and only having one really big season (2021) will raise some questions as to Kraft's production potential, but nonetheless, he is good football player with close to prototypical NFL size and athleticism. Will likely be selected by a team that has a little time to develop him and he should go on to be a good quality pro TE – either as a starter or no.2...should be off the board around round 2 or 3"

#### DONTAYVION WICKS - 5th Round Pick

"Will the real Dontayvion Wicks please stand up? Is it the receiver who broke Virginia receiving records during the 2021 season? Or is it the often-injured receiver who also suffers from dropping passes? Wicks has a lot of talent and has the speed (forget the injury affected combine time) to cause NFL defenses real headaches – he's therefore going to get a shot at developing and becoming a consistent threat at the pro level. Expect him to be selected sometime around the middle rounds"

#### CARRINGTON VALENTINE – 7th Round Pick

"...opted to declare for the draft with college eligibility remaining. This was slightly surprising, as at this point, he has proved to be a generally reliable CB but hasn't been outstanding and made a mark that would have moved him into the upper echelons of corners available in this draft...has some upside but may take a little while to develop. He should earn a role as a back-up and perhaps as a dime back early in the NFL, while also contributing on special teams. Should be selected on day 3"

Note that the following 2023 Packers draftees, had a limited/no profile, in last year's Preview...Sean Clifford, QB (5<sup>th</sup> Round), Anders Carlson, K (6<sup>th</sup> Round), Lew Nichols III, RB (7<sup>th</sup> Round), Anthony Johnson Jr., S (7<sup>th</sup> Round), Grant DuBose, WR (7<sup>th</sup> Round).

# THE LAST TIME...

Here is the last time that the Packers picked at each position in the draft – in the  $1^{st}$  round and at any point.

POS.	1ST ROUND	ANY ROUND	
QB	Jordan Love (2020)	Sean Clifford (2023)	
RB	Darrell Thompson (1990)	Lew Nichols III (2023)	
WR	Javon Walker (2002)	Jayden Reed, Dontayvion Wicks, Grant DuBose (all 2023)	
TE	Bubba Franks (2000)	Luke Musgrave, Tucker Kraft (both 2023)	
OC	Bob Hyland (1967)	Josh Myers (2021)	
OG	Aaron Taylor (1994)	Sean Rhyan (2022)	
ОТ	Derek Sherrod (2011)	Zach Tom, Rasheed Walker (both 2022)	
DL	Devonte Wyatt (2022)	Colby Wooden, Karl Brooks (both 2023)	
Edge	Lucas Van Ness (2023)	Lucas Van Ness (2023)	
LB	Quay Walker (2022)	Quay Walker (2022)	
СВ	Eric Stokes (2021)	Carrington Valentine (2023)	
S	Darnell Savage Jr. (2019)	Anthony Johnson Jr. (2023)	
К	None*	Anders Carlson (2023)	
Р	None*	J.K. Scott (2018)	
LSN	None*	Hunter Bradley (2018)	

\*The Packers have never selected a specialist kicker, punter, or long snapper in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the NFL draft (although they have selected players who have performed those roles as well as other positions e.g. Paul Hornung, drafted in 1957).

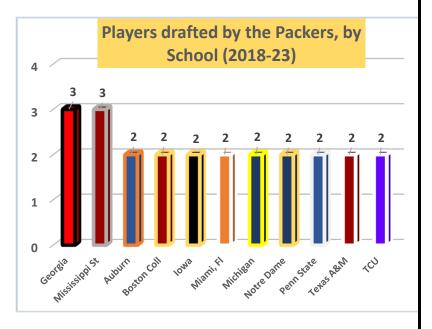
The earliest that they have selected specialist players at those positions is:

- Kicker Chester Marcol (1972), 2<sup>nd</sup> round
- Punter B.J. Sander (2004) & Ray Stachowicz (1981), both 3<sup>rd</sup> round
- Long snapper Hunter Bradley (2018), 7<sup>th</sup> round
  - Note: Bradley is the only long snapper that the Packers have ever selected in the draft

# GUTEY'S PACKERS DRAFTS (2018-23)

Brian Gutenkunst conducted his first draft as General Manager of the Packers in 2018. Here are some of the facts and figures that relate to those drafts.

- Total Players Since 2018, the Packers have selected 61 players in the draft.
- Schools Since 2018, the Packers have drafted players from 48 different schools, including 3 each from Georgia and Mississippi State
- Conferences Of the 61 players that the Packers have selected since 2018, 47 have been from Power 5 Conferences, 9 have been from Group of 5 Conferences, 2 from FBS Independents and 3 from the FCS.



- By Conference Of those 61 players, the Packers have drafted 17 players from the SEC, 13 from the Big 10, 9 from the ACC, 5 from the PAC 12, 3 from the Big 12, 3 from the MAC, 3 from the AAC, 2 from Independents, 2 from the Mountain West, 2 from the Missouri Valley Conference (FCS), 1 from the Sun Belt Conference, 1 from the Ohio Valley Conference (FCS)
- Players still with the team 32 of the players that the Packers have drafted since 2018 are still with the team.
- AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pro Since 2018, the Packers have drafted 0 players who have been named AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pro.
- AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pro Since 2018, the Packers have drafted 1 player who has been named AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pro – Jaire Alexander (2020 & 2022).



- **Pro Bowl** Since 2018, the Packers have drafted 2 players who have made the Pro Bowl Jaire Alexander (2020 & 2022) and Elgton Jenkins (2020 & 2022).
- **PFWAA All-Rookie Team** Since 2018, the Packers have drafted 4 players who were named to the PFWAA All-Rookie Team Jaire Alexander (2018), Elgton Jenkins (2019), Darnell Savage Jr. (2019) and Quay Walker (2022) -
- Starters Since 2018, the Packers have drafted 13 players who have started in at least 50% of the total Packers games played since they were drafted Jaire Alexander, Rashan Gary, Darnell Savage Jr., Elgton Jenkins, Jon Runyan Jr., Josh Myers, Quay Walker, Christian Watson, Romeo Doubs, Zach Tom, Luke Musgrave, Jayden Reed, and Carrington Valentine
- Starters Marquez Valdes-Scantling also started more than 50% of the Packers games that were played while he was a Packer (2018-21), but not 50% of the total Packers games if you include the 2 seasons since he left the Packers i.e. 0 Packers starts in those 34 games. He has however started more than 50% of his total possible NFL games (with the Packers and Chiefs).
- **Starters** Each of Eric Stokes (1 start short), Royce Newman (2 starts short) and Tucker Kraft (1 start short) are very close to have started 50% of the total Packers games since they were drafted.
- **Position Groups** Not surprisingly, the Packers have drafted played from every position group, 2018. The most frequently drafted position groups by the Packers are the Offensive Line (11 players) and Wide Receivers (10 players). This doesn't differ very much from the position across the league across the same period, where Offensive Line and Wide Receiver are the position groups from which the first and third (respectively) most players have been selected. Cornerback being second.



# THE PACKERS AT PICK 25

The Packers select at pick 25 in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of this draft – assuming that there are no trades that change this between the time of writing and the point at which they pick.

The Packers have picked at number 25 in the draft six times in the franchise's history, with three of those selections coming in the 1<sup>st</sup> round and the other three of them coming in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round (when there were fewer teams in the league).

Here is a quick look at those selections:

## 1. Bernie Scherer, E, Nebraska - 1936

It was February 1936. It was the first ever NFL draft. There were only 9 NFL teams choosing from the pick of players coming out of college, so the Packers selection at no.25 was actually in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. In the 1<sup>st</sup> round (7<sup>th</sup> overall), they had made Russ Letlow their first ever draft pick. In round 2 (16<sup>th</sup> overall), they selected Dub Wheeler. In then in round 3, with the 25<sup>th</sup> overall pick, the Packers drafted Bernie Scherer an End out of Nebraska (Scherer was, notably, the Cornhuskers first ever drafted player).

Scherer would play just 3 seasons and 26 regular season games for the Packers, playing mainly as a back-up on a team that had Don Hutson as it's featured pass receiver. In his 3 seasons for the Packers, Scherer caught 11 passes for 193 yards and 3 touchdowns, his biggest play being a 78 yard touchdown reception from Arnie Herber against the Eagles in 1937. Scherer was a part of the Packers team won the NFL Championship in his rookie season and would again get to the NFL Championship game in 1938. He finished his NFL career by playing a single year with Steelers in 1939.

### 2. Lou Ferry, DT, Villanova – 1949

After the selection of Scherer in 1936, it would be nearly 13 years before the Packers had the 25th pick in the draft again. This came in the 1949 version, which actually took place in December of 1948. This time there were 11 teams picking in the draft, but again this mean that pick 25 came in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round. After selecting quarterback Stan Heath in the 1<sup>st</sup> round (5<sup>th</sup> overall) and linebacker Dan Dworsky in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round (15<sup>th</sup> overall), the Packers made Lou Ferry, a tackle and defensive tackle from Villanova, their selection with pick 25.

But Ferry's career in Green Bay was short-lived, playing just a single season with the Packers in 1949 and appearing in just 12 games, with 3 starts. He spent 1950 in the AFL (not to be confused with the league of the same name that ran from 1960-1970), before playing a year with the Cardinals and 4 with the Steelers. Ferry would later spend many years coaching at his alma mater, Villanova, including being the head coach there from 1970 to 1973 and serving as the interim head coach late in the 1974 season.

## 3. Boyd Dowler, FL, Colorado – 1959

Ten years after the choice of Ferry, the Packers would make probably their most successful selection of their six all-time at no.25. The initial rounds of the 1959 draft were held in December 1958 and featured 12 teams, which again meant that pick 25 would come in round 3. The Packers had the dubious honour of having the first overall selection, having finished 1-10-1 in 1958, and selected Randy Duncan with that first pick. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> round (13<sup>th</sup> overall), Green Bay selected Alex Hawkins. Neither Duncan nor Hawkins would play a regular season game with the Packers. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> round, with that 25<sup>th</sup> overall pick, the Packers selected Boyd Dowler, an extremely tall and athletic player out of Colorado. In college, Dowler had been a passer, runner, and receiver as well as a defensive back and punter. In Green Bay he would become a flanker and end (the modern day wide receiver).

Dowler would play for the Packers from 1959 to 1969, before ending his career with Washington in 1971 (he missed the 1970 season). He was named NFL Rookie of the Year in 1959 and by the time his career was over, his name would be all over the Packers receiving record books – sitting just behind Don Hutson in the majority of categories. For Green Bay, Dowler caught 448 passes for 6,918 yards (15.4 average) and 40 touchdowns. He also punted 93 times at a 42.9 average.

Dowler was a starter on 5 NFL Championship winning teams and the Super Bowl I and II teams. He was named as a member of the NFL's 1960's All-Decade Team and was a 2-time Pro Bowler. Dowler was inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame in 1978.

### 4. Don Horn, QB, San Diego State - 1967

By the time that the Packers next had the 25<sup>th</sup> overall selection in the draft in 1967, the NFL and AFL were holding a common draft (this was the first) and the Packers had won 4 NFL titles in 6 seasons – and they would of course, go on to make that 5 in 7 by the time that next season was complete. The Packers had two picks in the 1<sup>st</sup> round in 1967 and with the first (9<sup>th</sup> overall) they selected Bob Hyland. With the second of those picks, the 25<sup>th</sup> overall, the Packers selected Don Horn a quarterback from San Diego State. The team was clearly looking to the future as the great Bart Starr, would be over 34 years old by the time by the time the 1968 season would commence, and he was still playing extremely well, it was perhaps prudent for the team to start thinking about his future successor.

Horn would spend 4 seasons in Green Bay, backing up Starr and only playing sparingly (6 starts). His Packers career was limited to just 284 passes (139 completions) for 2,291 yards, with 16 touchdowns and 22 interceptions, but he had some fine moments. His best day in a Packers uniform came in 1969, when he passed for 5 touchdowns and a then team record 410 yards against the Cardinals. In 1971 he was traded to the Denver Broncos, where he played for two seasons, before finishing his career with a season each for Browns and Chargers.

## 5. Antuan Edwards, DB, Clemson – 1999

The Packers would go 22 years from the selection of Don Horn before they would again have the 25th overall pick. This time, they entered the draft with a clearly identified need in the defensive backfield.

And they didn't mess around, selecting defensive backs in each of the first three rounds – the 1<sup>st</sup> rounder (25<sup>th</sup> overall) being used to draft Antuan Edwards out of Clemson. This was followed by the selections of Fred Vinson (round 2) and Mike McKenzie (round 3).

Edwards played most of the 1999 season as a back-up and extra (nickel/dime) defender on passing downs, making just a single start, but still notched up 4 interceptions. However, he had injuries over the coming years and didn't become a full-time starter at safety until 2003 – his final year with the team. He left the Packers after the 2003 season as an unrestricted free agent.

During Edwards' 5 seasons (1999-2003) with the Packers, playing in 53 games and starting in 18. He recorded 7 interceptions (returning 1 for a touchdown), 28 passes defensed, 167 total tackles (133 solo), 2 sacks and 2 fumble recoveries. He played for 2 more seasons after leaving Green Bay, playing for the Dolphins, Rams, and Cardinals.

## 6. Ahmad Carroll, DB, Arkansas - 2004

The next time that the Packers would hold the 25<sup>th</sup> overall pick in the draft was 2004, and co-incidentally, 2004 was also the next time, after Edwards' selection, that they would select a defensive back in the first round of the draft. And the links back to the 1999 draft perhaps didn't end there:

Edwards became a free agent after the 2003 season and left the team in 2004, while Mike McKenzie would also be traded later in 2004. With the loss of Edwards coming just a few weeks before the draft, which may have had an impact on the Packers' draft strategy.

Just like in 1999, Green Bay wasn't content with using just their 1<sup>st</sup> round choice on a defensive back – they went back to the well with their next pick (round 3) and selected Joey Thomas. But let's get back to that 1<sup>st</sup> round, 25<sup>th</sup> overall, pick – the Packers chose Ahmad Carroll, from Arkansas. Carroll was an outstanding athlete, a track and field star, who ran a 4.34 in the 40 at the combine. He was also young, being only 20 years old at the time of the 2004 draft.

Unfortunately, Carroll's career with the Packers never really became what the team had surely hoped for. Carroll played in just 2 whole seasons for the Packers, 2004 and 2005, and a part of 2006 before being released.

His NFL career would last until 2009, as he went on to play for the Jaguars and Jets after the Packers. For Green Bay, Carroll played in 34 games and started in 28. He recorded 3 interceptions, 21 passes defensed, 93 total tackles (87 solo), 3 sacks, 22 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery (which he returned for a touchdown).



# INTRODUCING OUR BIG BOARD

#### It's our Top 350 - not a prediction of the draft order

Again this year we have included 350 players in our Big Board. Our Top 350 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.

#### Creating the Top 350

To create our Top 350 players (and our Positionby-Position Rankings), we ranked players as follows:

- Watching and compiling notes on players during their college career. This is carried out over a number of years, by watching game 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 / all-star games these often reinforce what we already know or indeed encourage us to re-visit film.
- Confirmed injury reports and/or off-thefield concerns reports from reputable public domain sources – making our best judgement as to what impact, if any, these may have on a player's draft 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 film. However, they may encourage us to re-visit our notes and/or film where appropriate.

# **THE TOP 350**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Caleb Williams	QB	USC	1
2.	Drake Maye	QB	North Carolina	1
3.	Jayden Daniels	QB	LSU	1
4.	Marvin Harrison Jr.	WR	Ohio State	1
5.	Malik Nabers	WR	LSU	1
6.	Joe Alt	ОТ	Notre Dame	1
7.	Rome Odunze	WR	Washington	1
8.	Dallas Turner	Edge	Alabama	1
9.	J.J. McCarthy	QB	Michigan	1
10.	Brock Bowers	TE	Georgia	1
11.	Olumuyiwa Fashanu	ОТ	Penn State	1
12.	Taliese Fuaga	ОТ	Oregon State	1
13.	Quinyon Mitchell	СВ	Toledo	1
14.	Terrion Arnold	СВ	Alabama	1
15.	Jared Verse	Edge	FSU	1
16.	J.C. Latham	ОТ	Alabama	1
17.	Troy Fautanu	OG/OT	Washington	1
18.	Laiatu Latu	Edge	UCLA	1
19.	Byron Murphy II	DL	Texas	1
20.	Brian Thomas Jr.	WR	LSU	1
21.	Amarius Mims	ОТ	Georgia	1
22.	Nate Wiggins	СВ	Clemson	1
23.	Cooper DeJean	S/CB	lowa	1
24.	Jackson Powers-Johnson	OC	Oregon	1
25.	Jer'Zhan "Johnny" Newton	DL	Illinois	1
26.	Demeioun "Chop" Robinson	Edge	Penn State	1-2
27.	Graham Barton	OC/OG/OT	Duke	1-2
28.	Tyler Guyton	ОТ	Oklahoma	1-2
29.	Bo Nix	QB	Oregon	1-2
30.	Adonai Mitchell	WR	Texas	1-2
31.	Michael Penix Jr.	QB	Washington	1-2
32.	Kool-Aid McKinstry	СВ	Alabama	1-2
33.	Darius Robinson	DL	Missouri	1-2
34.	Jordan Morgan	ОТ	Arizona	1-2
35.	Xavier Worthy	WR	Texas	1-2
36.	Ladd McConkey	WR	Georgia	1-2
37.	Ennis Rakestraw Jr.	СВ	Missouri	1-2
38.	Keon Coleman	WR	FSU	1-2
39.	Edgerrin Cooper	LB	Texas A&M	1-2
40.	Braden Fiske	DL	FSU	1-2

List continues on the next page

	Name	Pos	College	Round*	
41.	T.J. Tampa	СВ	Iowa State	1-2	
42.	Kamari Lassiter	СВ	Georgia		
43.	Tyler Nubin	S	Minnesota	2	
44.	Zach Frazier	OC/OG	West Virginia	2	
45.	Xavier Legette	WR	South Carolina	2	
46.	Kingsley Suamataia	OT/OG	BYU	2	
47.	Troy Franklin	WR	Oregon	2	
48.	T'Vondre Sweat	DL	Texas	2	
49.	Payton Wilson	LB	North Carolina State	2	
50.	Chris Braswell	Edge	Alabama	2	
51.	Ja'Tavion Sanders	TE	Texas	2	
52.	Kris Jenkins	DL	Michigan	2	
53.	Cooper Beebe	OG	Kansas State	2	
54.	Roman Wilson	WR	Michigan	2	
55.	Max Melton	СВ	Rutgers	2	
56.	Patrick Paul	ОТ	Houston	2	
57.	Jonathon Brooks	RB	Texas	2-3	
58.	Bralen Trice	Edge	Washington	2-3	
59.	Junior Colson	LB	Michigan	2-3	
60.	Christian Haynes	OG	Connecticut	2-3	
61.	Marshawn Kneeland	Edge	Western Michigan	2-3	
62.	Trey Benson	RB	FSU	2-3	
63.	Ricky Pearsall	WR	Florida	2-3	
64.	Adisa Isaac	Edge	Penn State	2-3	
65.	Mike Sainristil	СВ	Michigan	2-3	
66.	Ruke Orhorhoro	DL	Clemson	2-3	
67.	Kamren Kinchens	S	Miami, Fla	2-3	
68.	Javon Bullard	S/CB	Georgia	2-3	
69.	Malachi Corley	WR	Western Kentucky	2-3	
70.	Jeremiah Trotter Jr.	LB	Clemson	2-3	
71.	Michael Hall Jr.	DL	Ohio State	2-3	
72.	Ja'Lynn Polk	WR	Washington	2-3	
73.	Kiran Amegadjie	OT/OG	Yale	2-3	
74.	Blake Corum	RB	Michigan	2-3	
75.	Devontez Walker	WR	North Carolina	2-3	
76.	Calen Bullock	S	USC	3	
77.	Jaden Hicks	S	Washington State	3	
78.	Kris Abrams-Draine	СВ	Missouri	3	
79.	Brandon Dorlus	DL	Oregon	3	
80.	Jonah Elliss	Edge	Utah 3		
81.	Dominick Puni	OG	Kansas 3		
82.	Cole Bishop	S	Utah	3	
83.	Sedrick Van Pran-Granger	OC	Georgia 3		
84.	Austin Booker	Edge	Kansas	3	

List continues on the next page

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
85.	Jaylen Wright	RB	Tennessee	3
86.	Cade Stover	TE	Ohio State	3
87.	Maason Smith	DL	LSU	3
88.	Jalen McMillan	WR	Washington	3
89.	Jermaine Burton	WR	Alabama	3
90.	Blake Fisher	ОТ	Notre Dame	3
91.	Spencer Rattler	QB	South Carolina	3
92.	Zak Zinter	OG	Michigan	3
93.	Roger Rosengarten	ОТ	Washington	3
94.	Theo Johnson	TE	Penn State	3
95.	D.J. James	СВ	Auburn	3
96.	Khyree Jackson	СВ	Oregon	3
97.	Ben Sinnott	H-Back	Kansas State	3
98.	Christian Mahogany	IOL	Boston College	3
99.	Braelon Allen	RB	Wisconsin	3-4
100.	Cedric Gray	LB	North Carolina	3-4
101.	Cam Hart	СВ	Notre Dame	3-4
102.	Brenden Rice	WR	USC	3-4
103.	Leonard Taylor III	DL	Miami, Fla	3-4
104.	Mar'Keise "Bucky" Irving	RB	Oregon	3-4
105.	MarShawn Lloyd	RB	USC	3-4
106.	Javon Baker	WR	UCF	3-4
107.	Johnny Wilson	WR	FSU	3-4
108.	Malik Washington	WR	Virginia	3-4
109.	Audric Estimé	RB	Notre Dame	3-4
110.	Andru Phillips	СВ	Kentucky	3-4
111.	Gabriel Murphy	Edge	UCLA	3-4
112.	Caelen Carson	CB	Wake Forest	3-4
113.	Beaux Limmer	OC/OG	Arkansas	3-4
114.	DeWayne Carter	DL	Duke	3-4
115.	Christian Jones	ОТ	Texas	4-5
116.	Mekhi Wingo	DL	LSU	4-5
117.	Renardo Green	СВ	FSU	4-5
118.	McKinnley Jackson	DL	Texas A&M	4-5
119.	Michael Pratt	QB	Tulane	4-5
120.	Mohamed Kamara	Edge	Colorado State	4-5
121.	Dadrion Taylor-Demerson	S	Texas Tech	4-5
122.	Jamari Thrash	WR	Louisville	4-5
123.	Mason McCormick	OG	South Dakota State	4-5
124.	Re'Mahn "Ray" Davis	RB	Kentucky	4-5
125.	Josh Newton	СВ	TCU	4-5
126.	Will Shipley	RB	Clemson	4-5
127.	Jarvis Brownlee Jr.	СВ	Louisville	4-5
128.	Beau Brade	S	Maryland	4-5

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
129.	Javon Foster	ОТ	Missouri	4-5
130.	Tyler Davis	DL	Clemson 4-5	
131.	Tommy Eichenberg	LB	Ohio State	4-5
132.	Isaiah Adams	OG/OT	Illinois	4-5
133.	Javon Solomon	Edge	Troy	4-5
134.	Jaheim Bell	H-Back	FSU	4-5
135.	Jacob Cowing	WR	Arizona	4-5
136.	Jarrian Jones	СВ	FSU	4-5
137.	Kalen King	СВ	Penn State	4-5
138.	Nehemiah Pritchett	СВ	Auburn	4-5
139.	Tykee Smith	S/CB	Georgia	4-5
140.	Brandon Coleman	OT	TCU	4-5
141.	James Williams	S	Miami, Fla	4-5
142.	Jaylin Simpson	S	Auburn	4-5
143.	Trevin Wallace	LB	Kentucky	4-5
144.	Luke McCaffrey	WR	Rice	4-5
145.	Delmar Glaze	OT/OC	Maryland	4-5
146.	Tanor Bortolini	OC	Wisconsin	4-5
147.	Matt Goncalves	OT	Pittsburgh	4-5
148.	Justin Eboigbe	DL	Alabama	4-5
149.	Jared Wiley	TE	TCU	4-5
150.	Sataoa Laumea	OG	Utah	4-5
151.	Elijah Jones	СВ	Boston College	4-5
152.	Kitan Oladapo	S	Oregon State	4-5
153.	Jaylan Ford	LB	Texas	4-5
154.	Jordan Travis	QB	FSU	4-5
155.	Chau Smith-Wade	СВ	Washington State	4-5
156.	Javion Cohen	OG	Miami, Fla	4-5
157.	Isaac Guerendo	RB	Louisville	4-5
158.	Sione Vaki	S	Utah	4-5
159.	Jalyx Hunt	Edge	Houston Christian	4-5
160.	Ty'Ron Hopper	LB	Missouri	4-5
161.	Ainias Smith	WR	Texas A&M	4-5
162.	Marist Liufau	LB	Notre Dame	4-5
163.	Nelson Ceaser	Edge	Houston	4-5
164.	Cedric Johnson	Edge	Mississippi 4-	
165.	Brennan Jackson	Edge	Washington State 4-5	
166.	Layden Robinson	OG	Texas A&M 4-5	
167.	Dallin Holker	TE	Colorado State 4-5	
168.	Curtis Jacobs	LB	Penn State 4-5	
169.	Dylan Laube	RB	New Hampshire 4-5	
170.	Erick All	TE	lowa	4-5
171.	Tyrone Tracy Jr.	RB	Purdue	4-5
172.	Xavier Thomas	Edge	Clemson	4-5

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
173.	Tip Reiman	TE	Illinois	4-5
174.	Gabe Hall	DL	Baylor	4-5
175.	Anthony Gould	WR	Oregon State	4-5
176.	Keith Randolph Jr.	DL	Illinois	4-5
177.	Malik Mustapha	S	Wake Forest	4-5
178.	Cornelius Johnson	WR	Michigan	4-5
179.	Decamerion Richardson	CB	Mississippi State	4-5
180.	Dwight McGlothern	CB	Arkansas	4-5
181.	Tahj Washington	WR	USC	6-7
182.	Isaiah Davis	RB	South Dakota State	6-7
183.	Joe Milton III	QB	Tennessee	6-7
184.	Edefuan Ulofoshio	LB	Washington	6-7
185.	Myles Cole	DL	Texas Tech	6-7
186.	Drake Nugent	OC	Michigan	6-7
187.	Johnny Dixon	CB	Penn State	6-7
188.	Tyrice Knight	LB	UTEP	6-7
189.	Caedan Wallace	OT	Penn State	6-7
190.	Braiden McGregor	Edge	Michigan	6-7
191.	Hunter Nourzad	OC	Penn State	6-7
192.	Khristian Boyd	DL	Northern Iowa	6-7
193.	Trevor Keegan	OG	Michigan	6-7
194.	Nathaniel "Bookie" Watson	LB	Mississippi State	6-7
195.	Walter Rouse	OT	Oklahoma	6-7
196.	Cody Schrader	RB	Missouri	6-7
197.	Brevyn Spann-Ford	TE	Minnesota	6-7
198.	M.J. Devonshire	CB	Pittsburgh	6-7
199.	Marcus Harris	DL	Auburn	6-7
200.	Jaylen Harrell	Edge	Michigan	6-7
201.	Dillon Johnson	RB	Washington	6-7
202.	Jha'Quan Jackson	WR	Tulane	6-7
203.	A.J. Barner	TE	Michigan	6-7
204.	Kamal Hadden	CB	Tennessee	6-7
205.	Zion Tupuola-Fetui	Edge	Washington	6-7
206.	Dylan McMahon	OC/OG	North Carolina State	6-7
207.	Bub Means	WR	Pittsburgh	6-7
208.	Tanner McLachlan	TE	Arizona 6	
209.	Garret Greenfield	OT	South Dakota State	6-7
210.	Jase McClellan	RB	Alabama 6-7	
211.	Evan Williams	S	Oregon 6-7	
212.	Isaiah Williams	WR	Illinois 6-7	
213.	Tory Taylor	Р	Iowa 6-7	
214.	Eric Watts	Edge	Connecticut	6-7
215.	Jordan Jefferson	DL	LSU	6-7
216.	Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint	WR	Georgia	6-7

	Name	me Pos College		Round*
217.	Josh Proctor	S	Ohio State	6-7
218.	Logan Lee	DL	lowa	6-7
219.	J.D. Bertrand	LB	Notre Dame	6-7
220.	Nathan Thomas	OT	Louisiana	6-7
221.	Rasheen Ali	RB	Marshall	6-7
222.	Frank Gore Jr.	RB	Southern Mississippi	6-7
223.	Kimani Vidal	RB	Troy	6-7
224.	Myles Harden	СВ	South Dakota	6-7
225.	LaDarius Henderson	OT/OG	Michigan	6-7
226.	Fabien Lovett	DL	FSU	6-7
227.	Andrew Raym	OC/OG	Oklahoma	6-7
228.	Julian Pearl	OT	Illinois	6-7
229.	Jordan Whittington	WR	Texas	6-7
230.	Emani Bailey	RB	TCU	6-7
231.	Daijun Edwards	RB	Georgia	6-7
232.	Javontae Jean-Baptiste	Edge	Notre Dame	6-7
233.	Jalen Coker	WR	Holy Cross	6-7
234.	Matt Lee	OC	Miami, Fla	6-7
235.	Dominique Hampton	S	Washington	6-7
236.	Grayson Murphy	Edge	UCLA	6-7
237.	K.T. Leveston	OG/OT	Kansas State	6-7
238.	Eyabi Okie-Anoma	Edge	Charlotte	6-7
239.	Kingsley Eguakun	OC	Florida	6-7
240.	Justin Rogers	DL	Auburn	6-7
241.	Jaden Crumedy	DL	Mississippi State	6-7
242.	Daequan Hardy	СВ	Penn State	6-7
243.	Myles Murphy	DL	North Carolina	6-7
244.	Michael Barrett	LB	Michigan	6-7
245.	Sam Hartman	QB	Notre Dame	6-7
246.	Jordan Magee	LB	Temple	6-7
247.	Steele Chambers	LB	Ohio State	6-7
248.	Ryan Flournoy	WR	Southeast Missouri State	6-7
249.	Ryan Watts	СВ	Texas	6-7
250.	Trey Taylor	S	Air Force	6-7
251.	Joshua Karty	К	Stanford	6-7
252.	Kendall Milton	RB	Georgia 6-7	
253.	C.J. Hanson	OG	Holy Cross 6-7	
254.	Deantre Prince	СВ	Mississippi 6-7	
255.	Tarheeb Still	СВ	Maryland 6-7	
256.	Jowon Briggs	DL	Cincinnati 6-7	
257.	Daijahn Anthony	S	Mississippi 6-7	
258.	Marcellas Dial	СВ	South Carolina	7-UDFA
259.	Charles Turner III	OC/OG	LSU	7-UDFA
260.	Evan Anderson	DL	Florida Atlantic	7-UDFA

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
261.	Ethan Driskell	ОТ	Marshall	7-UDFA
262.	Trey Knox	TE	South Carolina 7-UDF	
263.	Aaron Casey	LB	Indiana 7-UD	
264.	Jawhar Jordan	RB	Louisville	7-UDFA
265.	Lideatrick "Tulu" Griffin	WR	Mississippi State	7-UDFA
266.	Demani Richardson	S	Texas A&M	7-UDFA
267.	Jaylon Carlies	S	Missouri	7-UDFA
268.	Joshua Cephus	WR	UTSA	7-UDFA
269.	Andrew Coker	ОТ	TCU	7-UDFA
270.	Darius Muasau	LB	UCLA	7-UDFA
271.	Tatum Bethune	LB	FSU	7-UDFA
272.	Josh Wallace	СВ	Michigan	7-UDFA
273.	Carlton Johnson	СВ	Fresno State	7-UDFA
274.	Trente Jones	OG	Michigan	7-UDFA
275.	Kenny Logan Jr.	S	Kansas	7-UDFA
276.	Tylan Grable	ОТ	UCF	7-UDFA
277.	Austin Reed	QB	Western Kentucky	7-UDFA
278.	Blake Watson	RB	Memphis	7-UDFA
279.	Miyan Williams	RB	Ohio State	7-UDFA
280.	Jaden Shirden	RB	Monmouth (NJ)	7-UDFA
281.	Michael Wiley	RB	Arizona	7-UDFA
282.	Devin Leary	QB	Kentucky	7-UDFA
283.	Tyler Owens	S	Texas Tech	7-UDFA
284.	Solomon Byrd	Edge	USC	7-UDFA
285.	Ro Torrence	СВ	Arizona State	7-UDFA
286.	Jalen Sundell	OC	North Dakota State	7-UDFA
287.	Jarrett Kingston	OG	USC	7-UDFA
288.	Devin Culp	H-Back	Washington	7-UDFA
289.	Matthew Jones	OG	Ohio State	7-UDFA
290.	Jackson Sirmon	LB	California	7-UDFA
291.	Kedon Slovis	QB	BYU	UDFA
292.	Cam Little	К	Arkansas	UDFA
293.	Sheridan Jones	СВ	Clemson	UDFA
294.	Keaton Bills	OG	Utah	UDFA
295.	Josiah Ezirim	ОТ	Eastern Kentucky	UDFA
296.	Jontrey Hunter	LB	Georgia State	UDFA
297.	Trajan Jeffcoat	Edge	Arkansas UDFA	
298.	Will Reichard	К	Alabama	UDFA
299.	Carter Bradley	QB	South Alabama	UDFA
300.	Frank Crum	ОТ	Wyoming UDFA	
301.	Willie Drew	СВ	Virginia State	UDFA
302.	Devaughn Vele	WR	Utah	UDFA
303.	Karsen Barnhart	ОТ	Michigan	UDFA
304.	Tayvion Robinson	WR	Kentucky	UDFA

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
305.	Zion Logue	DL	Georgia	UDFA
306.	Anim Dankwah	OT	Howard	UDFA
307.	Carson Steele	RB	UCLA	UDFA
308.	Jack Westover	H-Back	Washington	UDFA
309.	Qwan'tez Stiggers	СВ	Toronto Argonauts (CFL)	UDFA
310.	Taulia Tagovailoa	QB	Maryland	UDFA
311.	Jackson Mitchell	LB	Connecticut	UDFA
312.	Omar Speights	LB	LSU	UDFA
313.	Isaac Rex	TE	BYU	UDFA
314.	X'Zauvea Gadlin	OG	Liberty	UDFA
315.	George Holani	RB	Boise State	UDFA
316.	Jalen Green	Edge	James Madison	UDFA
317.	Jarius Monroe	СВ	Tulane	UDFA
318.	Harrison Mevis	К	Missouri	UDFA
319.	Khalid Duke	LB	Kansas State	UDFA
320.	Nick Gargiulo	OC	South Carolina	UDFA
321.	Xavier Weaver	WR	Colorado	UDFA
322.	Travis Glover	OT	Georgia State	UDFA
323.	Jacob Monk	OC	Duke	UDFA
324.	Gottlieb Ayedze	OT	Maryland	UDFA
325.	Jeremy Flax	OT	Kentucky	UDFA
326.	Nick Samac	OC	Michigan State	UDFA
327.	McCallan Castles	TE	Tennessee	UDFA
328.	Kalen DeLoach	LB	FSU	UDFA
329.	Donovan Jennings	OG/OT	South Florida	UDFA
330.	Brady Latham	OG	Arkansas	UDFA
331.	Easton Gibbs	LB	Wyoming	UDFA
332.	Clark Barrington	OC/OG	Baylor	UDFA
333.	David Ugwoegbu	Edge	Houston	UDFA
334.	Austin McNamara	Р	Texas Tech	UDFA
335.	Zakhari Franklin	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
336.	Jabari Small	RB	Tennessee	UDFA
337.	Maema Njongmeta	LB	Wisconsin	UDFA
338.	Prince Pines	OG	Tulane	UDFA
339.	Akeem Dent	S	FSU	UDFA
340.	Omar Brown	СВ	Nebraska	UDFA
341.	Millard "Nook" Bradford	S	TCU	UDFA
342.	Richard Jibunor	Edge	Troy	UDFA
343.	Ron Stone Jr.	Edge	Washington State	UDFA
344.	Dallas Gant	LB	Toledo	UDFA
345.	Drake Stoops	WR	Oklahoma	UDFA
346.	Ja'Quan Sheppard	СВ	Maryland	UDFA
347.	Jaylen Key	S	Alabama	UDFA
348.	Bryan Hudson	OC	Louisville	UDFA
349.	Myles Jones	СВ	Duke	UDFA
350.	Mark Perry	S	TCU	UDFA

# **OUR WATCHLIST**

This is our list of players who we feel may be in play for the Packers in this draft. Of course, it's nowhere near being definitive – we never know what the team is really thinking, but it's fun to have a few players to watch extra closely. 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
- We like them either because they are just good players or perhaps because they bring something that the Packers don't already have
- $\circ$  It's possibly a position of need for the Packers at that point in the draft

The list is divided into two – our primary list and our secondary list. We've also tried to choose players across positions and throughout the draft. The players in these lists can be seen in our Position-by-Position Analysis section (Player Profile pages), as follows:

- Players whose name is in a GREEN box, are part of the primary watch list
- Players whose name is in a GOLD box, are part of the secondary watch list.

## **PRIMARY WATCHLIST**

- 1. AMARIUS MIMS, OT
- 2. COOPER DEJEAN, S/CB
- 3. GRAHAM BARTON, OC/OG/OT
- 4. KOOL-AID MCKINSTRY, CB
- 5. KINGSLEY SUAMATAIA, OT
- 6. PAYTON WILSON, LB
- 7. RICKY PEARSALL, WR
- 8. MAX MELTON, CB
- 9. CHRISTIAN HAYNES, OG
- **10. MARSHAWN KNEELAND, EDGE**
- **11. JAVON BULLARD, S/CB**
- 12. MICHAEL HALL JR, DL
- **13.COLE BISHOP, S**
- **14. JAYLEN WRIGHT, RB**
- **15. JAVON BAKER, WR**
- 16. MICHAEL PRATT, QB
- **17. JAHEIM BELL, TE/H-BACK**
- **18. JARRIAN JONES, CB**
- **19. ELIJAH JONES, CB**
- 20. RASHEEN ALI, RB

## SECONDARY WATCHLIST

- 1. TYLER GUYTON, OT
- 2. JORDAN MORGAN, OT
- 3. T.J. TAMPA, CB
- 4. EDGERRIN COOPER, LB
- 5. PATRICK PAUL, OT
- 6. JUNIOR COLSON, LB
- 7. ROGER ROSENGARTON, OT
- 8. BEN SINNOTT, TE/H-BACK
- 9. MEKHI WINGO, DL
- **10. TREVIN WALLACE, LB**
- **11. SIONE VAKI, S**
- **12.JALYX HUNT, EDGE**
- **13. MYLES COLE, DL**
- **14. TYRONE TRACY JR, RB**
- **15. KHRISTIAN BOYD, DL**
- **16. TREVOR KEEGAN, OG**
- **17. MATT LEE, OC**
- **18. MARCUS ROSEMY-JACKSAINT, WR**
- 19. A.J. BARNER, TE
- **20. DOMINIQUE HAMPTON, S**

# ROUND BY ROUND OFFENSIVE BOARDS

EXCRUSION	20	Markens PACKERS				
	Quarterbacks	Running Backs	Wide Receivers	<b>Tight Ends</b>	Interior OL	Offensive Tackles
Top 10 Overall	Caleb Williams Jayden Daniels Drake Maye J.J. McCarthy		Marvin Harrison Jr. Malik Nabers Rome Odunze	Brock Bowers		Joe Alt
1 <sup>st</sup> Round			Brian Thomas Jr.		Troy Fautanu J. Powers-Johnson	Olu Fashanu Taliese Fuaga J.C. Latham Amarius Mims
Late 1 <sup>st</sup> Round/ Early 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Bo Nix Michael Penix Jr.		Adonai Mitchell Keon Coleman Ladd McConkey Xavier Worthy		Graham Barton	Tyler Guyton Jordan Morgan
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round			Xavier Legette Troy Franklin Roman Wilson	Ja'Tavion Sanders	Zach Frazier Cooper Beebe	Kingsley Suamataia Patrick Paul
Late 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round/ Early 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round		Jonathan Brooks Trey Benson Blake Corum	Ricky Pearsall Malachi Corley Ja'Lynn Polk Devontez Walker		Christian Haynes	Kiran Amegadjie
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Spencer Rattler	Jaylen Wright	Jalen McMillan Jermaine Burton	Cade Stover Theo Johnson Ben Sinnott	Dominick Puni Sedrick Van Pran Zak Zinter Christian Mahogony	Blake Fisher Roger Rosengarten
Late 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round/ Early 4 <sup>th</sup> Round		Braelon Allen Bucky Irving MarShawn Lloyd Audric Estimé	Brenden Rice Javon Baker Johnny Wilson Malik Washington		Beaux Limmer	

PACKERS

2024 Draft Board – Offense – Part 2

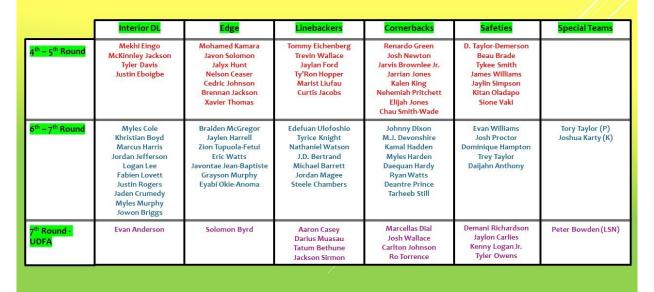
	Quarterbacks	<b>Running Backs</b>	Wide Receivers	<b>Tight Ends</b>	Interior OL	Offensive Tackles
4 <sup>th</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> Round	Michael Pratt Jordan Travis	Ray Davis Will Shipley Isaac Guerendo Dylan Laube Tyrone Tracy Jr.	Jamari Thrash Jacob Cowing Luke McCaffrey Ainias Smith	Jaheim Bell Jared Wiley Dallin Holker Erick All	Mason McCormick Isaiah Adams Tanor Bortolini Sataoa Laumea Javion Cohen Layden Robinson	Christian Jones Javon Foster Brandon Coleman Demar Glaze Matt Goncalves
6 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> Round	Joe Milton III Sam Hartman	Isaiah Davis Cody Schrader Dillon Johnson Jase McClellan Rasheen Ali Frank Gore Jr. Kimani Vidal Emani Bailey Daijun Edwards Kendall Milton	Tahj Washington Jha'Quan Jackson Bub Means Isaiah Williams M. Rosemy-Jacksaint Jordan Whittington Jalen Coker Ryan Fournoy	Brevyn Spann-Ford A.J. Barner Tanner McLachlan	Drake Nugent Hunter Nourzad Trevor Keegan Dylan McMahon Andrew Raym Matt Lee K.T. Leveston Kingsley Eguakun C.J. Hanson	Caedan Wallace Walter Rouse Garret Greenfield Nathan Thomas LaDarius Henderson Julian Pearl
7 <sup>th</sup> Round - UDFA	Austin Reed Devin Leary	Jawhar Jordan Blake Watson Miyan Williams Jaden Shirden Michael Wiley	Lideatrick Griffin Joshua Cephus	Trek Knox Devin Culp	Charles Turner III Trente Jones Jalen Sundell Jarrett Kingston Matthew Jones	Ethan Driskell Andrew Coker Tylan Grable

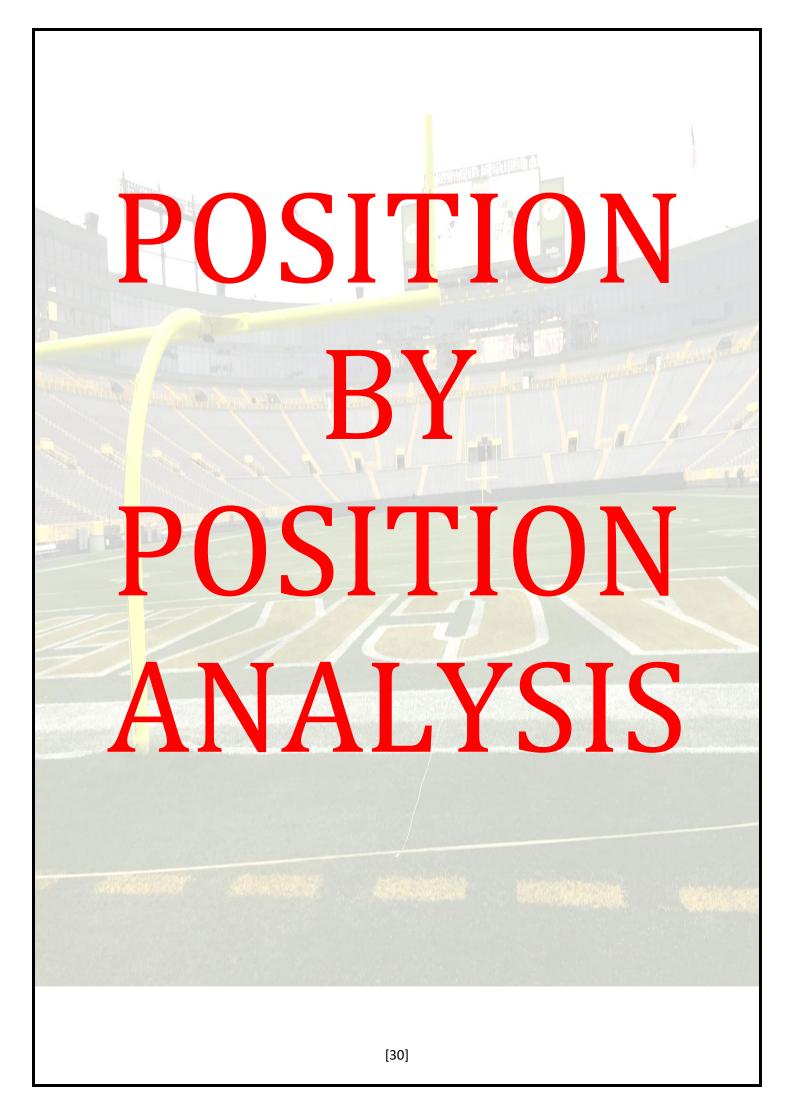
# ROUND BY ROUND DEFENSIVE BOARDS

ſ	Interior DL	Edge	Linebackers	Cornerbacks	Safeties	Special Teams
Top 10 Overall		Dallas Turner				
1 <sup>st</sup> Round	Byron Murphy II Johnny Newton	Jared Verse Laiatu Latu		Quinyon Mitchell Terrion Arnold Nate Wiggins	Cooper DeJean	
Late 1 <sup>st</sup> Round/ Early 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Darius Robinson Braden Fiske	Chop Robinson	Edgerrin Cooper	Kool-Aid McKinstry Ennis Rakestraw Jr. T.J. Tampa	Tyler Nubin	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	T'Vondre Sweat Kris Jenkins	Chris Braswell	Payton Wilson	Kamari Lassiter Max Melton		
Late 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round/ Early 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Ruke Orhorhoro Michael Hall Jr.	Bralen Trice Marshawn Kneeland Adisa Isaac	Junior Colson Jeremiah Trotter Jr.	Mike Sainristil	Kamren Kinchens Javon Bullard	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Brandon Dorlus Maason Smith	Jonah Elliss Austin Booker		Kris Abrams-Draine D.J. James Khyree Jackson	Calen Bullock Jaden Hicks Cole Bishop	
Late 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round/ Early 4 <sup>th</sup> Round	Leonard Taylor III DeWayne Carter	Gabriel Murphy	Cedric Gray	Caelen Carson Andru Phillips Cam Hart		

PACKERS

2024 Draft Board – Defense – Part 2





# QUARTERBACKS

**General Draft Outlook:** This draft is stacked with quarterback prospects at the very top, but we don't expect that as many as 14 will be selected overall (as they were last year).

Barring something strange happening, Caleb Williams ought to be the first quarterback, make that the very first player, selected in this draft. Just behind Williams is Drake Maye and Jayden Daniels and depending upon the team they could be picked in either order - however that pans out, it wouldn't be a surprise to them go off the board in the picks directly following that of Williams i.e. It would be no surprise at all to see quarterbacks go 1, 2 and 3 in this draft.

Michigan's J.J. McCarthy will likely be the fourth quarterback off the board, almost certainly going in the top 10 and possibly as high as the top 5 (and even at number 4, making the first four selections all quarterbacks for the first time ever).

Bo Nix and Michael Penix Jr. should be the next two quarterbacks selected. Nix may well be the fifth 1<sup>st</sup> round passer in this draft and Penix could also sneak into round 1 (either or both may just slip into round 2 as well). As we head into the middle rounds, the likes of Michael Pratt and Spencer Rattler are likely to interest teams.



Prediction: Around 11 quarterbacks will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** The Packers head into this draft without an immediate need at this position. Jordan Love is the unquestioned starter and may soon be looking forward to a contract extension. He is backed up by last year's draftee Sean Clifford, who was a little bit of a surprise selection a year ago, but he played nailed down his spot in camp and the pre-season. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterback on the roster, Alex McGough, spent the year on the practice squad. It seems unlikely that the Packers will select a quarterback this time around, but with 11 selections they may just feel that it's worth rolling the dice. If they do, then either Pratt or Rattler in the middle rounds are a possibility as is a late rounder like the huge armed Joe Milton.

# **TOP QUARTERBACKS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Caleb Williams	QB	USC	1
2.	Drake Maye	QB	North Carolina	1
3.	Jayden Daniels	QB	LSU	1
4.	J.J. McCarthy	QB	Michigan	1
5.	Bo Nix	QB	Oregon	1-2
6.	Michael Penix Jr.	QB	Washington	1-2
7.	Spencer Rattler	QB	South Carolina	3
8.	Michael Pratt	QB	Tulane	4-5
9.	Jordan Travis	QB	FSU	4-5
10.	Joe Milton III	QB	Tennessee	6-7
11.	Sam Hartman	QB	Notre Dame	6-7
12.	Austin Reed	QB	Western Kentucky	7-UDFA
13.	Devin Leary	QB	Kentucky	7-UDFA
14.	Kedon Slovis	QB	BYU	UDFA
15.	Carter Bradley	QB	South Alabama	UDFA
16.	Taulia Tagovailoa	QB	Maryland	UDFA
17.	Gavin Hardison	QB	UTEP	UDFA
18.	Spencer Sanders	QB	Mississippi	UDFA
19.	Jack Plummer	QB	Louisville	UDFA
20.	John Rhys Plumlee	QB	UCF	UDFA
21.	Emory Jones	QB	Cincinnati	UDFA
22.	Brennan Armstrong	QB	North Carolina State	UDFA
23.	Jason Bean	QB	Kansas	UDFA
24.	Tanner Mordecai	QB	Wisconsin	UDFA
25.	Michael Hiers	QB	Samford	UDFA
26.	Jalen Mayden	QB	San Diego State	UDFA
27.	John Paddock	QB	Illinois	UDFA
28.	Layne Hatcher	QB	Ball State	UDFA
29.	Davis Brin	QB	Georgia Southern	UDFA
30.	Jeremy Moussa	QB	Florida A&M	UDFA
31.	Gunnar Watson	QB	Troy	UDFA
32.	Jason Brown	QB	Jackson State	UDFA
33.	Ben Bryant	QB	Northwestern	UDFA
34.	Jayden de Laura	QB	Arizona	UDFA
35.	Davius Richard	QB	North Carolina Central	UDFA
36.	Parker McKinney	QB	Eastern Kentucky	UDFA
37.	Darren Grainger	QB	Georgia State	UDFA
38.	Rocky Lombardi	QB	Northern Illinois	UDFA
39.	Cole Dow	QB	Dayton	UDFA
40.	Sean Chambers	QB	Montana State	UDFA
41.	Garrett Shrader	QB	Syracuse	UDFA

## **CALEB WILLIAMS (USC)**

**QB #1** Misc: One of the very best dual-threat QBs in the country in high Overall #1 school in Washington DC. Opted to play his college ball at Oklahoma. Earned freshman All-American accolades for an outstanding 2021 Round 1 season. In 2022, he followed his head coach Lincoln Riley to USC and Class: Junior had a great year – winning the Heisman Trophy and numerous other accolades passing for 4,537 yards and 42 TDs. Had another fine year Age: 22.44 in 2023, without quite reaching the great heights of 2023. Ht/Wt: 6-0 %, 217 (combine) College Stats: Okla: Played in 11 games (7 starts) in 1 season, completing 64.5% of his passes for 1,912 yards, 21 TDs & 4 Ints. Had 1 40: n/a 300-yard passing game (402 yards). Rushed for 442 yards & 6 TDs.

**USC:** Played in 26 games (2 seasons), completing 67% of his passes for 8,170 yards, 72 TDs & 10 Ints. Had 14 300-yard passing games (incl. 4 400-yard games). Rushed for 503 yards & 21 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unitas Award finalist. Hon. Mention All-Pac 12. **2022** Winner: Heisman Trophy, Walter Camp & Maxwell Awards. Won Player of the Year Awards from each of AP, TSN, CBS Sports, Action Sports & DC Touchdown Club. CFPA National Performer of the Year. PAC-12 Offensive Player of the Year. O'Brien Award finalist. Unanimous All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-PAC-12. **2021** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. ESPN, 247Sports, On3 & PFF True Freshman All-American. Semi-finalist: O'Brien, Walter Camp & FWAA Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Awards.

**Analysis:** Williams is an athletically gifted quarterback who utilises his talents to make big plays and is outstanding at turning broken plays into positive, often huge, ones. Almost the epitome of the out of process (off structure) creator at the quarterback position. His arm is excellent, and he has a quick release. Is one of those players whose presence lifts those around him.

Williams' athleticism means that he moves well inside and outside of the pocket (has nice footwork and escapability) and will make plays on the move – either with his arm or his legs (will pick up useful yards running). Has that great ability to throw off balance and vary his arm position when throwing in order to avoid the hands of pass rushers and find the open receiver.

Williams was an ideal player to quarterback the offense that he played in in college where creativity, dynamism and explosive plays were paramount – rather than an offense with a short, quick rhythm passing game. Because he can be so creative, it can occasionally get him into trouble, perhaps hanging onto the football too long when trying to make that big play and he lacks some experience playing in that classic, rhythmical, 3 step drop passing game.

Is short of the prototypical NFL QB size but uses his mobility to minimise issues this may cause.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

How good is Williams? It's probably fair to say that he would have been the no.1 overall pick in the 2023 draft had he been eligible and while his 2023 college season didn't meet the heights of 2022, his pro potential stock remains extremely high. He's a great talent with a high upside. Yes, there are questions and areas that require development, but that is always the case. We shouldn't over think this, Williams will be the first player off the board in this draft.

## **DRAKE MAYE (North Carolina)**

**Misc:** Was a fine dual-sport athlete in high school in Charlotte, NC – starring on both the basketball court and football field. Highly recruited, Maye eventually opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at UNC.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2021). Won the starting job for the 2022 season and responded in an outstanding fashion, passing for 4,321 yards and 38 TDs - earning numerous honours and awards, including freshman All-American recognition. Followed up with another fine year in 2023, passing for over 3,600 yards and 24 TDs. QB #2

**Overall #2** 

Round 1

Class: RS-Sophomore Age: 21.66

Ht/Wt: 6-4 3/8, 223 (combine)

40: n/a

College Stats: In 3 seasons at UNC, Maye played in 30 games,

completing 65% of his passes for 8,018 yards, 63 TDs & 16 Ints. Had 12 career 300-yard passing games, including 3 400-yard games. He also rushed for 1,209 yards (4.0 ave) and 16 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. **2022** 10<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. Award Wins: ACC Player of the Year, ACC Offensive Player of the Year, ACC Rookie of the Year, ACC Offensive Rookie of the Year & FWAA & Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year. Manning Award finalist. Semi-finalist for Walter Camp, Maxwell, and O'Brien Awards. PFF 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Freshman All-American.

**Analysis:** Maye has the prototypical NFL quarterback size, which makes him look like a classic pocket passer quarterback. And while he has that look, he has the ability to move inside and outside of the pocket. Plays with confidence and a pocket presence.

He has a fine arm and release. Maye can throw the deep ball well, can hit the receiver running an out pattern and can pass with touch. Is generally an accurate passer from within the pocket, but also has some inconsistencies in his game as well - can make some beautiful looking throws but will also miss passes that he shouldn't.

Maye has good footwork which will often enable him to avoid the rush long enough to get the pass off while in the pocket. Also has the strength and toughness to shake off pass rushers who do get their hands on him. His passing acccuracy also isn't yet as good when he is forced to make plays outside the pocket and throw on the move.

Is better when running with the football than some give hime credit for – although sometimes he may even run too much or for too long. Can be elusive and will use his strength to shake off tacklers. Can pick up crucial yards running and knows how to find the end zone.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Maye is a fine pocket passer, with a great arm - but don't underplay his movement skills, particularly his ability to avoid the pass rush, while remaining in and around the pocket area. Like the majority of quarterbacks coming into the NFL, it would be preferable for him to sit and develop for a little while, while also working on some aspects of him game. For the right team, Maye should develop into a high level, long-time, starter in the NFL. Should be off the board very early – within the top 5 picks overall.

## **JAYDEN DANIELS (LSU)**

**Misc:** Dual-threat QB in high school in California – passing for over 14,000 yards & rushing for over 3,600 more. Had offers from many FBS schools, eventually choosing to attend Arizona State.

Passed for 2,943 yards at ASU as a true freshman in 2019. The next 2 seasons were affected by the pandemic and inconsistency. Prior to the 2022 season he transferred to LSU - responding with 2,913 yards passing & rushing for 885 more. Was outstanding in 2023, winning the Heisman Trophy and many other accolades. Ended the season with over 3,800 yards & 40 TDs passing. Also ran for over 1,100 yards.

QB #3

**Overall #3** 

Round 1

Class: Senior

Age: 23.35

Ht/Wt: 6-3 ¾, 210 (pro day)

40: n/a

**College Stats:** ASU: In 3 seasons, Daniels played & started in 29 games, completing 62% of his passes for 6,025 yards & 32 TDs, with 13 Ints. Had 5 300-yard passing games (incl. 1 of 400+). Rushed for 1,288 yards (4.4 ave) & 13 TDs. Had 2 100-yard rushing games. LSU: In 2 seasons, Daniels played and started in 26 games, completing 70.2% of his passes for 6,725 yards & 57 TDs, with just 7 Ints. Rushed for 2,019 yards (6.3 ave) & 21 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Winner: Heisman Trophy, O'Brien, Unitas & Walter Camp Awards, AP College Football Player of the Year, TSN Player of the Year & SEC Offensive Player of the Year. Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Maxwell Award finalist. **2022** O'Brien Award semi-finalist. **2019** PAC-12 Honorable Mention Freshman Offensive Player of the Year. FWAA Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Award semi-finalist. Sun Bowl MVP.

**Analysis:** Daniels has prototypical NFL QB height, with a relatively slim frame. He has great mobility and is an outstanding runner, who can beat teams with his legs. Daniels is elusive and extremely difficult to bring down. Will make yardage on designed runs and also has the tremendous skill at avoiding the rush, scrambling, and making yards on plays that probably should fail. The downsides to this though, are that he may not aways fully go through his progressions and also, he may take a few more hits than you'd like to see your QB take.

Daniels throws a nice football with a really smooth and quick release. His arm is very good, and he is extremely accurate. Is an outstanding decision maker throwing the football – finds the right receiver and doesn't often put the football into risky places.

In addition to his running skills, Daniels' footwork and movement ability allow him to make plays in the passing game, especially within the pocket. But needs to work on his accuracy and consistency when throwing on the move outside the pocket.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Daniels would be a great fit for a team who are looking to utilise a dual threat type QB in their offense, but his truly outstanding running ability won't fool scouts into thinking that he is more of a runner than passer – he is a high level passer of the football with great potential and a very high ceiling. Daniels is probably QB3 in this draft, but don't be completely surprised if he rises higher as a team that is looking for his particular skillset sees him as the perfect fit. Regardless, expect him to be off the board almost certainly inside the top 3 picks overall.

# J.J. McCARTHY (Michigan)

**Misc:** Full name is Jonathan James McCarthy. Was an outstanding quarterback in high school in Illinois and Florida. Threw for 94 touchdowns as opposed to just 13 interceptions across his high school career. Highly recruited, McCarthy opted to attend Michigan over the likes of Ohio State and Texas A&M.

Played sparingly as a true freshman in 2021. Broke out as a sophomore in 2022, becoming the starter in game 2 and passing for 2,719 yards & 22 touchdowns. Earned some all-conference notice. Was even better in 2023 as he lead the Wolverines to a national championship while passing for just under 3,000 yards & 22 touchdowns. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. QB #4 Overall #9 Round 1 Class: Junior Age: 21.26 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ½, 219 (pro day)

40: n/a

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons (2021-23) at Michigan, McCarthy played in 40 games (28 starts), completing 68% of his passes for 6,226 yards and 49 touchdowns, with 11 interceptions. Had 3 career 300-yard passing games. He also rushed for 632 yards and 10 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 10<sup>th</sup> In Heisman Trophy voting. Unitas Award finalist. Manning Award finalist. Griese-Brees Award winner (Big 10 Quarterback of the Year). 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Rose Bowl MVP (played in Jan 2024). **2022** Davey O'Brien Award Semi-finalist. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. Michigan team Offensive Player of the Year. **2021** Michigan Team Co-Offensive Rookie of the Year.

**Analysis:** McCarthy is a fine team leader who effectively runs the offense and makes plays when they are needed. Some may label him as an efficient, system quarterback, but that would underplay his skills – both his arm and his ability to make something happen when the original play breaks down. Has shown ability to make off-process plays on occasion - but he hasn't had the need to do so too often.

Has a tremendously strong arm and quick release and is an accurate thrower of the football, particularly in the short to intermediate areas. Throws with decent touch and consistency.

Wasn't a turn it loose, deep ball, type passer at Michigan and needs to work on his long passing game, but he managed the offense he was charged with, extremely well.

Has nice size for the quarterback position and is a good athlete. He is an excellent runner, with surprising speed and ability to make yards with his legs – making would-be tacklers miss. Also uses his feet well in the passing game, to avoid the pass rush.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Proved to be a winner in college, leading Michigan to the National Championship. Has a number of great traits, including an outstanding arm, and there are no glaring physical weaknesses, but also hasn't yet had to have a team ride in his shoulders in order to win. And because of this, McCarthy may split opinion. Can he win games at the NFL level off his own back? Ideally would be selected by a team that will have time to develop him but that may not happen as he could go to quarterback needy team inside the top 10 picks overall.

# **BO NIX (Oregon)**

**Misc:** Is the son of former Auburn QB Patrick Nix. Bo played baseball, basketball, and football - was an outstanding QB in high school in Alabama. Opted to attend his father's alma mater Auburn.

Three nice seasons at Auburn (2019-21), included winning SEC freshman of the year honours. Unfortunately suffered a broken ankle late in the 2021 season. Transferred to Oregon prior to the 2022 season and was excellent, passing for over 3,500 yards. Even better in 2023, setting the NCAA record for single season completion percentage and passing for over 4,500 yards & 45 TDs. QB #5

**Overall #29** 

Round 1-2

Class: Super Senior

Age: 24.17

Ht/Wt: 6-2 1/8, 214 (combine)

40: n/a

**College Stats: Auburn:** In his 3 seasons, Nix played & started in 34 games, completing 59% of his passes for 7,251 yards, 39 TDs & 16 Ints. Had 4 300-yard passing games. Rushed for 869 yards (3.3 ave) and 18 TDs. **Oregon:** In his 2 seasons, Nix played & started in 27 games, completing 74.9% of his passes for 8,101 yards, 74 TDs & 10 Ints. Had 10 300-yard passing games, including 4 over 400 yards. Rushed for 738 yards (5.2 ave) and 20 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 3<sup>rd</sup> in Heisman Trophy. Walter V. Campbell Trophy winner. Pac 12 Offensive Player of the Year. Finalist: Walter Camp, O'Brien, Unitas Award & Maxwell Awards. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-American. **2022** Unitas Award finalist. Semifinalist: Maxwell, Walter Camp & O'Brien Awards. Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2020** Athlon 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** SEC Freshman of the Year. SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Nix is a strong, tough, team leader type, who competes hard. He is confident, mature, and highly experienced, starting more games at QB in college (61) than any other QB in history. And with all of those starts coming in the SEC and Pac-12, the level of competition was high.

Nix is a super accurate passer on short and intermediate routes, who doesn't make many mistakes in terms of ball placement. Makes quick reads and quick decisions and gets the ball out quickly. Has a good arm rather than an out and out rocket. Probably at his best in quick developing plays where he can take a 3 or 5-step drop and get the ball out. Has the ability to throw deep but could do with work on improving his accuracy on those deep throws.

Footwork has improved throughout his college career. Perhaps needs to work on identifying where the pass rush is coming from. Generally, gets in a good position to make the throw. Has excellent mobility and is a real threat to take off and run. Can pick up lots of yards with his legs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite having an up and down Senior Bowl week, Nix still appears to be close to pro ready. Has great experience and decisiveness in the pocket, which will endear him to NFL scouts. Was good throughout his college year, but tellingly was perhaps at his best in 2023 – this ability to continue to improve is another facet of his game that the NFL scouts will like. Likely to be off the board towards the back end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round (or early in round 2), however it's not impossible that a quarterback needy team will take him a little bit earlier than that.

# **MICHAEL PENIX Jr. (Washington)**

**Misc:** Outstanding high school career as a dual threat QB in Tampa Bay. Was also a fine track and field athlete. Opted to attend Indiana.

Suffered a season ending injury each year from 2018-21 (2018 – torn ACL, 2019 – right shoulder, 2020 – torn ACL, 2020 – left shoulder), which severely limited his playing time at Indiana. Played really well in 2022 having transferred to Washington - passing for 4,641 yards while earning All-American notice. Was even better in 2023, passing for nearly 5,000 yards and being the runner-up for the Heisman Trophy.

QB #6

Overall #31

Round 1-2

Class: Super Senior

Age: 23.97

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¼, 216 (combine)

40: 4.57 (pro day)

**College Stats: Ind:** Played in 21 games (18 starts) in 4 seasons, completing 59% of his passes for 4,197 yards, 29 TDs & 15 Ints. Had 5

300-yard passing games (incl. 1 of 400+). Rushed for 165 yards & 6 TDs. Wash: Started all 28 games in 2 seasons, completing 65% of his passes for 9,544 yards, 67 TDs & 19 Ints. Had 20 300-yard passing games (incl. 7 of 400+ & 1 of 500+). Rushed for 100 yards & 7 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> in Heisman Trophy. AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Maxwell Award winner. Finalist: Walter Camp, O'Brien & Unitas Awards. **2023 & 2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** 8<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. PFN 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. AP Comeback Player of the Year. Manning Award finalist. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. Alamo Bowl Offensive MVP. Pac-12 Academic Honor Roll. **2022 & 2020:** O'Brien Award semi-finalist. **2020** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Is a rare left handed QB, who is a strong, tough, and competitive team leader. Makes big plays and has the intangible quality to raise the players around him.

Penix is an accurate, consistent passer of the football who can make plays both inside the pocket and on the move (although he can lose some accuracy outside of the pocket). Has the pocket presence and patience to wait for his receivers to get open, while dealing with the pass rush. This makes him extremely dangerous to defenses.

Has a really strong arm and quick release although his throwing motion is a little low rather than being a classic over the top motion – this may cause some of his passes to get knocked down or deflected at the line. When playing in rhythm and with tempo, Penix makes good decisions and will work quickly through his progressions and get the ball out of there with zip.

Despite the injury history, he remains a gifted athlete with good footwork and the ability to move in and out of the pocket. Has athleticism and can pick up some crucial yards with his legs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Penix is an outstanding talent, but his draft outlook is difficult to assess – nobody can be certain how NFL teams will view his injury history. Some teams may also want to work a little on his throwing motion, but he is a creative passer who can throw with accuracy at all levels. Will be one of the older QBs available at the top of the draft (nearly 24 years old on draft day) but this shouldn't be a huge factor when it comes to deciding to pick him, because he is close to NFL ready right now. In summary, Penix is a playmaker who ought to be off the board in round 2, and could even go in round 1, but those medicals are going to be telling.

# **SPENCER RATTLER (South Carolina)**

**Misc:** Was one of the very best QBs in the country during his high school career in Arizona, where he passed for 116 TDs and over 11,000 yards. Highly recruited, Rattler opted to attend Oklahoma.

Redshirted 2019. Won the starting job in 2020 having an outstanding season, earning all-conference honours. Was disappointingly benched after just 6 games in 2021. Transferred to South Carolina for 2022 but was inconsistent. Returned for the 2023 season and had a second consecutive 3,000 yard passing season.

**College Stats: Okla:** Played in 23 games (17 starts) in 3 seasons, completing 70.1% of his passes for 4,595 yards, 40 TDs & 12 Ints. Had

5 300-yard passing games. Rushed for 260 yards (2.0 ave) & 9 TDs. SC: Played & started in 25 games in 2 seasons, completing 67.5% of his passes for 6,212 yards, 37 TDs & 20 Ints. Had 8 300 yard passing games (incl. 1 over 400 yards). Rushed for 150 yards (0.9 ave) & 7 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2024** Senior Bowl MVP. **2022** South Carolina Team Co-MVP (Steve Wadiak Award). SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020** Davey O'Brien Award semi-finalist. FWAA Freshman All-American. CBS Freshman of the Year. AP Big 12 Co-Newcomer of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Championship Game MVP.

**Analysis:** High potential player with some nice traits but his production hasn't yet reached that potential - although on occasion may have received more criticism than his play actually deserved. At times, he looked like he could be one of the best quarterbacks in college football, but he needs to consistently play within the offense and improve in some other areas.

Rattler has a strong arm and a super release – once he decided to throw, the ball is out of there quickly with velocity. He can make all of the throws, being able to throw deep, hit out routes really well and throw with touch. But his accuracy can be described as inconsistent at best – he can be a streaky passer – and in particular, improvement on longer passes is required. Some of that inaccuracy may be caused by his footwork which still needs a little work.

Rattler doesn't have the A1 size for a pro quarterback but counters that with the ability to move sufficiently well in the pocket to open up passing lanes. He also uses that mobility to pass on the move outside the pocket and to pick up crucial yards with his legs. That mobility also allows him to be a big playmaker, with the ability to make positive plays off-structure.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

It feels like Rattler has been an NFL prospect for many years. Highly touted out of high school and at Oklahoma, he was thought of as a future overall no.1 pick - but he hasn't lived up to that early billing. Whilst he has many of the tools that teams look for in a pro QB, Rattler has been highly inconsistent and perhaps has attempted to do too much at times. NFL teams will be considering whether they can make the most of those tools while cutting down on the mistakes. Flashed his skills and potential at he Senior Bowl (being named MVP) and then he showed up well at the combine. Expect him to be selected possibly late on day 2.

Overall #91

**QB #7** 

#### Round 3

Class: Senior

Age: 23.58

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 211 (combine)

40: 4.95 (combine)

# **MICHAEL PRATT (Tulane)**

**Misc:** Excellent high school career at QB in Florida. Was also a fine baseball player. Opted to play his college ball at Tulane.

As a freshman (2020), Pratt quickly earned the starting QB role for the Green Wave, playing solidly in his 9 starts. Started 11 games in 2021, playing at a similar level to the previous year. Pratt's performance took an upward turn in 2022, passing for over 3,000 yards and 27 touchdowns and earning some all-conference notice. An early season knee injury hampered him for much of 2023 but was still able to play well and win conference offensive player of the year honours.

QB #8 Overall #119 Round 4-5 Class: Junior Age: 22.57 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ½, 217 (combine) 40: n/a

College Stats: In his 4 seasons at Tulane, Pratt played in 47 games (44

starts), completing 60.6% of his passes for 9,602 yards and 90 TDs, with 26 interceptions. Had 5 career 300-yard passing games. Also rushed for 1,147 yards (2.6 ave) and 28 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AAC Offensive Player of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-AAC. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-AAC. AAC.

**Analysis:** Pratt is a very productive, on the field leader type who brings a number of tools, along with decent size, to the quarterback position. Often plays at his best when the game is tight or on the line.

Pratt has a good arm and release, without either being elite. He has demonstrated the ability to make nearly every throw and especially good with short and medium range passes. He can throw the deep the ball, although his accuracy can sometimes drop off here.

Talking of accuracy – that is an area where he struggled earlier in his college career but has improved over the last 4 years. Pratt still requires further work in this area, especially when required to throw on the move.

Goes through his progressions, generally making good decisions in terms of identifying the open receiver. This helps his ability to throw safe passes – he doesn't throw many bad picks. Utilises his footwork, strength, and toughness to go avoid the rush providing him with a little extra time to go through those progressions. Having said that, Milton can sometimes hang onto the football a little too long.

Is a decent athlete, which means he can pick up some important yards when he takes off and runs. Knows how to get into the end zone.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Pratt had a really nice Senior Bowl week, consolidating his position amongst the quarterbacks in this draft. He is an intriguing prospect with a high ceiling if a team is prepared to spend time helping him develop. There are areas that need to be worked on, but these would appear to be fixable with coaching and patience. We should expect him to be selected on day 3 of the draft (could sneak into the back end of day 2) by a team looking for a prospect they can develop. If the Packers were to QB in the middle rounds (unlikely) then Pratt could be the guy.

### **JORDAN TRAVIS (FSU)**

**Misc:** Brother of former MLB player Devon Travis. Jordan had a nice high school football career in Florida as a QB who was as equally adept running with the football as he was passing. Opted to attend Louisville, over offers from the likes of Baylor and Southern Miss.

Redshirted 2018. Transferred to FSU prior to the 2019 season. Threw just 11 passes in 2019. Had nagging injuries in 2020, but still started in 6 games. Started 8 games in 2021, passing for over 1,500 yards and rushing for over 500. Really good in 2022, passing for 3,214 yards & 24 TDs, also had 400+ yards rushing. Even better in 2023, winning numerous honours and finishing in the top 5 in Heisman voting after passing for 20 TDs. Sadly suffered an ankle/leg injury right near the end

QB #9

Overall #155

Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.98 Ht/Wt: 6-1, 200 (combine) 40: n/a

passing for 20 TDs. Sadly suffered an ankle/leg injury right near the end of the season.

**College Stats: Louisville:** In his 1 season, Travis played in 3 games, completing 4 of 14 passes for 71 yards, 1 TD & 1 Int. Rushed for 40 yards (5.0 ave). **FSU:** In his 4 seasons, Travis played in 46 games (39 starts), completing 62% of his passes for 8,644 yards, 65 TDs & 20 Ints. Had 6 career 300-yard passing games (incl. 1 over 400 yards). Rushed for 1,910 yards (4.7 ave) & 31 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 5<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. ACC Player of the Year. ACC Offensive Player of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Semi-finalist: Maxwell, O'Brien Award & Unitas Awards, Jason Witten Man of the Year Award. **2022** O'Brien Award semi-finalist. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. Cheez-It Bowl MVP.

**Analysis:** Travis is an average sized, but highly athletic quarterback who is a huge threat to defenses with his legs while he appears to be improving year on year as a passer.

Starting with his athleticism – Travis is an outstanding runner with the football, being able to find holes, make defenders miss and being a challenge to bring down. He will pick up critical yards on the ground and knows how to find the end zone. Of course, in the future, all of this will depend upon his recovery from his leg injury.

As a passer, Travis makes good decisions and is accurate. Makes few bad throws in terms of location, hence his low interception rate. At the college level, he has been able to make plays inside and outside of the pocket, even when the originally called play has broken down.

Perhaps the biggest difficulties for Travis to overcome at the pro level are his arm strength and release which look like they are average at best – this shows in the relative lack of velocity on the footballs he throws.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Travis' recovery from his late 2023 season ankle/leg injury will be of high interest for NFL teams and thus his medicals at the combine will be important – clearly teams will be looking for there to be no potential complications. The injury may also cast some doubts over the utilisation of his greatest assets – his mobility and athleticism – at the next level, in terms of durability and risk. Assuming he makes a full recovery, Travis is real threat as a runner, with decent passing skills but ultimately his lack of an A1 arm is likely to hinder his draft status. It seems likely that Travis will be selected at some point on day 3.

#### JOE MILTON III (Tennessee)

**Misc:** Good high school QB career in Florida, picking up yards with his legs as well as arm. Had offers from a number of FBS schools before choosing to play his college ball at Michigan.

Played in just 4 games as a back-up in each of 2018 and 2019. Started 5 games, passing for 1,077 yards and 4 TDs in 2020. Transferred to Tennessee prior to the 2021 season, earning the starting QB role but losing the job after 2 games (replaced by 2023 draftee Hendon Hooker). Saw some more action as a back-up as the year progressed. Was the back-up again in 2022, and remained in that role for much of the season until Hooker suffered a serious knee injury late in the schedule Milton ctonned in and played very well. Had a good season in 2022, and

Milton stepped in and played very well. Had a good season in 2023, passing for over 2,700 yards and 20 TDs.

**College Stats: Michigan:** Played in 14 games (5 starts) in 3 seasons, completing 57% of his passes for 1,194 yards & 5 TDs, with 6 Ints. Rushed for 156 yards (3.1 ave) & 3 TDs. **Tennessee:** Played in 29 games (16 starts) in 3 seasons, completing 63% of his passes for 4,159 yards and 32 TDs, with 5 Ints. Had 1 300-yard passing game. Rushed for 505 yards (4.1 ave) & 9 TDs.

#### Honours & Awards: 2022 Orange Bowl MVP.

**Analysis:** Despite playing in college for 6 years, Milton doesn't have a huge amount of actual playing experience, particularly as the team leader – having been the primary starter for really just one season (2023) out of those 6. Has been an inconsistent performer through his college career but improved across the board in 2023.

Milton is a tall QB with a really big frame – perhaps even too big. But he has relatively good mobility for a man of his size, being able to get outside the pocket to throw or take off and run. Has the capability to run through defenders to pick up key yards on the ground.

Milton has an absolute beast of an arm – being able to throw with great velocity, pass deep and to the sideline. There are a couple of questions related to his arm though.

Firstly, is he going to be whether he turn it down a notch or two and throw with touch and accuracy on shorter passes and screens? Secondly, his passing velocity has enabled him to get out of trouble at the college level by being able to force the ball into places it probably shouldn't go. But this likely won't work at the pro level and it may also have slowed his development, as he doesn't always seem to go through his progressions but rather stays zoned in on his primary receiver.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Regardless of anything else, Milton's arm skills are going to excite NFL scouts. But arm strength alone won't get him to where teams will need him to be. There are a number of areas that need development and work for him to be successful in the NFL. Whether Milton can get there remains to be seen, but his arm alone gives him a potentially decent ceiling and therefore he could get selected at some point in day 3.

QB #10

#### Overall #183

Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior

Age: 24.14

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 235 (combine)

40: 4.56 (pro day)

#### SAM HARTMAN (Notre Dame)

**Misc:** Won multiple awards playing QB in high school initially in North Carolina, before moving to play his senior high school season in South Carolina. Opted to play his college ball at Wake Forest.

Won the starting QB role immediately at Wake Forest (2018), playing well for 9 games before sadly suffering a broken leg. Redshirted in 2019 (playing in just 4 games). Came back to start every game of the pandemic impacted 2020 season, passing for over 2,000 yards in 9 games. Had an outstanding 2021 season, passing for 4,228 yards and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Played well again in 2022, recording 3,701 passing yards, earbing 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference honours. Transferred to Notre Dame prior to the 2023 season. Had a nice single season at Notre Dame passing for 2,689 yards.

QB #11

#### **Overall #245**

#### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.74 Ht/Wt: 6-1, 211 (combine) 40: 4.80 (combine)

**College Stats: Wake Forest:** In 5 seasons, Hartman played in 48 games (45 starts), completing 59% of his passes for 12,967 yards, 110 TDs & 41 Ints. Had 21 300-yard passing games (incl. 3 400-yard passing games). Rushed 416 times for 855 yards (2.1 ave) and 17 TDs. Caught 1 pass for 3 yards. **Notre Dame:** In 1 season, Hartman played and started in 12 games, completing 63.5% of his passes for 2,689 yards, 24 TDs & Ints. Had 1 300-yard passing game. Rushed 45 times for 123 yards (2.7 ave) and 3 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Independent. CFN Independent Newcomer of the Year. Notre Dame Team MVP. **2023, 2022 & 2021** O'Brien Award semi-finalist. **2023 & 2022** Jason Witten Man of the Year Award semi-finalist. **2023 & 2021** Unitas Award finalist. **2022** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. Brian Piccolo Award winner. Gasparilla Bowl MVP. **2022 & 2021** Manning Award finalist. **2021** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. Maxwell Award semi-finalist. Gator Bowl MVP. Academic All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Hartman is a highly experienced team leader and productive passer who ended his college career ranked in the top 15 all-time in a number of NCAA statistical passing categories. Hartman is a highly effective passer of the football who can make most of the throws. He has a decent arm and release and can throw the ball deep with some accuracy. Isn't always consistent however and will miss some throws he should make. Could perhas also do with making quicker decisions to get the ball out earlier when receivers are open.

Hartman can move a bit in the pocket and make some passes while on the move. He will oick up some crucial yards with his legs but he isn't the greatest athlete.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Decided to return to college for the 2023 season – transferring to Notre Dame - presumably to try and raise his draft stock. Came out of the season with his draft positioning probably in the same place that it was going into 2023. There's no doubt that Hartman is a solid quarterback, but he appears to lack the big attributes that are likely to get a QB drafted high – including a big arm and athletic ability. That's not to say that a player with his experience won't do a good job as (probably) a back-up in the NFL. Expect him to be selected in round 6 or 7.

# **AUSTIN REED (Western Kentucky)**

**High School:** Multi-award winning quarterback in high school in Florida. Opted to play his college ball at Southern Illinois.

Redshirted his freshman season (2018) at Southern Illinois. Transferred to division II West Florida prior to the 2019 season and had an outstanding season, passing for over 4,000 yards and leading them to the Division II National Championship. After the 2020 season was cancelled due to the pandemic, Reed passed for over 3,300 yards in another fine year in 2021. Opted to transfer to the FBS level, moving to Western Kentucky prior to the 2022 season. Had an outstanding first season at WKU in 2020, passing for 4,744 yards and 40 touchdowns and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. QB #12

Overall #279

#### **Round 7-UDFA**

Class: Senior

Age: 24.18

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 220 (combine)

40: 4.82 (combine)

Followed up with a 3,000 yard season and honorable mention all-conference honours in 2023.

**College Stats: West Florida:** In 2 seasons, Reed played in 26 games (25 starts), completing 55.7% of his passes for 7,464 yards with 78 TDs & 20 Ints, Rushed 100 times for 321 yards (3.2 ave) and 9 TDs. Western Kentucky: In 2 seasons, Reed played in 26 games (26 starts), completing 63.2% of his passes for 8,084 yards, with 71 TDs & 22 Ints. Had 12 300-yard passing games (including 4 over 400 yards). Rushed 133 times for 324 yards (2.4 ave) and 12 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Conference USA. William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. Conference USA All-Academic. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference USA. Conference USA Newcomer of the Year. O'Brien Award semi-finalist. New Orleans Bowl MVP. **2019** GSC Offensive Freshman of the Year. Don Hansen Football Gazette 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Region. Don Hansen Football Gazette National Freshman of the Year.

**Analysis:** Reed has been an accurate and productive passer in a system which features lots of quick, short, and underneath passes. Will be over 24 years old when the draft takes place.

Reed has been at his best in college when he has been able to throw off a 3-step drop and dump the ball off short on quick patterns. Relies a lot on good ball placement and on his receivers adding extra yards after the catch. Reed's arm has been serviceable for the offenses in which he has played and when he plays within the system, he is very safe with the football.

Reed has demonstrated leadership and some good pocket presence. He has decent footwork and can get outside to make some plays when the originally called play breaks down. But generally, he starts to struggle on longer developing downfield plays and where he is required to fit the ball into tight spaces – in these instances, his lack of arm strength and quick release means that he will get a lot of these passes knocked down.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Reed is an accurate passer, but he needs to play in a system which gets receivers open short quickly and doesn't require him to hang onto the football or throw it all over the field. Ultimately, his development needs and lack of an outstanding arm are going to see him in a tough battle to earn a roster spot. He may sneak into round 7 or be an undrafted free agent.

# **DEVIN LEARY (Kentucky)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in New Jersey, playing baseball as well as football. As a QB he twice earned Gatorade state player of the year honours, while passing for nearly 10,000 career yards. Decided to play his college ball at North Carolina State.

Redshirted his freshman season in 2018, before becoming a part-time starter in 2019. Earned the starting role again early in 2020 but unfortunately suffered a leg fracture which ended his season after just 4 games. Bounced back in 2021 to have the best season of his career – passing for nearly 3,500 yards and 35 touchdowns. Played just 6 games in 2022 before suffering a torn pectoral muscle which required surgery and again ended his season early. Transferred to

QB #13

Overall #282

#### Round 7-UDFA

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.63 Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¼, 215 (college) 40: n/a

Kentucky following the 2022 season, picking up the reigns from highly regarded 2023 draftee Will Levis. Had a solid single season for the Wildcats.

**College Stats: North Carolina:** In his 4 seasons, Leary played in 30 games (27 starts), completing 60.2% of his passes for 6,807 yards, 62 TDs and 16 Ints. Had 8 300-yard passing games (including 1 400 yard game). Also rushed for -19 yards and 5 TDs. **Kentucky:** In 1 season, Leary played and started in 12 games, completing 59.1% of his passes for 2,440 yards, 23 TDs and 10 Ints. Had 3 300-yard passing games. Rushed 39 times for -55 yards and 1 TD.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Comeback Player of the Year semi-finalist. **2022** Unitas Award semi-finalist. **2021** Honorable Mention All-ACC. Unitas Award finalist. Governor's Award winner (NC State Team MVP). Torry Holt Award winner (NC State Team Offensive MVP). Ken McNeill Award winner (NC State Team comeback from injury).

**Analysis:** Leary is a smart, team leader at the quarterback spot, with a good level of college experience. He is slightly under the A1 size for the position and has a decent, but not outstanding, arm and release. Leary had a consistent college career, interrupted a couple of times by injury.

Leary is a patient passer. He will sit in the pocket, go through his progressions, and is prepared to take a hit in order to complete the pass. Generally makes good decisions and is safe with the football. More effective in a short to intermediate passing game, rather than being asked to throw deep.

Can move in the pocket and get outside but isn't a great athlete and won't pick up huge yardage with his legs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Leary is cerebral quarterback who has solid skills and pocket presence but lacks a little size and top notch arm strength. Has a little bit of an injury history which may be of concern to NFL teams but has demonstrated his toughness by bouncing back. May get selected towards the end of the draft or be a priority undrafted free agent. Looks like a player who could have a chance to be either a no.3 quarterback on an NFL roster or be on a practice squad.

### **KEDON SLOVIS (BYU)**

**Misc:** Won a number of accolades for his play at quarterback in high school in Arizona. Opted to play his college ball at USC over offers from the likes of Oregon State and North Carolina State.

Became the starter quickly as a freshman at USC (2019), when J.T. Daniels was injured, having an excellent season (earning some Freshman All-American notice). Sadly suffered an elbow injury in the very last game of the season. Recovered in time for the pandemic delayed 2020 season, however he wasn't as good as he was the previous year and then suffered a shoulder injury on the last play of the season. Still won 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. Came back to play solidly in 2021. Transferred to Pittsburgh prior to the 2022 QB #14

#### Overall #291

#### UDFA

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.04 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ½, 223 (combine) 40: 4.55 (combine)

season, where he had an up and down year. Transferred to BYU prior to the 2023 season, where he played well before missing the final 4 games of the season with an arm injury.

**College Stats: USC:** In 3 seasons, Slovis played in 27 games (26 starts), completing 68.4% of his passes for 7,576 yards, 58 TDs and 24 Ints. Had 11 300-yard passing games (including 4 over 400 yards, which also included 1 over 500 yards). Rushed 93 times for -155 yards. Pittsburgh: In 1 season, Slovis played and started in 11 games, completing 58.4% of his passes for 2,397 yards, 10 TDs and 9 Ints. Had 2 300-yard passing games. Rushed 25 times for -68 yards. BYU: In 1 season, Slovis played and started in 8 games, completing 57.5% of his passes for 1,716 yards, 12 TDs and 6 Ints. Had 2 300-yard passing games. Rushed 29 times for -41 yards and 3 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2020** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac-12. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. **2019** FWAA 1<sup>st</sup> Team Freshman All-American. Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. Pac-12 Freshman of the Year. Pac-12 Offensive Freshman of the Year. AP Pac-12 Newcomer of the Year. FWAA National Freshman of the Year semi-finalist.

**Analysis:** Slovis is a highly experienced team leader type with good size and a decent arm. Has had some injuries during his career.

Can be a really accurate passer but also can be inconsistent. Sometimes appears to have some decision making problems – attempting passes that he probably shouldn't, leading to turnovers or potential turnovers.

Slovis isn't afraid to stand in the pocket to through his progressions in order to make the play. Will often extend plays long enough in order to be able to make the throw.

Has decent athleticism but hasn't shown himself to be a threat to pick up yards with his legs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Slovis has lots of experience and put up solid numbers through his college career, but perhaps has never quite lived up to the promise of his outstanding freshman season - after that 2019 season he was immediately thought of as a potential future high round draft choice, but that isn't to be. It seems likely now that Slovis will either be picked in round 7 or go undrafted, but it should be expected that he will be a strong candidate for an NFL practice squad.

### **CARTER BRADLEY (South Alabama)**

**Misc:** Is the son of longtime coach Gus Bradley who was the head coach of the Jacksonville Jaguars (2013-16) and is currently the Indianapolis Colts defensive co-ordinator. Carter played quarterback in high school in Florida and had offers from a number of FBS schools, before deciding to play his college ball at Toledo.

Redshirted his true freshman season at Toledo (2018), after playing in just 3 games. Suffered a shoulder injury (torn labrum) in the spring of 2019 which required surgery, although he was able to return to play in 7 games (2 starts) that season. Made just 2 starts in 2020, before becoming the starter at the beginning of the 2021 season. However, he only started in 6 games – being benched for the others. Decided

QB #15

#### Overall #299

UDFA

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.13 Ht/Wt: n/a 40: n/a

to transfer to South Alabama prior to the 2022 season. Had the best season of his college career in 2022, passing for over 3,000 yards. Followed up with another good year in 2023, despite missing some time due to a knee injury.

**College Stats: Toledo:** In 4 seasons, Bradley played in 22 games (10 starts), completing 56% of his passes for 2,377 yards, with 14 TDs and 8 Ints. Had 1 300-yard passing game (432 yards). Rushed 70 times for -1 yard and 1 TD. **South Alabama:** in 2 seasons, Bradley played and started in 24 games, completing 66% of his passes for 6,003 yards, with 47 TDs and 19 Ints. Had 6 300-yard passing games (including 1 over 400 yards). Rushed 111 times for 6 yards and 3 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Sun Belt Conference. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Sun Belt Conference. **2020** Academic All-MAC. **2019** Academic All-MAC.

**Analysis:** Bradley is a team leader with good experience, who has productive seasons the last two years. Played almost exclusively out of the shotgun in the latter years of his college career. Will be over 24 years old by the time of the draft.

Bradley has decent size and the ability to make most of the short to intermediate throws – can struggle some throwing deep. Bradley doesn't have a cannon for an arm, but it's still pretty good and he has also learned to throw with touch. Bradley's accuracy isn't always as consistent as it could be.

While he is able to move around in the pocket to try and beat the rush, Bradley isn't the greatest athlete and has problems avoiding really speedy rushers. Also isn't going to beat teams with his legs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Bradley has shown nice development in his two seasons at South Alabama and perhaps somewhat surprisingly didn't get an invite to the combine -which didn't help his draft chances. His age may also deter some teams. However he's a player still on the rise and he has a really nice arm. There are a number of areas that require development, including his accuracy, and he looks like a probable practice squad guy at the next level. Looks like he will most likely go undrafted.

#### The Next Best Quarterbacks...

#### 16. Taulia Tagovailoa (Maryland)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #310 overall on our draft board.

Brother of Dolphins quarterback Tua. Spent a single season (2019) at Alabama. Transferred to Maryland prior to the 2020 season. Across his college career, he played in 46 games (39 starts), completing 67.1% of his passes for 11,356 yards and 77 touchdowns, with 37 interceptions. Rushed for 205 yards and 13 touchdowns. Owns the all-time Big 10 record for career passing yards (11,256). Is very undersized and doesn't have outstanding arm strength. Is a good passer in the short and intermediate areas. Has decent athleticism.

Age: 24.16. Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¼, 200 (East-West Shrine Bowl). 40: n/a.

#### **17.** Gavin Hardison (UTEP)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #373 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 games in 2018 at New Mexico Military Institute. Prior to the 2019 season, he transferred to UTEP, where he spent the rest of his career. Played 38 games (35 starts) at UTEP, where he completed 53.6% of his passes for 7,963 yards, with 40 touchdowns and 33 interceptions. Rushed for -15 yards and 3 touchdowns. Hardison has a really strong arm and a quick release but isn't always the most accurate or consistent of passers and throws more interceptions that you'd like. Lacks ideal mobility - gets tackled behind the line of scrimmage too often and won't beat teams with his legs. Had season ending elbow surgery midway through the 2023 season.

Age: 23.95. Ht/Wt: n/a. 40: n/a.

#### 18. Spencer Sanders (Mississippi)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #385 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Oklahoma State before transferring to Mississippi following the 2022 season. Across his college career, Sanders played in 52 games, with 41 starts and completed 61.1% of his passes for 9,831 yards, with 70 touchdowns and 40 interceptions. Rushed for 2,001 yards and 18 touchdowns. Sanders has excellent mobility. Isn't as consistently accurate as you would like. Suffered an injury in the spring of 2023 and while he came back from the injury, Sanders didn't win the starting job at Ole Miss – therefore didn't play much in 2023, which hurts his draft chances.

Age: 24.36. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 219 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 19. Jack Plummer (Louisville)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #388 overall on our draft board.

Spent 3 (playing) seasons at Purdue (2019-21), Transferred to Cal for 2022, then transferred again (to Louisville) for the 2023 season. Across his career, Plummer played in 47 games (39 starts), completing 64.1% of his passes for 9,704 yards, with 68 touchdowns and 31 interceptions. Rushed for -4 yards and 3 touchdowns. Played well in 2022 and 2023. Team leader type who has good size but lacks some mobility in and out of the pocket. Has decent passing accuracy but doesn't have great arm strength or a quick release.

Age: 24.51. Ht/Wt: n/a. 40: n/a.

#### 20. John Rhys Plumlee (UCF)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #411 overall on our draft board.

Transferred to UCF from Ole Miss prior to the 2022 season (after 3 seasons at Ole Miss). Across his college career he played in 52 games (32 starts), completing 61.1% of his passes for 5,838 yards, with 34 touchdowns and 19 interceptions. Also rushed for 2,557 yards and 28 touchdowns. Played some at wide receiver in his final season at Ole Miss (18 catches for 200 yards). Is undersized for quarterback. Throws a nice football but will struggle at times with his accuracy. Has excellent mobility in and out of the pocket and is real threat to pick up big yards on the ground – is a true dual-threat quarterback. Missed a little playing time midway through the 2023 season due to a knee injury. Was an outstanding baseball player while at Ole Miss. NFL teams may see him as a multi-purpose player who can play a little in the backfield and as a receiver.

Age: 23.31. Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¾, 200 (East-West Shrine Bowl). 40: 4.49 (pro day).

#### 21. Emory Jones (Cincinnati)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #425 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Florida (including a redshirt season), 2 of them backing up Kyle Trask, before transferring to Arizona State prior to the 2022 season. Played a single year at ASU before transferring again before the 2023 season – this time to Cincinnati, where he had the best season of his college career. Jones is an outstanding athlete who was a dual-threat quarterback in high school and in college, indeed he may even be a better runner than passer. Has a decent arm but can lack some accuracy, especially when pressured. Across his college career Jones played in 50 games (24 starts), completing 63.6% of his passes for 6,106 yards, with 43 touchdowns and 24 interceptions. Also rushed for 1,583 yards (4.4 average) and 17 touchdowns.

Age: 23.99. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 210 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 22. Brennan Armstrong (North Carolina State)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #427 overall on our draft board.

Left handed passer. Played 5 seasons at Virginia before transferring to North Carolina for his final college season in 2023. In his college career Armstrong played in 53 games (39 starts), completing 60.6% of his passes for 10,814 yards, with 69 touchdowns and 42 interceptions. Also rushed for 1,937 yards and 27 touchdowns. Had his best season in 2021, passing for a Virginia school record 4,449 yards, which included a school single game record 554 yards against North Carolina. Armstrong doesn't have a classic throwing motion but he has a strong arm and good release. Accuracy can be inconsistent, and perhaps throws a few more interceptions than you'd like to see. Is a real running threat and will pick up crucial yards with his legs – is a tough runner who will fight through tackles.

Age: 24.52. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 215 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 23. Jason Bean (Kansas)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #441 overall on our draft board.

Played 3 seasons at North Texas (2018-2020) before transferring to Kansas, where he played the last 3 seasons. Across his college career Bean played in 51 games, completing 59.2% of his passes for 5,969 yards, with 55 touchdowns and 26 interceptions. Also rushed for 1,342 yards (5.3 average) and 14 touchdowns. Is a dual-threat quarterback who can pass and run. Used to be a bigger threat as a runner than passer but has gradually improved as a passer – having the most productive season of his career in 2023.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 23.39. 40: n/a.

#### 24. Tanner Mordecai (Wisconsin)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #444 overall on our draft board.

Mordecai played 3 seasons as a back-up at Oklahoma (2018-2020), before transferring to SMU for the 2021 season. Had the best two seasons of his career at SMU (2021-22), before transferring to Wisconsin for the 2023 season. Wasn't quite as productive at Wisconsin as he missed some playing time due to injury (hand). Across his college career Mordecai played in 46 games, completing 66.4% of his passes for 9,857 yards, with 85 touchdowns and 27 interceptions. Also rushed for 606 yards (2.5 average) and 9 touchdowns. Is an accurate passer who generally makes good decisions. Is very athletic. Was named as a semi-finalist for the Davey O'Brien Award in 2022.

Age: 24.47. Ht/Wt: n/a. 40: 4.46 (pro day).

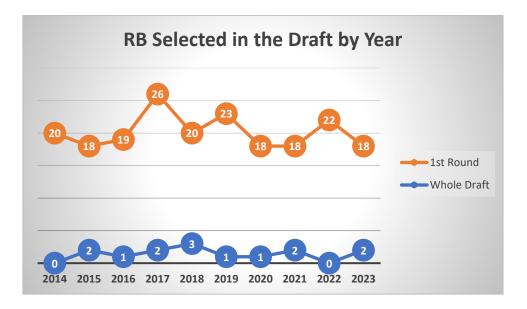
# **RUNNING BACKS**

**General Draft Outlook:** This year's running back class looks a little different to last year's. In the 2023 draft we had 2 backs selected in the top 12 picks overall (Bijan Robinson and Jahmyr Gibbs), whereas this year it seems very possible that none will be off the board in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

The strength of this year's running back group sits between rounds 2 and round 4 and it's not out of the question that as many as a total of 10 running backs may be taken in during these rounds. It may be one of those drafts where it takes a while before a back is selected and then a number be picked in close succession.

Jonathan Brooks and Trey Benson are productive backs with good size who could the first two picked. However, if a team is looking for a smaller, quick, change of pace type back then any of Blae Corum, Bucky Irving, Marshawn Lloyd or Ray Davis could be the pick – expect those smaller backs to go roughly in that order.

If teams are looking for a bigger, between the tackles type runner then the Badgers' Braelon Allen probably fits that bill. Also in the mix, in that round 2 to round 4 area, are Audric Estime, Jaylen Wright, and Will Shipley – all of whom have decent size.



Prediction: Around 23 running backs will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** The Packers running back situation is an interesting one. Having signed Josh Jacobs in free agency, and lost Aaron Jones via the same route, the Packers then surprised many by being able to get a deal done to bring back A.J. Dillon. The coaching staff also seemingly likes holdover Emanuel Wilson, meaning the Packers running back room could be full. And yet, it doesn't seem beyond the realms of possibility that they will look to pick up a running back for the future. If they want to pick up a back on day 2/early day 3, then the aforementioned Jaylen Wright could fit the bill. If they choose to take a look at a player towards the end of the draft then perhaps Isaiah Davis or Rasheen Ali may be possibilities.

# **TOP RUNNING BACKS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Jonathon Brooks	RB	Texas	2-3
2.	Trey Benson	RB	FSU	2-3
3.	Blake Corum	RB	Michigan	2-3
4.	Jaylen Wright	RB	Tennessee	3
5.	Braelon Allen	RB	Wisconsin	3-4
6.	Mar'Keise "Bucky" Irving	RB	Oregon	3-4
7.	MarShawn Lloyd	RB	USC	3-4
8.	Audric Estimé	RB	Notre Dame	3-4
9.	Re'Mahn "Ray" Davis	RB	Kentucky	4-5
10.	Will Shipley	RB	Clemson	4-5
11.	Isaac Guerendo	RB	Louisville	4-5
12.	Dylan Laube	RB	New Hampshire	4-5
13.	Tyrone Tracy Jr.	RB	Purdue	4-5
14.	Isaiah Davis	RB	South Dakota State	6-7
15.	Cody Schrader	RB	Missouri	6-7
16.	Dillon Johnson	RB	Washington	6-7
17.	Jase McClellan	RB	Alabama	6-7
18.	Rasheen Ali	RB	Marshall	6-7
19.	Frank Gore Jr.	RB	Southern Mississippi	6-7
20.	Kimani Vidal	RB	Troy	6-7
21.	Emani Bailey	RB	TCU	6-7
22.	Daijun Edwards	RB	Georgia	6-7
23.	Kendall Milton	RB	Georgia	7-UDFA
24.	Jawhar Jordan	RB	Louisville	7-UDFA
25.	Blake Watson	RB	Memphis	7-UDFA
26.	Miyan Williams	RB	Ohio State	7-UDFA
27.	Jaden Shirden	RB	Monmouth (NJ)	7-UDFA
28.	Michael Wiley	RB	Arizona	7-UDFA
29.	Carson Steele	RB	UCLA	UDFA
30.	George Holani	RB	Boise State	UDFA
31.	Jabari Small	RB	Tennessee	UDFA
32.	Keilan Robinson	RB	Texas	UDFA
33.	Austin Jones	RB	USC	UDFA
34.	Deshawn Fenwick	RB	Oregon State	UDFA
35.	Dylan McDuffie	RB	Kansas	UDFA
36.	Noah Cain	RB	LSU	UDFA
37.	Kavosiey Smoke	RB	Colorado	UDFA
38.	Sean Tyler	RB	Minnesota	UDFA
39.	Christian Turner	RB	Indiana	UDFA
40.	Nakia Watson	RB	Washington 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.	Lorenzo Lingard	RB	Akron	UDFA
42.	Asa Martin	RB	Troy	UDFA
43.	Isaiah Ifanse	RB	California	UDFA
44.	Dante Miller	RB	South Carolina	UDFA
45.	Dontae Smith	RB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
46.	Jacob Kibodi	RB	Louisiana	UDFA
47.	Aidan Robbins	RB	BYU	UDFA
48.	John Emery Jr.	RB	LSU	UDFA
49.	Deion Smith	RB	BYU	UDFA
50.	Ramon Jefferson	RB	Kentucky	UDFA
51.	TaMerik Williams	RB	North Dakota State	UDFA
52.	Elijah Collins	RB	Oklahoma State	UDFA
53.	Jarveon Howard	RB	Alcorn State	UDFA
54.	D.J. Williams	RB	Arizona	UDFA
55.	Ryan Montgomery	RB	Cincinnati	UDFA
56.	Reese White	RB	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
57.	D.J. Twitty	RB	South Carolina	UDFA
58.	Josh Henderson	RB	Indiana	UDFA
59.	Larry McCammon IIII	RB	Florida Atlantic	UDFA
60.	Dominic Roberto	RB	Furman	UDFA
61.	Narii Gaither	RB	Gardner-Webb	UDFA
62.	Dantae Smith	RB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
63.	Samson Evans	RB	Eastern Michigan	UDFA
64.	David Bailey Jr.	RB	Texas A&M	UDFA
65.	Luke Skokna	RB	North Dakota	UDFA
66.	Trey Potts	RB	Penn State	UDFA
67.	C'Bo Flemister	RB	Pittsburgh	UDFA
68.	Jaylen Coleman	RB	Duke	UDFA
69.	Dakereon Joyner	RB	South Carolina	UDFA
70.	Anthony Grant	RB	Nebraska	UDFA
71.	Earnest Crownover	RB	Texas A&M	UDFA
72.	Shedro Louis	RB	Tulane	UDFA
73.	Jermaine Brown Jr.	RB	UAB	UDFA
74.	Mark-Antony Richards	RB	UCF	UDFA

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

#### **JONATHON BROOKS (Texas)**

**Misc:** Starred in both basketball and football in high school in Texas. Earned all-district and all-state honours for his play primarily as a RB, but he also played DB and was an outstanding punter. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball for the Longhorns.

Playing time opportunities were limited in each of his first 2 seasons (2021 and 2022) as he played behind 2023 draftees Bijan Robinson and Roschon Johnson – carrying just 51 times albeit at a 6.7 average. As the featured back in 2023, Brooks had a breakout season, rushing for over 1,100 yards before sadly suffering a season ending ACL tear in November. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> Team all-conference honours.

RB #1

Overall #57

Round 2-3

Class: RS-sophomore

Age: 20.77

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¾, 216 (combine)

40: n/a

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Texas, Brooks played in 22 games (8 starts), rushing for 1,479 yards (6.2 average) and 16 touchdowns. Had 7 career 100-yard rushing games, including 1 of 200+ yards. Also had 28 receptions for 335 yards (12.0 average) and 2 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Phil Steele 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention Big 12 offensive Player of the Year. Walker Award semi-finalist. Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award finalist. DCTF 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas. **2022 & 2021** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Brooks is the latest in a line of running backs out of the University of Texas who will grace the NFL. And his smooth and slightly upright running style is not dissimilar to both of last year's draftees, Bijan Robinson and Roschon Johnson.

Brooks has really good size and is a strong runner who accelerates through the hole with some power. Add patience and vision and you have a dynamic back who is probably at his best running between the tackles. While not a stop-on-a-dime type runner, he does have moves which makes it difficult for defenders to get a clean hit on him.

Brooks has good speed, and once in the open field he can breakaway. He moves at a faster pace than it may appear.

Will still be under 21 years old on draft day and lacks some college experience, as he started in just 8 games.

Is a really good receiver with nice hands but hasn't been overly used in the passing game. Is learning to pick-up the blitz in the passing game – this is a work in progress.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Draft outlook will likely depend on his recovery and medical reports with regard to the ACL injury he suffered during the 2023 season – he was continuing his rehab through the spring and therefore was unable to take part in workouts at the combine or at UT's pro day. Brooks lacks some experience and has some areas which require development, but he comes with a lot of potential. He is very young, but also doesn't have many miles on the clock. Assuming that he is medically ok, Brooks has the skills and athletic ability to develop into a 3-down back in the NFL. It is possible that he will be the first running back selected in this draft, at some point on day 2.

### **TREY BENSON (FSU)**

**Misc:** Very good high school career in Mississippi, rushing for over 3,600 yards in his final two seasons combined. Total included a near-400-yard rushing performance in a single game. Opted to play his college ball at Oregon, choosing the Ducks over a number of other FBS schools from whom he had offers.

Unfortunately, suffered a serious knee injury in practice in 2020 (tearing both his ACL and MCL) – did not see any game action during the year (was awarded a redshirt). Came back from the injury in 2021 (played 9 games), but his opportunities in the backfield were limited, carrying the ball just 6 times. Prior to the 2022 season he transferred to Florida State. Became a part-time starter during 2022 and had a

RB #2

**Overall #62** 

Round 2-3

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 21.76

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 216 (combine)

40: 4.39 (combine)

fine season, rushing for just under 1,000 yards. Had a similar season in 2023, again rushing for more than 900 yards. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours in both 2022 and 2023.

**College Stats: Oregon:** In his 1 (playing) season, Benson played in 9 games (0 starts), rushing for 22 yards (3.7 average) and 1 touchdown on 6 carries. **FSU:** In his 2 seasons, Benson played in 26 games (16 starts), rushing for 1,895 yards (6.3 average) and 23 touchdowns. Also caught 33 passes for 371 yards (11.2 average) and 1 touchdown. Returned 5 kick-offs at a 38.4-yard average and 1 touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. Bobby Bowden Leadership Award co-winner (FSU team award). **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. FSU Team Offensive Newcomer of the Year.

**Analysis:** Benson is a productive runner with really good athletic ability and a close to prototypical body size and shape.

As a runner, Benson has a really explosive first step and has quick feet which enables him to make tacklers miss. This speed and quickness is impressive for a back of his size (he ran a 4.39 in the 40 at the combine). If he gets into the open field, Benson has breakaway speed.

Benson runs with toughness and power and has excellent body control meaning that he is difficult to bring down. But he does seem to run into traffic a little too often when running inside. Perhaps needs to be a little more patient and allow time for holes to open.

Is a decent receiver but hasn't been utilised to any great extent in the passing game. Benson has a little experience returning kick-offs, which will add another string to his bow.

Is very secure with the football – just doesn't fumble.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Benson brings an excellent combination of power and speed to the running back position. He has some areas to improve and develop but the potential he brings to the table is exciting. Although it is over 3 years since Benson suffered his serious knee injury, teams are still going to want to be sure that there aren't any long-term medical complications. Assuming all is medically ok, we can expect Benson to be off the board at some point on day 2.

### **BLAKE CORUM (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Had an outstanding high school career in Maryland. Was named the state's Gatorade Player of the Year for the 2019 season. Highly recruited, opted to play his college ball at Michigan.

Saw very limited action as a freshman in 2020 (just 26 carries). Had an excellent 2021, falling just short of a 1,000-yard rushing season and earning some all-conference notice. Was even better in 2022, garnering All-American honours in a season which saw him rush for 1,463 yards and 18 TDs. The numbers would have been even larger if he hadn't suffered a left knee meniscus tear which required surgery, forcing him to miss the National Championship Play-offs). Followed up with another fine season in 2023, going over 1,200 rushing yards. RB #3

Overall #74

Round 2-3

Class: Senior

Age: 23.42

Ht/Wt: 5-7 ¾, 214 (combine)

40: 4.53 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Michigan, Corum played in 45 games (28 starts) and rushed for 3,737 yards (5.5 average) & 58 TDs. Had 15 career 100-yard games, including 1 of 200+ yards. Also had 56 receptions for 411 yards (7.3 ave) & 3 TDs. Returned 17 kick-offs at a 23.5 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 9<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. Wuerffel Trophy finalist. Jason Witten Award finalist. UM Comeback Player of the Year Award winner. **2023 & 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Ameche-Dayne Award winner (Big 10 Running Back of the Year). **2022** 7<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. Unanimous All-American. Chicago Tribune Silver Football winner (best player in the Big 10). Doak Walker Award finalist. Walter Camp, Maxwell & Jason Witten Awards semi-finalist. UM Bo Schembechler Award winner (Team MVP). UM Toughest Player & . UM Blue Collar Awards winner. **2021** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Paul Hornung Award finalist.

**Analysis:** Corum is a productive, versatile back who is diminutive in height but has a solid and stocky frame.

Has a shifty running style with cutting ability at some speed and will make yardage on the ground both on the outside and between the tackles. For a small back, Corum still runs with power and strength and can, perhaps surprisingly, shake off tacklers.

Is a patient runner who will wait for the hole to appear and will then quickly hit it. Is excellent down near the goal line, with an uncanny knack for finding the crease to get into the end zone.

Corum is a solid receiver coming out of the backfield, who also has experience returning kick-offs.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

It may have been surprising that Corum opted to return to school for the 2023 season after such a big 2022 season, but the late season injury he suffered that year may have swayed his decision – playing at UM in 2023 gave him the opportunity to show that he was over that injury. Corum's running ability and versatility are going to endear him to NFL teams, but whether a back of his size can carry the load full-time at the pro level in this era will be the question on the minds of those teams. If not, Corum can still be a very effective, multi-faceted rotational back in the NFL. Expect him to be off the board on day 2.

# **JAYLEN WRIGHT (Tennessee)**

**RB #4** Misc: Dual-sport athlete in high school in North Carolina, starring in track and field (sprinter) as well as football. High school career was **Overall #85** interrupted by the pandemic (his school's 2020 season was Round 3 cancelled). Had offers from a number of FBS schools, opting to commit to Tennessee. **Class: Junior** Had a really nice freshman season (2021), rushing for over 400 Age: 21.07 yards. Followed that up with nearly 900 yards rushing in 2022. As the full-time starter in 2023, Wright finally broke the single season Ht/Wt: 5-10 ½, 210 (combine) 1,000-yard mark and earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. 40: 4.38 (combine)

College Stats: In his 3 seasons at Tennessee, Wright played in 34

games (13 starts) and rushed for 2,297 yards (6.2 average) and 18 touchdowns. Had 8 career 100-yard rushing games. He also caught 30 passes for 171 yards (5.7 average).

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Wright is a running back with decent, but not outstanding, size but his physical forte is his outstanding athletic ability. Is a really exciting and effective runner to the outside and in space. Wright is still very young – he turned 21 earlier this month.

As a runner, Wright is dynamic. He has a really explosive first step, providing him with the ability to accelerate through the hole and he also some great jitterbug moves to make defenders miss. Wright is a threat to reach the end zone anytime he gets into the open field because of his breakaway speed. His super athletic ability and quickness also allow him to cut upfield at speed.

Has nice balance which often enables him to stay on his feet after the initial contact but lacks some power and strength to add big yards when caught up in the morass of bodies on the inside.

Hasn't been prolific as a receiver coming out of the backfield which has limited his opportunities to demonstrate his hands and route running skills to any great degree. Having said that, he has shown ability in this area and will make nice yardage after the catch when out in the open. Perhaps needs to show more in pass protection.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Wright appears to be improving each and every time he sees the field and his speed (4.38 in the 40 at the combine), quickness and athletic ability will earn him an NFL roster spot – and could see him develop into an NFL starter in short time. Although for this to happen, Wright will need to demonstrate his skills in the passing game – or he will be in danger of becoming a situational back. Because of his running attributes, he looks very suited to a team that features an outside zone blocking scheme – and this, coupled with his other skills mean that he may be of some interest to the Packers. Could be off the board late on day 2, or may slip into early day 3, depending on how the running backs are seen in this draft – he'd be a steal for any team after round 3.

### **BRAELON ALLEN (Wisconsin)**

 RB #5

 Overall #99

 Round 3-4

 Class: Junior

 Age: 20.27

 Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¼, 235 (combine)

 40: n/a

**Misc:** Starred as a LB/Safety and RB in high school in his hometown of Fond du Lac, WI (also played some QB). Earned all-state honours. Left high school a year early, staying close to home and enrolling at the University Wisconsin primarily as a safety/LB.

Quickly switched to RB and saw increasing playing time in his true freshman season after initially playing behind Chez Mellusi. When Mellusi was injured, Allen became the starter and rushed for 1,268 yards, earning all-conference recognition. Had an impressive 2022, again going over 1,200 rushing yards and earning all-conference notice. Fell just below 1,000 yards rushing in a solid 2023.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Wisconsin, Allen played in 35 games (24 starts) and rushed for 3,494 yards (5.9 average) & 35 TDs. Had 20 career 100-yard games, including 1 over 200+ yards. Also had 49 receptions for 274 yards (5.6 average).

**Honours & Awards: 2023 & 2022** Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list. **2023, 2022 & 2021** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. **2022** Guaranteed Rate Bowl Offensive MVP. **2021** Las Vegas Bowl MVP. Walter Camp Freshman All-American. Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Award finalist.

**Analysis:** Allen is very young (under 21 years old and could be the youngest player in this entire drive). He is a big and durable back who can carry the load – as demonstrated by the number of 100+ yard rushing games and his 18 career games with 18 or more rushing attempts. Knows how to find the end zone.

Allen is a strong and powerful ballcarrier who is at his best when running between the tackles. He is a patient runner but sometimes perhaps too much so. Can be surprisingly quick through the hole for a man of his size and will run through potential tacklers as much as avoid them – he's tough to bring down. Although Allen has that initial quickness, he doesn't have top notch speed nor is he a breakaway back.

Hasn't been overly utilised in the passing game (although was used more than in the past in 2023) but has demonstrated decent hands in those limited opportunities. Needs to show development as a pass blocker.

Has had the occasional problem with fumbles during his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Allen doesn't have high level speed, but his productive running style will interest teams who are looking for a tough runner who can carry the load. The fact that he is under 21 years old will also encourage those teams, however there may be concerns over how many carries he has had in his career already. Would be a popular pick amongst the Packers fan base, and although he wouldn't necessarily be seen as the best fit for their offense, it could be that Allen would be seen as a replacement for A.J. Dillon – if Dillon moves on from Green Bay in this offseason. Expect him to be off the board somewhere around round 3 or 4.

### **BUCKY IRVING (Oregon)**

**Misc:** Bucky is nickname, given first name is Mar'Keise. Rushed for over 1,700 yards in his junior season in high school in Illinois, before his senior season (2020) was unfortunately cancelled due to the pandemic. Opted to play his college ball at Minnesota.

Played well as a true freshman in 2021, delivering nearly 700 rushing yards whilst also contributing catching passes and returning kick-offs. Transferred to Oregon prior to the 2022 season. Immediately became a starter for the Ducks, putting up over 1,000 yards on the ground and earned some all-conference recognition. Repeated as a 1,000-yard rusher in 2023, while also catching 56 passes, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

RB #6 Overall #104

Round 3-4

Class: Junior Age: 21.69 Ht/Wt: 5-9, 192 (combine)

40: 4.55 (combine)

**College Stats: Minnesota:** his single year, Irving played in 12 games and rushed for 699 yards (5.3 ave) & 4 TDs. Had 3 100-yard rushing games. Also caught 8 passes for 73 yards. Returned 8 kick-offs at a 24.3 average. **Oregon:** In his 2 seasons, Irving played in 27 games (26 starts), rushing for 2,238 yards (6.5 ave) & 16 TDs. Had 9 100-yard rushing games. He also caught 87 passes for 712 yards (8.2 ave) & 5 TDs. Returned 6 kick-off returns at a 23.3 yard average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-American. **2022** Honorable Mention All-PAC 12. SDCCU Holiday Bowl Offensive MVP.

**Analysis:** Irving is an exciting and dynamic runner with versatility, who is under the prototypical size for a pro running back. His career as a runner has been about quality as much as quantity – indeed despite his excellent production, Irving has never been a down in, down out keep coming at you type runner – only twice in his college career did he have as many as 20 carries in a game.

Irving has a running style predicated on his speed and quickness – he has an explosive first step and really quick feet which enables him to cut at speed and make defenders miss. His explosiveness allows him to hit the hole and speed and accelerate through it. And if he gets into the open field, he has true breakaway speed.

Is surprisingly tough for a runner of his size. Has great body control and is difficult to bring down with a single hit.

Irving is a fine receiver coming out of the backfield – one of the best receiving backs in this draft. He knows how to get open and has really good hands. Needs to work on his blitz pick-up skills.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Irving's running and receiving skillset is truly going to excite NFL scouts. He has demonstrated that he can be a true change of pace back with the speed and quickness to really threaten defenses. There are areas that he needs to improve (e.g. pass protection) and there will be some questions over his durability, nonetheless Irving ought to be off the board around round 3 or round 4.

# **MARSHAWN LLOYD (USC)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Maryland, taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Had an outstanding career on the gridiron playing running back. Opted to play his college ball at South Carolina, choosing the Gamecocks over the likes of Alabama and Clemson.

Unfortunately, Lloyd torn the ACL in his left knee in practice prior to what would have been his true freshman season (2020), forcing him to redshirt the year. Came back in 2021, playing in 12 games but seeing limited action in the backfield. Was more productive in 2022, rushing for more than 500 yards. Transferred to USC following the 2022 season and rushed for over 800 yards in 2023, earning some allconference notice. RB #7

#### Overall #105

Round 3-4

Class: Junior Age: 23.30 Ht/Wt: 5-8 ¾, 220 (combine)

40: 4.46 (combine)

**College Stats: South Carolina:** In his 2 playing seasons, Lloyd played in 21 games (8 starts), rushing for 801 yards (4.6 ave.) and 10 touchdowns. Had 2 100-yard rushing games. Also caught 21 passes for 220 yards (10.5 ave.) and 2 touchdowns. **USC:** In his single season, Lloyd played in 11 games (6 starts), rushing for 820 yards (7.1 average) and 9 touchdowns. Had 2 100-yard rushing games. Also caught 13 passes for 232 yards (17.9 average).

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. 2021 SEC 1<sup>st</sup> Year Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Lloyd was a solid and consistent back in college who flashed some big play ability. He lacks height but has a powerful, sturdy, and muscular frame.

Has a really nice first step and the ability to get to the hole quickly, although he sometimes carries with stop-start stutter in traffic which can give the impression that he lacks quick acceleration (which he really doesn't).

Can be a tough runner inside who can put pressure on linebackers and safeties with his speed once he breaks through the line of scrimmage. Lloyd runs with some physicality, can be elusive and has good contact balance, meaning that he doesn't go down easily.

Wasn't utilised much as a receiver, but when he was Lloyd demonstrated that he has decent hands and some ability in this area. Was also generally solid when called up to pass protect, although his lack of size will be a concern here.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Lloyd was a good back in college without setting the world on fire. He didn't really have the opportunity to demonstrate that he can be "the man" in the backfield down-in, down-out over a 16 or 17 game season and his size will likely be a concern to teams in this regard. Aside from this, and on the plus side, Lloyd doesn't appear to have any huge areas of concern and will have helped his draft status with a really good Senior Bowl week, followed by a solid performance at the combine. Will likely be selected in the early rounds of day 3 or perhaps late on day 2.

# AUDRIC ESTIMÉ (Notre Dame)

**RB #8** 

**Overall #109** 

#### Round 3-4

Class: Junior

Age: 20.64

Ht/Wt: 5-11 3%, 221 (combine)

40: 4.71 (c), 4.57-4.59 (pd)

College Stats: In his 3 seasons at Notre Dame, Estimé played in 37

touchdowns in a fine season. Stepped up to the next level as the starting RB in 2023, rushing for over 1,300 yards and earning 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Misc:** Excellent high school career in New Jersey, winning the state's player of the year award in 2020 (rushing for 1,857 yards). Chose to

Played in 12 games as a true freshman in 2021 but saw very limited action in the offensive backfield. Was mainly a back-up again in

2022 but saw extensive action and rushed for over 900 yards and 11

play his college ball at Notre Dame.

Team All-American honours.

games (14 starts), rushing for 2,321 yards (6.2 average) and 29 touchdowns. Had 9 career 100yard games, including 1 over 200 yards. Also had 26 receptions for 277 yards (10.7 average) and 1 touchdown. Had 1 kick-off return for 29 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Notre Dame Team Offensive Player of the Year. CFN Independent Player of the Year. CFN Independent Offensive Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** Estimé is a consistent big back with a stout body who plays with strength and power who brings good athleticism to the table.

Estimé has nice vision and decent quickness through the hole but perhaps his greatest asset is his contact balance which (coupled with his aforementioned strength and power) means that he is really difficult to bring down and glancing hits won't get the job done. Compliments these attributes with a surprising ability, for a back of his size, to make moves which makes it difficult for defenders to get that clean hit on him.

Estimé has a knack for being really productive in the red zone, knows how to find the crease and get into the end zone – as shown when he set a team record 18 rushing TDs in 2023.

Hasn't been utilised very much as a pass receiver coming out of the backfield, but appeared to have decent skills in this area when he was called upon. Has improved his blitz recognition and has become a really nice pass protector.

Has learned to secure the football. Had a minor problem in 2022 with fumbles, but that appears to be behind him now.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Estimé has improved every year at Notre Dame as his playing time increased. His powerful, productive style is always going to be in vogue, especially when tough inside yardage is needed. While his lack of experience as a pass receiver may concern some, his skills in this area are good enough that it really shouldn't be a problem. Unfortunately, Estimé put up a really disappointing 4.71 in the 40 at the combine but was a little faster (a reported 4.57-4.59) at his pro day). Still looks like a solid back at the pro level. Expect him to be off the board either late on day 2 or early on day 3.

# **RAY DAVIS (Kentucky)**

**Misc:** First name is Re'Mahn – shortened to Ray. Multi-sport athlete in high school in New Jersey, taking part in track and field as well as playing basketball, baseball, and football. Had an excellent time on the gridiron where he averaged more than 12 yards a carry out of the backfield, while also starring as a defensive back. Opted to play his college ball at Temple.

Had an outstanding freshman season (2019), with over 900 yards on the ground. The pandemic played a large part in curtailing his 2020 season and he opted to transfer to Vanderbilt prior to the 2021 season. Davis, unfortunately, suffered a season ending toe injury (which required surgery) early in the season. Bounced back in 2022, RB #9

Overall #124

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 24.46

Ht/Wt: 5-8 ¾, 211 (combine)

40: 4.52 (combine)

breaking the 1,000-yard rushing barrier. Transferred to Kentucky prior to the 2023 season and had an outstanding season, rushing for over 1,100 yards and earning some All-America notice.

**College Stats: Temple:** In his 2 seasons, Davis played in 16 games (9 starts), rushing for 1,244 yards (4.6 ave.) and 9 TDs. Had 4 100-yard rushing games. Also caught 27 passes for 243 yards (9.0 ave.) and 2 TDs. **Vanderbilt:** In his 2 seasons, Davis played and started in 15 games, rushing for 1,253 yards (4.5 ave.) and 6 TDs. Had 5 100-yard rushing games. Also caught 34 passes for 196 yards (5.8 ave.) and 3 TDs. **Kentucky:** In his single season, Davis played and started in 13 games, rushing for 1,129 yards (5.7 average) and 14 TDs. Had 3 100-yard rushing games, including one over 300 yards. Also had 33 receptions for 323 yards (9.8 average) and 7 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** SI 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. **2022** Phil Steele 4<sup>th</sup> Team All-SEC. Comeback Player of the Year semi-finalist. **2019** PFF 1<sup>st</sup> Team Freshman All-American.

**Analysis:** Davis is a consistent, durable, and versatile back and whilst he is small in height, Davis has a stout frame which provides him with some power and strength in the running game.

Davis won't beat teams with his speed, but he is a solid runner whose aforementioned power coupled with nice balance enables him to pick some extra yardage after contact. Has vision to find the hole at the line of scrimmage. Has some moves but generally isn't going to make lots of defenders miss.

Davis is really good in the passing game especially as a receiver. Knows how to find the open space, has excellent hands and is consistently productive. Also has nice ability as a pass protector for a back of his size.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Davis is a small back with some nice skills who has appeared to get better in each college season. Is a productive back, whose all-round ability in the passing game in particular will interest NFL teams. Mainly has the look of a 3<sup>rd</sup> down back in the NFL who can be utilised as a receiver out of multiple formations and also as a pass protecting back. But also has the ability to be a third runner on an NFL roster. Expect Davis to be selected sometime on day 3 – perhaps in round 4 or 5.

### WILL SHIPLEY (Clemson)

**Misc:** Was an outstanding high school player in North Carolina. Rushed for over 2,000 yards in his junior season, winning Gatorade state Player of the Year honours. Opted to attend Clemson.

Showed himself to be a true all-round threat as a freshman in 2021, excelling as a runner (738 yards, 11 TDs), a receiver coming out of the backfield and as a kick returner. Earned freshman All-American honours. Followed up with an even more productive season in 2022, breaking the 1,000 yard rushing mark while becoming even better as a receiver and return man – earning some All-American recognition. Rushed for over 800 yards and caught 31 passes in 2023, despite nagging injuries.

RB #10 Overall #126 Round 4-5

Class: Junior Age: 21.66 Ht/Wt: 5-11, 206 (combine) 40: 4.39 (pro day)

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Clemson, Shipley played in 36 games (27 starts), rushing for 2,747 yards (5.2 average) and 31 TDs. Had 10 career 100-yard rushing games. Also had 85 receptions for 602 yards (7.1 average) and 2 TDs. Returned 34 kick-offs at a 26.6 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. Wuerffel Trophy semi-finalist. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team
Academic. 2023 & 2022 CSC Academic All-District. Named to Allstate AFCA Good Works Team.
2023, 2022 & 2021 Academic All-ACC 2022 USAT 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Paul
Hornung Award finalist. Blanchard-Rogers Trophy finalist. CSC 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-American.
2021 The Athletic 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Freshman All-American. Phil Steele 4<sup>th</sup> Team All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Shipley is an extremely versatile and productive all-round threat from the running back position. Is also an outstanding kick returner.

Shipley is a quickness, speed, and movement back. He is explosive and will accelerate through the hole at some velocity. Has good, speed in the open field. Also has some really nice moves and can cut and change direction while maintaining his speed.

Makes tacklers miss but doesn't run through a lot of tackles – perhaps could do with adding a little strength and power. Also needs to watch his ball security, having had a few fumbles in his career.

Shipley is a really nice pass catcher coming out of the backfield. But his receiving abilities aren't limited there – he can also line-up in the slot and even out wide. Has a knack for being able to get open. Has consistent hands. Compliments those receiving skills by being a really good player in pass protection.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Production was down in 2023 due to some nagging injuries, but it also proved that Shipley is tough. However, it's surely his combination of versatility and speed (he ran an outstanding 4.39 in the 40 at his pro day) that will really interest NFL teams. His attributes mean that he has the potential to fulfil a variety of roles at the pro level, depending upon the needs of the team that drafts him. At the very worst, Shipley should develop into either a no.2 back or a situational specialist. Likely to be selected early on day 3.

# **ISAAC GUERENDO (Louisville)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Indiana, taking part in track and field (sprints and long jump) as well as playing football. On the gridiron, Guerendo was an outstanding wide receiver who had more than 1,500 yards receiving as a senior. Opted to play his college ball at Wisconsin.

Converted from receiver to running back while at the Badgers but played in just 15 games between 2018 and 2021 due to a variety of reasons - redshirted in 2018, had hamstring injuries in both 2018 and 2019, the pandemic impacted the 2020 season and then he suffered an ankle injury in 2021. Had a nice season in 2022 as a kick returner and back-up running back, earning honorable mention all-conference honours, before opting to transfer to Louisville for 2023.

#### RB #11

#### Overall #157

Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.83 Ht/Wt: 6-0, 221 (combine) 40: 4.33 (combine)

**College Stats: Wisconsin:** In 5 seasons, Guerendo played in 27 games, rushing 99 times for 582 yards (5.9 average) and 6 touchdowns. Had 1 100-yard rushing game. Had 20 receptions for 124 yards (6.2 average) and 1 touchdown. **Louisville:** In 1 season, Guerendo played in 14 games (1 start), rushing 132 times for 810 yards (6.1 average) and 11 touchdowns. Had 1 100-yard rushing game. Had 22 receptions for 234 yards (10.6 average).

Honours & Awards: 2022 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. 2021 Academic All-Big 10. 2020 Academic All-Big 10. 2019 Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Guerendo is a running back with a really good combination of size, speed, acceleration, and power.

Guerendo's forte is as a between the tackles runner, who hits the whole quickly and accelerates through it – getting stronger. He is strong and tough to bring down but while he has some movement skills, he hasn't yet demonstrated great stop-start cutting ability or outstanding lateral movement which would enable him to avoid lots of tacklers or to get to the outside.

Not overly utilised as a receiver coming out of the backfield, but he has really nice hands - as you would expect from a player with his wide receiver background.

Has really good experience as a kick returner.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

It is quite difficult to assess how much of an upside there is with Guerendo. He had just one really productive season as a running in college, following an injury (and pandemic) impacted first few years of his college career. NFL teams will be asking whether he can repeat his 2023 performance at the next level or whether the injuries that hurt his career early may return to be a factor. Hopefully his 2023 performance coupled with the outstanding combine he had (which included a super-fast 4.33 in the 40), will put doubts to rest. Guerendo has outstanding speed and size, and not having many miles on the clock, despite his age, will help his chances to stick at the next level. Has a decent chance of making an NFL roster at least as a change of pace back – should be selected in the first half of day 3.

#### **DYLAN LAUBE (New Hampshire)**

**Misc:** Highly productive running back and kick returner in high school in New York state, earning multiple awards and accolades. Lacked FBS level offers and opted to play his college ball at New Hampshire.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018), before having a fine 2019 - earning some freshman All-American notice. New Hampshire's 2020 was unfortunately limited to just 1 game due to the pandemic. Had a solid 2021, before having a really good 2022 for which he earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, earning AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team FCS All-American honours as he lit up the field as a running back and as a kick and punt returner. RB #12

#### Overall #169

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior

Age: 24.37

Ht/Wt: 5-9 3, 206 (combine)

40: 4.54 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 6 seasons at New Hampshire, Laube played in 46 games, rushing 556 times for 2,773 yards (5.0 average) & 29 TDs. Had 9 career 100-yard rushing games (including 1 200-yard game). Had 171 receptions for 1,791 yards (10.5 average) & 14 TDs. Had 3 100-yard receiving games (including 1 200-yard game). Returned 90 kick-offs at a 24.5 average, with 2 TDs. Returned 34 punts at a 12.5 average, with 2 TDs. Also attempted 1 pass, with 1 interception.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP FCS 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-CAA. Walter Payton Award finalist. CAA & Phil Steele Special Teams Player of the Year. New England Football Writers Association All-New England Team. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-CAA. **2019** Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Freshman All-American. CAA Football Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Laube is a highly productive and versatile running back, with a nice level of experience (albeit gained at the FCS level). He is undersized (height in particular) but has a solid frame which supports his physical running style.

Laube is a tough, hard charging, inside runner. While he lacks long speed and isn't a breakaway back, what Laube does have is a good first step and nice acceleration through the hole.

Excellent pass receiver – one of the very best pass receiving running backs in this draft. Is highly productive when coming out of the backfield to catch passes and is also excellent when lining up in the slot and out wide. Runs really good routes as though he were a skilled wideout. Had an incredible 295 yards receiving in a game against Central Michigan in 2023.

Laube is a fine kick and punt returner whose quick feet and cutting ability enable him to make would be tacklers miss.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

It's possible to find reasons why Laube may not be high on some analysts' draft boards – age (he'll be over 24 years old on draft day), level of opposition (FCS rather than FBS), lack of size and lack of long speed. But when you accentuate the positives, there surely is a place for Dylan Laube on an NFL roster. He is a do everything type player – can be a running back, can be a receiver and can be a kick and punt returner, and every combination thereof. He is an outstanding talent who should find a home on an NFL roster as a 3<sup>rd</sup> down back at the very least. Laube should be selected somewhere in the first half of day 3.

# **TYRONE TRACY Jr. (Purdue)**

**Misc:** Highly acclaimed high school career in Indiana, earning numerous awards and accolades including being named Gatorade Player of the Year. Starred as a running back and wide receiver, while returning kicks and also playing defensive back. Was also a fine basketball player and track and field performer. Opted to play his college football at Iowa.

Redshirted his freshman season at Purdue (2018), playing in just 4 games. Had the most productive receiving season of his career in 2019, catching 39 passes for 589 yards. Wasn't as productive in either of the following two seasons (2020 and 2021). Opted to transfer to Purdue prior to the 2022 season. Caught 28 passes and rushed 17 times in 2022. Had the best all-round season of his college career in 2023, rushing for 716 yards and catching 19 passes, while also returning 16 kick-offs. Earned 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference recognition.

**College Stats: Iowa:** In 4 seasons, Tracy played in 38 games (16 starts), rushing 16 times for 93 yards (5.8 average) and 2 touchdowns. Caught 66 passes for 871 yards (13.2 average) and 5 touchdowns. Had 1 100-yard receiving games. **Purdue:** In 2 seasons, Tracy played in 25 games (14 starts), rushing 130 times for 854 yards (6.6 average). Had 3 100-yard rushing games. Caught 47 passes for 330 yards (7.0 average). Returned 17 kick-offs at a 25.2 average, with 1 touchdown. Returned 3 punts at a 4.7 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Next Man In Award winner (lowa team award).

**Analysis:** Tracy is a true multi-purpose back who may be considered as a bit running back and a bit wide receiver.

As a running back, he has good speed and the acceleration to get to the outside, while also having decent cutting and movement ability. Has the ability to make defenders miss in the open field and break off big runs. Perhaps needs to become more patient as an inside runner.

Experienced receiver with nice hands. In the passing game he can be utilised lining up in multiple spots including in the backfield, in the slot and outside.

Also developed as a kick returner in 2023.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

We've listed Tracy amongst the running backs here, but he lacks out and out experience at the spot, and perhaps his real value is an all-round player who can perform multiple roles on a team's roster. The biggest question marks about Tracy are likely to be whether or not his versatility has meant that he may not have fully developed skills in any one particular area and his age – he will be closer to 25, than 24, years old when the 2024 NFL regular season kicks off. Nonetheless, his versatility, skillset, production, and athletic ability are going to see him drafted at some point on day 3. And despite his age, he could be a player that will interest the Packers.

RB #13

Overall #171

Round 4-5

Class:

Age: 24.42

Ht/Wt: 5-11 1/8, 209 (combine)

40: 4.48 (combine)

# **ISAIAH DAVIS (South Dakota State)**

**Misc:** Outstanding high school career in Missouri which included winning the Gatorade state Player of the Year award in his senior season (2019) – a season in which he rushed for more than 2,000 yards. Davis had rushed for more than 1,600 yards as a junior in 2018. Opted to play his college ball at the FCS level for South Dakota State University.

Had a fine true freshman season (2020 but played in the spring of 2021 due to the pandemic), rushing for more than 800 yards and earning FCS freshman All-American honours. Followed that up by rushing for more than 700 yards (at 7.4 yards per carry) in 2021. Davis had a huge 2022 season, nearly reaching 1,500 yards on the ground

had a huge 2022 season, nearly reaching 1,500 yards on the ground and also rushing for 15 touchdowns. Rushed for even more yards (1,549) in 2023, earning AP FCS 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American honours.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at SDU, Davis played in 46 games, rushing 676 times for 4,548 yards (6.7 average) and 50 touchdowns. Had 24 career 100-yard rushing games (including 1 over 200 yards). Had 53 receptions for 487 yards (9.2 average) and 1 touchdown. Returned 7 kick-offs at 32.6 average. Returned 3 punts at a 6.0 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP FCS 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. MVFC Co-Offensive Player of the Year. Walter Payton Award finalist. **2023 & 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MVFC. **2022** Jim Langer Award winner (SDSU Team MVP). **2021** HERO Sports FCS Sophomore All-American. MVFC Commissioner's Academic Excellence Award winner. MVFC Honor Roll. **2020 (played Spring 2021)** HERO Sports FCS Freshman All-American. Phil Steele Spring FCS Playoff Co-MVP. Honorable Mention All-MVFC. MVFC All-Newcomer Team. MVFC Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Davis is a very durable runner who was extremely productive at the FCS level. He runs with patience and vision, although he lacks outstanding speed. Davis is very effective down near the goal line, knowing how to find the hole to give him the yard or two needed to score.

Davis is a tough and physical inside runner, who has good enough movement to avoid some clean hits and good contact balance making it difficult to get him to ground easily. Will keep running at defenses all day but isn't a breakaway threat and won't beat teams with breakaway speed.

Wasn't overly used as a receiver but is improving and has decent hands. Is solid in blitz pick-up situations. Has some experience as a return man from earlier in his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite not playing at the FBS level, Davis was so good enough at the FCS level that he earned himself an invitation to the Senior Bowl. Lack of top-notch speed and athleticism will likely mean that his role at the next level maybe limited but his productivity and durability can't be overlooked, and he has a solid chance of making a roster – probably on a team with a straight ahead, between the tackles, running offense or a tea. Should be selected on day 3.

Overall #182

**RB #14** 

Round 6-7

Class: Senior

Age: 22.18

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 218 (combine)

40: 4.57 (combine)

#### **CODY SCHRADER (Missouri)**

**High School:** Played both RB and LB in high school in Missouri, receiving multiple awards and accolades. Lacked offers from top colleges and enrolled at Division II Truman State University (Missouri).

Redshirted in 2018, before having a really nice 2019, rushing for over 600 yards and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Team all-conference honours. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honour is 2020 season impacted by the pandemic. Had an outstanding 2021 season, rushing for over 2,000 yards, again earning all-conference honours. Walked on at Missouri in 2022. Had a solid first season at the FBS level before having the most impressive season his college career in 2023 – rushing for over 1,600 yards and earning consensus All-American honours.

**College Stats: Truman State:** In 4 seasons, Schrader played in 29 games, rushing 479 times for 3,084 yards (6.4 average) and 39 touchdowns. Had 16 100-yard rushing games (including 5 games over 200 yards). Had 60 receptions for 497 yards (8.3 average) and 2 touchdowns. Returned 4 kick-offs at an 8.5 average. **Missouri:** In 2 seasons, Schrader played in 26 games (24 starts), rushing 446 times for 2,371 yards (5.3 average) and 23 touchdowns. Had 9 100-yard rushing games (including 2 over 200 yards). Had 41 receptions for 328 yards (8.0 average).

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 8th in Heisman Trophy voting. Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Burlsworth Trophy Winner. Doak Walker Award finalist. **2021** GLVC Co-Offensive Player of the Year 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-GLVC. **2020 (played in the spring of 2021)** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-GLVC. **2019** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-GLVC. **2018** Academic All-GLVC.

**Analysis:** Schrader is an experienced and physical inside runner with decent receiving skills. Has strength and the durability to keep going all day – he will carry the load, as demonstrated by his 8 games in 2023 with over 20 carries (including one of 35 carries).

Schrader doesn't have top level speed or athletic ability, but he has decent accelaration and good vision, with patience. He'll find the hole and hit it decisively and importantly he isn't easy to bring down – runs with great contact balance. It seems like he always picks up extra yardage whenever he is hit. Doesn't really have the speed to consistently run to the outside.

Is a sound receiver coming out of the backfield who appears to have developed as he has been utilised more in this aspect of the game.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

If ever a player demonstrated a great attitude and commitment to being the best player he could be, then it's Cody Schrader. His college career is wonderful example of rising up to become a high level, high performing athlete. His personality traits are surely going to endear him to NFL teams. Lacks some of the athletic ability and FBS level experience (just 2 seasons) of some other running backs in this draft and will be nearly 25 years old when the next NFL season starts, but surely will get an opportunity to show what he can do on an NFL roster. Should be a day 3 selection.

#### RB #15

#### Overall #196

#### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.48 Ht/Wt: 5-8 ½, 202 (combine) 40: 4.61 (combine)

### **DILLON JOHNSON (Washington)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Mississippi playing both basketball and football. Excelled as a running back while also playing on defense. Opted to play his college ball in his home state for Mississippi State.

Contributed nicely in his true freshman season (2020), mainly as a back-up running back, rushing for 225 yards, and catching 36 passes. Started around half the games in 2021, again playing well, rushing for 485 yards, and catching an impressive 65 passes. Followed that up with a very similar season in 2022. Decided to transfer to Washington for the 2023 season, where he became the featured back. Had easily the most productive rushing season of his RB #16

#### Overall #187

#### Round 6-7

Class: Senior

Age: 23.19

Ht/Wt: 5-11 3%, 217 (combine)

40: 4.68 (combine)

college career, going over the 1,000-yard mark and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** Mississippi State: In his 3 seasons, Johnson played in 35 games (14 starts), rushing 229 times for 1,198 yards (5.2 average) and 11 touchdowns. Caught 149 passes for 864 yards (5.8 average) and 1 touchdown. Washington: In his 1 season, Johnson played and started in 14 games, rushing 233 times for 1,195 yards (5.2 average) and 16 touchdowns. Had 4 100-yard rushing games (including 1 over 200 yards). Caught 24 passes for 190 yards (7.9 average).

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Johnson is a consistent and versatile runner who has a solid frame and decent size. In addition to his running ability, he is a very effective pass receiver.

Johnson is a strong and physical inside runner. He has sufficient movement skills to ensure that defenders don't always get a clean shot on him and decent contact balance which gives him some yards after contact. What Johnson lacks is speed, quickness, and acceleration. He generally isn't going to hurt teams with manufactured yards, big plays, or breakaway runs.

Johnson is a fine receiver coming out of the backfield, with good hands, although the vast majority of his receptions are dump-off or check down passes at or behind the line of scrimmage which don't pick up huge amounts of yardage. Doesn't run many downfield patterns.

With his rushing attempts and volume of pass receptions, Johnson has proven himself to be a durable player running back who secures the football really well and misses very little playing time.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Johnson is a solid and durable, rather than dynamic, running back, whose running style could wear defenses down, should he get sufficient carries. Unfortunately, he doesn't have outstanding speed, athleticism or cutting ability, and this will mean that he is likely to be competing for a no.3 running back spot on an NFL roster. One thing Johnson does bring is fine receiving ability, which is always in vogue at the pro level, and this helps his chances. Expect him to be selected in round 6 or 7.

# **JASE McCLELLAN (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Aledo, Texas, taking part in track and field as well as having an outstanding football career - winning a number of honours as a star RB. Turned down offers to play his college ball in his home state in favour of playing at Alabama.

Saw limited action in the backfield at Alabama as a true freshman in 2020 but was productive when he had the opportunity (245 yards at 10.7 yards per carry). Suffered a torn ACL midway through the 2021 season ending his season. Bounced back to rush for more than 600 yards in 2022 (sharing time with 2023 1<sup>st</sup> round draftee Jahmyr Gibbs). Became the full-time starter in 2023, rushing for 890 yards and 8 touchdowns.

RB #17 Overall #210 Round 6-7 Class: Age: 21.84 Ht: 5-10 ⅔, 217 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Alabama, McClellan played in 44 games (17 starts), rushing 355 times for 1,981 yards (5.6 average) and 18 TDs. Had 3 100-yard rushing games. Caught 40 passes for 409 yards (10.2 average) and 6 TDs. Also returned a blocked punt for a TD.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Alabama Team Co-Offensive Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** McClellan is an effective and highly productive runner, with a stout frame, who became the no.1 back at Alabama in 2023, but he wasn't an every down back for the Crimson Tide. However, that's not to say that he couldn't perform that role.

Has a solid first step, and runs with some patience and vision, hitting the hole at decent speed. Has nice movement skills, without being a huge cutback guy. McClellan has good contact balance and isn't easily brought down in the tackle, making extra yards after the initial contact.

Because he doesn't have outstanding speed or quickness (it's ok, but not great), McClellan is probably more effective as an inside, between the tackles runner, than he is rushing to the outside. He generally isn't going to beat teams with that speed, and he isn't a breakaway type of runner.

McClellan wasn't utilised much as a pass receiver coming out of the backfield but does appear to have pretty good hands. Will also make extra yardage after the catch. Lacks some experience in pass protection.

Has some special teams experience from earlier in his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

McClellan appears to have successfully recovered from his 2021 injury with any long lasting illeffects and indeed appears to have developed in each of the two seasons since then. He looks like a back who has the frame to be able to carry the ball on a regular basis and while he hasn't much experience in the passing game, he appears to have some skills in this area - meaning that he could develop to be used on any down. However, McClellan is likely to be in a battle for a roster spot and could wind up either as a no.3 back or on a practice squad. Likely to be a late round draft choice.

# **RASHEEN ALI (Marshall)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Ohio. Opted to play his college ball at Marshall.

The pandemic limited his true freshman season (2020) to just 6 games. Had an outstanding 2021, rushing for over 1,400 yards and earning all-conference and Freshman All-American honours. Unfortunately suffered a knee injury just prior to the 2022 season, which limited him to just 3 games. Bounced back to have another 1,000-yard rushing season in 2023, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. RB #18

#### Overall #221

Round 6-7

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 23.19

Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¼, 206 (combine)

40: n/a

College Stats: In his 4 seasons at Marshall, Ali played in 34 games,

rushing 514 times for 2,831 yards (5.5 average) and 39 touchdowns. Had 11 career 100-yard rushing games (including 1 200-yard game). Had 75 receptions for 557 yards (7.4 average) and 3 touchdowns. Had 5 kick-off returns at a 34.6 average, with 1 touchdown.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Sun Belt Conference. 2022 Myrtle Beach Bowl MVP.
 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference USA. FWAA Freshman All-American. Marshall Team MVP.

**Analysis:** Ali is a dynamic and productive runner, with athleticism and decent experience and size. His ability to make big plays makes Ali an exciting runner to watch. Has had a couple of injuries.

As a runner, has breakaway acceleration and when he gets into the open field, he's not likely to be caught from behind. He has vision, fine cutting ability, and a burst through the hole. However, he isn't a power back and lacks some strength and contact balance, meaning that he perhaps doesn't make the yards after contact that you'd ideally like. Is generally a patient runner, but on occasion could be more so.

Is a more effective runner to the outside (than inside) where he can get into space and use his quick feet and cutting ability to get up the field at some velocity.

Ali doubles as a solid receiver coming out of the backfield, while not, as yet, being overly used in this aspect of the game. More of an outlet receiving guy than a featured receiving part of an offense right now. Needs some development in blitz pick-up situations.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Ali is a nice running back who may be going a little bit under the radar. Unfortunately, Ali suffered a ruptured biceps injury at the Senior Bowl forcing him out of the drills at the combine. How this injury impacts his draft status remains to be seen – the injury reportedly has a rehab period of a few months, which means that Ali is likely to be able to play by the 2024 pre-season. When healthy, he has good athletic ability and agility. Assuming a recovery from his current injury, and that there are no long-term issues from his 2022 injury, then Ali has the running skillset to make an NFL roster, initially as a no.3 running back. If he can develop (e.g. in the passing game) then he has some potential to progress. Likely to be selected in round 6 or 7. His effectiveness running outside could make him of interest to the Packers.

### The Next Best Running Backs...

#### 19. Frank Gore Jr. (Southern Mississippi)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #222 overall on our draft board.

Son of long time NFL star running back Frank Gore Sr. Frank Jr. played 4 seasons at Southern Mississippi, appearing in 47 games, with 43 starts, rushing 759 times for 4,022 yards (5.3 average) and 26 touchdowns. That rushing total included an incredible 329 yards against Rice in the 2022 LendingTree Bowl (an NCAA Bowl record). Helped his draft chances by putting on a really nice show at the East-West Shrine Bow. Gore is a small and squat but productive running back. Is a tough runner for a man of his size. Has some nice moves and will make tacklers miss. Is also a decent receiver coming out of the backfield (76 career receptions).

Age: 22.12. Ht/Wt 5-7 %, 201 (combine). 40: 4.58 (pro day).

#### 20. Kimani Vidal (Troy)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #223 overall on our draft board.

Played in 48 games with 41 starts at Troy, rushing for 4,010 yards (5.1 average) and 33 touchdowns. Also caught 92 passes for 700 yards and 1 touchdown. Very short but stout stature. Physical and productive runner – tough for his size. Good inside runner who is difficult to bring down. Doesn't have lots of moves but is durable. Very nice receiver coming out of the backfield. Followed an outstanding 2023 with a really nice week at the Senior Bowl, including in the game itself – utilising the opportunity that the all-star game gave him to show what he could do amongst some high profile players.

Age: 22.66. Ht/Wt: 5-7 3, 213 (combine). 40: 4.46 (combine)

#### 21. Emani Bailey (TCU)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #230 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons (2020-21) at Louisiana, before transferring to TCU for the 2022 season. Across his college career, Bailey played in 40 games (13 starts), rushing for 2,161 yards (5.9 average) and 18 touchdowns. Also caught 47 passes for 380 yards (9.5 average) and 1 touchdown. Is a small back but has a sturdy looking frame. Can run outside and between the tackles. Has good contact balance and is difficult to bring down in the tackle. Helped his draft chances with a nice performance at the Senior Bowl, but then ran a disappointing 4.61 in the 40 at the combine.

Age: 22.41. Ht/Wt: 5-7 ¾, 202 (combine). 40: 4.61 (combine).

#### 22. Daijun Edwards (Georgia)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #231 overall on our draft board.

In 4 seasons at Georgia, Edwards was never the full-time featured back, playing in 51 games, with 10 starts. In his college career, he rushed 391 times for 2,082 yards (5.3 average) and 24 touchdowns. Caught 37 passes for 343 yards (6.7 average). Edwards lacks great size but is a good all-round back with improving receiving skills as well as running ability. Lacks some height but has a sturdy frame. Decent, but not outstanding, speed and has some quickness to hit the hole. Also has crisp cutting ability. Has special teams coverage units experience. Split time in the Bulldogs' backfield in 2023 with fellow potential 2024 draftee Kendall Milton. Had a nice week at the Senior Bowl which helped his draft status.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 5-9 %, 207 (combine). 40: 4.71 (pro day).

#### 23. Kendall Milton (Georgia)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is **#252** overall on our draft board.

In his 4 seasons at Georgia, Milton played in 41 games, with 4 starts. Milton was never the full-time down-in, down-out ball-carrier at Georgia, splitting time with a number of other running backs. Across his Georgia career, he rushed 297 times for 1,839 yards (6.2 average) and 23 touchdowns. Also recorded 12 receptions for 116 yards (9.7 average) and 1 touchdown. Missed some playing time in each of 2020, 2021 and 2022 due to injuries. Split time in the Bulldogs' backfield in 2023 with fellow potential 2024 draftee Daijun Edwards.

Age: 22.21. Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 225 (combine). 40: 4.62 (combine).

### 24. Jawhar Jordan (Louisville)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #264 overall on our draft board.

Spent 2 years at Syracuse before transferring to Louisville prior to the 2021 season. Across his 5 year college career, Jordan played in 38 games (22 starts), rushing 381 times for 2,214 yards (5.8 average) and 18 touchdowns. Lacks size and doesn't have great speed, but Jordan is a shifty runner with sharp cutting ability. Doesn't have huge amounts of experience as a pass catcher coming out of the backfield (39 catches for 476 yards and 1 touchdown). Is also a really good kick returner – returned 26 kick-offs at a 28.2 average, with 2 touchdowns. Will be just over 25 years old by the time that the 2024 regular season starts.

Age: 24.69. Ht/Wt: 5-9 ½, 193 (combine). 40: 4.56 (combine)

#### 25. Blake Watson (Memphis)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #277 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Old Dominion before transferring to Memphis for the 2023 season. Across his 5-year college career Watson played in 49 games (34 starts), rushing 590 times for 3,285 yards (5.6 average) and 29 touchdowns. Lacks some size but is a hard runner with a very nice first step. Is also a decent receiver coming out of the backfield (112 career receptions for 929 yards and 5 touchdowns) and kick returner from earlier in his career (26 career kick-off returns at a 25.2 average). Had a really impressive showing at the East-West Shrine Bowl week and perhaps surprisingly didn't get an invitation to the combine. Will be approaching 25 years of age when the 2024 regular season commences.

Age: 24.53. Ht/Wt: 5-9 3/, 189 (East-West Shrine Bowl). 40: 4.39 (pro day).

#### 26. Miyan Williams (Ohio State)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #278 overall on our draft board.

Nicknamed "Pork Chop" and "Meatball". Played most of his 4 year Ohio State career as a back-up (32 games, 6 starts), rushing 258 times for 1,554 yards (6.0 average) and 20 touchdowns. Very solidly built running back who doesn't go down easily, making extra yards after the initial hit. Not used much as a receiver (catching just 18 passes in his college career). Underwent season ending knee surgery in October. Injury will likely hurt his draft chances. Therefore, perhaps something of surprise that he opted to enter this draft.

Age: 22.49. Ht/Wt: 5-8 ½, 229 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 27. Jaden Shirden (Monmouth)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #280 overall on our draft board.

In 3 seasons at Monmouth, Shirden played in 33 games, rushing 504 times for 3,697 yards (7.3 average) and 26 touchdowns. Also caught 25 passes for 158 yards and 1 touchdown. Very small back with a sturdy frame, but despite his lack of size, Shirden is a tough runner, who has some speed and was highly productive at the FBS level – was a two-time FCS All-American and earned a combine invite. Capable of taking over games. Not utilised much as a receiver during his college career until 2023 (when he caught 20 of his 25 career receptions).

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 5-8, 187 (combine). 40: 4.45 (combine).

# WIDE RECEIVERS

**General Draft Outlook:** After a year in which no wide receivers were selected until pick no. 20 (Jaxson Smith-Njigba), this year's class is going to return us to closer to the norm of recent years. It's easy to envisage 3 wideouts being selected in the top 10 picks overall and 4 in perhaps the top 12. On top of that, this 2024 group is deep beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> round – as many as 18 wide receivers could be off the board by the end of day 2.

Right near the top of the draft, Marvin Harrison Jr. and Malik Nabers are going to vie to be the first receiver off the board, and we should expect them both to be selected in the top 6-7 picks overall. Very close behind them will be Rome Odunze, who will be gone by pick 10. The fourth wide receiver in the early mix is Brian Thomas Jr. whose speed and athletic ability is going to bring him close to the top 10 overall.

And on the list goes – another 4 receivers have a legitimate chance of being 1<sup>st</sup> round picks – realistically, they won't all get picked in the 1<sup>st</sup> round, but they all individually have a chance. These players are Adonai Mitchell and Xavier Worthy (both of Texas), Ladd McConkey and Keon Coleman. And the list goes on and on, into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> rounds and beyond.



Prediction: Around 35 wide receivers will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** A year on from what seemed like uncertainty about Green Bay's receiving corps, the Packers appear to now have very few questions unanswered. The Packers group of Christian Watson, Romeo Doubs, Jayden Reed, Dontayvion Wicks, Bo Melton, Malik Heath, and Grant DuBose is a young and developing group, who probably don't need any additions. And yet, with 11 picks in this draft it still wouldn't surprise to see the team add another player into the mix. If they pick at this position early (and that's a big if), then Ricky Pearsall towards the end of round 2 could be of interest. In the middle rounds, Central Florida's Javon Baker could be in the mix, while on day 3, Georgia's Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint could be the pick.

# **TOP WIDE RECEIVERS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Marvin Harrison Jr.	WR	Ohio State	1
2.	Malik Nabers	WR	LSU	1
3.	Rome Odunze	WR	Washington	1
4.	Brian Thomas Jr.	WR	LSU	1
5.	Adonai Mitchell	WR	Texas	1-2
6.	Xavier Worthy	WR	Texas	1-2
7.	Ladd McConkey	WR	Georgia	1-2
8.	Keon Coleman	WR	FSU	1-2
9.	Xavier Legette	WR	South Carolina	2
10.	Troy Franklin	WR	Oregon	2
11.	Roman Wilson	WR	Michigan	2
12.	Ricky Pearsall	WR	Florida	2-3
13.	Malachi Corley	WR	Western Kentucky	2-3
14.	Ja'Lynn Polk	WR	Washington	2-3
15.	Devontez Walker	WR	North Carolina	2-3
16.	Jalen McMillan	WR	Washington	3
17.	Jermaine Burton	WR	Alabama	3
18.	Brenden Rice	WR	USC	3-4
19.	Javon Baker	WR	UCF	3-4
20.	Johnny Wilson	WR	FSU	3-4
21.	Malik Washington	WR	Virginia	3-4
22.	Jamari Thrash	WR	Louisville	4-5
23.	Jacob Cowing	WR	Arizona	4-5
24.	Luke McCaffrey	WR	Rice	4-5
25.	Ainias Smith	WR	Texas A&M	4-5
26.	Anthony Gould	WR	Oregon State	4-5
27.	Cornelius Johnson	WR	Michigan	4-5
28.	Tahj Washington	WR	USC	6-7
29.	Jha'Quan Jackson	WR	Tulane	6-7
30.	Bub Means	WR	Pittsburgh	6-7
31.	Isaiah Williams	WR	Illinois	6-7
32.	Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint	WR	Georgia	6-7
33.	Jordan Whittington	WR	Texas	6-7
34.	Jalen Coker	WR	Holy Cross	6-7
35.	Ryan Flournoy	WR	Southeast Missouri St	6-7
36.	Lideatrick "Tulu" Griffin	WR	Mississippi State	7-UDFA
37.	Joshua Cephus	WR	UTSA	7-UDFA
38.	Devaughn Vele	WR	Utah	UDFA
39.	Tayvion Robinson	WR	Kentucky	UDFA
40.	Xavier Weaver	WR	Colorado	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Zakhari Franklin	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
42.	Drake Stoops	WR	Oklahoma	UDFA
43.	Hayden Hatten	WR	Idaho	UDFA
44.	Casey Washington	WR	Illinois	UDFA
45.	David White Jr.	WR	Western Carolina	UDFA
46.	Jalon Calhoun	WR	Duke	UDFA
47.	Je'Quan Burton	WR	FAU	UDFA
48.	Tyler Harrell	WR	Miami, Fla	UDFA
49.	Dayton Wade	WR	Mississippi	UDFA
50.	Devin Carter	WR	West Virginia	UDFA
51.	Jaxon Janke	WR	South Dakota State	UDFA
52.	Reggie Brown	WR	James Madison	UDFA
53.	Odieu Hiliare	WR	Bowling Green State	UDFA
54.	Tyrone Howell	WR	Louisiana-Monroe	UDFA
55.	Tejhaun Palmer	WR	UAB	UDFA
56.	Sam Pinckney	WR	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
57.	Corey Crooms Jr.	WR	Minnesota	UDFA
58.	Jeshaun Jones	WR	Maryland	UDFA
59.	Jaden Walley	WR	Mississippi State	UDFA
60.	Marcus Washington	WR	Nebraska	UDFA
61.	Chris Autman-Bell	WR	Minnesota	UDFA
62.	Lawrence Keys III	WR	Tulane	UDFA
63.	Tyrese Chambers	WR	Maryland	UDFA
64.	Jaylon Robinson	WR	TCU	UDFA
65.	Ty James	WR	Mercer	UDFA
66.	Warren Thompson	WR	TCU	UDFA
67.	Stefan Cobbs	WR	Boise State	UDFA
68.	Mark Pope	WR	Massachusetts	UDFA
69.	Jadon Janke	WR	South Dakota State	UDFA
70.	Freddie Roberson	WR	Mississippi State	UDFA
71.	Ahmarean Brown	WR	South Carolina	UDFA
72.	Lincoln Victor	WR	Washington State	UDFA
73.	Wayne Ruby	WR	Mount Union	UDFA
74.	Terrell Vaughn	WR	Utah State	UDFA
75.	Sean Shaw Jr.	WR	Texas State	UDFA
76.	Dee Wiggins	WR	Cincinnati	UDFA
77.	Dominick Blaylock	WR	Georgia Tech	UDFA
78.	John Jiles	WR	West Florida	UDFA
79.	Nick Mardner	WR	Auburn	UDFA
80.	Sam Wiglusz	WR	Ohio	UDFA
81.	Phillip Brooks	WR	Kansas State	UDFA
82.	Tre Mosley	WR	Michigan State	UDFA
83.	Cole Burgess	WR	Cortland	UDFA
84.	Arland Bruce	WR	Oklahoma State	UDFA
85.	Jelani Baker	WR	Limestone College	UDFA

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

### **MARVIN HARRISON Jr. (Ohio State)**

Misc: Son of Pro Football Hall of Fame WR Marvin Harrison Sr. (Colts).	WR #1
Harrison Jr. had an outstanding career as a WR in high school in	Overall #4
Philadelphia. Opted to play his college ball at Ohio State, choosing OSU over offers from many Power 5 schools.	Round 1
Caught just 11 passes as a back-up 2021, but that total included 3 TDs	Class: Junior
in the Rose Bowl. Broke out with an All-American season in 2022, catching 77 passes for 1,263 yards and 14 TDs. Had another	Age: 21.71
Unanimous All-American season in 2023, with 1,211 yards receiving.	Ht/Wt: 6-3 ¼, 209 (combine)
College Stats: In his 3 seasons at OSU, Harrison Jr. played in 38 games	40: n/a

(26 starts) and caught 155 passes for 2,613 yards (16.9 ave) and 31 TDs. Had 15 career 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 4 times for 58 yards and a TD.

Honours & Awards: 2023 4<sup>th</sup> in Heisman Trophy. Winner: Biletnikoff Award, Chicago Tribune
Silver Football Award (Big 10 Best Player) & Graham-George Award (Big 10 Offensive Player of the Year). Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. 2023 & 2022 Unanimous AllAmerican. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. Richter-Howard Award winner (Big 10 Receiver of the Year). 2022 Biletnikoff Award finalist. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. 2022 & 2021 OSU Scholar-Athlete.

**Analysis:** Harrison is a hugely athletic, highly productive, and simply outstanding wide receiver who also brings size and physicality to the position. Is renowned as a hard worker.

Harrison has prototypical size and length, with strength and power which helps him ward off defenders when making the catch and enables him to frequently beat press man coverage at the line of scrimmage.

He has a very large catch radius and incredible ability to control his body, particularly at the sideline – in order to make the catch and come down in-bounds.

Is a really nice route runner, who gets in and out of his cuts crisply. However, if there's one area of his game that may raise a question, it's the level of separation he gets on intermediate routes. But on longer crossing and deep routes, Harrison uses his outstanding speed very smartly – will lull and fool defensive backs, disguising medium speed, before hitting a high gear.

Harrison is an excellent runner with the ball in his hands and will use his combination of physical skills and speed to elude would-be tacklers and make extra yards after the catch. Has really good hands, although he has the very occasional drop in traffic.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Harrison Jr. may have been the best and most NFL ready wide receiver in college football after the 2022 season – however he wasn't eligible for the 2023 draft. But if anything, his reputation grew even more (if that's possible) with his performance in 2023. In a year where there were no highly rated quarterbacks, Harrison would likely be the first overall pick – this year, expect him to be off the board inside the top 5 picks overall.

### **MALIK NABERS (LSU)**

**Misc:** Was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Louisiana, taking part in track and field and playing basketball as well as football. Had a fine football career, playing both WR and DB as well as returning kick-offs. Switched his commitment from Mississippi State to attend LSU.

Had a good true freshman season in 2021, starting 6 games, recording 28 receptions, and earning SEC all-freshman honours. Was outstanding in 2022 as he went over 1,000 yards receiving on 72 receptions. Was somehow even better in 2023, as he caught 89 passes for 1,569 yards and 14 TDs, earning All-American honours.

WR #2 Overall #5 Round 1 Class: Junior Age: 20.75 Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 199 (pro day) 40: 4.35 (pro day)

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at LSU, Nabers played in 38 games (30 starts), catching 189 passes for 3,003 yards (15.9 ave) and 21 TDs. Had 13 career 100-yard receiving games (incl. 1 over 200 yards). Rushed 6 times for 29 yards, had 2 kick-off returns (15.5 ave) and 2 punt returns (-1.0 ave).

Honours & Awards: 2023 Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Biletnikoff Award finalist. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. 2022 Citrus Bowl MVP (played 2 Jan 2023). 2021 Freshman All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Nabers is an outstanding receiver with nice size who is multi-talented and highly productive. Formed one half of a great starting wide receiver duo at LSU – the other half being Brian Thomas Jr., who is also a fine prospect in this draft. Nabers and Thomas are the latest in a recent long line of NFL calibre receivers from LSU.

Nabers brings a high level of athleticism to the table. He has really good speed, acceleration, and super quick feet, all of which contribute to his excellent route running skills where he gets in and out of his breaks really crisply and with explosion. Those quick feet and his hand use also enable Nabers to get a great release at the line of scrimmage.

Has really good hands with a decent catch radius for a guy who isn't 6-3 or 6-4. And once the ball is in his hands, Nabers is an outstanding runner who can both make defenders miss and shake off would be tacklers to add extra yards.

Nabers is a really versatile receiver who can work outside but has the strength and courage to make plays in traffic over the middle.

Oh and just to add to his already impressive resume, Nabers is a willing blocker and has some kick return experience from high school.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Nabers is still really young – under 21 years old – and yet he has the skillset and production of a receiver much older. He is an exciting and dynamic receiver who comes with the most important of traits – the proven ability to produce. As good as Marvin Harrison is at the top of this receiver list, Nabers is not very far behind. Opted not to take part or even measure at the combine (which is unusual). Nonetheless, he should enter the NFL and be a day 1 starter with early Pro Bowl potential. Expect him to be selected somewhere in the top 6 picks overall.

### **ROME ODUNZE (Washington)**

**Misc:** Last name pronounced "o-dun-zay". Had an outstanding high school career in Nevada, which included being named Gatorade state Player of the Year in the 2019. Had offers from numerous FBS schools but chose to play his college ball at the University of Washington.

Odunze's true freshman (2020) season was limited due to the pandemic and then he missed some playing time early in 2021 before becoming a starter. Went beyond 1,000 yards receiving on 75 receptions in 2022 and earned some All-American recognition. Was a huge part of UW's run to the CFP National Championship game in 2023, as he caught 92 passes for 1,640 yards and 13 touchdowns. WR #3

**Overall #7** 

Round 1

Class: Junior

Age: 21.90

Ht/Wt: 6-2 3/8, 212 (combine)

40: 4.45 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons for the Huskies, Odunze played in 40 games (30 starts) recording 214 receptions for 3,272 yards (15.3 average) and 24 TDs. Had 16 career 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 10 times for 40 yards and 2 TDs. Had 2 kick-off returns at an 8.5 average and 3 punt returns at a 29.0 average with 1 TD.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Biletnikoff Award finalist. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-American.
2022 AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. CSC Academic All-District. PAC 12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Odunze is a highly productive wide receiver with good experience and a multitude of top-notch skills and attributes. Played on a hugely talented Huskies receiving corps that also included Jalen McMillan and Ja'Lynn Polk – both of whom are potential 2024 draftees.

Odunze has great speed, athleticism and agility, attributes which are accentuated by his size. He is a powerful and physical receiver who makes lots of contested catches and uses his strength to fight for the football – although perhaps you'd like to see him get open slightly more often so that he doesn't have to make all of those contested catches.

His physicality means that break tackles once the ball is in his hands – will make yards after the catch. Has really nice hands.

Odunze has speed and decent feet for a receiver of his size and is developing as a route runner. Aso has a great release at the line of scrimmage.

Punt return experience from his high school days and also had an 83-yard TD return in 2023.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Perhaps surprisingly opted to return to school for the 2023 season rather than enter the 2023 draft, but in fairness he is an even better, more rounded, prospect now than he was a year ago – and he was good back then. He has athletic ability and receiving skills in abundance. There are some areas e.g. route running that could do with some development, nonetheless Odunze is one of the top receivers in this class and we can expect him to be selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round, possibly as high as the top 10 overall.

### **BRIAN THOMAS Jr. (LSU)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Louisiana, playing both basketball and football. Had over 1,000 yards receiving as a junior in 2019, before his senior season was truncated due to the pandemic. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at LSU.

Started 9 times as a true freshman in 2021, contributing with 28 catches. Had a similar year in 2022, notching up 31 receptions. Earned all-conference notice for an outstanding season in 2023 in which had over 1,100 yards receiving and 17 touchdowns.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at LSU, Thomas played in 38 games (27 starts), recording 127 receptions for 1,897 yards (14.9 average) and

24 touchdowns. Had 6 career 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 3 times for 0 yards.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Thomas is an exciting and productive, deep threat wide receiver with great body size. He formed a great partnership with fellow LSU wide receiver Malik Nabers, who will also be selected high in this draft. Thomas and Nabers are the latest in a recent long line of NFL calibre receivers from LSU.

Thomas is really athletic and has excellent speed (4.33 in the 40 at the combine) and is able to fool corners by running ¾ speed before using his great acceleration - bursting to full velocity. That change of gears is really impressive and makes Thomas a real big-play threat. Knows how to find the end zone.

Uses that speed and acceleration to add good yardage after the catch.

Thomas also the ability to beat defenders immediately off the line of scrimmage, thanks to his really quick feet and great release. Also uses that quickness in his route running, especially on short routes, although he perhaps could still get sharper and more consistent with his breaks on longer routes.

Thomas uses his length extremely well when catching the football – he has a huge catch radius and will high point the football, keeping smaller defensive backs away from it. Has decent hands. Isn't yet a prolific contest catch type receiver – perhaps needs to get a little stronger and more physical.

Is a versatile receiver with experience playing on the outside and inside as a big slot.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Thomas is a dynamic receiver who solidified his draft status with his performance at the combine. His ability to stretch the field is outstanding and with his speed and acceleration that ability will translate well to the NFL. He has some areas to develop, but those will only make him even more productive than he has already been – the ceiling for Thomas is potentially high. Expect him to be selected at some point in the 1<sup>st</sup> round – probably around pick 15-20 overall.

WR #4

#### **Overall #20**

Round 1

Class: Junior

Age: 21.55

Ht/Wt: 6-2 3%, 209 (combine)

40: 4.33 (combine)

### **ADONAI MITCHELL (Texas)**

**Misc:** Nicknamed "A.D". Solid high school career as a wide receiver in Texas and Tennessee. Earned all-regional, district and state recognition. Had offers from multiple FBS teams, before eventually deciding to attend Georgia (it previously looked like he may attend Ole Miss).

Earned a starting role for the majority of the 2021 season for the Bulldogs, notching up 29 receptions. Was expected to take a leap forward in 2022, but unfortunately missed much of the season with an ankle injury – although he was back for the play-offs, where he contributed. Transferred to the University of Texas prior to the 2023 WR #5 Overall #30 Round 1-2 Class: Junior Age: 21.55 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¼, 205 (combine) 40: 4.34 (combine)

season. Had a solid 2023, catching 55 passes and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats: Georgia:** In 2 seasons at Georgia, Mitchell played in 21 games (15 starts), catching 38 passes for 560 yards (14.7 average) and 7 touchdowns. **Texas:** In his single season at Texas, Mitchell played in 14 games (13 starts), catching 55 passes for 845 yards (15.4 ave) and 11 touchdowns. Had 3 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 2 times for 1 yard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. AP Big 12 Newcomer of the Year. Big 12 Offensive Newcomer of the Year. Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award semi-finalist. DCTF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Texas.

**Analysis:** Mitchell was part of an outstanding wide receiver duo at Texas in 2023, alongside fellow potential 2024 draftee Xavier Worthy. He has been a dependable, rather than dominant, receiver with athleticism and a long and thin frame.

Mitchell has outstanding catching ability, highlighted by having hands as good as any receiver's in this draft. He has a large catch radius, the ability to highpoint the football in the air and great body control. He is strong for the position – will use his physicality to make plays in traffic and come down with the contested catch. Is a real threat down near the goal line.

Is a smart receiver who knows how to use his speed and athletic traits to get open, especially on deep and long developing crossing patterns. Uses a multiple speed stride pattern to fool defenders in these routes.

Perhaps needs to develop more as a route runner, particularly on short and intermediate routes, focusing on getting in and out of his breaks sharply.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Mitchell comes with so many excellent traits that you would expect him to have been a more prolific receiver in college. He has played on teams that have had a lot of talent at the skill positions, and he also suffered an injury in 2022, so his opportunities have at times been limited. Nonetheless, teams are going to really like his athletic ability and speed (4.34 in the 40 at the combine) coupled with his hands and his ceiling would appear to be high.

Expect Mitchell to be selected on day 2, with the outside possibility that he could sneak into the end of round 1.

### **XAVIER WORTHY (Texas)**

**Misc:** Had a fine high school career in California. Initially intended to attend Michigan but switched his commitment to Texas.

Garnered freshman All-American honours in 2021 as he set school freshman records for single season receptions, receiving yards, and receiving TDs. Also set single game school records in each of those categories. Followed up by earning all-conference notice in 2022 – although he wasn't quite as productive as he had been the previous year as he played through an injury. Doubled as a punt returner. Went over 1,000 yards in 2023 and earned some All-American recognition.

WR #6

**Overall #35** 

Round 1-2

Class: Junior

Age: 21.00

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¼, 165 (combine)

40: 4.21 (combine)

College Stats: In his 3 seasons at UT, Worthy played and started in 39

games recording 197 receptions for 2,755 yards (14.0 ave) and 26 TDs. Had 7 career 100-yard receiving games (incl. 1 over 200 yards). Also had 40 punt returns at a 14.1 average with 1 TD, 21kick-off returns at a 16.5 average and 7 rushing attempts for 56 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. DCTF 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas. **2023 & 2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. **2022 & 2021** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2021** AP Freshman All-American. FWAA, ESPN, PFF and 247Sports True Freshman All-American. Big 12 Offensive Freshman of the Year. AP Big 12 Newcomer of the Year. Finalist: Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year & Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Awards.

**Analysis:** Worthy is a blazingly fast, athletic, and productive wide receiver who has good length but is slim and lanky. In 2023, he formed one-half of a fine wide receiver duo at Texas, alongside fellow potential 2024 potential draftee Adonai Mitchell.

Worthy has experience lining up both on the outside and in the slot. He has quick feet and is an outstanding route runner which enables him to get a step on defenders on a consistent basis. Is excellent after the catch, where he will make lots of extra yards.

Worthy is also an extremely smart and clever runner of deep routes, using subtle variation of speed in order to deceive corners and get open – what makes this attribute even better is that his top notch speed is blazingly fast.

One area of caution is that Worthy has at times been an inconsistent catcher of the football and he needs to continue to improve his hands.

Worthy also brings punt returning skills and experience to the table.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Worthy is a young, outstanding athlete who ran an absolutely incredible 4.21 (a new combine record) in the 40. His long and lanky frame will possibly put off some teams, who may question his durability and strength and he needs to get more consistent with his hands, but Worthy is a dynamic big play wide receiver who is a constant threat to defenses. Will be off the board on day 2, with an outside chance that a team will consider his speed too much to bypass and therefore they take him in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

### LADD McCONKEY (Georgia)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Georgia, playing basketball as well as football. Showed his all-round ability on the gridiron, playing some at QB, RB, WR and DB as well as returning kicks and punts and punting a little. Earned all-state honours. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Georgia.

Redshirted the 2020 season, before having a solid season as a parttime starter in 2021. Earned a full-time starting role in 2022, recording 58 catches and having a nice year returning punts – earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Missed some time during 2023 due to a sore back but still caught 30 passes for the season. WR **#7** Overall **#36** Round 1-2 Class: Junior Age: 22.46 Ht/Wt: 5-11 %, 186 (combine) 40: 4.39 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 3 playing seasons at Georgia, McConkey played in 39 games, recording 119 receptions for 1,687 yards (14.2 ave) & 14 TDs. Had 2 career 100-yard receiving games. Also had 21 punt returns (13.3 ave), 1 kick-off return for 15 yards and rushed 13 times for 216 yards (16.6 ave) & 4 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Wuerffel Trophy winner. William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. Named to Allstate AFC Good Works Team. NFF National Scholar-Athlete. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. **2021** SEC All-Freshman Team. **2020** J. Reid Parker Director of Athletics Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** McConkey is an undersized but athletic wide receiver whose contributions for the Bulldogs were often overshadowed by his talented team-mates. He has really excellent hands.

McConkey is one of those receivers who has a consistent knack for getting open. This is of course helped by his outstanding route running ability – he is one of the very best, if not the best, route runner in this draft. McConkey makes sharp, precise cuts and gets in and out of his breaks quickly – consistently creating separation from defenders.

Like with a number of his traits, McConkey is an underrated athlete with quick feet and perhaps surprising speed. Those quick feet help his excellent release at the line of scrimmage. Isn't a physical receiver and can be knocked off routes by strong corners. He isn't a contested catch type of receiver – that isn't his forte.

Was utilised in a number of ways at Georgia, running reverses and jet sweeps as well as being an outstanding punt returner.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

McConkey may be one of the most consistent, yet consistently underrated, receivers in this whole draft. He continued to develop throughout his college career and then demonstrated what he can do when matched up with some of his peers when he had really nice week of practice at the Senior Bowl. Then followed that up at the combine by running a speedy 4.39 in the 40 – a time that will have likely turned some heads. His attributes coupled with his lack of size and physicality, mean that McConkey will almost certainly project to exclusively play in the slot at the next level. Nonetheless, expect him to be off the board early on day 2 (perhaps even late on day 1) and to have a productive NFL career.

### **KEON COLEMAN (FSU)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete in high school in Louisiana, taking part in track and field as well as playing basketball and football. Earned all-state honours for his play on the gridiron. Coleman was highly recruited and eventually opted to play his college ball at Michigan State.

Contributed as a reserve wide receiver and on special teams in his true freshman season (2021). Earned some all-conference recognition for a very nice 2022 season in which he caught 58 passes. Transferred to Florida State prior to the 2023 season and he responded with a solid 50 catch season, earning all-conference honours.

WR #8 Overall #38 Round 1-2 Class: Junior Age: 20.94 Ht/Wt: 6-3 ¼, 213 (combine) 40: 4.61 (combine)

**College Stats: Michigan State:** In his 2 years, Coleman played in 22 games (12 starts), recording 65 receptions for 848 yards (13.0 ave) & 8 TDs. Had 3 100-yard receiving games. **FSU:** In his single year, Coleman played and started in 12 games, recording 50 receptions for 658 yards (13.2 ave) & 11 TDs. Had 2 100-yard receiving games. Had 25 punt returns at a 12.0 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Coleman is a physical wide receiver with great size. Formed one half of a nice wide receiver pairing at FSU, alongside Johnny Wilson who should also be selected in this draft. Coleman also has some experience returning punts, which is a little unusual for a player of his size.

The physical size of the game is where Coleman excels. He is extremely strong and won't get tied up by press coverage at the line of scrimmage. He will come back towards his quarterback for the football and use his strength to ward off defenders, keeping them away from the football. Will also fight the football when he has to, to make the contested catch.

Not surprisingly for a receiver of his size, Coleman has long arms and a large catch radius. He couples these traits with outstanding hands. And once the ball is in his hands, he will add extra yardage.

Because of his size and length he is a real threat down near the goal line as demonstrated by his 11 touchdowns on just 50 receptions while at FSU.

Is a solid route runner and decent athlete with agility but lacks top notch speed (ran a very disappointing 4.61 in the 40 at the combine) and therefore will rarely beat defenses deep and can struggle at times to get separation.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Coleman is a talented receiver who had a disappointing time at the combine, which may have hurt his draft status. Nonetheless his physical ability, catching ability and red zone prowess will encourage pro scouts. He can become a receiver who will be difficult to defend on quick, short passes and move the chains at the pro level. Likely to be selected on day 2, although there are teams that may see him as a late 1<sup>st</sup> rounder.

### **XAVIER LEGETTE (South Carolina)**

**Misc:** Outstanding all-round athlete in high school in South Carolina playing basketball and baseball as well as football. Excelled on the gridiron, playing both WR and QB. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball for the South Carolina Gamecocks.

Saw limited action on offense as a freshman in 2019, playing mainly on special teams. Started 6 games at WR in 2020 before missing 4 games due to a hamstring injury. Was a part time starter in both 2021 and 2022 (missing a couple of games in 2021 due to a motorcycle accident injury). Made a significant impact in 2022 as a kick returner (29.4 average). Caught just 42 passes in his first 4 college seasons (2019-22) before having a huge season in 2023 – with 71 receptions for 1,255 yards, earning some All-American notice. WR #9

#### Overall #45

Round 2

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.24 Ht/Wt: 6-1, 221 (combine) 40: 4.39 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at South Carolina, Legette played in 53 games (32 starts) catching 113 passes for 1,678 yards (14.8 ave) & 12 TDs. Also had 29 kick-off returns at a 26.4 average with 1 TD, 1 punt return for -1 yard and rushed 16 times for 12 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Phil Steele & CFN 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist. Blanchard-Rogers Trophy finalist (SC Collegiate Player of the Year). SC Team Steve Wadiak co-MVP. SC Team Steve Spurrier Award winner (team offensive MVP). **2022** Team Offensive Toughness Award winner. **2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll.

Analysis: Legette is a large, big- bodied receiver with a combination of good speed and size.

Legette's receiving strengths revolve around his build and physicality. In the short to intermediate areas, he will muscle his way open and will fight for the football – made lots of contested catches. He has large catch radius and can high point the football, although his hands can be inconsistent.

Doesn't have outstanding short or underneath speed nor particularly quick feet but is a long strider and that speed (4.39 in the 40 at the combine) gets more effective on deep go routes or long crossing routes. Legette has improved his running with the football after the catch, especially his ability to break tackles to the point where he can be a threat to add extra yards.

Is a good and willing blocker in the running game.

In addition to his receiving skills, Legette is an excellent kick returner and has also spent a significant amount of time playing on special teams coverage units.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Legette has had just one significant season as a wide receiver at the collegiate level but is developing his skillset. He doesn't have the great speed or athleticism that a number of receivers in this draft class have, but he will bring size and physical presence to an offense. That size will intrigue NFL scouts as will his potential. Likely to be off the board on day 2.

### **TROY FRANKLIN (Oregon)**

**Misc:** Played both wide receiver and safety in high school in California. Also returned kick-offs. Opted to play his college ball at Oregon, choosing the Ducks over the likes of Alabama and Arizona State.

Played as a back-up receiver for the majority of his true freshman season (2021), contributing with 18 receptions. Started every game in a very productive 2022, recording 61 receptions for 891 yards and 9 touchdowns. Earned all-conference recognition. Followed that with a huge 2023 in which he caught 81 passes for nearly 1,400 yards – earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Oregon, Franklin played in 40 games (29 starts) recording 160 receptions for 2,483 yards (15.5 average) and 25 touchdowns.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1st Team All-Pac 12. 2022 2nd Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Franklin is a very productive receiver who is tall and has a very long, thin frame. He is a versatile player who, as a receiver, can line-up on the outside and in the slot. Was also an excellent return man in his high school days – this could add extra string to his bow at the pro level, if required.

Franklin is a big playmaker, who is a true deep threat with outstanding long speed (4.41 in the 40 at the combine). Franklin's ability to get early separation on deep routes is helped by his really quite feet at the line of scrimmage – he can get beyond cornerbacks really quickly if they don't physically disrupt his routes.

Franklin is athletic and a nice route runner who knows how to get open – his ability to get in and out of his breaks at speed is excellent.

Has a large catch radius and is a consistent catcher of the passes he should catch but can be physically outmuscled for the football in contested catch situations and doesn't often make the spectacular catch.

Once the ball is in hands, Franklin utilises his speed to make extra yards after the catch and he won't be caught from behind.

Is still young – just over 21 years old.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Franklin is a receiver who has improved year on year and appears to have much more upside to come. His potential will excite pro scouts. He is a true athlete with speed (as demonstrated by his showing at the combine) and his ability to get open and stretch the field can give defenses real problems. There are areas that require development however, not least the physical side of his game – perhaps could do with adding some bulk to his long frame to help in this area. In another year, Franklin could be in top 5 or 6 receivers in a draft class. We should expect him to be selected in round 2.

WR #10

**Overall #47** 

### Round 2

**Class: Junior** 

Age: 21.22

Ht/Wt: 6-1 3%, 176 (combine)

40: 4.41 (combine)

### **ROMAN WILSON (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Hawaii, taking part in track and field as well as football. Topped the 1,000-yard mark as a receiver in his senior year. Opted to attend Michigan, choosing the Wolverines over offers from a number of other FBS schools.

Saw limited action as a true freshman in the pandemic affected 2020 season. Became a part-time starter in 2021, recording 25 receptions. Similar season in 2022, when he again had 25 catches. Had easily the best year of his college career in 2023, starting in every game and notching up nearly 800 receiving yards, while earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

k WR #11 Overall #54 Round 2 O Class: Senior S. Age: 22.85 Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¾, 185 (combine)

40: 4.39 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Michigan, Wilson played in 46 games (24 starts), recording 107 receptions for 1,707 yards (16.0 average) and 20 touchdowns. Had 2 career 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 7 times for 117 yards (16.7 average) and 2 touchdowns. Returned 6 kicks at a 22.3 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list. **2021** Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Wilson is a speedy, deep threat receiver who also has some short area quickness. He has good experience (46 games/24 starts) gained at the Big 10 and Championship level. Lacks a little bit of size. Wilson has some positional versatility, although he lines up in the slot most of the time.

Wilson is a fine athlete with the agility, quickness, and speed to really worry defenders. He couples these attributes with the ability to run deceptive routes giving him the ability to gain some separation. Can, however, struggle a little with strong and physical defensive backs, especially at the line of scrimmage and when being closely covered.

Wilson has good hands and makes some nice catches, although his size limits his length and catch radius somewhat. Could perhaps add some strength to fight defensive backs for the football. Generally, doesn't make many tacklers miss when the ball is in his hands, however if he gets the ball in the open field, his speed is explosive and most defensive backs aren't going to catch him.

Has a little experience running end arounds and jet sweeps and also a kick returner.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Wilson is potentially a receiver who may be underrated by some. Showed excellent progression in 2023 - he's a player on the rise. Demonstrated some of his athletic ability at the combine, including running a fine 4.39 in the 40. Wilson is likely to predominantly be a slot receiver in the NFL. There are some areas that need development and perhaps a little more bulk wouldn't go amiss (providing there is no loss of speed and quickness), but Wilson may have a high ceiling and should be selected on day 2 – possibly towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round or early in the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **RICKY PEARSALL (Florida)**

**Misc:** Pearsall had an outstanding high school receiving career in Arizona. Also was an excellent returner and played some safety. Opted to play his college ball close to home at Arizona State.

Caught just 13 passes total across his first two seasons at ASU (2019 & 2020). Career took a turn upwards as he won a starting wide receiver role and had 48 receptions in a fine 2021, earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Transferred to Florida prior to the 2022 season. Had a good first year with the Gators, notching up 661 receiving yards. Was even better in 2023, having easily the best year of his college career, recording 65 receptions and 965 receiving yards.

WR **#12** 

**Overall #63** 

Round 2-3

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.63 Ht/Wt: 6-1, 189 (combine) 40: 4.41 (combine)

**College Stats:** Arizona State: In 3 seasons, Pearsall played in 30 games (12 starts), recording 61 receptions for 794 yards (13.0 ave) and 5 TDs. Had 1 100-yard receiving game. Rushed 10 times for 78 yards (7.8 ave) and 2 TDs. Returned 1 kick-off for 28 yards. Attempted and completed 3 passes for 111 yards and 1 TD. Florida: In 2 seasons, Pearsall played in 25 games (22 starts), recording 98 receptions for 1,626 yards (16.6 ave) and 9 TDs. Had 5 100 yard receiving games. Rushed 11 times for 175 yards (15.9 ave) and 3 TDs. Returned 15 punts at 10.2 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2022 SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll. 2021 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Pearsall is a highly experienced wide receiver (55 games/34 starts) who has versatility – having played on the outside and in the slot. That versatility stretches to having some recent punt returning experience and returning kicks from his high school days. Can also be utilised on jet sweeps and end arounds.

Pearsall's receiving prowess probably starts with excellent route running – he is perhaps in the top 10-15 receivers in this draft in this regard. Pearsall has a quick first step and gets in and out his breaks crisply, thanks to fine cutting ability, and will accelerate out of those breaks nicely. Also has a knack for finding the open areas and sitting down between zones.

Pearsall has a nice combination of size and speed, although he perhaps lacks a little physicality at this stage, which means that big and physical corners can give him a difficult time if they get their hands on him.

Pearsall has good hands and a nice catch radius which enables him to pull in lots of different types of receptions.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Pearsall is a receiver who looks like he has improved year on year – this likely indicates that his rise hasn't plateaued yet and that there is more to come. He's a player with some upside. Demonstrated his continued development with an excellent week at the Senior Bowl, followed by a nice combine (which included a speedy 4.41 in the 40). Should be a rotational receiver early who likely will become a no.2. Expect him to be selected on day 2. If the Packers were to go down the route of a receiver on day 2 (perhaps unlikely), then Pearsall could be the man.

### **MALACHI CORLEY (Western Kentucky)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Kentucky, playing both basketball and football. Was a do-it-all type player on the football field where he excelled on both sides of the ball - playing running back, receiver, and cornerback. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at Western Kentucky.

May have played a number of positions at WKU but eventually zeroed in on the wide receiver spot - as a freshman in 2020 he was used. Broke out in 2021 becoming a full-time starter and catching 73 passes. Took it up another level in 2022, being the full-time starter and dominating with 101 receptions for nearly 1,300 yards. Followed up in 2023 with just under 1000 yards receiving. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference recognition in both 2022 and 2023. WR #13

**Overall #69** 

Round 2-3

Class: Junior Age: 22.10 Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¾, 215 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Western Kentucky, Corley played in 49 games (32 starts), recording 259 receptions for 3,033 yards (11.7 ave) and 29 touchdowns. Had 9 career 100-yard receiving games (including 1 over 200 yards). Also rushed 16 times for 92 yards (5.8 ave).

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference USA. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference USA.

**Analysis:** Corley is a highly productive, athletic receiver with good speed who plays with some physicality. While he is slightly under the ideal height for a wideout, Corley has a big and powerful frame. Primarily plays in the slot.

Corley doesn't run a multitude of different routes – lots of short, underneath passes, but what he does, he does very well. Knows how to get that yard of separation quickly, utilising a quick release and shifty feet. Has developed really good hands but doesn't have the length to reach some off target throws.

Generally, isn't a receiver who is going to beat teams deep too often but will sit down on underneath routes and once the football is in his hands, Corley is excellent at consistently making a few extra yards after the catch. Uses his strength and physicality, to turn short passes into first down gains, breaking that initial tackle. Good in the red zone and knows to how to find the end zone.

Corely has a decent amount of experience being used on jet sweeps and reverses, where he can put his ability with the ball in his hands to good use.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Corely had an impressive week at the East-West Shrine Bowl which he then followed with another fine showing at the Senior Bowl. But he didn't take part in the drills at the combine. With his skills and experience as a slot receiver, Corley should get an opportunity to contribute quickly in the pros as a slot receiver, predominantly playing as a 3<sup>rd</sup> down, chain mover, type guy. Slot receivers are in some demand in the NFL these days, and therefore he could be off the board on day 2.

## **JA'LYNN POLK (Washington)**

**Misc:** Earned all-state and all-district honours as a wide receiver in Lufkin (East Texas), where he had over 1,000 yards receiving as a senior. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at Texas Tech.

Started the majority of games in the pandemic affected 2020 season, catching 28 passes. Decided to transfer to Washington prior to the 2021 season, but unfortunately missed nearly all of that season with a chest injury. Bounced back in 2022 to form part of a star receiving group, catching 41 passes. Had a true break-out season in 2023, with over 1,100 yards receiving and 9 touchdowns.

**College Stats: Texas Tech:** In his 1 season at Texas Tech, Polk played in 10 games (7 starts), recording 28 receptions for 264 yards (9.4 average) and 2 touchdowns.

Washington: In 3 seasons, Polk played in 31 games (24 starts), recording 115 receptions for 1,967 yards (17.1 average) and 16 touchdowns. Had 8 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 5 times for 47 yards (9.4 average) and 1 touchdown.

Honours & Awards: 2022 CFN 3<sup>rd</sup> Team Freshman All-American.

**Analysis:** Polk is a rapidly improving, shifty receiver with some explosiveness off the line of scrimmage. Brings good size, with length and a solid frame to the table. Polk played on a hugely talented Huskies receiving corps that also included Rome Odunze and Jalen McMillan – both also potential 2024 draftees.

Polk He is a real craftsman when it comes to the most important of all receiving trait – catching the ball – he is an outstanding catcher of the football. Polk's hands are very consistent, he has a large catch radius and ability to catch every type of pass.

Polk's route tree is mainly limited to short and intermediate passes, as he doesn't have the blazing speed that would make him a deep threat. But he runs those routes expertly, getting in and out of his breaks with alacrity. Polk is good with the ball in his hands, using his niftiness, quick feet, and acceleration to pick up extra yards after the catch.

Used on the occasional end round and jet sweep.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Polk has developed through his college career, culminating in an outstanding 2023. His forte is undoubtedly making the underneath or intermediate distance catch (and he has great hands) and then turning upfield to add extra yards after the catch. Can be a quarterbacks' best friend be being open on those short passes. Polk is a nice athlete but his lack of top notch, blazing speed, limits how defensive backs have to deal with him – generally, they don't have to worry about him beating them deep. Nonetheless, he is a receiver who showed production in 2023 and has an upside. Should contribute immediately in the NFL, probably as a no.3 or no.4 and should be off the board on day 2.

WR #14

Overall #72

Round 2-3

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 22.04

Ht/Wt: 6-1 3%, 203 (combine)

40: 4.52 (combine)

### **DEVONTEZ WALKER (North Carolina)**

**Misc:** Nickname "Tez". Nice high school career as a receiver in North Carolina. Opted to play his college ball at North Carolina Central.

Unfortunately, what would have been his true freshman season (2020) was cancelled due to the pandemic. Decided to transfer to Kent State for 2021 but saw minimal action that year. Broke out with an outstanding 2022 season, notching up over 900 yards and 11 touchdowns receiving – earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference recognition. Transferred to North Carolina prior to the 2023 season. Missed the beginning of the 2023 season with eligibility issues but then came through with a good season, catching 41 passes earning some allconference notice.

**College Stats: Kent State:** In 2 seasons, Walker played in 20 games (12 starts) and recorded 63 receptions for 1,045 yards (15.9 ave.) and 12 touchdowns. Had 4 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 3 times for 29 yards and 1 touchdown. **North Carolina:** In one season, Walker played in 8 games (6 starts), recording 41 receptions for 699 yards (17.0 average) and 7 touchdowns. Had 3 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 3 times for 23 yards.

Honours & Awards: 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MAC.

**Analysis:** Walker is a developing wide receiver who is an outstanding athlete with top notch deep spend. He couples that with athleticism and good size and length. All of those attributes come together to create an exciting genuinely big play wide receiver.

Walker has good speed and runs with long strides – meaning that he is better on deep and longer developing pass patterns, than any others. He is an outstanding deep threat who will take the top off a defense. Walker can, on occasion, have some problems releasing and getting tied up right off the snap and these are crucial to defending him as defenders need to get their hands on him and physically disrupt him - if they allow him to accelerate untouched then he has the capability to torch defenses.

Walker has a decently sized catch radius and generally good hands (has had the occasional drop, particularly in traffic) and once the ball is his hands he is extremely difficult to bring down – will make lots of extra yardage after the catch.

Has developed some as a route runner but is still much better on those aforementioned deep (go) routes and long crossing routes. Isn't yet as effective on short or underneath routes.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Walker is an impressive athlete who ran a really good 4.36 in the 40 at the combine. His speed and big play ability is unquestioned, and he is one of the most dangerous deep threats in this draft. There is a danger that he may be looked up as solely that long pass guy and to avoid this Walker needs to develop his route running and separation skills underneath. Look for him to be a situational wide receiver early in his career before he develops and challenges for more playing time. Expect him to be selected on day 2.

WR #15

Overall #75

### Round 2-3

Class: Senior

Age: 22.85

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 193 (combine)

40: 4.36 (combine)

### **JALEN McMILLAN (Washington)**

**Misc:** Highly skilled dual-sport athlete in high school in California, starring in baseball as well as football. Opted to play football in college (he had baseball scholarship offers), choosing to attend Washington over several other Power 5 schools.

Played in just 3 games as a freshman in the truncated 2020 season. Earned a starting receiver role early in the 2021 season and responded with a solid year, catching 39 passes for 470 yards. Broke out in 2022 as he broke the 1,000-yard receiving mark and had 79 receptions while earning all-conference recognition. Suffered a knee injury during 2023 which saw him miss 4 games and some playing time in others – this impacted his 2023 numbers but was looking good before season's end. Overall #88 Round 3 Class: Junior Age: 22.38 Ht/Wt: 6-1, 197 (combine) 40: 4.47 (combine)

WR #16

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Washington, McMillan played in 38 games (24 starts), recording 164 receptions for 2,143 yards (13.1 ave) and 17 touchdowns. Had 6 career 100 yard receiving games. Had 6 rushing attempts for 46 yards (7.7 ave) and 1 touchdown. Had 3 passing attempts, with 1 completion for 9 yards. Had 9 punt returns at a 9.2 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2022** Honorable Mention All-PAC 12. **2021** Travis Spring Award (Washington Team Most Outstanding Freshman) winner.

**Analysis:** McMillan is a productive receiver with athletic ability, speed, and a nice level of experience. Was utilised mostly from the slot at Washington. He played on a hugely talented Huskies receiving corps that also included Rome Odunze and Ja'Lynn Polk – both also potential 2024 draftees.

McMillan has quick feet and really nice route running ability from the slot. He gets in and out of his breaks quickly with acceleration – giving him the ability to get open quickly. Will keep the chains moving.

McMillan has excellent hands and makes nice catches on the move. Is a fine runner with the ball in his hands, utilising his speed and making defenders miss - will make significant yardage after the catch.

Isn't a physical receiver and can struggle against physically inclined cornerbacks both at the line of scrimmage and in his routes. Has some all-purpose experience, having been utilised a little on jet sweeps and reverses.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

McMillan's prowess may be a little overlooked having played alongside some very talented teammates (especially Rome Odunze). McMillan's 2023 injury may not have helped in this respect either. However, make no mistake, McMillan is a very talented receiver with all-round athleticism, skills and potential. He could turn out to be a steal if he drops down the board (which is possible, given how deep this wide receiver class appears to be), particularly for a team that is looking for a big slot receiver, who will turn short passes into longer gains. Likely to be selected late on day 2.

### **JERMAINE BURTON (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Burton had a nice career as a receiver in high school in California. Opted to travel across country and play his college ball at the University of Georgia.

Had an encouraging freshman season (2020) at Georgia, starting around half of the games and catching 27 passes for over 400 yards. Followed that up with a statistically very similar year in 2021, again starting around half the games and securing 26 receptions. Transferred to Alabama for the 2021 season and he became the starter having a good year with 677 receiving yards. Was perhaps even better in 2023, notching up nearly 800 receiving yards.

**College Stats: Georgia:** In 2 seasons, Burton played in 24 games (15 starts), recording 53 receptions for 901 yards (17.0 average) and 8 touchdowns. Had 1 100 yard receiving game. Rushed 4 times for 50 yards (12.5 average). **Alabama:** In 2 seasons, Burton played in 26 games (24 starts), recording 72 receptions for 1,338 yards (18.6 average) and 14 touchdowns. Had 4 100 yard receiving games.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Alabama Team Co-Offensive Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** Burton is a highly experienced receiver (50 games/39 starts) with a nice combination of size and speed, coupled with excellent catching ability. His outstanding hands are, perhaps, as good as any in this draft – appears to quickly locate the football and seems able to make just about every catch.

Burton is a good athlete with agility, speed, and some sneaky acceleration, which enables him to get separation on longer routes – he can be a deep threat. Perhaps could do with being more active with his hands and in getting leverage with his arms - defensive backs can tie up his release at the line of scrimmage and on occasion disrupt his routes with their physicality. Will, however, fight to make the contested catch.

Perhaps needs to develop some of the nuances of footwork and head fakes on shorter and underneath routes.

Doesn't break a huge number of tackles and therefore often won't make a large number of yards after the catch.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Burton is an interesting prospect who wasn't an out and out dominating receiver in college but did demonstrated improvement each and every year. Burton is a smooth and silky mover who can be a threat deep and on long crossing routes. Perhaps could do with adding some strength and physicality to his game and to develop his shorter route running in order to become a playin, play-out, consistent threat. Nonetheless, Burton's ball skills are exceptional and added to his athleticism, these should make him an instant contributor to an NFL team as a rotational receiver. Should challenge for starting role down the road. Expect him to be selected at some point late on day 2.

WR #17

#### **Overall #89**

### Round 3

Class: Senior

Age: 22.83

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 196 (combine)

40: 4.45 (combine)

### **BRENDEN RICE (USC)**

**Misc:** Brenden is the son of all-time NFL great Jerry Rice. Brenden was a multi-sport athlete in high school in Arizona, taking part in track and field and playing both basketball and football. Opted to play his college ball at Colorado.

Caught just 6 passes in his freshman season (2020), before upping his production some in 2021 as he caught 21 passes. Transferred to USC prior to the 2022 season. Had a good year in 2022, catching 39 passes for 611 yards. Had his best season in 2023, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours as he notched up nearly 800 yards receiving.

**College Stats: Colorado:** In 2 seasons, Rice played in 17 games (12 starts), recording 27 receptions for 419 yards (15.5 average) and 5

touchdowns. Had 6 rushing attempts for 54 yards (9.0 average). Returned 19 kick-offs at a 26.6 average. Had 1 punt return for 81 yards and a touchdown. USC: In 2 seasons, Rice played in 26 games (23 starts), recording 84 receptions for 1,402 yards (16.7 average) and 16 touchdowns. Had 3 100 yard receiving games. Had 3 kick-off returns at a 16.3 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Rice is a big-bodied wide receiver with good height who uses his physicality on his route running. He will also fight defenders and battle for the football – will win a number of contested catches. Rice has good experience gained at two schools during his college career (43 games/35 starts).

Rice is a nice route runner, who has some explosiveness but can get tied up by press man coverage at the line of scrimmage. He will utilise his quick feet well which enables him to get in and out of his breaks crisply – getting some separation. Also uses his hands and arms well to ward off defenders. Rice has a large catch radius, and his catching ability is pretty consistent. Will come back to help his quarterback when he is in trouble and uses his frame to shield the football.

Rice has good ability with the ball in his hands and will add extra yards after the catch, making receivers miss and breaking tackles.

He has some long speed which belies his 40 time somewhat. Rice has a little bit of all-purpose ability, having some return experience (mainly from earlier in his career) and a little experience running end arounds from his Colorado days.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Rice is a solid and consistent receiver who developed throughout his college career. Will look to continue that development at the next level. With his current skillset and production, Rice should be able to immediately contribute in the NFL. Rice has the opportunity to be a rotational receiver early in his NFL career – perhaps a no.4 receiver on a roster who will then develop to move up the depth chart. Rice is a likely to be selected either towards the end of day 2 or early on day 3.

WR #18 Overall #102 Round 3-4 Class: Senior Age: 22.11 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 208 (combine) 40: 4.50 (combine)

### **JAVON BAKER (UCF)**

Misc: Star receiver in high school in Powder Springs (Atlanta area), Georgia. Opted to play his college ball at Alabama.

Saw very limited playing time as a back-up receiver at Alabama for two seasons (2020-21) before deciding to transfer to Central Florida. Earned a starting role in his first season at UCF (2022), playing well having nearly 800 yards receiving. Was even better in 2023, catching passes for 1,139 yards (at nearly 22 yards per reception). Earned allconference honours and some All-American notice.

WR #19

#### Overall #106

### Round 3-4

Class: Senior

Age: 22.18

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¼, 202 (combine)

40: 4.54 (combine)

College Stats: Alabama: In 2 seasons, Baker played in 18 games (0 starts), catching 9 passes for 116 yards (12.9 average) and 1 touchdown. UCF: In 2 seasons, Baker played in 27 games (24 starts), catching 108 passes for

1,935 yards (17.9 average) and 13 touchdowns. Had 7 100-yard receiving games.

Honours & Awards: 2023 All-Big 12. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 2022 PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-AAC.

Analysis: Baker is a good all-round receiver with decent size, length, and quickness, who lacks outstanding speed and yet makes big plays.

Baker has developed as a route runner. He not only has quick feet for a tall man but has crisp breaks at the top of his routes. He is also smart with his speed, being able to change gears cleverly and fool some defensive backs. Unfortunately lacks the long speed to beat defenders deep or to maintain separation over a period of time.

Physical corners who can disrupt his routes or tie up his release at the line of scrimmage can occasionally give him difficulties, but he is learning to use his own physicality and strength to help overcome these.

Baker has a large catch radius, good hands and can make most catches, although sometimes he will still mishandle passes which should be caught. Has really good body control to make catches, come down with the ball and also get his feet inbounds near the sideline.

Has improved making yards after the catch, which has enabled him to increase his yards per reception number up to the sensational 2023 numbers. Baker will make some would-be tacklers miss.

Baker is a willing blocker in the running game and for his fellow receivers.

## DRAFT OUTLOOK

Baker may just be going under the radar – he is a fine receiver who perhaps doesn't get some of the notice that other receivers in the draft are getting. While he lacks top-notch speed and also can have some problems releasing at the line of scrimmage, Baker has a good all-round receiving skillset and agility, coupled with smarts. He is a player on the rise, with more to come, who should make an impact as a rotational receiver early. Should be off the board around round 4. Has some attributes which may interest the Packers at this stage of the draft.

### **JOHNNY WILSON (Florida State)**

**Misc:** Outstanding wide receiver in high school in California, notching up over 3,000 career receiving yards. Opted to play his college ball at Arizona State after originally verbally committing to Oregon.

Played sparingly in 2 seasons (2020-21) at ASU, including redshirting his true freshman year. Transferred to Florida State prior to the 2022 season, which became a break-out year for Wilson. He started all 13 games, catching 43 passes for nearly 900 yards and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition. Wasn't quite as prolific in 2023, notching up 617 receiving yards – earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference notice. WR #20

#### Overall #107

### Round 3-4

Class: Junior

Age: 23.06

Ht/Wt: 6-6 3/8, 231 (combine)

40: 4.52 (combine)

College Stats: Arizona State: In 2 seasons, Wilson played in 8 games

(3 starts), catching 18 passes for 243 yards (13.5 average) & 1 TD. Also had 1 rushing attempt for 0 yards. **FSU:** In 2 seasons, Wilson played in 23 games (23 starts), recording 84 receptions for 1,514 yards (18.0 average) & 7 TDs. Had 5 100 yard receiving games (including 1 over 200).

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. Bobby Bowden Leadership Award co-winner (FSU team award). **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Wilson is huge for a wide receiver, with long legs and a frame that brings with it some power, strength, and physicality. Has decent production and experience.

Wilson doesn't have great speed, and is still developing as a route runner, but will use his forementioned physicality and strength to create separation from defensive backs. Will leverage his arm length extremely well and can come back towards the quarterback to make the catch – shielding the football from defenders.

Looks like he ought to be a possession, move the chains, type receiver but his ability to add extra yards after the catch makes him more than that. Wilson doesn't have great speed and won't beat defenders with explosiveness, but he is able to run in the open field thanks to such long legs. He has the strength to break the tackles of smaller defenders – this after the catch ability is the reason why he averaged 18 yards per reception over the last two seasons.

As you would expect for a receiver of his size, Wilson has length, a huge catch radius and will high point the football. His size can enable him to convert off-target passes into receptions. Is a real end zone threat.

Has some blocking ability (and willingness to do so) from the wide receiver spot.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

What are NFL teams going to make of a wide receiver who is very nearly 6-7 and 231 pounds? While that is almost tight end size, Wilson's skills would appear to be much more suited to playing on the outside where he can run longer routes and comeback routes which make the most of his physical skills (particularly his length) and his ability to catch passers over defenders. Wilson is going to be an interesting prospect at the next level and should be off the board somewhere in the middle of the draft – around round 3 or 4.

## **MALIK WASHINGTON (Virginia)**

**High School:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in the Atlanta, Georgia area – taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Was a multi-position football player, playing on both sides of the football. Received multiple offers to play college football, opting to attend Northwestern.

Played as a back-up receiver in his freshman season (2019) at Northwestern, catching just 6 passes. After his 2020 season was impacted by the pandemic (5 games, 5 receptions), Washington started around half the games in 2021 and caught 45 passes. His upward production curve continued in 2021, as he caught 65 passes. Transferred to Virginia prior to the 2023 season. Had an incredible WR #21

#### Overall #108

Round 3-4

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.31 Ht/Wt: 5-8 ½, 191 (combine) 40: 4.47 (combine)

true break-out season for the Cavaliers – recording 110 receptions for 1,426 yards and 9 touchdowns. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American honours.

**College Stats: Northwestern:** In 4 seasons, Washington played in 40 games (20 starts), catching 120 passes for 1,348 yards (11.2 average) and 3 touchdowns. Rushed 15 times for 22 yards (1.5 average). Attempted and completed 1 pass for 6 yards. **Virginia:** In 1 season, Washington played in 12 games (11 starts), catching 110 passes for 1,426 yards (13.0 average) and 9 touchdowns. Rushed 3 times for 7 yards (2.3 average). Attempted 1 pass with 0 completions.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Biletnikoff Award semifinalist. TD Club of Richmond Offensive End of the Year. Pop Warner College Football Award finalist. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-American. Academic All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Washington is an experienced slot receiver who lacks height but has a sturdy frame. He has nice athletic ability and good speed.

Washington is a high volume, low average yardage type receiver who can catch lots of short passes. He has an explosive first step, is shifty and knows how to get open on quick stop and underneath routes. Runs those short routes precisely and can create separation really quickly. Has good hands and will pick up some extra yardage after making the catch.

Washington has the speed and acceleration to run deep routes down the seam and middle of the field, but he isn't a great threat on this types of routes because his lack of strength and physicality means that those routes can be disrupted. He also isn't going to make many contested catches, nor does he have a large catch radius.

Washington was used earlier in his career to run end arounds and jet sweeps.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Off the back of a single outstanding season in college, Washington needed a good pre-draft showing to help his status – and he got it with a really good week at the Senior Bowl. Washington lacks size and physicality and will exclusively be a slot receiver at the next level. Coud be an effective player in the NFL for a team that is looking for a dedicated slot guy who can make yards after the catch. Should be selected in round 3 or round 4.

### JAMARI THRASH (Louisville)

**Misc:** Was a highly productive wide receiver in high school in Georgia. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at Georgia State University (based in Atlanta).

Caught just 11 passes in his first two seasons at Georgia State (2019-20), before having a nice 2021 in which he had 32 receptions. Broke out in 2022 with an outstanding season going over 1,100 receiving yards and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. Transferred to Louisville for the 2023 season. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours as he notched up 858 receiving yards in his sole season for the Cardinals.

**College Stats: Georgia State:** In 4 seasons, Thrash played in 37 games (17 starts), recording 104 receptions for 1,752 yards (16.8 average) and 12 touchdowns. Had 5 100 yard receiving games (including 1 over 200). Rushed 3 times for 10 yards. **Louisville:** In 1 season, Thrash played in 12 games (11 starts), recording 63 receptions for 858 yards (13.6 average) and 6 touchdowns. Had 2 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 1 time for 12 yards and a touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. **2022** Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Sun Belt. Georgia State Athletic Director's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Thrash is an experienced (49 games/28 starts) and dependable wide receiver, with good speed and athletic ability. Lined up wide the majority of the time, only rarely lining up in the slot. Has decent size but is under the ideal.

Thrash has a sharp first step and has quick feet and cutting ability. He runs precise routes and gets in and out his breaks crisply, creating early separation. However, Thrash can have problems getting off the line in press man coverage and physical cornerbacks who use their arms and hands can disrupt his routes.

Thrash tracks the football in the air extremely well, demonstrating really nice hands and a surprising catch radius given his lack of great length, although he could get more physical when competing for the contested pass.

Once the ball is in his hands, Thrash will make extra yards after the catch. He will use his movement ability to avoid tacklers and his speed to breakaway.

Whilst not overly used in this role, Thrash is a consistent long ball wide receiver who knows how to get open deep.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Thrash solidified his draft status with a really nice Senior Bowl week. Thrash has the skills to be a consistent and productive receiver at the next level, but he will likely need to develop more physicality in his game. Because of his quick feet and lack of A1 size, and it's possible that Thrash will line up in the slot more frequently at the pro level than he did in college. Should be selected on day 3 – probably in round 4 or round 5.

#### WR #22

#### Overall #122

### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior

Age: 23.35

Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¾, 188 (combine)

40: 4.46 (combine)

### **JACOB COWING (Arizona)**

**High School:** Nice high school career in Arizona. Had over 2,000 yards receiving in high school. Wasn't highly recruited at the FBS level. Opted to play his college ball at UTEP.

Had a good true freshman season (2019), becoming a starter part way through and notching up more than 500 receiving yards. Followed that with another good year in 2020, earning some allconference recognition and notching up nearly 700 yards through the air. Truly broke out in 2021 with an outstanding season, recording 69 catches for 1,354 yards and earning all-conference recognition. Transferred to Arizona prior to 2022 season, family reasons being a major factor behind the move. Broke the 1,000-yard receiving barrier WR #23

#### Overall #135

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.22 Ht/Wt: 5-8 ¾, 168 (combine) 40: 4.38 (combine)

again in 2022 while catching 85 passes. Earned honourable mention all-conference notice for that 2022 season and did it again in 2023 when he caught 90 passes.

**College Stats: UTEP:** In 3 seasons, Cowing played in 33 games (28 starts), catching 141 passes for 2,595 yards (18.4 average) and 13 touchdowns. Had 13 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 4 times for 75 yards and 1 touchdown. **Arizona:** In his 2 seasons, Cowing played in 25 games (24 starts), catching 175 passes for 1,882 yards (10.8 average) and 20 touchdowns. Had 2 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 8 times for 27 yards. Had 18 punt returns at a 6.7 average and 2 kick-off returns for 11 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. Valero Alamo Bowl MVP. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-CUSA. **2020** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-CUSA.

**Analysis:** Cowing is a very undersized but experienced and athletic wide receiver who is highly utilised in the short passing game and makes lots of plays. Lines up the majority of time in the slot.

If uncovered at the line, Cowing has a sharp release and quick, agile, feet which enable him to gain early separation. Has decent hands but a small catch radius. However, he can struggle to beat press man and physical corners may disrupt his routes.

Cowing runs pretty intermediate routes and gets in and out of his breaks crisply. Will use his speed to get open on crossing routes and to run away from defenders once the ball is in his hands. Has breakaway speed but isn't often put in a position to fully utilise it – catching lots of passes short, close to the line of scrimmage.

Has some experience in the return game, mainly as a punt returner.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Cowing is a highly productive receiver who demonstrated very impressive speed at the combine, running a really good 4.38 in the 40. Because of his size and quick feet, Cowing's best chance in the NFL will likely be as a specialist slot receiver who can also return punts. Every team wants a chain moving slot receiver and therefore Cowing should have good value amongst NFL teams. Expect him to be selected early on day 3.

### LUKE McCAFFREY (Rice)

**Misc:** Is part of a football family – his father Ed, was a 3-time Super Bowl winner who played 13 seasons in the NFL (Giants, 49ers, and Broncos), while one of his brothers, Christian, is a current All-Pro running back with the 49ers. Luke played multiple positions in high school in Colorado, including QB, WR and DB. Had offers from numerous FBS schools, opting to play at Nebraska.

Redshirted his freshman season (2019) at Nebraska, playing in just 4 games as a back-up QB. Played in 7 games (2 starts) at the QB spot in 2020, attempting 76 passes and rushing for 364 yards. Following the season, McCaffrey transferred to Louisville but then transferred again, this time to Rice, prior to the 2021 season. Played in 9 games,

WR #24 Overall #144 Round 4-5 Class: Age: 23.07 Ht/Wt: 6-1 %. 198 (combine) 40: 4.46 (combine)

starting in 3, in his first season at Rice, attempting just 62 passes while rushing for 132 yards. Moved to wide receiver for the 2022 season and had a really nice year, catching 58 passes for 723 yards. Followed that up with the best season of his college career in 2023, catching 71 passes for 992 yards and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** Nebraska: In 2 seasons, McCaffrey played in 11 games (2 starts), completing 65% of his passes for 608 yards, with 3 TDs & 6 Ints. Rushed 89 times for 530 yards (6.0 ave) & 4 TDs. Caught 2 passes for 17 yards (18.5 ave). Rice: In 3 seasons, McCaffrey played in 33 games (26 starts), catching 129 passes for 1,715 yards (13.3 ave) & 19 TDs. Rushed 68 times for 397 yards (5.8 ave) & 3 TDs. Completed 48% of his passes for 313 yards, with 2 TDs & 4 Ints.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-AAC. George Martin Award winner (Rice team MVP). C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll. CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2022** George Martin Award winner (Rice team MVP). C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll. CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2020** Academic All-Big 10. **2020 & 2019** Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Lacks some experience as a wideout, but McCaffrey is a developing wide receiver who has quick shifty feet and good speed. Lines up most often in the slot, but also has experience on the outside.

Has some work to do as a route runner and can get tied up on occasion by physical corners. However, he will fight for the football in order to make the contest catch, has really good hands and the ability to make the spectacular catch.

Is a good runner with the football in his hands and will make defenders miss and add extra yards after the catch.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has just 2 full seasons playing as a wide receiver but has developed rapidly and his previous experience in the backfield means that he will bring some versatility and perhaps gadget play opportunities to the NFL. Did well at the Senior Bowl which helped his draft chances. With slot experience and quick feet, McCaffrey may, at least initially, be utilised as big slot type receiver in the NFL. Should be off the board in round 4 or round 5.

### AINIAS SMITH (Texas A&M)

**Misc:** Had an outstanding high school career in Sugarland, Texas as a do-it-all player. On offense, he played WR, RB and even a little QB. On defense he contributed at DB. Smith also returned kicks and punts, was used as a punter at times and even blocked a punt. Opted to play his college ball at Texas A&M, choosing the Aggies over a number of schools including even closer to home Houston.

Played mainly as a back-up WR and on special teams in his freshman season (2019) at Texas A&M, returning kick-offs and punts while catching 22 passes on offense. Became more of a factor on offense in 2020, snaring 43 receptions, while also rushing 49 times and returning 15 punts. Started every game in 2021 catching 47 passes while remaining the team's top punt returner. Unfortunately, suffered a season ending leg injury early in the 2022 season which required WR/RB/PR

WR #25

Overall #161

Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior

Age: 22.90

Ht: 5-9 ¾, 190 (combine)

40: n/a

surgery (reported as being a fibula break and ankle injury). Was awarded a medical redshirt and returned to school in 2023 – having the most productive season of his college career.

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at Texas A&M, Smith played in 50 games (34 starts), catching 180 passes for 2,407 yards (13.4 ave) and 19 TDs. Had 6 career 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 72 times for 405 yards (5.6 ave) and 4 TDs. Returned 82 punts at a 10.2 average, with 2 TDs. Returned 20 kick-offs at an 18.2 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Smith is a super versatile offensive weapon who can play as a receiver (especially in the slot), as a running back, and as an excellent return man (kick-offs and punts). Lacks a little height, length, and physicality.

Smith is very athletic and agile receiver whose explosive release and quick feet enable him to get separation early. Runs nice routes and has good hands. Is excellent once the ball is in those hands, making defenders miss. Smith will have difficulties however, with physical corners who press him at the line of scrimmage, disrupt his routes and will fight him for the football.

Is a solid runner who can be effective occasionally lining up in the backfield and running jet sweeps and reverses, although his lack of size means that there should be some caution to make sure he's not overused.

Smith is an outstanding punt returner, whose size, quickness, and athleticism suits the role perfectly. Complements his punt return skills with solid kick-off return ability.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

In the days when NFL teams employed return specialists who sometimes did little else, Smith would probably have earned himself a roster spot purely on that basis – he is an especially proficient punt returner. Now, he should earn a roster spot as a dual purpose slot receiver and return man who can also run some jet sweeps and end arounds. He can be a real gadget man at the next level. Expect him to be selected at some point during the first half of day 3.

### The Next Best Wide Receivers...

### 26. Anthony Gould (Oregon State)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #175 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Oregon State, appearing in 41 games, with 21 starts, recording 84 receptions for 1,360 yards (16.2 average) and 6 touchdowns. Is also an outstanding punt returner who had 25 returns at an outstanding 16.8 average (with 2 touchdowns) while at OSU - then re-emphasised his ability in this area in front of NFL scouts at the East-West Shrine Bowl by returning a punt for a touchdown. Gould is very small with quick feet with the ability to get open early – will be a slot receiver in the NFL. Has outstanding speed – was an excellent sprinter in high school. Ran a very quick 4.39 in the 40 at the combine and followed up with nice performances in some of the drills.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 5-8 ¾, 174 (combine). 40: 4.39 (combine).

#### 27. Cornelius Johnson (Michigan)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #178 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Michigan, appearing in 61 games, with 45 starts. Had 139 career receptions for 2,045 yards (14.7 average) and 14 touchdowns. Johnson is a super experienced receiver with good physical attributes. Has the speed, size, and length to worry defensive backs and will make lots of contested catches. Good runner with the football in his hands, being able to make extra yards after the catch and he can be used on jet sweeps and reverses. Perhaps needs to work some on his route running and hands.

Age: 23.41. Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 212 (combine). 4.44 (combine).

#### 28. Tahj Washington (USC)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #181 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons at Memphis before transferring to USC in 2021, where he played the last 3 seasons of his college career. Across that career, Washington played in 54 games, with 30 starts, recording 209 receptions for 3,224 yards (15.4 average) and 21 touchdowns. Lots of special teams experience in his career. Speedy, quick footed receiver with good hands, who had an outstanding 2023 in which he went over 1,000 yards receiving. Lacks all-round size and probably projects to be a slot receiver at the NFL level.

Age: 22.95. Ht/Wt: 5-9 ¾, 174 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 29. Jha'Quan Jackson (Tulane)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #202 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons at Tulane (2019-23), Jackson played in 56 games (23 starts). Was never a consistent game-in, game-out, threat in as a game changing receiver in college, recording just 109 receptions for 1,743 yards (16.0 average) and 17 touchdowns over that 5 season career. But complemented his receiving skills by doubling as a really good return guy – had 60 punt returns at an 11.3 average (with 1 touchdown) and 36 kick-off returns at a 21.4 average. As well as being a receiver and return man, Jackson was also be used on jet sweeps and end arounds. He is a small but very speedy multi-purpose receiver with quick feet and athleticism. Ran a really nice 4.42 in the 40 at the combine. Will likely be a slot receiver in the NFL.

Age: 23.95. Ht/Wt: 5-9 1/8, 188 (combine). 40: 4.42 (combine).

#### **30.** Bub Means (Pittsburgh)

Likely late round draft choice. Is #207 overall on our draft board.

Spent 1 year (2019) as a defensive back at Tennessee and then 1 year at Louisiana Tech (2021). Transferred to Pittsburgh for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Across his college career, Means played in 37 games (20 starts), recording 90 receptions for 1,552 yards (17.2 average) and 10 touchdowns. Lacks some experience but is a rapidly improving receiver with a good combination of speed and size who is a deep threat. Will fight for the contested catch. Had a really nice combine which likely put him in contention to be drafted. Named to Buce Feldman's Athletic Freak list in 2023.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 6-1, 212 (combine). 40: 4.43 (combine).

#### 31. Isaiah Williams (Illinois)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #212 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons at Illinois (2019-23), Williams played in 47 games, with 33 starts. Played quarterback early in his college career before switching to wide receiver. Developed into a very productive receiver, recording 213 receptions for 2,298 yards (10.8 average) and 14 touchdowns across his Illinois career. Can also return punts – had 27 returns at a 9.2 average in college. Makes lots of catches short and underneath and adds some extra yards after the catch but isn't going to stretch the field and beat teams deep. Once he moved to receiver, Williams lined up as a slot receiver for the majority of his time in college, however, does have some experience lining up on the outside also. But given his lack of size and top notch deep speed it seems almost certain that he'd be a slot guy at the next level.

Age: 23.24. Ht/Wt: 5-9 ¼, 182 (combine). 40: 4.63 (combine).

#### 32. Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint (Georgia)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #216 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Georgia (202-23), playing in 46 games, with 24 starts, recording 74 receptions for 1,028 yards (13.9 average) and 7 touchdowns. Suffered a bad ankle injury in his freshman season which really impacted his whole college career until 2023. Doesn't have great speed but is a nice route runner. Has really nice size and can be physical. Very 2good blocking wide receiver. Has special teams experience. His combination of size, athletic ability and potential may be of interest to the Packers late in the draft.

Age: 22.30. Ht/Wt: 6-1 1/8, 195 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 33. Jordan Whittington (Texas)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #229 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Texas, but unfortunately, his first 3 years were badly impacted by injuries, including missing his entire freshman season due to a hernia injury. Played 41 games (25 starts), across those 5 seasons, recording 141 receptions for 1,757 yards (12.5 average) and 5 touchdowns. Was finally fully injury free in 2022 and had a good season, followed by another good year in 2023. Is a physical receiver who will compete for every pass and is an excellent run blocking wide receiver. Good route runner. Was suffering from a hamstring injury during this spring which prevented him from taking part in the workouts at the combine and at UT's pro day.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: n/a. 40: n/a.

#### 34. Jalen Coker (Holy Cross)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #233 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons (2020-23) at Holy Cross, and by the time his career there was finished, Coker held a number of school receiving record. Across his Holy Cross career, Coker recorded 164 receptions for 2,715 yards (16.6 average) and 31 touchdowns. Went over 1,000 yards receiving in 2023 and earned FCS All-American honours. Consistent and productive. Has really good size and plays with physicality. Will make the contested catch and can also use his body to shield the football from defensive backs. Has really goods and a large catch radius. Lacks top notch speed and generally won't beat defenses deep. Could perhaps improve his route running. Is solid with the ball in his hands and can make tacklers miss but doesn't have the quickness to break away. Has a little bit of punt returning experience.

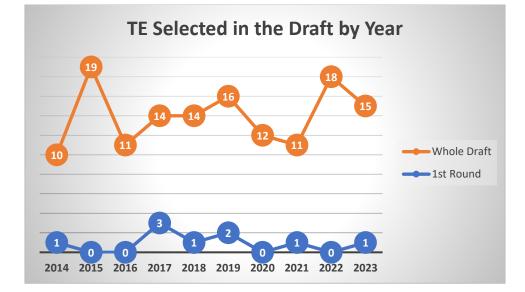
Age: 22.49. Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¾ (combine). 40: 4.57 (combine).

# TIGHT ENDS

**Note:** As in every year that we have produced this draft preview (other than 2023), our tight end group also includes H-Backs and blocking Fullbacks (if the Fullback is predominantly a runner, he is included in the running back group).

**General Draft Outlook:** This year's class of tight ends is not the best or deepest that we have seen in recent years, although the player at the very top of the tree is outstanding and may be off the board in the top 10. Brock Bowers is that no.1 tight end in this draft and he has top 10 overall value – although exactly where he will be selected is likely going to depend upon the run of quarterbacks, wide receivers, and offensive tackles early.

Behind Bowers, the expectation is that no more tight ends will be off the board until midway through the 2<sup>nd</sup> round – with Ja'Tavion Sanders likely to be that player. After Sanders, the next tight end chosen will probably be Cade Stover in round 3. Theo Johnson and one of H-Back types Ben Sinnott and Jaheim Bell may have some chance of sneaking into round 3.



Prediction: Around 13 tight ends will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** What a difference a year can make. Like the wide receiver position, the Packers entered the 2023 season with a lot of uncertainty at the tight end spot, but by the end of the year this position was being considered as an offensive strength. The Packers are set at the first two tight end spots with the excellent duo of 2023 draftees Luke Musgrave and Tucker Kraft. Behind them are Ben Sims and Tyler Davis, plus the fullback Henry Pearson. H-Back Josiah Deguara left the team to go to the Jaguars in free agency. While there doesn't really appear to be room for another tight end on the roster, with Deguara not coming back, then the Packers may look to an H-Back type in this draft. If so, then Ben Sinnott or Jaheim Bell could be in play for Green Bay in the middle rounds If the Packers wanted to look for a predominantly blocking tight end, then A.J. Barner and Tip Reiman would be possibilities really late in the draft.

# **TOP TIGHT ENDS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Brock Bowers	TE	Georgia	1
2.	Ja'Tavion Sanders	TE	Texas	2
3.	Cade Stover	TE	Ohio State	3
4.	Theo Johnson	TE	Penn State	3
5.	Ben Sinnott	H-Back	Kansas State	3
6.	Jaheim Bell	H-Back	FSU	4-5
7.	Jared Wiley	TE	TCU	4-5
8.	Dallin Holker	TE	Colorado State	4-5
9.	Erick All	TE	lowa	4-5
10.	Tip Reiman	TE	Illinois	4-5
11.	Brevyn Spann-Ford	TE	Minnesota	6-7
12.	A.J. Barner	TE	Michigan	6-7
13.	Tanner McLachlan	TE	Arizona	6-7
14.	Trey Knox	TE	South Carolina	7-UDFA
15.	Devin Culp	H-Back	Washington	UDFA
16.	Jack Westover	H-Back	Washington	UDFA
17.	Isaac Rex	TE	BYU	UDFA
18.	McCallan Castles	TE	Tennessee	UDFA
19.	Austin Stogner	TE	Oklahoma	UDFA
20.	Zach Heins	TE	South Dakota State	UDFA
21.	Mason Fairchild	TE	Kansas	UDFA
22.	Thomas Yassmin	TE	Utah	UDFA
23.	Mason Pline	TE	Furman	UDFA
24.	Baylor Cupp	TE	Texas Tech	UDFA
25.	Phil Jurkovec	TE	Pittsburgh	UDFA
26.	Easton Dean	TE	lowa State	UDFA
27.	Trent Pennis	TE	North Carolina State	UDFA
28.	David Martin-Robinson	TE	Temple	UDFA
29.	Jacob Warren	TE	Tennessee	UDFA
30.	Keaton Upshaw	TE	Georgia Southern	UDFA
31.	Max Wright	TE	Texas A&M	UDFA
32.	Malcolm Epps	TE	Pittsburgh	UDFA
33.	Cam Grandy	TE	Illinois State	UDFA
34.	Brenden Bates	TE	Kentucky	UDFA
35.	Grant Misch	TE	Virginia	UDFA
36.	Dylan Leonard	TE	Georgia Tech	UDFA
37.	Alec Holler	TE	UCF	UDFA
38.	D.J. Stevens	TE	Jackson State	UDFA
39.	Alex Larson	TE	St. John's (Minnesota)	UDFA
40.	Messiah Swinson	TE	Arizona 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.	Shelton Zeon III	TE	UNLV	UDFA
42.	Marshel Martin IV	TE	Sacramento State	UDFA
43.	Hayden Rucci	TE	Wisconsin	UDFA
44.	Riley Smith	TE	Boise State	UDFA
45.	George Takacs	TE	Boston College	UDFA
46.	Patrick McSweeney	TE	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
47.	Braden Cassity	TE	Oklahoma State	UDFA
48.	Luke Benson	TE	Georgia Tech	UDFA
49.	Noah Bean	TE	Grambling State	UDFA
50.	Michael O'Laughlin	TE	Houston	UDFA
51.	Trent Thompson	TE	UTEP	UDFA
52.	Owen Glascoe	TE	Long Island	UDFA
53.	Neal Johnson	TE	Louisiana	UDFA
54.	Geor'quarius Spivey	TE	Mississippi State	UDFA
55.	Matt Alaimo	TE	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
56.	Jared Casey	TE	Kansas	UDFA
57.	Josiah Johnson	TE	Oklahoma State	UDFA
58.	Riley Sharp	TE	Oregon State	UDFA
59.	Curtis Raymond III	TE	TCU	UDFA
60.	Zachary Marsh Wojack	TE	UCF	UDFA
61.	Cole Grossman	TE	Montana	UDFA
62.	Zach Fryar	TE	UTEP	UDFA
63.	Noah Massey	TE	West Virginia	UDFA
64.	Justice Dingle II	FB	Kentucky	UDFA
65.	Rick Weaver	FB	Liberty	UDFA

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

### **BROCK BOWERS (Georgia)**

TE #1 Misc: Dual-sport athlete in high school in California, playing basketball and football. Versatile on the gridiron playing multiple positions **Overall #10** including QB, TE, WR, RB and LB. Opted to attend Georgia, where he Round 1 was recruited to play TE. Had an outstanding true freshman season (2021), catching 56 passes Class: Junior for 882 yards and 13 TDs – earning All-American honours. Was even Age: 21.37 better in 2022, catching 63 passes for 942 yards, again earning All-American recognition. Missed 2 games in 2023 due to ankle surgery -Ht/Wt: 6-3, 243 (combine) but still went on to catch 56 passes and again earn All-American 40: n/a honours. Won the Mackey Award for the second straight year.

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Georgia, Bowers played in 40 games (37 starts), recording 175 receptions for 2,538 yards (14.5 average) and 26 TDs. Had 10 career 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 19 times for 193 yards (10.2 average) and 5 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Maxwell Award semi-finalist. **2023 & 2022** John Mackey Award winner. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Lombardi Award finalist. Biletnikoff Award semi-finalist. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. **2022** AFCA, FWAA, ESPN & USAT 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. CSC 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-American. **2021** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. The Athletic & ESPN.com True Freshman All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. FWAA & Shaun Alexander Freshman of the Year Awards winner. SEC Freshman of the Year. AP SEC Newcomer of the Year.

**Analysis:** Bowers is a true playmaker and a fine athlete who lacks prototypical tight end size but has so many other attributes. In 3 seasons at Georgia, he had one of the greatest tight end careers in NCAA history.

Bowers is extremely versatile – he can line-up tight in-line, in the slot and on the outside and has also been utilised on jet sweeps and reverses. His athleticism, short area quickness and route running skills mean that he knows how to get open on a regular basis. His s speed which enables him to stretch defenses down the seam. He is a huge mismatch threat to defenses.

As a receiving tight end, Bowers has outstanding hands and will make additional yards after the catch – thanks to his speed and also due to his strength and elusiveness. He is very strong and can be a load to bring down.

Isn't a devastating blocker, and his lack of A1 size means that he likely won't ever physically dominate in this regard, but he has decent positional sense and in-line blocking technique.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Had he been eligible for the 2023 draft, Bowers would almost certainly have been the first tight end off the board – and it's entirely possible that he would have been the first tight end selected in the 2022 draft, if eligible, after his true freshman season. He's been that good. The one concern about Bowers amongst NFL teams is likely to be lack of A1 tight end size, but he has so many other assets. In a year without 3 or 4 QBs at the top of the draft, Bowers would be a certainty to be off the board inside the top 10. This year he may fall to about pick 15.

### **JA'TAVION SANDERS (Texas)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Denton, TX, playing both basketball and football where he had an outstanding career playing WR and DE, earning all-state and all-district honours. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Texas.

As a freshman in 2021, Sanders played almost exclusively on special teams. Became the starting TE for UT in 2022 (starting 13 games), catching 54 passes and earning all-conference recognition. Had a nice 2023 with 45 receptions and was named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference.

TE #2

#### Overall #51

#### Round 2

Class: Junior

Age: 21.08

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 245 (combine)

40: 4.69 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at UT, Sanders played in 39 games (27 starts), recording 99 receptions for 1,295 yards (13.1 ave) & 7 TDs.

Had 3 career 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 1 time for 12 yards & had 1 kick-off return for - 4 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. **2023 & 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Mackey Award semi-finalist. **2022 & 2021** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2022** Dave Campbell 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas selection. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12 Rookie Team.

#### Packer Connection

Sanders is probably the best TE to attend UT since former Packer Jermichael Finley. Interestingly, Sanders and Finley have a not dissimilar athletic profile. **Analysis:** Sanders is slightly undersized to be the ideal pro tight end, but he is an outstanding athlete who is an excellent receiver. He isn't really a deep threat but can utilise his athletic ability to stretch defenses some down the seam, almost like an extra, big bodied, WR. Is an excellent and dynamic runner with the football after making the catch – is capable of adding significant extra yardage.

Has outstanding hands and a big catch radius – appears to snare anything that is in catching distance. Will also fight and make the contested catch when he needs to.

In the short to intermediate areas, Sanders is a vastly improved route runner and has added nuances to his game that enable him to get open.

Needs work to improve as an in-line blocker – although he has some ability to interference block. Perhaps more bulk (if his frame can handle it, without a loss of speed) would perhaps help here.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

In an ideal world, Sanders could do with adding a little extra bulk, especially to help him as an in-line blocker. But he is an outstanding threat as a receiver, who will give defenses fits and create significant match-up problems. His ability to stretch defenses and to add yards after the catch makes him a true playmaker from the tight end spot. Interestingly, Sanders wasn't utilised much in the slot or outside much during his time at Texas, but it seems likely that NFL teams will use him in this way – do you cover him with a safety or corner? After Brock Bowers, Sanders is the next best tight end in this draft and should be off the board on day 2.

### **CADE STOVER (Ohio State)**

**Misc:** Outstanding dual-sport athlete in high school in Ohio, excelling at basketball as well as football. Played both RB and LB and earned the Gatorade State Player of the Year award in 2018. Was recruited to play on the defensive side of the ball and opted to stay in his home state and play his college football for the Buckeyes, choosing Ohio State over offers from multiple Power 5 schools.

Played on defense (LB/DE) in just 3 games as a true freshman in 2019 – being awarded a redshirt. Moved to TE for the 2020 and 2021 seasons, seeing action mainly as a back-up, while still flirting with the LB position. Finally became the starter at tight end in, playing really well while catching 36 passes. Had a nice 2023 catching 41 passes and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. TE #3

#### **Overall #86**

Round 3

Class: Senior Age: 23.87 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 247 (combine) 40: 4.65 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at OSU, Stover played in 49 games (25 starts), recording 82 receptions for 1,058 yards (12.9 average) and 10 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Kwalick-Clark Award winner (Big 10 Tight End of the Year). John Mackey Award finalist. **2022** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. John Mackey Award semi-finalist.

**Analysis:** Stover is very versatile and is fine athlete with some speed and agility, who has developed into a solid tight end through his college career, having started on the other side of the ball.

Stover wasn't utilised much in the passing game until 2022, but he is a nice pass catcher with excellent hands and a decent sized catch radius. Once the ball is in his hands, Stover will make extra yards, utilising his strength and physicality to shake off would be tacklers.

Has improved as a route runner with experience and has added nuances to his game that allow him to get open underneath. Will use that aforementioned physicality to ward off defenders and gain separation. Needs to work on some more deeper routes.

Like most parts of his game, Stover is improving as an in-line blocker. His positioning is good, and he has the strength and power to at least hold his own in this aspect of the game.

Has experience on special teams coverage units.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Stover doesn't have tight end experience that goes back to his high school days (unlike most of the other top tight ends available in this draft), but there is no doubt that his development has impressed. After two really good years (2022-23), Stover has surely indicated that there is more to come. While he isn't yet at the very top as either a receiver or blocker, he can certainly more than hold his own particularly as a pass catcher and should contribute early in his NFL career. Expect him to be drafted on day 2 and be a no.2 or no.3 tight end and special teams player immediately and should develop into a solid NFL starter.

### **THEO JOHNSON (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Born in Winnipeg, Canada. Played high school football in Windsor, Ontario, Canada, earning multiple honours. Had offers from a number of Power 5 schools, before opting to attend Penn State.

Played mainly as a back-up in his freshman season (2020), catching just 4 passes. Started around half the games as a sophomore in 2021, notching up 19 receptions. Solid again in 2022, starting 9 games and making 20 receptions. Had a solid 2023, catching 34 passes.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Penn State, Johnson played in 44 games (29 starts), recording 77 receptions for 938 yards (12.2 average) and 12 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. John Mackey Award semi-finalist. Penn State team Iron Lion Award winner (strength & conditioning award). Co-winner of Penn State team Lion's Pride Outstanding Senior Player Award. Co-winner Penn State Keystone Award.

**Analysis:** Johnson is a strong and powerful tight end with excellent size and speed and a lot of potential. Is extremely versatile having been used in a variety of positions and alignments at Penn State. These included lining up in the backfield, on a wing, in the slot and on the outside in addition to the more traditional in-line tight end spot.

Johnson was used primarily as a blocker for much of his career for the Nittany Lions and developed strong skills in this area. Has a really quick first step which helped with his in-line blocking where he can angle block and he positions himself well against bigger defensive linemen using his size well.

Despite not being utilised much as a receiver in college, particularly in the years prior to his senior season, Johnson showed himself to be solid in this area, when used - making the most of the limited opportunities that he received. Didn't run a multitude of different routes and this may have been because he had to learn the nuances of blocking from so many different spots and alignments. Nonetheless when passes did come his way, he used his physique to help get open and he demonstrated a large catch radius and really nice hands.

Johnson has some really good special teams experience, gained playing on just about every special teams unit.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Firstly Johnson is a great attitude, team first kind of player – NFL teams are going to like this. He is a fine blocker, who is was underused as a receiver and is still developing this part of his game. Undoubtedly, he comes with great potential, and this was only accentuated by his excellent all-round performance at the combine, which included a very quick 4.57 in the 40. Now needs his production to match that potential. If he can continue to develop as a receiver, then Johnson has a chance of a long NFL career. Should be off the board late on day 2, starting his NFL career as a back-up and special teams player.

Overall #94 Round 3 Class: Senior Age: 23.16 Ht/Wt: 6-6, 259 (combine) 40: 4.57 (combine)

**TE #4** 

### **BEN SINNOTT (Kansas State)**

**Misc:** Fine multi-sport athlete in high school in Iowa, excelling in a number of sports including baseball and track and field as well as football. On the gridiron, he played tight end, wide receiver and on the defensive line, earning all-district honours. Originally committed to play his college ball at South Dakota, before deciding to walk on at Kansas State.

Redshirted in 2020, before playing in 12 games in 2021. Became the full-time starter in 2022, recording 31 catches and garnering 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference accolades. Followed up with a fine 2023, catching 49 passes for 676 yards, earning some All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Kansas State, Sinnott played in 38 games (28 starts), recording 82 receptions for 1,138 yards (13.9 average) and 10 touchdowns. Had 2 career 100-yard receiving games. Also rushed 3 times for 12 yards and 1 touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. John Mackey Award semi-finalist. CSC Academic All-American. CSC Academic All-District. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. CSC Academic All-District. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. CSC Academic All-District. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Sinnott is a productive, slightly undersized tight end who may be more appropriately looked upon as an H-Back or even as a modern day fullback. Has great versatility having lined up in college as an in-line tight end, in the backfield (he even rushed 3 times in his Kansas State career), in the slot and on the outside.

Sinnott is a decent athlete with a good first step and acceleration which can enable him to get open short, or in the flat, quickly. As his routes progress, he appears to be less likely to create a large amount of separation – this is an area of development need.

Sinnott is a physical receiver in that he'll use his body to shield the ball or use his arms and strength to fight for the football. Has a pretty large catch radius and good hands. Is good as a runner with the ball in his hands, making extra yards after the catch.

Sinnott has experience blocking from a number of alignments – he can be utilised blocking on the move or as a lead blocker. Isn't a dominant player in this regard, but gets the job done. time.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Sinnott is more of a receiver than blocker right now, with some athleticism and agility. He really doesn't fit the traditional tight end spot but will likely be a fit for an NFL team that utilises a receiving fullback or H-Back. If you're a Packers fan, then like with Jaheim Bell (earlier on this list of potential draftees), then a comparison with Josiah Deguara comes to mind – does that make him a possible Packers pick? Who knows? Should contribute early in his NFL career as a situational player as he learns the ropes. Sinnott should be off the board late on day 2, in round 3.

Overall #97 Round 3 Class: Junior Age: 21.87 Ht/Wt: 6-3, 250 (combine) 40: 4.68 (combine)

TE #5

### **JAHEIM BELL (FSU)**

**Misc:** Bell had a very nice high school career in , Georgia, which unfortunately ended early in his senior season when he suffered a torn ACL. Bell had notched up 70 receptions the previous season. Opted to play his college ball at South Carolina.

Played in just 5 games as a true freshman in 2020 as he recovered from surgery (torn meniscus in his left knee). Had a nice 2021 season as a part-time starter, catching 30 passes. Played both TE and RB in 2022, as a part-time starter, catching 25 passes and rushing for 261 yards. Transferred to FSU prior to the 2023 season and was solid, catching 39 passes and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition. TE #6 Overall #134

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 22.87

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 241 (combine)

40: 4.61 (combine)

**College Stats: South Carolina:** In his 3 seasons, Bell played in 30 games (11 starts) and caught 56 passes for 757 yards (13.5 ave) & 7 TDs. Had 2 100-yard receiving games. Rushed 80 times for 301 yards (3.8 ave) & 3 TDs. **FSU:** In his single season, Bell played in 13 games (9 starts) and caught 39 passes for 503 yards (12.9 ave) & 2 TDs. Had 4 rushing attempts for 2 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. **2021** PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. AP All-Bowl Team. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020** SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Bell is a versatile but undersized tight end, who has lined up in a number of positions – in-line, in the slot and on the outside – and has even carried the football on a number of occasions. He probably more accurately fits the physical mould of an H-Back or fullback rather than a traditional tight end.

Bell is a good receiver who has demonstrated the ability to get open wherever he lines up but has been particularly productive on short to intermediate routes. Bell isn't particularly powerful or strong and can get tied up by physical defenders but get him in the open field and he's a different player. He has decent speed which means that he can athletically challenge linebackers and safeties and couple that with quick feet which means that he is able to make defenders miss after the catch – he will add some extra yardage.

Bell has a large catch radius enabling him to pull in some off target passes but also can be an inconsistent catcher of the football.

Bell's lack of strength and physicality means that he hasn't developed into much of a blocker at this stage, either in-line or as a lead blocker.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Looks a little bit like the Packers Josaiah Deguara. Because of his lack of (relative) size and physicality, Bell is somewhat different to most tight ends in this draft. He is great playing in space and can be schemed up to get open and make plays in the passing game from a number of different alignments. He just isn't really a blocker at this stage, but perhaps some of that can yet be taught. If, and only if, that blocking skill can be developed, there's an outside chance that the Packers could see him as a Deguara type player. Expect him to be off the board somewhere around the middle of the draft – round 4 or round 5.

### **JARED WILEY (TCU)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Temple, Texas, playing baseball as well as football. On the gridiron he starred at multiple positions including quarterback and tight end. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at Texas as a tight end.

Started a couple of games in each of his first two seasons (2019 and 2020) at UT before becoming a regular starter in 2021 – although he wasn't used much as a pass receiver. Transferred to TCU prior to the 2022 season and had a solid year with 24 receptions. Broke out to a degree in 2023, catching 47 passes and earning 1<sup>st</sup> Team all-conference recognition.

**College Stats: Texas:** In 3 seasons, Wiley played in 32 games (12 starts), recording 19 receptions for 248 yards (13.1 average) and 3 touchdowns. **TCU:** In 2 seasons, Wiley played in 27 games (16 starts), recording 71 receptions for 765 yards (10.8 average) and 12 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. **2020** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Wiley is a long and hugely framed tight end who, despite that size, is a really good athlete with excellent speed. He Is highly experienced having been a 3-year starter and playing in 59 games in his college career.

Wiley is improving well as a receiver, running nice routes, and knowing how to use his physical advantages (speed, strength, long arms) to gain separation. Provides his quarterback with a huge target over the middle, and crucially on 3<sup>rd</sup> downs and down neat the goal line (15 of his 90 career receptions have been for touchdowns). Has a large catch radius as you would expect for a man of his size) and decent hands

Has some speed that means that he ought to be able to stretch the field some down the seam, and while he did some of this college, there is more to come. Can make some extra ground after the catch, without thus far making a huge number of yards.

Wiley is a solid in-line blocker who has the size and strength which really helps although he perhaps he may develop more in this area.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

NFL scouts are going to love the fact that Wiley has shown development each and every year in college – indicating that he is a good learner and that there is possibly much more to come. The possibilities that his natural size can bring will intrigue those scouts. Demonstrated his athletic ability with a very nice showing at the combine. Wiley may be underrated and if there are players in this draft who we should have ranked higher than they currently are, Wiley would be on that list. Expect him to become at least a no.2 tight end on an NFL roster, with a chance that he develops into a starter. Will most likely be off the board on day 3, probably in round 4.

TE #7

#### Overall #149

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.48 Ht/Wt: 6-6, 249 (combine)

40: 4.62 (combine)

### **DALLIN HOLKER (Colorado State)**

**Misc:** Played both basketball and football in high school in Utah. Had a fine football career which was topped off by an outstanding senior season, in which he had 8 100 yard receiving games, earning multiple honours. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at BYU, choosing the Cougars over offers from a number of FBS schools.

Contributed immediately at BYU in his freshman season (2018), catching 19 passes as a part-time starter. Then spent two years undertaking missionary work, opting out of the 2019 and 2020 football seasons. Returned to football in 2021, catching 14 passes. After playing in just 3 games in 2022, Holker opted to transfer to Colorado State for the 2023 season and he had a fine year with 64 receptions – earning some All-American recognition. TE #8

Overall #167

Round 4-5

Class: Junior

Age: 24.05

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 241 (combine)

40: 4.78 (combine)

**College Stats: BYU:** In his 3 seasons, Holker played in 29 games (8 starts), recording 42 receptions for 521 yards (12.4 average) and 3 TDs. **Colorado State:** In his single season, Holker played and started in 12 games, recording 64 receptions for 767 yards (12.0 average) and 6 TDs.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** USA Today and SI 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. John Mackey Award finalist. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Mountain West.

**Analysis:** Holker is a good receiving tight end, with some speed but is slightly undersized. Will be just over 24 years old on draft day.

Holker has nice receiving skills which start with his ability to get open. Holker doesn't have outstanding speed and isn't going to stretch the field, but he is a good route runner around and in between the hash marks, who knows how to generate short space separation and get open quickly. Will use his arms well to gain some leverage and space. Picks up first downs and is a threat near the goal line.

Holker has a large catch radius and good hands. Once the ball is in his hands he knows how to add extra yards after the catch.

Has some in-line blocking ability. Holker isn't overly physical but will utilise good positioning and work hard to disrupt and disturb defensive linemen and linebackers, even if he doesn't completely beat them. Doesn't stop and will keep blocking until the whistle.

Has experience playing on special teams.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite his age, Holker appears to still have some upside in him if his 2023 season and his impressive showing in some drills at the combine is anything to go by. NFL teams will likely be intrigued by his receiving skills and if those can develop even further, along with his blocking skills then Holker could be a solid (predominantly receiving) no.2 or no.3 tight end at the pro level. And he should also be a big contributor on special teams. In all likelihood Holker will be selected somewhere around the middle of day 3.

### **ERICK ALL (Iowa)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Fairfield, Ohio, playing baseball as well as football. Gradually increased his weight and bulk to grow into the tight end position. Opted to play his college ball at the University of Michigan, choosing the Wolverines over offers from just about every major Power 5 school.

Played almost exclusively on special teams during his true freshman season (2019). Started 2 games in the pandemic shortened 2020 season, catching 12 passes. Played in 13 games (8 starts) in 2021, which was easily his best college season to that point – had 38 receptions for over 400 yards and earned honourable mention allconference notice. Played in just 3 games in 2022 before having to TE #9

Overall #170

Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: 23.62 Ht/Wt: 6-5, 252 (combine) 40: n/a

undergo back surgery which forced him to miss the remainder of the season. Transferred from Michigan to Iowa between the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Was solid for the first half of the 2023 season (21 receptions) before suffering a season ending torn ACL injury.

**College Stats: Michigan:** In his 4 seasons, all played in 35 games (12 starts), catching 54 passes for 565 yards (10.5 average) and 2 touchdowns. **Iowa:** In his single season, Alt played and started in 7 games, recording 21 receptions for 299 yards (14.2 average) and 3 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Iowa Team Hustle Award winner. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Michigan Team Co-Offensive Skill Player of the Year Award winner.

**Analysis:** All is a talented, multi-faceted tight end with good size and some versatility, being able to produce when lined up in a number of spots. Had injuries which hurt his production.

All is a good receiver who runs sharp and crisp routes for such a big man. He short area acceleration and is very effective at getting separation or sitting down in the open field on short and underneath routes. He has a large catch radius and really good hands. Doesn't have top notch speed and there generally isn't a deep ball tight end – he typically won't stretch the field down the seam too much.

Is a solid blocker in-line in the running game. Has good technique and utilises his size and physicality to shield off much bigger defensive linemen – he doesn't dominate but generally does enough.

Has some special teams experience from early in his college career

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has bucket loads of talent and throughout his college career, it seemed that All was just about to be the next big thing at the tight end position – but it never quite panned out that way, particularly due to his latter college years being impacted by injury. All has ability as both a pass receiver and as a blocker plus he can play some special teams and if he can live up to his potential then he could be a very solid no.2 tight end in the NFL. Is likely to be selected towards the middle of day 3.

### **TIP REIMAN (Illinois)**

**High School:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in South Dakota, taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Opted to walk on at Illinois.

Started his career at Illinois in 2020 playing as a back-up tight end and on special teams. Again, played mainly as a back-up in 2021 (3 starts), catching just 3 passes. Became the full-time starter in 2022, catching 19 passes. Was the full-time starter again in 2023, putting in a season that was almost identical, statistically, to his 2022 season.

**College Stats:** in 4 seasons at Illinois, Reiman played in 45 games (28 starts), catching 41 passes for 420 yards (10.2 average) and 5 touchdowns. Returned 3 kick-offs at a 5.7 average.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Academic All-Big 10. 2022 Academic All-Big 10. 2021 Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Reiman is a massive tight end who has grown throughout his college days (adding around 55 pounds). He has a good level of experience gained playing in the Big 10, being used predominantly as an in-line blocking tight end, although he sometimes would also line up in the slot.

Reiman forte is as a strong, consistent, and dependable blocker. He can move defenders in the running game, both straight ahead and laterally. He also works well in pass protection, dealing with outside linebackers who are generally smaller than him. Reiman is almost big enough to be regarded as an extra offensive lineman.

Reiman isn't going to scare teams in the passing game, but he is a solid receiver, with nice hands, and a large catch radius. He isn't an outstanding athlete, but the combine perhaps demonstrated that he is more athletic than expected and he has decent speed for a man of his size.

Reiman isn't going to stretch defenses down the seam. Rather, he is big, physical, target who will catch passes short and underneath. Uses his big frame to shield the football from defenders. Can turn upfield and be a load to bring down once the ball is in his hands. With his size, Reiman could potentially be a threat down near the goal line.

Has some special teams experience.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Perhaps surprisingly, Reiman opted to declare for this draft, rather than return to Illinois for the 2024 season (utilising the extra year of eligibility awarded due to the pandemic). However, despite not putting up huge numbers as a receiver, Reiman earned invitations to the East-West Shrine Bowl and the Combine. Reiman's size and blocking ability are likely to intrigue some NFL scouts and give him a chance to compete for a roster spot as a situational, speciality, player. Expect Reiman to be selected around round 4 or round 5.

#### TE #10

#### Overall #173

#### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 22.61

Ht/Wt: 6-4 3%, 271 (combine)

40: 4.64 (combine)

### **BREVYN SPANN-FORD (Minnesota)**

**Misc:** Played tight end, wide receiver and defensive in high school in Minnesota. Recorded an outstanding 176 receptions for 2,657 yards and 38 touchdowns. Opted to stay in his home state and attend the University of Minnesota.

Played in just 4 games in his true freshman season (2018). Played predominantly on special teams in 2019 and his 2020 season was similar (although shortened due to the pandemic). Finally saw some extended time on offense in 2021 and responded with a nice year, catching 23 passes. Became the full-time starter in 2022 and had by far his best season up to that point, catching 40 passes for nearly 500 yards. Returned for the 2023 season, having a solid year with 25 TE #11

Overall #197

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.33 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 260 (combine) 40: 4.77 (combine)

receptions. Earned honorable mention all-conference recognition in both 2022 and 2023.

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at Minnesota, Spann-Ford played in 60 games (28 starts), recording 95 receptions for 1,061 yards (11.2 average) and 7 touchdowns.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2021** Academic All-Big 10. **2020** Academic All-Big 10. **2019** Academic All-Big 10. **2018** Minnesota Team Offensive Scout Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** Spann-Ford is a very experienced (60 games), solid all-round tight end, who has skills as both blocking and receiving. Has really good size.

Spann-Ford is a versatile receiver with experience lining up out wide and in the slot, as well as in-line. While he is a decent athlete, Spann-Ford doesn't have great speed and can struggle at times to get open against linebackers and safeties.

However, as a receiver, Spann-Ford does really good work in tight spaces - in the red zone and end zone where he can utilise his strength and all-round physical skills to battle and get his hands on the football. His size also gives him a large catch radius and Spann-Ford can high point the ball. His hands are decent.

Spann-Ford is a really solid in-line blocker. He doesn't dominate but has the physical strength to hold up defensive linemen and move them on angle blocks. Generally, blocks well against linebackers where his size really comes to the fore.

Played some special teams earlier in his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Spann-Ford opted to return to school for the 2023 season when it was thought he may declare for the 2023 draft – had a solid season, probably maintaining his draft status. Whilst Spann-Ford lacks some speed and there are some areas of his game that require development, his ability to both block and catch will help his chances of sticking on an NFL roster as a no.2 or no.3 tight end - as will his special teams experience. Expect him to be selected on day 3 of the draft.

# A.J. BARNER (Michigan)

**Misc:** Played on both sides of the ball in high school in Ohio, earning multiple awards and accolades. Opted to plays his college ball at Indiana.

Played mainly on special teams in his freshman season (2020), before playing a little more on offense in 2021 (12 games, 1 start, 14 receptions). Took a leap forwards in 2022 to start most games and catch 28 passes). Transferred to Michigan prior to the 2023 season, where he had a solid single season starting in over half the games, while catching 22 passes and earning honorable mention all-conference recognition.

**College Stats: Indiana:** In 3 seasons at Indiana, Barner played in 30 games (9 starts), recording 42 receptions for 361 yards (8.6 average) and 4 touchdowns. **Michigan:** In 1 season, Barner played in 15 games (9 starts), recording 22 receptions for 249 yards (11.3 average) and 1 touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. John Mackey Award semi-finalist. Academic All-Big 10. **2022** Academic All-Big 10. **2021** Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Barner is an experienced tight end (45 games) at the college level, who has been utilised predominantly as a blocking tight end with some receiving ability. He has really good size and a physical presence from the end of the line.

Barner is a solid athlete with decent agility for a man of his size.

Barner is a good in-line blocker, with good technical skills, who will utilise his size and some strength to seal and create movement in the running game. As well as blocking in-line, Barner can be used on the move to block. He is also being an accomplished blocker of linebackers in pass protection.

As a receiver Barner will use his physical traits (size and length) and leverage his long arms to create a little separation. Has a large catch radius and will high point the football above defenders. Barner hasn't developed yet to be an outstanding route runner, nor does he have the deep speed to stretch the defense down the field.

Played on special teams units throughout most his college career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Barner wasn't overly utilised as a pass receiver in college, however his a very fine run and pass blocking skills will interest teams that are looking for that skillset in their tight end. Barner will also contribute as an experienced special teams player. However, he has a developmental journey to come, to ensure that he doesn't permanently become a one-dimensional player on offense – he would appear to have sufficient athletic ability to progress. Expect Barner to be off the board in round 6 or 7 and to challenge for a no.3 tight end spot. If the Packers are looking for a blocking tight end then Barner could be the pick.

Overall #203 Round 6-7

**TE #12** 

Class: Senior

Age: 21.98

Ht/Wt: 6-6, 251 (combine)

40: 4.84 (pro day)

### **TANNER McLACHLAN (Arizona)**

**Misc:** From Alberta, Canada. Played wide receiver in high school in Canada, before opting to play his college ball at Southern Utah (FCS level).

Playing tight end, McLachlan redshirted his true freshman season at Southern Utah (2018), after appearing in just 3 games. Played in 3 games in 2019 (3 receptions) and then in 5 in the Spring 2021 season (moved from 2020 due to the pandemic) catching 5 passes unfortunately, suffered a torn ACL in the last game which meant the missed the fall 2021 season. Transferred to walk on at the FBS level at Arizona for the 2022 season. Saw extended action (12 games, 7 starts) for the first time in his college career in 2022, catching 34

passes. Was even more productive in 2023, recording 45 receptions for 528 yards and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats: Southern Utah:** In 3 seasons, McLachlan played in 11 games (2 starts), recording 15 receptions for 168 yards and 2 touchdowns. **Arizona:** In 2 seasons, McLachlan played in 25 games (18 starts), recording 79 receptions for 984 yards (12.5 average) and 6 touchdowns.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12

**Analysis:** McLachlan is an effective tight end, primarily as a receiver whose blocking is improving. Has ok athleticism and speed and good size, although he perhaps could do with adding a little more bulk – assuming his frame can hold it without a loss of athleticism. Has a little versatility, having lined up some in the slot as well as in-line.

As a receiver, McLachlan runs decent routes and uses his arms well to create separation. Also knows how to sit down between underneath zones. Has consistent hands and a decent, but not outstanding, catch radius but could do with becoming stronger at the catch point. Doesn't make too many receptions down the field but will add some extra yards after the catch.

At this stage McLachlan is more of a positional in-line blocker than a physically dominating one. Lacks some strength and power but will work hard to sustain however and will keep blocking for as long as possible.

McLachlan has lots of special teams experience, playing on multiple units, from earlier in his college career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

McLachlan developed as his college career progressed, to the point that he earned invitations to the Senior Bowl and combine. Unfortunately, was unable to take part in the all-star game due to an undisclosed injury but had recovered in time to participate in the combine. Looks like a what you see is what you get type of player - McLachlan is a big effort, hardworking and solid receiving tight end with perhaps a little upside. Will need to develop the blocking side of his game and probably needs to add more bulk. Looks like a potential no.3 tight end and special teams player at the NFL level. Should be selected sometime late on day 3.

TE #13

#### Overall #208

### Round 6-7

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 244 (combine)

40: 4.61 (combine)

### **TREY KNOX (South Carolina)**

**High School:** Good high school career in Tennessee - playing predominantly as a wide receiver, having 3 consecutive seasons with over 500 yards receiving each. Opted to play his college ball at Arkansas, choosing the Razorbacks over offers from multiple Power 5 football programmes.

Became an immediate starter as a wide receiver as a freshman in 2019, starting 11 games and catching 28 passes. Knox started just 6 games in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Switched to tight end early in the 2021 season and ended up catching 20 passes. Played in 12 games in 2022, catching 26 passes. Entered the transfer portal following the 2022 season and chose to move to South Carolina for

TE #14

Overall #262

### Round 7-UDFA

Class: Super Senior Age: 22.70 Ht/Wt: 6-3, 240 (combine) 40: 4.91 (pro day)

2023. Had a fine season with the Gamecocks catching 37 passes for 312 yards, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** Arkansas: In 4 seasons, Knox played in 45 games (29 starts), recording 81 receptions for 892 yards (11.0 average) and 9 touchdowns. Rushed 1 time for 0 yards. **South Carolina:** In 1 season, Knox played and started in 10 games, recording 37 receptions for 312 yards (8.4 average) and 2 touchdowns.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. CSC Academic All-District. 2022 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2021 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2020 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Knox is a highly experienced player (55 games/39 starts), who was a former wide receiver and has some positional versatility – can line-up in line, in the slot and out wide. Has decent athletic ability and agility but ran a very slow 40 time at his pro day. Lacks size for the tight end spot.

Knox has good hands, a decent catch radius and the ability to go up and pull down passes – all skills that come from his wide receiver days. Is a developing route runner from the in-line and slot positions, who can create a step of separation short and underneath. Isn't going to stretch defenses deep but will battle to make yards after the catch.

Is still learning the skills and nuances of being an in-line blocker and lacks the size, strength, and power to be a dominating player in this aspect of the game. Probably looks more like a wide receiver who can block a little than he does a blocking tight end.

Has some special teams experience.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Although Knox had a decent level of productivity catching the football in college, it may just be that he's a player stuck between two positions at the pro level – too big and not speedy enough to play wide receiver, but yet not big enough to play as a full-time tight end. Probably needed an outstanding pre-draft period to guarantee being selected in the draft, but that wasn't forthcoming. Nonetheless, Knox's receiving skills may see him sneak into the back end of day 3 and give him the chance to challenge for a roster spot.

### The Next Best Tight Ends...

#### 15. Devin Culp (Washington)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #288 overall on our draft board.

Part of tight end duo at Washington (along with Jack Westover) who are both entering this draft. In 5 (playing) seasons at Washington, Culp played in 54 games with 25 starts. Recorded 66 receptions for 711 yards (10.8 average) and 4 touchdowns. Is an inconsistent pass catcher who lacks in-line blocking experience. But Culp has really good speed (ran a very speedy 4.47 at the combine) and while he lacks the size to be a true tight end at the next level, he may have a chance to compete for an H-Back or fullback role in the NFL.

Age: 24.23. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 231 (combine). 40: 4.47 (combine)

#### 16. Jack Westover (Washington)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #308 overall on our draft board.

Part of tight end duo at Washington (along with Devin Culp) who are both entering this draft. In 5 (playing) seasons at Washington, Westover played in 52 games with 17 starts, recording 87 receptions for 849 yards (9.8 average) and 6 touchdowns. Had really nice 2022 and 2023 seasons (with over half of his career receptions coming in 2023). Better receiver than blocker at this stage of his career. As a receiver, Westover won't stretch defenses down the seam and doesn't make big yardage after the catch but has developed into a consistent pass catcher with good hands. Has decent speed but lacks some height – looks like a potential H-Back type at the NFL level. Will be over 25 years old when the 2024 regular season starts.

Age: 24.88. Ht/Wt: 6-2 5%, 243 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 17. Isaac Rex (BYU)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #313 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at BYU, appearing in 52 games, with 38 starts, recording 112 receptions for 1,385 yards (12.4 average) and 24 touchdowns. Rex has excellent size and length for the position and is a good blocker who is also an effective receiver (particularly on short and intermediate routes). Lacks the speed to challenge defenses down the field. Huge red zone threat. Will be over 26 years old when the 2024 NFL regular season starts which will hurt his draft chances.

Age: 25.73. Ht/Wt: 6-6, 255 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 18. McCallan Castles (Tennessee)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #327 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons (but just 5 games) at Cal, before transferring to Cal-Davis for the 2020 season. Played 3 seasons at Cal-Davis (his best being 2022, when he caught 30 passes) before transferring again for the 2023 season. Played for Tennessee in 2023, catching 22 passes. Across his college career, Castles played in 46 games (26 starts), catching 92 passes for 1,226 yards and 14 touchdowns. Castles is tall and has the frame to add more bulk. Is a better receiver than blocker but his production probably hasn't matched his potential at this stage.

Age: 24.40. Ht/Wt: 6-4, 244 (pro day). 40: n/a.

#### 19. Austin Stogner (Oklahoma)

Likely undrafted free agent. Is #352 overall on our draft board.

Played 3 seasons at Oklahoma (2019-21) and then transferred to South Carolina, where he played just one season (2022). Transferred back to Oklahoma for the 2023 season. Across his college career, Stogner played in 59 games, with 33 starts, recording 84 receptions for 1,085 yards (12.9 average) and 10 touchdowns. Suffered an injury in 2020, followed by a staph infection, which saw him lose 35 pounds. Great size. Athletic. Physical. Excellent receiver. Has lined up both as an in-line tight end and split out wide.

Age: 24.29. Ht/Wt: 6-6, 254 (pro day). 40: 4.85 (pro day)

#### 20. Zach Heins (South Dakota State)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #369 overall on our draft board.

In 6 seasons at SDSU, Heins played in 60 games. Recorded 95 receptions for 1,252 yards (13.2 average) and 18 touchdowns. Prior to 2023, Heins was one half of a fine tight end tandem at SDSU, alongside Packers 2023 draftee Tucker Kraft.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 6-6 1/8, 259 (pro day), 40: 4.97 (pro day).

#### 21. Mason Fairchild (Kansas)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #378 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons at Kansas, Fairchild played in 58 games, with 38 starts. Recorded 82 receptions for 1,111 yards (13.6 average) and 10 touchdowns. Had productive 2022 and 2023 seasons.

Age: 22.66. Ht/Wt: n/a. 40: n/a.

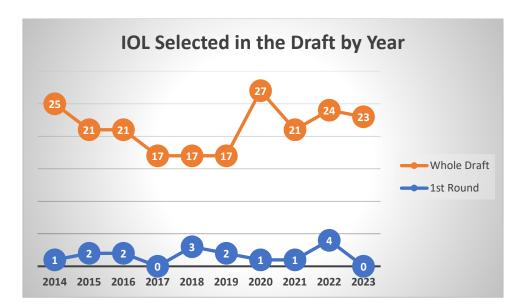
# INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

**General Draft Outlook:** This is a really good group of interior offensive linemen as compared to the norm, and the depth runs quite deep.

At the top of the draft, 2-3 interior offensive linemen could be selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round. Troy Fautanu should be off the board around pick 15-20 but he is a guard/tackle who may well actually get his first shot at tackle at the next level. Conversely, Graham Barton played most of his college career at tackle but is likely to move inside in the NFL, and he'll probably be selected towards the end of round 1. Jackson Powers-Johnson (center) should also be chosen towards the end of round 1.

Zach Frazier (center) and Cooper Beebe (guard) should be 2<sup>nd</sup> round picks, while guards Christian Haynes, Dominick Puni and Christian Mahogony plus center Sedrick Van Pran should all be off the board before day 2 is complete.

An intriguing player for teams in this draft is Michigan guard Zak Zinter, who is recovering from a late season injury. He could fall a little into day 3.



Prediction: Around 25 interior offensive linemen will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** The interior of the Packers line currently includes Josh Myers at center and Elgton Jenkins, Sean Rhyan, and Royce Newman at guard (after John Runyan Jr. moved on in free agency). So, there is definitely room for adding talent here. Graham Barton (who is likely to move to center or guard in the NFL) could be a big candidate to be the Packers 1<sup>st</sup> round pick. Into round 2 or round 3, Christian Haynes looks like he has the attributes to fit the Packers offense. Later in the draft, Javion Cohen or Trevor Keegan could be the pick.

# **TOP INTERIOR OFFENSIVE LINEMEN**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Troy Fautanu	OG/OT	Washington	1
2.	Jackson Powers-Johnson	OC	Oregon	1
3.	Graham Barton	OC/OG/OT	Duke	1-2
4.	Zach Frazier	OC/OG	West Virginia	2
5.	Cooper Beebe	OG	Kansas State	2
6.	Christian Haynes	OG	Connecticut	2-3
7.	Dominick Puni	OG	Kansas	3
8.	Sedrick Van Pran-Granger	OC	Georgia	3
9.	Zak Zinter	OG	Michigan	3
10.	Christian Mahogany	OG	Boston College	3
11.	Beaux Limmer	OC/OG	Arkansas	3-4
12.	Mason McCormick	OG	South Dakota State	4-5
13.	Isaiah Adams	OG/OT	Illinois	4-5
14.	Tanor Bortolini	OC	Wisconsin	4-5
15.	Sataoa Laumea	OG	Utah	4-5
16.	Javion Cohen	OG	Miami, Fla	4-5
17.	Layden Robinson	OG	Texas A&M	4-5
18.	Drake Nugent	OC	Michigan	6-7
19.	Hunter Nourzad	OC	Penn State	6-7
20.	Trevor Keegan	OG	Michigan	6-7
21.	Dylan McMahon	OC/OG	North Carolina State	6-7
22.	Andrew Raym	OC/OG	Oklahoma	6-7
23.	Matt Lee	OC	Miami, Fla	6-7
24.	K.T. Leveston	OG/OT	Kansas State	6-7
25.	Kingsley Eguakun	OC	Florida	6-7
26.	C.J. Hanson	OG	Holy Cross	7-UDFA
27.	Charles Turner III	OC/OG	LSU	7-UDFA
28.	Trente Jones	OG	Michigan	7-UDFA
29.	Jalen Sundell	OC	North Dakota State	UDFA
30.	Jarrett Kingston	OG	USC	UDFA
31.	Matthew Jones	OG	Ohio State	UDFA
32.	Keaton Bills	OG	Utah	UDFA
33.	X'Zauvea Gadlin	OG	Liberty	UDFA
34.	Nick Gargiulo	OC	South Carolina	UDFA
35.	Jacob Monk	OC	Duke	UDFA
36.	Nick Samac	OC	Michigan State	UDFA
37.	Donovan Jennings	OG/OT	South Florida	UDFA
38.	Brady Latham	OG	Arkansas	UDFA
39.	Clark Barrington	OC/OG	Baylor	UDFA
40.	Prince Pines	OG	Tulane	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

<b>-</b>	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Bryan Hudson	OC	Louisville	UDFA
42.	Will Putnam	OC/OG	Clemson	UDFA
43.	Michael Jurgens	OC	Wake Forest	UDFA
44.	Kyle Hergel	OC/OG	Boston College	UDFA
45.	Willis Patrick	OG	TCU	UDFA
46.	Doug Nester	OG	West Virginia	UDFA
47.	Elijah Klein	OG	UTEP	UDFA
48.	Duke Clemens	OC	UCLA	UDFA
49.	Darrian Dalcourt	OC	Alabama	UDFA
50.	Steven Jones	OG	Oregon	UDFA
51.	Sincere Haynesworth	OC	Tulane	UDFA
52.	J.D. Duplain	OG	Michigan State	UDFA
53.	Lokahi Pauole	OG	UCF	UDFA
54.	McKade Mettauer	OG	Oklahoma	UDFA
55.	Kenneth Horsey	OG	Kentucky	UDFA
56.	Justin Dedich	OG	USC	UDFA
57.	Jake Levengood	OC	Oregon State	UDFA
58.	Mike Novitsky	OC	Kansas	UDFA
59.	Jake Hornibrook	OG/OT	Duke	UDFA
60.	Michael Furtney	OG	Wisconsin	UDFA
61.	Alexx "Bula" Schmidt	OC	UCF	UDFA
62.	Avery Jones	OC	Auburn	UDFA
63.	Bucky Williams	OG	Appalachian State	UDFA
64.	Rusty Staats	OC	Texas Tech	UDFA
65.	Corey Bullock	OG	Maryland	UDFA
66.	Corey Gaynor	OC	North Carolina	UDFA
67.	Kam Stutts	OG	Auburn	UDFA
68.	Jake Kubas	OG	North Dakota State	UDFA
69.	Christopher Bleich	OG	Syracuse	UDFA
70.	Jacob Likes	OC	Memphis	UDFA
71.	John Lanz	OC	TCU	UDFA
72.	Andrew Meyer	OC	UTEP	UDFA
73.	Nouredin Nouili	OG	Nebraska	UDFA
74.	D'Mitri Emmanuel	OG	FSU	UDFA
75.	Jacob Johanning	OG	Furman	UDFA
76.	Donny Ventrelli	OG	North Dakota State	UDFA
77.	Preston Nichols	OG	Purdue	UDFA
78.	Connor Scaglione	OG	Georgia Tech	UDFA
79.	Wade Meacham	OG	Utah State	UDFA
80.	Xavier Delgado	OG	Missouri	UDFA
81.	Dalton Tucker	OG	USC	UDFA
82.	Jack Freeman	00	Houston	UDFA
83.	Jalen Cunningham	OG	Arkansas State	UDFA
84.	Jake Kradel	OG	Pittsburgh	UDFA
85.	Matt Cindric	OC	California	UDFA

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

# THE TOP IOL BY POSITION

### TOP CENTERS

- 1. JACKSON POWERS-JOHNSON
- 2. GRAHAM BARTON\*
- **3. ZACH FRAZIER\***
- 4. SEDRICK VAN PRAN-GRANGER
- 5. BEAUX LIMMER\*
- 6. TANOR BORTOLINI
- 7. DRAKE NUGENT
- 8. HUNTER NOURZAD
- 9. DYLAN MCMAHON\*
- **10. ANDREW RAYM\***
- **11. MATT LEE**
- **12. KINGSLEY EGUAKUN**
- **13. CHARLES TURNER III\***
- **14. JALEN SUNDELL**
- **15. NICK GARGIULO**
- **16. JACOB MONK**
- **17. NICK SAMAC**
- **18. CLARK BARRINGTON\***
- **19. BRYAN HUDSON**
- **20. WILL PUTNAM\***

### **TOP GUARDS**

- **1. TROY FAUTANU**
- 2. GRAHAM BARTON\*
- **3. ZACH FRAZIER\***
- 4. COOPER BEEBE
- 5. CHRISTIAN HAYNES
- 6. DOMINICK PUNI
- 7. ZAK ZINTER
- 8. CHRISTIAN MAHOGANY
- 9. BEAUX LIMMER\*
- **10. MASON MCCORMICK**
- **11. ISAIAH ADAMS**
- **12. SATAOA LAUMEA**
- **13. JAVION COHEN**
- **14. LAYDEN ROBINSON**
- **15. TREVOR KEEGAN**
- **16. DYLAN MCMAHON\***
- **17. ANDREW RAYM\***
- 18.K.T. LEVESTON
- 19.C.J. HANSON
- **20. CHARLES TURNER III\***
- **21. TRENTE JONES**
- **22. JARRETT KINGSTON**
- **23. MATTHEW JONES**
- **24. KEATON BILLS**
- **25. X'ZAUVEA GADLIN**
- **26. DONOVAN JENNINGS**
- **27. BRADY LATHAM**
- **28. CLARK BARRINGTON\***
- **29. PRINCE PINES**
- **30. WILL PUTNAM\***

Players with asterisks after their name appear on both lists

# **TROY FAUTANU (Washington)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Nevada, playing volleyball and football. Won all-state, all-region, and all-league honours for his play on the offensive line. Opted to play his college ball at Washington.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2019, before the 2020 season was limited to just 4 games because of the pandemic. Didn't play early in 2021, before then playing mainly as a back-up. However, he come through to start 2 games at left tackle and 1 at left guard. Became the full-time starter in 2022 – starting 12 times at left tackle and filled in once as the starter at left guard. Suffered a shoulder injury during the season but played through the pain. Had a fine 2023 playing left tackle, earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team All-American recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 4 playing seasons at Washington, Fautanu played in 40 games with 31 starts – 29 at left tackle and 2 at left guard.

OG/OT

IOL #1

Overall #17

Round 1

Class: Senior

Age: 23.54

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 317 (combine)

40: 501 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Morris Trophy winner (Best Offensive Lineman in the Pac 12). **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2020** Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Fautanu is a strong, physical, and athletic offensive lineman with lots of experience playing the left tackle spot as well as having had a little time playing guard. Has close to prototypical size for playing the guard spot at the next level, while having decent size for an offensive tackle – lacks just a little bit of height but his arm length is good enough (34 ½ inches).

Fautanu is very mobile and is excellent leading out in front of running backs when moving laterally before heading upfield. Looks for, and finds, defenders to block. While mobility is his forte in the running game, he is still a solid straight ahead drive blocker.

Is good in pass protection, moves quickly, sets a solid anchor, and can then re-set his feet well to mirror defenders. Those feet are really light for such a big man. Can, on occasion, be inconsistent with his hand placement, so maybe a little bit of work required here.

Fautanu brings toughness to the offensive line and will fight and maul if necessary to "win" his block.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Although Fautanu played both offensive tackle and guard in college, the vast majority of his time was spent at the tackle spot and his combine performance will surely have solidified his chances of being seen as a tackle first. However, it's likely that some teams will still see him as a guard in the NFL. It's also possible that he starts at guard and then moves to tackle at the pro level. Whichever position Fautanu ends up primarily playing, he will bring added versatility to the table – something all teams will love. There are some areas that require development, but Fautanu is really good already and will only get better. If he ends up at the right position he should be a decade long starter in the NFL and has All-Pro potential. Likely a mid-1<sup>st</sup> round pick.

### **JACKSON POWERS-JOHNSON (Oregon)**

OC **Misc:** Multi-sport athlete in high school in Utah, wrestling and playing baseball as well as being an outstanding center on the gridiron, **IOL #2** earning numerous accolades. Opted to play his college ball Oregon. In his true freshman season (2021), Powers-Johnson played in **Overall #24** multiple spots, including a single start at each of right guard, left guard and defensive tackle. Played well mainly as a back-up in 2022 (1 Round 1 start at right guard). Had a huge breakout season in 2023, becoming Class: Junior the starting center and having an outstanding year as he earned Unanimous All-American honours. Age: 21.26 College Stats: In his 3 seasons at Oregon, Powers-Johnson played in Ht/Wt: 6-3, 328 (combine) 35 games, starting in 17. His starts came at 4 different positions – 13 40: n/a at center, 2 at right guard, 1 at left guard and 1 at defensive tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Rimington Trophy winner. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

Recorded 2 tackles while playing on defense.

**Analysis:** Powers-Johnson is a nicely sized center, coming off a really good year. He is still young (just over 21 years old) and is developing extremely quickly. In addition to his time at center, he has also played both guard spots.

When watching Powers-Johnson over a large number of plays, the first word that comes to mind is "consistency" – he doesn't always dominate but will simply grade out at a good level on just about every play. Is an all-out, play to the whistle, type guy.

Powers-Johnson has good feet, getting out of his stance at speed and getting his hands up on defensive linemen quickly. He also invariably gets those hands in a really good position. That ability is really impressive.

Powers-Johnson appears to be almost equally adept as both a run blocker and pass protector. In the running game he can move well laterally as well as being a solid, straight ahead, drive blocker who holds his own without knocking defenders off their feet. Is really good in pass protection, setting a quick and solid anchor. Can also re-set his feet quickly and is also smart in picking up blitzes.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has only one full year (2023) of starting experience at the college level, but Powers-Johnson has improved throughout his college career, and it came as no surprise when he had a nice week at the Senior Bowl. He is without doubt one of the players who has made the biggest leap forward in 2023, and the signs are that there is more to come. And he is versatile, with chances to play at guard as well as at center. Powers-Johnson looks like he could enter the NFL and become a starter relatively quickly. Should be the first pure center off the board, somewhere around picks 20-25 overall.

### **GRAHAM BARTON (Duke)**

Misc: Earned all-state and all-region recognition in high school in Tennessee. Chose to play his college ball at Duke.

When Duke suffered injuries at the center position in 2020, Barton stepped in to start the final 5 games – playing well and earning some freshman All-American notice. Moved to his preferred left tackle spot in 2021, starting every game. Barton was outstanding at that spot in 2022 and then had yet another excellent season in 2023, despite missing 3 games due to a lower body injury. Earned all-conference recognition and some All-American notice for both the 2022 & 2023.

College Stats: In 4 seasons at Duke, Barton played in 40 games (39 starts). 34 of those starts came at left tackle, with 5 coming at center.

Honours & Awards: 2023 & 2022 Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 Duke team Offensive Lineman of the Year Award winner. CSC Academic All-District. 2022 & 2021 Academic All-ACC. 2021 Mike Suglia Award winner. 2020 The Athletic 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Freshman All-American. Sonny Falcone Award winner.

Analysis: Barton is an athletic, productive, and highly experienced player with the versatility and potential to play almost any spot on the offensive line. He lacks a little weight, and his arms may be slightly short – so he may be best suited to play inside. Barton is a smart player who works hard at his game and plays hard on every down.

Playing predominantly at left tackle in college, Barton has developed into a fine pass protector. He sets a solid anchor and has a nice punch with quick hands. Barton has light feet and good balance and is able to mirror pass rushers and re-set when he has to. Doesn't give up on a pass block and has good recovery capability.

Barton is improving as a run blocker and uses his athleticism, speed, and agility to work laterally and angle block in the running game. Uses those same attributes to climb to the second level. Doesn't have overwhelming strength and power and therefore doesn't dominate as straight-ahead drive blocker but will scrap and maul if necessary to get the job done.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Opted to return to school for the 2023 season rather than enter last year's draft. Missed the Senior Bowl due to injury, which was slightly disappointing as it would have been interesting to see him work at multiple positions. Nonetheless, it seems likely that he may project to the interior of the offensive line in the NFL rather than tackle, not least because of his lack of arm length. But there may also be teams that will see him as a tackle first. If he does play on the interior, Barton has the potential to develop into a really top notch starter at either center or guard and could become a Pro Bowl calibre player. He looks like a player who would interest the Packers, both from a versatility point of view and because he looks like a fit for a zone blocking running scheme. Expect him to be off the board towards the end of 1<sup>st</sup> round or perhaps early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

# **IOL #3 Overall #27**

OC/OG/OT

Round 1-2

Class: Senior

Age: 21.90

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 313 (combine)

40: 4.84 (pro day)

### ZACH FRAZIER (West Virginia)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in West Virginia, excelling as a wrestler – multi-time state champion - as well as on the football field where he earned all-state honours. Opted to play his college ball close to home at West Virginia University.

Became the starting left guard in 2020, gaining some true freshman All-American notice. Moved to center for 2021 and responded with an outstanding season, earning some All-American recognition. Again, started every game at center in 2022, garnering all-conference honours. Was excellent in 2023, starting every game at center and earning some 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American honours. Sadly, suffered a leg injury late in November, which was reported as being a broken leg.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at WVU, Frazier played in 47 games (46 starts). 37 of his starts came at center and 9 came at left guard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** CFN, USA Today, The Athletic & SI 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. **2023 & 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. **2022** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. Garrett Ford Academic Honor Roll. **2022 & 2021** Academic All-Big 12. **2021** Walter Camp & AFCA 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. **2020** 247Sports & ESPN True Freshman All-American. Academic All-Big 12 Rookie Team. Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Frazier is an athletic and highly experienced interior lineman who is a team leader type. He brings some positional versatility to his play, having played the majority of his time at center but also spending time at guard. Has a nicely sized frame, although perhaps is just under the ideal height for the interior.

Frazier is a physical, aggressive, and competitive lineman who plays with all-out effort on every down – he's the kind of guy who continues to block until the whistle. Will use his high school wrestling skills to maul defenders.

Frazier is a good run blocker who is a strong straight ahead drive blocker thanks to getting great low leverage on defenders. Has the movement ability and athleticism to climb to the second level and the aggressiveness to continue to look for somebody to block.

Is also good in pass protection. Has quick feet, the ability to get his hands up on defensive tackles really smartly after the snap and plays with good knee bend. Sets a solid anchor and can move his feet to mirror defenders.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Frazier was limited at the Senior Bowl as he continued to rehab his late season injury but then put on a fine display at the combine – in the process, both solidifying his spot as one of the top interior offensive linemen and demonstrating that he had moved beyond that injury. While he lacks a little bit of height, Frazier is a good and very consistent player who should become a starting interior lineman in the NFL, most likely at center. Expect him to be off the board on day 2, probably early to midway through round 2.

IOL #4 Overall #44 Round 2 Class: Senior

OC/OG

Age: 22.66

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 313 (combine)

40: n/a

### **COOPER BEEBE (Kansas State)**

**Misc:** Earned all-state honours in a solid high school career in Kansas City. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at Kansas State.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019) after playing in just 2 games. Became a starter in the truncated pandemic hit 2020 season, starting 7 times at right tackle and once at left guard. Settled into the left tackle spot in 2021, starting every game and earning all-conference honours. Moved inside for the 2022 season, starting every game at left guard and earning some All-American recognition for his outstanding performance. Moved back out to left tackle in 2023 and had the best season of his career, earning Consensus All-American honours.

OG

IOL #5

#### Overall #53

#### Round 2

Class: Senior

Age: 22.94

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 322 (combine)

40: 5.03 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Kansas State, Beebe played in 51 games, starting in 48. 26 of his starts came at left tackle, 15 at left guard and 7 at right tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Offensive Lineman of the Year. Outland Trophy finalist. William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. Lombardi Award semi-finalist. CSC Academic All-American. **2022** Fox Sports, ESPN, The Sporting News & The Athletic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Offensive Lineman of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. CSC Academic All-District. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention Big 12 Offensive Lineman of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. **2020** 1<sup>st</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Beebe is a physically strong and highly experienced offensive lineman who has consistently produced throughout his college career. Brings great versatility having started games at both tackle spots and at guard. Nice size for the guard spot but lacks the ideal height to play tackle.

Beebe is a nice run blocker who uses his strength and power to shift defensive linemen in the straight ahead, drive blocking, game. He also has decent athleticism and can move laterally to lead in the running game.

Beebe is a solid in pass protection, using his hands well and setting a solid anchor. If he gets his hands gripped on pass rushers he won't get beaten but he can struggle at times with speed rushers round the edge.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Beebe took huge steps forward during his college career, developing into a really good allround player. He is a sound blocker for both the run and pass games, although he needs to continue to work on dealing with speed rushers – this development need coupled with a slight lack of height means that Beebe appears to be more of fit to play guard rather than tackle in the NFL. Nonetheless, Beebe should quickly become a fine guard at the pro level and become a long-time starter. Expect him to be off the board on day 2.

# **CHRISTIAN HAYNES (Connecticut)**

**Misc:** Nice high school career in Maryland, where he earned allregion and all-league honours for his play on the offensive line. Opted to play his college ball at Connecticut.

Saw very little action as a true freshman in 2018. Earned the starting right guard job for the 2019 season. Unfortunately, Haynes didn't play during 2020 as UConn's season was cancelled due to the pandemic. Started every game in 2021. Was outstanding in 2022, again starting every game, and earning All-American recognition. Had a similar excellent year in 2023, again earning some All-American recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 5 playing seasons at UConn, Haynes played in 51 games (49 starts). All of his starts came at right guard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Independent. **2022** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Independent.

**Analysis:** Haynes is a very experienced but underrated lineman who is an excellent guard with but the potential versatility to also play center. Has high level athleticism and agility and can really move for such a big man. Is slightly under height for today's interior lineman but has close to the ideal body shape and bulk for an interior offensive lineman.

Haynes plays with good knee bend and has the long arms that you would normally see in an offensive tackle - this helps him in pass protection where he is really sound. Sets a good anchor and has quick hands with a strong punch. Has smooth and light foot movement which allows him to mirror and recover when necessary.

In the running game, Haynes has some strength and power as a straight ahead blocker but is at his dominant best on the move, where he can show his athleticism and agility, leading the back laterally as a pulling guard.

When moving at speed, Haynes can be seen simply blowing defenders away. That aforementioned athleticism enables him to get out to the second level and pick off linebackers and defensive backs.

Haynes is an explosive, aggressive and big hustle guy who plays to the whistle on every down and he is constantly looking for defenders to block.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Haynes has been an outstanding guard at UConn, dominating his opposition but he has perhaps gone a little under the radar – possibly due to playing outside of the Power 5 and Group of 5 conferences. There may raise the question as to whether he could have been as dominant, as he has been, at the highest level of FBS football - and of course, can he do it at the pro level? Despite that, Haynes has great potential and with his athleticism and movement skills in the running game he should become a starter by his second season (if not earlier). Haynes could be a great scheme fit for the Packers. Expect him to be selected on day 2.

OG

IOL #6

**Overall #60** 

Round 2-3

Class: Super Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 317 (combine)

40: 5.03 (combine)

### **DOMINICK PUNI (Kansas)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete in high school in Missouri, playing volleyball and taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Played on both sides of the line. Opted to play his college ball at Central Missouri.

Part time starter at right tackle as a true freshman in 2018, before earning the full-time starting spot at left tackle for the 2019 season. Did not play in 2020, as Central Missouri's season was cancelled due to the pandemic and then played just 2 games in 2021 – missing the remainder of the season due to injury. Moved to Kansas prior to the 2022 season. Won a starting role at left guard in 2022 and responded with a nice season. Moved to left tackle for 2023, having a very good year and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

College Stats: Central Missouri: In his 3 (playing) seasons, Puni played

in 22 games (16 starts). 13 of his starts came at left tackle, with the other 3 coming at right tackle. Kansas: In his 2 seasons, Puni played and started in 25 games. 13 of his starts came at left guard, with the other 12 coming at left tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Big 12. 2019 Honorable Mention All-MIAA.

**Analysis:** Puni is a fine offensive lineman who is highly experienced and has really good size. Brings a nice amount of versatility to the table, having played guard and both tackle positions. Has some athleticism and agility for a man of his size.

Puni is an excellent run blocker, especially when on the move. He moves well laterally along the line and can lead running backs on pulls. Then has the ability to turn upfield at nice speed at find linebackers and safeties to block. Is also as solid straight-ahead drive blocker who has good technique and some strength and power to go along with it.

Puni is improving in pass protection but still has some inconsistencies. Sets a solid anchor, has decent foot movement and a solid punch. But can struggle when playing tackle when he oversets to the outside and gets beaten inside. Has slightly less than ideal arm length to play pro tackle.

Puni plays with the great attitude that you need on the offensive line. He plays hard, down in, down out and keeps going to the end of the play.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Will be over 24 years old on draft day. Puni is a fine run blocker and a developing pass protector. He has really good versatility and while he has spent more time at tackle than at guard in college, he best projects to guard at the NFL level (height, arm length, pass protection). Puni should become a solid NFL player, with the potential to be a starter at guard around year 2 (and covering multiple positions). Expect him to be off the board on day 2 – probably in round 2.

OG

IOL #7

Overall #81

Round 3

Class: Super Senior

Age: 24.17

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 313 (combine)

40: 5.35 (combine)

### SEDRICK VAN PRAN-GRANGER (Georgia)

**Misc:** Also known as Sedrick Van Pran. Had an excellent high school career in Louisiana playing center. Opted to play his college ball at Georgia, picking the Bulldogs over a number of other FBS schools including his home state LSU.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2020), playing in just 4 games. Won the starting center role for every game in 2021. As the starter again in every game in 2022, Van Pran played even better and earned some all-conference recognition. Very good in 2023, earning some All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Georgia, Van Pran played in 48 games, with 44 starts – all of those starts coming at the center position.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** ESPN & SI 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Rimington Trophy finalist. SEC Jacobs Blocking Trophy winner. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Van Pran is a highly experienced, intelligent, and all-round solid center who brings a great attitude to the game. He has really good size and length – did somebody say prototypical? – to play the center position.

Van Pran has a positive attitude and is a very smart football player who was a team leader on two National Championship winning teams. Utilises his experience and smarts as a blocker, helping his team-mates and recognising defensive line games and blitzes.

He is also a hard worker who plays with lots of effort on every down.

Van Pran has decent strength and physicality, but his play is highlighted by his excellent athleticism and agility - and these really show when he is blocking for the running game. He gets moving laterally really quickly after the snap and blocks really well laterally along the line. Van Pran works well in space as he can really move and convert speed into power. Will turn upfield at speed and block linebackers and safeties.

Is solid in pass protection where he is more of a technician than he is a physically dominant blocker. Van Pran uses his hands and long arms well but can give up some ground to bull rushing nose tackles – however, he rarely gets completely beaten, as he is competitive and has recovery skills – he doesn't give up.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Van Pran perhaps surprised slightly by opting to return to school for the 2023 season rather than declare for the 2023 draft, but his really good season helped solidify and probably improve his 2024 draft stock. He is a sound all-round center whose attitude, work ethic and smarts will be loved by NFL teams, as will his really good athleticism and agility. Van Pran is a fine prospect who could become a long-term NFL starter. Expect him to be off the board at some point on day 2.

IOL #8

OC

#### **Overall #83**

#### Round 3

Class: Senior

Age: 22.51

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 3 298 (combine)

40: 5.20 (combine)

### ZAK ZINTER (Michigan)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Massachusetts, taking part in the shot put as well as playing football. Had a fine high school football career, earning all-state and all-conference honours. Opted to play his college ball at Michigan.

As a true freshman in the 2020 season, Zinter started in 4 games at right guard. Had a fine 2021 season, starting 12 games (at right guard) and earning some all-conference recognition. Perhaps was even better in 2022, again earning all-conference honours, starting all 14 games at right guard. Had an outstanding 2023 season before unfortunately suffering a bad injury right near the end of the 2023 season – breaking both his tibia and fibula. Nonetheless, was still named as a Unanimous All-American.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Michigan, Zinter played in 45 games (42 starts). All of his starts came at the right guard spot.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. CSC 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-American. Part of Joe Moore Award winning offensive line (nation's top offensive line). Academic All-Big 10. **2021** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Part of Joe Moore Award winning offensive line (nation's top offensive line). Academic All-Big 10. CACADE Award winning offensive line (nation's top offensive line). Academic All-Big 10. 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Part of Joe Moore Award winning offensive line (nation's top offensive line).

**Analysis:** Zinter is a really tall, well-proportioned offensive lineman who had an excellent college career, despite the injury he suffered near the end of 2023. He is physically imposing, and that height is very unusual for the guard position.

Zinter is really good in pass protection. He uses his hands very well, getting a strong punch on defensive linemen. Zinter has long arms for a guard and uses them to create leverage and keep pass rushers away. Is really strong and won't get overpowered by bull rushing defensive tackles.

As a run blocker Zinter nicely combines his technique, strength, and movement ability to be very solid in the running game. He has a nice first step and his power enables him straight ahead drive block with some success. Also has some athleticism and that aforementioned first step allows him to quickly move laterally and lead running plays to the outside. Looks physically imposing especially when on the move.

Is a hard-working, team leader type of guy.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

End of season injury probably hurt his draft position however reports appear to be really good with regard to his rehab and recovery. At what point in 2024 he'll be ready to go remains to be seen, but there's the possibility with Zinter that a team may get a bargain with him if he drops too far because of the injury. The range for where Zinter could be selected is probably anywhere between rounds 3 and 4, but with his physical profile, athleticism, and production, Zinter can become a starter at the NFL level.

OG

**IOL #9** 

#### Overall #92

### Round 3

Class: Senior

Age: 23.03

Ht/Wt: 6-6, 309 (combine)

40: n/a

### **CHRISTIAN MAHOGANY (Boston College)**

**Misc:** Mahogony had a solid high school career in New Jersey. Opted to play his college ball at Boston College.

Didn't play as a true freshman in 2019, redshirting the season. The following year Mahogany won the starting left guard role for the Eagles, starting every game. Moved to right guard and had an outstanding 2021 season in which he earned some All-American recognition. Unfortunately tore an ACL in the summer of 2022, which required surgery and caused him to miss the whole season. Bounced back in 2023 with a really nice season, earning 1<sup>st</sup> Team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 playing seasons at Boston College, Mahogany played in (34 starts). 23 of his starts came at right guard, with the other 11 coming at left guard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. **2021** PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. All-New England Team.

**Analysis:** Mahogony is a tough, physical, and mauling type of guard with solid starting experience gained playing at both guard spots. He is a big-bodied player who has the look of an interior offensive lineman. Perhaps is just slightly under the modern ideal height for the interior offensive line.

Mahogony is a really good, versatile blocker in the running game. He is strong at the point of attack and will maul and shift defensive linemen. Will utilise his power and strength as a straight ahead drive blocker. Has the athletic ability and agility for such a big man to move some laterally along the line as well, leading running backs to the outside.

In pass protection Mahogony sets a solid anchor, has a good knee bend, and uses his hands really well. Can mirror and reset. Is aggressive and sometimes can get in trouble with pass rushers who have double moves.

Mahogony is a competitive hard worker who plays with great attitude. He plays with all-out effort on every down – keeps going until the whistle, always looking for the next defender to block.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Mahogony has been a really good player throughout his college career despite the 2022 ACL injury. Followed up by helping his draft status with a nice performance at the East-West Bowl game practices. There's no reason to suspect that there are any long term problems from that 2022 injury - after all, he came back to play really well – but NFL teams will still do their due diligence. Assuming that all is ok, teams are going to really like his combination of attitude, size, and athleticism. There are some areas that require development, particularly in pass protection but Mahogony should still be able to come in and contribute quickly at the NFL level and become a starter by his second year. Expect him to be off the board on day 2.

IOL #10 Overall #98 Round 3 Class: Senior Age: 23.54 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 314 (combine)

OG

40: 5.13 (combine)

### **BEAUX LIMMER (Arkansas)**

**High School:** Solid high school career as an offensive tackle in Tyler, Texas. Chose to play his college ball at Arkansas, spurning offers from other FBS schools including some which would have kept him in his home state of Texas.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019), playing in 4 games. Made 5 starts at right guard in the pandemic affected 2020 season. Started 11 games in 2021 and earned some all-conference notice. Had a fine 2022 season, as he started 12 games at right guard and a 1 at center and garnered some All-American recognition. Played the majority of the 2023 season at center.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Arkansas, Limmer played in 48 games, with 41 starts. 28 of his starts came at right guard, 1 at left guard and 12 at center.

**Honours & Awards: 2022** PFF 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2021** PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2019** First Year SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Limmer is a highly experienced (48 games/40 starts) and very versatile interior lineman (having played both center and both guard spots) who plays with some power and strength and athleticism. Lacks a little bulk but has the frame to perhaps add some more weight.

Limmer is a good run blocker, who has some power and will get some movement as a drive blocker – and also use a little agility to climb to the second level. He has good feet and mobility which allows him to move laterally along the line as a lead blocker, with enough quickness to get to the outside.

Limmer is decent in pass protection, where he sets a solid anchor and can hold his own at the point – he has good hand use, with a punch, placement, and hand strength. Can struggle at times with quick and really athletic pass rushers, and those pass rushers that will leverage their long arms, but Limmer keeps going even when he appears beaten – has some recovery ability. Is smart in picking up defensive line games.

Limmer is a rough, tough competitive lineman who plays with a great attitude. He keeps going to the whistle, always looking for somebody to block.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Limmer has been consistent and dependable throughout his college career, and he may be a little underrated up to this point. Regardless, NFL scouts will love Limmer's interior versatility, and he could end up playing either center or guard at the next level. Limmer is a solid athlete with some potential who at the very least should become a very sound, multi-position, rotation and back-up guard and center at the NFL level with a chance to challenge for a starting role in time. Expect him to be selected late on day 2 or early on day 3.

### OC/OG

IOL #11

#### Overall #113

### Round 3-4

Class: Senior

Age: 22.88

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 302 (combine)

40: 5.22 (combine)

### MASON McCORMICK (South Dakota State)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in South Dakota, taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at South Dakota State.

Redshirted his true freshman season at SDU (2018), playing in 3 games. Played most of 2019 as a back-up, starting 2 games at left guard. Won the starting left guard role for the 2020 season (played in the Spring of 2021 due to the pandemic) and he remained the starter at that spot for the rest of his college career (57 consecutive starts). Played really well in each year from 2020 through to 2023, earning FCS All-American honours in every season.

**College Stats:** In his 6 seasons at SDSU, McCormick played in 70 games, with 57 starts. All of his starts came at left guard.

Honours & Awards: 2023 AP FCS All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MVFC. 2022 AP FCS All-American.
1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MVFC. CSC Academic All-District. 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019 & 2018 MVFC Honor Roll.
2021 HERO Sports FCS All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-MVFC. 2020 (played in Spring 2021) 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MVFC. HERO Sports FCS All-American. HERO Sports FCS Sophomore All-American. 2021, 2020 & 2019 MVFC Commissioner's Academic Excellence Award.

**Analysis:** McCormick is one of the most experienced players that you could hope to see coming into the draft – based on the number of games played (70) and the number of starts (57), albeit these games were played at the FCS level. Has just about prototypical size to play the guard position in the NFL.

McCormick is a nice run blocker who is probably at his best on the move, showing his athletic ability and agility. Can pull and lead block for runners. Can hold his own at the point without dominating.

In pass protection, McCormick sets a solid anchor and plays aggressively, with nice hand usage. Bull rushers probably give him a little more trouble than speedy quick guys, but McCormick is an all-round good pass blocker. Against those quicker linemen, he moves his feet extremely well to re-set and can mirror.

McCormick is a hard-working player, who plays with all-out effort on every play and keeps going to the whistle to finish his blocks.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Playing at the FCS level, it was important for his draft status that McCormick put in good showings leading up to the draft – and he did exactly that, with an excellent performance at the East-West Shrine Bowl followed by a nice combine. McCormick is a really nice technician who should be able to develop even further with top level coaching. Expect him to make an NFL roster as a back-up (he played multiple positions on the line in high school, which may help him be a multi-positional rotational player), before potentially challenging for a starting role down the road. Should be a day 3 selection.

OG

IOL #12

Overall #123

Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior

Age: 22.92

Ht/Wt: 6-4 ½, 309 (combine)

40: 5.08 (combine)

### **ISAIAH ADAMS (Illinois)**

**Misc:** From Ontario, Canada. Multi-sport athlete in school in Ontario – playing rugby, basketball, and football. Had an honour winning, career on the offensive line. Enrolled at Wilfred Laurier University, Ontario.

After 2 years at Wilfred Laurier, Adams transferred to junior college in the US, where he played two seasons (spring 2021, deferred by the pandemic from 2020, and then fall 2021) at Garden City Community College, Kansas. Earned JUCO All-American honours. Moved to play football at the FBS level at Illinois in time for the 2022 season – choosing the Illini over a number of offers. Quickly earned a starting role at Illinois, starting 13 games (12 at guard, 1 at tackle). Started all 12 games in 2023, this time predominantly at tackle (10 at RT, 2 at LG). Earned honorable mention all-conference honours in both 2022 and 2023. OG/OT

IOL #13

Overall #132

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 23.76

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 315 (combine)

40: 5.22 (combine)

**College Stats: Garden City CC**: In 2 seasons at Garden City CC, he played in 19 games. **Illinois:** In 2 seasons, Adams played and started in 25 games – 14 at LG, 10 at RT and 1 at LT.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Illinois Team Illini Power Award winner. Part of Illinois team offensive line which was Joe Moore Award semi-finalist. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team NJCAA D1 All-American.

**Analysis:** Adams is an experienced interior offensive lineman – although over 40% of his college games came at the Community College level. Nonetheless, 2 years as starter in the Big 10, has given him plenty of high-level college playing time. Adams has plenty of versatility having played at both tackle spots and at guard, although his size makes him look more like a guard than tackle at the next level..

Adams is currently a more accomplished run blocker than pass protector – although his pass blocking has improved. Plays with a tough, all-out mentality and will keep blocking to the whistle. Will battle and maul in order to win his block or at least hold his own.

As a run blocker, Adams uses his explosive first step and decent athleticism to get off the ball quickly and get into the defensive lineman. He has some power straight ahead and can climb to the second level. Has some short space lateral movement capability.

In pass protection, Adams will set a solid anchor and is much better dealing with bull-rushers and power guys than he is trying to block linemen and linebackers with speed. Pass rushers with quickness around the edge can give him problems.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Starting his football career in Canada, Adams has had an interesting route to get to this point. He has developed well along the way which will encourage NFL teams to believe that there may be more to come. Those teams are going to be intrigued by his combination of decent size, decent athleticism, and versatility – although Adams looks like he would be more comfortable at guard at the next level (rather than at tackle). Expect him to be selected on day 3.

### **TANOR BORTOLINI (Wisconsin)**

**High School:** Attended high school in his hometown of Kewaunee, Wisconsin. Played on both sides of the ball (offensive line and defensive line) and won all-state recognition. Received offers from a number of other FBS schools, but Bortolini decided to stay home and play his college ball for the Badgers.

Playing on the offensive line, Bortolini redshirted his true freshman season at Wisconsin in 2020 (played in just 2 games, with 1 start). Became a part-time starter at guard in 2021. Became a full-time starter in 2022, playing both guard and center and earning some honourable mention all-conference notice (despite missing 2 games early due to a torn meniscus). Had probably the best season of his college career in 2023 as he started every game at center. OC

IOL #14

#### Overall #146

#### Round 4-5

Class: RS-Junior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-4 ¼, 303 (combine) 40: 4.94 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Wisconsin, Bortolini played in 35 games with 28 starts - 14 at center, 7 at left guard, 2 at right guard, 3 at right tackle and 2 at tight end.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. **2021** Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Bortolini is an athletic center who has good speed and a decent size profile (is tall, cold perhaps do with a little extra bulk). Has the versatility to play guard as well as center, having performed at both guard positions as well as center while at Wisconsin. Also played a little tackle earlier in his career.

Bortolini is consistent in the running game, especially as a straight ahead drive blocker where he demonstrates an explosive first step. Perhaps lacks some power and strength to be dominant – more bulk may help in this area. Has the athletic ability to climb out to the second level and pick off linebackers.

Bortolini works hard in pass protection, sets a decent anchor, gets his hands up quickly (with a punch) and will maul and battle to stay in front of pass rushers. However, has some difficulties because of his lack of arm length. Also can get have problems with his feet when trying to mirror speedy and athletic rushers. Will keep going though, even if he's beaten, in order to try and recover.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Bortolini is tall for a center but lacks a little arm length. Is a fine athlete - Bortolini demonstrated his athletic prowess by having probably the best all-round combine of any offensive lineman in 2024, highlighted by a really speedy 4.94 in the 40. Is a better run blocker than pass protector at this stage of his career and is bested suited to an inside, straight ahead running game. Bortolini's versatility is a bonus, which will really help his chances to earn a roster spot, being able to cover multiple positions. Will start his pro career as a back-up but has a chance in time to potentially challenge for a starting role. Likely a day 3 selection, probably in round 4 or round 5.

### SATAOA LAUMEA (Utah)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in California, taking part in track and field as well as winning multiple awards on the gridiron playing on both sides of the football. Opted to play his college ball at Utah.

Redshirted his true freshman season at Utah (2019), playing in just 1 game as a back-up on the offensive line. Earned a starting right guard spot in the pandemic truncated in 2020 season. Started every game (again at right guard) in 2021. Had an excellent season in 2022, moving out to right tackle for all but 1 game. Followed up with a solid 2023, again as the starter at right tackle. Earned a level of all-conference honours in each season from 2020 to 2023, being named 1<sup>st</sup> team in 2022 and 2<sup>nd</sup> team in 2020 and 2023 (won honorable mention honours in 2021)

OG/OT

IOL #15

Overall #150

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-4 ½, 319 (combine)

40: n/a

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at Utah. Laumea played in 45 games, with 44 starts – 25 starts at right tackle and 19 starts at right guard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll. **2020** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Laumea is a highly experienced (45 games/44 starts), durable and versatile offensive lineman who played both guard and tackle in college.

Laumea is a decent athlete with good agility and foot quickness for a big man. He isn't explosive but has a nice first step and generates straight ahead power and strength as a drive blocker in the running game - moving defensive linemen off the line of scrimmage. Will climb to the second level to block linebackers and safeties. Can also move and block laterally along the line.

In pass protection, Laumeau sets a decent anchor and uses his hands well, with an initial punch, and his strength really shows. However, he can struggle when dealing with quickness and speed to the outside – can over balance when compensating for speed and then get in leverage trouble due to counter moves. Needs to work on his footwork.

Laumea is smart and will identify defensive line games.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

With a combination of size and athletic ability, Laumea is a solid prospect at the guard position, with some good tackle experience which helps his draft status. Laumeau would appear to be most suited to guard at the next level due to his arm length and where he may not as vulnerable to speed rushers on outside. He can also make the most of his drive blocking power and all-round running game blocking ability from the right guard spot. Laumeau certainly should make an NFL roster as a back-up guard who can probably help in a pinch across the whole line. Likely to be selected in the first half of day 3.

### **JAVION COHEN (Miami, Fla)**

**Misc:** Cohen had an excellent high school career in Alabama, earning all-state honours playing offensive tackle. Was highly recruited, but eventually opted to stay in state and play his college ball for the Crimson Tide.

Played as a back-up tackle for Alabama in 2020 (earning freshman allconference honours) before winning the starting left guard for the 2021 season (missing 1 game due to an undisclosed injury). Started 10 games at left guard in 2022, earning some all-conference recognition. Transferred to Miami between 2022 and 2023 seasons. Started at left guard for Miami in 2023, earning honorable mention all-conference recognition.

**College Stats: Alabama:** In 3 seasons, Cohen played in 31 games and starting in 25, all of those starts coming at left guard. **Miami:** In his single season, Cohen played and started in 12 games, all at left guard.

### OG

IOL #16

#### Overall #156

#### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 21.72

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 324 (combine)

40: n/a

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-ACC. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. **2021** SEC All-Freshman Team.

**Analysis:** Cohen is an athletic, technically sound, and very experienced guard. His college experience has all been gained playing guard at the top level of college football in the SEC and ACC. He has good overall size and length for playing the guard spot.

Cohen is a solid and consistent blocker in the running game. He has a decent first step which enables him to get moving laterally along the line. That first step also helps him as a straightahead drive blocker as it means Cohen can get his body and hands on defensive tackles early. He has added power to his game which helps him get ahead of defenders lined up directly opposite him.

Cohen is also sound in pass protection. He sets a really solid anchor but has light feet which enable him to mirror and reset if necessary. Uses his arms well to get leverage and has a nice initial punch. But can have some struggles with speedy defensive linemen.

Cohen is a competitive football player who demonstrates great attitude and hard work, playing with a non-stop motor.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Cohen is an interesting prospect whose college experience was all at guard and he has a size profile that most closely fits that position. However, his foot movement is so smooth, plus he has 34 inch arms, that it's not out of the question that a team may want to try him at tackle (he played tackle in high school) – although his pass protection would need to improve further. Assuming that he stays at guard, then with a little time, Cohen has the potential to develop into a starting guard or at the very least a very solid back-up, at the NFL level. Expect Cohen to be off the board around the middle of day 3.

### LAYDEN ROBINSON (Texas A&M)

**Misc:** Outstanding high school career in Manvel, Texas (south Houston area) earning all-district and all-area honours. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at College Station, Texas for Texas A&M.

Redshirted his freshman season in 2019, playing in just 2 games. Played as back-up in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Became the full-time starter at right guard in 2021 (missing 2 games due to an ankle injury), playing well, and earning some all-conference recognition. Was the starter again at right guard in 2022, and although he started every game, he was hampered during the season by multiple injuries. Played well in 2023 earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team allconference recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Texas A&M, Robinson played in 36 games, with 32 starts – all of the starts coming at the right guard spot.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Community Service Team. **2021** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. Texas A&M team Offensive Toughness Award. Texas A&M team Offensive Strength & Conditioning Award. **2019** Teas A&M team Offensive Scout Team Player Award. Texas A&M team Freshman Strength Award.

**Analysis:** Robinson is a highly experienced right guard (36 games/32 starts), who is tough and physical operator. Team leader type who plays with a great attitude. Is very slightly undersized – could perhaps stand to add a little extra bulk.

Robinson Is a consistent run blocker, who is at his best when he can utilise his reasonably quick first step and fly forward as a drive blocker – also utilising his strength and power. Has quick hands. Has a little bit of movement ability to lead blocks to the outside – but that isn't really his forte.

In pass protection Robinson is solid without being spectacular. He sets a sold anchor and uses his hands well. However really good, athletic, defensive linemen with some speed (and perhaps moves) can give him problems. Can sometimes overcompensate.

Having demonstrated his toughness persevering through injuries, it should be of no surprise to hear that Robinson plays with a non-stop motor and all-out effort. Keeps trying to find somebody to block right up until the whistle.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Robinson has been a sound player throughout his college career, despite having some injuries in 2021 and 2022. And demonstrated his toughness by playing through the injuries in 2022. Unlike a number of players on this list, Robinson doesn't have any recent playing time outside of his current right guard position. Robinson looks like he would be at his best at the next level as a right guard in a power, straight ahead running game. Is likely to start his NFL career as a back-up and rotational player. Will perhaps challenge for a starting role in his second season. Should be off the board on day 3 – late in round 4 or early in round 5.

Overall #166 Round 4-5

OG

**IOL #17** 

Class: Senior

Age: 22.98

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 302 (combine)

40: n/a

### **The Next Best Interior Offensive Linemen...**

#### 18. Drake Nugent (Michigan), Center

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #186 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Stanford, before transferring to Michigan for the 2023 season. Across his college career, Nugent played in 42 games, with 39 starts, with all of those starts coming at center. Finished his college career with two very nice seasons, which included being named a finalist for the Rimington Trophy in 2023. Was also named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big in 2023 (having twice previously earned Honorable Mention All-Pac 12 honours). Nugent has a good first step but can struggle with rangy defensive linemen as he lacks ideal size and length – is slightly short and could do with adding a little extra bulk.

Age: 23.21. Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 298 (combine). 40: 5.23 (combine).

#### 19. Hunter Nourzad (Penn State), Center

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #191 overall on our draft board.

Was at Cornell for 3 playing seasons (2018-2019, 2021), before transferring to Penn State prior to the 2022 season. Played his final 2 years for the Nittany Lions. Across his college career, Nourzad played in 43 games, with 39 starts. Has great versatility having started games at center, guard, and tackle during his college career. Perhaps lacks a little bit of height. Strong and powerful blocker, with a good first step, who is probably more at ease as a run blocker than he is in pass protection. Won 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-Big 10 honours in 2023, having been named honorable mention All-Big 10 in 2022. Had previously won All-Ivy League honours while at Cornell.

Age: 23.41. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 317 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 20. Trevor Keegan (Michigan), Guard

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #193 overall on our draft board.

Played in 44 games at Michigan, with 37 starts (all at left guard). Keegan is a solid, consistent, and durable player who has really good size for a guard. Probably a better run blocker than he is in pass protection. Plays with physicality, strength, and power. Hard worker who plays with hustle and keeps going on every play. Won 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10 honours in 2023, having previously been named 2<sup>nd</sup> Team (2022) and Honorable Mention (2021). Could be a player who interests the Packers.

Age: 23.66. Ht/Wt: 6-5 ¾, 310 (combine). 40: 5.24 (combine).

#### 20. Dylan McMahon (North Carolina State), Center/Guard

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #206 overall on our draft board.

Played in 5 seasons at NC State, playing in 49 games (44 starts). Is versatile, having experience playing at both guard spots and at center. Demonstrated his athleticism with a really nice showing at the combine. Was previously named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak List in 2021. Lacks a little size and is more of a positional, technique blocker rather being physically dominant. 2023 Honorable mention All-ACC.

Age: 23.26. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 299 (combine). 40: 5.10 (combine).

#### 21. Andrew Raym (Oklahoma), Center/Guard

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #227 overall on our draft board.

In 4 seasons at Oklahoma, Raym played in 43 games (29 starts). Good run blocker. Has strength and power as a straight-ahead drive blocker. Improving in pass protection having played in a run first offense in high school – perhaps needs to become a little more physical as a pass blocker. Sets a solid anchor. Versatile, with experience at both center and guard. Ran a disappointing 5.42 in the 40 at the combine.

Age: 22.98. Ht/Wt: 6-4, 314 (combine). 40: 5.42 (combine).

#### 23. Matt Lee (Miami, Fla), Center

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #234 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at UCF, before transferring to Miami for the 2023 season. Across his college career, Lee played in 52 games, with 47 starts. Very experienced player. Decent athlete with a good first step and the ability to move well. Was named 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC in 2023, having previously earned All-AAC and freshman All-American honours at UCF. If the Packers haven't gone center earlier in the draft then Lee could be in play for them.

Age: 22.89. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 301 (combine). 40: 5.03 (combine)

#### 24. K.T. Leveston (Kansas State), Guard/Tackle

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #237 overall on our draft board.

In 5 (playing) seasons at Kansas State, Leveston played in 50 games, with 32 starts. Has played both left tackle and guard during his college career, so brings some versatility to the table. His size makes him look like a guard at the next level. Ran a disappointing 5.38 in the 40 at the combine.

Age: 24.50. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 326 (combine). 40: 5.38 (combine).

# **OFFENSIVE TACKLES**

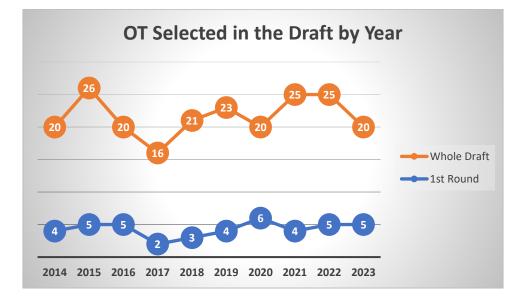
**General Draft Outlook:** This is an outstanding offensive tackle class right at the very top, with as many as 7-9 who could genuinely be 1<sup>st</sup> round picks – they won't all go in the 1<sup>st</sup> round, but individually could. The class drops off a little after around the 10<sup>th</sup> tackle.

Notre Dame's Joe Alt appears to be almost certain to be first offensive tackle off the board this year, probably somewhere between picks 5 and 10 overall. Directly behind Alt is Olu Fashanu, who may well be selected within a couple of picks of Alt.

Behind that duo comes Taliese Fuaga, J.C. Latham and Troy Fautanu. Fuaga and Latham aren't far behind our top 2 of Alt and Fashanu, while Fautanu could be seen as either an interior lineman or offensive tackle depending upon the team (we have his profile in the interior lineman group). Next up, very close to this group, is the young, inexperienced, and highly talented Amarius Mims. All of these players could be off the board before pick 25.

Also with 1<sup>st</sup> round chances are Graham Barton (who perhaps moves inside to center or guard), Tyler Guyton and Jordan Morgan.

Prediction: Around 24 offensive tackles will be selected in this draft.



**Packers Outlook:** Having moved on from future Packers Hall of Famer David Bakhtiari, the Packers have Rasheed Walker and Zach Tom as the incumbent starters. Backing them up are Luke Tenuta and Caleb Jones (who was yet to re-sign with the team at the time of writing). This is a group in need of added depth or even more – especially as Tom's future could potentially be seen inside at center. Therefore, we should expect the Packers to select here early and perhaps more than once. If they are looking for a versatile player, then Barton could fit the bill. If not, then any of the aforementioned Mims, Guyton or Morgan could be in play. Kingsley Suamataia, Patrick Paul, and Kiran Amegadjie could all be the pick if the Packers looked at this position in around round 3. Later on, Javon Foster could be of interest.

# **TOP OFFENSIVE TACKLES**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Joe Alt	ОТ	Notre Dame	1
2.	Olumuyiwa Fashanu	ОТ	Penn State	1
3.	Taliese Fuaga	ОТ	Oregon State	1
4.	J.C. Latham	ОТ	Alabama	1
5.	Amarius Mims	ОТ	Georgia	1
6.	Tyler Guyton	ОТ	Oklahoma	1-2
7.	Jordan Morgan	ОТ	Arizona	1-2
8.	Kingsley Suamataia	OT/OG	BYU	2
9.	Patrick Paul	ОТ	Houston	2
10.	Kiran Amegadjie	OT/OG	Yale	2-3
11.	Blake Fisher	ОТ	Notre Dame	3
12.	Roger Rosengarten	ОТ	Washington	3
13.	Christian Jones	ОТ	Texas	4-5
14.	Javon Foster	ОТ	Missouri	4-5
15.	Brandon Coleman	ОТ	TCU	4-5
16.	Delmar Glaze	OT/OC	Maryland	4-5
17.	Matt Goncalves	ОТ	Pittsburgh	4-5
18.	Caedan Wallace	ОТ	Penn State	6-7
19.	Walter Rouse	ОТ	Oklahoma	6-7
20.	Garret Greenfield	ОТ	South Dakota State	6-7
21.	Nathan Thomas	ОТ	Louisiana	6-7
22.	LaDarius Henderson	OT/OG	Michigan	6-7
23.	Julian Pearl	ОТ	Illinois	6-7
24.	Ethan Driskell	ОТ	Marshall	7-UDFA
25.	Andrew Coker	ОТ	TCU	7-UDFA
26.	Tylan Grable	ОТ	UCF	7-UDFA
27.	Josiah Ezirim	ОТ	Eastern Kentucky	UDFA
28.	Frank Crum	ОТ	Wyoming	UDFA
29.	Karsen Barnhart	ОТ	Michigan	UDFA
30.	Anim Dankwah	ОТ	Howard	UDFA
31.	Travis Glover	ОТ	Georgia State	UDFA
32.	Gottlieb Ayedze	OT/OG	Maryland	UDFA
33.	Jeremy Flax	ОТ	Kentucky	UDFA
34.	Aaron Frost	OT/OG	Arizona State	UDFA
35.	Cameron Wire	ОТ	Tulane	UDFA
36.	Willie Tyler III	ОТ	Louisville	UDFA
37.	Michael Jerrell	ОТ	Findlay (Ohio)	UDFA
38.	Lorenzo Thompson	ОТ	Rhode Island	UDFA
39.	Tyler Smith	ОТ	Westen Carolina	UDFA
40.	Kameron Jones	ОТ	Mississippi 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.	Devin Hayes	OT	Middle Tennessee St.	UDFA
42.	Mike Edwards	OT	Campbell	UDFA
43.	Gunner Britton	OT	Auburn	UDFA
44.	Hyrin White	OT	SMU	UDFA
45.	Cade Beresford	OT	Boise State	UDFA
46.	Nolan Potter	OT	Northern Illinois	UDFA
47.	Bradley Ashmore	OT	Vanderbilt	UDFA
48.	Hamilton Hall	OT	Arkansas State	UDFA
49.	Blake Larson	OT	Augustana	UDFA
50.	Ian Fitzgerald	OT	BYU	UDFA
51.	Christian Duffie	OT	Kansas State	UDFA
52.	Dalton Tucker	OT	Marshall	UDFA
53.	John O'Brian	OT	San Diego State	UDFA
54.	Chris Walker	OT	Montana	UDFA
55.	Payne He'Bert	OT	UTSA	UDFA
56.	Daniel Johnson	OT	Purdue	UDFA
57.	Spencer Rolland	OT	North Carolina	UDFA
58.	Cole Spencer	OT	Texas Tech	UDFA
59.	Aiden Williams	OT	Minnesota Duluth	UDFA

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

# **LEFT or RIGHT? - TOP TACKLES by SIDE**

#### TOP LEFT TACKLES

- 1. JOE ALT
- 2. OLU FASHANU
- 3. JORDAN MORGAN
- 4. KINGLSEY SUAMATAIA
- 5. PATRICK PAUL
- 6. KIRAN AMEGADJIE
- 7. JAVON FOSTER
- 8. BRANDON COLEMAN
- 9. WALTER ROUSE
- **10. GARRET GREENFIELD**
- **11. LADARIUS HENDERSON**
- **12. ETHAN DRISKELL**
- **13. TYLAN GRABLE**
- **14. ANIM DANKWAH**
- **15. TRAVIS GLOVER**
- **16. CAMERON WIRE**
- **17. WILLIE TYLER III**
- **18. LORENZO THOMPSON**
- **19. TYLER SMITH**
- **20. MIKE EDWARDS**
- **21. GUNNER BRITTON**
- **22. CADE BERESFORD**
- 23. HAMILTON HALL
- 24. BLAKE LARSON
- **25. CHRISTIAN DUFFIE**

#### **TOP RIGHT TACKLES**

- **1. TALIESE FUAGA**
- 2. J.C. LATHAM
- 3. AMARIUS MIMS
- 4. TYLER GUYTON
- 5. BLAKE FISHER
- 6. ROGER ROSENGARTON
- 7. CHRISTIAN JONES
- 8. DELMAR GLAZE
- 9. MATT GONCALVES
- **10. CAEDEN WALLACE**
- **11. NATHAN THOMAS**
- **12. JULIAN PEARL**
- **13. ANDREW COKER**
- **14. JOSIAH EZIRIM**
- **15. FRANK CRUM**
- **16. KARSEN BARNHARDT**
- **17. GOTTLIEB AYEDZE**
- **18. JEREMY FLAX**
- **19. AARON FROST**
- **20. MICHAEL JERRELL**
- **21. KAMERON JONES**
- **22. DEVIN HAYES**
- **23. HYRIN WHITE**
- **24. NOLAN POTTER**
- **25. BRADLEY ASHMORE**

Note: A number of players on the lists may be able to play on both sides (most commonly Left Tackles playing on the right side). Above, we have only listed players in their projected primary position.

#### **JOE ALT (Notre Dame)**

**Misc:** Is part of a gifted sporting family – his father, John, was a Pro Bowl OT for the Chiefs. Joe's brother, Mark, is a professional hockey player who has played for multiple NHL and AHL teams. Joe showed his own prowess playing basketball and playing multiple positions on the gridiron in high school in Minnesota. Grew in size throughout his high school career to eventually become an OT. Opted to attend Notre Dame ahead of offers from a number of other Power 5 schools.

Played in every game in his true freshman season (2021), playing as a back-up OT and TE before starting the final 8 games at left tackle. Followed that up with an outstanding 2022 as one of the very best OTs in the country – starting every game at left tackle and earning AllOT #1 Overall #6 Round 1 Class: Junior Age: 21.16 Ht/Wt: 6-8, 321 (combine) 40: 5.05 (combine)

American recognition. Was immense in 2023, being named a Unanimous All-American.

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at Notre Dame, Alt played in 38 games, with 33 starts all at left tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Outland Trophy finalist. Lombardi Award finalist. Joe Moore Award (team offensive line) semi-finalist. Notre Dame team offensive lineman of the year. **2022** AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. **2021** PFF Freshman All-American.

**Analysis:** Alt had an outstanding college career and perhaps got even better in 2023. He has a nice level of experience and is a smart football player. He is a huge man, with the frame to perhaps add even more bulk – he has long arms and a massive wingspan, which provide him with the physical traits to be an outstanding left tackle. Needs to consistently bring those physical advantages to bear.

Is outstanding in pass protection, where he sets a solid anchor and has a great knee bend. Is exceptionally quick for such a big man being light on his feet, with the ability to quickly match and mirror pass rushers and recover when necessary.

Good run blocker where both his power and athleticism come to the fore. Moves really well, in all directions, for a man of his size. Can move and block laterally as well as take out defenders at the second level.

Works hard and plays hard on every down. Keeps going throughout the play, looking for somebody else to block or hit.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has been seen as an outstanding pro prospect for a couple of years. Is probably the best offensive line in prospect in this draft, just ahead of Olu Fashanu - both of them potentially being amongst the best offensive tackle prospects to come out of college for a number of years. Whilst you would expect such a big man to be ideal for a straight ahead, power running game, Alt's athleticism and movement skills should enable him to be an outstanding force in an outside running attack. This versatility of system only adds to his resume. Will be off the board in the top 10 picks and should be a fine left tackle in the NFL for many years to come.

### **OLU FASHANU (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Olu is shortened version of his first name Olumuyiwa. Dualsport athlete who played both basketball and football in high school in Washington DC. Opted for Penn State ahead of a number of other Power 5 schools, including Ohio State and Michigan State.

Redshirted his freshman season (2020), before playing primarily as a back-up in 2021 (1 start). Started the first 8 games of the 2022 season at left tackle before missing the final 5 due to an undisclosed injury – but still won some All-American and all-conference notice. Came back to start 12 games in 2023 and earn Consensus All-American honours.

**College Stats:** In 3 playing years at Penn State, Fashanu played in 29 games, with 21 starts – all of them coming at left tackle.

OT #2

#### **Overall #11**

Round 1

Class: RS-Junior Age: 21.38 Ht/Wt: 6-6, 312 (combine) 40: 5.11 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Rimington-Pace Award winner (Big 10 Offensive Lineman of the Year). William V. Campbell Trophy finalist. Lombardi Award semi-finalist. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. **2022 & 2021** Academic All-Big 10. **2022** Walter Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. All-ECAC Honors. Dick Maginnis Memorial Award (PSU's Most Outstanding Offensive Lineman) winner.

**Analysis:** Fashanu has the combination of prototypical size and athletic ability to play the left tackle spot. Reportedly is an extremely hard worker and student of the game.

Fashanu is an excellent pass protector with a good knee bend, whose outstanding, nimble, footwork (with a really quick first step), allow him to quickly get to defenders wide off the edge – he moves so well for a man of his size. Simply put, he can be a dominant player in the passing game. He needs to get a little more consistent with strong, bull-rushers, but having said that, he can still envelope defenders if he gets on top, thanks to his size.

Is a solid run blocker, where he has the strength and power to dominate, perhaps just needs to become more consistent with his hands and with leverage to ensure that power is always brought to bear. Uses his hands well to detach from defenders enabling him to climb to the second level.

Is an intelligent football player who plays with smarts, being able to recognise and pick-up blitzes and defensive line games.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Perhaps surprisingly opted to return to school for the 2023 season rather than enter the draft – would almost certainly have been a high 1st round pick in 2023. Reportedly, the opportunity to earn his master's degree was one of the reasons for his return. As it turns out, his 2023 perhaps wasn't quite as good as 2022, but in fairness it's all relative and he is still under 22 years old on draft day. With his outstanding pass protection skills, intelligence, and work ethic, Fashanu will be off the board inside the top 10-15 picks overall and may likely will be the second offensive tackle of the board. Will be looked upon to lock down the crucial left tackle spot for a decade or more.

### **TALIESE FUAGA (Oregon State)**

**Misc:** Played on both the OL and DL in high school in Washington, where he earned multiple honours. Fuaga had multiple offers from Power 5 schools and opted to attend Oregon State.

Redshirted his true freshman year in 2020 (playing in 4 games), then played in 10 games as a back-up in 2021. Earned a starting role in 2022, starting every game (13) at right tackle. Followed that with the best season of his career in 2023, earning some All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Oregon State, Fuaga played in 38 games, starting in 25 – all at right tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** PFWA, ESPN & CBS 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Polynesian Football Player of the Year Award finalist. **2022** PFF Honorable Mention All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2021** Pac-12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Fuaga has really good size with the frame and look of a right tackle. He brings a nice level of experience, earned at the Power 5 level, to the table and combines being a tough and scrappy player with excellent technique and smarts.

For such a big man, Fuaga brings a really nice combination of athleticism and agility coupled with strength and power. These attributes really show in the running game, where Fuaga can be an overpowering straight ahead drive blocker who will blow defensive linemen and linebackers off the ball. Also has the ability to move well and will get out to the second level to pick off linebackers. As for safeties, they can just forget it if Fuaga gets his hands on them. Simply put, he can be a dominant run blocker.

Builds upon the aforementioned physical attributes and ability through his determination and aggressive attitude. This can most commonly be seen by observing his non-stop, all-out, play to the whistle mind set on every play.

Doesn't always appear to be initially as dominant in pass protection but here's the thing: he has surprisingly smooth movement and is light on his feet for such a big man that he is able to reset and recover when he seems to be in trouble with speed rushers around edge – so much so, that he while he may give up the odd QB pressure, he just doesn't give up sacks. Fuaga sets a solid anchor and uses his hands nicely, getting them on defenders quickly with a nice punch – has long arms which really helps.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Nice practice week at the Senior Bowl helped his already excellent draft situation and in an outstanding class of offensive tackles, Fuaga sits near the top of the group – probably just behind Joe Alt and Olu Fashanu and maybe vying with J.C. Latham for the best pure right tackle available. Fuaga certainly is a high level right tackle prospect with the potential to start quickly and become a decade long starter on that spot, but the possibility that he could play other spots on the line – particularly right guard – make him even more valuable. Expect Fuaga to off the board during the 1<sup>st</sup> round, and possibly even as high as the top 10-15 overall picks.

Overall #12

**OT #3** 

#### Round 1

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 22.06

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 324 (combine)

40: 5.13 (combine)

### J.C. LATHAM (Alabama)

**Misc:** Oak Creek, Wisconsin native. Began his high school career as a multi-sport athlete in Waukesha, Wisconsin – playing basketball and football and taking part in track and field (shot put). Predominantly played DE on the gridiron. Transferred to IMG Academy in Florida where his prowess on the offensive side of the ball, at OT, came to the fore. Rated as a 5-star prospect by multiple organisations. Highly recruited, Latham opted to attend Alabama over the likes of Georgia and Ohio State – becoming one of the highest rated recruits to ever commit to the Crimson Tide.

Played on special teams and as a back-up at guard and tackle throughout his true freshman season (2021). Played well in 2022,

OT #4 Overall #16 Round 1 Class: Junior Age: 21.21 Ht/Wt: 6-5, 342 (combine)

40: n/a

becoming the starting right tackle (13 starts). Was even better in 2023, starting every game, and earning all-conference and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 3 years (2021-23) at Alabama, Latham played in 41 games, with 27 starts – all of the starts coming at right tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Latham appears to be the perfect physical fit for the right tackle spot. He is a bigbodied man with great bulk (which he added to prior to the 2023 season) but is also a decent athlete with surprisingly quick and light feet, considering that size.

Played on a team that featured the run and that has helped him improve as blocker in this aspect of the game. Despite his size, right now he is a better run blocker on the move than he is straight ahead. He has some strength and power which ought to enable him to move defenders in the running game, however he doesn't yet do this consistently – he wouldn't yet be called a dominant player in the run game.

Good in pass protection with a nice anchor. Uses his hands nicely and can envelope pass rushers once he gets on them. Can struggle against some outside speed rushers, but his foot speed generally allows him to recover well. Has a really good more than 35-inch arm length.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Latham seems to look to continue playing at right tackle in the pros, although he has a little experience at guard and his pass protection skills would help his versatility – it's not completely out of the question that he could even get a chance at left tackle at some point. Has some areas to work on but looks like a player who is improving year on year which when coupled with his age (he'll still be under 22 years old on draft day) will encourage NFL teams to view him as a player that is nowhere near his ceiling yet. The word "project" may come to mind for some – but Latham is already better than that. Teams will need to take a view as to whether they would prefer him to lose a little bulk – if he can do that without losing strength or power. There's a lot to like about the potential that Latham has, and we should expect Latham to be selected somewhere around the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

# **AMARIUS MIMS (Georgia)**

**Misc:** Excellent high school career in Georgia. Highly recruited, Mims decided to stay at home and play his college ball at the University of Georgia.

Played as a back-up tackle in 7 games in his true freshman season (2021). Considered transferring after 2021, but eventually opted to stay at Georgia. Played in every game in 2022, starting in 2 at right tackle. Missed a lot of time in 2023 with an ankle injury that limited him to just 6 starts at right tackle.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Georgia, Mims played in 28 games, with 8 starts – all at right tackle.

#### Honours & Awards: None

**Analysis:** Mims is a young (under 22 years old), big and athletic offensive tackle, with a huge frame that could stand adding even more bulk. He has some great potential but lacks the experience and the volume of production that you'd ideally like to see.

Mim's size converts well into power and strength and for a man of his size, he has really good athleticism and agility.

He is physical and strong in the running game where he can blow defenders away as a straight ahead drive blocker – once his hands are gripped and he gets moving the block is "won". Also has decent enough movement laterally and can angle block really well to create holes.

Mims is a sound and rapidly developing pass protector. He sets a really solid anchor, has a quick and strong initial punch and again once he gets hands gripped he's going to win. Where he is currently inconsistent is dealing with speed rushers around the edge. Development time should resolve this.

Has an outstanding more than 36-inch arm length.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Amarius Mims is a really difficult evaluation, and we suspect that will be no different across the spectrum of NFL scouts. It is easy to envisage some teams having him high on their boards, while other teams have him a little lower. But there is little doubt that Mims is a highly talented football player, with the potential to grow and develop into a special one. The ceiling is high and while all of his college experience has come at right tackle, it's not out of the question that he could also play on the left side. However, so much of Mim's status is based on that potential rather than on the field production – remember he started just 8 games in his college career – that he is a long way from being a sure fire bet. Suffered a hamstring pull in the combine, but this shouldn't be a problem going forward. It is likely that Mims' potential and talent will outweigh any doubts and we should expect Mims to be selected at some point towards the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round (anywhere between picks 20 and 30) in all likelihood by a team that has time to be patient and develop him. Could be in play for the Packers.

**Round 1** Class: Junior Age: 21.53 Ht/Wt: 6-7, 340 (combine)

**OT #5** 

Overall #21

40: 5.07 (combine)

### **TYLER GUYTON (Oklahoma)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Texas, playing basketball as well as football. Earned all-district honours on the gridiron. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball for TCU.

Redshirted as a freshman in 2020, before seeing action in the majority of games in 2021 as a back-up tackle and tight end. Transferred to Oklahoma prior to the 2022 season. Started around half of the games for the Sooners in 2022, playing predominantly at right tackle (also 1 start at left tackle). Became the fulltime starter at right tackle in 2023 and earned some honorable mention allconference accolades.

**College Stats: TCU:** In his 2 seasons, Guyton played in 9 games, with 1 start coming at the tight end spot. **Oklahoma:** In his 2 seasons, Guyton played in 20 games (14 starts). 13 of his starts came at right tackle, with the other at left tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Guyton is a huge offensive tackle, with length and the ideal frame to perhaps grow even bigger. He is a good athlete with some agility for a player of his size. Lacks some experience (just 15 career starts).

Is decent and developing in pass protection where he sets a firm anchor, has a good knee bend, and, despite his size, is light on his feet showing smooth movement to mirror and react to the pass rush. Uses his hands well, with a strong punch, and has long arms which enable him to reach and cut off speed rushers to the outside.

Is also smart in taking pass rushers to the outside and beyond the quarterback. Interestingly he seems to have more problems with smaller, bull-rushing type pass rushers than he does against speed rushers or big lineman as he will occasionally get off balance and get beaten.

Guyton has a really nice first step in the running game and can be utilised as a lead blocker to the outside, thanks to his excellent movement ability. And once he gets his momentum going, Guyton will envelop defenders.

Will also fire off the ball and move defensive ends as a drive blocker. Can get out to the second level.

For a player who lacks a little experience, Guyton demonstrates smarts and intelligence, recognising and picking up blitzes.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Looks like a RT at the pro level. Although he lacks experience, Guyton has huge amounts of potential, thanks to a great combination of physical traits and athletic ability. Although he has some development areas to work on e.g. pass protection, he definitely has a good chance of becoming a fine starting tackle in the NFL. Likely to be off the board late in the 1<sup>st</sup> round or early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. Could be in play for the Packers if Amarius Mims has already gone.

Overall #28 Round 1-2 Class: RS-Junior Age: 22.87

**OT #6** 

Ht/Wt: 6-7, 322 (combine)

40: 5.19 (combine)

### JORDAN MORGAN (Arizona)

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Arizona, taking part in the shot put as well as playing football. Played both offensive and defensive line on the gridiron and was named all-state. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at the University of Arizona.

Started 2 games at left tackle in his true freshman season (2019). 2020 season was badly impacted by the pandemic, and an undisclosed injury, and Morgan started in just 2 games. Started 11 games at left tackle in 2021 - didn't dominate, but improved as the year went on. Had a really nice 2022 season, starting the first 10 games, but sadly tore an ACL late in the season, which ended his season prematurely – nonetheless, he still earned all-conference recognition. Bounced back extremely well

OT #7 Overall #34 Round 1-2 Class: Senior Age: 22.73 Ht/Wt: 6-5, 311 (combine) 40: 5.04 (combine)

from his 2022 injury by playing really well in 2023, earning some All-American notice and again being named 1<sup>st</sup> Team all-conference.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Arizona, Morgan played in 41 games (37 starts). All of his starts came at left tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 CBS 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. 2022 AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Morgan is a productive and athletically gifted player who pretty much has prototypical size for playing left tackle at the pro level.

In the running game, Morgan has some strength and power, but is generally more of a technical blocker than he is physically dominating. Has a nice first step and moves well as an angle blocker and laterally along the line. Will head upfield and get out to the second level, finding linebackers and safeties to pick off.

In pass protection, Morgan uses his quick initial movement to set a nice anchor and to quickly get his hands on pass rushers. Has great knee bend. Will occasionally overplay against speed rushers and get out of position to the outside, although he has nice recovery skills.

Is a smart, intelligent, and well-schooled player as demonstrated by his blitz pick-up skills and his recognition of defensive line games.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Morgan may have been a contender for entering the 2023 draft had it not been for the ACL tear that he suffered during the 2022 season. Instead opted to return to school for 2023. Teams will of course want to be assured of his medical status, but this is not likely to be a problem given his successful and effective return for the 2023 season. With so many positive attributes and traits, Morgan has lots of potential. He is likely to be selected late in the 1st round or early in the 2nd round and with the right coaching he can develop into a long-time starter at the left tackle spot with Pro Bowl possibilities. If the Packers are looking for a left tackle, Morgan could be a strong possibility.

### **KINGSLEY SUAMATAIA (BYU)**

**Misc:** Last name is pronounced "so-muh-tay-uh". Cousin of Lions' outstanding offensive tackle Penei Sewell. Suamataia had an excellent high school career in Utah. Opted to play his college ball at Oregon, choosing the Ducks over a number of FBS schools (including the option to stay in state at the likes of Utah and BYU).

Redshirted in 2021, playing in just 2 games at Oregon. Suamataia then decided to transfer to BYU prior to the 2022 season. Became the full-time starter at right tackle for BYU in 2022, playing well and earning some freshman All-American recognition. Move to left tackle in 2023 and had another nice year, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition.

**OT #8** 

#### **Overall #46**

Round 2

Class: RS-Sophomore Age: 21.27 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 326 (combine) 40: 5.04 (combine)

**College Stats: Oregon:** In his single season, Suamataia played in just 2 games. **BYU:** In his 2 seasons, Suamataia played and started in 22 games. 12 of his starts came at right tackle and 10 starts came at left tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list.
 2022 The Athletic 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Freshman All-American. CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Independent.

**Analysis:** For an offensive lineman, Suamataia is an explosive athlete with good size, length agility. He has some versatility having split his time in college between the right and left tackle spots. Has decent experience (22 starts). He is the latest in a recent line of BYU offensive tackles to potentially be drafted – following on from Brady Christensen (2021) and Blake Freeland (2023).

Suamataia is a solid pass protector with a quick first step and decent, but sometimes inconsistent, hand use. Uses his athletic ability and light feet to move smoothly to react to pass rushers and re-set. Can occasionally be beaten to the inside.

Has some strength and physical presence in the running game but isn't yet dominant. Will use his speed to get off the ball and turn that speed into power. Has the agility to climb to the second level and to try and pick off linebackers and safeties. Can move laterally and angle block.

Plays with all-out hustle and a non-stop motor on every play. Doesn't give up on a play and keeps blocking to the whistle.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Suamataia is young (just over 21 years old) and has some inconsistencies and areas that need development, but he has fine potential and is an outstanding athlete. Suamataia needs a little time to develop as thus far that potential probably outweighs his production. Has some positional versatility, but with his skillset he really ought to have a good shot at making it as a left tackle at the pro level (with right tackle or even guard as a back-up plan) as long as the team selecting him allows him time and has patience. We should expect Suamataia to be selected on day 2. Has the attributes to interest the Packers if they haven't gone tackle already.

#### **PATRICK PAUL (Houston)**

**Misc:** Brother of Chris Paul who is currently a guard with the Washington Commanders. Patrick was a dual-sport athlete in high school in Jersey Village in Houston, TX (after moving from Cypress, TX), taking part in discus & shot put as well as playing football. Opted to stay close to home and attend Houston.

Saw action in just 3 games (starting all 3 at the left tackle spot) in his true freshman season (2019). Suffered an ankle injury early in the 2020 season which saw his year limited to just the first 2 games. Returned from the injury to start every game at left tackle in 2021, playing well and earning all-conference honours. Repeated this performance in 2022, again starting every game and garnering allOT #9 Overall #56 Round 2 Class: Senior Age: 23.48 Ht/Wt: 6-7, 331 (combine) 40: 5.13 (combine)

conference recognition. Earned some 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American notice in 2023 as Paul had an outstanding season.

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at Houston, Paul played and started in 40 games – all at left tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** The Athletic & ESPN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. DCTF Best Offensive Lineman in Texas. DCTF 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-AAC. Dave Campbell 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas selection. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-AAC. Dave Campbell 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Texas selection.

**Analysis:** Paul is a productive, powerful, and strong offensive tackle with huge size, although his frame could possibly handle even more bulk. He is extremely experienced, having been a 3-year starter at left tackle.

Paul is an outstanding straight-ahead drive blocker where his size, power and strength really come to the fore. He couples these attributes with a surprisingly quick first step and good initial hand usage. Isn't as athletic as some, and therefore an outside running game which requires Paul to move laterally isn't his forte.

Paul is a solid pass protector, who sets a firm anchor. He gets a good initial punch on pass rushers and uses his long arms (more than 36 inches) to get leverage and keep defenders off. Where it becomes a physical battle of strength, Paul is likely to win. However, he can struggle at times with speed rushers or those with a number of effective moves i.e. those rushers who are athletic and agile.

Plays with smarts and is able to recognise and pick up defensive line games and blitzes. Paul also has a great attitude, playing all-out to the whistle on every play.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Paul has great experience and a number of physical attributes (size, length, power) that are crucial to playing left tackle spot at the next level. These are attributes that provide a fine foundation for Paul to be able to contribute well in the NFL. There are some areas that still require improvement e.g. some of his pass blocking skills and therefore Paul still needs to develop more. However, he has good chance of becoming a long-time starter in the NFL and should be off the board on day 2. Another tackle who could interest the Packers.

### **KIRAN AMEGADJIE (Yale)**

**Misc:** Fine high school career in Illinois. Opted to play his college ball at Yale, turning down offers from a number of schools including at least one at the FBS level.

Earned the full-time starting role at right guard as a freshman in 2021, earning some all-conference notice. Moved to the all-important left tackle role for the 2022 season, starting every game and being named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference. Started the 2023 season at left tackle again, but sadly suffered a quad injury in the fourth game – an injury which required surgery and saw him miss the remainder of the season.

**College Stats:** Played and stared in 24 games in his 3 seasons at Yale. 14 of his starts came at left tackle, with 10 coming at right guard.

OT #10 Overall #73 Round 2-3 Class: Junior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-5, 323 (combine)

40: n/a

**Honours & Awards: 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Ivy League. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Ivy League. Charles Loftus Award winner (Yale team most valuable freshman player)

**Analysis:** Amegadjie is nice sized offensive tackle, with great length, including a physically outstanding arm length of over 36 inches. He also brings good athleticism and some agility for a man of his size. Amegadjie also has versatility, having played both offensive tackle and guard while at Yale.

He is an excellent pass protector, who is strong and powerful. Sets a solid anchor and plays with good knee bend – typically isn't going to be moved by a straight-ahead bull-rusher. Added to those attributes, Amegadjie is a smooth mover and light on his feet for his size. Is able to mirror well and deal with speed around the edge, although sometimes almost moves too well, potentially setting himself up for the inside counter – although in fairness his ability to recover is really good.

As a run blocker, his forte is as a straight-ahead drive blocker where his power comes to the fore. Can move defensive linemen off the line of scrimmage and has the athletic ability to climb to the second level and pick off a linebacker or safety. Also has decent speed and movement laterally to get to the outside.

Despite his 24 starts, he lacks the experience at the top level and the view of his on the field play must be taken in this context. Plays with competitiveness and hustle. Keeps looking for somebody to block.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Given his 2023 injury, which cost him much of the season, it was slightly surprising that Amegadjie declared for this draft. Couple that with playing in the Ivy League and you have a player who may drop down some draft boards. But Amegadjie is a good prospect, and he has a bucket load of potential. Expect him to be selected on day 2 and if he falls any further than He could be an absolute steal for an NFL team that is prepared to bring him along slowly and help him develop. This development should be aided by the fact that he can play guard as well as tackle, providing the team that drafts him with extra options.

### **BLAKE FISHER (Notre Dame)**

**High School:** Highly ranked recruit after an outstanding high school career in Indiana. Earned a number of awards and accolades including all-state honours. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at Notre Dame, choosing the Fighting Irish over offers from a number of FBS teams including the likes of Georgia and Alabama.

Made an immediate impact at Notre Dame by winning the starting job at left tackle as a true freshman (2021) but the impact was short lived as he suffered a torn meniscus midway through the season opener – an injury which required surgery and kept him out for nearly the whole of the remainder of the season (he returned for the last game of the season). Switched to the right side and played well, starting every game OT #11

#### Overall #90

Round 3

**Class: Junior** 

Age: 21.09

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 310 (combine)

40: 5.20 (combine)

at right tackle in 2022. Started every game at right tackle again in 2023, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-Independent recognition from CFN.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Notre Dame, Fisher played in 27 games, starting in all of them at offensive tackle – 25 at right tackle and 2 at left tackle.

Honours & Awards: 2023 CFN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Independent. Joe Moore Award semi-finalist.

**Analysis:** Fisher is a good-sized right tackle prospect who has played well for the last 2 seasons. Has started at right tackle in those 2 seasons, but it still only just over 21 years old (at draft date).is a 2-year starter at the spot. Has good arm length at more than 34 inches.

Fisher is probably at his best as a run blocker. He has some explosiveness at the snap and has the strength and power to move defensive linemen – especially as a straight-ahead drive blocker. Uses his hands well and has the strength and athleticism to finish his first block and then climb to the second level. Fisher's athleticism and movement ability also means that he some ability to move/pull laterally out in front of the ball-carrier.

Fisher is continuing to develop in pass protection. He has a solid anchor and strong hands which, coupled when with his good arm length, allow him to initially keep many pass rushers at bay. However, he does occasionally have some troubles with his balance against really strong and powerful defensive linemen. Fisher is light on his feet for a man of his size and can mirror but still has some struggles with quick, speedy, and athletic pass rushers round the edge.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Fisher is a really young offensive tackle prospect with some experience and nice upside. Fisher has the size, length, and athleticism to potentially play either tackle spot (he played some at left tackle in high school). However, Fisher's strength as a run blocker, combined with his required development in pass protection, means that he is much more suited to play the right tackle spot going forwards – at least for the near future – and this is the spot at which he has most experience in any case. Expect him to be selected either late on day 2 (or early on day 3) and initially play as a back-up/rotational offensive tackle as he develops before challenging for a starting spot – perhaps in his second season.

#### **ROGER ROSENGARTEN (Washington)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete in high school in Colorado, playing basketball and baseball as well as football. Played on both sides of the ball on the gridiron. Opted to play his college ball at Washington.

Played in just a single game for the Huskies in the pandemic impacted 2020 season and then in just 4 games in 2021 (being awarded a redshirt). Broke out to earn the starting role at right tackle in 2022, starting 13 games, playing well and garnering Freshman All-American honours. Started every game again in 2023, earning some All-American notice and honorable mention all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Washington, Rosengarten played in 33 games (28 starts). All of his starts came at the right tackle position.

OT #12

#### Overall #93

#### Round 3

Class: RS-Junior Age: 21.90 Ht/Wt: 6-5 ¾, 308 (combine) 40: 4.92 (combine)

Honours & Awards: 2023 Sportskeeda.com 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. Joe Moore Award winner (awarded to the team with college football's best offensive line).
2022 FWAA & CFN Freshman All-American. PFN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. CFN Freshman All-Bowl team. 2021 Pac 12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Rosengarten is a nice sized tackle, who perhaps could do with adding a little extra bulk (his frame should be able to handle it). He is a decent athlete with speed, as he re-emphasised at the combine. Played the right tackle spot the last two seasons - having extra focus as he was protecting the blindside of left handed quarterback Michael Penix Jr.

Rosengarten has decent strength and power and a nice first step that enables him to get off quickly in the running game. Will get his hands up and drive straight ahead, getting some movement and will use his speed to climb out to the second level. Is also light enough on his feet to block laterally.

Rosengarten isn't yet a dominating player as a pass protector and there is some work to be done. Will use his strength and hands to stalemate straight ahead ball-rushers but can have struggles against speed rushers with moves. He is relatively light on his feet but has slightly short arms and has difficulty getting out to wide rushers. Can also be beaten by counter moves to the inside. Plays well in the screen game with good timing – getting out in front of the running back and picking off defenders.

Is a block finisher once he has his hands gripped on defensive linemen and linebackers.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Struggled in the National Championship game, and this may have damaged his draft stock with some - but don't let a single game disguise his talent. Rosengarten is a much better player and prospect than he demonstrated that day. Helped his draft status with an outstanding combine, which include a really speedy 4.92 in the 40 - the fastest amongst all offensive linemen present. Has some areas to develop and it's not out of the question that he could move inside to guard at the next level (he would be a big-sized guard). Nonetheless, Rosengarten should be off the board on day 2 and is one of a number of tackles who could interest the Packers.

### **CHRISTIAN JONES (Texas)**

**High School:** Won multiple honours playing on both the offensive and defensive lines in two years of football in high school at Cypress Woods (Houston area), Texas. Had previously played soccer in high school. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Texas.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2018, before playing as a back-up/rotational player in 2019. Earned a starting offensive tackle role in 2020. Started every game at left tackle in 2021, before moving back to the right side in 2022 – having a good year and earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Was good again in 2023, starting at right tackle and being named honorable mention all-conference for the second year.

OT #13

#### Overall #115

Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.96 Ht/Wt: 6-5, 305 (combine) 40: 5.04 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 playing seasons at Texas, Jones played in 61 games, with 48 starts. 35 of those starts came at right tackle, with the other 13 coming at left tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. DCTF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Texas. Joe Moore Award semi-finalist. Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2021** Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2020** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Jones is a smart and improving offensive tackle with lots of college experience (61 games/48 starts) and durability. He has good size, although he could do with perhaps adding 10-15 pounds – he has the frame for it.

In pass protection, Jones is a decent athlete, sets a solid anchor, and his strength means that he isn't going to get often beaten by bull-rushers. His arm length is good which enables him to keep rushers at bay. Where he may have difficulties at times in pass protection is with speedy, quick off the edge defenders with whom he can sometimes over-set. Is smart and will recognise defensive line games.

As a run blocker, Jones gets his hands up quickly with good placement and those hands generally won't get removed by defenders. He has good strength and power to drive block and that is undoubtedly his forte as run blocker. Once he gets moving forwards he is really difficult for defenders to deal with.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jones was a solid, consistent, and durable player throughout his college career at Texas and showed good development as his career progressed. That development will encourage NFL scouts and may indicate that there is more to come – if so. Jones has a chance to become a good tackle at the NFL level. Expect Jones to be selected early on day 3, to make an NFL roster, initially as a back-up/rotational player – he has experience playing at both right tackle and left tackle - and then, as he develops and adds some bulk, to challenge for additional playing time.

### **JAVON FOSTER (Missouri)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Michigan. Opted to attend Missouri to play his college ball, turning down offers from a number of other FBS schools.

Played in just 2 games in his true freshman season at Missouri (2018), being awarded a redshirt. Saw more playing time in the pandemic impacted 2020 season, including making 2 starts at right tackle. Earned the starting left tackle spot in 2021. Had a fine 2022 season, starting at left tackle and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team al-conference honours. Followed up by having probably the best season of his college career in 2023, again starting at left tackle and this time earning 1<sup>st</sup> team allconference recognition and some All-American notice. OT #14

#### Overall #129

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-5 ½, 313 (combine) 40: 5.30 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 playing seasons at Missouri, Foster played in 50 games, with 41 starts. 39 of those starts came at left tackle, with the other 2 coming at right tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. Joe Moore Award semifinalist. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. **2021** PFF Honorable Mention All-SEC. **2019** First Year SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Foster is a highly experienced (50 games/41 starts) offensive tackle, with great durability having started every game over the last 3 seasons of his college career. Foster has physicality, strength, and some athletic ability. Has good size for the tackle position. Has a little versatility having played both tackle spots.

Foster is sound in pass protection, where he sets a firm anchor and uses his hands well. Has ok feet, which generally enable him to re-set and to mirror pass rushers. Will utilise his long arms to deal with speed rushers around the edge. Foster can sometimes over-set however and get in trouble with his balance on inside counter moves. His experience helps him to identify defensive line games.

Foster is a solid run blocker who is a decent athlete who can move well laterally along the line to lead block. Also has some strength and power as a straight ahead drive blocker but perhaps doesn't yet fully utilise those attributes - isn't yet as effective in this aspect of the game as he maybe should be.

Hard worker who plays with attitude and effort. Is always looking for somebody to block and keeps going until the end of the play.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Foster is a developmental prospect who put on a nice performance at the Senior Bowl practices, which undoubtedly solidified his draft position. He has really nice size, overall length and notably arm length which would appear to suit the left tackle spot, although his lack of outstanding footspeed may see him play right tackle at the next level. Foster has developed in each year of his college career and may yet have more upside. Should make an NFL roster as a back-up tackle, with a chance to challenge down the road. Expect him to be selected on day 3.

### **BRANDON COLEMAN (TCU)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Denton, Texas, before starting his college career at the junior college level at Trinity Valley Community College in Texas in 2019.

Played 1 season at Trinity Valley Community College (7 games), before transferring to TCU prior to the 2020 season, but unfortunately he played just 4 games in 2020 before suffering a season ending injury. Came back from the injury and had a solid 2021, starting in 8 games (including 7 at left guard). Had a really good year in 2022, starting every game at left tackle, and being named honorable mention All-Big 12. Finished his college career with another solid season in 2023, starting games at tackle and guard, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Team all-conference honours.

OT/OG

OT #15

#### Overall #140

#### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-4 ½, 313 (combine)

40: 4.99 (combine)

College Stats: Trinity Valley Community College: In 1 season, played

in 7 games. **TCU:** In 4 seasons, Coleman played in 41 games, with 34 starts. 22 of those starts came at left tackle, 11 at left guard and 1 at right guard.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Coleman is an experienced offensive lineman who has decent size and athletic ability. Is solid and consistent as both a run blocker and in pass protection without being totally dominating. Is really versatile having started games at both tackle and guard at the college level.

Has good power and strength which helps in both the run and pass games. Uses his hands well and gets them on defensive linemen quickly and with a punch. May need to work on his hand and grip strength.

In pass protection, Coleman sets a solid anchor and has quick enough and light enough feet to move and mirror many rushers. Also, generally deals with bull-rushers pretty well. However, he can have some problems with really speedy pass rushers with quickness and bend around the edge.

In the running game, Coleman has an explosive first step which helps his ability to drive block straight ahead. Also can move well laterally and climb out to the second level. Perhaps could do with tying up defensive linemen longer.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has great positional versatility – may be able to compete for a spot at either tackle or guard at the NFL level, this really helps his draft outlook. Coleman has some traits which perhaps point to him most likely being a guard at the next, being when a lineman has tackle possibilities then there's a chance that he gets tried their first. Put up a really nice performance at the combine which, at the very least, solidified his draft positioning. Expect Coleman to be off the board early on day 3 and to make an NFL roster as versatile back-up.

### **DELMAR GLAZE (Maryland)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in North Carolina, before opting to play his college ball at Maryland, choosing the Terrapins over offers from a number of schools.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2020, playing in just a single game. Played well as a part-time starter in 2021 (6 starts at tackle, 4 at right, 2 at left). Became the full-time starter at right tackle in 2022 (12 starts at right tackle, 1 at left tackle), having a nice season and earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, starting every game at left tackle and was named 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Maryland, Glaze played in 40 games, with 32 starts – 16 at left tackle and 16 at right tackle.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. James M. Tatum Memorial Award winner (Maryland team Lineman of the Year). Academic All-Big 10. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Glaze is an experienced (40 games/32 starts), durable and versatile offensive tackle prospect with decent size and really long arms. He has some strength, agility, and athletic ability.

Is probably a better pass protector than run blocker – those really long arms help him, as does his hand usage. Gets off the ball was some quickness and sets a solid anchor. But he perhaps lacks a little of the foot quickness needed to be able to mirror and especially to deal with some speed rushers round the edge.

Glaze can also occasionally get out of position and get off balance to counter moves. However, Glaze works hard on every down and will attempt to recover when beaten – never gives up.

In the running game, Glaze can move a little laterally and works hard as a straight ahead drive blocker where he can leverage those long arms. Has the athletic ability to climb out to the second level.

Glaze is a big effort, hustling type of player but perhaps hasn't yet perfected turning all of his natural strength into power, play-in, play-out.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Glaze had a solid college career, but it may have been slightly surprising that he decided to enter this draft still with college eligibility remaining, but as always only time will tell how it works out. He may ultimately be better suited to play at right tackle (rather than left tackle) at the NFL level. Perhaps may also be able to move inside to guard. There are areas of his game that require development but with his physical attributes, Glaze has a good chance to make an NFL roster initially as a back-up swing tackle and guard while he learns the nuances of the pro game. Expect him to be selected early on day 3.

Round 4-5 Class: RS-Junior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-4 1/8, 315 (combine)

**OT #16** 

Overall #145

40: 5.21 (combine)

### **MATT GONCALVES (Pittsburgh)**

**Misc:** Won a number of honours during his high school career in New York, playing in a number of positions, on both sides of the football. Opted to play his college ball at Pittsburgh on the offensive line.

Redshirted his true freshman season for the Panthers in 2019. Saw good playing time in the pandemic affected 2020 season, including making 3 starts. Was a part time starter again at tackle in 2021. Became a full-time starter in 2022, splitting time between the right and left sides. Started the first 3 games of 2023 at left tackle, before unfortunately suffering an injury which required surgery and kept him out for the remainder of the season.

**College Stats:** In his 4 playing seasons at Pittsburgh, Goncalves played in 39 games, making 24 starts (11 left tackle and 13 at right tackle).

Honours & Awards: 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. Academic All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Goncalves is a huge offensive tackle with a nice level of experience (39 games/24 starts) and the versatility to perhaps play on multiple spots on the line – he has started games at both tackle spots and has played just a little inside at guard. Is coming off a season ending injury.

Goncalves has the strength to set a solid anchor and hold up against bull rushers. Has decent hand usage and a strong initial punch. Will fight bull-rushers to a stalemate at worst. Has more problems with speed rushers where his lack of top-notch foot quickness and slightly short arms mean that he can struggle on the outside, round the edge. Is a battler though and doesn't give up the pressure or sack easily.

In the running game, Goncalves uses his strength and power to shift defensive linemen off the line as a straight-ahead drive blocker. Uses his hands well and gets a grip on defenders – he likes to finish his blocks. Has some athletic ability to climb to the second level and find linebackers and safeties to block. That athletic ability also enables him to move some laterally and get to the outside.

Goncalves plays with a tough, competitive demeanour and with some great attitude. Keeps going all day and is always looking for somebody to block.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Right now, Goncalves is probably a better run blocker than pass protector. He was unfortunately unable to take part in the East-West Shrine Bowl or take part in the workouts at the combine as he rehabbed from his 2023 injury. Teams will obviously want to ensure that he is medically ok before drafting him – but assuming all is ok, NFL scouts will really like his physicality and his versatility. Depending upon which team drafts him, he may well start his pro career at tackle and be moved to guard if that doesn't work out – alternatively, some teams may see him as a guard first, who can play a little tackle. Expect Goncalves to be selected in the first half of day 3.

Overall #147 Round 4-5 Class: Senior Age: 23.25 Ht/Wt: 6-6, 327 (combine) 40: 5.16 (pro day)

**OT #17** 

### The Next Best Offensive Tackles...

#### 18. Caeden Wallace (Penn State)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #189 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons at Penn State, Wallace played in 47 games, with 40 starts – all of the starts coming at right tackle. Team leader type who was co-winner of the Penn State Lions Pride Outstanding Senior Player Award in 2023. Was also named Honorable Mention All-Big 10 in 2023. Durable and consistent, but not yet dominant, all-round blocker. Is a decent athlete with decent size and good physicality. Plays with all-out effort and a non-stop motor.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-4 3, 314 (combine). 40: 5.15 (combine).

#### 19. Walter Rouse (Oklahoma)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #195 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Stanford (2019-22), playing in 40 games, with 39 starts all at left tackle. Transferred to Oklahoma for the 2023 season. Played and started all 13 games at left tackle in his single season for the Sooners, earning honorable mention All-Big 12 recognition. Had previously earned honorable mention All-Pac 12 recognition in 2020 and was a William V. Campbell Trophy finalist in 2022. Great length – more than 35 inch arms (as measured at the combine).

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 313 (combine). 40: 5.23 (pro day).

#### 20. Garret Greenfield (South Dakota State)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #209 overall on our draft board.

Greenfield is highly experienced - in 6 seasons at South Dakota State Greenfield played in 65 games, with 55 starts. 31 of his starts came at left tackle, with 24 coming at right tackle. Decent athlete with some strength and power and good size. Has a little quickness. Works his hands well - initial punch is quick and firm. Solid run blocker without being dominant. Struggles with second effort pass rushers if he doesn't win outright early. Had a highly decorated career including being a multiple time FCS All-American. Had a nice combine, which included a record (for an offensive lineman) 38.5 inch vertical jump. Has versatility, having played at both tackle spots at South Dakota State.

Age: 24.60. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 311 (combine). 40: 5.22 (combine).

#### 21. Nathan Thomas (Louisiana), Tackle/Guard

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #220 overall on our draft board.

Offensive tackle who had 4 playing seasons (2019, 2021-23) at Louisiana, appearing in 33 games (26 starts). Slightly shorter arms than you'd ideally like for the tackle spot – which may mean that he ends up at guard. Is really strong and powerful and much more suited to a straight ahead drive blocking running game than one that requires a lot of lateral movement. That strength also enables him to more successful deal with bull-rushers in the passing game, than deal with speedy and quick rushers around the edge.

Age: 22.68. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 332 (combine). 40: 5.19 (combine).

#### 22. LaDarius Henderson (Michigan), Tackle/Guard

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #225 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Arizona State before transferring to Michigan for the 2023 season. Across his college career, he played in 47 games (39 starts) – 20 of his starts coming at LT and 19 coming at LG. Has the arm length (35 inches) to play tackle in the NFL but may be moved back inside to guard. Is durable. Has some explosiveness and decent foot quickness but can struggle against powerful pass rushers and can get off-balance at times against linemen with counter moves. His versatility will help his draft chances.

Age: 22.37. Ht/Wt: 6-4 1/8, 309 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 23. Julian Pearl (Illinois)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #228 overall on our draft board.

In 6 seasons at Illinois, Pearl played in 47 games, with 35 starts. Has really nice versatility having played left tackle, right tackle, and right guard during his college career. Great size. Probably a better run blocker than pass protector at this stage.

Age: 24.56. Ht/Wt: 6-6, 312 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 24. Ethan Driskell (Marshall)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #261 overall on our draft board.

Dual sport athlete in high school, playing basketball and football. Absolutely huge, intimidating, size – with a frame that could even more weight. Decent foot speed for a man of his size. More than 35 inch arms (combine)

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-9, 330 (college). 40: n/a.

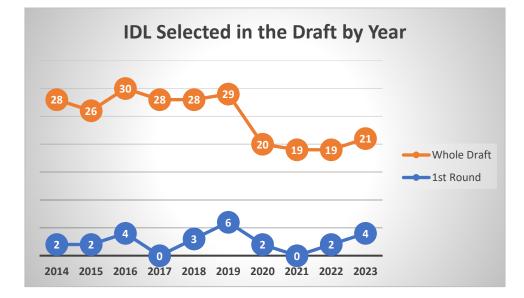
# INTERIOR DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

**General Draft Outlook:** There are no top of the draft superstars in this class, but it's a solid group from about the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> round onwards.

Byron Murphy II and Johnny Newton are candidates to the first defensive lineman selected, probably between picks 15 and 25 overall. Darius Robinson is the other player in the defensive lineman group who could sneak into the back end of round 1.

T'Vondre Sweat (like Murphy, also played at Texas) will almost certainly be off the board in the first half of round 2, while Kris Jenkins and Braden Fiske could also be selected before the round is over. Ruke Orhorhoro, Michael Hall Jr., Brandon Dorlus, Leonard Taylor III, and Maason Smith all have chances of being picked before the second day is complete.

Early in day 3, McKinnley Jackson, DeWayne Carter and Mekhi Wingo should be the first defensive linemen selected.



Prediction: Around 28 defensive linemen will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** The Packers interior line depth chart now consists of Kenny Clark, Devonte Wyatt, T.J. Slaton, Karl Brooks, and Jonathan Ford (making the assumption that Colby Wooden moves from 3-4 defensive end to 4-3 defensive end in the new defense). This appears to already be a solid group that perhaps could stand adding one more player to the mix. It doesn't seem likely that the Packers would go down this route with their first 2 picks, but they certainly may be interested in the likes of the young and developing Michael Hall Jr. on day 2. Further down the draft Mekhi Wingo is a possibility and later on Myles Cole and Khristian Boyd could be in the mix.

# **TOP DEFENSIVE LINEMEN**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Byron Murphy II	DL	Texas	1
2.	Jer'Zhan "Johnny" Newton	DL	Illinois	1
3.	Darius Robinson	DL	Missouri	1-2
4.	Braden Fiske	DL	FSU	1-2
5.	T'Vondre Sweat	DL	Texas	2
6.	Kris Jenkins	DL	Michigan	2
7.	Ruke Orhorhoro	DL	Clemson	2-3
8.	Michael Hall Jr.	DL	Ohio State	2-3
9.	Brandon Dorlus	DL	Oregon	3
10.	Maason Smith	DL	LSU	3
11.	Leonard Taylor III	DL	Miami, Fla	3-4
12.	DeWayne Carter	DL	Duke	3-4
13.	Mekhi Wingo	DL	LSU	4-5
14.	McKinnley Jackson	DL	Texas A&M	4-5
15.	Tyler Davis	DL	Clemson	4-5
16.	Justin Eboigbe	DL	Alabama	4-5
17.	Gabe Hall	DL	Baylor	4-5
18.	Keith Randolph Jr.	DL	Illinois	4-5
19.	Myles Cole	DL	Texas Tech	6-7
20.	Khristian Boyd	DL	Northern Iowa	6-7
21.	Marcus Harris	DL	Auburn	6-7
22.	Jordan Jefferson	DL	LSU	6-7
23.	Logan Lee	DL	lowa	6-7
24.	Fabien Lovett	DL	FSU	6-7
25.	Justin Rogers	DL	Auburn	6-7
26.	Jaden Crumedy	DL	Mississippi State	6-7
27.	Myles Murphy	DL	North Carolina	6-7
28.	Jowon Briggs	DL	Cincinnati	7-UDFA
29.	Evan Anderson	DL	Florida Atlantic	7-UDFA
30.	Zion Logue	DL	Georgia	UDFA
31.	Jaylon Hutchings	DL	Texas Tech	UDFA
32.	Jamree Kromah	DL	James Madison	UDFA
33.	Anthony Goodlow	DL	Oklahoma State	UDFA
34.	Nathan Pickering	DL	Mississippi State	UDFA
35.	Jordan Miller	DL	SMU	UDFA
36.	Kyon Barrs	DL	USC	UDFA
37.	Jesus Gibbs	DL	Towson	UDFA
38.	Tuli Letuligasenoa	DL	Washington	UDFA
39.	Branson Deen	DL	Miami, Fla	UDFA
40.	Popo Aumavae	DL	Oregon	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Casey Rogers	DL	Oregon	UDFA
42.	Keenan Stewart	DL	UTEP	UDFA
43.	Tony Bradford Jr.	DL	Texas Tech	UDFA
44.	Tyler Manoa	DL	Arizona	UDFA
45.	James Ester	DL	Northern Illinois	UDFA
46.	Izaiah Reed	DL	New Mexico State	UDFA
47.	Jordan Domineck	DL	Colorado	UDFA
48.	Judge Culpepper	DL	Toledo	UDFA
49.	Kyler Baugh	DL	Minnesota	UDFA
50.	Levi Drake Rodgriguez	DL	Texas A&M-Commerce	UDFA
51.	Dashaun Mallory	DL	Arizona State	UDFA
52.	Taki "Sam" Taimani	DL	Oregon	UDFA
53.	Paul Akere	DL	Virginia	UDFA
54.	Hale Motu'apuaka	DL	Utah State	UDFA
55.	Jacques Bristol	DL	Central Michigan	UDFA
56.	Julius Welschof	DL	Charlotte	UDFA
57.	Elijah Chatman	DL	SMU	UDFA
58.	Jack Daly	DL	FIU	UDFA
59.	Mikhari Sibblis	DL	Ball State	UDFA
60.	Malik Langham	DL	Purdue	UDFA
61.	Jordyn Slaughter	DL	Illinois	UDFA
62.	James Rawls	DL	Oregon State	UDFA
63.	Mosiah Nasili-Kite	DL	Auburn	UDFA
64.	Ulumoo "MJ" Ale	DL	Washington	UDFA
65.	Jerquavion Mahone	DL	Temple	UDFA
66.	Ja'Quon Griffin	DL	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
67.	James Makszin	DL	Ball State	UDFA
68.	Justin Sambu	DL	Baylor	UDFA
69.	Atunaisa Mahe	DL	BYU	UDFA
70.	Allen Henry	DL	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
71.	Darius Long Jr.	DL	California	UDFA
72.	Jace McCoy	DL	Central Arkansas	UDFA
73.	Ja'Mion Franklin	DL	Duke	UDFA
74.	Patrick Joyner	DL	Kansas	UDFA
75.	Michael Mason	DL	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
76.	Micah Bland	DL	Arkansas State	UDFA
77.	Jackson Cravens	DL	BYU	UDFA
78.	Johnny Hudson Jr.	DL	Fresno State	UDFA
79.	Ben Bartrum	DL	Idaho	UDFA
80.	Kennedy Roberts	DL	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
81.	Bryce Barnes	DL	Illinois	UDFA
82.	Noah Shannon	DL	lowa	UDFA
83.	Ty Coleman	DL	Idaho	UDFA
84.	David Green	DL	Pittsburgh	UDFA
85.	Devin Phillips	DL	Kansas	UDFA

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

### **BYRON MURPHY II (Texas)**

**Misc:** Outstanding high school career in De Soto, Texas, where he earned all-district, all-region, and all-state honours. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Texas – choosing UT after switching his commitment from Baylor.

Played mainly as a back-up (1 start) as a true freshman in 2021. Had a similar year in 2022. Took big leap forward in 2023, becoming a full-time starter and notching up 5 sacks. Earned a number of honours, including being named 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American.

DL #1

#### **Overall #19**

Round 1

Class: Junior

Age: 21.63

Ht/Wt: 6-0 1/2, 297 (combine)

40: 4.87 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at UT, Murphy played in 39 games (16 starts) and recorded 8 sacks, 15 tackles for a loss and notched up 70

total tackles (32 solo). Also caught 1 pass for a 1 yard touchdown and rushed 1 time for a 1 yard touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Defensive Lineman of the Year. DCTF All-Texas 1<sup>st</sup> Team. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. Academic 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2022** Academic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.**2021** Honorable Mention Big 12 Defensive Freshman of the Year. Academic All-Big 12 Rookie Team. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Murphy is a really good, all-round defensive lineman with decent experience, who can stand up strongly against the run and also pressurise, the quarterback in the passing game. Does lack some size (particularly height) however.

In the running game, Murphy's gap control is really good. He will use strength and power at the point to hold up offensive linemen and thanks to an explosive first step Murphy, is also excellent against the run when shooting the gap inside – seems to spend an awful lot of time in the offensive backfield

Murphy is a nice pass rusher – he utilises a combination of his power, quick feet, short area speed, pass rush moves (including great hand use and) and athleticism to harass quarterbacks and chase them down from behind. Gets lots of pressure – now needs to convert that pressure into more sacks.

Murphy is a competitive, physical, and intense player whose production is really good. He plays with effort and hustle and a great attitude.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite his lack of ideal height, Murphy probably projects to be a 4-3 defensive tackle at the pro level – he is so explosive and athletically gifted for a man of around 300 pounds. Came into this "draft period" off the back of two outstanding seasons and yet he is still improving – indicating that there is yet even more to come. Murphy confirmed his athletic prowess with a really nice showing at the combine. In the right situation, we should expect Murphy to enter the NFL and become a starter very quickly in his rookie season. Expect him to be selected somewhere around picks 15-20 overall in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

# **JER'ZHAN NEWTON (Illinois)**

Misc: Known as "Johnny". Played basketball and football in high<br/>school in Florida. Recorded 16 sacks as a senior. Despite offers to stay<br/>in his home state, Newton eventually opted to attend Illinois.DL #2Part-time starter in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Became a<br/>full-time starter in 2021. Outstanding in 2022, notching up 5.5 sacks<br/>and earning some All-American recognition. Even better in 2023,<br/>earning numerous awards including Consensus 1st Team All-<br/>American.Class: Senior<br/>Age: 21.65Callage State In bis A seasons at Illinois.Ht/Wt: 6-1 1/8, 304 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Winner: Nagurski-Woodson Award (Big 10 Defensive Player of the Year) & Smith-Brown Award (Big 10 Defensive Lineman of the Year). Nagurski Trophy finalist. Semi-finalist: Bednarik Award, Outland Trophy & Lombardi Award. **2023 & 2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. **2022** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. **2022 & 2021** Academic All-Big 10. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Newton is a very experienced and highly productive interior defensive lineman who lacks A1 size (height in particular) but brings lots of other attributes to the table. Is also an incredible blocker of kicks - as demonstrated by the 4 that he blocked in 2023.

Newton has a really explosive first step and is extremely effective in and around the center of the line of scrimmage. Uses his hands nicely, both to hit the offensive lineman and also to remove the offensive lineman's hands off of him.

Has strength and power which enables him to stand up strongly against the run and will win lots of running game battles inside thanks to his almost stocky size. That aforementioned quick first step also enables him to get between linemen and stop some running plays in the offensive backfield.

Can get some push up the middle as a pass rusher but doesn't quite dominate here and the production can be a little inconsistent – certainly needs to turn QB pressures into more sacks. Sometimes it seems like he is just a single step away as a pass rusher. Having said all of that there is no doubt that Newton is still solid in this area - he has some moves and is developing.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

The two things you see when you first watch Newton are his relative lack of height (compared to offensive linemen) and how he is still a hugely disruptive force against the inside running game – despite, or perhaps because of, his height – low man wins. That play against the run alone would likely see him as a day 2 draft pick. But then you add his pass rushing skills – while he may continue to need development - they are good enough to likely push Newton towards around pick 20 in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of this draft.

### **DARIUS ROBINSON (Missouri)**

**Misc:** Played both basketball and football in high school in Michigan, although he played just two years of football at the high school level (playing on both sides of the ball). Opted to attend Missouri and play on the defensive Line.

In his first two seasons (2019-20) as a Tiger, Robinson played in just 12 games at defensive tackle (starting in 2), recording a single sack. Became the fulltime starter midway through the 2021 season, having a solid year. Started in 2022, again being solid while notching up 3.5 sacks and 5.5 tackles for a loss. Moved outside to defensive end in 2023 and responded with the best season of his career by some way – recording 8.5 sacks and 14.5 tackles for a loss while earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. DL #3

Overall #33

Round 1-2

Class: Super Senior Age: 22.62 Ht/Wt: 6-5 ⅛, 286 (combine) 40: 4.95 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Missouri, Robinson played in 47 games (29 starts) and recorded 13 sacks and 21 tackles for a loss. He also recorded 111 total tackles (70 solo), 1 forced fumble, 1 fumble recovery and 1 pass defensed.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2022 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Robinson is a strong and powerful defensive lineman who is really stout against the run and possesses some improving pass rush skills. He has good size and a frame that perhaps could add a little extra bulk if it were required (NFL position dependent). Has experience playing in a couple of spots on the defensive line.

Robinson is a fine player against the run, utilising his great strength and physical ability which enable him to overpower some interior offensive linemen to get to the ballcarrier. He will make tackles up and down the line and in the backfield, regardless of where he is lined up.

As a pass rusher, Robinson is developing. Early on, a number of his pressures would come from persistence and effort on the inside – never stopping until the play was over. When he moved outside, Robinson demonstrated a decent first step, some speed and moves. Clearly this is an area where there may be much more to come.

Hard worker, who plays with hustle and a non-stop motor.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Is a player on the rise. He had by far the best season of his career in 2023 and then followed that up with a really impressive Senior Bowl week – being named by scouts as the most impressive player in practice. Having spent time at both defensive end and defensive tackle in college, Robinson brings some versatility, although trying to exactly predict how NFL teams will see him is difficult. It may well be that his size and skillset means that he will be one of those guys that rotates in and out of multiple positions at the next level, perhaps starting as a 4-3 DE and moving inside to tackle on passing downs. Regardless, Robinson is a talented player with some upside and should be off the board early on day 2 or even late in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

#### **BRADEN FISKE (FSU)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Indiana, playing baseball as well as starring on the football field, where he was an all-area and all-conference performer. Opted to attend Western Michigan.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2018 before playing as a back-up in 2019. Won a starting role on the defensive line in 2020, but the season was limited to just 6 games because of the pandemic. Was the starter for a full season for the first time in 2021, notching up 3.5 sacks. Had his best season to that point in his career in 2022, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Transferred to FSU prior to the 2023 season and responded by again earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours along with a career high 6 sacks.

DL #4 Overall #40 Round 1-2 Class: Senior Age: 24.27 Ht/Wt: 6-5 ¾, 292 (combine) 40: 4.78 (combine)

**College Stats: WMU:** In his 5 seasons, Fiske played in 45 games (30 starts), recording 13.5 sacks, 27 tackles for a loss, 148 total tackles (76 solo), 3 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 blocked field goal. **FSU:** In his 1 season, Fiske played and started in 13 games, recording 6 sacks and 9 tackles for a loss. Also notched up 43 total tackles (17 solo).

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-MAC.

**Analysis:** Fiske is a highly experienced interior defensive lineman with good height, length and a frame that perhaps could add a little more bulk.

Fiske is solid and consistent as a run defender. He moves well laterally and will make tackles along the line. Also he has some strength and power which enables him to be a factor in the play – but can have problems with really big offensive linemen.

Is a developing athlete for a man of his size and has an explosive first step which helps him get quickly into the gap when unblocked in the running game and can enable him to get some quick pressure on the quarterback.

Fiske also has good speed, moves and long arms which give him leverage – that combination (along with the aforementioned quick first step) makes him an improving pass rusher from an interior spot. Isn't yet a devastating straight bull-rusher, however.

Plays with hustle and has a non-stop motor which keeps him going on every play. All-out effort guy who plays to the whistle.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Fiske is an experienced and sound football player whose athletic ability, consistency and hustle as an interior pass rusher will encourage NFL scouts. He also helped his cause with an impressive performance at the combine, including a very nice 4.78 in the 40. Could perhaps do with adding some bulk that may help add some more strength and power. Fiske has the look of a solid starter early at the pro level, probably as a 4-3 defensive tackle, who could yet develop into more than that, with work. Good defensive tackles can be hard to come by, so expect Fiske to be off the board early on day 2.

### **T'VONDRE SWEAT (Texas)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Huntsville, Texas, playing basketball as well as football. Earned all-district and all-state honours for his play on the defensive line. Opted to play his college ball close to home at the University of Texas.

Played mainly as a back-up defensive tackle for the majority of his first three years (2019-2021) with the Longhorns. Became a starter in 2022, having the best year of his career to that point and earning some all-conference honours. Followed up with an outstanding 2023, which saw Sweat earn unanimous All-American honours and win the Outland Trophy.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at UT, Sweat played in 62 games (18 starts), recording 5 sacks and 17.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 128 total tackles (47 solo), 14 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 blocked PAT. Also caught 1 pass for a 2 yard touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Outland Trophy winner. Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. Walter Camp Award semi-finalist. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. **2021** Academic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2020** Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Sweat is huge interior defensive lineman with a nice level of experience, who improved in each year of his college career. It's possible that Sweat is even bigger than his listed size – he didn't weigh in at the Senior Bowl.

Sweat converts his size into power and strength and brings that to bear when lined up against centers and guards. He is an outstanding run defender, the aforementioned size, power, and strength making it extremely difficult for offensive linemen to move him. He is a true clogger up of space in the middle.

Has some disruption ability in the passing game as he can push lineman back towards the quarterback, but he wouldn't really be called a pocket collapser at this point and isn't a finisher as a pass rusher.

When his pass rush is stopped, Sweat will gets his hands up and deflect and/or knock down passes at the line of scrimmage.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Opted to return to college for the 2023 season rather than enter that year's draft. This decision almost certainly helped his draft stock, as he had a fine 2023 at Texas. Sweat most likely projects to an early down 3-4 nose tackle spot in the pros and can be a dominant interior player against the run at the NFL level. There may be some who will be concerned about his weight and whether or not he can provide some pass rush pressure. Nonetheless, his run-stuffing skills will be in demand and it's likely that Sweat will be off the board on day 2.

DL #5

#### Overall #48

Round 2

Class: Super Senior

Age: 22.79

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 366 (combine)

40: 5.27 (combine)

### **KRIS JENKINS (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Son of Kris Jenkins who played in the NFL for 10 years (Carolina, New York Jets) and was a 2-time 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pro. Played his high school ball in Maryland. Opted to play his college ball at Michigan.

Redshirted in 2020, playing in just a single game. Became a part time starter in 2021 (4 starts), before earning a fulltime starting role at defensive tackle in 2022, when he had a really nice season. Continued his career upswing with his best year in 2023, earning some All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Michigan, Jenkins played in 44 games (33 starts), recording 4 sacks and 8 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 112 total tackles (E4 colo), 1 interception, 1 pass defensed and 1 fumb

DL #6

#### **Overall #52**

#### Round 2

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 22.54

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 299 (combine)

40: 4.91 (combine)

112 total tackles (54 solo), 1 interception, 1 pass defensed and 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. **2021** Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Jenkins is a very experienced, extremely strong, and powerful interior defensive lineman who has really good speed and athleticism. He has decent size, being slightly under the prototypical size for a defensive tackle at the next level. Jenkins is a fine run stuffer with a little production in the passing game.

Currently Jenkins' real forte is in stopping the run. He has the strength and power to stop runs in his area, dead in their tracks. It's very rare that offensive linemen will consistently get the better of him in the running game. In addition to his aforementioned strength, Jenkins uses his arms and hands really well to keep those offensive linemen off of his body.

#### **Packer Connection**

Kris Jenkins is the nephew of former Packers defensive lineman Cullen Jenkins Jenkins doesn't rack up a ton of statistics as a pass rusher. Has power and speed but hasn't yet developed enough pass rush moves to make a splash getting after the quarterback. Can get knocked offbalance at times when trying to get upfield.

Jenkins plays hard with lots of effort. However, he was rotated in out of the line-up during most games, meaning that he didn't play nearly

as many snaps per game as a number of other defensive linemen who will potentially be drafted this year.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jenkins has good potential, and despite some really nice plays/games in college, it feels like his overall production hasn't yet lived up to that potential. But we shouldn't downplay what he has done thus far – Jenkins has proven to be a nice run stuffer from the middle of the defensive line, although it would have been good to see him play more snaps and to have been more effective getting after the quarterback. Right now, Jenkins looks like a talented early down player at the next level who has the possibility, because of his athletic ability, to become much more than that. If his family lineage is anything to go by, Jenkins will develop into a really good player in the NFL – time will tell. Expect him to be selected on day 2.

# **RUKE ORHORHORO (Clemson)**

**Misc:** Full name is Oghenerukevwe Orhorhoro. Last name is pronounced "o-ro-ro-ro". Born in Nigeria and moved to the USA with his family at the age of 8. Played both basketball and football in high school in Michigan. But only spent two years on the gridiron. Opted to play his college ball at Clemson, choosing the Tigers over a number of FBS offers including his adopted home state school, the University of Michigan.

Played as a back-up DE in 9 games in his true freshman season in 2019. Moved to DT for the 2020 season, growing into the position. Unfortunately suffered a meniscus injury which limited him to just 4 games in 2020 and he was granted a medical redshirt. Returned to

DL #7 Overall #66 Round 2-3 Class: Senior Age: 22.54 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 294 (combine) 40: 4.89 (combine)

have a solid 2021, starting 9 games. Started 9 games again in 2022, recording 4 sacks and earning some all-conference recognition. Solid in 2023, earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference recognition for the second time.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Clemson, Orhorhoro played in 53 games (30 starts), recording 12 sacks, 25.5 tackles for a loss, 88 tackles (39 solo), 9 passes defensed & 2 fumble recoveries.

Honours & Awards: 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 PFF & Phil Steele 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Orhorhoro is an experienced, versatile defensive lineman who has really good size and some athleticism. He has played some at both defensive end and defensive tackle.

Orhorhoro has good strength and power against the run. He will hold up drive blockers thanks to his physicality and also has enough athleticism to prevent him being cut on more lateral or outside running plays. He will get into the offensive backfield to make plays.

As a pass rusher, Orhorhoro doesn't have quite enough speed to consistently trouble offensive lineman, but his aforementioned power and strength do enable him to bull rush with a degree of success. He rarely completely collapses the pocket but can cause pressure. Will pick up sacks due to his non-stop, keeping going until the down is over type attitude – meaning that he will benefit from other pressure or coverage.

When his pass rush is halted, Orhorhoro will get his hands up and deflect or knock passes down at the line of scrimmage. Plays with hustle and a non-stop motor. Keeps going to the whistle on every play. Doesn't give up.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

NFL teams may see him as a tall 3-4 defensive end or as a 4-3 defensive tackle. Regardless, it's likely that the team that selects Orhorhoro will do so to a degree because of his versatility, so they are likely to take advantage of that and use him in a number of positions and alignments in any case. Those teams will love his attitude and competitive nature. Is likely to start his NFL career as an early down player who can provide some pass rush but should develop. Likely to be off the board on day 2.

### MICHAEL HALL Jr. (Ohio State)

**Misc:** Hall had an outstanding high school career in Ohio, playing both on the defensive and offensive lines. Was ranked as one of the top high school recruits in the nation despite missing much of his senior season due to a broken hand. Opted to play his college at Ohio State, choosing the Buckeyes over offers from a number of Power 5 schools including the likes of Alabama and Penn State.

Redshirted as a true freshman in 2021, playing in 4 games as a reserve defensive tackle. Had a nagging shoulder injury in 2022 which limited his playing time, but still notched up 4.5 sacks and 7.5 tackles for a loss and earned 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference honours. Was solid again in 2023, starting around half the games and earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference honours for the second straight year.

DL #8

Overall #71

Round 2-3

Class: RS-Sophomore Age: 20.87 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 290 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at OSU, Hall Jr. played in 28 games (11 starts), recording 6 sacks and 10 tackles for a loss. Also had 45 tackles (19 solo) and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Hall is an extremely young and potentially versatile defensive lineman with decent size, explosiveness and short area quickness who played predominantly as a nose tackle type at Ohio State, where he rotated in and out of the line-up quite a lot.

Hall is a good athlete, with nice agility, for a man of his size. His aforementioned explosiveness enables him to shoot through gaps very quickly – enabling him to sometimes stop running plays at source. Hall also works with his hands well – those hands get up quickly and he gets good leverage (perhaps helped by his slight lack of height). Has good strength and power.

Hall will use his explosiveness to get off the ball quickly to generate a pass rush – turning speed into power, he can bull rush and get some linemen off balance and he also some pass rush moves which help him do this. However, Hall hasn't yet proven to be a consistent finisher and offensive lineman have been able to counteract and recover. He can also, on occasion, be taken out of the play quickly by really big offensive lineman.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Hall is very young – one of the youngest players available in the entire draft – and his decision to enter this draft wasn't completely expected. Nonetheless, he did his draft status no harm with a nice Senior Bowl week, although he disappointingly couldn't work out at the combine due to a hamstring injury. He has some positional versatility, and it could be that Hall may be more of a 4-3 defensive tackle or even 3-4 defensive end in the NFL – he may lack some of the bulk required to play nose tackle (where he played a lot for the Buckeyes). Hall has a lot of potential but hasn't always been able to convert that into production and NFL teams will need to work on improving him in a number of areas and to help him deliver, play in, play out. He could develop in time into a long time NFL starter, assuming he finds a positional niche, but only time will tell. Expect Hall to be selected on day 2. Could be a fit for the Packers.

### **BRANDON DORLUS (Oregon)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Florida, playing both basketball and football. Won all-county honours on the football field. Had 11 sacks as a senior. Was highly recruited out of high school, eventually opting to attend Oregon.

Played as a back-up throughout his true freshman season (2019). Again played mainly as a back-up in 2020 (just 1 start) in a season shortened by the pandemic. Earned a starting defensive tackle spot for the 2021 season and had a really good year, earning allconference recognition. Started mainly at defensive end in 2022, again earning some all-conference recognition and matching his 2021 sack total (2.5). Had a career best 5 sacks and earned 1<sup>st</sup> team allconference honours in 2023. **DL/Edge** 

DL #9

Overall #79

Round 3

Class: Super Senior

Age: 23.10

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 283 (combine)

40: 4.85 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Oregon, Dorlus played in 58 games

(39 starts) recording 12 sacks and 27 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 106 total tackles (58 solo), 13 passes defensed and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. 2021 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Dorlus is a very consistent and highly experienced player on the defensive line, who also brings some versatility being able to also contribute on the edge. Has gradually improved throughout his college career.

Is strong, powerful, and extremely difficult for offensive lineman to move against the run and has some early acceleration that means that he can shoot a gap and make plays in the offensive backfield. Dorlus isn't dominant play-in, pay-out, but he is consistent and more than holds his own. He certainly doesn't make it easy for those offensive linemen to keep him blocked and out of the play.

Has developed as a pass rusher and has a nice first step and some moves that allow him to get pressure on the passer – ideally needs to convert more of that pressure into sacks. When his pass rush is halted, Dorlus will get his hands up or into throwing lane to deflect/knock-down passes.

Dorlus plays with hustle all the time. He will keep going all out on every play.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Dorlus was a steady, consistent player throughout his college career, who has shown some gradual improvement. He has some versatility that teams will like, but there's also a danger that he gets stuck between positions – the classic 'tweener – exactly where he fits at the next level isn't quite clear, but it's probably as a 4-3 defensive end or even a 4-3 defensive tackle. Dorlus really helped his draft status by demonstrating excellent speed at the combine (4.85 in the 40). Should in time, at the very least, be a solid starter in the NFL and should be selected on day 2.

#### **MAASON SMITH (LSU)**

**Misc:** Very good high school career in Louisiana. Opted to stay very close to home and play his college ball in Baton Rouge for LSU.

Played really well as a true freshman (2021) as a part-time starter, recording 4 sacks. Unfortunately, Smith tore an ACL in the opening game of the 2022 season, which forced him to miss the remainder of the season. Returned with a solid season as a starter (12 starts) in 2023.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at LSU, Smith played in 22 games (17 starts), recording 6.5 sacks and 9.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 47 total tackles (22 solo) and 2 passes defensed.

DL #10

#### Overall #87

#### Round 3

Class: RS-Sophomore

Age: 21.54

Ht/Wt: 6-5, 306 (combine)

40: 5.01 (combine)

Honours & Awards: 2021 FWAA Freshman All-American. All-SEC Freshman Team.

**Analysis:** Smith is a strong and powerful defensive lineman with excellent size, athleticism, and decent speed. Has good versatility, having experience lining up in multiple spots on the defensive line. Lacks a great level of overall playing experience at the college level (having missed nearly all of 2022).

Smith has some an explosive first step and decent feet which enable him to get his hands on offensive linemen quickly and convert that speed to initial power. Smith can use that power and his strength to move those linemen. Against the pass, this means that the bull-rush, collapsing the pocket, is generally his most common form of attack. Has some moves, but could do with developing more, and adding a speed rush, if possible, would be good.

Against the run, again Smith's strength and aggression comes to the fore, holding up at the point, especially when single blocked, and being able to clog up gaps. Can, however, get tied up by offensive linemen and needs to develop disengagement ability - doesn't as yet, make many plays on runs away from him.

Smith does play with hustle however and he plays with effort on every play, trying to get involved with the tackle.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Smith perhaps somewhat surprisingly decided to declare for this draft – could possibly have been a higher draft choice if he'd gone back to college for the 2024 season (had 2 seasons of college eligibility remaining). However, only time will tell. Teams are going to need to be comfortable with Smith's medical situation following his ACL injury in 2022, but he played in 2023 so all appears to be fine. Was excellent as a freshman in 2021 – how quickly can he get back to the level of that season and then progress further? Needs some development (e.g. Could do with adding some strings to his bow as a pass rusher) but nonetheless, Smith is an interesting prospect who is still young (under 22 years old) and probably has a higher level of potential than his production so far might indicate (his ceiling could be high). Will likely be selected around round 3 by a team that has the patience and time to coach him and should start his NFL career as a back-up 4-3 defensive tackle.

### LEONARD TAYLOR III (Miami, Fla)

**Misc:** Taylor had an outstanding high school career in the Miami area, Florida. Opted to stay home and play his college ball at the University of Miami – choosing the Hurricanes over offers from a number of Power 5 schools.

Saw action as a back-up defensive tackle in his true freshman season (2021), notching up a couple of sacks. Started 9 games in 2022, notching up 3 sacks, 10.5 tackles for a loss and an interception as earned honourable mention all-conference recognition. Had a solid year in 2023, although he probably wasn't quite as good as he was in 2022 - had just 1 sack and 3.5 tackles for a loss.

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at Miami, Taylor played in 31 games (19 starts), recording 6 sacks and 22.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 64 tackles (25 solo), 1 interception and 1 pass defensed.

Honours & Awards: 2022 Honorable Mention All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Taylor is a strong and powerful defensive tackle who is a good athlete with decent size. Also has a solid level of experience (31 games) and brings some versatility to the table – being able to line up all along the defensive line.

Taylor is a stout run defender who has a really quick first step and nice hand usage. He is strong and powerful being almost impossible for offensive lineman to shift off the football. That aforementioned first step enables him to get into the backfield and stop the running back behind the line of scrimmage. Occasionally will get out of position, perhaps a little too aggressive at times, and move past the play.

Taylor has some pass rushing skills from the inside, which start with that first step and a little speed. He also has some moves (but could develop more). However, Taylor can get a little tied up by offensive linemen on occasion and doesn't win quite as much as you'd ideally like. Needs to convert potential and pressure into more sacks.

Taylor plays with great attitude and intensity and has a non-stop motor which means he keeps going to the whistle on every single play.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Taylor has good potential but perhaps hasn't progressed as quickly as his talent would have suggested. At this point in time, Taylor is a stout defender against the run who is difficult to move off the line, but he really doesn't make as many splash plays as you'd like to see ideally - particularly as a pass rusher. Unfortunately, Taylor didn't put up a huge combine performance that may have lifted his draft status, but there is good talent and an upside there. Although Taylor has some versatility, he will probably project to be a 4-3 defensive tackle at the pro level who is likely to start his NFL career as an early down player. Has enough potential to be selected on either late on day 2 or early on day 3.

Overall #103 Round 3-4 Class: Junior Age: 21.91 Ht/Wt: 6-3, 303 (combine)

DL #11

40: 5.12 (combine)

#### **DEWAYNE CARTER (Duke)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Ohio playing both baseball and football. Won multiple awards and accolades for his play on the defensive line. Opted to play his college ball at Duke.

Redshirted his true freshman season at Duke (2019), playing in just 3 games. Saw limited action as a back-up in 2020, before winning a starting role in 2021. That season saw Carter notch up 4.5 sacks and earn 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference honours. Stepped up in 2022 to earn 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours while recording 5.5 sacks. Had a career high 41 tackles in 2023 as he won 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference accolades.

DL #12

#### Overall #114

Round 3-4

Class: Senior

Age: 23.38

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 302 (combine)

40: 4.99 (combine)

**College Stats:** in his 5 seasons at Duke, Carter played in 52 games (38 starts), recording 12 sacks, 25 tackles for a loss, 126 total tackles (48 solo), 11 passes defensed, 7 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries (including 2 returned for touchdowns) and blocked 1

kick. Also caught 1 pass for 11 yards and rushed 1 time for -1 yard. **Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. William V. Campbell Award finalist. Winner: Jim Tatum Award (ACC Top Senior student-athlete) & Carmen Falcone Award (Duke team MVP). **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC. CFN 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. NFF Hampshire Honor Society Honoree. Named to Allstate AFCA Good Works team. **2022 & 2021** Academic All-ACC. Mike McGee Award winner (Duke top defensive lineman). Steve Brooks Captain Award (Duke team award). **2021** 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-ACC. CoSIDA (CSC) Academic All-District. Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar finalist. **2020** 

**Analysis:** Carter is a highly decorated and highly experienced (52 games/38 starts) interior defensive lineman who is solid both against the run and as a pass rusher. He has a combination of good size and athletic ability.

Ace Parker Award winner (Duke team award for commitment and overcoming adversity).

Carter has strength and power that he utilises in a bull-rush to collapse the pocket and pressure the passer. Will force the quarterback to move and on occasion, Carter will finish the play with a sack, although he perhaps doesn't quite as many sacks as you'd like. When his pass rush is halted, Carter will get his hands up to deflect passes at the line.

Carter also uses his strength to play the run but has a little lateral movement which enables him to make some tackles at or behind the line of scrimmage. He doesn't dominate down-in, down-out, but is a solid player against the run.

Carter plays with great attitude and effort, going all out to the whistle on every play. Hustles to get to the ball carrier to help with the tackle. Has a knack for stripping the ball away and for recovering fumbles.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Carter is really nice all-round interior lineman with the ability to play on both run and pass downs in the NFL. Likely, initially makes an NFL roster as a rotational player and back-up for just about every spot on the defensive line before perhaps challenging for a starting spot in year 2. Should be off the board in round 3 or 4.

#### **MEKHI WINGO (LSU)**

**High School:** Played his high school football in Missouri earning that's state's Gatorade Football Player of the Year award as a senior in 2020. Stayed in his home state to play his college ball, at the University of Missouri.

Had a very nice freshman season in 2021. Transferred to LSU prior to the 2022 season. Earned a starting role very quickly at LSU in 2022, notching up 3 sacks and garnering AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American honours. Missed 5 games towards the end of the 2023 season due to a lower body injury (which required surgery), having played through injury, but returned for the season ending Bowl game. Had a solid year recording 4.5 sacks.

DL #13 Overall #116 Round 4-5 Class: Junior Age: 21.03 Ht/Wt: 6-0, 284 (combine) 40: 4.85 (combine)

**College Stats: Missouri:** In his 1 seasons, Wingo played in 12 games (4 starts), recording 1 sack, 2 tackles for a loss, 27 total tackles (14 solo), 1 interception (returned for a touchdown) and 1 pass defensed. LSU: In his 2 seasons, Wingo played in 22 games (20 starts), recording 7.5 sacks, 5 passes defensed, 1 interception, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AFCA Good Works team. SEC Community Service team. **2022** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. **2021** Freshman All-SEC Team.

**Analysis:** Wingo is a stoutly built but undersized defensive lineman, who is a decent athlete, with good athleticism and speed.

Wingo has a nice, quick, first step which enables him to quickly hit a gap. He has also developed some pass rush moves, which enable him to get some pressure on the passer. Wingo has appeared to improve year on year as a pass rusher. Will get his hands up when his rush is stopped and will knock down passes at the line of scrimmage.

Against the run, Wingo has some strength and power to stalemate offensive linemen at the line of scrimmage. Also uses his hands well to get those offensive linemen's hand off of him. Will also move laterally and make tackles along the line. Can pursue ball-carriers and catch them from behind in a short area.

Wingo is a tough, committed player who will play through injury and hustle on every down. Sets a great example.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Wingo has potential but is still very young – just over 21 years old at the time of the draft and it was therefore perhaps a little surprising that he opted to declare for this draft. Wingo is a three-down player, with some ability, strength and athleticism needed to both stop the run and to make plays as a pass rusher. He is also tough, which he demonstrated by playing through injury in 2023. The big downside for Wingo is his lack of size, which may limit how some teams see him at the NFL level – it's likely that he'll be used as 4-3 defensive tackle, designed to shoot the gap. Expect him to be off the board somewhere around the middle rounds. Could fit the Packers new 4-3 defense.

### McKINNLEY JACKSON (Texas A&M)

**Misc:** Excellent high school career in Mississippi playing multiple positions. Won multiple honours and was rated as a 4-star prospect by multiple organisations. Opted to play his college ball at Texas A&M, selecting the Aggies over a number of FBS schools including the likes of Alabama.

Saw playing time predominantly as a back-up in his freshman (2020) and sophomore (2021) seasons. Earned freshman All-SEC honours. Missed the first few games of the 2022 season but returned to become a full-time starter and have a really nice year. Was again the starter in 2023, having a solid, if not outstanding, season.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Texas A&M, Jackson played in 40 games (23 starts), recording 7.5 sacks and 15.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 90 total tackles (43 solo), 2 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 1 blocked PAT.

**Honours & Awards: 2022** Texas A&M Team Defense MVP. Texas A&M Team Defense Leadership Award winner. Texas A&M Team Strength & Conditioning Award winner. **2021** Texas A&M team Defensive Toughness Award winner. **2020** SEC All-Freshman Team.

**Analysis:** Jackson is a solid and consistent defensive lineman with decent experience (40 games/23 starts) and a big-framed body (although he's perhaps slightly below the A1 height for the role) who can be a physical presence in the middle of the line. Has been recognised as a team leader while at the Aggies.

For a man of his huge size, Jackson has a surprisingly explosive first step, with quick feet and he is a solid athlete. Utilises his strength to hold up blockers and prevent movement – clogs up the middle or the line. Makes a decent number of tackles at and behind the line of scrimmage and can move laterally to make those tackles as well.

Isn't the most active pass rusher, so he has a way to go to develop in this area. While he has good strength and power, and can therefore push the pocket somewhat, he wouldn't be described as a pocket collapser.

Jackson has some difficulties in being able to shake off offensive linemen when they get their hands on him – needs to improve technique to remove those hands. Will stay active during plays and can pick up coverage pressures and sacks.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jackson is an interesting player. While he wasn't a dominant defensive lineman in college, he played solidly and appears to have some attributes – in particular, the combination of size, strength, and athletic ability – that means he may have some upside. Jackson probably fits as 3-4 nose tackle or as a 4-3 defensive tackle at the next level. It seems likely that he'll start his career as an early down performer but if he develops a little bit more of a pass rush, he should become a solid every down player in the NFL. Expect Jackson to be selected in the early rounds of day 3.

Overall #118

DL #14

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 326 (combine)

40: 5.26 (combine)

#### **TYLER DAVIS (Clemson)**

**High School:** Outstanding high school career in Florida. Opted to plays his college ball at Clemson over offers from other Power 5 schools, including those that would have kept him in his home state.

Immediately earned a starting role as a true freshman in 2019, notching up 5.5 sacks and earning all-conference recognition. Nagging injuries limited his 2020 season to 7 games and reduced his production to a couple of sacks. Unfortunately, Davis then suffered a torn bicep during the 2021 season, which reduced his season to 9 games – nonetheless, he played well enough to again earn allconference honours. Had the best season of his career thus far in 2022, recording 5.5 sacks and garnering All-American recognition. DL #15

Overall #130

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.48 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 301 (combine) 40: 5.02 (combine)

Had a solid season in 2023, again earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at Clemson, Davis played in 56 games (52 starts), recording 16 sacks, 29.5 tackles for a loss, 144 total tackles (64 solo), 3 fumble recoveries and 3 passes defensed.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. **2022** FWAA & Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. ACC Honor Roll. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. **2019** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Davis is a highly experienced (56 games/52 starts) interior defensive lineman who is slightly undersized (height) – perhaps could add a little more bulk.

Davis has some short area quickness and is powerful. He plays stoutly against the run, and he clogs up the middle of the line. Will stalemate and tie up offensive linemen and will utilise his strong hands to remove their grip. Will make tackles around the line of scrimmage and will get through the gap to make some tackles in the offensive backfield.

Although he has some athleticism in the pass rush, Davis generally won't beat defenders with his quickness and speed. He uses leverage extremely well to get underneath the pads of the center or guard and bull-rush him towards the backfield. While Davis isn't really a consistent pocket collapser, he is a persistent pass rusher who will get some sacks because of this. Will get his hands up to knock passes down.

Plays with effort, hustle, and persistence on every down. Tough, hard worker.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Perhaps somewhat surprisingly, Davis opted to return to Clemson for the 2023 season, rather than enter the 2023 draft. Davis had a really productive career, especially considering the number of nagging injuries that he incurred – that injury history may be of concern to teams, but they also can't overlook his toughness and willingness to keep going. Because of his size, it's not immediately easy to work out how teams will see him positionally at the next level – perhaps as a 3-4 nose tackle or perhaps as a 4-3 defensive tackle? Either way, it seems most likely that he'll be viewed, at least initially, as an early down run defender. Expect him to be off the board in the first half of day 3.

### **JUSTIN EBOIGBE (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Was a star defensive lineman in high school in Forest Park (Atlanta area), Georgia. Had offers from multiple FBS schools, including his home state University of Georgia before opting to attend Alabama.

Played mainly as a rotational player/back-up in 2019 (making 2 starts). Started the majority of the games in 2020, before playing mainly in rotation again in 2021 (15 games, 3 starts). Unfortunately suffered a neck injury in 2022 which ended his season after just 4 games. But bounced back with the best season of his college career in 2023, recording 7 sacks and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

DL #16 Overall #148 Round 4-5 Class: Senior Age: 23.05 Ht/Wt: 6-4 ¾, 297 (combine) 40: 5.18 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Alabama, Eboigbe played in 56 games (28 starts), recording 9 sacks, 16 tackles for a loss, 123 total tackles (58 solo), 1 interception, 3 passes defensed and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. AP/CSC Comeback Player of the Year Award semifinalist.

**Analysis:** Eboigbe is a dependable and experienced defensive lineman with good height, who could do with adding a little more bulk to his body – his frame would appear to be able to handle it. Is versatile having lined up all over the defensive line. Demonstrated great resilience to return from his 2022 neck injury.

Plays with aggression, strength, and some power against the run. Eboigbe is really difficult for offensive linemen to move in the running game, although he is more of a consistent and durable run defender than he is a dominating one. Will occasionally make plays in the offensive backfield.

Eboigbe has improved tremendously as a pass rusher, although he still has aways to go and like in the running game, he isn't a dominating player. Isn't going to beat offensive linemen with quickness and speed but can bull-rush a little and has developed some moves – using his long arms as leverage. Will also keep active on the pass rush, ensuring that those offensive linemen have to sustain and maintain their blocks. Eboigbe will get some sacks through his persistence.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Eboigbe is a developing defensive lineman, with decent athleticism, who seemed to take a big leap forward in 2023 – just a year removed from a neck injury in 2022. His 2023 season will have provided a level of assurance of his recovery from that injury – although we will expect that NFL teams will be ensuring that they are comfortable with the medical information that they have. If Eboigbe adds some bulk to his frame then he could be utilised in a number of ways at the pro level, but currently he looks like a situational/rotational type player who will develop further to become a starter. Should be selected at some point in the first half of day 3, perhaps in round 5.

#### **The Next Best Interior Defensive Linemen...**

#### 17. Gabe Hall (Baylor)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #174 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons (2019-23) at Baylor, Hall played in 48 games, with 32 starts. Recorded 11.5 sacks, 16.5 tackles for a loss, 77 total tackles, 3 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery (returned for a touchdown) and 1 forced fumble across his Baylor career. Put in a good performance at the Senior Bowl, helping his draft status. Had good size, with a tall rangy frame. Plays with some strength. Potential is currently higher than his production.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-6, 291 (combine). 40: 5.03 (combine)

#### 18. Keith Randolph Jr. (Illinois)

Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #176 overall on our draft board.

In his 5 seasons (2019-23) at Illinois, Randolph played in 42 games, with 28 starts. Recorded 10 sacks, 23 tackles for a loss, 159 total tackles, 2 interceptions, 4 passes defensed and 1 forced fumble across his Illinois career. Much more of a solid run defender than he is a pass rusher at this stage of his career. Lacks some size to be physically dominant but makes tackles at and behind the line of scrimmage and plays especially well in the gap. Is probably going to start his NFL career as an early down 3-4 defensive end.

Age: 22.65. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 296 (combine). 40: 5.15 (combine)

#### **19.** Myles Cole (Texas Tech)

# Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #185 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons (2018-21) at Louisiana-Monroe, playing 33 games, with 11 starts. Transferred to Texas Tech prior to the 2022 season. In 2 seasons at Texas Tech, Cole played in 25 games, with 13 starts. Recorded 85 total tackles, 12.5 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks, 1 pass defensed and 1 blocked kick across his college career. Tall and very rangy. His size and athleticism is likely to interest NFL scouts more than his production. Is perhaps the classic 'tweener and the position that Cole ends up competing for at the NFL level is likely to depend upon the team that drafts him. It's not unconceivable that there are teams that see him as a 3-4 defensive end, a 4-3 defensive or a big 3-4 outside linebacker. May be an interesting addition to the Packers 4-3 defensive end group.

Age: 23.99. Ht/Wt: 6-6, 278 (combine). 40: 4.67 (combine).

#### 20. Khristian Boyd (Northern Iowa)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #192 overall on our draft board.

In 6 seasons at Northern Iowa, he played in 49 games, recording 10.5 sacks, 22.5 tackles for a loss and 149 total tackles across his career. Was named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MVFC in 2023, having won 2<sup>nd</sup> Team recognition in 2022. Is already over 24 years old. Big bodied lineman who lacks some height. What his best position at the next level is, is unclear – could be a 3-4 nose tackle. Boyd may just be one of those late round, under the radar prospects, who may intrigue the Packers as a big body on the defensive line, even though he doesn't seem like an obvious fit for the new 4-3 system.

Age: 24.17. Ht/Wt: 6-2 1/8, 320 (East-West Shrine Bowl). 40: Unknown.

#### 21. Marcus Harris (Auburn)

Likely late round draft choice. Is #199 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons (10 games, 5 starts) at Kansas, before transferring to Auburn prior to the 2021 season. Played 3 seasons (2021-23) at Auburn, appearing in 37 games, with 35 starts. Recorded 11 sacks, 31 tackles for a loss, 126 tackles, 2 passes defensed, 3 fumble recoveries (including 1 returned for a TD) and 1 forced fumble across his college career.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2 3%, 286 (combine). 40: 5.06 (combine)

#### 22. Jordan Jefferson (LSU)

Likely late round draft choice. Is #215 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at West Virginia, playing in 42 games (17 starts). Transferred to LSU for the 2023 season, playing in 13 games (6 starts). Recorded 6 sacks, 21.5 tackles for a loss, 90 tackles, 8 passes defensed and 1 forced fumble across his whole college career. Decent athlete with a pretty good first step for a big man and is able to make himself appear thin and narrow to get into gaps. Plays solidly against the inside run. Isn't really a pass rusher at this stage. Put up a nice performance at LSU's pro day.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2 <sup>5</sup>, 316 (pro day). 40: 4.91/5.10 (pro day).

#### 23. Logan Lee (Iowa)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #218 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons (2020-23) at Iowa, playing in 43 games (41 starts), recording 9 sacks, 18.5 tackles for a loss, 158 total tackles, 7 passes defensed and 2 fumble recoveries.

Age: 23.87. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 281 (combine). 40: 5.05 (combine)

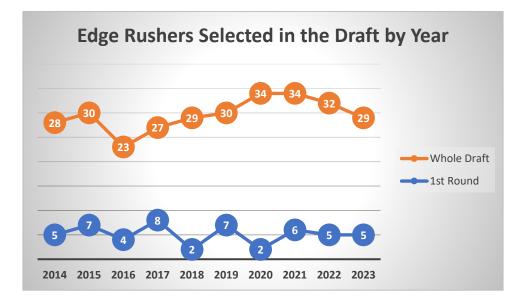
# **EDGE RUSHERS**

**General Draft Outlook:** This edge class is yet another solid group which lacks a star at the top 5 overall level, and perhaps isn't at the overall level of some recent years. However, four of this year's class are candidates to be off the board in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

Dallas Turner, Jared Verse and Laiatu Latu will probably vie to be the first edge player off the board. It seems likely that they will all be selected within a few picks of each other – perhaps somewhere between picks 10 and 18 overall. Chop Robinson is the fourth player with 1<sup>st</sup> round possibilities and he's likely to be picked somewhere towards the end of the round or early in round 2.

The second group of edge players should be off the board on day 2. This group consists of Bralen Trice, Chris Braswell, Adisa Isaac, and Marshawn Kneeland. Just below this group are Austin Booker and Jonah Elliss, both of whom could be selected in round 3 or round 4.

Prediction: Around 25 edge rushers will be selected in this draft.



**Packers Outlook:** With the switch to the 4-3 defense, the Packers now have a really sound group of edge defenders who are capable of playing as 4-3 defensive ends. That group includes Rashan Gary, Preston Smith, Lukas Van Ness, Kingsley Enagbare, Brenton Cox Jr. and probably Colby Wooden (converted from 3-4 defensive end). However, with Enagbare recovering from a 2023 injury and Smith re-working his contract regularly, it's quite feasible that the Packers look in this direction again this year. It would be a surprise if the Packers went edge in the 1<sup>st</sup> round (having selected Van Ness last year) – Chop Robinson would be about the right value for where the Packers pick but he looks much more like a 3-4 outside linebacker in the pros. It seems more likely that the Packers would pick up an edge player on day 2 or day 3. On day 2, the most appropriate fit seems like Marshawn Kneeland. Houston Christian's Jalyx Hunt could be a nice pick-up later in the draft.

# **TOP EDGE RUSHERS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Dallas Turner	Edge	Alabama	1
2.	Jared Verse	Edge	FSU	1
3.	Laiatu Latu	Edge	UCLA	1
4.	Demeioun "Chop" Robinson	Edge	Penn State	1-2
5.	Chris Braswell	Edge	Alabama	2
6.	Bralen Trice	Edge	Washington	2-3
7.	Marshawn Kneeland	Edge	Western Michigan	2-3
8.	Adisa Isaac	Edge	Penn State	2-3
9.	Jonah Elliss	Edge	Utah	3
10.	Austin Booker	Edge	Kansas	3
11.	Gabriel Murphy	Edge	UCLA	3-4
12.	Mohamed Kamara	Edge	Colorado State	4-5
13.	Javon Solomon	Edge	Troy	4-5
14.	Jalyx Hunt	Edge	Houston Christian	4-5
15.	Nelson Ceaser	Edge	Houston	4-5
16.	Cedric Johnson	Edge	Mississippi	4-5
17.	Brennan Jackson	Edge	Washington State	4-5
18.	Xavier Thomas	Edge	Clemson	4-5
19.	Braiden McGregor	Edge	Michigan	6-7
20.	Jaylen Harrell	Edge	Michigan	6-7
21.	Zion Tupuola-Fetui	Edge	Washington	6-7
22.	Eric Watts	Edge	Connecticut	6-7
23.	Javontae Jean-Baptiste	Edge	Notre Dame	6-7
24.	Grayson Murphy	Edge	UCLA	6-7
25.	Eyabi Okie-Anoma	Edge	Charlotte	6-7
26.	Solomon Byrd	Edge	USC	7-UDFA
27.	Trajan Jeffcoat	Edge	Arkansas	UDFA
28.	Jalen Green	Edge	James Madison	UDFA
29.	David Ugwoegbu	Edge	Houston	UDFA
30.	Richard Jibunor	Edge	Troy	UDFA
31.	Ron Stone Jr.	Edge	Washington State	UDFA
32.	Sundiata "Sunny" Anderson	Edge	Grambling State	UDFA
33.	Andre Carter	Edge	Indiana	UDFA
34.	John Morgan III	Edge	Arkansas	UDFA
35.	Tre'Mon Morris-Brash	Edge	UCF	UDFA
36.	Jacoby Windmon	Edge	Michigan State	UDFA
37.	Taylor Upshaw	Edge	Arizona	UDFA
38.	Jordan Strachan	Edge	South Carolina	UDFA
39.	DeVere Levelston	Edge	SMU	UDFA
40.	Antonio Alfano	Edge	Lackawanna CC	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Rondell Bothroyd	Edge	Oklahoma	UDFA
42.	Andrew Chatfield Jr.	Edge	Oregon State	UDFA
43.	Praise Amaewhule	Edge	UTEP	UDFA
44.	Stephen Herron Jr.	Edge	Louisville	UDFA
45.	Mase Funa	Edge	Oregon	UDFA
46.	Jordan Davis	Edge	Mississippi State	UDFA
47.	Nate Lynn	Edge	William & Mary	UDFA
48.	A.J. Simon	Edge	Albany	UDFA
49.	Joe Andreessen	Edge	Buffalo	UDFA
50.	Caleb Okechukwu	Edge	Syracuse	UDFA
51.	Jake Heimlicher	Edge	UCLA	UDFA
52.	Ayodele Adeoye	Edge	Incarnate Word	UDFA
53.	Jack Sullivan	Edge	USC	UDFA
54.	Darren Anders	Edge	Bowling Green	UDFA
55.	Ovie Oghoufo	Edge	LSU	UDFA
56.	Brian Ugwu	Edge	Miami, Ohio	UDFA
57.	Levelle Bailey	Edge	Fresno State	UDFA
58.	Chris Goetz	Edge	Wisconsin	UDFA
59.	Tyreek Johnson	Edge	South Carolina	UDFA
60.	Foday Jalloh	Edge	Lamar	UDFA
61.	Derrick McLendon II	Edge	Colorado	UDFA
62.	Justin Blazek	Edge	Wisconsin-Platteville	UDFA
63.	Mazin Richards	Edge	North Texas	UDFA
64.	Paul Moala	Edge	Georgia Tech	UDFA
65.	Loobert Denelus	Edge	Benedict College	UDFA
66.	Tramel Walthour	Edge	Georgia	UDFA
67.	Daniel Grzesiak	Edge	Cincinnati	UDFA
68.	Malik Vann	Edge	Cincinnati	UDFA
69.	Max Michel	Edge	Buffalo	UDFA
70.	Jonah Laulu	Edge	Oklahoma	UDFA
71.	Justin Mascoll	Edge	Clemson	UDFA
72.	Owen Porter	Edge	Marshall	UDFA
73.	Nyles Gaddy	Edge	Missouri	UDFA
74.	John McCartan	Edge	Oregon State	UDFA
75.	Zareon Hayes	Edge	Alabama A&M	UDFA
76.	Thurman Geathers	Edge	Arkansas State	UDFA
77.	Elijah McCallister	Edge	Auburn	UDFA
78.	Sidney Houston Jr.	Edge	Ball State	UDFA
79.	T.J. Franklin	Edge	Baylor	UDFA
80.	Byron Vaughns	Edge	Baylor	UDFA
81.	Taijh Alston	Edge	Colorado	UDFA
82.	Anthony Nelson	Edge	Duke	UDFA
83.	Deshawn McCarthy	Edge	East Stroudsburg	UDFA
84.	Garret Fountain	Edge	San Diego State	UDFA
85.	Isaac Ukwu	Edge	Mississippi	UDFA

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

#### **DALLAS TURNER (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Turner had an outstanding high school career in Florida, winning a number of accolades. Had numerous offers from Power 5 schools, eventually choosing to play his college ball for Alabama.

Had an excellent freshman season (2021), in which he notched up 8.5 sacks in a reserve/rotational role, earning freshman All-American honours. Started most of the games in 2022, without being quite as productive (4 sacks) rushing the passer. Was outstanding in 2023, notching up 13 sacks and earning Consensus All-American honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Alabama, Turner played in 42 games (27 starts), recording 23.5 sacks, 33.5 tackles for a loss, 120 tackles (58 solo), 1 pass defensed, 2 forced fumbles & 2 fumble recoveries.

Edge #1

#### **Overall #8**

#### Round 1

Class: Junior

Age: 21.23

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 247 (combine)

40: 4.46 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Defensive Player of the Year. Bednarik Award finalist. Lott IMPACT Trophy finalist. Lombardi Award semifinalist. Alabama Team Co-Defensive Player of the Year. **2021** 247Sports & FWAA Freshman All-American. SEC All-Freshman Team.

**Analysis:** Turner is an experienced (42 games/27 starts), highly athletic and really fast outside linebacker who is an outstanding pass rusher off the edge. Has decent size, although in an ideal world a little added bulk (providing that there is no loss of speed and athleticism) wouldn't go amiss. Turner was part of the fine Edge group at Alabama that included Chris Braswell – also a likely selection in this draft.

Turner is a really good pass rusher with an explosive first step, quickness and speed and that important bend around the edge. When rushing from wide, he speed will give convert to power which will also trouble offensive tackles. Has great agility and is able to change direction quickly in order to track down the quarterback.

Turner is a solid player against the run, who can use his athleticism to avoid a straight on block in order to get to the ballcarrier. Will chase running backs down from behind and will make lots of plays in the offensive backfield.

Plays with all-out effort and a non-stop motor. Keeps going until the whistle.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Turner was overshadowed a little by playing for two years on the opposite edge to 2023's 3<sup>rd</sup> overall draft pick Will Anderson, but he was still productive. Turner stepped out of Anderson's shadow in 2023 to have an excellent year and to demonstrate his speed, athletic ability, and all-round skills – and there should be even more to come. Turner did his draft status no harm at all with a really nice showing at the combine that include a super-quick 4.46 in the 40. Speedy, edge pass rushers, who can also play the run, are always in vogue in this NFL era and while Turner isn't quite yet at the level that Anderson was it at this time last year, he is the number one edge rusher in this draft, with a lot of potential - he should be off the board in the 1<sup>st</sup> round, most probably somewhere between picks 8 and 12 overall.

### JARED VERSE (Florida State)

**Misc:** Played both DE and TE in high school in Pennsylvania. Was also a multi-sport athlete, playing basketball and running track in addition to playing football. After lacking offers from FBS schools, Verse opted to attend the University of Albany (at the FCS level).

Was at Albany for 3 seasons (2019-21), including a redshirt year. Earned all-conference recognition in each of 2020 and 2021 (plus FCS freshman All-American notice). Entered the transfer protocol after the 2021 season and transferred to Florida State. Had an outstanding2022 season at FSU, notching up 9 sacks and 17 tackles for a loss, earning some All-American honours. Followed up with a very similar season in 2023. Edge #2 Overall #15 Round 1 Class: Senior Age: 23.47 Ht/Wt: 6-3 %, 254 (combine) 40: 4.58 (combine)

**College Stats: Albany:** In his 3 seasons (2 playing), Verse played in 15 games (12 starts), racking up 14.5 sacks, 74 tackles (46 solo), 21.5 tackles for a loss, 1 pass break-up and 2 forced fumbles. **FSU:** In his 2 seasons, Verse played in 25 games (22 starts), recording 18 sacks and 29.5 tackles for loss. Also recorded 88 total tackles (45 solo), 3 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** FWAA 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Bobby Bowden Leadership Award co-winner (FSU team award). **2022** The Athletic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. FSU Team Defensive MVP. **2021** FCS Freshman All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-CAA. **2020 (played in Spring 2021)** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-CAA. CAA Defensive Rookie of the Year. Jerry Rice Award finalist.

**Analysis:** Verse is an outstanding pass rusher off the edge, who was highly productive at the college level. Brings good experience to the table and also has some potential versatility.

Verse's pass rushing skills begin with a really explosive first step and quickness. He can make plays both with power straight ahead – where he will use his strength to bullrush-defenders - and with athleticism and speed around the edge, where he has some bend.

Verse is solid against the run, where he will use his athleticism and agility to make the play. Will chase down plays from behind. Can struggle with really big and powerful offensive lineman.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Opted to return to school rather than enter the 2023 draft, which was slightly surprising as he likely would have been a 1<sup>st</sup> pick last year. However, he had a good 2023 season and followed up with a nice combine (which included 31 reps in the bench press and a fine 4.58 in the 40). Played his college career mainly as a defensive end, so it's going to be interesting to see how teams view him positionally at the pro level - he is probably a 3-4 outside linebacker, which will give him some skills to learn and development. Nonetheless, Verse is going to be a fine passer rusher, with some run skills, at the pro level and should make an immediate impact. Expect him to be off the board somewhere around the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

### LAIATU LATU (UCLA)

**Misc:** Played both LB and TE in high school in California. Received offers from multiple schools before opting to attend Washington.

Played as a back-up LB in his freshman (2019) season. Unfortunately, suffered a neck injury in practice in 2020 which kept him out for the whole season and then required surgery in 2021. Latu then decided to retire from football altogether based on medical opinion. Having missed two whole seasons, he was medically cleared to play again, restarting his career at UCLA. Having not seen game play since 2019, Latu came back with an outstanding 2022 notching up 12 sacks and earning all-conference recognition. Followed this up with an even better, multi-award winning, 2023 season in which he recorded 13 sacks.

Edge #3

Overall #18

#### Round 1

Class: Junior Age: 23.32 Ht/Wt: 6-4 ¾, 259 (combine) 40: 4.63 (combine)

**College Stats: Washington:** In 1 (playing) season, Latu played in 12 games (0 starts) recording 16 tackles (11 solo), 0.5 sack. 1.5 tackles for a loss & 1 pass defensed. **UCLA:** In his 2 seasons, Latu played in 25 games (12 starts), recording 23.5 sacks, 34 tackles for a loss, 85 tackles (51 solo), 2 interceptions, 5 passes defensed, 5 forced fumbles & 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Lombardi Award winner. Hendricks Award winner. Pat Tillman Defensive Player of the Year Award winner. Morris Trophy winner. Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award winner. Bednarik Award finalist. Lott IMPACT Trophy finalist. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Latu is an athletic playmaker with good size and physical traits including athletic ability and really good speed.

Latu's undoubted forte is as a pass rusher off the edge. Thanks to his athletic ability and skillset, Latu gets consistent pressure on the passer and frequently converts that pressure into sacks. He wins as much through skills, moves, consistency and persistence as he does through speed or power.

Is a solid player in the running game but doesn't really dominate and can be nullified at times by strong and powerful offensive linemen. But when playing in space or when offensive linemen's hands don't get on him quickly, Latu can burst into the backfield to make a play and will pursue and chase ballcarriers down from behind.

Plays all-out on every down – is a non-stop motor kind of guy.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

NFL teams will need to be comfortable about Latu's medical situation (2020 neck injury), but the good news is that he has played for the last two seasons. The other question mark about Latu is likely to be whether he can consistently stand up against the run. However, Latu is an outstanding and highly productive pass rushing talent who can beat offensive linemen in a number of ways and has the potential to completely take over a game. That pass rushing ability is so good that we can expect Latu to be selected at some point in around the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

### **DEMEIOUN "Chop" ROBINSON (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Nicknamed "chop", which is short for "pork chop" – which was his nickname as a baby. Robinson was a very good high school career in Maryland. Had offers from multiple Power 5 schools, deciding to stay close to home and play his college football at Maryland.

Played mainly as a back-up OLB in his true freshman season (2021). Transferred to Penn State prior to the 2022 season, making a successful move to DE in Penn State's system, recording 5.5 sacks, and earning some all-conference recognition. Followed up with a nice 2023 as the full-time starter, earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. Edge #4 Overall #26 Round 1-2 Class: Junior Age: 21.31

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 254 (combine)

40: 4.48 (combine)

**College Stats: Maryland:** In his single season, Robinson played in 13 games (1 start) and recorded 2 sacks, 2.5 tackles for a loss and 19 total tackles (12 solo). **Penn State:** In his 2 seasons, Robinson played in 22 games (10 starts), recording 9.5 sacks, 17.5 tackles for a loss, 41 total tackles (31 solo), 2 fumble recoveries, 3 forced fumbles and 3 passes defensed.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Reid Robinson Award (Penn State Team Defensive Lineman of the Year) co-winner.

**Analysis:** Robinson is an exciting player with really good athleticism, who is very slightly under the A1 size for the position at the pro level. Has good experience. Formed one part of a dynamic edge partnership at Penn State along with fellow potential 2024 draftee Adisa Isaac.

Robinson is an excellent pass rusher, with an explosive first step, quickness, and outstanding speed. That speed especially can give offensive tackles real fits. Robinson also has some good pass rush moves and bend around the edge. Generates a lot of pressure on the passer but perhaps needs to turn that pressure into more sacks. Does lack a little strength and power and can get tied up by offensive lineman that get their hands gripped on him.

Adding to his pass rush ability, Robinson is a good run defender. He is extremely disciplined and reads plays really well. Will make tackles in around the line of scrimmage and on occasion corral the ball-carrier in the backfield.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Robinson will be a 3-4 outside linebacker at the pro level. Thanks to his athleticism and speed, his potential is surely hugely intriguing to NFL teams. Robinson has shown development as his college career progressed and confirmed his talent with a really impressive performance at the combine that surely helped his draft chances. His combine testing including an outstanding broad jump and a very fast 4.48 in the 40. The team that drafts Robinson will be looking for him to turn his potential into more production – he doesn't quite make as many plays as his athletic ability suggests that he should – but this is going to come. Robinson's combination of production and potential is likely to see him selected somewhere towards the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round or perhaps early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

#### **CHRIS BRASWELL (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Braswell was excellent during his high school days in Maryland, earning a number of accolades. Opted to attend Alabama.

Didn't play during his true freshman season (2020). Was a back-up outside linebacker and special teams player during 2021, playing well albeit on limited time. Braswell's playing time on defense was again limited in 2022 – was behind the 2023 1<sup>st</sup> round pick Will Anderson on the depth chart – although he was really good when he did get on the field. Played every game in 2023, starting in a couple, and playing well enough (8 sacks) primarily as a back-up to earn 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Alabama, Braswell played in 40 games (2 starts), recording 11 sacks and 16 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 76 tackles (31 solo), 1 interception (returned for a touchdown), 2 passes defensed, 4 forced fumbles and 2 blocked kicks (1 field goal, 1 punt)

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list.

**Analysis:** Braswell is a developing pass rushing outside linebacker, with good size and athletic ability. Braswell was part of the fine Edge group at Alabama which included the outstanding Dallas Turner – a likely high round selection in this draft.

Braswell had lots of playing time at Alabama, but lacks some experience being "the guy" – often playing as part of a rotation (even in 2023) and has always been surrounded by lots of talent.

Braswell has a mixture of quickness (an explosive first step), speed and moves which enable him to get after and sack the quarterback. Those attributes and skills give offensive tackles real problems, especially around the edge.

Was used, on occasion, in pass coverage and his decent speed and quickness means that he can do a little of this in short and underneath areas.

Braswell is solid against the run, although there are areas that could do with development. He is smart and sets the edge really well. However, he is much more effective playing space when not lined up directly over an offensive lineman – bigger offensive tackles can give him real problems especially in straight ahead plays, and he can find it difficult to disengage from them.

Has some special teams experience, which include some kick blocking skills, which will stand him in good stead at the next level.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Braswell has always had potential but was a little way down the Alabama rotation until this past year. Still, we don't really know how much of his potential has been reached or whether there is much more to come – but we suspect that there is much more to come, and Braswell could turn out be a really good player, in time, at the NFL level. Expect him to be selected at some point on day 2.

Edge #5

#### **Overall #50**

#### Round 2

Class: Senior

Age: 22.50

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 251 (combine)

40: 4.60 (combine)

### **BRALEN TRICE (Washington)**

**Misc:** Solid high school career in Arizona, where Trice was a fine pass rusher – including 14.5 sacks in his junior season. Opted to play his college ball at the University of Washington.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2019, then sat out the 2020 season due to the pandemic. Played throughout the 2021 season, mainly as a back-up (11 games, 2 starts). Had a break-out season in 2022, as he became the full-time starter and demonstrated an outstanding ability to get to the passer (9 sacks) – earned some All-American notice. Followed up with a 7 sack season in 2023, again earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team All-American recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 3 (playing) seasons at Washington, Trice played in 40 games (29 starts), recording 18 sacks and 28.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 101 total tackles (63 solo), 2 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** TSN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Valero Alamo Bowl Defensive MVP. Washington Team Defensive MVP.

**Analysis:** Trice is an experienced (40 games/2 starts) and productive edge defender who has shown some improvement throughout his college career. Makes plays through his effort and hustle.

Trice is a good pass rusher who has a quick first step and good hands which immediately at the snap will put pressure on offensive tackles. Also Has some moves that help to beat those tackles – but could probably do with developing more. While he has decent speed, Trice doesn't really have bend around the edge and despite his good numbers, could do with converting more pressures into sacks.

Plays with all-out effort against the run. Will keep going even after being blocked and will pursue running backs from behind. Makes plays in the offensive backfield (as evidenced by his career 28.5 tackles for a loss). Needs to ensure that he stays consistent and disciplined in the running game to avoid missing the runner altogether.

Trice appears to be play with hustle on every play, going all out and not stopping. He always works his way back towards the football even after being taken out of a play.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Trice has shown improvement through his college career but it's really difficult to know what to make of his performance at the combine – he didn't test particularly well and came in at much lower weight than he apparently played at in college. This was a surprise and will likely see some re-assessment of his draft status by interested teams. The assumption now is that, if he stays around the 245 pounds combine weight, then he will project to a 3-4 outside linebacker spot in the NFL. With his pass rushing skills, we should likely expect Trice to be off the board on day 2.

[200]

Edge #6 Overall #58 Round 2-3 Class: Senior Age: 23.16 Ht/Wt: 6-3 ½, 245 (combine)

40: 4.72 (combine)

### **MARSHAWN KNEELAND (Western Michigan)**

Edge #7 **Misc:** Played both sides of the ball in high school in Michigan, earning all-conference, all-district, and all-state honours. Opted to play his Overall #61 college football in his home state by attending Western Michigan. Round 2-3 Played in just a single game as true freshman in 2019, before playing well in 5 games (3 starts) in 2020, which was impacted by the Class: Senior pandemic. Had a good 2021 season, notching up 4.5 sacks and 7.5 Age: 22.80 tackles for a loss. Followed that with a solid year in 2022. Had probably the best year of his college career in 2023, again recording Ht/Wt: 6-3, 267 (combine) 4.5 sacks and was named 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference. 40: 4.75 (combine) **College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at WMU, Kneeland played in 38 games

(21 starts), recording 13 sacks and 28 tackles for a loss. Also notched up 149 total tackles (82 solo), 3 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles and 1 blocked kick. Also rushed 2 times for 1 yard and 1 touchdown.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-MAC. **2019** WMU Team Co-Outstanding Scout Team Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** Kneeland is a really sound and consistent defensive end who has good power and strength. He has decent size to play in the 4-3 (even if he is slightly under the A1 height). Has good experience and some versatility – at times in college he has switched between defensive end and rush-linebacker.

Kneeland is currently at his best as a run defender. He is really strong at the point of attack, uses his hands well and extremely difficult for offensive line to move. He will also get upfield if not directly blocked and will make tackles in the offensive backfield. Won't stop working and will pursue ball-carriers and chase them down from behind.

Is a solid pass rusher who has good speed, quickness and arm leverage but needs to develop some more pass rush moves in order to become more productive. Needs to convert pressures into more sacks.

Kneeland is a non-stop motor guy, who plays hard and appears to love playing football. This is exemplified not only by his play on defense but also that on special teams where he has lots of experience, playing on just about every unit.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Kneeland somewhat surprisingly opted to enter this draft, with college eligibility still remaining, but he really showed up strongly at the combine with a really nice performance. His size/speed profile will likely see him fit as a 4-3 defensive end at the next level. Kneeland is outstanding against the run, which secures him playing time on early downs at the pro level, but he also some pass rush ability and potential – this will need developing. If Kneeland becomes a bigger pass rush threat then he could be an every down player in the NFL. Expect him to be selected at some point on day 2. I wouldn't rule out the Packers being interested in adding Kneeland to their edge rotation.

#### **ADISA ISAAC (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Earned numerous honours in high school in New York playing football. Also took part in track and field. Opted to attend Penn State over offers from a number of FBS schools.

Played as a back-up as a freshman at Penn State in 2019 - having a solid year. Followed that up with a similar season as a sophomore in 2020. Unfortunately, missed the whole of the 2021 season due to a torn achilles injury. Bounced back to start every game at defensive end in 2022, recording 4 sacks, while gaining 3<sup>rd</sup> team all-conference recognition. Had the best year of his college career in 2023, recording 7.5 sacks and 16 tackles for a loss while earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his Penn State career, Issac played in 46 games (26 starts), recording 14.5 sacks and 31.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 92 tackles (47 solo), 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

#### **3-4 OLB**

Edge #8

**Overall #64** 

Round 2-3

Class: Senior

Age: 22.56

Ht/Wt: 6-4 ¾, 247 (combine)

40: 4.74 (combine)

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2022 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Isaac is a playmaking edge prospect with good experience (46 games/26 games) and a combination of nice athleticism, agility, and size. Formed one part of a dynamic edge partnership at Penn State along with fellow potential 2024 draftee Chop Robinson.

Isaac is a sound defender against the run. He reads plays successfully and consistently sets the edge and plays with both lateral speed and the quickness to shoot into the offensive backfield to make the tackle.

Is better when playing in space, although he does demonstrate some strength and power in order to physically stretch offensive tackles.

Isaac is a good pass rusher who has improved in this area year-on-year. He has a good, quick first step and some speed. Has some pass rush moves, although adding more wouldn't go amiss. Will tax offensive linemen with that quickness and speed on the outside. Some of his sacks come through persistence and hustle.

Plays with great attitude and enthusiasm. Plays to the whistle on every down.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite nominally being a defensive end at Penn State, Isaac will, in all likelihood, be a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL. He will bring athleticism and a very nice all-round game to the pros. Had a good season in 2023 (the best of his college career), raising his draft pofile and Isaac re-emphasised that with a good Senior Bowl week. Isaac brings a lot of potential to the table, which when added to his already good production, means that he is going to gain a lot interest from teams. Isaac will almost certainly be selected at some point after his Nittany Lion edge teammate Chop Robinson, but not that far behind – will probably be off the board on day 2, perhaps late in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round or early in the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **JONAH ELLISS (Utah)**

**Misc:** Son of former NFL player Luther Elliss (Lions, Broncos), who also attended Utah. Jonah's brother, Kaden, is a 5-year linebacker in the NFL (Saints 2019-22, Falcons 2023). Nice high school career in Idaho, playing both offense and defense. Opted to play his college ball at Utah, turning down offers from a number of other FBS schools.

Played predominantly on special teams as a freshman in 2021. Earned a starting role in 2022 and had a nice year earning some allconference notice. Broke out with a huge year in 2023 with 12 sacks, earning 1<sup>st</sup> team All-American honours. Missed the end of the season with a shoulder injury that required surgery. Edge #9

**Overall #80** 

Round 3

Class: Junior

Age: 21.07

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ½, 248 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons (2021-23) at Utah, Elliss played in 35 games (18 starts) and recorded 16 sacks, 23 tackles for a loss, 78 total tackles, 3 forced fumbles, 4 fumble recoveries and 3 passes defensed.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Lombardi Award finalist. Hendricks Award finalist. Polynesian Football Player of the Year Award finalist. Bednarik Award semifinalist. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2021** Pac-12 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Elliss is a really good pass rusher off the edge, with athleticism and agility, although he is somewhat undersized as compared to the pro ideal size. Has decent experience (35 games/18 starts).

Elliss uses his explosive first step, quickness, and speed to put real pressure on offensive tackles and to get to the quarterback – he is an outstanding pass rusher. Couples those athletic attributes with some really good pass rush moves. Will pursue quarterbacks from behind and is persistent.

Due to his lack of prototypical size, Elliss can struggle with much bigger offensive linemen in the running game, so he's at his best against the run when he can play in space. But even when linemen get ahead of him, Elliss' aforementioned persistence, call it hustle and effort, help him out.

Has special teams experience from earlier in his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Elliss is still very young (just over 21 years old on draft day) and played mostly at defensive end in college - but his size means that he is much more suited to be a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL (even then he is still slightly under the ideal height for a pro outside linebacker). Elliss is athletic, but unfortunately wasn't able to demonstrate his athletic prowess at the combine as he was still recovering from his late season injury. Elliss has a lot of potential, particularly as a pass rusher, and while he needs to develop and improve in some areas, he should be able to contribute quickly in rotation in the NFL. Expect him to be selected on day 2, probably in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round.

### **AUSTIN BOOKER (Kansas)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school In Indiana, playing basketball as well as football. On the gridiron, Booker was a nice pass rusher from the defensive end spot. Opted to play his college ball at Minnesota.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2021, before appearing in 6 games as a back-up in 2022. Decided to transfer to Kanas prior to the 2023 season. Was a huge contributor in his one year for the Jayhawks – despite starting just 1 game, Booker notched up an impressive 8 sacks and earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

Edge #10

#### Overall #84

Round 3

Class: RS-Sophomore Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-4, 240 (combine) 40: 4.79 (combine)

College Stats: Minnesota: In 1 (playing) season, Booker played in 6

games, recording 2 tackles (1 solo), including 1 tackle for a loss. Kansas: In 1 season, Booker played in 12 games (1 start), recording 8 sacks and 12 tackles for a loss. Also had 56 total tackles (40 solo), 2 forced fumbles and 1 pass defensed.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Big 12 Defensive Newcomer of the Year.

**Analysis:** Booker has a wiry frame with a large wingspan and perhaps the body type to add a little more bulk. He lacks experience (just 18 games in college with only 1 start) but is improving rapidly.

Is a really good athlete with speed and an explosive first step for such a tall man. Utilises this athletic ability along with great arm leverage to beat offensive tackles and put pressure on the quarterback. In limited opportunities, Booker has demonstrated the proficiency to convert quarterback pressures into sacks.

Stands up pretty well against the run considering his size, again using his arms and leverage to keep lineman off him. However, he can be overpowered when offensive tackles get their hands gripped on him.

Booker is an all-motion, hard-working player who plays with a non-stop motor on every down, appearing to keep going until the whistle. Plays with hustle even if the play is run away from him.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Booker somewhat surprisingly opted to enter this draft, with still two seasons of college eligibility remaining. Played as a pass rushing defensive end in college but would appear to project to a 3-4 outside linebacker spot in the NFL at his current size - although if he were to add 20-25 pounds (his frame would appear to be able to hold it) then it's not out of the question that Booker could be a 4-3 defensive end at the next level. The positional uncertainty coupled with his lack of experience and power will likely keep Booker down the pecking order of edge defenders in this draft - but the athleticism and physical attributes he demonstrated in 2023 and at the Senior Bowl will intrigue teams and make them feel like there is a lot of untapped potential. We can probably expect Booker to be off the board towards the end of day 2.

### **GABRIEL MURPHY (UCLA)**

**Misc:** Gabriel and his twin brother Grayson played together at the same high school in Texas (and would then go on to play together in college ay both North Texas and UCLA). Gabriel had a solid high school career in Dallas, Texas. Opted to stay in state and play his college ball at North Texas.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019), playing in just 4 games before playing in 7 games in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Led the Mean Green with 4.5 sacks. Became the full-time starter in 2021, notching up 7 sacks and earning all-conference recognition. Transferred from North Texas to UCLA between the 2021 and 2022 seasons and immediately earned a starting spot for the Bruins, Overall #111 Round 3-4 Class: Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-2, 247 (combine)

Edge #11

40: 4.68 (combine)

garnering some all-conference notice. Had a really good 2023 season (8 sacks) to again gain some all-conference notice.

**College Stats: North Texas:** In his 3 seasons, Murphy played in 24 games (15 starts) recording 11.5 sacks, 17.5 tackles for a loss, 71 tackles (31 solo), 3 pass break-ups, 4 forced fumbles & 1 fumble recovery. **UCLA:** In his 2 seasons, Murphy played in 26 games (25 starts), recording 9.5 sacks, 20 tackles for a loss, 76 tackles (42 solo), 3 passes defensed & 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2022** PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. Athletic Director's Honor Roll. **2021** PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Conference USA.

**Analysis:** Murphy is an experienced player (50 games/40 starts) at the college level who demonstrated ability to rush the passer and play the run. He played along the defensive line but doesn't have the size to do that at the next level. His twin brother Grayson is also a likely draft choice in this draft (see Grayson's profile later on this list of edge players).

Murphy is a decent athlete with some agility and a quick first step which enables him to get pressure and use his bend around the edge. Also has some pass rush moves which allow him to mix up his rush and give offensive tackles something else to deal with. Can get physically beaten and enveloped by much bigger offensive linemen and will struggle to get disengaged. However, Murphy keeps his pass rush going and his legs moving and can pick up coverage sacks through his hustle.

Plays hard against the run, but can struggle at times against strong blockers, whose power can give him difficulties. Much more effective against the run when he can play in space and use his quickness to get into the backfield and also chase runners down from behind.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Murphy is a consistent player who plays with a great attitude and a non-stop motor – these attributes will endear him to NFL scouts. However, his size and strength profile mean that he will surely move from the defensive line to play as a 3-4 outside linebacker in the NFL. This will require development but in the short term his pass rushing skills should mean that he can be an effective situational player on 3<sup>rd</sup> downs. Expect him to be drafted either late on day 2 or early on day 3.

#### **MOHAMED KAMARA (Colorado State)**

**Misc:** Outstanding high school player in New Jersey, winning a number of honours. Opted to play his college ball at Colorado State, switching his commitment from Temple.

Played mainly as a rotational player and back-up outside linebacker in his first couple of years at CSU (2019-2020). Took a big step up in 2021 as he became a part-time starter and recorded 7.5 sacks. Moved to defensive end – responding by winning a starting job and notching up 8.5 sacks. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Followed up with easily the best season of his career in 2023, recording an impressive 13 sacks and earning some 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at CSU, Kamara played in 49 games (33 starts), recording 30.5 sacks, 45.5 tackles for a loss, 179 tackles (93 solo), 2 passes defensed and 3 forced fumbles (including 2 returned for TDs)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** FWAA & Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Mountain West. Mountain West Conference Defensive Player of the Year. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Mountain West. **2019** Academic All-Mountain West.

**Analysis:** Kamara is an experienced, athletic but undersized (lacks ideal height) edge defender (end or linebacker) who is an outstandingly productive pass rusher off the edge. Has a knack for forcing fumbles.

Kamara has an explosive first step and outstanding speed, quickness, and bend around the edge. He troubles any offensive tackle that lacks athletic ability, foot movement and quickness. He can also counter inside if the tackle over adjusts. Kamara is also a good finisher, taking good angles to get to the quarterback. Will have more difficulties if offensive linemen get their hands on him – he doesn't really have the strength at this time to disengage once he's tied up.

Lacks experience dropping into coverage.

Kamara may not be able to consistently hold up at the point of attack against the run. Again, if tackles get a grip, he's not going to get away. But with space, he will play laterally along the line, and can chase runners down from behind. Can set the edge, although on occasion he can be over aggressive and overrun a play.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Kamara played both outside linebacker and defensive end while in college at Colorado State – given his size, he will surely be a 3-4 outside linebacker at the pro level. He is a fine athlete as he demonstrated with an outstanding combine showing – and this should have earned him some fans amongst NFL scouts who at the very least should be seeing him as a pass rusher at the pro level, especially if he can play away from traffic. In fact, we should expect to Kamara starting his NFL career in exactly that role – coming off the bench on third down. He should also be a contributor on special teams. To become more than that, he'll need to develop against the run and learn pass coverage. Expect Kamara to be selected on day 3.

Edge #12

#### Overall #120

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¾, 248 (combine) 40: 4.57 (combine)

#### **JAVON SOLOMON (Troy)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Florida, wrestling as well as playing football. Earned multiple honours for his time on the gridiron. Opted to play his college ball at Troy.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019), playing in just 3 games, before becoming a part time starter in 2020. Took a leap forward as the full-time starter in 2021, earning some All-American notice, as well as 1<sup>st</sup> Team all-conference accolades. Wasn't quite as effective in 2022 as his production dropped off some. Bounced back in 2023 with the most productive season (16 sacks) of his career, earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 5 years at Troy, Solomon played in 52 games (3 starts), recording 33 sacks and 49.5 tackles for a loss. Also recorded 183 total tackles (88 solo), 1 interception, 3 passes defensed, 5 forced fumbles and 4 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Sun Belt Conference. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Sun Belt Conference. **2021** PFN Honorable Mention All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Sun Belt Conference.

**Analysis:** Solomon is a slightly undersized (height) but effective pass rusher who was productive playing outside the Power 5.

Solomon's pass rushing ability starts with an explosive first step and a burst that enables him to get round the edge, where he demonstrates good bend. Plays with good pad level and has developed good arm leverage and hand use in creating some pass rush moves. Solomon is a finisher, converting pressures into sacks, who takes great angles to the passer and can run him down from behind. Will force and recover fumbles.

Solomon's speed and quickness also enables him to make plays in the backfield when he's unblocked, and he makes lots of tackles for a loss.

Solomon lacks some size and top-level strength and power, and this can show in the running game, where he can struggle at the point and be moved off the line of scrimmage by offensive tackles. Can also get overaggressive sometimes and not set the edge.

Is a team leader type who plays hard and is an example to team-mates. Plays hard on every down.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Solomon is an interesting pass rushing prospect, whose production in that area earned him an invitation to the Senior Bowl and the combine. That production was truly outstanding, even though it was achieved outside of the Power 5 conferences. Solomon's quickness and athleticism, plus the moves he has developed will surely excite NFL scouts and will earn him opportunities as a 3-4 outside linebacker at the next level, even though he could be a one-dimensional player (at least until he can develop against the run). Expect Solomon to be off the board on day 3, probably in round 4 or round 5.

Edge #13

#### Overall #133

#### Round 4-5

Class: Junior

Age: 23.27

Ht/Wt: 6-1, 246 (combine)

40: 4.72 (combine)

### **JALYX HUNT (Houston Christian)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete taking part in track and field and basketball as well as being a star WR on the football field in high school (South Carolina & Florida). Opted to play his college ball at Cornell (FCS).

As a freshman at Cornell in 2019, he played mainly on special teams and as a back-up safety. The school's 2020 season was cancelled due to the pandemic and in 2021, Hunt played in 10 games (1 start). Transferred to Houston Christian University prior to the 2022 season to play as a hybrid LB/DE. Had an excellent 2022 season, becoming the full-time starter (11 games) and recording 7 sacks and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours. Followed up with another really fine season in 2023, playing in 10 games and recording 6.5 sacks. Was Edge #14 Overall #159 Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: 23.12 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 252 (combine) 40: 4.64 (combine)

named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference and also won conference defensive player of the year honours.

**College Stats: Cornell:** In 2 (playing) seasons, Hunt played in 17 games (1 start), recording 29 total tackles (16 solo), 1 pass defensed, 1 fumble recovery and he blocked 1 punt (for a safety). **Houston Christian:** In 2 seasons, Hunt played in 21 games, recording 13.5 sacks, 20.5 tackles for a loss, 133 total tackles (58 solo), 1 interception (returned for a touchdown), 5 passes defensed, 5 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries and he blocked a PAT.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Southland Conference. Southland Conference Defensive Player of the Year. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Southland Conference.

**Analysis:** Hunt is a do-it-all edge player who is a fine athlete with rapidly improving pass rush skills. Reads plays well and plays downhill to make the tackle.

As a pass rusher, Hunt utilises his speed and athleticism to get pressure on the quarterback. Is excellent in space and plays with some bend around the edge. Is starting to develop some pass rush moves but right now isn't going to beat offensive tackles with strength and power.

Against the run, again Hunt is a fine player in space, diagnosing plays and making tackles close to the line of scrimmage. Moves well laterally and can make plays in the offensive backfield. Can get tied up with bigger offensive linemen

Has lots of special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Hunt is the first player who completed his college career at Houston Christian University, formerly known as Houston Baptist University (HBU), to earn a combine invite (2022 draftee QB Bailey Zappe finished his college career at Western Kentucky having started it at HBU). Had earlier become the school's first Senior Bowl invitee. Hunt lacks top level college football experience and is still learning the edge (OLB) position, but he is an outstanding athlete with some physical traits that will interest NFL scouts. Looks like he is still improving and that there is more to come – that, coupled with his versatility and ability to play special teams will likely see him selected early on day 3. May not at first glance seem to be a fit for the Packers new 4-3 defense, but Hunt can perform a number of roles and therefore could be of interest.

#### **NELSON CEASER (Houston)**

Misc: Played his high school football in Missouri City (Houston area), Texas, earning all-district honours. Opted to play his college ball close to home at the University of Houston.

Redshirted as a freshman (2019), playing in 4 games. Saw action in just 2 games in 2020. Saw good action as a back-up in 2021. Became a full-time starter in 2022, notching up 4 sacks. Had the best season of his career in 2023, recording 9.5 sacks and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team allconference honours.

College Stats: In his 5 seasons at Houston, Ceaser played in 42 games (22 starts), recording 18.5 sacks, 28.5 tackles for a loss, 103 total tackles (59 solo), 1 interception, 4 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and blocked 2 kicks.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12.

Analysis: Ceasar is a nice pass rusher off the edge, who has lined up in multiple spots on the defensive line and as an outside linebacker. Has decent size (slightly under A1 height) to play linebacker and athletic ability.

Ceasar has an explosive first step and quick feet which enable him to get off the snap with some velocity. He will pressure offensive tackles with his speed and quickness – especially around the outside, where he has some bend. Isn't the most powerful edge player but has developed some pass rush moves and is very active with his hands.

Ceaser will make plays laterally along the line of scrimmage and in the backfield against the run and is a fine tackler. Occasionally, Ceaser can get over aggressive and will overrun the play. Can also have difficulties with big strong linemen, particularly in the straight-ahead running game, getting tied up.

Has some good skills and experience dropping into zones in pass coverage. Plays smartly and will knock down passes.

Ceaser plays with hustle, all-out effort, and a non-stop motor. Gets around the football a lot and is always looking to make a play.

Also has lots of special teams experience, playing on multiple units.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

As a developing player it was perhaps surprising that Ceaser opted to enter this draft with another year of college eligibility still remaining. However, Ceaser is improving year on year and NFL scouts will love his athleticism, speed, and ability to get after the passer. However, he likely will need to develop against the run to become an every down player at the next level. In the short term, Ceaser should contribute quickly at the pro level as a pass rusher from the 3-4 outside linebacker spot and also should be a demon on special teams. Likely to be selected in the first half of day 3.

Edge #15

#### Overall #163

#### Round 4-5

**Class: Senior** 

Age: 22.90

Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 254 (combine)

40: n/a

### **CEDRIC JOHNSON (Mississippi)**

**Misc:** Johnson had a nice high school career in Alabama which included recording 16 sacks as a senior. Opted to play his college ball at Ole Miss, ahead of offers from a number of FBS schools.

Played predominantly on special teams in his true freshman season (2020), although he did see enough time on defense to record 3 sacks. Became the starter at defensive end in 2021, having a solid year and notching up 6.5 sacks. Started the majority of games again in 2022 – being solid without having a dominating year. Had a nice year again in 2023, recording 6.5 sacks.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Ole Miss, Johnson played in 45 games (29 starts), recording 19 sacks, 22 tackles for a loss, 112 tackles (57 solo), 4 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries and blocked 1 punt.

Honours & Awards: 2023 CFN Honorable Mention All-SEC. Chucky Mullins Courage Award winner. Athletic Director's Honor Roll. 2022 Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak List. 2021 SEC Academic Honor Roll. Athletic Director's Honor Roll. 2020 SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll. Athletic Director's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Johnson is a good pass rusher off the edge, who has decent athleticism and pretty good size. Has been a consistent player through his college career. Is young – will be under 22 years old on draft day.

As a pass rusher, Johnson has a little speed around the edge to put pressure on offensive tackles. Has a counter move, but perhaps could do with adding more and also with getting stronger on an initial ball-rush as well. Hasn't yet been a game-in, game-out dominant pass rusher and can sometimes get overpowered.

Johnson is persistent and will keep going until the whistle – this will sometimes enable him to pick up coverage sacks. Will also get his hands up when his pass rush is halted – deflecting and knocking down passes at the line of scrimmage.

Against the run Johnson can at times be really active, especially when he is playing in space. Will make tackles laterally and can shoot into the backfield and make hits behind the line of scrimmage. However, can struggle when offensive linemen are directly opposite him as he sometimes can get caught up with offensive linemen once they get their hands on him – needs to be able to disengage.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Johnson is a young and consistent player who works hard and is never completely out of a play. He flashes some athletic ability but perhaps his numbers don't yet match the potential, although it's difficult to assess how high Johnson's upside could be. He played a lot of defensive end in college, and while being a 4-3 defensive is possible at the next level, it seems most likely that he projects to be a 3-4 outside linebacker. Should make an NFL roster as a solid back-up and is likely to be selected on day 3.

Edge #16

#### Overall #164

#### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 21.64

Ht/Wt: 6-3, 260 (combine)

40: 4.63 (combine)

### **BRENNAN JACKSON (Washington State)**

**Misc:** Really good player in high school in California, playing on both sides of the ball. Opted to play his college ball at Washington State.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) at Washington State, after suffering a torn ACL. Then played in just 2 games in 2019 due to a broken foot. Earned a starting role in 2020 in the pandemic truncated 2020 season and then was the full-time starter again in 2021. Earned honorable mention all-conference recognition in both of those two seasons. Played well in 2022, notching up 6 sacks, then followed up with the best season of his college career in 2023 as recorded 8.5 sacks. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours in both 2022 and 2023. Edge #17

#### Overall #165

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-3 ¾, 264 (combine) 40: 4.69 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 5 (playing) season at Washington State, Jackson played in 44 games (41 starts), recording 20 sacks, 34.5 tackles for a loss, 1 interception, 9 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbled and 5 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. William V. Campbell Trophy semi-finalist. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. CoSIDA Academic All-District. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Jackson is a highly experienced pass rusher off the edge, with decent size, athleticism, and speed.

Jackson is a decent athlete with a nice first step and speed to get round the outside of offensive tackles. Has a little bend around the edge. Can also push linemen back when he comes from a wide alignment, utilising some power. Jackson also has some pass rush moves, using his arms to create leverage. Needs to convert pressures into more sacks.

When working straight ahead, Jackson has some strength to stand up linemen in the running game. And when working in space he'll make plays in the offensive backfield. Jackson will also chase down ball-carriers laterally. However, he can be over aggressive and get caught off balance, allowing offensive linemen an easier job to move him off the line of scrimmage. Also, can get tied up by the grip of those linemen and struggle to disengage.

When his pass rush is halted, Jackson uses his arm length to deflect, and knock passes down at the line of scrimmage.

Plays with hustle and all-out effort. Jackson has a non-stop motor and keeps going all day.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jackson is a gradually improving pass rusher, with some positional versatility. Could project to either be a 4-3 defensive end or a stand-up 3-4 outside linebacker at the next level. Has some areas that require development, but his work ethic means that he's got a chance of progressing in the NFL. Will likely start his pro career as a back-up/rotational player on 3<sup>rd</sup> down as he learns the nuances of the higher level. Should be selected at some point on day 3.

### **XAVIER THOMAS (Clemson)**

Misc: Outstanding high school career firstly in South Carolina and then in Florida. Highly recruited, with multiple offers, Thomas opted to play his college ball at Clemson.

Earned freshman All-American honours in a fine 2018 season in which he notched up 3.5 sacks and 8.5 tackles for a loss. Perhaps wasn't quite as effective the following season, but still earned some allconference recognition. Missed playing time early in 2020 due to COVID-19 and then also missed the ACC Championship Game and Sugar Bowl due to undisclosed reasons. Was the full-time starter in 2021, again gaining some all-conference notice as he recorded 3.5 sacks. Unfortunatley, suffered a foot injury in 2022, which limited his

Edge #18

#### Overall #172

#### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.35 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¼, 253 (pro day) 40: 4.56 (pro day)

season to just 3 games. Came back as the starter in 2023, having a solid season.

College Stats: In 6 years at Clemson, Thomas played in 61 games (30 starts), recording 17.5 sacks, 34 tackles for a loss, 121 total tackles (65 solo), 7 passes defensed, 6 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

Honours & Awards: 2022 ACC Honor Roll. 2021 3rd Team All-ACC. 2019 3rd Team All-ACC. 2018 247Sports, ESPN.Com, The Athletic & USA Today Freshman All-American.

Analysis: Thomas is a highly experienced (61 games/30 starts) edge defender who has decent size (although he is very slightly under the A1 height for the position). Having played 6 years at Clemson, Thomas will be over 24 years old on draft day.

Thomas has a really quick first step which enables him to utilise some bend around the edge. He also has some nice pass rush moves. Both the quickness and moves enable him to get a lot of pressure on the passer – so much so, that you think he maybe ought to record just a few more sacks.

Plays with speed against the run and wil get into the backfield to make tackles a lot, often reading the outside run to his side quickly or chasing down the line of scrimmage to tackle the runner from behind. However, if offensive linemen get him tied up, he can sometimes struggle to disengage to make the play.

Is one of those players who has the knack of being able to strip the football and to force fumbles.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Thomas was a consistent player throughout his college career, without quite having the breakout year which always seemed just about to happen. He opted to return to school for the 2023 season – a decision which was probably influenced by his 2022 season being impacted by a foot injury. Had a sound 2023 and then demonstrated his athletic ability with a nice showing at his pro day (4.56 in the 40). Thomas' age may be a slight concern to teams, but he should still become a nice addition to a team's roster. Whether he develops from being a rotational/backup player will remain to be seen. Should be selected at some point in the first half of day 3.

### **BRAIDEN McGREGOR (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Had a fine high school career in Michigan, playing on both sides of the ball, before suffering a knee injury midway through his senior season. Received scholarship offers from many FBS schools including the likes of Alabama and Ohio State, before deciding to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Michigan.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2020, before playing sparingly on defense in 2021. Played mainly as a back-up and rotational outside linebacker/defensive end in 2022 (9 games). Had easily the best season of his college career in 2023, earning honorable mention allconference honours as the starter. Recorded 4.5 sacks.

**College Stats:** In 3 (playing) seasons at UM, McGregor played in 38 games (18 starts), recording 6.5 sacks, 14.5 tackles for a loss, 47 tackles (26 solo), 5 passes defensed and 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** McGregor is an up-and-coming pass rusher off the edge. He has good size and a long frame and has some positional versatility.

Let's start with pass rushing skills. McGregor lacks some power and strength at this stage (he isn't going to bull-rush offensive tackles) but uses his hands well and then utilises his long arms to create leverage and get some pressure on the quarterback. He has an explosive first step and some speed off the edge which helps him. There's definitely some upside here as a pass rusher.

Against the run, McGregor will battle to make a play but that that aforementioned lack of some strength can give him difficulties with big offensive lineman who may be able to outmuscle him. McGregor has decent athleticism however, and if he can get in space, he can really move and can run plays down from the backside.

McGregor plays with hustle. He has a non-stop motor and keeps going on every play, all day long. Is always looking to make a play.

Has good special teams experience, having played on special teams units throughout his college career.

#### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Played predominantly as an outside edge rusher at Michigan and has the size profile to either play as a 3-4 OLB or 4-3 DE at the next level – he may need to add a little bulk to do the latter, but he has the frame to do that. At this stage of his career, McGregor is probably more potential than production, which may make it slightly surprising that he entered this draft – perhaps another year in college would have helped his draft status – time will tell. McGregor has the physical traits which mean that he has a shot as a pass rusher off edge, although some development is needed. Needs to work on his strength at the point (and pass coverage skills if he's a 3-4 linebacker) if he is to become an every down player. Expect him to probably be off the board around round 6.

Class: RS-Junior Age: 22.79 Ht/Wt: 6-5 ¼, 254 (pro day) 40: 4.77 (pro day)

Edge #19

# Overall #190

Round 6-7

### **JAYLEN HARRELL (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Jaylen's father James Harrell was a linebacker in the NFL for the Lions and Chiefs, and also played in the USFL. Jaylen won a number of awards and accolades as a multi-positional player (on both sides of the ball) in high school in Florida. Opted to play his college ball at Michigan.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2020), playing in just 4 games. Contributed again on special teams in 2021, also featuring as backup/rotational linebacker (3 starts). Had a nice year in 2022 as he became the full-time starter at outside linebacker and earned honorable mention all-conference recognition. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, notching up 6.5 sacks and 9 tackles for a Edge #20

Overall #200

Round 6-7

Class: RS-Junior Age: 21.99 Ht/Wt: 6-3 ‰, 247 (pro day) 40: 4.68 (pro day)

loss, as he started every game. Again earned honorable mention all-conference recognition.

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Michigan, Harrell played in 46 games (31 starts), recording 11 sacks, 20 tackles for a loss, 78 total tackles (39 solo), 3 passes defensed and 2 forced fumbles.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Academic All-Big 10. 2021 Academic All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Harrell has good experience and a nice combination of size and decent athletic ability for the outside linebacker spot. Has added some bulk over time and has the frame to perhaps add a little more, without losing speed.

Harrell is an improving pass rusher who has some initial explosiveness, quickness around the edge and some pass rushing moves (leveraging his long arms). He works hard on every down and doesn't ever seem to give up on a play. Will gain some quarterback sacks simply by staying active on the play.

Harrell is disciplined and consistent against the run. He will set the edge and pursue running backs both along and behind the line of scrimmage – he has some acceleration and closing speed to make the tackle. Plays with hustle. Harrell can sometimes get tied up with offensive linemen.

Harrell has some experience dropping into coverage. Is seemingly comfortable dropping into zone coverage and he has the size and physical traits to be able to cover some tight ends, short and underneath.

Has good special teams experience from earlier in his career.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Harrell is a solid and consistent linebacker with good physical traits, who looks like he may have a little more upside to come. Projects to initially be a 3-4 outside linebacker at the pro level and with his special teams experience, Harrell has a good shot at making an NFL roster. However, he played middle linebacker in high school, and it wouldn't be a shock to see him tried inside at some point. Should be selected towards the end of the draft – in round 6 or round 7.

#### **ZION TUPUOLA-FETUI (Washington)**

**Misc:** Nicknamed "ZTF". Multi-position football player in high school in Hawaii, playing on the defensive line and tight end. Earned all-state recognition for his senior season. Opted to play his college ball at the University of Washington.

Redshirted his freshman season (2018), playing just 2 games. Was a back-up on the defensive line throughout the 2019 season, seeing limited action. Started all 4 games in the pandemic shortened 2020 season. Despite the short season, he still earned some All-American recognition, recording an amazing 7 sacks. Unfortunately, ruptured an achilles tendon in the spring of 2021 which forced him to miss a lot of time that year – but was still able to play in 5 games (3 starts).

Edge #21

Overall #205

Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.81 Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 244 (combine) 40: n/a

Had a solid year in 2022 playing mainly as a rotational player behind Jeremiah Martin and fellow potential 2024 draftee Bralen Trice. Became the full-time starter again in 2023, having a solid season, Earned honorable mention all-conference honours in both 2022 and 2023.

**College Stats:** In his 6 seasons at Washington, Tupuola-Fetui played in 49 games (22 starts), recording 16 sacks, 18.5 tackles for a loss, 88 total tackles (58 solo), 2 passes defensed, 5 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.
 2020 AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Tupuola-Fetui is a nice athlete, with good experience and decent size, who is a really good pass rusher off the edge. Works hard and plays with a non-stop motor on every down.

Tupuola-Fetui has some speed and quickness to pressure offensive tackles around the edge. He also does an excellent job, when in space, of converting his speed into power in order to bull-rush those tackles. Doesn't always finish the job but will keep going and will pursue the quarterback from behind – also has a knack for stripping the football on the sack.

Tupuola-Fetui plays hard against the run but will have difficulties against tackles at the point of attack. Those tackles can tie him up and he finds it a struggle at times to get disengaged in order to get to the ball-carrier. When uncovered, he'll diagnose and get into the backfield to make the play.

Tupuola-Fetui demonstrated nice ability when dropping into coverage, which he did reasonably often in college.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Tupuola-Fetui had a bit of stop-start college career as it was impacted by the pandemic and injury and unfortunately, couldn't take part in East-West Shrine Bowl or in the drills at the combine as he had a shoulder injury that required surgery. Expected to quickly make a full recovery, so hopefully this shouldn't be an issue going forwards. While he needs time to develop against the run, Tupuola-Fetui should be able to be a third down pass rusher early in his NFL career. Expect him to be selected on day 3.

### The Next Best Edge Rushers...

#### 22. Eric Watts (UConn)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #214 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at UConn, playing in 47 games, with 35 starts, recording 9.5 sacks, 23 tackles for a loss, 153 total tackles, 1 pass defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 4 forced fumbles. Has an explosive first step. Is a consistent pass rusher, with some speed and bend around the edge, who gets pressure – the next step is to convert more of that pressure into quarterback sacks Has a decent combination of size, speed, and athletic ability.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 274 (combine). 40: 4.67 (combine).

#### 23. Javontae Jean-Baptiste (Notre Dame)

Likely late round draft choice. Is #232 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons (2018-22) at Ohio State mainly as a back-up and rotational player before transferring to Notre Dame for the 2023 season. Across his 6 year college career Jean-Baptiste played in 59 games, with 18 starts, recording 13 sacks, 20.5 tackles for a loss, 100 total tackles, 2 passes defensed, 2 fumble recoveries and 2 forced fumbles. Tough against the run. Solid pass rusher without being outstanding. Good combination of size and speed and is a super athlete who was named to Bruce Feldman's 2023 Athletic Freak list.

Age: 23.95. Ht/Wt: 6-4 %, 239 (combine). 40: 4.66 (combine).

#### 24. Grayson Murphy (UCLA)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #236 overall on our draft board.

Twin brother of fellow potential 2024 draftee Gabriel Murphy. Played 2 seasons at North Texas before transferring to UCLA for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Across his college career, Murphy played in 51 games, with 29 starts. Recorded 21.5 sacks, 36.5 tackles for a loss, 115 total tackles, 2 passes defensed, 3 fumble recoveries and 2 forced fumbles. Murphy is a solid athlete who plays who works hard and plays with all-out effort – making plays as much through hustle as anything else. Will plays laterally along the line and has some quickness to pursue running backs and quarterbacks from behind.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 260 (college). 40: n/a.

### 25. Eyabi Okie-Anoma (Charlotte)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #238 overall on our draft board.

Played at Alabama (2018), Tennessee-Martin (2021), Michigan (2022) and Charlotte (2023). Didn't play in 2019 or 2020. Across his college career, he played in 48 games, starting in 15. Recorded 15.5 sacks, 26.5 tackles for a loss, 119 total tackles, 1 pass defensed, 2 forced fumbles and 1 blocked field goal. Has some physical skills and athletic ability which enables him to make plays, both as a pass rusher and against the run. But isn't dominant and can be very inconsistent. Potential appears to higher than his production thus far. Will be over 25 years old when the 2024 regular season starts.

Age: 24.89. Ht/Wt: 6-4 ½, 260 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 26. Solomon Byrd (USC)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #284 overall on our draft board.

Had 3 (playing) seasons at Wyoming before transferring to USC for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Across his college career, Byrd played in 50 games with 24 starts, recording 19.5 sacks and 163 total tackles.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2 3, 255 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 27. Trajan Jeffcoat (Arkansas)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #297 overall on our draft board.

Had 4 playing seasons at Missouri (missed 2019), before transferring to Arkansas for the 2023 season. Across his college career, Jeffcoat played in 59 games, with 42 starts, recording 16.5 sacks and 99 total tackles.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-3, 266 (combine). 40: 4.69 (combine)

### 28. Jalen Green (James Madison)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #316 overall on our draft board.

In 4 seasons at James Madison, Green played in 47 games, recording 20.5 sacks, 31.5 tackles for a loss, 97 total tackles, 2 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 4 passes defensed and 3 forced fumbles. Outstanding 2023 season in which he was named as a semi-finalist for both the Hendricks and Bednarik Awards. Missed the end of the 2023 season due to injury.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 245 (pro day). 40: n/a.

# LINEBACKERS

**General Draft Outlook:** This class of off-the-ball linebackers lacks an out-and-out star name that sometimes appears in the group. Rather it contains a group of solid day 2 type players, one of whom may have a chance of sneaking into the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

That player is Edgerrin Cooper. We have a 2<sup>nd</sup> round grade on him, but as always it wouldn't be a shock or surprise to see a team in need of his type of skills reach to select him towards the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

Cooper is followed by a group of players that contains Payton Wilson, Jeremiah Trotter Jr., Junior Colson, and Cedric Gray – all of this group should be off the board by the time day 2 is over. Wilson is a fine player who would have been an even higher draft choice were it for his injury history. Likely day 3 choices include the likes of Tommy Eichenberg, Marist Liufau, Ty'Ron Hopper, Jaylan Ford, and Trevin Wallace.



Prediction: Around 18 linebackers will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** Green Bay find themselves in a state of potential change at the linebacker position. Currently the depth chart contains former 1<sup>st</sup> round pick Quay Walker, Isaiah McDuffie, Eric Wilson, and Kristian Welch, which provides a solid foundation - but the change of base defensive system to the 4-3, plus the release of De'Vondre Campbell sees the Packers probably looking to come out of this draft with at least one off-the-ball linebacker. Having picks 25, 41 and 58 in the first two rounds brings any of the aforementioned Cooper, Wilson, Trotter, Colson, and Gray into play. Certainly, if Cooper were available with pick 41 then he would be a really nice pick at that point – being both value for the pick and immediately filling a hole. Payton Wilson is a favourite of ours, but Junior Colson probably closer fits the age profile of a typical day 2 Packers pick. Further down the draft, Trevin Wallace would be a nice pick, whilst right towards the end of the draft, Bookie Watson from Mississippi has a chance.

# **TOP LINEBACKERS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Edgerrin Cooper	LB	Texas A&M	1-2
2.	Payton Wilson	LB	North Carolina State	2
3.	Junior Colson	LB	Michigan	2-3
4.	Jeremiah Trotter Jr.	LB	Clemson	2-3
5.	Cedric Gray	LB	North Carolina	3-4
6.	Tommy Eichenberg	LB	Ohio State	4-5
7.	Trevin Wallace	LB	Kentucky	4-5
8.	Jaylan Ford	LB	Texas	4-5
9.	Ty'Ron Hopper	LB	Missouri	4-5
10.	Marist Liufau	LB	Notre Dame	4-5
11.	Curtis Jacobs	LB	Penn State	4-5
12.	Edefuan Ulofoshio	LB	Washington	6-7
13.	Tyrice Knight	LB	UTEP	6-7
14.	Nathaniel "Bookie" Watson	LB	Mississippi State	6-7
15.	J.D. Bertrand	LB	Notre Dame	6-7
16.	Michael Barrett	LB	Michigan	6-7
17.	Jordan Magee	LB	Temple	6-7
18.	Steele Chambers	LB	Ohio State	6-7
19.	Aaron Casey	LB	Indiana	7-UDFA
20.	Darius Muasau	LB	UCLA	7-UDFA
21.	Tatum Bethune	LB	FSU	7-UDFA
22.	Jackson Sirmon	LB	California	UDFA
23.	Jontrey Hunter	LB	Georgia State	UDFA
24.	Jackson Mitchell	LB	Connecticut	UDFA
25.	Omar Speights	LB	LSU	UDFA
26.	Khalid Duke	LB	Kansas State	UDFA
27.	Kalen DeLoach	LB	FSU	UDFA
28.	Easton Gibbs	LB	Wyoming	UDFA
29.	Maema Njongmeta	LB	Wisconsin	UDFA
30.	Dallas Gant	LB	Toledo	UDFA
31.	Jett Johnson	LB	Mississippi State	UDFA
32.	Amari Gainer	LB	North Carolina	UDFA
33.	Luke Reimer	LB	Nebraska	UDFA
34.	Anthony Grier Jr.	LB	Arkansas	UDFA
35.	Shane Lee	LB	USC	UDFA
36.	Bryce Gallagher	LB	Northwestern	UDFA
37.	Trezmen Marshall	LB	Alabama	UDFA
38.	Isaiah Major	LB	Florida A&M	UDFA
39.	Aaron Brule	LB	Michigan State	UDFA
40.	Daniel Green	LB	Kansas 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.	Bo Richter	LB	Air Force	UDFA
42.	A.J. Vongphachanh	LB	BYU	UDFA
43.	Andre White Jr.	LB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
44.	Jeremiah Jean-Baptiste	LB	Mississippi	UDFA
45.	Ralen Goforth	LB	Washington	UDFA
46.	Geoffrey Cantin-Arku	LB	Memphis	UDFA
47.	Aaron Beasley	LB	Tennessee	UDFA
48.	Jett Bush	LB	Texas	UDFA
49.	Braelen Oliver	LB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
50.	Layton Jordan	LB	Temple	UDFA
51.	Tarique Barnes	LB	Illinois	UDFA
52.	Jaylon Allen	LB	Memphis	UDFA
53.	Chad Bailey	LB	Missouri	UDFA
54.	Jason Johnson	LB	UCF	UDFA
55.	Donovan Manuel	LB	FIU	UDFA
56.	Eli Neal	LB	Marshall	UDFA
57.	Dylan Kelly	LB	Albany	UDFA
58.	Clayton Coll	LB	Ball State	UDFA
59.	Deion Jennings	LB	Rutgers	UDFA
60.	Travion Brown	LB	Arizona State	UDFA
61.	Tyren Dupree	LB	Liberty	UDFA
62.	Winston Reid	LB	Weber State	UDFA
63.	Andrew Parker	LB	Appalachian State	UDFA
64.	Melique Straker	LB	Arkansas State	UDFA
65.	Hayden Brice	LB	Auburn	UDFA
66.	Tyler Jackson	LB	Northern Illinois	UDFA
67.	Mike Smith Jr.	LB	Baylor	UDFA
68.	Maxwell Tooley	LB	BYU	UDFA
69.	Malik Robinson	LB	Houston	UDFA
70.	Tre Thomas	LB	Idaho	UDFA
71.	Xavier Benson	LB	Oklahoma State	UDFA
72.	Hayden Hatcher	LB	Kansas	UDFA
73.	Gerry Vaughn	LB	Iowa State	UDFA
74.	DaRon Gilbert	LB	Northern Illinois	UDFA
75.	Craig Young	LB	Kansas	UDFA
76.	Ben Gallagher	LB	Northwestern	UDFA
77.	Rich Miller	LB	Kansas	UDFA
78.	Larry Nixon III	LB	Auburn	UDFA
79.	Calvin "CJ" Hart Jr.	LB	Oregon State	UDFA
80.	Isaiah Stalbird	LB	South Dakota State	UDFA
81.	Jamoi Hodge	LB	TCU	UDFA
82.	Tyrique Matthews	LB	Texas Tech	UDFA
83.	Shaun Peterson Jr.	LB	UCF	UDFA
84.	Alan Tisdale	LB	Virginia Tech	UDFA
85.	Jacob Roberts	LB	Wake Forest	UDFA

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

# **EDGERRIN COOPER (Texas A&M)**

**Misc:** Fine high school career in Louisiana, playing on both sides of the ball and notching up over 100 tackles in each of his last 2 seasons. Opted to play his college ball at Texas A&M.

Played predominantly on special teams in 2020. In 2021, Cooper saw increased action on defense, making 1 start and playing in 12 games. Became a starter during 2022. Had the best year of his college career in 2023, earning All-American honours.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Texas A&M, Cooper played in 45 games (21 starts), recording 204 total tackles (111 solo), 30.5 tackles for a loss, 8.5 sacks, 2 interceptions, 10 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles & 2 fumble recoveries.

LB #1

**Overall #39** 

### Round 1-2

Class: Junior

Age: 22.44

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 230 (combine)

40: 4.51 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Texas A&M Defensive MVP. **2021** SEC All-Freshman team. Texas A&M Defensive Most Improved Player Award winner. Texas A&M Defensive Aggie Award winner for Strength & Conditioning.

**Analysis:** Cooper is a fine all-round linebacker who is a playmaker and brings nice experience (45 games/21 starts) to the table. He is an outstanding athlete with good speed who is slightly undersized compared to the ideal size for an off-the-ball linebacker.

Is solid against the run. Cooper is athletic and aggressive, and he flies around, getting all over the field and making or attempting to make plays. He's around the football an awful lot, including making plays in the offensive backfield (30.5 career tackles for loss). Perhaps, on occasion, almost tries to do too much, sometimes overrunning plays.

Cooper is excellent in the passing game. With his athleticism and quickness, he can be used to cover running backs and tight ends in man coverage in short and intermediate areas and he has that speed to cover most of the guys down the field also. Is also disciplined and consistent dropping into zone coverage – he diagnoses plays really well and will get hands on the football.

Can also be used as an occasional blitzer – is smart and times up his pass rush excellently.

Cooper has special teams experience, which may help in his early days in the NFL while he is learning the nuances of pro defense.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Has improved every year in college and then had a nice combine performance that included a speedy 4.51 in the 40. There is so much that NFL teams are going to like about him – not least his production on every down. Once he earns a starting role at the pro level (and that shouldn't take long), he'll be a guy that can stay on the field regardless of down or distance. Cooper appears to have an awful lot of potential and could develop into a long time NFL starter and perhaps even a Pro Bowl player. Is likely to be the first off-the-ball linebacker selected in this draft – probably early in round 2 or perhaps late in round 1. The Packers need a linebacker and Cooper would fit the bill very well.

# **PAYTON WILSON (North Carolina State)**

**Misc:** Is the brother of Milwaukee Brewers pitcher Bryse Wilson. Payton had an outstanding high school career in North Carolina as a football and lacrosse player and as a state champion wrestler. Suffered a torn ACL in his right knee during his senior high school season. Opted to play his college ball in his home state – eventually committing to play at the University of North Carolina State.

Medically redshirted his freshman season (2018) after suffering another torn ACL. Was a big contributor as a back-up LB in 2019. Earned all-conference honours in 2020, notching up 108 tackles. But he reportedly suffered dislocations of both shoulders during the final game of the season and underwent surgery early in 2021. Was ready

### LB #2

### **Overall #49**

### Round 2

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.01 Ht/Wt: 6-4, 233 (combine) 40: 4.43 (combine)

to go by the start of the 2021 season, but then sadly suffered another shoulder injury in game 2, ending his season. Bounced back with a solid 2022 in which he had 82 tackles. Had an outstanding 2023, the best season of his career, earning numerous accolades.

**College Stats:** In his 5 (playing) seasons at NC State, Wilson played in 46 games (36 starts), recording 402 total tackles (202 solo), including 48 tackles for a loss and 15 sacks. Also recorded 7 interceptions, 20 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Bednarik Award winner. Butkus Award winner. Nagurski Trophy finalist. ACC Defensive Player of the Year. **2023 & 2020** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. **2022** Ken McNeill Iron Wolf Award (Team Biggest Comeback from Injury) co-winner.

**Analysis:** Wilson is an outstanding linebacker with decent size and outstanding athleticism who combines those attributes smarts and toughness to be super productive. Unfortunately, his career has been blighted by injuries.

Wilson is a really intelligent 3-down player who is reads and diagnoses plays extremely well, using his experience to anticipate and/or react. Seems to permanently be around the football.

Wilson plays downhill at speed, can shoot the gap, and make plays in the backfield. Has decent range playing against the run and is a sure tackler who hits with some aggression.

Plays well in coverage, being very disciplined and consistent when dropping into zone coverage and has good ball skills. Also has some blitzing skills.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Injury plagued career and yet he has shown when able to go that he has outstanding ability – just look at his 2023 season – and speed (as evidenced by his 4.43 in the 40 at the combine). It is difficult to find major flaws when watching Wilson on the field and he has the potential to be a really top notch linebacker at the NFL level. Off-the-ball Linebacker is not a prolific position when it comes to 1<sup>st</sup> round draft selections, but it seems likely that without the injuries that Wilson may have been a day 1 selection. However, with his injury history and the fact that he will be more than 24 years old on draft day, we should expect Wilson to be selected on day 2 of this draft. If he can stay healthy, then a team may well get a steal. Packers?

# JUNIOR COLSON (Michigan)

**Misc:** Born in Haiti. Colson had a very good high school football career in Tennessee, after being adopted as an orphan by an American family. Started his high school career as a receiver before switching to defense and becoming an outstanding LB. Chose Michigan over a number of other FBS schools.

Played extensively in his true freshman season (2021) both on defense (7 starts) and on special teams. Earned freshman All-American honours. Become the full-time starter in 2022, playing really well (101 tackles, including 15 in a single game) and garnering all-conference recognition. Followed that with another good season in 2023, playing through injury, and again earning some allconference notice while winning the Lott IMPACT Trophy. LB #3 Overall #59 Round 2-3 Class: Junior Age: 21.39 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 238 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Michigan, Colson played in 43 games (36 starts), recording 245 total tackles (109 solo), including 8 tackles for a loss and 2 sacks. Also recorded 5 passes defensed and 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Lott IMPACT Trophy Winner. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. Roger Zatkoff Award (Michigan Team Outstanding Linebacker) winner. **2021** Maxwell Football Club Freshman All-American. Michigan Team Co-Defensive Rookie of the Year.

**Analysis:** Colson is a productive and very experienced (43 games/36 starts) off-the-balllinebacker who gets around the field. Colson has good size (slightly undersized) to play at the next level.

Colson is a fine run defender who diagnoses plays really quickly. He is really good tackler with strength and good technique who likes to hit. Colson will use that aforementioned strength and power to fight through traffic to make the play. Plays downhill at speed and has range to get to the outside.

Colson is good in pass coverage. He has the athletic ability and speed to cover both backs and tight ends. Plays well in zone schemes as well, consistently dropping at the right depth. Colson wasn't used very much to rush the passer.

Has special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Solid all-round linebacker, who is very consistent against both the run and pass. Despite all of his experience, Colson is still young (under 22 years old on draft day) and has some upside. An area for development is being involved in splash plays – currently Colson doesn't make a huge number of truly big, game changing, plays. He is a good athlete, although he wasn't able to show off his athletic ability at the combine due to a minor hamstring tweak. At the very least, Colson is going to be a contributor early in his NFL career, but it probably shouldn't be too long before he challenges to be a starter – likely to be selected on day 2. Another linebacker who is play for the Packers.

# JEREMIAH TROTTER Jr. (Clemson)

**Misc:** Jeremiah Jr. is the son of former NFL 4-time Pro Bowl linebacker Jeremiah Trotter Sr. who played for 3 NFL teams. Had an outstanding high school career in Pennsylvania, but unfortunately missed much of his senior season due to a broken arm. Nonetheless, Trotter was highly recruited, opting to play his college ball in the ACC with Clemson.

Played mainly on special teams in his true freshman season (2021) at Clemson, seeing very limited action as a back-up linebacker. Won the starting linebacker job in 2022, starting in 14 games and notching up 13.5 tackles for a loss and 6.5 sacks, earning All-American recognition along the way. Had another fine season in 2022 earning 1<sup>st</sup> team allconference honours and again some All-American recognition. LB #4

**Overall #70** 

Round 2-3

Class: Junior Age: 21.34 Ht/Wt: 6-0, 228 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Clemson, Trotter played in 39 games (26 starts), recording 192 total tackles (113 solo), including 29.5 tackles for a loss and 13 sacks. Also recorded 4 interceptions (2 of which he returned for touchdowns), 14 passes defensed and 3 forced fumbles.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** ESPN & SI 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. Butkus Award finalist. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. **2022** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. PFF, CFN & Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-ACC. **2021** ACC Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Trotter is a young, athletic, and very productive linebacker, who is a bit undersized. He brings great versatility to the table. Despite being young – under 21 ½ years old on draft day – he has plenty of big-time college experience (39 games/26 starts).

Trotter's athleticism and speed enable him to get around the football a lot and make big plays. Against the run he is at his very best on plays that are run away from him, where he can use that speed and anticipation to make the tackle – he loves to hit. Will also play downhill and shoot through the gap to make the hit in the offensive backfield. Sometimes will struggles when the running play is directed straight at him, due to his lack of size and physicality.

Against the pass, Trotter is really good both in man (covering backs) and in zone coverage. He plays with short area quickness and discipline. Is too small to stand up to covering tight ends on a long-term basis. Locates the football in the air and makes plays on it. Has good hands.

Has good ability to blitz and get to the quarterback – has the speed to track him down from behind.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Despite his lack of ideal size, Trotter is a player who is going to intrigue NFL scouts because of athleticism, instincts and possible every down ability. Being under 22 years of age on draft day also helps. Trotter will quickly find a role at the pro level as a passing down linebacker and special teams player. should develop into an every down player in the right defensive system. Likely to be selected on day 2.

# **CEDRIC GRAY (North Carolina)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in North Carolina, playing basketball as well as football. Had a fine football high school football career, excelling on both sides of the ball. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of North Carolina.

Saw very limited action on defense as a true freshman in 2020. Won a starting linebacker role early in the 2021 season, having a sound season which included multiple double digit tackle games. Played really well in 2022, earning all-conference (and some 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American) honours, as he recorded 145 tackles which included 12 tackles for a loss. Tackle total included 16 tackles in a single game against Virginia. Finished his college career with a really nice 2023

LB #5 Overall #100 Round 3-4

Class: Senior Age: 21.49 Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 234 (combine) 40: 4.64 (combine)

season, racking up well over 100 tackles and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at UNC, Gray played in 51 games (37 starts), recording 369 total tackles (199 solo), including 30 tackles for a loss and 8.5 sacks. Also recorded 5 interceptions, 18 passes defensed, 6 forced fumbles and 5 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. Butkus Award semi-finalist. **2022** PFF & The Sporting News 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. William Fuller Award (NC Team Defensive MVP) winner.

**Analysis:** Gray is a very productive linebacker with decent size (slightly undersized) and athleticism, who gets around the football. Is very highly experienced (51 games/37 starts), but also still under 22 years old on draft day.

Gray plays extremely well in the running game, where he plays smartly – quickly diagnosing plays happening in front of him. He has decent speed which enables him to play downhill and hit the ball-carrier with some velocity. Has some strength, which enables him to shake off blocker and work through traffic.

Gray is an outstanding tackler, and he makes an awful lot of them (369 in his college career). In summary, he is a tackling machine.

Is really solid in pass defense. Is very consistent and disciplined in pass coverage, dropping into zones at the right distance and then breaking on the football/receivers in his zone at some speed. Locates the football and gets his hands on it.

Has special teams experience from earlier in his career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Gray is an intriguing prospect who will deliver in both run and pass defense. He has produced at the college level and yet is still young. His potential is exciting, and Gray has the athletic ability to eventually develop into an every down linebacker in the NFL. Expect him to play early as a rotational player and on special teams while he learns the pro game. Gray should be selected at some point late on day 2 or early on day 3.

# **TOMMY EICHENBERG (Ohio State)**

**Misc:** Brother Liam is an OT for the Miami Dolphins (2021 2<sup>nd</sup> round draft pick). Took part in the shot put as well as football in high school in Ohio, He had a fine football career, earning all-state honours. Opted to play his college ball at Ohio State, choosing the Buckeyes over the likes of Michigan and Boston College.

Redshirted his freshman season (2019) for the Buckeyes (4 games). Followed that by playing in just 1 game in the pandemic affected 2020 season. Played in 13 games (with 4 starts) in 2021, racking up 64 tackles, including an incredible 17 in the Rose Bowl. Became the fulltime starter in 2022, having an excellent season while notching up 120 tackles and earning some All-American recognition. Followed up with another solid year in 2023, again earning some 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American notice.

LB #6

Overall #131

Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: 23.29 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 233 (combine) 40: n/a

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**College Stats:** Across his Ohio State career, Eichenberg played in 37 games (26 starts) recording 258 total tackles (145 solo), including 20.5 tackles for a loss, 3 sacks, 2 interceptions, 6 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 SI, Phil Steele & FWAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Butkus-Fitzgerald Award winner (Big 10 Linebacker of the Year). 2023 & 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2022 AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Lott IMPACT Trophy finalist. Semi-Finalist: Butkus & Bednarik Awards. 2022, 2021 & 2020 Academic All-Big 10. 2021 Rose Bowl Defensive MVP. 2020 & 2019 OSU Scholar-Athlete.

**Analysis:** Eichenberg is a productive, very smart, team leader type who has good experience at the linebacker spot (37 games/26 starts). Has decent size, measuring in just under the ideal size for the position at the pro level. Lacks top notch athleticism and speed.

Eichenberg's forte is as a run-stuffer from the inside. He can diagnose plays quickly and will play downhill making tackles near, at, or behind the line of scrimmage. Generally is a sound tackler but will occasionally miss. Can get caught up with blockers but has some physical strength which has helped him improve in shedding blocks.

He isn't at his best in the passing game, where his lack of top notch athleticism and agility can cause him to struggle if matched up with athletic backs or tight ends. However, he is disciplined in his drops in zone coverage.

Eichenberg has a non-stop motor, playing all-out on every down and is one of those linebackers who is around the football a lot.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Eichenberg is a really consistent and super productive run stopper inside who has the attitude and commitment to the game that will endear him to NFL teams. He is also a very cerebral football player. He will earn a job playing on Sundays but is likely to predominantly be an early downs linebacker in the NFL – and he should be good at it. Expect Eichenberg to be selected in the first half of day 3.

# **TREVIN WALLACE (Kentucky)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Georgia, performing in multiple positions including linebacker, running back, wide receiver and quarterback. Opted to attend Kentucky to play his college ball.

Saw action in 12 games (1 start) as a linebacker as a true freshman in 2021, playing well enough to earn freshman all-conference honours. Started half of the games in 2022, playing solidly against the run and pass. Had another solid year in 2023 as he was the full-time starter.

**College Stats:** in 3 seasons at Kentucky, Wallace played in 36 games (19 starts), recording 166 total tackles (93 solo) including 18 tackles for a loss and 10 sacks. He also recorded 3 interceptions, 4 passes

LB #7

### Overall #143

### Round 4-5

Class: Junior

Age: 21.17

Ht/Wt: 6-1, 237 (combine)

40: 4.51 (combine)

defensed, 2 forced fumbles and he returned a blocked field goal 76 yards for a touchdown.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freak list. 2021 All-SEC Freshman team.

**Analysis:** Wallace is a solid all-round linebacker, with great speed and athleticism and decent size (good weight, is slightly under the ideal height). He was a 3-down linebacker at the college level who is probably better against the pass than against the run. He also comes with a high volume of special teams experience.

Wallace plays with high intensity and energy getting all over the field. His effort is outstanding, and he gets around the football a lot.

Wallace's speed comes to the fore when he is defending against the pass. He is excellent in coverage being able to cover backs and tight ends when in man but is also disciplined and consistent when dropping into zone coverage.

Has the ability to rush the passer, where his acceleration enables him to get round edge with some bend and also shoot the gap with an inside blitz. Can also track the quarterback down from behind.

Wallace is a solid tackler in the run game and can use his aforementioned acceleration to make tackles in the offensive backfield, pursuing running backs from the backside. But he can also be positionally inconsistent – can sometimes being over aggressive and pulled out of position. Will also get tied up with blockers from whom he struggles to disengage.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Ran a really good 4.51 in the 40 at the combine – impressive for a largely unheralded off-theball linebacker. Wallace will instantly provide the team that drafts him with a passing down linebacker whose athletic ability and speed are not out of place when matched up against 3<sup>rd</sup> down running backs. He will also immediately contribute on special teams. Whether he can develop into an every down linebacker at the pro level will be the question. Expect him to be selected at some point in the first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day and maybe even earlier. If the Packers haven't picked a LB by this stage, then Wallace could be of interest.

## **JAYLAN FORD (Texas)**

**Misc:** Nice high school career in Frisco, Texas, earning a number of honours. Had multiple offers from FBS schools and eventually decided to stay in-state at play at the University of Texas.

Played mainly on special teams in his freshman (2020) season. Saw lots of action mainly as a back-up, in 2021. Became the full-time starter in 2022, notching up over 100 tackles and 4 interceptions and earning 3<sup>rd</sup> team All-American recognition. Followed up with another fine year in 2023, again having over 100 tackles.

**College Stats:** In his 4 season (2020-23) Texas career, Ford played in 49 games (29 starts). He recorded 287 total tackles (141 solo), including 27.5 tackles for a loss and 3 sacks. Also notched up 6 interceptions, 10 passes defensed, 4 forced fumbles and 3 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. DTCF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Texas. Butkus Award semi-finalist. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2022** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. DCTF Texas Defensive Player of the Year. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. **2021** Academic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll. **2020** Academic All-Big 12. Big 12 Commissioner's Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Ford is a very intelligent, productive, and highly experienced linebacker who plays with great attitude, going all-out on every down and being a team leader type that sets an example to his teammates. Has decent size to and ok athleticism and agility. Makes turnover worthy plays – was in on 17 turnovers during his college career.

Ford is a solid and consistent pass defender when in zone coverage – he takes disciplined drops into the zone and is rarely caught out of position. Locates the football in the air, gets his hands on it and has good hands to make the interception. Is physical and will fight backs, receivers, and tight ends for the football.

Against the run, Ford is again really consistent when playing inside and diagnosing, reading, and reacting to the play happening in front of him. Has the ability to get off blockers and make the tackle – and he will make lots of them between the tackles. Also has the smarts to time his downfield movement (overcoming some lack of speed) to shoot the gap and make plays in the offensive backfield.

Has good special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Ford opted to return for the 2023 college season rather than enter the draft a year ago and his good 2023 season at UT has at least solidified his draft status. He may lack top notch athleticism, but Ford has good experience and is a solid and consistent player who will do a good job on defense (probably as an early down linebacker) and on special teams for whichever team drafts him. Whether he becomes a starter or plays as a rotational back-up remains to be seen. It is likely that he'll be off the board at some point on day 3.

LB #8

### Overall #153

### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 22.41

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 240 (combine)

40: n/a

# **TY'RON HOPPER (Missouri)**

**Misc:** Initially attended high school in North Carolina, playing in the defensive backfield and as a linebacker, before moving to Georgia. Became an outstanding linebacker while in Georgia. Opted to attend the University of Florida – choosing the Gators over offers from a number of Power 5 schools.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019). Played as back-up in 2020 but made an increased in 2021 as he became a part time starter, playing solidly against both the run and the pass. Transferred to Missouri prior to the 2022 season. Became a full-time starter for the Tigers in 2022, playing well and earning some all-conference notice. Really good in 2023 before missing the end of the season with an ankle sprain. Again earned all-conference notice. LB #9 Overall #160

Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: 23.00 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 231 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats: Florida:** In 3 years, Hopper played in 28 games (4 starts), notching up 82 total tackles (40 solo), including 11.5 tackles for a loss and 4 sacks. Also had 2 passes defensed and 1 forced fumble. **Missouri:** In 2 seasons, Hopper played in 23 games (22 starts), recording 133 total tackles (95 solo), including 20 tackles for a loss and 5.5 sacks. Also recorded 1 interception, 8 passes defensed and 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Butkus Award finalist. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC.

Analysis: Hopper is a speedy and athletic linebacker who lacks some size and bulk.

Hopper's athletic ability enables him to play well against the pass. He has the agility and skills to cover backs on short to intermediate routes. He also appears to be a disciplined pass defender when in zone coverage. Will struggle with bigger backs and tight ends that use their physical attributes against him.

Wasn't overly utilised as a pass rusher, but demonstrated some pass rushing skills on occasion, with the ability to chase the quarterback down from behind.

Plays quickly downhill against the run and has the acceleration to shoot the gap and make plays in the offensive backfield. Is aggressive and not afraid to make a hit on bigger ball carriers. However, can sometimes struggle to bring down those bigger backs and can also get caught up in traffic, sometimes not being able to shed blocks.

Has some special teams experience from early in his college career which will stand him in good stead at the next level.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Teams will love Hopper's speed and athleticism, but his lack of size will be of concern – some may question whether that body size can stand up to a season of pro football as a full-time linebacker. Nonetheless, his ability to play on passing downs alone, plus special teams should ensure that Hopper will stick around on an NFL roster as a primary back-up at least. Expect him to be selected on day 3 – around round 4 or 5.

# **MARIST LIUFAU (Notre Dame)**

**Misc:** Earned all-star honours at the high school level in Hawaii, playing linebacker and some defensive back. Opted to play his college ball at Notre Dame, choosing the Fighting Irish over a number of FBS schools, including his home state school of Hawaii.

Played in just 4 games as a true freshman in 2019 before seeing more extended action across 10 games in 2020. Unfortunately missed the whole of the 2021 season after suffering a bad ankle injury in practice. Bounced back to earn a starting role in 2022. Had his best season in 2023, again as the full-time starter.

LB #10

### Overall #162

### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: 23.21

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 234 (combine)

40: 4.64 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 4 (playing) seasons at Notre Dame, Liufau played in 39 games (28 starts), recording 118 total tackles (55 solo), including 12 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks, 1 interception, 4 passes defensed, 3 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Independent. Butkus Award semi-finalist.

**Analysis:** Liufau is a dependable all-round and experienced linebacker (39 games/28 starts) who has decent size and holds up in both the run and pass games.

Liufau is a solid player against the run. He plays downhill at speed and will put a hit on the ballcarrier, although both his play recognition and tackling could do with becoming more consistent. Has the ability to accelerate to shoot the gap and make tackles in the offensive backfield. Liufau can get caught up in traffic and needs to work on strength and skills to disengage from blockers.

As his college career progressed, Liufau improved his pass defense. In pass coverage, is disciplined in zone coverage (where he is best suited) and will recognise routes and identify receivers entering his zone. Will locate the football and make a play on it. Is not afraid to physically mix it up with receivers and will fight the for the football. Has been used on the blitz on occasion.

Liufau plays with a great attitude and a non-stop motor. Keeps playing on every down to get around the football.

Has a lot of special teams experience and this should stand him in really good stead for his NFL career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Will be over 23 years old on draft day. Liufau is an improving off-the-ball linebacker, with some ability to play on every down – and can possibly line up in a number of positions – inside in the 3-4 and both outside and inside in the 4-3. He has a little upside and the potential to develop further. There are a number of areas where that development will be key, and these will probably determine how far he goes at the pro level. Ought to contribute early in his NFL career, likely as a back-up and on special teams coverage units. Will have a chance to work his way into the defensive line-up. Expect him to be selected on day 3 of this draft.

# **CURTIS JACOBS (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Dual sport athlete in high school in Maryland, playing basketball and football. Was a multi-position football player playing wide receiver and defensive back. Opted to play his college ball for the Nittany Lions.

Played as a back-up linebacker as a true freshman in 2020. Became a starter in 2021, playing solidly and earning some all-conference notice. Repeated that level of performance in both 2022 and 2023.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at PSU, Jacobs played in 45 games (36 starts), recording 171 total tackles (105 solo), including 24 tackles for a loss and 9.5 sacks. Also recorded 2 interceptions, 5 passes defensed, 1 forced fumble and 3 fumble recoveries.

LB #11

### Overall #168

### Round 4-5

Class: Junior

Age: 22.18

Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¾, 241 (combine)

40: 4.58 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Penn State Team Lions Pride Outstanding Senior Player Award co-winner. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Penn State Team Bob Mitinger Memorial Ultimate Teammate Award co-winner **2021** Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Jacobs is a solid, consistent linebacker with good experience (45 games/36 starts) and decent size (slightly under A1 height). Jacobs has shown some versatility playing at times in all 3 off-the-ball linebacker spots. He is the latest in a line of NFL/potential NFL linebackers who attended Penn State.

In the running game, Jacobs is a play anticipator who uses his athleticism and speed to fly around the field to make the play. Can look really good when he gets to the runner at speed but sometimes can get out of position by overrunning the play. Likes to hit and make the tackle at force, although he can occasionally be over aggressive and let the ball-carrier slip from his grasp.

Jacobs is solid in pass defense, using his athleticism and quick feet in order to cover backs and receivers short and underneath. Drops well into coverage. Lack of height can be a disadvantage against tight ends. Has some ability rushing the passer, where he has shown that he is able to time up the blitz well and used his speed and acceleration to close on the quarterback.

Jacobs played a lot on special teams throughout his Penn State career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jacobs reportedly, seriously considered declaring for the 2023 draft, before ultimately deciding to return to Penn State for a final year – on reflection, his draft status probably hasn't changed too much from this time last year. Jacobs has really good athleticism and speed (ran 4.58 in the 40 at the combine) and has good experience but there are areas of his game that require development and could also do with creating more splash plays. Jacobs should make an NFL roster as a back-up/rotational linebacker and his college experience on special teams will stand him in good stead. Should be selected in the first half of day 3.

# **EDEFUAN ULOFOSHIO (Washington)**

**Misc:** Attended high school in Alaska before moving to Las Vegas where he played football as a linebacker and defensive end. Opted to walk on at Washington.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) for the Huskies, playing in just 3 games. Made a bigger contribution in 2019, playing in 13 games (3 starts). The 2020 season was badly impacted by the pandemic, UW's season being limited to just 4 games – Ulofoshio started in all 4 of those games, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition. Unfortunately suffered a season ending arm injury midway through the 2021 season (having started in 5 games) and then suffered an ACL injury early in 2022, which impacted his playing LB #12

### Overall #184

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 24.26 Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 236 (combine) 40: 4.56 (combine)

time that season (played in just 5 games). Bounced back with possibly the best year of his college career in 2023, recording 94 tackles and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference and 3<sup>rd</sup> team All-American honours.

**College Stats:** In 6 seasons at Washington, Ulofoshio played in 46 games, with 26 starts, recording 251 total tackles, 15 tackles for a loss, 7 sacks, 1 interception, 9 passes defensed, 5 forced fumbles, 2 fumble recoveries and 1 blocked kick.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. Butkus Award finalist.
 2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. PFF & Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 2019 Pac 12
 Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Ulofoshio has a decent level of experience (gained over 6 college seasons). Injuries and the pandemic affected the middle of his college career. Ulofoshio lacks the ideal size for the position but has some strength and is a decent athlete. Team leader type.

Between the tackles run defense is probably the strongest area of Ulofoshio's game. He is a tough and powerful run defender who will fight through traffic to make tackles. Plays with a little speed when able to play straight downhill and will make some hits in the offensive backfield. Doesn't appear to have great range to get to the sidelines to make plays.

Doesn't rush the passer very much but can be used on the occasional blitz which he times pretty well. Will use his physicality in pass coverage in short routes but trying to cover athletic backs and tight ends for any period of time is not his forte.

Played special teams early in his college career.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Will be over 24 years old when the draft takes place. Ulofoshio had a college career that was impacted by injuries and the pandemic, however he came through with best, and most productive, season in 2023 – putting his name in the frame as a potential draftee. Appears to be much better against the run than the pass and therefore looks most suited to be an early down player. Is likely to be picked late in the draft and will battle for a roster spot as a back-up linebacker and special teams player. May wind up on a practice squad.

# **TYRICE KNIGHT (UTEP)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Florida, earning a number of honours. Opted to start his college football career at Independence Community College (Kansas).

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) at Independence before playing in 10 games in 2019 – recording 5 interceptions. Transferred to UTEP prior to the 2020 season and started 6 games in the pandemic impacted schedule. Had a nice year in 2021, earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Played well again in 2022, this time being named 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, notching up 140 tackles, including 15.5 tackles for a loss. Named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference.

**College Stats: Independence CC:** In 1 (playing) season, Knight played in 10 games and recorded 5 interceptions (incl. 2 returned for TDs), 9 passes defensed, 58 tackles (29 solo), 4 tackles for a loss and 2 fumble recoveries. **UTEP:** In 4 seasons, Knight played in 45 games (43 starts), recording 2 interceptions, 17 passes defensed, 391 tackles (174 solo), 33.5 tackles for a loss, 7.5 sacks, 5 forced fumbles and 4 fumble recoveries (incl. 1 returned for a TD).

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team CUSA. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-CUSA. 2021 Honorable Mention All-CUSA.

**Analysis:** Knight is a highly experienced (55 college games) off-the-ball linebacker, who is very versatile being a solid player both against the run and in the passing game. Is under the A1 size for the position and lacks outstanding speed but has still delivered at the college level.

In the running game, Knight plays well close to the line of scrimmage and will get to the ballcarrier providing he can avoid traffic, often shooting the gap to make the hit in the offensive backfield. However, he will get tied up when he has to battle through blockers. Knight is a good tackler, rarely letting the runner get away. Doesn't have the greatest range, but will hustle and pursue, chasing ball-carriers down from behind.

Knight is consistent in zone coverage taking disciplined drops and driving on the intended receiver. Will get his hands on the ball to knock it down and to make the interception. Isn't as good in man coverage, particularly when matched up against quick and shifty running backs – Knight doesn't have the speed and athletic ability to blanket them. Knight times up the blitz pretty well when he is used as a surprise weapon in this role. He is a patient pass rusher both from the inside and the outside, invariably getting pressure.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Was solid at the combine, ensuring that he remained on team's radars as a potential draft pick. Whilst his athletic ability and size probably hold him back from being up with some of the other linebackers on this list, Knight's versatility and every-down commitment will likely mean that he will get drafted to be a back-up and to play on special teams. Should be off the board late on day 3.

### LB #13

### Overall #188

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 233 (combine) 40: 4.63 (combine)

# **NATHANIEL WATSON (Mississippi State)**

**Misc:** Nicknamed "Bookie". Had a nice high school career playing on both sides of the ball. Had offers from a number of schools before opting to play his college ball at Mississippi State.

Redshirted his freshman season (2018) at Mississippi State after playing in just 2 games. Followed that by playing in 7 games as a backup in 2019. Again, played mainly as a back-up in 2020 (11 games, 3 starts). Earned a starting job in 2021, having a solid year that included 5 sacks. Stepped up in 2022 to earn 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours, recording 6 sacks. Had easily the best season of his college career in 2023, notching up 10 sacks and 13 tackles for a loss, while being named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference.

**College Stats:** In his 6 seasons at Mississippi State, Watson played in 57 games (39 starts), recording 379 total tackles (137 solo), 21 sacks, 35 tackles for a loss, 2 interceptions, 7 passes defensed, 3 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. AP SEC Defensive Player of the Year. Butkus Award finalist. Conerly Trophy finalist. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. SEC Academic Honor Roll. **2020** SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Watson is an experienced linebacker who appears to be on the rise. Is one of those linebackers who flies around to get to the football, but he lacks some size, being slightly under what you may ideally like, and athletic ability.

Watson is a physical and sure and solid tackler inside who likes to hit. Diagnoses plays well and gets around the football a lot between the hash marks. Can struggle to make the initial tackle on plays to the outside as he lacks some range and can also get caught up with much bigger offensive linemen.

In pass coverage, Watson is much better in zone coverage than he is in man. In zone coverage he makes disciplined drops and demonstrates some anticipation to close on the receiver and football. In man coverage, Watson can have difficulties with much quicker backs and can physically struggle with tight ends who are bigger than him.

Has developed into a fine pass rusher, developing moves and timing to go along with some speed.

Has lots of special teams experience.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Watson appears to be a player on the rise as he has demonstrated some improvement year-onyear, particularly as a pass rusher. Perhaps lacks some of the ideal physical tools but he works hard and can be utilised in a number of ways. While there are a number of areas that require development, Watson has a chance of making an NFL roster as a back-up and special teams guy. Should be selected late on day 3.

LB #14

### Overall #194

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.65 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 233 (combine) 40: 4.63 (combine)

### The Next Best Linebackers...

### 15. J.D. Bertrand (Notre Dame)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #219 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Notre Dame, appearing in 50 games, with 35 starts, recording 267 total tackles, 23 tackles for a loss, 6 sacks, 9 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 2 forced fumbles. Lacks size (height in particular). Perhaps lacks some top notch athleticism but plays well downhill. Reads plays well and will get into offensive backfield from space. Works hard but can get caught up in traffic. Is consistent rather than dominant against the run. May have problems in pass coverage if required to cover speedy backs and/or big tight ends. Has lots of experience but will be over 24 years old when the 2024 NFL regular season starts.

Age: 23.98. Ht/Wt: 6-0 %, 235 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 16. Michael Barrett (Michigan)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #244 overall on our draft board.

In 6 seasons at Michigan, Barrett played in 62 games (35 starts), recording 208 total tackles, 8.5 sacks, 2 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 6 passes defensed, 4 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries. Huge amounts of experience but will be over 24 years old when the draft takes place. Lacks the ideal size to play full-time linebacker at the NFL level. Perhaps is better against the pass than against the run, where he can get tied up trying to work his way through traffic. Has good special teams experience from early in his career.

Age: 24.35. Ht/Wt: 5-11 3/, 233 (combine). 40: 4.70 (pro day).

### 17. Jordan Magee (Temple)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #246 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons (including a redshirt year) at Temple, appearing in 44 games (33 starts), recording 235 total tackles, 31 tackles for a loss, 8 sacks, 1 interception, 11 passes defensed, 2 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries. Has special teams experience from early in his career. Lacks some size but is still a solid tackler. Makes plays when in space and will shoot gaps to get to ball-carriers in the offensive backfield. But can struggle to battle through traffic. Plays with aggression and lots of effort – plays hard on every play.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 6-1 3/, 228 (combine). 40: 4.55 (combine)

### 18. Steele Chambers (Ohio State)

Likely late round draft choice. Is #247 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Ohio State, appearing in 50 games, with 29 starts. Across his career, Chambers recorded 208 total tackles, 13 tackles for a loss, 3 sacks, 4 interceptions, 5 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery (returned for a touchdown) and 1 forced fumble. Was originally a running back at OSU. Decent athlete. Inconsistent in 2023.

Age: 23.76. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¾, 226 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 19. Aaron Casey (Indiana)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #263 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Indiana, appearing in 56 games (24 starts). Recorded 239 total tackles, 36 tackles for a loss, 5 passes defensed and 5 forced fumbles. Makes lots of tackles around the line of scrimmage. Will be over 24 years old when the 2024 NFL season starts.

Age: 23.87. Ht/Wt: 6-0 %, 231 (combine). 40: 4.75 (combine)

#### 20. Darius Muasau (UCLA)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #270 overall on our draft board.

Played 3 years at Hawaii before transferring to UCLA for the 2022 and 2023 seasons. Played in 63 games across his college career, with 50 starts, recording 440 total tackles, 15.5 sacks and 5 interceptions (with 1 returned for a touchdown). Plays downhill with quickness. Good blitzer

Age: 23.21. Ht/Wt: 5-11 %, 225 (combine). 40: 4.70 (combine)

### 21. Tatum Bethune (FSU)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is **#271** overall on our draft board.

Played 3 seasons (2019-21) at UCF before transferring to FSU for the final 2 seasons of his college career. Across his college career he played in 61 games (35 starts), recording 339 total tackles, 28 tackles for a loss, 7.5 sacks, 4 interceptions, 10 passes defensed, 1 fumble recovery and 2 forced fumbles. Is around the football a lot.

Age: n/a. Ht/Wt: 5-11 ½, 229 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 22. Jackson Sirmon (California)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #290 overall on our draft board.

Played 6 seasons in college, the first 4 at Washington, with the final 2 at California. Across his college career, Sirmon played in 52 games, with 34 starts, recording 301 total tackles, 16.5 tackles for a loss, 2 interceptions, 7 passes defensed, 2.5 sacks, 4 fumble recoveries (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and 4 forced fumbles. Quick and athletic linebacker. Interestingly, at Cal's pro day, in addition to his linebacking skills, Sirmon also showed off his long snapping skills (a role he performed in high school).

Age: 24.03. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 240 (pro day). 40: n/a.

### 23. Jontrey Hunter (Georgia State)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #295 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Georgia State, appearing in 42 games, and recording 225 total tackles, 21.5 tackles for a loss, 6 sacks, 3 interceptions, 11 passes defensed, 7 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries. Is around the football a lot. Has a knack for forcing fumbles.

Age: 23.90. Ht/Wt: 6-1 %, 236 (combine). 40: 4.58 (combine)

### 24. Jackson Mitchell (UConn)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #311 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at UConn, playing in 47 games, with 42 starts, recording 433 total tackles, 24.5 tackles for a loss, 7.5 sacks, 3 interceptions, 7 passes defensed, 7 fumble recoveries (including 2 returned for touchdowns) and 6 forced fumbles. 2022 Butkus Award semi-finalist. Tackling machine who is around the football a lot. Lacks prototypical size.

Age: 23.26. Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¾, 225 (pro day). 40: 4.85 (pro day).

### 25. Omar Speights (LSU)

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #312 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons (2019-22) at Oregon State, playing in 45 games, with 39 starts. Transferred to LSU for the 2023 season, playing and starting in 10 games. Recorded 378 total tackles, 25 tackles for a loss, 5 sacks, 3 interceptions, 4 passes defensed and 3 fumble recoveries across his college career. Is undersized. Makes lots of tackles in and around the line of scrimmage.

Age: 23.15. Ht/Wt: 6-0 <sup>5</sup>, 225 (pro day). 40: 4.62 (pro day).

[237]

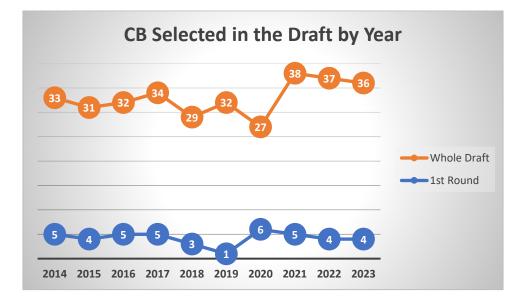
# CORNERBACKS

**General Draft Outlook:** This is a nice group of corners all the way through the draft, and whilst there likely isn't a top 10 pick amongst them, 3-6 corners could be taken in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

The first cornerback selected will almost certainly come from one of the following: Quinyon Mitchell, Terrion Arnold and Nate Wiggins. Expect all three of them to be off the board by around pick 20. Cooper DeJean will also be selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round, but we see him most likely as a safety rather than corner at the next level (indeed he's listed in the safety position group in this guide) – nonetheless, he'll be off the board anywhere from the middle of round 1 onwards.

The next two corners who have 1<sup>st</sup> round chances are Kool-Aid McKinstry (Arnold's Alabama teammate) and Ennis Rakestraw. McKinstry and/or Rakestraw may wind up going late in round 1 or early in round 2.

There are 6-7 players in the next group of corners, and they all have a good chance to be off the board by the time that day 2 comes to a close. This group includes Kamari Lassiter, T.J. Tampa, and Mike Sainristil (Sainristil will likely be a nickel/slot corner in the NFL). The group also includes Max Melton, brother of Packers wide receiver Bo Melton.



Prediction: Around 33 cornerbacks will be selected in this draft.

**Packers Outlook:** The Packers CB group is a reasonably deep one, containing one star (Jaire Alexander), a starter returning from injury (Eric Stokes), an All-Pro kick returner (Keisean Nixon) and solid players in Carrington Valentine, Corey Ballentine and Robert Rochell. And yet it would not surprise to see the Packers select high at this position. If they go this route in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> round, then the top 3 players are likely to have gone, but the second group containing DeJean (we ran list him at safety) and McKinstry could be in play. Tampa and Melton could be a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> round possibilities, while further down, the likes of Jarrian Jones and Elijah Jones may be in play.

# **TOP CORNERBACKS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Quinyon Mitchell	СВ	Toledo	1
2.	Terrion Arnold	CB	Alabama	1
3.	Nate Wiggins	CB	Clemson	1
4.	Kool-Aid McKinstry	CB	Alabama	1-2
5.	Ennis Rakestraw Jr.	CB	Missouri	1-2
6.	T.J. Tampa	CB	Iowa State	1-2
7.	Kamari Lassiter	CB	Georgia	2
8.	Max Melton	CB	Rutgers	2
9.	Mike Sainristil	СВ	Michigan	2-3
10.	Kris Abrams-Draine	СВ	Missouri	3
11.	D.J. James	CB	Auburn	3
12.	Khyree Jackson	CB	Oregon	3
13.	Cam Hart	СВ	Notre Dame	3-4
14.	Andru Phillips	СВ	Kentucky	3-4
15.	Caelen Carson	СВ	Wake Forest	3-4
16.	Renardo Green	СВ	FSU	4-5
17.	Josh Newton	СВ	TCU	4-5
18.	Jarvis Brownlee Jr.	СВ	Louisville	4-5
19.	Jarrian Jones	СВ	FSU	4-5
20.	Kalen King	СВ	Penn State	4-5
21.	Nehemiah Pritchett	СВ	Auburn	4-5
22.	Elijah Jones	СВ	Boston College	4-5
23.	Chau Smith-Wade	СВ	Washington State	4-5
24.	Decamerion Richardson	СВ	Mississippi State	4-5
25.	Dwight McGlothern	СВ	Arkansas	4-5
26.	Johnny Dixon	CB	Penn State	6-7
27.	M.J. Devonshire	СВ	Pittsburgh	6-7
28.	Kamal Hadden	СВ	Tennessee	6-7
29.	Myles Harden	СВ	South Dakota	6-7
30.	Daequan Hardy	CB	Penn State	6-7
31.	Ryan Watts	СВ	Texas	6-7
32.	Deantre Prince	СВ	Mississippi	7-UDFA
33.	Tarheeb Still	CB	Maryland	7-UDFA
34.	Marcellas Dial	CB	South Carolina	7-UDFA
35.	Josh Wallace	CB	Michigan	7-UDFA
36.	Carlton Johnson	CB	Fresno State	7-UDFA
37.	Ro Torrence	CB	Arizona State	7-UDFA
38.	Sheridan Jones	CB	Clemson	UDFA
39.	Willie Drew	CB	Virginia State	UDFA
40.	Qwan'tez Stiggers	СВ	Toronto Argonauts (CFL)	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Jarius Monroe	CB	Tulane	UDFA
42.	Omar Brown	CB	Nebraska	UDFA
43.	Ja'Quan Sheppard	CB	Maryland	UDFA
44.	Myles Jones	CB	Duke	UDFA
45.	Beanie Bishop	СВ	West Virginia	UDFA
46.	Christian Roland-Wallace	СВ	USC	UDFA
47.	Storm Duck	СВ	Louisville	UDFA
48.	Josh DeBerry	СВ	Texas A&M	UDFA
49.	Willie Roberts	СВ	Louisiana Tech	UDFA
50.	Mikey Victor	СВ	Alabama State	UDFA
51.	Micah Abraham	СВ	Marshall	UDFA
52.	Quinton Newsome	СВ	Nebraska	UDFA
53.	Decorian Patterson	СВ	UCF	UDFA
54.	Ryan Cooper	СВ	Oregon State	UDFA
55.	A.J. Woods	СВ	Pittsburgh	UDFA
56.	Rayshad Williams	СВ	Texas Tech	UDFA
57.	Malik Dunlap	СВ	Texas Tech	UDFA
58.	Jaden Davis	СВ	Miami, Fla	UDFA
59.	Reddy Steward	СВ	Troy	UDFA
60.	Armani Chatman	СВ	North Carolina	UDFA
61.	A.J. Hampton	СВ	Tulane	UDFA
62.	Shyheim Battle	СВ	North Carolina State	UDFA
63.	Miles Battle	СВ	Utah	UDFA
64.	Noah Tumblin	СВ	San Diego State	UDFA
65.	Reggie Pearson Jr.	CB	Oklahoma	UDFA
66.	Marcus Banks	CB	Mississippi State	UDFA
67.	Chigozie Anusiem	CB	Colorado State	UDFA
68.	Isaiah Hazel	CB	Charlotte	UDFA
69.	Charles Woods	CB	SMU	UDFA
70.	Gabe Jeudy-Lally	CB	Tennessee	UDFA
71.	Zamari Walton	CB	Mississippi	UDFA
72.	Te'Cory Couch	CB	Miami, Fla	UDFA
73.	Alex Johnson	CB	UCLA	UDFA
74.	Tyler "Red" Potts	CB	Ball State	UDFA
75.	Elijah Clark	CB	Temple	UDFA
76.	Teldrick Ross	CB	Middle Tennessee	UDFA
77.	Keni-H Lovely	CB	Western Michigan	UDFA
78.	Brian George	CB	Houston	UDFA
79.	Myles Sims	CB	Georgia Tech	UDFA
80.	Noah Pierre	CB	Indiana	UDFA
81.	Trevon Jones	CB	Minnesota	UDFA
82.	Javan Morgan	CB	Florida A&M	UDFA
83.	Chris Megginson	CB	SMU	UDFA
84.	Keonte Lusk	CB	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
85.	Shon Stephens	CB	Ferris State	UDFA

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

# **QUINYON MITCHELL (Toledo)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete in high school in Florida, taking part in track and field, basketball, and football. Starred on the football field as both a running back and a defensive back.

**College:** Played as a back-up in 2020. Became a starter at cornerback in 2021 playing consistently. Stepped up in 2022, notching up 5 interceptions, including 4 in a game against Northern Illinois. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours and some 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American notice. Played well again in 2023 as the full-time starter – again earning some All-American notice.

**College Stats:** In his 4 years at Toledo, Mitchell played in 45 games (39 starts), recording 6 interceptions (including 2 returned for touchdowns) and 52 passes defensed. Notched up 122 total tackles (92 solo), including 1 sack and 6.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 fumble recovery, 1 forced fumble and blocked a punt.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** The Athletic 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MAC. Bednarik Award semi-finalist. **2022** Walter Camp, PFF & Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-MAC. MAC.

**Analysis:** Mitchell has decent size and is a really good athlete, with speed and the loose hips that you look for in a corner. These enable him to change direction and transition out of his back-pedal quickly and smoothly.

Plays with a confidence and swagger (a la Jaire Alexander) and brings physicality and feistiness to the cornerback position.

Can play off and in press man, although perhaps has demonstrated his skills best when playing off, because his anticipation and play recognition are outstanding, meaning that he can close on the football at speed.

Gets his hands on the football an awful lot, finding the football in the air and knocking passes down. But despite making a number of big plays, it feels he perhaps should turn more of those passes defensed into interceptions.

Will get up and play the run. Is a solid tackler.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Mitchell has seemed to improve each year in college. The biggest question mark against him is about his level of competition (outside the Power 5), however, Mitchell showed up well at the Senior Bowl – in fact, perhaps did as well as anybody who was there. The showing really helped his draft status because it demonstrated that he can play with some top level wide receivers. Then followed up with a really nice combine performance, including running a 4.33 in the 40. Mitchell has so many of the skills and physical traits that you look for in pro corner and NFL scouts. Expect him to be off the board in the 1st round, perhaps as high as the top 10-15 picks overall. Will vie with Terrion Arnold to be the first corner selected.

CB #1

### Overall #13

Round 1

Class: Junior

Age: 22.77

Ht/Wt: 6-0 1/8, 195 (combine)

40: 4.33 (combine)

# **TERRION ARNOLD (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Two-sport athlete in high school in Florida, playing basketball as well as football. On the gridiron was a highly rated safety. Arnold was highly recruited by multiple Power 5 schools before opting to play his college ball for the Crimson Tide.

Redshirted his true freshman season in 2021, before becoming a starting corner for the majority of 2022 - earning some freshman all-conference and All-American recognition. Was even better in 2023, earning 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American honours as he intercepted 5 passes.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Alabama, Arnold played in 26 games (21 starts), recording 6 interceptions and 26 passes defensed.

Notched up 108 total tackles (74 solo), including 1 sack and 7.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. 2022 FWAA Freshman All-American. Freshman All-SEC Team.

**Analysis:** Arnold is a versatile cornerback who can play press man, off-man, and zone coverage. Added to that versatility is his previous experience playing safety. Formed part of an outstanding cornerback duo at the University of Alabama, playing opposite fellow potential 2024 high round draft pick Kool-Aid McKinstry.

Has good speed, short and long, an explosive first step and really quick feet which means that he has the athletic ability to both play on the outside and in the slot.

Has had just 2 full seasons playing as a cornerback (having switched from safety) but has learned quickly and has the really feisty attitude that you like to see at the cornerback position.

Is physical both in terms of holding up receivers at the line of scrimmage when in press man and in coverage down the field where he's not afraid to get his hands on receivers. Is a smart football player and in off-coverage he anticipates well and closes on the football and receiver at some speed.

Has good ball skills – he will find the football in the air and has nice hands to make the interception.

Uses his aforementioned attitude and physicality to demonstrate a great willingness to get up and force the run. Likes to tackle and hit and be around the football.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Arnold is a consistent corner who continues to develop. However, make no mistake, he looks ready to play in the NFL right now and his scheme versatility means that he will be a fit for most teams. Also, his previous experience at safety will stand him in good stead. Teams will like his attitude and competitive nature as well as the athletic skills that he brings to the table (especially great short area speed). Could quite possibly be the first cornerback off the board in this draft (vying with Quinyon Mitchell), likely in the top 10-15 picks overall.

CB #2

### Overall #14

Round 1

Class: RS-Sophomore

Age: 21.10

Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¾, 189 (combine)

40: 4.50 (combine)

# **NATE WIGGINS (Clemson)**

**Misc:** Wiggins played both CB and WR (and returned kicks) in his high school career in the Atlanta area. Played basketball as well as football. Had offers from multiple Power 5 schools and looked like he was going to go to LSU before finally committing to Clemson to play in the defensive backfield.

Played in 11 games in 2021 as a true freshman at Clemson, contributing on special teams and as a cornerback. Became the starter at corner early in the 2022 season and responded by having an outstanding season, earning some all-conference recognition. Followed that up with an even better year, being named 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference.

CB #3 Overall #22 Round 1 Class: Junior Age: 20.66 Ht/Wt: 6-1 ¾, 173 (combine)

40: 4.28 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at Clemson, Wiggins played in 27 games (18 starts), recording 3 interceptions (including 2 returned for touchdowns) and 24 passes defensed. He notched up 60 tackles (49 solo), including 1 sack and 3 tackles for a loss. Also had 2 forced fumbles.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 CFN 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. 2021 ACC Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Wiggins is a long, tall, thin cornerback with fine athleticism and incredible speed, with the ability to cover receivers all over the field. He is still young (will be under 21 years old when the draft takes place) but is developing rapidly.

Wiggins is an excellent cover corner who can play both press man and off coverage. Has a very smooth transition out of his back-pedal which means that he doesn't miss a beat when needing to follow receivers down the field.

His athleticism, speed and agility allow him to stay with receivers and to recover when needed. Will find the football in the air and isn't afraid to use aggression and physicality in coverage, competing with receivers and getting his hands on them and on the football. Can be a little bit too handsy at times. Also, on occasion his aggression has gotten him into trouble being caught out on pump fakes, peeking into the backfield

Wiggins has really good quickness and anticipation and the ability to close at speed on the football, when playing in off-coverage or in zone.

Is inconsistent getting up to play the run and making the tackle.

Has some experience as a kick returner from his high school days.

## **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Wiggins is young but is already a fine corner with great attributes (including incredible speed - he ran a 4.28 40 at the combine) who has the potential to develop quickly into a shutdown corner in the NFL. He appears to be better every time you see him on the field. There are areas that need to be worked on – but that is only to be expected for a player so young. Wiggins is going to be one of the first few cornerbacks off the board in this draft (probably the third), at some point around the middle of round 1.

# **KOOL-AID McKINSTRY (Alabama)**

**Misc:** Real name is Ga'Quincy McKinstry. Was given the nickname "Kool-Aid" by his grandmother when he was very young. Was an outstanding high school player in Alabama. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at the University of Alabama.

Played CB and special teams as a freshman in 2021, getting more playing time as the season progressed and earning freshman allconference honours. Had an outstanding 2022 as the full-time starter and earned some All-American recognition. Also excelled as a punt returner in 2022, gaining all-star notice in that role as well. Had another fine year in 2023, earning consensus All-American honours. CB #4

Overall #32

Round 1-2

Class: Junior

Age: 21.57

Ht/Wt: 5-11 ½, 199 (combine)

40: 4.47 (pro day)

**College Stats:** In his 3 years at Alabama, McKinstry played in 40 games (33 starts), recording 2 interceptions & 25 passes defensed. Notched up 93 tackles (62 solo), including 2 sacks & 5 tackles for a loss. Returned 35 punts at an 11.9-yard average & had 1 kickoff return for 4 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Consensus 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Alabama Team Co-Defensive Player of the Year. **2022** AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. **2021** Freshman All-SEC team.

**Analysis:** McKinstry is an experienced and talented, athletic corner who has good height and length, but lacks a little bulk. Also brings punt return skills to the table. McKinstry formed part of an outstanding cornerback duo at the University of Alabama, playing opposite fellow potential 2024 high round draft pick Terrion Arnold.

McKinstry is a smooth athlete with good, but not outstanding, speed who despite having a nice transition out of his back-pedal is probably still at his best covering receivers on short and intermediate routes or in zone coverage. Anticipates well and closes on the football quickly.

Has some quick feet which help him in coverage. However, when tracking receivers down the field he can be a little bit grabby with his hands at times.

Will get up and play the run. He is a decent tackler and has improved in this area. Isn't dominant but is very serviceable.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

McKinstry quite possibly entered the 2023 season as the no.1 cornerback and while he had a good year in 2023, other corners available in this draft may have raised themselves about him. It seems likely that there will a range of different opinions amongst NFL teams as to whether McKinstry is a 1<sup>st</sup> round draft choice or whether some of the areas that require improvement and/or development mean that he drops to the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. He was also found to have a fracture in his foot at the combine which meant that he couldn't work out. However, we suspect that he may just sneak into the back end of round 1. McKinstry has the talent and potential to become a long-time starter in the NFL who can double up, as he develops, as a fine punt returner. Has attributes which mean that he could interest the Packers.

# **ENNIS RAKESTRAW (Missouri)**

**Misc:** Nice high school career in Dallas, Texas. Opted to play his college ball at the University of Missouri.

Earned a starting corner role immediately in his true freshman season (2020). Unfortunately, suffered a season ending torn ACL early in the 2021 season. Came back with a really nice 2022. Had probably the best season of his college career in 2023, despite missing 3 games due to a couple of injuries, including a core muscle injury which required surgery.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Missouri, Rakestraw played in 37 games (32 starts), recording 11 passes defensed, 73 total tackles (53 solo), 3.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2022 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2021 SEC Academic Honor Roll. 2020 SEC First-Year Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Rakestraw is a confident, highly talented, up and coming cornerback with athleticism and decent, but not great, size. Doesn't have outstanding speed however (4.51 in the 40 at the combine)

Lots of experience playing in off-man and zone coverages and these would appear to be his forte (as opposed to press man where he has had less playing time). Is a smooth mover who gets out of his transition quickly and with ease.

Rakestraw is a smart and intelligent corner who does a nice job of keeping receivers in front of him and not getting beat deep. He reads and diagnoses and anticipates the pass extremely well. Utilises his athleticism and movement skills (with some acceleration) so that he can quickly close on the football in the air.

He is a competitive and physical corner, who will fight receivers for the ball and isn't afraid to get up and hit. This also makes him excellent in run support.

Although he identifies the football in the air, and makes plays on it, Rakestraw doesn't yet make a large number of big plays. Perhaps needs to improve his hands.

All-out effort, hard-working player, who plays with great hustle and attitude – doesn't appear to get down on himself and has that bounce-back ability that the top corners have.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Missed the Senior Bowl as he recovered from surgery on the core muscle injury he suffered late in the season. This was disappointing for Rakestraw as he would have been looking to build on his nice 2023 season and improve his draft status, however that wasn't possible. The 40 time that he ran at the combine was also disappointing. Nonetheless, make no mistake, Rakestraw is a fine talent who is improving and developing seemingly with every outing, and he has a real chance to become a good starting corner in the NFL. Expect him to be selected on day 2 of the draft, with a chance he could sneak into round 1.

CB #5

### Overall #37

### Round 1-2

Class: RS-Junior

Age: 22.89

Ht/Wt: 5-11 3%, 183 (combine)

40: 4.51 (combine)

# T.J. TAMPA (Iowa State)

**Misc:** Fine player in high school football in Florida, playing both receiver and defensive back and earning a number of honours. Was also a good basketball player. Turned down offers from multiple other FBS schools to plays his college ball at Iowa State.

Played mainly on special teams and as a back-up corner in his freshman season (2020). Became a part-time starter at corner in 2021. Took a leap forwards to start every game in 2022 and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition. Was outstanding in 2023, garnering 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference and 3<sup>rd</sup> team All-American honours.

CB #6 Overall #41 Round 1-2 Class: Senior Age: 22.12 Ht/Wt: 6-0 %, 189 (combine) 40: n/a

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at ISU, Tampa played in 46 games (29 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 22 passes defensed, 106 tackles (82 solo), 9.5 tackles for a loss & 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention All-Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year. Thorpe Award semi-finalist. Bednarik Award semi-finalist.
2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Tampa is a good corner with a lot of experience (46 college games) and fine coverage skills. He has really good size and length – close to prototypical size for a pro corner. Can play in both man and zone coverage schemes.

Tampa is a smooth mover in man coverage, who looks really good transitioning out of his backpedal with ease. Has good speed which enables him to stay with fast receives and is physical corner who will disrupt receivers' routes, although can overuse his hands a little bit at times (needs to be careful about penalties). Receivers who run short, sharp, and crisp routes can gave him the odd piece of difficulty.

Tampa will anticipate well and break on the football – although this can be a good and bad thing – it allows him to make plays put also means that he can get caught out.

On longer routes, Tampa does a good job of turning his head at the right time and locating the football. But like a number of corners at the top end of this draft, he could do with turning more his pass break-ups into interceptions.

Will diagnose well and make the hit on running plays, using his speed and physical skills to get up and make the tackle.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Tampa is a good corner with the nice combination of size, speed, and physicality that NFL scouts look for at the position. He played at a good level for much of his college career before putting in his best performance in 2023 – perhaps indicating that there is much more to come. He has some areas that require development but should be able to contribute immediately upon entering the NFL and then become a starter in a short period of time. Expect Tampa to be selected early on day 2 and could be a Packers pick if they go down the CB route.

# **KAMARI LASSITER (Georgia)**

**Misc:** Originally from Savannah, Georgia, Lassiter was a fine multisport athlete in high school football in Alabama – taking part in track and field and playing baseball and basketball as well as football. Was impressive as both a cornerback and wide receiver on the gridiron. Opted to return to his home state and play his college ball at the University of Georgia. Chose the Bulldogs over offers from multiple other Power 5 schools.

Played as a back-up cornerback and on special teams in his true freshman season (2021). Earned a starting corner job in 2022 and had a solid season. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, garnering 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Georgia, Lassiter played in 43 games (29 starts), recording 1 interception, 15 passes defensed, 86 total tackles (60 solo), 8.5 tackles for a loss and 1 sack.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** Lassiter is a young corner with athleticism and some speed and size. He is a consistent and reliable defender, rather than a dynamic playmaker at this stage of his career. Lassiter is a versatile player with experience playing both outside and in the slot, as well as in zone coverage. If drafted, would be the latest in a line of defensive backs from Georgia to enter the NFL (a list which includes the Packers' Eric Stokes).

Lassiter is good in man coverage, using good technique and positioning to pressure receivers. He is a good athlete with quick feet, nice acceleration and speed and a smooth transition out of his back-pedal. Has become more aggressive and physical as he has developed, although he just needs to make sure that he doesn't become overly so (to avoid penalties).

Uses his high school wide receiver experience to locate the football in the air – getting his hands on the ball a lot. Probably should make more big plays by turning his opportunities into picks.

Plays with the attitude and confidence that comes from playing well in a successful programme. This attitude is exactly what you want to see in a cornerback. Is quick to get up and play the run and will hit. Good tackler.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Georgia seems to be turning out multiple pro level defensive backs every year – and this year is no different. Lassiter is a player on the rise, having shown improvement in each year in college. Put in a nice performance at the combine to solidify his draft status. Is still young and is likely nowhere near reaching his potential and yet, he has already been good. Once he enters the NFL, Lassiter should be an immediate contributor and, assuming his development stays on track, it shouldn't be too long before he becomes a starter. Expect Lassiter to be selected in the first half of day 2. Could he sneak into round 1? Probably unlikely, but Georgia has had plenty of first round players in the last few drafts.

### Overall #42

### Round 2

Class: Junior

Age: 21.26

Ht/Wt: 5-11 1/2, 186 (combine)

40: 4.51 (pro day)

# **MAX MELTON (Rutgers)**

**Misc:** Full name is Malachi Melton. "Max" is a nickname. Nice high school career in New Jersey, playing both cornerback and wide receiver. Eventually opted to play his college ball at Rutgers, choosing the Scarlet Knights over the likes of Purdue and Temple.

Had a fine true freshman season (2020) in which he started around half of the games at cornerback. Followed that with another good season in 2021, in which he intercepted 3 passes as the full-time starter (missed 3 games due to a suspension). Earned honourable mention all-conference recognition for both the 2022 and 2023 seasons in which he played very well. CB #8

### **Overall #55**

Round 2

Class: Senior

Age: 22.03

Ht/Wt: 5-11, 187 (combine)

40: 4.39 (combine)

**College Stats:** In 4 seasons at Rutgers, Melton played in 43 games (40 starts), recording 8 interceptions, 30 passes defensed, 113 total tackles (81 solo), 1 sack, 1 forced fumble and 4 fumble recoveries. Also blocked 4 punts.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable mention All-Big 10. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.
 2021 Phil Steele 4<sup>th</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Melton is a highly experienced (40 starts), speedy (4.39 in the 40 at the combine) and athletic cornerback. He is very slightly undersized as compared to the ideal height and weight,

#### **Packer Connection**

Max is the brother of current Packers wide receiver Bo Melton. but not really enough to be an issue. Is versatile, having played both as an outside corner and as a nickel (slot) corner.

Melton is physical, utilising his hands and strength well in press man and then again in coverage. Will utilise his quickness and speed to help him stay with receivers, although he is still developing his route recognition. Can, on occasion, get caught out on double moves,

where his aggressiveness can hurt him at times.

Diagnoses plays happening in front of him and has really good closing acceleration. Locates the football in the air and will get his hands on it or the receiver – he will fight for the football. Melton's hands are pretty good.

Melton is tough and plays with feistiness. Will fight through traffic to get up and play the run, laying a hit on the running back. Can occasionally allow ball-carriers to slip away from his tackles. Melton is also an outstanding special teams player – highlighted by his 3 blocked punts in 2022 (after blocking 1 in 2021).

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Melton is a player whose stock is on the rise. He is a really fine, all-round, cornerback prospect who will intrigue scouts with his combination of physicality, versatility, and athleticism. Melton really demonstrated his outstanding athletic prowess with an excellent combine. There are some areas of his game that require development, but Melton should contribute immediately he hits the pro game and should, in time, work his way into the starting line-up. Expect him to be selected on day 2.

# **MIKE SAINRISTIL (Michigan)**

**Misc:** Born in Haiti. Family moved to Massachusetts when Sainristil was very young, and it was in that New England state that he would play high school football and earn Gatorade Player of the Year honours (2018). Opted to attend the University of Michigan.

Began his Michigan career playing WR and special teams – caught just 8 passes in 2019 and 7 in 2020. Continued to improve in 2021, starting 5 games and catching 22 passes. Switched to the defensive backfield in 2022 and earned a starting CB, playing well and earning honourable mention all-conference honours. Had the best season of his college career in 2023, recording 6 interceptions and earning some All-America notice, as he switched between being a nickel (slot) and an outside corner. CB #9

**Overall #65** 

Round 2-3

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.56 Ht/Wt: 5-9, 182 (combine) 40: 4.47 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 5 years at Michigan, Sainristil played in 62 games, with 34 starts. 25 of those starts came at cornerback, the other 9 came at wide receiver. He recorded 7 interceptions (including 2 returned for touchdowns), 20 passes defensed, 108 total tackles (70 solo), 11.5 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks and 2 forced fumbles. On offense, he had 36 receptions for 532 yards (14.8 ave) and 5 touchdowns. Rushed 1 time for 7 yards. Had 2 punt returns at a 1.0 average and 2 kick-off returns at a 13.5 average.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** TSN, ESPN & Fox 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Big 10 Championship Game MVP. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Big 10. UM team Defensive Player of the Year Award winner. **2021** UM team Co-Offensive Player of the Year Award winner.

**Analysis:** Sainristil is an undersized but productive and developing defensive back who is a team leader type. Was a former wide receiver and Sainristil brings some versatility to the defensive backfield, although much of his recent playing time has been as a nickel (slot) corner.

Sainristil has the ideal combination of athleticism, explosiveness, and quick feet for playing the slot corner position. These attributes enable him to cover quick and shifty receivers in the short to intermediate areas. Sainristil is smart football player who plays with discipline and doesn't give up many big plays. He has excellent hands, as you would expect (or hope for) from a former wide receiver, and the ability to return picks for big gains.

Sainristil is competitive and plays with toughness – despite his lack of size, he will get up and play the run. Not afraid to take on running backs. However, can get caught up on in traffic.

Sainristil has experience on special teams coverage units and a little bit on returns.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Played only 2 years of college football on the defensive side of the ball but has been excellent in that short time and has the potential to get even better. Could be a high-ceiling player. Put in a nice all-round performance at the combine, solidifying if not helping, his draft chances. Had some versatility at the college level but unquestionably his size and short-area quickness will see being suited to the nickel (slot) corner spot in the NFL. Should be selected on day 2.

### **KRIS ABRAMS-DRAINE (Missouri)**

**Misc:** Outstanding wide receiver in high school in Alabama. Also played some quarterback and returned kicks and punts in high school. Eventually decided to play his college ball at Missouri, after previously committing to LSU and later to Ole Miss.

Played very little in his freshman season (2020), during which he switched from wide receiver to the defensive backfield. Played well in 2021, winning the starting nickel/slot corner role, picking off 3 passes and also excelling as a kick returner. Was solid in 2022, starting 12 games. Truly broke out in 2023, intercepting 4 passes and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-American and 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference honours.

CB #10

Overall #78

Round 3

Class: Junior

Age: 22.56

Ht/Wt: 5-11 3/8, 179 (combine)

40: 4.44 (combine)

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Missouri, Abrams-Draine played in 43 games (38 at cornerback, 5 at wide receiver), starting in 35 – all of the starts coming at cornerback. He recorded 7 interceptions and 34 passes defensed. Also notched up 136 total tackles (104 solo), including 3.5 tackles for a loss. Had 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery. Returned 29 kick-offs at 20.8 average, with 1 touchdown. Retuned 6 punts at a 2.0 average. When he was playing wide receiver, Abrams-Draine caught 2 passes for 4 yards and rushed 1 time for 3 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Thorpe Award semifinalist.

**Analysis:** Abrams-Draine is a former wide receiver who has just 3 seasons of experience playing at the cornerback position, but he is developing rapidly at that spot.

Abrams-Draine is a really nice athlete who moves well and has a smooth transition out of his back-pedal. He has quick feet and the suddenness of movement that enables him to stay with some of the best route running receivers.

Finds the football in the air and gets his hands on it a lot. However, well-built receivers can give him difficulties and Abrams-Draine can get out muscled for the football. Has demonstrated good hands, as you would expect from a former wide receiver.

Isn't as physical as you'd like, both in coverage when receivers use their arms as leverage and when playing the run.

Return capability – Abrams-Draine has demonstrated some good kick-off return skills during his time in college and was an excellent punt returner in high school.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Just 3 years playing in the defensive backfield, but NFL scouts are surely going to be impressed with his development and most notably year on year improvement. There is much to like about his speed (he ran a 4.44 40 at the combine), talent and intriguing potential - Abrams-Draine would appear to have a reasonably high ceiling. However, his frame and lack of physicality (at least at this stage) could hold back his progress. Abrams-Draine is a player talent and a lot potential but also question marks. Expect him to be off the board at some point late on day 2.

# **D.J. JAMES (Auburn)**

**Misc:** Nice high school career in Alabama during which he earned allstate and all-region honours. Opted to play his college ball at Oregon, deciding on the Ducks over offers from a number of Power 5 schools.

Played as a back-up corner in his true freshman season (2019). Again, played as a back-up in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Became a starter at cornerback in 2021, notching up 2 interceptions. Transferred to Auburn prior to the 2022 season. Had a fine first season at Auburn, earning some all-conference recognition. Was just as good in 2023.

College Stats: Oregon: In 3 seasons, James played in 32 games (11

starts), recording 2 interceptions, 6 passes defensed, 70 total tackles (53 solo) and 0.5 tackle for a loss. Auburn: In 2 seasons, James played in 24 games (22 starts), recording 3 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 18 passes defensed, 75 total tackles (55 solo) and 4.5 tackles for a loss

Honours & Awards: 2023 CFN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. 2022 PFF 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC.

**Analysis:** James is a highly experienced (56 games/33 starts), athletic and speedy cornerback. Is versatile having played both zone and man coverages. James has decent length but a really lean frame.

James is good in short and underneath coverage where his explosive first step, quick feet and agility enable him to stay with receivers. Is also good when playing of – he will locate the football in the air and has quick closing speed and decent hands.

On longer routes in man, James has a really smooth transition out of his backpedal and ha really good speed. However, James can struggle to track receivers on longer routes as good longer route runners will give him difficulties. On occasion can be caught out when trying to anticipate a route to jump.

Plays with physicality (despite his lean frame) when he gets close to the line of scrimmage and tackles in the running game. However, bigger runners and receivers are sometimes able to break those tackle attempts.

James has the feistiness, toughness, and competitive attitude that you really like to see in a cornerback.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

James has some potential, and NFL teams will really like his athletic ability and speed. James helped his draft case when he had a very nice combine that included a speedy 4.42 in the 40. He will likely give the team that drafts him some versatility, although he may ultimately be at his best playing in zone coverage away from the line of scrimmage where he can diagnose and break on passes in front of him – at least in his early days in the NFL. Has the chance to develop into a long-term NFL starter. Should be selected on day 3.

### CB #11

### **Overall #95**

### Round 3

Class: Senior

Age: 23.14

Ht/Wt: 6-0, 175 (combine)

40: 4.42 (combine)

# **KHYREE JACKSON (Oregon)**

**Misc:** Attended high school in Maryland, playing well as a wide receiver, but he missed some playing time while there. Opted to start his college career at the Junior College level at Fort Scott Community College (Kansas).

Played 1 year (2019) at Fort Scott CC, having a nice season playing cornerback, before transferring to East Mississippi CC where he didn't play football. Received offers from multiple schools, committing to move to the FBS level with Alabama. Played mainly as a back-up corner and special teams player in his two playing seasons with the Crimson Tide (2021-22). Transferred to Oregon prior to the 2023 season. Had easily the best season of his career in 2023, starting at cornerback and earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours.

CB #12

### **Overall #96**

### Round 3

Class: Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-4, 194 (combine) 40: 4.50 (combine)

**College Stats: Fort Scott CC:** In 1 season, Jackson played in 8 games, recording 3 interceptions and 25 tackles (22 solo). **Alabama:** In 2 seasons, Jackson played in 21 games (2 starts), recording 14 tackles (11 solo). **Oregon:** In 1 season, Jackson played in 12 games (12 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 10 passes defensed, 34 tackles (25 solo), 5 tackles for a loss and 2 sacks.

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Jackson is a physical and aggressive cornerback who is tall and has a bit of a lanky frame.

Jackson is a decent athlete and for a corner of his size and while he has pretty good movement skills, he lacks some top-notch acceleration short and foot quickness. Jackson can play both man and zone, but is probably best playing in zone coverage, where the play is happening in front of him, using his anticipation to close on the football and/or receiver. Jackson utilises his skills learned playing wide receiver – he knows how to locate the football in the air and has good hands. Will use his physicality to fight for the football.

Jackson uses his physicality to get up and make the tackle in the running game. Isn't afraid to mix it up with bigger ball-carriers.

Has quite extensive experience on special teams coverage units.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Jackson has always appeared to be a high potential player whose production hasn't matched that perceived upside (perhaps due to some lack of opportunities). But all of that changed in 2023, as he had an outstanding season as a first-time, full-time starter at cornerback. Isn't going to blanket nifty receivers short and underneath but is tough and physical and can disrupt longer routes. Could be at his best when he can see the play all the way and therefore could be a possibility to move to safety. Because of his 2023 season coupled with a potentially high upside, it's likely that we see should expect Jackson to be off the board somewhere towards the end of round 3.

## **CAM HART (Notre Dame)**

**High School:** Played wide receiver during his high school career in Maryland. Opted to play his college ball at Notre Dame.

Came to the Irish initially to play WR but switched early to CB. Played in just 3 games in his freshman season (2019), his season being truncated by a shoulder injury (was awarded a medical redshirt). Played mainly as a back-up in 2020. Earned a starting role in 2021, having a nice season. Had shoulder surgery between the 2021 and 2022 seasons and then suffered a hamstring injury just prior to the 2022 season. Had some ups and downs early as he recovered, however, he bounced back and played well when fully fit. Unfortunately, Hart suffered another shoulder injury towards the end CB #13

### Overall #101

### Round 3-4

Class: Senior Age: 23.39 Ht/Wt: 6-3, 202 (combine) 40: 4.50 (combine)

of the 2022 season, ending it a little early. The injury required off-season surgery. Had perhaps the best season of his college career in 2023 as the full-time starter.

**College Stats:** In 5 seasons at Notre Dame, Hart played in 47 games (32 starts), recording 2 interceptions, 17 passes defensed, 91 total tackles (59 Solo), 10 tackles for a loss, 3 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 CFN Honorable Mention All-Independent. 2021 Phil Steele 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Independent

**Analysis:** Hart is a very experienced corner (47 games/32 starts) who has good size and decent athletic ability. Despite the number of games that he played at Notre Dame, Hart's college career was interrupted by injury. He formed one half of a fine CB pairing at Notre Dame, playing opposite rising star Benjamin Morrison (Morrison is not eligible for this draft).

Hart has a nice combination of athleticism, agility, and physicality which he brings to bear as a cover corner. Can press at the line of scrimmage, will disrupt receivers' routes with his long arms and provide close coverage on intermediate routes. However, he lacks the top-notch deep speed to stay with the speediest of receivers on go routes – may be at his best in off-coverage (off-man or zone). Can also struggle at times to locate the football in the air and doesn't have as many passes defensed and interceptions as he probably should have.

Is a willing run defender who will battle through offensive players to get up and make tackles in the running game.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Nice Senior Bowl week. Hart has been somewhat overshadowed by fellow Notre Dame CB Bernard Morrison, who is a candidate to be a high draft pick in 2025. Hart has also suffered multiple injuries which may hurt his draft stock – NFL teams will obviously need to be confident that his medical history won't hurt his NFL longevity. Had a good combine, showing nice athleticism and his aggressiveness on the field will do down well at the pro level. There are some areas in Hart's game that require development, but he should be able to play early as a dime defender while learning the game. Expect him to be selected in round 3 or round 4.

# **ANDRU PHILLIPS (Kentucky)**

**Misc:** Nicknamed "Dru". Dual-sport athlete in high school in South Carolina, taking part in track and field as well as playing football. Opted to attend Kentucky to play his college ball, choosing the Wildcats over offers from a number of other FBS schools.

Redshirted his freshman season at Kentucky (2020). Saw limited playing time in 9 games in 2021. Became a part time starter in 2022, playing well as his playing time increased. Solid in 2023 as the full-time starter.

**College Stats:** In 3 (playing) seasons at Kentucky, Phillips played in 38 games (16 starts), recording 82 total tackles (55 solo), 10 passes defensed and 3 tackles for a loss.

Honours & Awards: 2022 SEC Academic Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Phillips is a slightly undersized cornerback who is continuing to develop. He plays attitude and competitiveness. Lacks a little experience. Has some versatility – able to cover the slot receiver as well as play on the outside.

Phillips probably plays better in man coverage than in zone. He has decent athleticism and quick feet. Has agility to stay with receivers on their routes, although smart route runners may be able to get some separation. Also, receivers that use their physicality can best him at times both on their routes and catching the football. Needs some work on balls skills to turn opportunities into interceptions.

Phillips is a nice mover who has a smooth transition out of his backpedal and has the speed to cover receivers deep in man coverage.

Has the speed and range to play in zone coverage but probably at this stage of his career lacks some of the necessary experience to diagnose and react to some plays that are happening in front of him. However, his acceleration means that he can close on the football and receiver at speed.

Phillips is feisty and plays with toughness. Not afraid to get up and play the run, fight the through traffic and make the tackle.

Has lots of special teams experience playing on multiple units throughout his college career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Although he's developing as a player, it was somewhat surprisingly that Phillips opted to enter the 2024 draft rather than return to school for at least one more year – another year of college experience may have seen his draft positioning rise somewhat. Phillips has areas of his game that need to improve if he is going to a successful NFL cornerback. However, his decent quickness and acceleration help his chances of making a roster, as does his special teams experience. Phillips may be suited to play as a nickel (slot) corner at the next level. Should be off the board in the middle rounds – round 3 or round 4.

### CB #14

### Overall #110

### Round 3-4

Class: RS-Junior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¾, 190 (combine)

40: 4.48 (combine)

# **CAELEN CARSON (Wake Forest)**

**High School:** Nickname is "Los". Earned multiple honours for his play as both a wide receiver and defensive back in high school in Maryland. Opted to play his college ball at Wake Forest.

Redshirted his freshman season in 2020. Contributed in 2021 mainly as a back-up defensive back, picking off 2 passes. Became a starting cornerback in 2022, taking his play up to the next level as he had 7 passes defensed. Started again in 2023 and had another solid year, with 8 passes defensed.

**College Stats:** In his 4 seasons at Wake Forest, Carson played in 36 games (33 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 29 passes defensed. 119 total tackles (19 solo), 2 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

Honours & Awards: 2022 All-ACC Academic team.

**Analysis:** Carson is a physical and feisty corner who plays with the type of attitude that you like to see in a corner. He is a super confident player, who is competitive and physical.

He is a good athlete with decent size for the position. Has some positional and scheme versatility, being able to play both man and in zone and has also played a little as the nickel (slot) corner.

Carson is a good cover corner who has the physicality to play press man and the quickness to run with lots of receivers short and underneath. Has a smooth transition out of his back-pedal but can start to have some struggles on deep or long crossing routes, where long speed (especially) and good route runners will give him problems.

Carson is smart and will often locate the football in the air just in time. He'll make a play on the football and/or receiver and will battle for the ball on contested passes when he needs to. But needs to turn more of these plays into interceptions – he has no picks over the last two seasons.

Is quick to diagnose and force against the run. His physical ability and toughness mean that he'll take on and tackle running backs on the outside. Has a good tackling technique and rarely misses.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Carson is a solid player with some potential and upside. He has ability in both man coverage and in zone and therefore would be a fit for most teams, who play a combination of both. It's easy to envisage him initially playing in zone or in off coverage in the NFL while he develops – this way he can see the play unfolding in front of him and use his quickness and athleticism to close on the ball and receiver. But over time, with more playing experience, he could become a really nice outside cover corner in man. Carson should be off the board late on day 2 or early on day 3 and will likely play as an extra defensive back (dime situations) immediately before, in time, becoming a starter.

### CB #15

### Overall #112

### Round 3-4

Class: Junior Age: 22.15 Ht/Wt: 6-0, 199 (combine) 40: n/a

# **RENARDO GREEN (FSU)**

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Florida and opted to stay close to home to play his college ball by attending FSU.

Played as a back-up and on special teams throughout his freshman season (2019). Started 5 games in 2020, missing the remainder of the season through injury. Came back in 2021 to play in 9 games, mainly as a back-up and rotational player (started in 2 games). Became the full-time starter in 2022, playing well and earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Had a good season in 2023, this time earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition. CB #16

Overall #117

Round 4-5

Class:

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 5-11 3%, 186 (combine)

40: 4.49 (combine)

College Stats: In his 5 seasons at FSU, Green played in 53 games,

with 32 starts. Recorded 1 interception, 22 passes defensed, 148 total tackles, 6.5 tackles for a loss and 1 forced fumble.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2nd Team All-ACC. Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. Jim Thorpe Award semi-finalist. Don Powell Award co-winner (Presented by the Orlando Seminole Club to the Unsung Heroes at FSU). **2022** Honorable Mention All-ACC. FSU Defensive Most Improved Player.

**Analysis:** Green is an athletic corner with some speed and decent size. Has a good amount of college playing experience. Also has versatility having played at both cornerback and safety while at FSU. Formed one-half of a fine cornerback duo at FSU, along with fellow potential 2024 draftee Jarrian Jones.

Green has a really quick first step and good feet. Plays with great physicality both at the line of scrimmage and when covering receivers down the field. Perhaps can sometimes be a little over physical.

Locates the football in the air, has closing speed and gets his hands on it but doesn't make as many interceptions as you'd like.

Is perhaps better closer to the line of scrimmage on short and intermediate routes, rather than covering deep routes, however he has good long speed and is improving as a cover corner down the field.

Uses his aggressiveness and physicality to fight through traffic and get up to make the tackle in the running game. Isn't afraid to hit.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Green is a rapidly improving prospect. He had 2 really nice seasons to end his college career, playing particularly well in 2023. Has some areas that require development, including being careful with how aggressive he can in coverage and improving his ball skills, but there's no doubt that he is a player on the rise. How much more upside there is to come remains to be seen but with his versatility, he should make an NFL roster at least as a back-up initially. Expect him to be off the board in round 4 or round 5.

### **JOSH NEWTON (TCU)**

**Misc:** Earned all-star recognition playing wide receiver in high school in Louisiana. Wasn't highly recruited coming out of high school. Accepted an offer to play his college ball at Louisiana-Monroe.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) at ULM. In his second season, Newton switched from wide receiver to cornerback and impressed enough to win the starting job in the defensive backfield. Started again in 2020 and 2021 – having a particularly nice season with 2 interceptions in 2021. Opted to transfer to the FBS level with TCU for the 2022 season. Had an outstanding 2022, earning the starting job immediately, picking off 3 passes and garnering 1<sup>st</sup> team

all-conference honours. Followed up with a sound 2023 season, earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team allconference accolades.

**College Stats: ULM:** In 4 seasons, Newton played in 34 games (32 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 15 pass break-ups, 84 tackles (53 solo) including 5.5 tackles for a loss. **TCU:** In 2 seasons, Newton played and started in 27 games, recording 4 interceptions and 24 passes defensed. Also recorded 68 total tackles (58 solo), including 2.5 tackles for a loss.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 12.

**Analysis:** Newton is a highly experienced corner (61 games/59 starts) with decent, but not outstanding, size and athleticism. He plays with great attitude and competitiveness.

Newton plays with physicality at the line of scrimmage, using his hands quickly and strongly in press man coverage, often preventing the receiver's clean release. Newton has aggressive demeanour and will use his hands to fight receivers and disrupt routes. Because of his lack of top-notch speed, fast receivers can give him problems down the field on go or long crossing routes - as can receivers with sharp, quick feet who gain separation through their route running (if he hasn't already physically disrupted those routes).

As a former wide receiver, Newton has good ball skills – he does a good job of locating the football in the air and getting his hands on it. Will use his strength to battle receivers for the football.

Newton is aggressive and plays well against the run. Isn't afraid to make the hit on big running backs.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Teams will like Newton's size and his physical, competitive approach to the game. Those are traits that are always in vogue for a pro corner. Newton lacks some speed and just a little athleticism, but he is a nice corner, who will likely be a best fit for a team who provides over the top coverage if Newton plays press man, or a team that will play Newton in zone. It's also not out of the question that he may end up at safety. Expect Newton to contribute as a rotational player and on special teams as a rookie. He should be off the board in round 4 or 5.

### CB #17

### Overall #125

### Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: 23.61

Ht/Wt: 5-10 ½, 190 (combine)

40: 4.51 (combine)

### JARVIS BROWNLEE Jr. (Louisville)

**Misc:** Played his high school football in Miami, Florida. Was going to stay in his home city and play his college ball at the University of Miami, but finally decided to attend Florida State.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2019) at FSU, having played in just 4 games. Put in a solid performance, starting around half of the games at CB in the pandemic impacted 2020 season. Became the full-time starter in 2021, have another nice year which included 2 interceptions. Transferred to Louisville for the 2022 season. Started every game at CB, again picking off 2 passes. Missed 3 games due to a foot injury in 2023, but still started in 9 and put in another solid performance, earning honorable mention all-conference honours. CB #18 Overall #127 Round 4-5 Class: Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¾, 194 (combine)

40: n/a

**College Stats: FSU:** In 3 seasons, Brownlee played in 24 games (15 starts), recording 3 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 7 passes defensed, 78 total tackles (48 solo), 4 tackles for a loss and 1 forced fumble. **Louisville:** In 2 seasons, Brownlee played in 24 games (22 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 21 passes defensed, 96 total tackles (67 solo), 3.5 tackles for a loss and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-ACC. 2019 ACC Honor Roll.

**Analysis:** Brownlee is an experienced corner at the college level, who has good fundamental skills but lacks A1 size (is slightly short) and athletic ability. Has some versatility having played both outside and inside covering the slot receiver.

Brownlee is probably at his best in coverage when he can play press man, with deep help or in zone coverage where the play is unfolding in front of him. He has decent foot quickness and can be physical at the line of scrimmage and on short at underneath routes, where he will disrupt receivers. Also does a good job of anticipating short, quick passes, getting his hands on the ball to knock it down. But he doesn't appear to have top notch athletic ability and speed and therefore fast receivers are likely to give him problems on long crossing routes and deep.

Despite being physical himself, Brownlee can also struggle with tall and muscular receivers who can use their arms to separate and who will fight for the football at the catch point.

Appears to like to get up and make tackles in the running game, which fits his competitive, tough nature.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Brownlee has shown himself to be a consistent corner throughout his time in college. He isn't a dominating shutdown corner but is a dependable player. Brownlee would appear to suit a team who plays press man but with over the top coverage or perhaps because of his smaller stature, he may wind up playing as a nickel corner at the next level. Certainly, he has the skills and attitude to perform at the NFL level, initially as a back-up/nickel/dime defender with perhaps a chance to challenge for a starting spot down the road. Should be off the board in round 4 or round 5.

# **JARRIAN JONES (FSU)**

**Misc:** Played both cornerback and wide receiver in high school in Mississippi, making big plays earning a number of accolades. Opted to stay close to home and play his college ball at Mississippi State.

Played a single season (2019) at Mississippi State, playing in 11 games, with 1 start. Transferred to FSU prior to the 2020 season and became a part-time starter in the pandemic impacted year. Played solidly in 2021, starting half of the games, despite having to battle through injury. Became a full-time starter in 2022. Had the best season of his career in 2023, picking off 3 passes and earning honorable mention all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** Mississippi State: Played 1 season, playing 11 games, with 1 start. Recorded 12 total tackles, 2 passes defensed and 1 fumble recovery. **FSU:** Played 4 seasons at FSU, playing 44 games, with 29 starts. Recorded 5 interceptions, 17 passes defensed, 96 total tackles, 1 sack, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries across his college career.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Honorable Mention All-ACC. Bobby Bowden Leadership Award cowinner (FSU team award). FSU Defensive Most Improved Player Award co-winner.

**Analysis:** Jones is a very experienced corner who is really physical and plays with attitude. Doesn't get intimidated. Plays all-out on every down. Is versatile, having lined up both on the outside and in the slot (played much of 2023 as the nickel corner over the slot receiver). Formed one-half of a fine cornerback duo at FSU, along with fellow potential 2024 draftee Renardo Green.

Jones has good straight line speed, so has the skill to cover receivers on deep routes and long crossers and has a pretty smooth transition. Can struggle at times with quick footed, nifty route runners. Can also get over aggressive on routes meaning that he may be susceptible to double moves.

Likes to play with physicality and aggression and gets his hands on receivers. Will fight for the football in the air and has decent hands. Has some acceleration and can close with quickness on the football and receiver.

Very willing defender against the run. Will aggressively tackle running backs and receivers, although he will occasionally let a tackle slip through his grasp.

Played special teams throughout his college career.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Undoubtedly improved his draft stock with a good 2023 season followed by a really nice combine which included a very impressive 4.38 in the 40. Jones is a player who may have gone a little under the radar but continues to develop and has a real chance of having a decent NFL career. His versatility and long-time special teams experience will stand Jones in good stead and should see him get drafted in the first half of day 3. Athletic ability could interest the Packers.

CB #19 Overall #136 Round 4-5 Class: Age: 22.97 Ht/Wt: 5-11 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>, 190 (combine) 40: 4.38 (combine)

# **KALEN KING (Penn State)**

**Misc:** Twin brother Kobe also plays for Penn State. Kalen was a multisport athlete in high school in Detroit, Michigan, taking part in track and field and playing basketball as well football. On the gridiron King played multiple positions including cornerback, wide receiver and returner and earned all-state, all-conference, and all-district honours. Perhaps surprisingly opted not to attend his home state schools of the University of Michigan and Michigan State, instead choosing to play his college ball at Penn State.

Had a nice true freshman season (2021) playing mainly as a back-up in the secondary and on special teams. Earned a starting corner role in 2022 and was excellent playing opposite 2023 draftee Joey Porter Overall #137 Round 4-5 Class: Junior Age: 21.24 Ht/Wt: 5-11, 191 (combine)

**CB #20** 

40: 4.52 (pro day)

Jr, earning some All-American recognition, and picking off 3 passes. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team allconference honours in 2023 but was inconsistent and perhaps didn't play quite as well as in 2022.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at PSU, King played in 38 games (23 starts), recording 3 interceptions and 28 passes defensed. Also recorded 82 total tackles (58 solo), 5.5 tackles for a loss, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. **2022** Walter Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** King is a decent athlete and slightly undersized corner who lacks the ideal top level speed.

His forte is probably in press man coverage short, where he can stay with most receivers. Can also play in zone coverage underneath. However he lacks some physicality in coverage and bigger framed receivers will use their advantages to beat him. Doesn't have the long speed to cover deep.

Although he lacks top notch speed, King is a smooth mover with decent quickness. He has better than average ball skills and will locate the football in the air. However, he probably doesn't make enough interceptions compared to the number of times he gets his hands on the football.

Will diagnose and get up to play the run and isn't afraid to make the tackle.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Coming into the 2023 season, King looked like a player on the rise perhaps ready to step up to the next level, but he didn't make the progression this past year that some may have expected/hoped for. King was then somewhat disappointing at the Senior Bowl – where he didn't show the skills that he previously appeared to have in man coverage. Probably didn't do anything to help improve his draft status while at the combine. It's unclear what level King can reach in the pros and right now he is likely outside the top 15 corners in this draft. Expect him to be selected on day 3.

### The Next Best Cornerbacks...

### 21. Nehemiah Pritchett (Auburn)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #138 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Auburn, playing in 51 games, with 39 starts. Recorded 3 interceptions, 29 passes defensed, 115 total tackles. 5.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble. Returned a blocked field goal for a touchdown in 2021 - the field goal had been blocked by 2023 Packers draftee Colby Wooden. Has a lean frame and exceptional speed (as demonstrated at the combine where he ran a very fast 4.36 in the 40). Perhaps at his best in press man. Breaks on the football and gets his hands on it (needs to turn opportunities into more interceptions). Good tackler. Good special teams player and has kick returning experience from earlier in his career.

Ran a very speedy 4.36 in the 40 at the combine.

Age: 23.20. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ¼, 190 (combine). 40: 4.36 (combine).

#### 22. Elijah Jones (Boston College)

### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #151 overall on our draft board.

Played 6 seasons at Boston College, playing in 60 games, with 39 starts, recording 7 interceptions, 43 passes defensed, 156 total tackles, 1 sack and 2 forced fumbles. Tall and thin frame. Can be physical and will compete for the football. Has good ball skills. May be at his best when the play is happening in front of him – either in zone or in offman coverage. Put on a nice showing at the combine, including clocking a fine 4.44 in the 40. Has the size, speed and playing background that could interest the Packers.

Age: 24.30. Ht/Wt: 6-1 ½, 185 (combine). 40: 4.44 (combine).

#### 23. Chau Smith-Wade (Washington State)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #155 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons at Washington State, playing in 33 games, with 21 starts, recording 3 interceptions, 21 passes defensed, 103 total tackles, 6 tackles for a loss, 3 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery. Is small for an NFL corner. Is a good athlete with quick feet which enables him to stay with receivers short and underneath. Makes plays on the football. Lacks the physicality to compete with bigger and faster receivers down the field. May end up playing as a nickel (slot) corner in the NFL. Should be a solid player at the next level in the right scheme.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 5-9 ¾, 184 (combine). 40: 4.54 (combine)

### 24. Decamerion Richardson (Mississippi State)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #179 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 seasons (2020-23) at Mississippi State, appearing in 45 games, with 26 starts. Recorded 177 total tackles, 2 tackles for a loss, 1 sack, 10 passes defensed and 1 fumble recovery. Richardson is a big corner who is a fine athlete with excellent long speed as demonstrated by the outstanding 4.34 in the 40 that he ran at the combine. Has a lot of potential as a cover corner. Has the physicality to be able to impact receivers' releases at the line of scrimmage and to disrupt their routes. Despite all of his skills, he doesn't yet make enough big plays.

Age: 23.11. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 188 (combine). 40: 4.34 (combine).

### 25. Dwight McGlothern (Arkansas)

#### Likely 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> round draft choice. Is #180 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons at LSU (2020-21) before transferring to Arkansas for the final 2 seasons of his college career (2022-23). Across his college career, McGlothern played in 38 games, with 25 starts, recording 8 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 31 passes defensed, 113 total tackles, 6 tackles for a loss, 4 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery. Has a tall and lanky frame coupled with good speed. Uses his arms and hands when in coverage. Has decent ball skills, anticipates the pass and closes on the football and/or receiver with good acceleration. Is a good tackler who is not afraid to get up and tackle running backs. Lots of special teams experience which will help at the next level. Missed some playing time in 2023 due to injuries.

Age: 22.22. Ht/Wt: 6-1 5%, 185 (combine). 40: 4.47 (combine).

#### 26. Johnny Dixon (Penn State)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #187 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons at South Carolina before transferring to Penn State, where he played from 2021-23. Across his 5 seasons in college football, Dixon played in 59 games, with 34 starts, recording 4 interceptions, 20 passes defensed, 97 total tackles, 11.5 tackles for a loss, 7.5 sacks and 2 forced fumbles. Physical corner who will disrupt receivers release at the line and their routes. Probably better covering short and underneath rather than having to run with speedy receivers down the field. Can locate the football in the air and get his hands on it. Will be used on the blitz off the corner, timing it up really well. Had a hip injury which stopped him from participating in the drills at the combine – is expected to recover very shortly.

Age: 23.31. Ht/Wt: 5-11, 188 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 27. M.J. Devonshire (Pittsburgh)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #197 overall on our draft board.

Will be close to 24 years old when the 2024 NFL regular season starts. Played 2 seasons (2019-20) at Kentucky, before transferring to Pittsburgh prior to the 2021 season (where he played the last 3 seasons of his college career). Across his 5 college seasons, Devonshire played in 50 games, with 18 starts. He recorded 8 interceptions (including 3 returned for touchdowns), 37 passes defensed, 89 total tackles and 2.5 tackles for a loss. Also returned 46 punts at a 7.5 average, with 1 touchdown. Devonshire has good ball skills and is a big play corner with good speed. Gets his hands on the football an awful lot. Is also a very solid punt returner.

Age: 23.62. Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¾, 186 (combine). 40: 4.45 (combine).

### 28. Kamal Hadden (Tennessee)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #204 overall on our draft board.

Played a single season at the junior college level at Independence Community College (Kansas) before transferring to Auburn. But he never played for the Tigers and transferred to Tennessee for the last 3 seasons (2021-23) of his college career. Across his college career, Hadden played in 33 games, recording 7 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 108 total tackles and 5 forced fumbles. Unfortunately, suffered a season ending shoulder injury (that required surgery) midway through the 2023 but returned with a nice pro day in March, which helped his chances. Was having one of the best seasons of his career prior to that shoulder injury. Has really good ball skills – locates the football in the air and has nice hands.

Age: 23.27. Ht/Wt: 6-1, 196 (combine). 40: 4.53 (pro day).

### 29. Myles Harden (South Dakota)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #224 overall on our draft board.

Played in 29 games in 4 seasons at South Dakota. Recorded 6 interceptions, 26 passes defensed, 143 total tackles, 12.5 tackles for a loss, 5 forced fumbles and 4 fumble recoveries. Suffered a season ending injury midway through each of the 2021 and 2022 seasons. Bounced back with a highly decorated 2023 season. Harden has decent athleticism and speed. Is very competitive and plays with a lot of attitude and physicality. Locates the football in the air. Isn't small but is very slightly under the A1 height for a corner – but nonetheless he plays with physicality and will play press man. Really quick first step

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 5-10 %, 195 (combine). 40: 4.50 (combine).

# **SAFETIES**

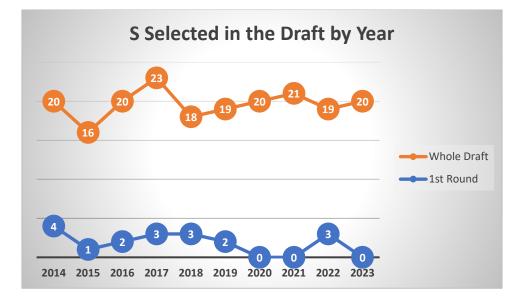
**General Draft Outlook:** This is not a dissimilar looking safety group from that which we often see in the draft. Just one safety is likely to selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

That safety who we expect to go in round 1 is a player who nominally wasn't a safety at all – Cooper DeJean, who played cornerback at Iowa. DeJean may be a safety or cornerback at the next level – we have him listed as a safety here. Assuming DeJean's recovery from his 2023 injury continues successfully, then expect him to be selected in the second half of the 1<sup>st</sup> round.

Tyler Nubin is the other safety who has a chance of sneaking into the back end of the 1<sup>st</sup> round – if not, expect him to be off the board early on day 2. After DeJean and Nubin, there are probably 5 other safeties who have chances to be off the board by the end of the second day – Kamren Kinchens, Javon Bullard, Calen Bullock, Jaden Hicks, and Cole Bishop.

Early day 3 selections are likely to include James Williams (a hybrid safety-linebacker), Beau Brade and Dadrion Taylor-Demerson.

Prediction: Around 17 safeties will be selected in this draft.



**Packers Outlook:** Some would consider that safety may have been the Packers weakest positional group – but the recent free agent signing of the outstanding Xavier McKinney immediately upgrades this group - a group that also includes Anthony Johnson Jr., Zayne Anderson, and Benny Sapp III (Rudy Ford was still unsigned at the time of writing). The Packers seemed extremely likely to want to draft a safety on day one or day two before they signed McKinney - and it's still possible that they will. Any of the names mentioned above would be possibilities although the players that seem most like Packers picks would be Cooper DeJean, Javon Bullard, and Cole Bishop. Later in the draft, the Packers may also be interested in the likes of Dominque Hampton or the extremely versatile Sione Vaki.

# **TOP SAFETIES**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Cooper DeJean	S/CB	lowa	1
2.	Tyler Nubin	S	Minnesota	2
3.	Kamren Kinchens	S	Miami, Fla	2-3
4.	Javon Bullard	S/CB	Georgia	2-3
5.	Calen Bullock	S	USC	3
6.	Jaden Hicks	S	Washington State	3
7.	Cole Bishop	S	Utah	3
8.	Dadrion Taylor-Demerson	S	Texas Tech	4-5
9.	Beau Brade	S	Maryland	4-5
10.	Tykee Smith	S/CB	Georgia	4-5
11.	James Williams	S	Miami, Fla	4-5
12.	Jaylin Simpson	S	Auburn	4-5
13.	Kitan Oladapo	S	Oregon State	4-5
14.	Sione Vaki	S	Utah	4-5
15.	Malik Mustapha	S	Wake Forest	4-5
16.	Evan Williams	S	Oregon	6-7
17.	Josh Proctor	S	Ohio State	6-7
18.	Dominique Hampton	S	Washington	6-7
19.	Trey Taylor	S	Air Force	6-7
20.	Daijahn Anthony	S	Mississippi	7-UDFA
21.	Demani Richardson	S	Texas A&M	7-UDFA
22.	Jaylon Carlies	S	Missouri	7-UDFA
23.	Kenny Logan Jr.	S	Kansas	7-UDFA
24.	Tyler Owens	S	Texas Tech	7-UDFA
25.	Akeem Dent	S	FSU	UDFA
26.	Millard "Nook" Bradford	S	TCU	UDFA
27.	Jaylen Key	S	Alabama	UDFA
28.	Mark Perry	S	TCU	UDFA
29.	Thomas Harper	S	Notre Dame	UDFA
30.	Rashad Wisdom	S	UTSA	UDFA
31.	Patrick McMorris	S	California	UDFA
32.	P.J. Jules	S	Southern Illinois	UDFA
33.	Andre Sam	S	LSU	UDFA
34.	Jay Stanley	S	Southern Mississippi	UDFA
35.	DeShawn Gaddie Jr.	S	Mississippi	UDFA
36.	Jamal Hill	S	Oregon	UDFA
37.	Al Walcott	S	Arkansas	UDFA
38.	Tra Fluellen	S	Middle Tennessee	UDFA
39.	Cam Allen	S	Purdue	UDFA
40.	Kendarin Ray	S	Tulsa	UDFA

List continues on the next page

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

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
41.	Jordan Toles	S	Morgan State	UDFA
42.	Dell Pettus	S	Troy	UDFA
43.	Cam'Ron Kelly	S	Louisville	UDFA
44.	D.J. Brown	S	Notre Dame	UDFA
45.	Kam Pedesclaux	S	Tulane	UDFA
46.	Shawn Preston Jr.	S	Mississippi State	UDFA
47.	Jaylen McCullough	S	Tennessee	UDFA
48.	Jaylen Mahoney	S	Vanderbilt	UDFA
49.	Sanoussi Kane	S	Purdue	UDFA
50.	Al Blades Jr.	S	Duke	UDFA
51.	Gilbert Frierson	S	Louisville	UDFA
52.	Derrik Allen	S	North Carolina	UDFA
53.	Zion Puckett	S	Auburn	UDFA
54.	Nasir Peoples	S	Virginia Tech	UDFA
55.	Morice Norris Jr.	S	Fresno State	UDFA
56.	Jalyn Phillips	S	Clemson	UDFA
57.	Jason Maitre	S	Wisconsin	UDFA
58.	Jarrett Paul	S	Appalachian State	UDFA
59.	Martell Irby	S	Arizona	UDFA
60.	Judson Tallandier II	S	Akron	UDFA
61.	Nicario Harper	S	Illinois	UDFA
62.	Marcus Hooker	S	Youngstown State	UDFA
63.	Isaiah Johnson	S	Syracuse	UDFA
64.	Michael Dowell	S	Miami, Ohio	UDFA
65.	Brandon Bishop	S	Liberty	UDFA
66.	Coen King	S	Virginia	UDFA
67.	Jordan Anderson	S	UCLA	UDFA
68.	Kenny Gallop Jr.	S	Howard	UDFA
69.	Clayton Bush	S	Illinois	UDFA
70.	Jeremiah Harris	S	Jacksonville State	UDFA
71.	Trevor Williams	S	Sam Houston State	UDFA
72.	Steve Stephens IV	S	Oregon	UDFA
73.	Clayton Isbell	S	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
74.	Jaylon King	S	Georgia Tech	UDFA
75.	Aljareek Malry	S	Ball State	UDFA
76.	Travian Blaylock	S	Wisconsin	UDFA
77.	Chris Edmonds	S	Arizona State	UDFA
78.	John Pupel	S	Boston College	UDFA
79.	Tre Jenkins	S	San Jose State	UDFA
80.	Cameron Godfrey	S	Central Arkansas	UDFA
81.	Josh Madison	S	Coastal Carolina	UDFA
82.	Keaton Ellis	S	Penn State	UDFA
83.	Loren Strickland	S	Ball State	UDFA
84.	Lawrence Johnson	S	SE Missouri State	UDFA
85.	Kanion Williams	S	Tulsa	UDFA

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

# **COOPER DeJEAN (Iowa)**

**Misc:** Multi-sport athlete (track and field, basketball, baseball, football) in high school in Iowa. Played QB, CB and KR. Opted to play his college ball at home in Iowa.

Played mainly on special teams as a freshman in 2021. Had an outstanding year in 2022, playing mainly at CB but also some at S/OLB and earning all-conference honours as he picked off 5 passes (returning 3 for TDs). Was having a fine 2023 before sadly suffering a season ending ankle/leg injury in November – this still didn't prevent him from earning multiple honours for his play during the season.

**College Stats:** In 3 years at Iowa, DeJean played in 30 games (23 starts), recording 7 interceptions (incl. 3 returned for TDs), 20 passes defensed, 120 tackles (88 solo) & 5 tackles for a loss. Returned 31 punts (13.1 average), with 1 TD & 1 kickoff for 20 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Unanimous 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Winner: Tatum-Woodson Award (Big 10 Defensive Back of the Year) & Rodgers-Dwight Award (Big 10 Return Specialist of the Year). Finalist: Thorpe Award & Nagurski Trophy. Named to Bruce Feldman's Athletic Freaks list. **2022** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. Music City Bowl MVP. Winner: Reggie Roby Award (Iowa Team Special Teams) & Iowa Team Hustle (defense) Award. **2021** Next Man In Award (Iowa Team special teams) winner.

**Analysis:** DeJean is a playmaking defensive back who brings a dynamic skillset to the back end of the defense. He has super versatility, having experience playing as an outside corner, lining up in the slot, as a safety and on occasion as a type of roving linebacker. Added to that defensive versatility, DeJean is also an outstanding punt returner.

DeJean is perhaps at his best in off-coverage or in zone deep where he can read/diagnose the play and use his anticipation and speed to close quickly on the football in the air. He has excellent hands and once the ball is in those hands he is an excellent runner (as you would expect from a player with his punt returning skills)

When lined up on as an outside corner in man, DeJean brings his size and physicality to bear although he sometimes can overuse his hands and be a little grabby. Will also use that physicality in the running game, not being afraid to get up and make a hit.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Highly talented, exciting, and dynamic player. Some NFL teams will see him as a corner, while others will see him as a safety because of his ability to successfully handle plays happening in front of him – we have him ranked at the safety position. His versatility will, of course, endear him to teams, although there may need to be caution regarding the temptation to try and utilise him in multiple spots which could blunt his development. Assuming that there are no complications from his 2023 injury, we should expect DeJean to be selected at some point from the middle of round 1 onwards and he could be of real interest to the Green Bay Packers.

S #1 Overall #23 Round 1 Class: Junior

S/CB

Age: 21.21

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 203 (combine)

40: n/a

## **TYLER NUBIN (Minnesota)**

**Misc:** All-state high school performer in Illinois, playing multiple positions including safety, wide receiver, and quarterback. Opted to play his college ball at Minnesota.

Played mainly on special teams as a freshman before becoming the starter at safety in 2020. Took a step forward in 2021, before truly breaking out in 2022 - starting in 11 games (missing 2 due to a broken hand) and recording 4 interceptions while garnering all-conference recognition. Perhaps was even better in 2023, as he recorded 5 interceptions and earning All-American recognition.

S #2

### Overall #43

Round 2

Class: Super Senior

Age: 22.87

Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 199 (combine)

40: n/a

College Stats: In his 5 seasons at Minnesota, Nubin played in 55

games (37 starts). He recorded 13 interceptions and 24 passes defensed. He also notched up 207 total tackles (143 solo), including 4.5 tackles for a loss and 2 sacks. Also had 3 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 AP 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2023, 2022, 2021 & 2020 Academic All-Big 10. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2021 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. Guaranteed Rate Bowl Defensive MVP.

**Analysis:** Nubin is a good sized, highly experienced safety who has played at a consistently productive level throughout his college career.

His athleticism and speed doesn't jump off the screen at you when you watch him, but he is a smart and intelligent football player with great skills at diagnosing the play and he has that knack that you look for in all safeties – the ability to frequently get around the football and be part of the play.

Has versatility in that he has the ability to play close to the line of scrimmage, cover backs and tight ends as well as playing deep. However, his lack of top notch speed probably means you wouldn't ideally line him up with fast or quick-footed wide receivers. Nubin is perhaps at his best when the play is in front of him allowing him to play downhill and make the play.

Is a strong and physical tackler who appears to like to hit. Will occasionally miss tackles.

Nubin rarely gives up big plays in the passing game. He finds the football in the air and get his hands on it – either to knock it down or to pick it off. His hands are really good in terms of catching the football.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Slightly surprisingly, Nubin opted to return to college for his Super Senior season rather than enter the 2023 draft. But, as it turned out, he had a really nice 2023 season and certainly did his draft chances no harm. His lack of outstanding athleticism will knock him down the draft order a little, but he appears to be a proven commodity and his consistency will surely be something that NFL teams will like. Nubin will be one of the first safeties off the board - in all likelihood being selected early on day 2.

# KAMREN KINCHENS (Miami, Fla)

S#3 **Misc:** Fine player in high school in Miami, notching up 9 picks in his junior season (2019). Opted to play his college ball in his home city **Overall #67** over the likes of Georgia and Alabama. Round 2-3 Started his college career with a solid true freshman season in 2021 before breaking out in 2022. Was excellent in 2022, picking off 6 Class: Junior passes and earning All-American recognition. Had another good year Age: 21.57 in 2023, picking off 5 passes and earning all-conference recognition. Ht/Wt 5-11 ½, 203 (combine) College Stats: In his 3 seasons at Miami, Kinchens played in 34 games (27 starts), recording 11 interceptions (2 returned for TDs), 26 40: 4.65 (combine) passes defensed, 162 total tackles (99 solo), including 5 tackles for a

Honours & Awards: 2023 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC. 2022 AP 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-ACC.

loss & 1 sack. Also had 2 forced fumbles & 2 fumble recoveries.

**Analysis:** Kinchens is a highly versatile safety, who is a team leader type with a knack for finding the football and making the big play. He is just a little undersized. Was part of an outstanding safety duo at Miami with fellow potential 2024 draftee James Williams.

Kinchens is a nice athlete who complements physical ability with great anticipation which enables him to frequently make plays on the ball carrier or the football. Has excellent hands.

Has great versatility in terms of where he can line up – has decent range in order to play deep (he played a decent amount of 2-deep safety) but also spent time playing much closer to the line of scrimmage. Also has quick enough feet and coverage skills to line up as the nickel corner in the slot and perhaps blitz from there also.

When he has lined up deep, Kinchens' aforementioned anticipation coupled with his range enable him to move smoothly in any direction to find the receiver and football. Can occasionally have problems being pulled out of position – this is probably due to a huge "want to" in terms of making a play.

Can be physical and will play downhill to make plays in the running game, including the ability to make plays behind the line of scrimmage, thanks to quickness and anticipation. Can sometimes miss by taking missteps on route to the ball-carrier though.

Has fine punt returning skills from high school days.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

After his less than good combine performance, where does Kinchens' draft stock stand now? Certainly, he's surely dropped down teams' boards. Kinchens' versatility will be valued by NFL teams. The ability to play different alignments with the same personnel can be key to successful defense at the pro level – Kinchens provides that art of disguise. Hs is a playmaker and while there are some areas for development, and he doesn't have great speed, it's likely that he'll be the one of the first pure safeties selected in this draft – although that's not likely to be until round 2, or even round 3.

# JAVON BULLARD (Georgia)

**Misc:** Solid high school career in Milledgeville, Georgia, where he played multiple positions including cornerback, wide receiver and running back. Earned all-region honours on multiple occasions. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball at the University of Georgia.

Played as a reserve defensive back and on special teams throughout his true freshman season (2021). Played extensively as a slot corner in 2022, starting in 10 games and putting together a very nice season – earning some All-American notice. Put together another nice season in 2023, garnering some all-conference recognition.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Georgia, Bullard played in 40 games (22 starts), recording 4 interceptions and 8 passes defensed. He also notched up 114 tackles (80 solo), including 8 tackles for a loss and 3.5 sacks. Also had 1 fumble recovery.

### S/CB

S #4

### Overall #68

### Round 2-3

Class: Junior

Age: 21.64

Ht/Wt: 5-10 ½, 198 (combine)

40: 4.47 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. **2022** CFP National Championship Game Defensive MVP (Played in Jan 2023).

**Analysis:** Bullard is a slightly undersized but experienced defensive back with a great attitude and physical and aggressive mindset.

Bullard has some versatility, having played both as a strong safety and as a nickel cornerback. While he continues to be listed as a safety, Bullard is perhaps at his best as more of a slot (nickel) corner than a true safety - similar to the Lions' Brian Branch when he was drafted out of Alabama last year.

Utilises his speed and quick feet to enable him to stay with receivers in short and intermediate patterns. Will get his hands on receivers and disrupt their routes.

Plays strongly against the run. Is smart and will quickly diagnose running plays and will get up to make the tackle. Really likes to hit. Can occasionally miss or fall off a tackle when trying to put the big hit on the ball carrier.

Is a team leader type who sets an example to his defensive teammates2by playing with a nonstop motor, going all out on every down. Also, Bullard appears to play at his best in the biggest games.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Bullard isn't flashy nor does he make lots of splash plays, but NFL teams will love his athleticism, attitude, and leadership. They will also like his ability to play multiple spots in the defensive backfield. Bullard could do with adding a little more bulk if his frame can take it and there are some areas that require development, but he is an all-round very solid football player who make very few mental mistakes. Should quickly become an NFL starter and will likely be off the board on day 2. If the Packers go down the safety route, then Bullard will be in play.

# **CALEN BULLOCK (USC)**

# **Misc:** Had a solid high school career in California playing both DB and WR. Opted to stay in California and play his college ball at USC.

Earned freshman All-American honours in 2021, starting in 6 games at multiple positions (safety, slot corner and cornerback). Was even better in 2022 as he intercepted 5 passes and earned All-American recognition. Had another fine year in 2023, garnering 1<sup>st</sup> Team allconference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at USC, Bullock played in 38 games (32 starts), recording 9 interceptions (2 returned for TDs) and 15 passes defensed. He also notched up 149 total tackles (96 solos).

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** PFF 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-PAC 12. **2021** FWAA Freshman All-American. PFF True Freshman All-American. USC Co-Defensive Perimeter Player of the Year Award winner.

**Analysis:** Bullock is an experienced safety with good athleticism and a tall and lanky frame with excellent length. His long legs provide him with good range – particularly when playing deep as a free safety type.

Has experience playing in multiple spots in the secondary, lining up at times as a free safety, other times in the box and on occasion in the slot.

Has demonstrated some good man coverage skills – although is probably better covering receivers long rather than quick, shifty receivers short and indeed may be at his very best when playing off with the play happening in front of him. Perhaps his body type means that his initial step isn't explosive, but his aforementioned range coupled with anticipation enable him to close on the football.

His height enables him to get his hands on the football when others can't (if he were a receiver, we'd be talking about Bullock's catch radius). He finds the football in the air and has really good hands.

Appears to enjoy stepping up to make plays in the running game. However, can sometimes struggle to finish the tackle on strong and power running backs. Can also be an inconsistent tackler on ball carriers in the open field.

Perhaps could do with adding some strength and physicality to help him both in pass coverage and in the running game.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Bullock is an athletic playmaker whose positional versatility will intrigue NFL scouts – with a possibility that he could be a free safety or even a corner at the pro level. He could do with adding a little bulk to his frame (as long as this doesn't affect his speed and athleticism) to help with improving his strength and increasing his physicality. Bullock has the potential to be a starter in the NFL and should be off the board on day 2 of this draft (probably in round 3).

Round 3 Class: Junior Age: 20.99

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 188 (combine)

40: 4.48 (combine)

S #5

# Overall #76

# **JADEN HICKS (Washington State)**

Misc: Fine high school high school career in Nevada, which included an outstanding junior season (2019) in which he notched up 7 interceptions (3 of which he returned for touchdowns). Unfortunately, the senior football season at his high school was cancelled due to the pandemic. Opted to play his college ball at Washington State, turning down offers from multiple other Power 5 schools.

Redshirted his freshman season (2021), playing in just a single game. Became the starter at safety in 2022, having a solid season and earning some freshman All-American notice. Was probably even better in 2023, recording a couple of interceptions and garnering honorable mention all-

conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Washington State, Hicks played in 26 games (24 starts), recording 3 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and 10 passes defensed. Notched up 152 total tackles (92 solo), including 3.5 sacks and 8 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. 2022 CFN 3rd Team Freshman All-American.

**Analysis:** Hicks has outstanding size for the safety spot – he is big and long and couples those attributes with very nice athleticism. Hicks is an all-round player who is extremely versatile, having experience playing as a nickel (slot) corner, as a box safety and as a deep free safety.

In coverage, Hicks has demonstrated the speed and quickness to cover receivers, backs, and tight ends. He isn't afraid to mix up it up physically, locates the football in the air and gets hands on it. Will fight for the football. Perhaps could do with improving those hands a little, in order to make a few more interceptions.

When playing deep, Hicks shows decent range to get to the sideline. He perhaps could do with anticipating plays that are happening away from him a little better. This should develop with time and experience.

Hicks is solid against the run. When in the box, he gets to ballcarrier quickly to make the hit and is a good tackler. When playing close to the line of scrimmage, Hicks has also shown himself to be a really good blitzer, timing up his pass rush really well.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Hicks is a young and improving safety who surprised some by declaring for this draft – could perhaps have raised his draft position by returning to school for another season or two. Nonetheless he's a talented football player with athleticism and playmaking ability, not to mention great versatility – and that versatility is very much in vogue in an NFL safety. Hicks may not be the finished article and may need a little time, but he has the potential to grow and become a really good player at the pro level. Expect him to be off the board on day 2.

S #6

### Overall #77

Round 3

Class: RS-Sophomore

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-1 %, 211 (combine)

40: 4.47 (pro day)

# **COLE BISHOP (Utah)**

**Misc:** Nice career playing safety in high school in Fayetteville, Georgia. Earned all-state and all-region honours. Opted to attend Utah, switching his commitment from Duke.

Had a good true freshman season in 2021, earning a starting role midway through. Was the full-time starter in 2022. Earned honourable mention all-conference notice in both 2021 and 2022. Had a really nice 2023, earning some all-star honours.

**College Stats:** In 3 seasons at Utah, Bishop played in 35 games (29 starts), recording 3 interceptions and 12 passes defensed. Notched up 196 total tackles (117 solo), including 7.5 sacks and 21.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 4 fumble recoveries and 1 forced fumble.

Overall #82

S #7

### Round 3

Class: Junior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 6-2, 206 (combine)

40: 4.45 (combine)

**Honours & Awards: 2023** Semi-finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award. CFN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. **2021** Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Bishop is a highly experienced and versatile safety with athletic ability and size. He has developed year-on-year during his college career and has been very productive – he makes plays. Bishop is one-half of Utah's safety partnership (along with Sione Vaki), both of whom are likely to be selected in this draft.

Bishop brings some versatility to a defense, potentially being able to play in a number of roles including as a strong (box) safety and as a deep safety -

As a run defender, Bishop diagnoses plays quickly and will utilise his athleticism to fly to the football and make the tackle. Needs to work on sifting his way through traffic when playing deep. When playing close to the line of scrimmage in the box, Bishop will read and react quickly and will shoot the gap or shift outside to make the play behind the line of scrimmage.

In coverage, Bishop is disciplined in zone coverage underneath and has the quickness to pick up backs and receivers short. Gets his hands on the football. Can get caught out on longer developing passes, especially with good route-running receivers or athletic tight ends.

Bishop uses his athletic ability, explosiveness, and smarts to time up his blitz and get pressure on the quarterback.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Bishop is a player on the rise. In each successive year in college, he has been better than in the year before. Followed all of that up with a really impressive showing at the combine (including a very fast 4.45 in the 40), boosting his draft stock. NFL teams love it when they see players who just regularly improve – indicating that there may be yet more upside to come. At this stage, Bishop definitely appears to be at his best playing closer to the line of scrimmage as a traditional strong safety type. There are areas that require development, but Bishop has the potential to develop into an NFL starter and should probably be off the board at some point on day 2. Bishop would fit the bill for the Packers to join up with Xavier McKinney.

## **DADRION TAYLOR-DEMERSON (Texas Tech)**

**Misc:** Was an outstanding, award winning, running back in high school in Oklahoma. Opted to play his call ball at Texas Tech.

Switched from running back to safety in his freshman season (2019) at Texas Tech, having a solid year (11 games, 2 starts). Followed up with a similar season in 2020. Continued his development in 2021, as he started around half the games and intercepted 3 passes. Stepped up to be the full-time starter in 2022, having a good year and again picking off 3 passes. Had the best season of his college career in his final season (2023), intercepting 4 passes, notching up 73 tackles and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Texas Tech, Taylor-Demerson played in 58 games (37 starts). Recording 10 interceptions, 22 passes defensed, 240 tackles (172 solo), 2 sacks, 2 forced fumbles and 3 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Big 12. Honorable Mention Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year.

**Analysis:** Taylor-Demerson is an undersized but productive and highly experienced (58 games/37 starts) safety. He has great speed – as demonstrated by his 4.41 40 time at the combine and some positional versatility, being able to play as a nickel (slot) corner as well as being a deep safety and/or a box safety.

Despite his lack of top notch size, Taylor-Demerson is a physical player in coverage, particularly in short, underneath, and intermediate areas, where he can combine that physicality with his short-area quickness. When playing deep, he has decent range to cover across field. Makes plays in coverage and has good hands.

Has an explosive first step which really helps him accelerate to hit the ball-carrier in the running game. When playing deep, he will shoot downhill at some speed. Taylor-Demerson loves to tackle and hit, although sometimes needs to be more secure. Can struggle at times to fight his way through traffic.

Plays with competitiveness and a feisty attitude.

Has really good special teams experience from throughout his college career, playing on nearly every special teams unit.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Taylor-Demerson has progressed throughout his college career and may have some more upside. Is athletic and has demonstrated his prowess this off-season - was really good at the East-West Shrine Bowl and then followed that up with a really impressive combine. Because of his speed, quickness but lack of size, Taylor-Demerson's best fit at the pro level is probably either as a nickel (slot) corner or perhaps as a free safety. Added to that, he will undoubtedly be a big special teams contributor. Expect Taylor-Demerson to be selected on day 3.

### Overall #121

### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 5-10 ¾, 197 (combine) 40: 4.41 (combine)

### **BEAU BRADE (Maryland)**

**Misc:** Outstanding honour winning high school career in Maryland playing on both sides of the football. Opted to stay in his home state and play his college ball for the Terrapins, turning down offers from a number of other Power 5 schools.

Played as back-up in his freshman season in the pandemic shortened 2020. Was back-up again in 2021. Earned a starting safety role in 2022, having a fine season which included 15 tackles in the game against SMU. Earned some all-conference notice. Followed up with a similar season in 2023. S #9

**Overall #128** 

Round 4-5

Class: Senior Age: Unknown Ht/Wt: 6-0, 203 (combine)

40: n/a

College Stats: In his 4 seasons at Maryland, Brade played in 40 games

(25 starts) and recorded 3 interceptions and 11 passes defensed. Notched up 177 total tackles (115 solo), including 1 sack and 9.5 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Honorable Mention All-Big 10. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Brade is a team leader type who is a nice athlete, with ok size and decent, but not outstanding speed. He is a versatile safety who has experience playing deep and close to the scrimmage as well as over the slot receiver as a nickel corner. Gets around the football a lot. But if there was one word to describe Brade's play it's "physical".

Brade is aggressive and loves to play downhill on his way to tackling running backs. Really likes to hit and is a consistent tackler with the occasional miss. When playing in the box, he also has the smarts to diagnose the run and use his acceleration to make tackles in the offensive backfield.

In the passing game, Brade is excellent with the play happening in front of him where he can diagnose and anticipate and then close on the football or receiver, although he can be caught out sometimes on play action and can also overrun plays occasionally. He has good but not great range. Can be caught out if matched up man on man with a speedy back or wide receiver – that's not his forte.

While he doesn't have long speed, his feet are pretty quick and coupled with his physicalness it means that he can be also play as a nickel (slot) corner, where he's generally not required to cover receivers long down the field.

Has some experience on special teams coverage units.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Brade is one of the most physical and aggressive defensive backs that you are ever likely to see. While there are some areas that still need work and development, he will be a plus to whichever team ends up drafting him, not least because of his great attitude. The interesting thing will be how NFL teams will envisage him best being used – he could end up as any of a deep safety, box safety or nickel (slot) corner. In any case, we can expect Brade to be selected in the first half of day 3.

## **TYKEE SMITH (Georgia)**

**Misc:** Played both DB and RB during his high school career in Pennsylvania. Opted to play his college ball for West Virginia.

Played well in 2019 (8 starts), earning freshman All-American honours. Followed up in 2020 with another good season in which he earned AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American honours, intercepting 2 passes for the second straight season. Transferred to Georgia prior to the 2021 season but unfortunately, suffered two injuries in 2021 – a foot injury followed by a torn ACL – limiting his season to just a single game. Came back in 2022 to play in 14 games (4 starts). Played really well in 2023, starting 12 games, intercepting 4 passes, and earning 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference and some 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American recognition.

S/CB

S #10

Overall #139

Round 4-5

Class:

Age: 23.18

Ht/Wt: 5-10, 202 (combine)

40: 4.46 (combine)

**College Stats: WVU:** In his 2 seasons, Smith played in 22 games (17 starts), recording 4 interceptions (including 1 returned for a TD), 13 passes defensed, 114 total tackles (69 solo), 10.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack and 1 forced fumble. Georgia: In his 3 seasons, Smith played in 29 games (15 starts), recording 4 interceptions, 7 passes defensed, 101 total tackles (71 solo), 11 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks and 1 forced fumble.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. CBS 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. 2020 2nd Team All-Big 12. AP 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-American. Jim Thorpe Award semi-finalist. **2019** Honorable Mention All-Big 12. FWAA Freshman All-American.

Analysis: Smith is an experienced and versatile safety, who has good speed and athletic ability. Played as a hybrid safety/linebacker/slot corner at Georgia (their "star" position), having previously lined up at both cornerback and safety. Lacks the prototypical height for either the safety or cornerback spot.

Unquestionably, Smith plays at his best when playing close to the line of scrimmage, where he can make plays quickly.

Smith is a physical player who is good in short and underneath coverage, where his aggression and ball playing skills come to the fore. Will fight for the contested pass and has decent hands. Can have problems covering receivers down the field, particularly against bigger and speedier receivers.

Will get up to play the run and makes tackles in and around the line of scrimmage. Also has lots of special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Smith is a player who stock rose in 2023 when he was able to play at the level he had 276 previously shown back in 2020. He is much better playing close to the line of scrimmage and this may limit his role at the next level, as well as the teams that may be interested in him. Nonetheless, Smith can be a really solid contributor at the NFL for the right team and should be a solid rotational player with a chance to earn a starting role down the road. Should be off the board in the first half of day 3.

# JAMES WILLIAMS (Miami, Fla)

**Misc:** Williams was an excellent safety in high school in Florida, earning numerous honours and accolades. Had offers from numerous top Power 5 schools, eventually opting to stay in his some state and attend the University of Miami.

Played extensively as a true freshman in 2021, making 7 starts and recording 2 interceptions while earning some honorable mention all-conference notice. Had a solid 2022, starting in 10 games and notching up 1 interception. Had a similar season in 2023, starting in 10 games.

**College Stats:** In his 3 seasons at Miami, Williams played in 33 games (29 starts), recording 4 interceptions and 13 passes defensed. Notched up 162 tackles (106 solo), including 2 tackles for a loss. Also had 3 fumble recoveries and 3 forced fumbles.

Honours & Awards: 2021 Honorable Mention All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Williams is an experienced (29 starts), versatile and hard-hitting safety. He has an unusual body type for safety, being extra tall and having great length. Given his height and body shape, Williams often looks more like an undersized linebacker than a safety. Williams formed part of a great safety duo at Miami, along with Kamren Kinchens who will also likely be selected in this draft.

Williams is a decent athlete who has some versatility having played in 2-deep zones, up in the box, in the slot as a nickel corner and as a hybrid linebacker-safety.

Williams is a physical player, who will diagnose a play and accelerate to make the tackle – he loves to hit. Can, on occasion, be so intent on make the hit that he may not completely finish the tackle. When playing close to the line of scrimmage, Williams can use the leverage his long arms give him to shake off blocks from tight ends.

In coverage, when playing deep, Williams is smart reading and anticipating the play that is happening ahead of him and he has some range thanks to his long legs which give him some long speed. However, conversely, he can struggle with crisp route runners because his short area speed is limited. Not a man coverage guy, although he can match up with smaller tight ends. Locates the football in the air and has sound hands.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Because of his physical characteristics it's possible that some NFL teams will see Williams as a linebacker, or at the very least a hybrid linebacker-safety. We currently have him in our list of safeties, but it wouldn't be a shock to see his name called as a linebacker come draft day. Regardless, it's going to be interesting to see how NFL teams will utilise his skillset – it's not difficult to envisage defensive co-ordinators being very creative and developing a specialist role for him. Expect Williams to be selected at same point in the first half of day 3.

### S/LB

S #11

### Overall #141

### Round 4-5

Class: Junior

Age: 21.19

Ht/Wt: 6-4, 231 (combine)

40: 4.65 (combine)

# **JAYLIN SIMPSON (Auburn)**

**Misc:** Had an outstanding high school career in Georgia, taking part in multiple sports including basketball, baseball, track, and field as well as football – where he starred as both a dual-threat quarterback and as a defensive back. Had offers from a number of FBS schools before opting to attend Auburn to play as a defensive back.

Played sparingly as a freshman in 2019, being granted a redshirt. Saw more action in 2020, starting 2 games at CB. Played predominantly as a back-up CB again in 2021. Was a part-time starter in 2022, picking off a couple of passes. Broke out in 2023, as S #12

Overall #142

Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 5-11 %, 179 (combine)

40: 4.45 (combine)

the full-time starting safety, earning 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours as he had 4 interceptions.

**College Stats:** In his 5 seasons at Auburn, Simpson played in 48 games (22 starts), recording 7 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and 21 passes defensed. He also recorded 116 total tackles (89) solo, including 4 tackles for a loss. Also had 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 Phil Steele Honorable Mention All-American. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC. Thorpe Award semi-finalist.

**Analysis:** Simpson is an experienced and versatile defensive back (having spent time at both safety and cornerback) who has a tall, long, and thin frame. Showed real improvement in 2023 as he became a full-time starter for the first time.

Simpson has good athletic ability and agility. He compliments these attributes with play diagnosis skills and the anticipation and ability to close on the football, particularly over some range – although he doesn't appear to have really quick short speed, he can really move over longer distances. This means that Simpson is at his best when playing deep in zone or in off-coverage, where he can see plays develop.

Simpson is a smart football player who rarely gets out of position, and this enables him to be around the football a lot.

Generally, finds the football in the air and has good hands. But at this stage, he can be outfought for the football by big, physical receivers.

Will get up and make tackles in the running game but could do with becoming more consistent and more physical in this area.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Simpson was a late developer in college as he finally came through in 2023 to start to reach somewhere close to the potential he demonstrated in high school. The question is, does he have more to come or is he already close his peak? Certainly, it would help if Simpson could improve the physical side of his game. The best assessment right now is that will be a back-up safety on an NFL roster who can play on passing downs and contribute on special teams, with a chance of developing into a solid starter. Expect him to be selected on day 3 of this draft.

### **KITAN OLADAPO (Oregon State)**

**Misc:** Full name is Olakitan Oladapo. Played cornerback during his high school career in Oregon. Lacked scholarship offers and chose to stay in his home state and walk-on at Oregon State.

Redshirted his true freshman season (2018) and then played just a single game in 2019. Played 6 games (1 start) in the pandemic affected 2020 season, finishing the year with 26 tackles. Finally became a full-time starter in 2021 and responded with a solid season, recording 69 tackles, and earning honorable mention all-conference honours. Followed up with a really nice 2022, again earning honorable mention all-conference honours as he notched up 80 tackles (including an amazing 17 in a single game against Oregon).

S #13

### Overall #152

### Round 4-5

Class: Super Senior Age: 23.54 Ht/Wt: 6-2, 216 (combine) 40: 4.58 (combine)

Had the best season of his career in 2023, racking up 74 tackles and 2 interceptions. Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference recognition.

**College Stats:** In 5 (playing) seasons at Oregon State, Oladapo played in 49 games (38 starts) and recorded 3 interceptions, 27 passes defensed, 248 total tackles (146 solo), 6.5 sacks, 15.5 tackles for a loss, 2 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. 2022 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12. 2021 Honorable Mention All-Pac 12.

**Analysis:** Oladapo is a really good sized strong safety with nice physicality and decent athleticism and speed. Oladapo brings a high level of playing experience (49 games/38 starts) to the table.

Once Oladapo diagnoses a running play, he will take off with quickness to get to the back and make the tackle. As a tackler, Oladapo uses his size and physicality well, laying a hit on the ball-carrier. But occasionally will fail to wrap.

Oladapo can cover tight ends and backs coming out of the backfield underneath in man coverage. Will use his physicality where he can, to disturb their routes. Will fight for the football in the air to make the play. Gets his hands on the ball and knocks passes down an awful lot – needs to convert more opportunities into interceptions. Whilst his speed is decent for playing in the box and close to the line of scrimmage, Oladapo doesn't have enough speed to cover wide receivers down the field and also isn't as effective when asked to play (albeit infrequently) in deep zones.

Oladapo is an outstanding player on special teams coverage units.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Oladapo lacks the ideal level of versatility that teams look for in top-notch safeties these days. However, he is good at what he does in the strong safety role and therefore should be drafted by a team that is looking for a player to perform that exact role. Likely to be a back-up and rotational player on defense, while also playing on multiple special teams units, in the early days of his pro career. Expect Oladapo to be selected at some point in the first half of day 3.

### **SIONE VAKI (Utah)**

**Misc:** Outstanding high school career in California, playing both defensive back and running back, as well as returning kicks and punts. Opted to play his college ball at Utah.

Following a church mission, Vaki became a part time starter at safety in 2022, having a solid year. Followed that with a very interesting 2023 season. Firstly he became a full-time starter at safety for the first time and then, when Utah required help at the running back position, Vaki played running back and was highly effective (317 rushing yards). Earned 1<sup>st</sup> team all-conference honours. S #14

### Overall #158

#### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 5-11 1/8, 210 (combine)

40: 4.62 (combine)

College Stats: In his 2 seasons at Utah, Vaki played in 26 games (17

starts), recording 1 interception, 5 passes defensed, 90 tackles (70 solo), 2 sacks, 12 tackles for a loss and 1 fumble recovery. As a running back he had 317 rushing yards (7.5 ave) & 2 TDs, while also catching 11 passes for 203 yards (18.5 ave) & 3 TDs. Had 1 kickoff return for 16 yards.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12. SI & TSN 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American. Paul Hornung Award finalist. Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award finalist.

**Analysis:** Vaki is a player who is super versatile who has played offense, defense, and special teams during his college career. Vaki is one-half of Utah's safety partnership (along with Cole Bishop), both of whom are likely to be selected in this draft.

If he's seen "primarily" as a safety, where we have him ranked, then he has ok size for the position without it being prototypical. He is sound player who doesn't make many mental mistakes. Even at the safety spot he brings versatility to the table having experience playing deep as a free safety, while also having played closer to the line of scrimmage and as a nickel (slot) corner. In fact the latter may be his best defensive position, where his lack of long speed isn't an issue.

Has been used on occasion to rush the passer and has demonstrated that he is able to time up the blitz really well.

As a running back, he is a tough and physical runner who will make most of his yardage up the middle. Actually appeared to faster than his 40 time. Can also catch the ball a little bit, coming out of the backfield.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Vaki was only a starter for a single season (2023) and may have improved his draft stock had he stayed in school for another year. Nonetheless he brings great versatility to the table. We have Vaki listed in amongst our safeties here, but he worked on both sides of the football at the Senior Bowl (safety and running back), so it's not 100% clear how NFL teams will view him. He doesn't appear to dominant or outstanding in any one particular position, but will certainly come with versatility, and perhaps roster space saving value. Expect him to be back-up contributor which ever position(s) he focuses on and to play on multiple special teams units. Likely to be selected on day 3. Vaki is a player who could intrigue the Packers.

### MALIK MUSTAPHA (Wake Forest)

**Misc:** Honor winning, big play, defensive back during his high school football in North Carolina. Also demonstrated a penchant for blocking kicks on special teams. Opted to play his college ball at Richmond (FC level).

Played 1 season at Richmond (2020 season, played in the Spring of 2021), before getting the opportunity to move to the FBS level at Wake Forest. Had a solid first year for the Demon Deacons in 2021, playing mainly as a back-up. Earned a starting safety role in 2022, having a solid year. Had probably the best season of his college career in 2023, as he earned 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference honours.

S #15

Overall #177

### Round 4-5

Class: Senior

Age: Unknown

Ht/Wt: 5-10 1/8, 209 (combine)

40: 4.54 (pro day)

**College Stats: Richmond:** In 1 season, Mustapha played in 4 games (1 start), recording 17 total tackles (13 solo). **Wake Forest:** In 3 seasons, Mustapha played in 35 games (23 starts), recording 3 interceptions, 10 passes defensed, 175 total tackles (105 solo), 15 tackles for a loss, 4 sacks, 4 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries.

Honours & Awards: 2023 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ACC.

**Analysis:** Mustapha is an undersized safety who was a 2-year starter at Wake Forest. Demonstrated versatility, playing close to the line of scrimmage in the box, as a nickel (slot) corner and as a deep safety.

Mustapha is a safety who is highly physical and aggressive for a player of his size, who will diagnose and react to the play and head downhill at speed to make the tackle in the running game. When he's playing in the box, this will often mean that you see Mustapha slicing his way into the offensive backfield. Mustapha will fly all over the field in order to make a hit. Is a good tackler who rarely lets the ball-carrier get away.

In coverage, Mustapha is dependable and consistent playing closer to the line of scrimmage in short and underneath zones. He can cover backs coming out of the backfield and has lined up in the slot to cover smaller, quick slot receivers. May struggle to cover tight ends - due to his lack of size – but he will battle with them.

Mustapha can have problems with big wide receivers who come through his zone when playing deep and perhaps this is the reason that he can sometimes drop a little too deep. But despite his lack of size, Mustapha will challenge and hit receivers and fight to knock passes down.

Has good special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Mustapha is a good football player who lacks size but has decent athleticism. There have been NFL safeties even smaller than Mustapha who have had good and long careers, so he has a chance as long as he can develop. Will likely be better playing close to the line of scrimmage as a box safety. Expect him to be a back-up safety and special teams player early in his career. Should be off the board on day 3.

## **EVAN WILLIAMS (Oregon)**

**High School:** Played both safety and wide receiver in high school in California, earning all-region and all-league honours. Opted to play his college ball at Fresno State.

Became a part-time starter at safety as a true freshman in 2019. Earned honorable mention all-conference honours in the pandemic shortened 2020 season. Had 3 interceptions and started every game in 2021, earning all-conference recognition. Was solid again in 2022, garnering some all-conference notice. Transferred to Oregon prior to the 2023 season. Had a nice 2023 season, recording 82 tackles and being named 2<sup>nd</sup> team all-conference.

**College Stats: Fresno State:** In his 4 seasons, Williams played in 39 games (32 starts), recording 4 interceptions, 16 passes defensed, 226 total tackles (165 solo), 11 tackles for a loss, 1 sack, 3 forced fumbles, 3 fumble recoveries and blocked 1 punt. **Oregon:** In his 1 season, Williams played and started in 13 games, recording 82 total tackles (49 solo), 5 tackles for a loss, 4.5 sacks, 1 pass defensed, 1 forced fumble and 2 fumble recoveries.

**Honours & Awards: 2023** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Pac 12. **2022** 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-Mountain West. **2021** 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Mountain West. **2020** Honorable Mention All-Mountain West. **2019** Academic All-Mountain West.

**Analysis:** Williams is a highly experienced (52 games/45 starts) safety with decent, but not outstanding, size and speed. Appears to be play better when closer to the line of scrimmage. Sometimes looks like a hybrid safety-linebacker, although he doesn't have the size to do this role full-time.

In the passing game, Williams is at his best in man coverage short and underneath. He has quick enough feet to cover backs coming out of the backfield and tight ends short and although he lacks size, Williams will locate the football in the air and fight to get to it and knock it down. Will struggle however on longer routes where the receiver will get separation – Williams' lack of A1 speed an athleticism will show here. Williams can play in deep zone, but this isn't really his forte and he can sometimes appear to be a step behind when recognising pass plays in zone coverage.

Williams is an effective player defending the run. He is a sure tackler who diagnoses running plays well and will accelerate to make the tackle. Again, he is more effective and active when closer to the line of scrimmage.

Can be used on the pass rush. Knows how to time up his blitz and get to the passer.

### **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Williams had a really nice combine, perhaps demonstrating better athleticism than expected. This helped him with regard to securing a spot on teams' draft boards. At the next level, he looks like a back-up/rotational safety and special teams coverage player. Expect Williams to be selected towards the end of day 3 – in round 6 or round 7.

S #16

#### Overall #211

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior

Age: 22.75

Ht/Wt: 5-11 ¼, 200 (combine)

40: 4.56 (pro day)

## **JOSH PROCTOR (Ohio State)**

**Misc:** Dual-sport athlete in high school in Oklahoma, playing basketball and football. On the football field, Proctor played safety on defense and wide receiver on offense.

**College:** Recruited by Ohio State to play safety. Played almost exclusively on special teams as a true freshman in 2018. Saw more defensive snaps as a reserve in 2019. Started 3 of 7 games in 2020 and played well enough to earn some honourable mention all-conference honours. Unfortunately, suffered a season ending broken leg early in the 2021 season, which limited his season to just 2 games (awarded a medical redshirt). Was inconsistent upon his return in 2022, starting some games early before reverting to a back-up role.

S #17

### Overall #217

### Round 6-7

Class: Super Senior Age: Unknown Ht: 6-1 ½, 199 (combine) 40: 4.55 (combine)

Had perhaps his best season of his college career in 2023, as the full-time starter and earning some all-conference honours.

**College Stats:** In his 6 seasons at Ohio State, Proctor played in 51 games (19 starts), recording 3 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown) and 14 passes defensed. Also recorded 112 total tackles (75 solo), 6.5 tackles for a loss, 1 sack and 1 fumble recovery.

Honours & Awards: 2023 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All-Big 10. 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big 10.

**Analysis:** Proctor plays the safety position with physicality, athleticism, and range. Also has good size for the spot, although perhaps could add just a little extra bulk. Has versatility, being able to play deep, close to the line of scrimmage and as a nickel (slot) corner. Will be over 25 years old when the draft takes place.

Proctor may be at his best as a run enforcer, particularly when playing in the box and close to the line of scrimmage. Diagnoses running plays quickly and plays downhill. Loves to hit and make the tackle. Sometimes fails to complete the tackle, perhaps because he's looking for the big hit.

Proctor is versatile in coverage, although he lacks some top notch speed. Can cover receivers in the slot, where he will use his physicality to disrupt them. Can also play in a deep zone (which is where he played most frequently) where his anticipation comes to the fore. Perhaps needs to work on his ball skills some, to turn opportunities into more big plays.

Has special teams experience.

# **DRAFT OUTLOOK**

Proctor opted to return to the Buckeyes for the 2023 season rather than enter the 2023 draft and this almost certainly helped his draft status, as he had a really nice season the best of his career). Conversely though, he will be over 25 years old on draft day, and this hurts his draft status. Proctor's versatility and run support skills will interest teams and coupled with his ability to play special teams, he has a genuine shot at making an NFL roster. Certainly will compete to make a team and will wind up on a practice squad at worst. Likely a late round draft choice – either round 6 or round 7.

### The Next Best Safeties...

### 18. Dominique Hampton (Washington)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #235 overall on our draft board.

In 6 years at Washington, Hampton played in 57 games, with 28 starts, recording 2 interceptions, 14 passes defensed, 189 total tackles, 0.5 tackle for a loss and 1 forced fumble. Really good combination of size and speed which enables him to match up well with backs and right ends. Plays with good athleticism and decent speed. Has some versatility in terms of playing each of in the box, in deep zones and covering the slot receiver. Probably better playing closer to the line of scrimmage than playing deep. His potential may outweigh his production at this time. Could be a player who will interest the Packers.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 215 (combine). 40: 4.50 (combine).

#### **19. Trey Taylor (Air Force)**

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #250 overall on our draft board.

Taylor is a cousin of Pro Football Hall of Fame safety Ed Reed. 2023 AFCA 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-American. In 3 (playing) seasons at Air Force, Taylor played in 36 games, with 35 starts. He recorded 6 interceptions (including 1 returned for a TD), 205 total tackles, 11 tackles for a loss, 2.5 sacks and 1 fumble recovery. Good athlete who plays with smarts. Had an outstanding 2023 in which he won the Jim Thorpe Award (college football's top DB).

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 213 (pro day). 40: n/a.

### 20. Daijahn Anthony (Mississippi)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #257 overall on our draft board.

Played 2 seasons at Division II Shepherd, before transferring to Liberty for 2021. Was at Liberty for 2 seasons before transferring again - to Mississippi for his final college season in 2023. In his FBS level career, Anthony played in 37 games and recorded 6 interceptions, 14 passes defensed. 104 total tackles, 4 tackles for a loss and 1 fumble recovery. Decent athlete who lacks top level speed. Has experience playing as a deep safety, a box safety and in the slot. Is probably at his best playing close to the line of scrimmage, where he can use his physicality to disrupt routes and fight for the football.

Age: 23.63. Ht/Wt: 6-0, 195 (combine). 40: 4.51 (pro day).

### 21. Demani Richardson (Texas A&M)

# Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #266 overall on our draft board.

Played 5 seasons at Texas A&M, playing in 56 games, with 55 starts. Recorded 4 interceptions, 14 passes defensed, 304 total tackles, 3.5 sacks, 4 forced fumbles and 1 fumble recovery (returned for a touchdown, also returned a lateral from a teammate's fumble recovery for a touchdown). Super experienced safety who is a good tackler, who likes to hit. He has decent size and is a physical athlete. Has lots of versatility having played as a deep safety, a box safety and as a nickel (slot) corner. May be at his best playing close to the line of scrimmage.

Age: 23.55. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 210 (combine). 40: 4.60 (combine).

### 22. Jaylon Carlies (Missouri)

Likely late round draft choice or undrafted free agent. Is #267 overall on our draft board.

In 4 seasons at Missouri, Carlies played in 48 games, with 40 starts. He recorded 9 interceptions, 9 passes defensed, 220 total tackles, 11.5 tackles for a loss, 3 sacks, 1 forced fumble and 1 fumble recovery. Has a really good combination of size and long speed. Plays tough against the run and makes lots of tackles. Matches up well, physically, covering backs and tight ends and with wide receivers in the slot. Has good ball skills, being able to locate the football and pick off the errant pass. Appears to be a prototypical looking box safety and could be a hybrid safety/linebacker at the NFL level (or perhaps even a linebacker).

Age: 22.62. Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¾, 227 (combine). 40: 4.50 (combine)

### 23. Kenny Logan Jr. (Kansas)

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #275 overall on our draft board.

In 5 seasons at Kansas, Logan played in 59 games, with 44 starts. Recorded 6 interceptions (including 1 returned for a touchdown), 26 passes defensed, 386 total tackles, 1 sack, 5 forced fumbles and 2 fumble recoveries. Perhaps surprisingly didn't get an invite to the combine. Lacks the ideal height and length for the safety position but still plays with physicality and makes huge amounts of tackles. Has decent ball skills but sometimes appears to have some problems in coverage. Has versatility, having lined up in a number of spots in the defensive backfield. Has lots of special teams experience which will help his chances at the next level.

Age: 23.50. Ht/Wt: 5-10 3/2, 213 (East-West Shrine Bowl). 40: n/a.

# SPECIAL TEAMS SPECIALISTS

**2023 General Draft Outlook:** It's always difficult to try and predict exactly how many special teams specialists will be selected and in which round(s). So much is team need dependent.

Starting with the kickers: There are probably 4 kickers who have a chance of being selected in this draft, although we expect probably only 1 (perhaps 2) actually get picked. Those in contention include Joshua Karty, Cam Little, Will Reichard, and Harrison Mevis.

With the punters, again we expect probably 1, perhaps 2, will actually get selected. Certainly, we envisage Tory Taylor being picked at some point on day 3. Also in the mix, if more than 1 punter is selected are Austin McNamara, Matthew Hayball, and Ryan Sanborn.

With regard to the long snappers, we expect Peter Bowden to be chosen at some point late on day 3. He may well be the only long snapper chosen.

Prediction: Around 3 special teams specialists will be selected in this draft – 1 kicker, 1 punter & 1 long snapper.



**Packers Outlook:** The Packers enter the off-season with 3 kickers on the roster – last year's draftee Anders Carlson, Jack Podlesny who was signed shortly after the 2023 season and former Viking Greg Joseph. Added to the special teams mix are punter Daniel Whelan (an exclusive rights free agent who hadn't yet re-signed with the team at the time of writing) and long snapper Matt Orzech. It would appear that they are set at kicker and punter as those positions pertain to this draft, but it's not impossible to envisage them drafting a long snapper in the late rounds (perhaps Peter Bowden).

# **TOP SPECIAL TEAMS SPECIALISTS**

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Tory Taylor	Р	lowa	6-7
2.	Joshua Karty	К	Stanford	6-7
3.	Cam Little	К	Arkansas	UDFA
4.	Will Reichard	К	Alabama	UDFA
5.	Harrison Mevis	К	Missouri	UDFA
6.	Austin McNamara	Р	Texas Tech	UDFA
7.	Ryan Rehkow	Р	BYU	UDFA
8.	Matthew Hayball	Р	Vanderbilt	UDFA
9.	Peter Bowden	LSN	Wisconsin	7-UDFA
10.	William Mote	LSN	Georgia	UDFA
11.	Ryan Sanborn	Р	Texas	UDFA
12.	Marco Ortiz	LSN	Nebraska	UDFA
13.	Joe Shimko	LSN	North Carolina State	UDFA
14.	Noah Rauschenberg	К	North Texas	UDFA
15.	Camden Lewis	К	Oregon	UDFA
16.	Jose Pizano	К	UNLV	UDFA
17.	Jay Bramblett	Р	LSU	UDFA
18.	Jordy Sandy	Р	TCU	UDFA
19.	Charles Campbell	К	Tennessee	UDFA
20.	Brayden Narveson	К	North Carolina State	UDFA
21.	Slater Zellers	LSN	Arizona State	UDFA
22.	Nik Constantinou	Р	Texas A&M	UDFA
23.	Spencer Shrader	К	Notre Dame	UDFA
24.	Michael Vinson	LSN	Notre Dame	UDFA
25.	Alex McNulty-Romaguera	К	Buffalo	UDFA
26.	Valentino Ambrosio	К	Tulane	UDFA
27.	Steele Judy	LSN	The Citadel	UDFA
28.	Alex Felkins	К	Penn State	UDFA
29.	Randen Plattner	LSN	Kansas State	UDFA
30.	Jacob Quattlebaum	LSN	Auburn	UDFA

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

# The Best Special Teams Specialists Available...

### 1. Tory Taylor (Iowa), Punter

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #213 overall on our draft board.

Australian native who will be nearly 27 yards old when the draft takes place. Played 4 years at Iowa (49 games). Record breaking multi-honour winning punter. Set the NCAA all-time single season record in 2023 by punting for 4,479 yards on the way to winning the Ray Guy Award (college football's best punter). Was previously a semi-finalist for the award in both 2020 and 2021. Not surprisingly was named a Unanimous All-American in 2023. Was name 1<sup>st</sup> team All-Big 10 every year from 2020 to 2023 and won the Eddleman-Fields Award (Big 10 Punter of the Year Award) in both 2022 and 2023. Ended his career with outstanding averages of 46.3 gross and 42.7 net.

Age: 26.80. Ht/Wt: 6-4, 223 (combine). 40: n/a.

### 2. Joshua Karty (Stanford), Kicker

#### Likely late round draft choice. Is #251 overall on our draft board.

Karty had an outstanding career at Stanford (36 games played), making 51 of 60 field goal attempts (85.0%), including being 43 of 45 in attempts of less than 50 yards. Also demonstrated a big leg by kicking a 61 yarder in 2022. Kicked 72 of 73 extra points (98.6%) across his career. Over the last two seasons, Karty made 41 of 45 field goal attempts (91.1%). Earned multiple honours, including earning some All-American recognition in each of 2022 and 2023, as well as being named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Pac 12 in both of those seasons. Was a Lou Groza Award finalist in 2022 and a semi-finalist in 2023.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 207 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 3. Cam Little (Arkansas), Kicker

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #292 overall on our draft board.

Will still be under 21 years old at the time of the draft. Followed an outstanding high school career in Oklahoma by kicking 53 of his 64 field goal attempts (82.8%) in his 3-year Arkansas career, including 7 of 11 of 50 or more yards. Also kicked every one of his extra point attempts in his college career – 129 from 129. Played in 36 games at Arkansas. Earned 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC honours in 2023, having previously earned Freshman All-American recognition in 2021.

Age: 20.69. Ht/Wt: 6-1, 172 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 4. Will Reichard (Alabama), Kicker

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #298 overall on our draft board.

Extremely reliable across his college career, being successful on 84 of 100 field goal attempts (84.0%), including making 10 of 13 from 50+ yards. Finalist for the 2023 Lou Groza Award. Twice earned 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American recognition, along with being named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC in 2023 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team in 2022. Was named the SEC Special Teams Player of the Year in 2023. Finished his Alabama career as the NCAA's all-time leading scorer.

Age: 23.29. Ht/Wt: 6-1, 187 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 5. Harrison Mevis (Missouri), Kicker

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #318 overall on our draft board.

Nicknamed "The Thiccer Kicker". Highly decorated kicker through his career at Missouri (4 seasons). Named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC in 2021 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Team in 2023. Was a Freshman All-American in 2020 and garnered some All-American notice in 2021. Kicked a 61 yard field goal in 2023 and was 13 of 18 in his Missouri career in field goals of 50+ yards. In total, was successful on 86 of 103 (83.5%) field goal attempts during his time at Missouri.

Age: 22.08. Ht/Wt: 6-0, 241 (combine). 40: n/a.

#### 6. Austin McNamara (Texas Tech), Punter

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #334 overall on our draft board.

Highly recognised for his performances (set a number of school records), being named Big 12 Special Teams Player of the year in 2023, earning  $1^{st}$  Team All-Big 12 honours 3 times (2019, 2020 and 2023) and  $2^{nd}$  Team All-Big 12 honours once (2021). Finished his career with a gross punting average of 45.7 yards per punt, and a net average of 41.7. Never finished a season with a gross average of under 44.3 yards per punt.

Age: 23.17. Ht/Wt: 6-4 1/2, 204 (Senior Bowl). 40: n/a.

#### Ryan Rehkow (BYU), Punter

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #351 overall on our draft board.

Finished his career at BYU (4 seasons) with an outstanding 47.0 yards per punt gross average and 41.7. Was accurate as well, placing 74 punts inside the opponents 20 (with just 16 touchbacks). Never once averaged less than 45.1 gross punting average for a season. Had an 83 yard punt in 2021.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-5, 235 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 8. Matthew Hayball (Vanderbilt), Punter

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #372 overall on our draft board.

Adelaide, Australia native. Highly experienced punter who will be over 27 years old when the draft takes place. Spent the first 3 seasons of his college career at Florida Atlantic before transferring to Vanderbilt. Has a booming leg and finished his college career with a fine 45.2 gross average. Had perhaps the best year of his career in 2023, recording a 47.6 yards per punt gross average and a 43.1 net average, while earning 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-American honours and being names a finalist for the Ray Guy Award. Also named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-SEC and CFN's SEC Punter of the Year. Twice named honorable mention all-conference while at Florida Atlantic (2020 and 2021).

Age: 27.12. Ht/Wt: 6-0 ½, 190 (pro day). 40: n/a.

#### 9. Peter Bowden (Wisconsin), LSN

Likely a late round draft pick. Is #393 overall on our draft board.

Ranked as a likely undrafted free agent, but as the top long snapper on the board, he is likely off the board in one of the late rounds. Was one of five long snappers invited to the "Specialists Showcase" at the end of the combine. Patrick Mannelly Award (top long snapper) finalist in 2023 and semi-finalist in 2022. 39 career games played.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 242 (college). 40: 5.10 (pro day).

#### 10. William Mote (Georgia), LSN

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #429 overall on our draft board.

Was one of five long snappers invited to the "Specialists Showcase" at the end of the combine. 2022 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-SEC. 53 career games played for Georgia.

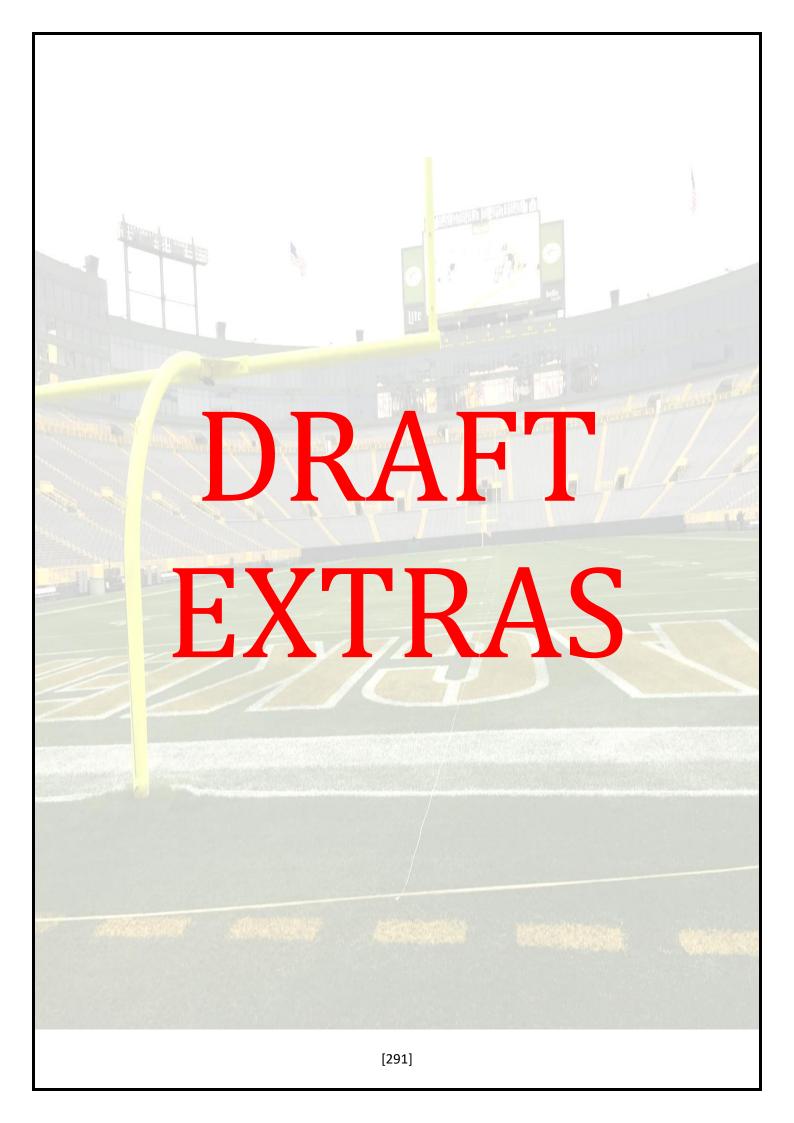
Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2, 230 (college). 40: n/a.

#### 11. Ryan Sanborn (Texas), Punter

#### Likely undrafted free agent. Is #443 overall on our draft board.

Played 4 years at Stanford being transferring to Texas for the 2023 season. Won Honorable Mention All-Big 12 recognition in 2023 after twice being named Honorable Mention All-Pac 12 (2020 and 2022). Probably had the best season of his college career in 2023, with a gross average of 45.7 yards per punt. Finished his career with 42.3 gross average and 39.0 net average.

Age: unknown. Ht/Wt: 6-2 ¼, 212 (pro day). 40: n/a.



### **BADGER WATCH**

This article, which appeared in our draft guide for the first time in 2022, proved popular and so thanks to your feedback is back again for third time. 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.



It looks likely that only 2, possibly 3, Badgers will be selected in the draft this year. The average over the last 10 drafts has been 3.1 Badgers chosen per draft.

#### Day 1 (Round 1)

This year there are no Wisconsin Badgers on our draft board with a 1<sup>st</sup> round grade (no Badgers have been selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round since 2017, when both T.J. Watt and Ryan Ramczyk were taken).

#### Day 2 (Rounds 2 & 3)

Running back **Braelon Allen** is the first Wisconsin Badger on our draft board. He is a strong between the tackles runner and, assuming that he is selected in this draft, he will be the latest in a line of Badgers' backs who have NFL level ability to have been drafted in the last 10 years (Jonathan Taylor, Melvin Gordon, James White). We expect him to be selected either late on day 2 or in the first half of day 3. We don't have any other Badgers with a day 2 grade.

#### Day 3 (Rounds 4-7)

The Badgers have had a couple of centers selected in recent drafts – Tyler Biadasz (2022) and Joe Tippmann (2023) – and it seems likely that **Tanor Bortolini** will add to that list. As well as playing center, Bortolini brings positional versatility to the table, and we should expect him to be off the board sometime close to pick 150 (5<sup>th</sup> round).

There are no other Badgers on our board who have a day 3 grade, however, as the top graded long snapper there has to be a decent chance that **Peter Bowden** will get selected by a team who needs help at the position.

#### **Priority Undrafted Free Agents**

There is only one other Badger this year who sits outside of our 7 round draft grades who we think has an outside chance of being drafted – although most likely he will get signed as a priority undrafted free agent immediately after the draft's conclusion. That player is off-the-ball linebacker **Maema Njongmeta**. Njongmeta is an undersized run defender from the linebacker spot who looks like he will make a team's practice squad.

#### Other Undrafted Free Agents

The remaining Badgers players all sit between spots 444 and 829 on our board and as such we may see some/all of them given try-outs by NFL teams over the spring and summer, but it seems that all of them would be in a difficult struggle to make an NFL roster or practice squad. But you never know!

We start off with two players who played just a single season at Wisconsin. First up is quarterback **Tanner Mordecai** who prior to becoming a Badger had been a highly productive passer for the 2 previous seasons at SMU. Mordecai missed some playing time this past year with a hand injury which didn't help his draft chances.

Next up is safety Jason Maitre who spent 5 seasons at Boston College (including a redshirt year), before becoming a Badger as a "super senior". Played a lot as the nickel (slot) corner for the Badgers.

**Michael Furtney** is an experienced (57 games, 24 starts) and big guard who has been a starter for the last 2 seasons at Wisconsin.

Linebacker Chris Goetz is another highly experienced player (57 games, 27 starts) who spent his whole college career with the Badgers and has been a starter for the last 2 seasons, recording 148 total tackles.

The final 2 players on our list are safety **Travian Blaylock** and tight end **Hayden Rucci**. Blaylock missed the 2022 season due to injury and spent the majority of his career before and after that playing as a back-up defensive back (just 2 career starts) and on special teams. Rucci started the last couple of seasons at tight end but wasn't utilised very much as a receiver (just 17 career receptions).

### **DOUBLING UP & MORE**

When putting together our Top 350 Big Board, it's always interesting to see how many times there are multiple players at the same positions from the same college entering the draft in the same year. Such is the case again this year. Here is a list of some of those players, positions, and colleges. Included in brackets the round that we think each player many be selected:

#### **Running Back**

- Georgia Daijun Edwards (round 6-7) & Kendall Milton (round 7-UDFA)
- Louisville Isaac Guerendo (round 4-5) & Jawhar Jordan (round 7-UDFA)
- Tennessee Jaylen Wright (round 3) & Jabari Small (UDFA)

#### Wide Receiver

- FSU Keon Coleman (round 1-2) & Johnny Wilson (round 3-4)
- Georgia Ladd McConkey (round 1-2) & Marcus Rosemy-Jacksaint (round 6-7)
- LSU Malik Nabers (round 1) & Brian Thomas Jr. (round 1)
- Michigan Roman Wilson (round 2) & Corenlius Johnson (round 4-5)
- **Texas** Adonai Mitchell (round 1-2), Xavier Worthy (round 1-2) & Jordan Whittington (round 6-7)
- USC Brenden Rice (round 3-4) & Tahj Washington (round 6-7)
- Washington Rome Odunze (round 1), Ja'Lynn Polk (round 2-3) & Jalen McMillan (round 3)

#### **Tight End**

• Washinton – Devin Culp (UDFA) & Jack Westover (UDFA)

#### **Interior Offensive Line**

- Arkansas Beaux Limmer (round 3-4) & Brady Latham (UDFA)
- Duke Graham Barton (round 1-2) & Jacob Monk (UDFA)
- Miami (Fla) Javion Cohen (round 4-5) & Matt Lee (round 6-7)
- Michigan Zak Zinter (round 3), Drake Nugent (round 6-7), Trevor Keegan (round 6-7) & Trente Jones (round 7-UDFA)
- Utah Sataoa Laumea (round 4-5) & Keaton Bills (UDFA)

#### **Offensive Tackles**

- Maryland Delmar Glaze (round 4-5) & Gottlieb Ayedze (UDFA)
- Michigan LaDarius Henderson (round 6-7) & Karsen Barnhart (UDFA)
- Notre Dame Joe Alt (round 1) & Blake Fisher (round 3)
- Oklahoma Tyler Guyton (round 1-2) & Walter Rouse (round 6-7)
- Penn State Olu Fashanu (round 1) & Caedan Wallace (round 6-7)
- TCU Brandon Coleman (round 4-5) & Andrew Coker (round 7-UDFA)

#### **Defensive Line**

- Auburn Marcus Harris (round 6-7) & Justin Rogers (round 6-7)
- **Clemson** Ruke Orhorhoro (round 2-3) & Tyler Davis (round 4-5)
- FSU Braden Fiske (round 1-2) & Fabien Lovett (round 6-7)
- Illinois Jer'Zhan "Johnny" Newton (round 1) & Keith Randolph Jr. (round 4-5)
- LSU Maason Smith (round 3), Mekhi Wingo (round 4-5) & Jordan Jefferson (round 6-7)
- **Texas** Byron Murphy II (round 1) & T'Vondre Sweat (round 2)

#### Edge

- Alabama Dallas Turner (round 1) & Chris Braswell (round 2)
- Houston Nelson Ceaser (round 4-5) & David Ugwoegbu (UDFA)
- Michigan Braiden McGregor (round 6-7) & Jaylen Harrell (round 6-7)
- Penn State Demeioun "Chop" Robinson (round 1-2) & Adisa Isaac (round 2-3)
- **Troy** Javon Solomon (round 4-5) & Richard Jibunor (UDFA)
- UCLA Laiatu Latu (round 1), Gabriel Murphy (round 3-4) & Grayson Murphy (round 6-7)
- Washington Bralen Trice (round 2-3) & Zion Tupuola-Fetui (round 6-7)
- Washington State Brennan Jackson (round 4-5) & Ron Stone Jr. (UDFA)

#### Linebacker

- Michigan Junior Colson (round 2-3) & Michael Barrett (round 6-7)
- Notre Dame Marist Liufau (round 4-5) & J.D. Bertrand (round 6-7)
- Ohio State Tommy Eichenberg (round 4-5) & Steele Chambers (round 6-7)

#### Cornerback

- Alabama Terrion Arnold (round 1) & Kool-Aid McKinstry (round 1-2)
- Auburn D.J. James (round 3) & Nehemiah Pritchett (round 4-5)
- Clemson Nate Wiggins (round 1) & Sheridan Jones (UDFA)
- FSU Renardo Green (round 4-5) & Jarrian Jones (round 4-5)
- Maryland Tarheeb Still (round 7-UDFA) & Ja'Quan Sheppard (UDFA)
- Michigan Mike Sainristil (round 2-3) & Josh Wallace (round 7-UDFA)
- Missouri Ennis Rakestraw Jr. (round 1-2) & Kris Abrams-Draine (round 3)
- **Penn State** Kalen King (round 4-5), Johnny Dixon (round 6-7) & Daequan Hardy (round 6-7)

#### Safety

- Georgia Javon Bullard (round 2-3) & Tykee Smith (round 4-5)
- Miami (Fla) Kamren Kinchens (round 2-3) & James Williams (round 4-5)
- TCU Millard Bradford (UDFA) & Mark Perry (UDFA)
- Texas Tech Dadrion Taylor-Demerson (round 4-5) & Tyler Owens (round 7-UDFA)
- Utah Cole Bishop (round 3) & Sione Vaki (round 4-5)

### BEST PLAYERS FROM OUTSIDE THE FBS

The following list is a subset of our draft board – showing our top players from outside the FBS who are available in the 2024 draft.

	Name	Pos	College	Round*
1.	Kiran Amegadjie	ОТ	Yale	2-3
2.	Mason McCormick	OG	South Dakota State	4-5
3.	Jalyx Hunt	Edge	Houston Christian	4-5
4.	Dylan Laube	RB	New Hampshire	4-5
5.	Isaiah Davis	RB	South Dakota State	6-7
6.	Khristian Boyd	DL	Northern Iowa	6-7
7.	Garret Greenfield	ОТ	South Dakota State	6-7
8.	Myles Harden	СВ	South Dakota	6-7
9.	Jalen Coker	WR	Holy Cross	6-7
10.	Ryan Flournoy	WR	Southeast Missouri State	6-7
11.	C.J. Hanson	OG	Holy Cross	7-UDFA
12.	Jaden Shirden	RB	Monmouth (NJ)	7-UDFA
13.	Jalen Sundell	OC	North Dakota State	UDFA
14.	Josiah Ezirim	ОТ	Eastern Kentucky	UDFA
15.	Willie Drew	СВ	Virginia State	UDFA
16.	Qwan'tez Stiggers	СВ	Toronto Argonauts (CFL)	UDFA
17.	Hayden Hatten	WR	Idaho	UDFA
18.	Sundiata "Sunny" Anderson	Edge	Grambling State	UDFA
19.	Zach Heins	TE	South Dakota State	UDFA
20.	David White Jr.	WR	Western Carolina	UDFA
21.	Mikey Victor	CB	Alabama State	UDFA
22.	Mason Pline	TE	Furman	UDFA
23.	P.J. Jules	S	Southern Illinois	UDFA
24.	Antonio Alfano	Edge	Lackawanna CC	UDFA
25.	Jesus Gibbs	DL	Towson	UDFA
26.	Jaxon Janke	WR	South Dakota State	UDFA
27.	Nate Lynn	Edge	William & Mary	UDFA
28.	Jordan Toles	S	Morgan State	UDFA
29.	A.J. Simon	Edge	Albany	UDFA
30.	Michael Hiers	QB	Samford	UDFA
31.	Michael Jerrell	OT	Findlay (Ohio)	UDFA
32.	Lorenzo Thompson	OT	Rhode Island	UDFA
33.	Tyler Smith	OT	Westen Carolina	UDFA
34.	Ty James	WR	Mercer	UDFA
35.	Ayodele Adeoye	Edge	Incarnate Word	UDFA

## SOME OF THIS DRAFT'S YOUNGEST PLAYERS\*

\*The following is a list of some of the youngest players in this draft – WHERE THE PLAYER'S AGE WAS AVAILABLE. In some cases, the exact age/birthdate of a player wasn't available and therefore they couldn't be included in this list. It's therefore not definitive, but rather a guide.

	Name	Pos	College	AGE*
1.	Braelon Allen	RB	Wisconsin	20.27
2.	Audric Estimé	RB	Notre Dame	20.64
3.	Nate Wiggins	СВ	Clemson	20.66
4.	Cam Little	К	Arkansas	20.69
5.	Malik Nabers	WR	LSU	20.75
6.	Jonathon Brooks	RB	Texas	20.77
7.	Michael Hall Jr.	DL	Ohio State	20.87
8.	Keon Coleman	WR	FSU	20.94
9.	Calen Bullock	S	USC	20.99
10.	Xavier Worthy	WR	Texas	21.00
11.	Mekhi Wingo	DL	LSU	21.03
12.	Jonah Elliss	Edge	Utah	21.07
13.	Jaylen Wright	RB	Tennessee	21.07
14.	Ja'Tavion Sanders	TE	Texas	21.08
15.	Blake Fisher	ОТ	Notre Dame	21.09
16.	Terrion Arnold	СВ	Alabama	21.10
17.	Joe Alt	ОТ	Notre Dame	21.16
18.	Trevin Wallace	LB	Kentucky	21.17
19.	James Williams	S	Miami, Fla	21.19
20.	Cooper DeJean	S/CB	lowa	21.21
21.	J.C. Latham	ОТ	Alabama	21.21
22.	Troy Franklin	WR	Oregon	21.22
23.	Dallas Turner	Edge	Alabama	21.23
24.	Kalen King	СВ	Penn State	21.24
25.	Jackson Powers-Johnson	OC	Oregon	21.26
26.	Kamari Lassiter	СВ	Georgia	21.26
27.	J.J. McCarthy	QB	Michigan	21.26
28.	Kingsley Suamataia	OT/OG	BYU	21.27
29.	Demeioun "Chop" Robinson	Edge	Penn State	21.31
30.	Jeremiah Trotter Jr.	LB	Clemson	21.34

\*Age = Age on the first day of the 2024 draft

## **2024 DRAFT SPEEDSTERS**

The following is a list of some of the fastest players in this draft – based on their 40 time from the combine.

40 times from Pro Days were not included as conditions for Pro Days vary.

	Name	Pos	College	40*
1.	Xavier Worthy	WR	Texas	4.21
2.	Nate Wiggins	CB	Clemson	4.28
3.	Isaac Guerendo	RB	Louisville	4.33
	Brian Thomas Jr.	WR	LSU	4.33
	Quinyon Mitchell	CB	Toledo	4.33
6.	Adonai Mitchell	WR	Texas	4.34
	Decamerion Richardson	CB	Mississippi State	4.34
8.	Devontez Walker	WR	North Carolina	4.36
	Nehemiah Pritchett	CB	Auburn	4.36
10.	Jaylen Wright	RB	Tennessee	4.38
	Jacob Cowing	WR	Arizona	4.38
	Jarrian Jones	CB	FSU	4.38
	Daequan Hardy	CB	Penn State	4.38
	Deantre Prince	CB	Mississippi	4.38
15.	Trey Benson	RB	FSU	4.39
	Ladd McConkey	WR	Georgia	4.39
	Xavier Legette	WR	South Carolina	4.39
	Roman Wilson	WR	Michigan	4.39
	Anthony Gould	WR	Oregon State	4.39
	Max Melton	СВ	Rutgers	4.39
21.	Troy Franklin	WR	Oregon	4.41
	Ricky Pearsall	WR	Florida	4.41
	Dadrion Taylor-Demerson	S	Texas Tech	4.41
24.	Keilan Robinson	RB	Texas	4.42
	Jha'Quan Jackson	WR	Tulane	4.42
	D.J. James	СВ	Auburn	4.42
	Millard Bradford	S	TCU	4.42

\*40 = 40 time at the combine

Nb. Just for info:

A number of players on our Big Board reportedly ran unofficial 40 times at their respective Pro Days which were fast enough to have seen them make the above list, had those times been run at the Combine.

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL AWARDS

After last year's draft guide was produced we had a request to include some information about the major individual college football awards referred to in the player profiles section. Here we attempt to fulfil that request.

#### >>> HEISMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY -OUTSTANDING PLAYER

Last three winners			
2023	Jayden Daniels	LSU	
2022	Caleb Williams	USC	
2021	Bryce Young	Alabama	

Awarded annually to the most outstanding player in college football. Winners epitomize great ability combined with diligence, perseverance, and hard work.

#### MAXWELL AWARD - OUTSTANDING PLAYER <

Presented annually to the college football player judged to be the best all-around by a panel of sportscasters, sportswriters, and National Collegiate Athletic Association head coaches and the membership of the Maxwell Football Club.

Last three winners			
2023	Michael Penix Jr.	Washington	
2022	Caleb Williams	USC	
2021	Bryce Young	Alabama	

#### >>> WALTER CAMP AWARD - PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Last three winners			
2023	Jayden Daniels	LSU	
2022	Caleb Williams	USC	
2021	Kenneth Walker III	Michigan St.	

Presented annually to the collegiate football player of the year, as decided by a group of National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I FBS head coaches and sports information directors under the auspices of the Walter Camp Football Foundation.

#### >>> DOAK WALKER AWARD - NATIONAL RUNNING BACK AWARD

Last three winners			
2023	Ollie Gordon II	Oklahoma St.	
2022	Bijan Robinson	Texas	
2021	Kenneth Walker III	Michigan St.	

Honors the top running back in college football, selected by the award's National Selection Committee, which consists of notable sportswriters, television commentators, analysts, radio sports personalities and former All-America and NFL All-Pro football players.

#### DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD - NATIONAL QUARTERBACK AWARD <

Presented annually to the collegiate football player judged to be the best all National Collegiate Athletic Association quarterbacks by the Davey O'Brien Foundation.

Last three winners			
2023	Jayden Daniels	LSU	
2022	Max Duggan	тси	
2021	Bryce Young	Alabama	

#### >>> JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD - OUTSTANDING SR. QB

Last three winners			
2023	Jayden Daniels	LSU	
2022	Max Duggan	TCU	
2021	Kenny Pickett	Pittsburgh	

Given annually to the nation's top upperclassmen quarterback in college football. Candidates are judged on accomplishments on the field as well as on their character, scholastic achievement, and leadership qualities.

#### FRED BILETNIKOFF AWARD - OUTSTANDING RECEIVER <<<

Presented annually to the most outstanding receiver. Any NCAA Division I FBS player who catches the football through the forward pass is eligible, although every winner thus far has been a wide receiver. A national selection committee of over 630 journalists, commentators, broadcasters, and former players selects the award winner.

Last three winners			
2023	Marvin Harrison Jr.	Ohio State	
2022	Jalin Hyatt	Tennessee	
2021	Jordan Addison	Pittsburgh	

#### >>> JOHN MACKEY AWARD - OUTSTANDING TIGHT END

Last three winners			
2023	Brock Bowers	Georgia	
2022	Brock Bowers	Georgia	
2021	Trey McBride	Colorado St.	

Award is given annually to the tight end who best exemplifies the play, sportsmanship, academics, and community values of Pro Football Hall of Fame tight end John Mackey. Presented and chosen by a selection committee comprising sportswriters and former players.

#### OUTLAND TROPHY - OUTSTANDING INTERIOR LINEMAND **<<<**

Selected from three finalists who are a part of the annual FWAA All-America Team, awarded annually to the best college football interior linemen as judged by the Football Writers Association of America.

ļ	Last three win	ners
2023	T'Vondre Sweat	Texas
2022	Olusegun Oluwatimi	Michigan
2021	Jordan Davis	Georgia

#### >>> LOMBARDI AWARD - LINEMAN OR LINEBACKER

Last three winners		
2023	Laiatu Latu	UCLA
2022	Will Anderson Jr.	Alabama
2021	Aidan Hutchinson	Michigan

Awarded annually to the college football player (down lineman or linebacker) "who best embodies the values and spirit of NFL's legendary coach Vince Lombardi" by the Rotary Club of Houston, Texas.

#### RIMINGTON TROPHY - OUTSTANDING CENTERR <<<

Awarded annually to the player considered to be the best center in college football (selected by determining the consensus All-American center pick from four existing All-America Teams).

Last three winners		
2023	Jackson Powers-Johnson	Oregon
2022	Olusegun Oluwatimi	Michigan
2021	Tyler Linderbaum	lowa

#### >>> CHUCK BEDNARIK AWARD - DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Last three winners		
2023	Payton Wilson	NC State
2022	Will Anderson Jr.	Alabama
2021	Jordan Davis	Georgia

Presented annually to the best defensive player in college football as judged by the Maxwell Football Club. Voters for the Maxwell College Awards are NCAA head college football coaches, members of the Maxwell Football Club, and sportswriters and sportscasters from across the country.

#### BRONKO NAGURSKI AWARD - DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR ≮

Awarded annually to the collegiate football defensive player judged to be the best in the National Collegiate Athletic Association by the membership of the Football Writers Association of America (FWAA).

Last three winners		
2023	Xavier Watts	Notre Dame
2022	Will Anderson Jr.	Alabama
2021	Will Anderson Jr.	Alabama

#### >>> DICK BUTKUS AWARD - OUTSTANDING LINEBACKER

Last three winners		
2023	Payton Wilson	NC State
2022	Jack Campbell	lowa
2021	Nakobe Dean	Georgia

Given annually to the top linebackers and presented by the Butkus Foundation.

#### JIM THORPE AWARD - OUTSTANDING DEFENSIVE BACK <<<

Awarded annually to the top defensive back in college football as voted on by the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame.

Last three winners		
2023	Trey Taylor	Air Force
2022	Tre'Vius Hodges- Tomlinson	тси
2021	Coby Bryant	Cincinnati

#### >>> LOU GROZA AWARD - COLLEGIATE PLACE-KICKER AWARD

Last three winners		
2023	Graham Nicholson	Miami, Ohio
2022	Christopher Dunn	NC State
2021	Jake Moody	Michigan

Presented annually to the top college football placekicker by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission.

#### RAY GUY AWARD - OUTSTANDING PUNTER <

Presented annually to college football's most outstanding punter as adjudged by the Augusta Sports Council. Nominees are evaluated on their overall statistics and contribution to the team. Particular emphasis is placed on the following statistics: net average, percentage of total punts inside the 20-yard line, and percentage of punts not returned.

Last three winners		
2023	Tory Taylor	lowa
2022	Adam Korsak	Rutgers
2021	Matt Araiza	San Diego St.

#### >>> TED HENDRICKS AWARD - DEFENSIVE END OF THE YEAR AWARD

Last three winners		
2023	Laiatu Latu	UCLA
2022	Caleb Murphy	Ferris State
2021	Aidan Hutchinson	MICH

Given annually to college football's top defensive end.

#### CAMPBELL TROPHY - TOP-SCHOLAR ATHLETE <<<

Awarded by the National Football Foundation to the college football player with the best combination of academics, community service, and on-field performance. It is considered by many to be the "Academic Heisman" and nicknamed as such.

Last three winners		
2023	Laiatu Latu	UCLA
2022	Jack Campbell	lowa
2021	Charlie Kolar	lowa State

#### >>> LOTT IMPACT TROPHY - OUTSTANDING DEFENSIVE PLAYER

Last three winners		
2023	Junior Colson	Michigan
2022	Will Anderson Jr.	Alabama
2021	Aidan Hutchinson	Michigan

Presented annually to the college football defensive IMPACT player of the year. IMPACT is an acronym for: Integrity, Maturity, Performance, Academics, Community, and Tenacity. The award selection is voted on by members of the

national media, previous finalists, the board of directors of the Pacific Club IMPACT Foundation. Presented annually to the top college football placekicker by the Palm Beach County Sports Commission.

#### PAUL HORNUNG AWARD - MOST VERSATILE PLAYER <

Awarded to recognize and reward versatile, high-level performers in major college football; to help preserve the legacy of Hornung, one of Louisville's native sons and sports icons; and to promote Louisville as a great sports town

Last three winners		
2023	Travis Hunter	Colorado
2022	Jack Colletto	Oregon State
2021	Marcus Jones	Houston

#### >>> MANNING AWARD - BEST QUARTERBACK

Last three winners		
2023	Jayden Daniels	LSU
2022	Stetson Bennett	Georgia
2021	Bryce Young	Alabama

Presented annually to the collegiate American football quarterback as judged by the Sugar Bowl Committee to be the best in the United States. It is the only quarterback award that includes each candidate's postseason-bowl performance in its balloting.

#### HARLON HILL TROPHY - MVP, DIVISION II <<<

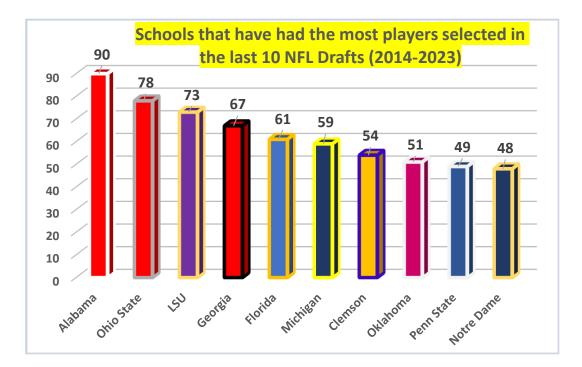
Given to the individual selected as the most valuable player in NCAA Division II. It is often considered to be the Division II equivalent of the Heisman Trophy.

Last three winners		
2023	3 Zach Zebrowski Central Missouri	
2022	John Matocha	Missouri Colorado Mines
2021		

### THE SEC & THE BIG TEN

In recent seasons, the domination of the SEC and Big Ten in college football has been demonstrated by the number of draft choices that have come from that conference.

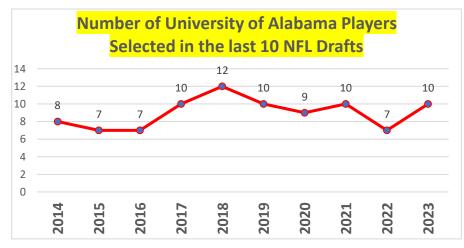
As can be seen from the following graph, over the last decade the top 6 colleges by volume of players selected in the draft are all either from the SEC (Alabama, LSU, Georgia, and Florida) or from the Big Ten (Ohio State and Michigan). Another school from the Big Ten (Penn State) is 9<sup>th</sup> on the list.



Even if we cut the list down to the last 5 years, the story remains extremely similar, the first 6 schools on the list would again be from either the SEC or Big Ten – indeed 5 of those first 6 schools would be the same as those for the last decade (with just Penn State replacing Florida, who would be tied for 7<sup>th</sup> on the list).

Perhaps not surprisingly, Alabama tops both the decade and last 5 years list, having won 3 National Championships since 2014 (more than any other school).

Quite remarkably, one third (30 out of 90) of players chosen from Alabama have been selected in the 1<sup>st</sup> round.



## **2025 DRAFT WATCHLIST**

There's nothing like looking ahead and trying to work out - did somebody say guess - just who is going to be high in the draft a year from now. To paraphrase a famous saying "A week is a long time in the draft process".

Nonetheless, as always, we've got the crystal ball out and had a look at which players are in contention for the top of the draft come April 2025. Here's our very early – make that way too early - watchlist for the 2025 Draft:

Quarterbacks	
Carson Beck (Georgia)	Dillon Gabriel (Oregon)
Shedeur Sanders (Colorado)	Will Howard (Ohio State)
Quinn Ewers (Texas)	Brady Cook (Missouri)
Drew Allar (Penn State)	Ty Thompson (Tulane)
Jalen Milroe (Alabama)	Tyler Van Dyke (Wisconsin)
Conner Weigman (Texas A&M)	Noah Fifita (Arizona)
Cameron Ward (Miami ,Fla)	Graham Mertz (Florida)
D.J. Uiagalelei (FSU)	Tyler Shough (Louisville)
Jaxson Dart (Mississippi)	Grayson McCall (North Carolina State)
Riley Leonard, (Notre Dame)	DeQuan Finn (Baylor)

Running Backs	
Ollie Gordon (Oklahoma State)	Montrell Johnson (Florida)
TreVeyon Henderson (Ohio State)	Tahj Brooks (Texas Tech)
Trevor Etienne (Georgia)	Roydell Williams (FSU)
Quinshon Judkins (Ohio State)	Ashton Jeanty (Boise State)
Donovan Edwards (Michigan)	Nicholas Singleton (Penn State)
Kyle Monangai (Rutgers)	

Wide Receivers	
Luther Burden III (Missouri)	Nic Anderson (Oklahoma)
Evan Stewart (Oregon)	Beaux Collins (Notre Dame)
Emeka Egbuka (Ohio State)	Antwane Wells Jr. (Mississippi)
Tetairoa McMillan (Arizona)	Barion Brown (Kentucky)
Isaiah Bond (Texas)	Tez Johnson (Oregon)

Tight Ends	
Luke Lachey (Iowa)	Oscar Delp (Georgia)
Coleston Loveland (Michigan)	C.J. Dippre (Alabama)
Benjamin Yurosek (Georgia)	Oronde Gadsden II (Syracuse)

Offensive Linemen	
Kelvin Banks Jr. (Texas)	Donovan Jackson (Ohio State)
Will Campbell (LSU)	Dylan Fairchild (Georgia)
Tyler Booker (Alabama)	Josh Conerly (Oregon)
Tate Ratledge (Georgia)	Earnest Greene III (Georgia)
Trey Zuhn III (Texas A&M)	Wyatt Milum (West Virginia)
Emery Jones (LSU)	Jaeden Roberts (Alabama)
Clay Webb (Jacksonville State)	Blake Miller (Clemson)
Parker Brailsford (Alabama)	Ajani Cornelius (Oregon)

Defensive Linemen	
Tyleik Williams (Ohio State)	Kenneth Grant (Michigan)
Bear Alexander (USC)	Mykel Williams (Georgia)
Mason Graham (Michigan)	Nazir Stackhouse (Georgia)
Walter Nolen (Mississippi)	Deone Walker (Kentucky)

Edge Rushers	
Patrick Payton (FSU)	Jalon Walker (Georgia)
Princely Umanmielen (Mississippi)	Jeremiah Alexander (Alabama)
J.T. Tuimoloau (Ohio State)	Dani Dennis-Sutton (Penn State)
James Pearce Jr. (Tennessee)	Ashton Gilotte (Louisville)

Linebackers	
Harold Perkins Jr. (LSU)	Barrett Carter (Clemson)
Danny Stutsman (Oklahoma)	Smael Mondon (Georgia)
Jay Higgins (Iowa)	Dasan McCullough (Oklahoma)
Jamon Dumas-Johnson (Kentucky)	Jack Kiser (Notre Dame)
Nic Scourton (Texas A&M)	

Cornerbacks	
Travis Hunter (Colorado)	Jordan Hancock (Ohio State)
Will Johnson (Michigan)	Domani Jackson (Alabama)
Denzel Burke (Ohio State)	Ephesians Prysock (Arizona)
Ricardo Hallman (Wisconsin)	Daylen Everette (Georgia)
Benjamin Morrison (Notre Dame)	Gentry Williams (Oklahoma)

Safeties	
Malaki Starks (Georgia)	Xavier Watts (Notre Dame)
Andrew Mukuba (Texas)	Malachi Moore (Alabama)
Xavier Nwankpa (Iowa)	Jahdae Barron (Texas)
Sonny Styles (Ohio State)	Billy Bowman (Oklahoma)

### **DRAFT VALUE CHART**

Around 30 years ago, Cowboys' coach Jimmy Johnson developed a chart that assigned numerical values (points) to each slot in the draft. Those numerical values allowed the team to assess the value of trades which involved draft choices.

The Draft Value Chart below is not Johnson's but is based on the same principle – with the values updated to reflect many years of subsequent trades. A number of people have developed their own chart. This one is ours.

Pick	Value												
1	1000	37	233	73	131	109	80	145	54	181	37	217	24
2	766	38	230	74	129	110	79	146	53	182	37	218	23
3	667	39	226	75	127	111	78	147	53	183	36	219	23
4	610	40	223	76	126	112	77	148	52	184	36	220	23
5	575	41	219	77	124	113	76	149	52	185	35	221	22
6	545	42	216	78	122	114	76	150	51	186	35	222	22
7	516	43	213	79	121	115	75	151	51	187	35	223	22
8	491	44	209	80	119	116	74	152	50	188	34	224	21
9	470	45	206	81	117	117	73	153	50	189	34	225	21
10	453	46	203	82	116	118	72	154	49	190	33	226	21
11	439	47	200	83	114	119	71	155	49	191	33	227	20
12	425	48	197	84	113	120	70	156	48	192	33	228	20
13	415	49	194	85	111	121	69	157	48	193	32	229	20
14	398	50	191	86	109	122	69	158	47	194	32	230	19
15	387	51	188	87	108	123	68	159	47	195	31	231	19
16	376	52	185	88	106	124	67	160	46	196	31	232	19
17	366	53	182	89	105	125	66	161	46	197	31	233	18
18	356	54	179	90	103	126	66	162	45	198	30	234	18
19	348	55	176	91	102	127	65	163	45	199	30	235	18
20	340	56	173	92	100	128	64	164	44	200	30	236	17
21	330	57	170	93	99	129	63	165	44	201	29	237	17
22	323	58	168	94	98	130	63	166	44	202	29	238	17
23	316	59	165	95	96	131	62	167	43	203	29	239	16
24	309	60	162	96	95	132	61	168	43	204	28	240	16
25	303	61	160	97	93	133	61	169	42	205	28	241	16
26	296	62	157	98	92	134	60	170	42	206	27	242	16
27	290	63	154	99	91	135	59	171	41	207	27	243	15
28	284	64	152	100	89	136	59	172	41	208	27	244	15
29	278	65	145	101	88	137	58	173	40	209	26	245	15
30	272	66	143	102	87	138	58	174	40	210	26	246	14
31	266	67	142	103	86	139	57	175	40	211	26	247	14
32	261	68	140	104	85	140	57	176	39	212	25	248	14
33	249	69	138	105	84	141	56	177	39	213	25	249	14
34	244	70	136	106	83	142	55	178	38	214	25	250	13
35	241	71	134	107	82	143	55	179	38	215	24	251	13
36	237	72	133	108	81	144	54	180	37	216	24	252	13



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