DriveToTheDraft.com
2018 NFL Draft Preview

Top 100 Big Board
First Round Mock Draft
Over 185 Players Ranked By Position
32 Names To Watch For 2019

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Dear Fans,
I would like to personally thank you for downloading the DriveToTheDraft.com 2018 NFL Draft Guide. There are a lot of magazines, websites, and blogs out there covering the draft this time of year and I appreciate you giving this one a look. I have made some minor tweaks to last year's version and I hope that you find the changes well. You won't find this to be a publication filled with graphics and advertisements. What you will find is objective and thorough analysis of this year's top prospects. If you like what you see please share with a friend. For year-round draft coverage please visit www.drivetothedraft.com. Your feedback and support is important. Please email me if you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns. Thanks again, and good luck to your favorite team!

-Jeffrey Bryce
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2018 Big Board (Not Weighted For Position)

#	Name	Position	School
1	Saquon Barkley	RB	Penn State
2	Quenton Nelson	OG	Notre Dame
3	Minkah Fitzpatrick	DB	Alabama
4	Bradley Chubb	DE	NC State
5	Josh Rosen	QB	UCLA
6	Tremaine Edmunds	OLB	Virginia Tech
7	Denzel Ward	CB	Ohio State
8	Derwin James	S	Florida State
9	Roquan Smith	LB	Georgia
10	Sam Darnold	QB	USC
11	Calvin Ridley	WR	Alabama
12	Derrius Guice	RB	LSU
13	Da'Ron Payne	DT	Alabama
14	Baker Mayfield	QB	Oklahoma
15	Vita Vea	DT	Washington
16	Connor Williams	OT	Texas
17	Harold Landry	DE/OLB	Boston College
18	Marcus Davenport	DE/OLB	UTSA
19	Lamar Jackson	QB	Louisville
20	Maurice Hurst Jr	DT	Michigan
21	Josh Jackson	CB	Iowa
22	Josh Allen	QB	Wyoming
23	Rashaan Evans	LB	Alabama
24	Isaiah Wynn	OG	Georgia
25	Leighton Vander Esch	LB	Boise State
26	Mike McGlinchey	OT	Notre Dame
27	Billy Price	C/OG	Ohio State
28	Ronnie Harrison	S	Alabama
29	Ronald Jones II	RB	USC
30	Jaire Alexander	CB	Louisville
31	Taven Bryan	DT	Florida
32	Mike Hughes	CB	UCF

32	Sony Michel	RB	Georgia
34	Will Hernandez	OG	UTEP
35	James Daniels	C	Iowa
36	Isaiah Oliver	CB	Colorado
37	Arden Key	DE/OLB	LSU
38	Sam Hubbard	DE/OLB	Ohio State
39	Rasheem Green	DE/DT	USC
40	Christian Kirk	WR	Texas AM
41	Carlton Davis	CB	Auburn
42	Justin Reid	S	Stanford
43	Mike Gesicki	TE	Penn State
44	Harrison Phillips	DT	Stanford
45	Lorenzo Carter	OLB	Georgia
46	DJ Moore	WR	Maryland
47	Malik Jefferson	LB	Texas
48	Tim Settle	DT	Virginia Tech
49	Donte Jackson	CB	LSU
50	Courtland Sutton	WR	SMU
51	DJ Chark	WR	LSU
52	Deon Cain	WR	Clemson
53	Jesse Bates III	S	Wake Forest
54	Kerryon Johnson	RB	Auburn
55	Anthony Miller	WR	Memphis
56	James Washington	WR	Oklahoma State
57	Raashad Penny	RB	San Diego State
58	Nick Chubb	RB	Georgia
59	Dallas Goedert	TE	South Dakota State
60	Hayden Hurst	TE	South Carolina
61	Mark Andrews	TE	Oklahoma
62	Kolton Miller	OT	UCLA
63	Mason Rudolph	QB	Oklahoma State
64	Orlando Brown	OT	Oklahoma
65	Darius Leonard	OLB	South Carolina State
66	Nyheim Hynes	RB	NC State
67	Martinas Rankin	OT	Mississippi State

68	Josey Jewell	LB	Iowa
69	Ogbonnia Okoronkwo	DE/OLB	Oklahoma
70	Dorrance Armstrong	DE/OLB	Kansas
71	Brian O'Neill	OT	Pittsburgh
72	Da'Shawn Hand	DE/DT	Alabama
73	Simmie Cobbs Jr	WR	Indiana
74	Donte Pettis	WR	Washington
75	Frank Ragnow	C	Arkansas
76	Kyzir White	S	West Virginia
77	Jerome Baker	OLB	Ohio State
78	Ian Thomas	TE	Indiana
79	Duke Ejiofor	DE	Wake Forest
80	Equanimeous St. Brown	WR	Notre Dame
81	Royce Freeman	RB	Oregon
82	Jeff Holland	DE/OLB	Auburn
83	Uchenna Nwosu	DE/OLB	USC
84	Anthony Averett	CB	Alabama
85	Tyrell Crosby	OT	Oregon
86	Trenton Thompson	DT	Georgia
87	Mark Walton	RB	Miami
88	Marcus Allen	S	Penn State
89	Derrick Nnadi	DT	Florida State
90	Armani Watts	S	Texas A&M
91	DeShon Elliot	S	Texas
92	Michael Gallup	WR	Colorado State
93	MJ Stewart	CB	North Carolina
94	Jamarco Jones	OT	Ohio State
95	Kemoko Turay	DE/OLB	Rutgers
96	Chukwuma Okorafor	OT	Western Michigan
97	Josh Sweat	DE/OLB	Florida State
98	Jaylen Samuels	FB/TE	NC State
99	Shaquem Griffin	LB	UCF
100	Chad Thomas	DE	Miami

Dream Draft (2006-2015)

Who was the best selection at each draft slot over the past decade? There were some difficult decisions and tough choices. Here is what I came up with.

1. Cam Newton (2011)
Auburn

2. Calvin Johnson (2007)
Georgia Tech

3. Joe Thomas (2007)
Wisconsin

4. AJ Green (2011)
Georgia

5.Khalil Mack (2014)
Buffalo

6. Julio Jones (2011)
Alabama

7. Adrian Peterson (2007)
Oklahoma

8. Vic Beasley (2015)
Clemson

9. Luke Kuechly (2012)
Boston College

10. Todd Gurley (2015)
Georgia

11. JJ Watt (2011)
Wisconsin

12. Haloti Ngata (2006)
Oregon

13. Aaron Donald (2014)
Pittsburgh

14. Darrelle Revis (2007)
Pittsburgh

15. Melvin Gordon (2015)
Wisconsin

16. Zach Martin (2014)
Notre Dame

17. Nate Solder (2011)
Colorado

18. Joe Flacco (2008)
Delaware

19. Antonio Cromartie (2006)
Florida State

20. Aqib Talib (2008)
Kansas

21. Chandler Jones (2012)
Syracuse

22. Demaryius Thomas (2010)
Georgia Tech

23. Bryan Bulaga (2010)
Iowa

24. Cameron Jordan (2011)
California

25. Xavier Rhodes (2013)
Florida State

26. Clay Matthews (2009)
USC

27. DeAndre Hopkins (2013)
Clemson

28. Joe Staley (2007)
Central Michigan

29. Nick Mangold (2006)
Ohio State

30. Muhammad Wilkerson (2011)
Temple

31. Cam Heyward (2011)
Ohio State

32. Teddy Bridgewater (2014)
Louisville

2018 Mock Draft

#1	**Cleveland Browns** **Josh Allen, QB, Wyoming** Allen has a lot of growing to do as a player but will be able to red-shirt his rookie year before Tyrod Taylor.
#2	**New York Giants** **Sam Darnold, QB, USC** If Darnold is off the board expect this to be either Chubb or Barkley.
#3	**New York Jets** **Josh Rosen, QB, UCLA** The Jets gave up a lot to move up to this slot and it is unlikely they would use it on a non-QB.
#4	**Cleveland Browns** **Saquon Barkley, RB, Penn State** Having already selected their QB of the future the Browns must chose from Barkley, Chubb, and Fitzpatrick.
#5	**Denver Broncos** **Baker Mayfield, QB, Oklahoma** There are a lot of good players available here but it is unlikely Elway would pass on a QB
#6	**Indianapolis Colts** **Bradley Chubb, DE, NC State** If the draft falls this way the Colts will be running to the podium to select Chubb.
#7	**Tampa Bay Buccaneers** **Derwin James, S, Florida State** Tampa Bay needs to improve their secondary and James seems to be a favorite of their staff.
#8	**Chicago Bears** **Tremaine Edmunds, LB, Virginia Tech** The Bears should consider Quenton Nelson here but should ultimately go with Edmunds here.
#9	**San Francisco 49ers** **Minkah Fitzpatrick, DB, Alabama** Having Fitzpatrick, Ward, and Smith all far this deep in the draft will make for a tough decision for Lynch.
#10	**Oakland Raiders** **Roquan Smith, LB, Georgia** The Raiders defense needs a lot of help. Roquan is a player that Oakland can build their second level around.
#11	**Miami Dolphins** **Quenton Nelson, OG, Miami** Rarely does the best player available fill a specific team need as well as this selection.
#12	**Buffalo Bills** **Lamar Jackson, QB, Louisville** Jackson seems like a fitting consolation prize if Buffalo can't find a trade partner to move up with.
#13	**Washington Redskins** **Denzel Ward, CB, Ohio State** Ward is way too good of a player to drop this far but someone is going to slide with the early run on QB.
#14	**Green Bay Packers** **Marcus Davenport, Edge, UTSA** Green Bay needs some help on the edge as they may transition Clay Matthews back inside.
#15	**Arizona Cardinals** **Connor Williams, OT, Texas** Without one of the top 5 quarterbacks available it will be time to shift the focus on protecting Sam Bradford.
#16	**Baltimore Ravens** **Calvin Ridley, WR, Alabama** Position of need? Check. Alabama/Baltimore connection? Check
#17	**Los Angeles Chargers** **Vita Vea, DT, Washington** Vea can add some much needed youth and power to the middle of the Chargers defense.

#18	**Seattle Seahawks** **Josh Jackson, CB, Iowa** Seattle has an aging roster with some holes in need to patch. Jackson seems like a good fit to replace Sherm.
#19	**Dallas Cowboys** **Da'Ron Payne, DT, Alabama** There isn't good enough value at WR here to pass on a talent like Payne.
#20	**Detroit Lions** **Harold Landry, DE, Boston College** Landry will be a nice compliment to Ansah who may be playing out his last season in Detroit.
#21	**Cincinnati Bengals** **Isiah Wynn, OG, Georgia** Adding Cordy Glenn via trade and drafting Wynn would go a long way in improving a woeful offensive line.
#22	**Buffalo Bills** **Raashan Evans, LB, Alabama** With all of the talk of Buffalo focusing on a QB, they may have a bigger need at LB.
#23	**New England Patriots** **Mike McGlinchey, OT, Notre Dame** It doesn't matter what other positions need upgrading. When your QB is named Brady OT is the priority.
#24	**Carolina Panthers** **Mike Hughes, CB, UCF** Carolina needs to upgrade their defensive backfield and Hughes seems like a good fit here.
#25	**Tennessee Titans** **Leighton Vander Esch, LB, Boise State** Would it really surprise anyone if Mike Vrabel's first pick was a LB?
#26	**Atlanta Falcons** **Taven Bryan, DT, Florida** The Falcons need to fill the void left from departed DT Dontari Poe. Bryan is still growing but has upside.
#27	**New Orleans Saints** **Arden Key, Edge, LSU** Key is a top 10 caliber player and the Saints seem comfortable with the character concerns Key has.
#28	**Pittsburgh Steelers** **Justin Reid, S, Stanford** The Steelers need help at safety and linebacker. Don't sleep on a surprise RB selection either.
#29	**Jacksonville Jaguars** **DJ Moore, WR, Maryland** Don't look now, but the Jaguars roster is loaded with talent. Look for them to add another target on offense.
#30	**Minnesota Vikings** **Billy Price, OG/C, Ohio State** Price is reunited with Pat Elflein as the Vikings continue to rebuild their offensive line.
#31	**New England Patriots** **Christian Kirk, WR, Texas A&M** A dynamic slot player with potential to contribute in the return game. That should sound familiar.
#32	**Philadelphia Eagles** **Derrius Guice, RB, LSU** Guice would be a steal this late in the game and add another back to the stable.

Quarterback

 # 1   Josh Rosen (6'4,226)
UCLA
Rank: 5ᵗʰ Overall

Forget for a moment where Josh ranks as a draft prospect. Rosen is going to enter the NFL and immediately become one of the cleanest and most pure passers in the NFL. Rosen's mechanics are flawless. Josh stands tall in the pocket, has an extremely fast delivery, and his feet set his foundation throughout his throwing motion. Rosen has the arm strength to be a factor at all three levels of the defense and has elite accuracy that will keep the chains moving. Rosen has a great feel for the passing game and throws his targets open like a ten-year veteran might. Rosen has a very high football IQ. While he had a different coordinator each season at UCLA he never seemed to struggle to pick up the offense or suffer from a learning curve. Josh has worked under center as well as the gun in a pro-style offense. Rosen gets through his reads quickly and is able to keep defenders off his target with his eye manipulation. Rosen is not a QB you want to rely on to pick up yardage with his legs when a play breaks down. At this point he has a lot of work to do on roll-outs as well. Rosen can become a very average QB if he is moved off his spot and isn't able to rely on his mechanics that were discussed earlier. Rosen, despite putting on some weight, still needs to add some muscle to his slim frame to improve his chances of taking NFL level hits. Both the interviewing process and medicals will be very crucial in Rosen's review from NFL teams. Josh is a very good and a very smart player, and he knows it. Some teams will consider him arrogant while others will say that he has the confidence needed to get the job done. It is indeed a fine line. Josh has missed a lot of games in his college career due to injuries.

#2   Sam Darnold (6'3, 221)
USC
Rank: 10ᵗʰ Overall

There are arguments to be made that Sam is the premier prospect at the QB position in this year's class but there are equally compelling concerns about his game as well. Let's start with the goods. Darnold has very good size and even better athleticism for the position. Darnold has a good feel for the passing game and is able to throw receivers open and create yards after the catch opportunities for his playmakers. While Darnold can stand tall in the pocket and deliver strikes he is at his best when asked to extend plays with his legs. Darnold keeps his eyes down the field while escaping the pocket. If there is a big play to be had he will find it. When nothing is available, Darnold is more than capable as a runner and can pick up cheap yards with his feet. Darnold walks,

talks, and probably sleeps like a prototype NFL QB. He has great poise and leadership qualities. Darnold has just above-average arm strength and might fit certain offenses better than others because of this. With that said, he is capable of threatening a defense at all three levels. The elephant in the room with Darnold is of course the turnovers. Someone of Darnold's quality should not throw as many interceptions as he did last season. There were times where the game looked like it was moving too fast for Darnold as he seemed to struggle when teams would mix up their coverages. Sam also fumbled the ball at an alarming rate as well. Darnold has an elongated throwing motion that rivals Phillip Rivers. Unfortunately for Darnold, Rivers is probably the only example of a QB with a similar motion that has had long-term success in the NFL. A slower delivery means Sam is going to have to play with elite anticipation in order to squeeze difficult balls past athletic defensive backs. Sam would greatly benefit from taking a redshirt year and learning behind a veteran for a year if possible.

#3   Baker Mayfield (6'1, 215)
Oklahoma
Rank: 14ᵗʰ Overall

There have not been too many successful starting QBs at Baker Mayfield's height. There have also been very few QBs that played in a spread-style offense in college that were able to find early success in the NFL. With that said, it is not easy to bet against Baker Mayfield, even when the odds seem to be lined up against him. Mayfield has overcome the odds throughout his collegiate career. The path to winning the Heisman certainly wasn't a likely one considering he had to walk on twice to separate college programs before eventually taking the reigns at Oklahoma. Mayfield has above average arm talent and is able to make every throw that will be asked of him. Baker has excellent touch on shorter throws and is able to isolate his target by manipulating his eyes and keeping help away. Mayfield processes the game at a fast rate and understands the game well. While Baker may be on the shorter side for the position it hasn't really seemed to affect him at this stage of his career. He is excellent at finding throwing lanes between lineman and is even better when he gets out of the pocket. Mayfield is one of the better improvisers you will see as he is able to extend plays with creativity. There are times where Mayfield holds onto the ball a bit too long passing up a plus play hoping for something bigger to develop. Mayfield, like most gunslingers, will make some decisions that will drive a coach nuts. Mayfield did not play in a pro-style offense and was never asked to take snaps from center. Facing Big 12 defenses every week isn't as imposing as some other conferences might have been. There are

personality concerns and they are material. Mayfield plays with a swagger and a chip on his shoulder that often gets the best out of his teammates but unfortunately gets the best of himself at times. Mayfield is such a competitor that it might be difficult to assume that he would take a backup role with elegance if he doesn't win a starting job immediately. On the plus side, Baker is a winner, he will always be prepared, and he is a tough player.

#4   Lamar Jackson (6'2, 216)
Louisville
Rank: 19th Overall

Lamar Jackson may not throw the football with perfect mechanics, he does not always show poise in the pocket, and he does not always throw the ball with anticipation. With that said, Lamar Jackson is not a WR, a RB, a punt returner, etc. Lamar Jackson is a NFL caliber QB with big time upside. Jackson has a huge arm and is able to challenge defenses deep and on the sidelines. Jackson played in an offense with a lot of pro-style responsibilities including taking snaps from center. As mentioned earlier, Jackson is not a perfect prospect. He has made huge strides every year at Louisville as a passer. Jackson's completion percentage increased each season during his collegiate career from 55% as a freshman, 56% as a sophomore, and 59% as a junior. While he is still growing in areas such as reading defenses, his footwork, and his pocket presence, he has gotten much better in each of these areas every single year. Had Jackson gone back to school for one more year and was able to show the same rate of improvement he would have competed for the top overall selection in the 2019 draft. The athletic ability with Jackson is insane. It is a myth however as Lamar Jackson does not play with a run first mentality. When Jackson does decide to take off, however, no one does it better. He runs like a gazelle in the open field showing elite long speed. He also has the agility in tighter spaces to make defenders miss. Lamar has packed on a few pounds of muscle but still plays with a slim frame and will probably be asked to bulk up just a little more. He is going to have to continue to grow his feel for the passing game, improve his footwork, and learn to slide when necessary. Jackson won't be a fit in every offense and he is probably going to need some patience and coaching to reach his maximum potential.

#5   Josh Allen (6'5, 237)
Wyoming
Rank: 21st Overall

When it comes to potential and raw ability Allen is on a different level. Allen is capable of making throws that would not be available for others as he has the best arm strength in this draft class by a large margin. He is able to test the deep safety with a subtle flick of the wrist and he is able to throw a dart underneath to sneak a ball between defenders. Allen has the potential to be effective at all three levels of the defense. Allen can throw from

multiple platforms and release points when needed. Allen is a very mobile QB and is able to run with speed and power when yards are available. Early success from Eagles QB Carson Wentz will help Allen's projection into the NFL as they played in an identical offense in college with a lot of pro-style responsibilities out of the QB position. Allen showed well at the Senior Bowl and performed even better at the combine. While Allen has all of the physical traits to become a superstar in the NFL, he was for one reason or another never able to put it together at Wyoming. It is true that Allen's team was often overmatched when it comes to talent in the skill positions and up front. His receivers had a hard time separating and his line had a hard time keeping a clean pocket. With that said, there were few Saturdays over the last two falls, where Allen passed the eye-ball test. Allen's passing accuracy numbers are scary-bad. He rarely throws his guys open with anticipation. Allen's mechanics are all over the place as they look strong one play and look poor on the next. Allen needs to find a balance with velocity and touch on shorter passes to make these shorter throws more catchable. Allen has a lot of work to do, but he is very coachable, very likable, and very tough. With patience and good coaching Allen may reach his potential. Josh is a major boom or bust prospect.

#6   Mason Rudolph (6'5, 235)
Oklahoma State
Rank: 63rd Overall

Rudolph's production at Oklahoma State goes unmatched. It is a very QB friendly offense, however, and while there is no proof that he can't handle a pro-style offense there isn't any proof that he can either. Oklahoma State runs a spread offense that relies on mismatches and timing rather than reads and progressions. Rudolph has great size and has excellent feet within the pocket. Rudolph throws a very catchable football and is able to lead his target to space. Mason throws one of the prettiest deep balls you will ever see as he consistently connects with his target while in stride down the field. Rudolph has only average arm strength and he may not have the zip on sideline patterns to sneak past opportunistic defensive backs. It is possible that Rudolph's arm will get stronger as he develops. It is also possible that he can improve on his anticipation and this won't be an issue. Rudolph is athletic for his size but doesn't seem comfortable throwing on the move.

Keep an Eye On

#7 Luke Falk, Washington State

#8 Mike White, Western Kentucky

#9 Kyle Lauletta, Richmond

#10 Kurt Benkert, Virginia

#11 Riley Ferguson, Memphis

Runningback/Fullback

#1   Saquon Barkley (6'0, 223)
Penn State
Rank: 1st Overall

Is a RB ever going to be worth drafting number one overall? While the answer is in this case probably yes, it is at least a fair debate. What doesn't seem to be a debate amongst anyone in league circles is that Barkley is the best player in this draft and perhaps the best RB that has entered the NFL draft in a very long time. Everyone is looking for a NFL comparable to Barkley. The truth is, they haven't made one like him yet. He has the lateral ability that doesn't fall very short from LeSean McCoy, the quick and explosive power of Ezekiel Elliot, and the ability to be a factor in the passing game like David Johnson. He also has better straight-line speed than any of them. Saquon is a competitor and has a strong will to be the best. Barkley has been praised for his leadership and work ethic throughout his career at Penn State. Barkley is dynamic in the return game as well and could serve in that role early in his career if the staff is looking for additional ways to get him the ball. There are no perfect prospects and Saquon is no exception. Barkley has grown in his ability to pick up the blitz as a blocker but still shows room for improvement in this area. There are times that Barkley seems to be a little too patient as a runner instead of taking what the defense is giving him. While Barkley is an excellent option out of the backfield as a receiver he is not ready to assume a role in this area as a route runner like you might see the Steelers use LeVeon Bell. Barkley is a stud and is capable of carrying a team on his shoulders early in his career.

#2   Derrius Guice (5'10, 212)
LSU
Rank: 12th Overall

Few backs run with as much violence as Derrius Guice. Guice seems to take every snap personally and is going to put a lot of tacklers in the ice bath after the game. He uses his core strength, leg drive, and low pad level to fight through tacklers and consistently fall forward after contact. Like the man he replaced at LSU, Leonard Fournette, Guice has good open field-long speed. Once he gets those legs churning he is going to be difficult to catch. Derrius has better elusiveness than you would expect as well as he is able to plant and spin around defenders. Guice has a natural feel for the running game and knows how to set up his blockers better than most at this stage of their careers. There are more physical backs with short careers like Marion Barber than there have been

backs with extended careers like Marshawn Lynch in the NFL. While it is very likely that Guice has a positive impact early on in his career it is possible, if not likely, that the beating he puts on his body will eventually start to take a toll on him. Guice played through injuries last season in his first full time stint as a starter and it definitely slowed him down at times. Derrius is an improving prospect as a receiving option out of the backfield.

#3   Ronald Jones II (5'11, 200)
USC
Rank: 29th Overall

Ronald Jones is one of the most explosive players in this entire draft class. He accelerates from zero to sixty at an unfair rate as it takes little effort for Jones to get to top speed. He moves laterally as well as any back in this class as well showing excellent footwork and very quick feet. He is excellent at changing directions and cuts out of tackles. Jones is at his best when he turns the corner as he is a threat to score in space. While Jones will not power his way for tough yards between the tackles he does have a knack for finding small gaps inside and taking the yards available. Jones bulked up significantly going into this past season but is still very light for lead back. Jones tallied an impressive 261 carries in 2017 but might prove to be more effective in a more limited role. He will rarely overwhelm a tackler with power. Jamal Charles, who Ronald has often been compared to, did a better job throughout his career at avoiding impactful hits than Jones has so far to this point. There are fair questions that a lot of teams will have about Jones, considering how good he is in space, is why USC didn't utilize him more often in the passing game. If Jones can become a factor as a receiver out of the backfield he can be an electric playmaker in the NFL for a long time.

#4   Sony Michel (5'11, 220)
Georgia
Rank: 32nd Overall

Michel was a prospect that scouts had their eye on all season but when the lights got bright in the playoffs, Sony took it to another level. He was electric posting up a total of 222 yards and four touchdowns against Oklahoma and added 98 more yards on the ground against a stout Alabama front seven. Michel is a slashing player who might best be served in a one-cut and go system. Michel has superb explosion from his cut and can hit top speed in a hurry. Michel is a savvy runner and can run with patience when needed if the seam doesn't open up quickly. He is at his best, however, when he can get upfield right away. Sony is not

as creative of a runner in the open field as he is fast enough to outrun players in the second-level. At this stage Michel is not a power back that you would bet on in short yardage situations. Sony split carries with another RB prospect featured just a few slots down, Nick Chubb, so he is relatively fresh. Michel is a prospect who can stay on the field for all three downs as he is a capable weapon in the passing game and a willing blocker.

#5   Kerryon Johnson (6'0, 212)
Auburn
Rank: 54ᵗʰ Overall

Kerryon is one of the highest effort players coming out this season as he leaves it all on the field. He is a tough cookie with a track record of being able to handle a heavy work load and has the reputation of being able to play through pain. Johnson is a very patient and calculated runner between the tackles. Johnson is very light footed and cuts very well for a back his size. He has a vision of how all of the blocks will fall into place pre-snap and seems to hit the hole at the right time more often than not. Johnson has above average burst and isn't likely to leave too many free yards on the field. Kerryon has a long stride but isn't a true burner when he gets into the open field. Johnson has become a dependable option out of the backfield in passing situations and shows good hands. A concern that might scare some teams is the upright and punishing style that Johnson carries the ball with. He will likely need to lower his pad level some to avoid injury. America fell in love with Johnson's grit as he played through a shoulder problem in Auburn's upset win against Alabama.

#6   Rashaad Penny (5'11, 220)
San Diego State
Rank: 57ᵗʰ Overall

Penny had to wait behind Donnel Pumphrey at San Diego State before finally getting his turn this year. He certainly made the most of the waited opportunity and his production speaks for itself and is unmatched. Rashaad is a good back in a lot of ways but doesn't have any elite qualities. Penny plays with a chip on his shoulder and is not afraid to fight for extra yards after contact. Rashaad is not a guy that you want to meet in the hole with an arm tackle attempt as he will power right through it. Penny understands the game and does a nice job setting his blocks ahead of him. Penny should be proud of his 4.46 time at the combine as there have been questions as to if he would be fast enough in the NFL. With that said, he isn't the most explosive back in this class, and it seems to take him a couple of strides to catch full speed. Penny was used split outside at times and has nice hands but was never really featured as a pass option. Quality of competition, like all small school prospects,

leave some doubts as to how well Penny's abilities will translate to the NFL level.

#7   Nick Chubb (5'11, 228)
Georgia
Rank: 58ᵗʰ Overall

Chubb was on everyone's radar after a dominating freshmen season for the Dogs. It took a couple of seasons for Nick to get back to the level where he left off at after suffering an awful looking knee injury his sophomore season. The best qualities for Chubb are his running balance and his quick feet. He has quality vision running between the tackles and his thick legs can drag tacklers for an extra yard or two after contact. Chubb isn't a breakaway threat for the position as he doesn't have the long speed necessary although he is patient in the second level and shows good vision. Nick was rarely asked to contribute in the passing game at Georgia but is a very capable blocker which might keep him in the game on third downs. If Chubb starts sliding in the draft past the third round it is likely due to medical concerns.

#10   Nyheim Hines (5'8, 197)
NC State
Rank: 66ᵗʰ Overall

The best thing that could happen to Hines was Alvin Kamara having the rookie season that he produced in New Orleans. Hines may not have the floor nor the ceiling that Kamara has but can serve in a similar role if the right team drafts him. Hines is a speed demon and a threat to score every time he gets the ball in space. He is natural with the ball in his hands and sets up defenders with his agility and cutting ability. Hines has above average hands and can be flexed out effectively in the slot. Hines can play through contact and runs with a low center of gravity. Nyheim is not likely a guy with his body type that you would expect to consistently take the pill twenty times per game between the tackles but plays with better balance and power than you might expect. Nyheim is a willing blocker but doesn't have the size to stand up against bigger defenders. Hines, as you would expect is also a valuable asset to have in the return game.

#11   Royce Freeman (5'11, 234)
Oregon
Rank: 81ˢᵗ Overall

Freeman is a true bell-cow as he has carried the ball 947 times during his four-year career at Oregon. Freeman has a great physique and looks the part. Royce is a polished runner and has good vision and awareness of the game. He has quick and shifty feet that helped him take advantage of cutback lanes that may open up. Freeman is an adequate blocker and seems to do a nice job feeling the pass rush. Freeman also has soft hands to be a reliable dump-off option although he doesn't seem to

have the athleticism to challenge defenses deep in the passing game. Freeman is quicker than he is fast and isn't likely to run away from too many NFL defenders. Freeman has taken a lot of hits over his career and has had to play through a lot of nagging injuries. Royce seemed to be a little more explosive earlier in his career and there will be long-term durability questions.

#12 Mark Walton (5'10, 188)
Miami
Rank: 87th Overall

Walton is a true game-changer when he finds the open field. He plays with the speed, quickness, acceleration, and agility that allows him to score on every play that he is able to reach the second level. Walton has soft hands is more than capable of being a factor in the screen game as well. Walton simply does not fumble the ball. Mark played in a pro-style offense at Miami and often struggled to find the open lane when asked to run between the tackles. Walton has good power for his size but is a small back and isn't going to be reliable to win on leg drive at the point of contact. Walton is coming off a major ankle injury that ended his junior season short. Walton ran a much slower than anticipated 40 time at the combine which might indicate that he is still working his way back into playing shape. Walton has a high ceiling if he gets placed in the right system and should contribute on third downs if needed early.

#13 *Jaylen Samuels (5'11, 223)
NC State
Rank: 98th Overall

Some will have Jaylen Samuels listed as a FB, others a H-Back, or some even a TE. Samuels wore a lot of hats for NC State last fall but there are going to be questions as if he has enough talent to develop into a specific role in the NFL. Even if there isn't a specific position that Samuels may eventually become an above-average starter in there is certainly a roster spot for someone that can serve as a team's utility guy. Jaylen is extremely competitive, and you can tell that football is in his blood. Samuels runs his routes smoothly but isn't an explosive enough athlete, perhaps, to consistently win against man coverage in the NFL. At 5'11 he isn't going to be a target with an overwhelming catch radius either. As a runner, Samuels is a guy that put up some nice numbers for NC State last season although he doesn't have the ability to create on his own. Samuels is a solid contributor on special teams and has the edge to really become a strong player in this area if that is the role that he is asked to play.

Keep an Eye On

#14 Akrum Wadley, Iowa

#15 Josh Adams, Notre Dame

#16 Bo Scarbrough, Alabama

#17 John Kelly JR, Tennessee

#18 Kalen Ballage, Arizona State

#19 *Dimitri Flowers, Oklahoma

#20 Justin Jackson, Northwestern

#21 Ito Smith, Southern Miss

*Denotes fullback

Wide Receiver

#1   Calvin Ridley (6'0, 189)
Alabama
Rank: 11th Overall

Calvin Ridley has some Antonio Brown in him with how he is able to get open via any route that he is asked to run. Ridley has a great understanding of passing concepts and his role in each play. He sets up the coverage with some veteran-like moves and explodes out of his cuts with elite acceleration. Ridley has excellent over the top speed and can get from zero to sixty at an impressive pace. Ridley makes the CB uncomfortable in man coverage. Calvin has a strong work ethic and has a strong passion for the game. Ridley has had some drops throughout his career in Tuscaloosa but it seems to be more of a concentration issue as Calvin has proven hands. Ridley played in a run-first pro-style offense and won't have the off the charts statistics that some of the other WRs in this class have posted. Ridley knows how to play with a scrambling QB and is able to adjust his pattern on the fly. Calvin lacks the girth that most teams covet when identifying a true number one WR. Calvin doesn't play with enough physicality whether it is with the ball or as a blocker. Calvin struggled early in his career beating press coverage and will have to prove that he won't get pushed around on the line when lining up outside. Ridley has potential to be a star inside the slot or outside the numbers.

#2   Christian Kirk (5'10, 200)
Texas A&M
Rank: 40th Overall

Kirk ran faster than was anticipated at the combine but his talents and skill set still align much more favorably as a slot receiver than outside. Kirk is built, in a lot of ways, like a RB and he runs like one with the ball in his hands. He has a strong frame and is competitive in this area and can fall forward through contact. When Kirk finds the ball in space he makes quick cuts and makes decisive decisions making him difficult to bring down in the open field. Kirk has a knack for getting open underneath and over the middle of the field. He is able to shake man coverage with his athletic feet and does a nice job feeling soft spots in zone coverage. Kirk was featured in the Aggies offense this past season but the passing game as a whole was lacking quality. Kirk is a true professional and takes his craft very seriously. Kirk doesn't have exceptional long speed or a wide strike zone to line him up outside the numbers consistently. Kirk is explosive at a punt returner and could add value in this fashion to an NFL team.

#3   DJ Moore (6'0, 210)
Maryland
Rank: 46th Overall

DJ Moore has garnered a lot of comparisons to Golden Tate. There are a lot of similarities as both players are excellent runners after the catch, both possess similar body types, and both can play inside and outside (although they are better suited for the slot). Moore was extremely productive in 2017 and was the focal point of the offense. A large percent of DJ's targets came on screens and other short yardage opportunities to try to take advantage of Moore's ability to slip defenders after the catch. DJ is very tough with the ball and will fight for yards after the catch. Moore, while quicker than fast, has plenty of long speed to keep the safety on his side high if his route calls for him to get up the field. Like most college wideouts, Moore was not asked to run a full route tree and is going to need to learn on the fly in the NFL. DJ doesn't have a case of the drops but he doesn't look like a natural hands catcher either.

#4   Courtland Sutton (6'3, 218)
SMU
Rank: 50th Overall

Sutton terrorized smaller defenders at SMU over the past three seasons. Sutton has a huge and athletic frame and plays even bigger than he is. Like a power forward would box out for a rebound, Sutton uses his hips and shoulders to shield defenders away from the ball. Sutton has a very large catch radius making him an excellent option in the red zone and across the middle. Courtland has just enough speed to get a passing grade and doesn't have the quickness to separate all the time from tight man coverage. Sutton competes hard in all areas of the game. He highpoints the football and has soft hands. Sutton is an asset in the run game as he can punish his block with power. Courtland will struggle to get on the field early in his career if he is unable to quickly learn a more sophisticated offense in the NFL than he played at SMU. A good coordinator will find a role in his offense for Sutton immediately if he needs some reps before becoming a full time starter.

#5   DJ Chark (6'3, 199)
LSU
Rank: 51st Overall

Few players improved their draft stock at the Combine in Indianapolis or the Senior Bowl in Mobile better than this LSU WR. At this stage of his career Chark is a better athlete than he is a football player, but to be fair he is one

heck of an athlete. Chark has electric speed and able to take the top off the defense with ease. DJ has a lot of room to improve in his route running but might be the best in class at the double move. Chark is not afraid to get his jersey dirty and will go over the middle when his number is called. He is also a very physical blocker down the field for his teammates. Chark has limited experience and is still developing as a true WR. He played behind two NFL wide receivers early on his career before finally seeing a starting role this past fall. Chark too often looks like he is fighting the football where some other receivers in this class catch the ball more naturally. Chark can develop into a very dangerous weapon if he can continue to grow his game. Chark is also an electric return man which will help him get on the field early.

#6   Deon Cain (6'2, 202)
Clemson
Rank: 52nd Overall

It was a frustrating season watching Deon Cain have only a solid year when everyone knows that he is capable of so much more. Clemson has become first in class when it comes to producing NFL talent at the WR position. Cain has one of the better size and speed combinations in this draft class. Deon also has one of the highest ceilings at the position as well. Cain is an electric athlete and can run right past the safety and also glide through coverages. Cain is extremely explosive off the line and uses his quick feet and long hands to fight off press coverage with ease. Deon is a nice option on short screens and slants as he is difficult to bring down when the ball is in his hands. Cain is not a life-long WR as he grew up as a QB and the inexperience shows at times. While Cain is capable of doing everything very well he has rarely put it together for an entire game. Cain suffered through some focus issues with dropping some passes that someone of his class should be securing with ease. Cain is a smooth route runner but is going to have to expand in this area as he will transition into a more sophisticated offense than he played in Clemson. Cain has number one potential but there are days where he seems like he is a long way away.

#7   Anthony Miller (5'11, 190)
Memphis
Rank: 55th Overall

There are not many players that compete harder than Anthony Miller. It is his attitude and playing style that gets him ranked as high more so than his athletic prowess. Anthony plays with oozing confidence and wants the ball every play. Miller is one of the better route runners in the class as he uses his body language to sell cuts and moves better than most. His sudden and subtle fakes get his defender off balance creating short area separation. Miller has strong hands but will look like he is fighting the football on occasion. Anthony tracks the ball well and is more than capable of making highlight reel level catches in traffic. Miller has a great understanding of the whole field and plays along the sideline very well. Miller has only average size and average speed for the position and might find it harder to get behind a NFL defense than he did playing in the AAC. Miller turns 24 this fall.

#8   James Washington (5'11, 213)
Oklahoma State
Rank: 56th Overall

Washinton plays taller than his 5'11 height and plays faster than his 4.54 forty time would suggest. He was the best of a very good bunch in the WR room at Oklahoma State and his production is off the charts. He seems to save an extra gear when the football is in the air and tracks the ball over his shoulder as well as anyone making him an excellent deep threat. Washington has the body of a RB and plays with good balance throughout his patterns. Washington possesses soft and strong hands and competes for contested passes. Washington has limited experience running a full route tree and his numbers were obviously inflated due to the system and the QB that he played with. Washington was pressed at the line often but shows good quickness at the line of scrimmage and should be ok in this area. Washington is not an elite athlete for the position and may take a year to acclimate to the NFL.

#9   Simmie Cobbs Jr. (6'4, 220)
Indiana
Rank: 73rd Overall

Had this write up and projection been made after Simmie's opening night performance against Ohio State he might have been the first WR on the board. Cobbs overwhelmed top CB prospect Denzel Ward all night grabbing eleven catches for 149 yards and a touchdown. While Cobbs will have a role in the NFL, probably immediately, he has limitations that he is going to have to overcome to become a full-time starter. Cobbs is physically imposing for smaller corners. He has a large frame and an even larger catch radius as he has extremely long arms. Cobbs is a bruiser when he gets the ball in space and is capable of dragging defensive backs for extra yardage. Cobbs does not possess the speed to get down field or the crispness in routes to gain separation underneath. Simmie is going to have to develop as a route runner and learn to change his pace in between cuts to create separation. Cobbs can show inconsistent hands as he can make a spectacular catch on one play then drop an easy one the next. Cobbs can make an instant impact in the redzone.

#10 Dante Pettis (6′1, 192)
Washington
Rank: 74ᵗʰ Overall

Dante Pettis was a solid WR and an elite punt return for the Huskies. There are a lot of attractive qualities to Dante's game as a WR. Pettis is a very smooth and calculated route runner. He has quick feet and loose hips and is able to elude coverage for underneath patterns. Pettis has enough speed to challenge starting level NFL corners in coverage downfield. Pettis has good body control and is competitive for 50/50 balls. Pettis has a very slim frame and might have a hard time getting off the line if pressed by bigger defenders. Pettis played most of his career outside at Washington but might have to learn the nuances of the slot depending on the offense he is drafted for. If it takes a while for Pettis to earn a role on offense in the NFL he should be expected to contribute in the return game right away. Pettis won't be the fastest player on the field but he is an explosive and decisive punt returner as he recorded a record nine touchdown returns over his collegiate career.

#11 Equanimeous St. Brown (6′5, 214)
Notre Dame
Rank: 80ᵗʰ Overall

St Brown has some work to do as he is far from a complete prospect. The upside for Equanimeous however, when considering his size and speed combination for the position, will be too attractive for teams to pass up as the draft sees through the first couple of rounds. St Brown's production dipped significantly in South Bend last season. While a lot of this could be due to inconsistent QB play a fair amount of his JR year struggles fall on his own shoulders as he failed to grow as a player. St Brown is a long strider and can get behind a defense in a flash. St Brown has fluid hips and quick feet but doesn't always create the short area separation that his natural athleticism would suggest that he should win consistently. Good coaching and a lot of practice can help St Brown in this area but it may take some time. There have been some to question the toughness and willingness of St Brown to compete with bigger corners and fight for the ball in traffic. It is more likely that this is more of a technique thing than a toughness issue as St Brown did a lot of work for Notre Dame over the middle of the field. St Brown has soft hands and won't kill drives with dropped passes.

#12 Michael Gallup (6′1, 205)
Colorado State
Rank: 92ⁿᵈ Overall

Gallup is a prospect that seems to keep on getting better. Gallup built off of a solid 2016 performance and made some huge strides this past season for Colorado State. A strong week at the Senior Bowl is what really helped his stock as he was able to create separation against level competition after struggling against Alabama earlier. Gallup isn't an elite WR in terms of size and speed and isn't going to be the player to stretch the defense. Gallup is a player that can work from inside and outside the formation and can move the chains for the offense by getting open underneath. Gallup showed major strides in his route running and was asked to run an extensive route tree in college. Gallup has excellent hands and shows the ability to track the ball as well. Gallup is slippery at the line and should be able to break press if and when he lines up outside. He may not be the WR in this class with the highest ceiling but it wouldn't be a surprise if he develops into a team's top three receivers.

Keep an Eye On
#13 DaeSean Hamilton, Penn State

#14 Auden Tate, Florida State

#15 Allen Lazard, Iowa State

#16 Tre'Quan Smith, UCF

#17 Deontay Burnett, USC

#18 Marcel Ateman, Oklahoma State

#19 Trey Quinn, SMU

#20 Antonio Calloway, Florida

#21 J'Mon Moore, Missouri

Tight End

#1   Mike Gesicki (6'5, 247)
Penn State
Rank: 43rd Overall

Few prospects have had a better off-season than Gesicki. Mike started out by excelling in the Senior Bowl as he was able to separate from defenders better than was expected. Next, Gesicki dominated the combine putting up some very impressive numbers. He ran a faster 40 time than some receivers, benched more reps than several lineman, and posted the best vertical jump of the week. Mike has a volleyball and basketball background and it shows on the field. Not only does he pair his 6'5 frame with an incredible vertical, but consistently times his jumps well and catches the ball at its highest point. Gesicki is more polished than most players at his position when it comes to route running and should help him get on the field early in the NFL. You can watch hours of film of Gesicki and never see him drop a pass. The fast 40 time caught everyone by surprise as Mike doesn't seem to have better than average long speed with pads on. Gesicki is not someone you can plug and play as an inline blocker as he lacks the technique and mass to excel in this area.

#2   Dallas Goedert (6'5, 256)
South Dakota State
Rank: 59th Overall

Dallas Goedert dominated the Missouri Valley Conference but teams will question how his play will translate into the NFL against a whole different level of speed and competition. Dallas checks off a lot of boxes. He is a big and gifted athlete who is athletic enough to be a threat at all three levels of the passing attack. He has good speed for the position but is quicker than fast. He is able to use his big frame to shield off smaller defenders. He sees the ball and tracks it much like a seasoned WR and has very reliable hands. He receives a lot of praise from the coaching staff and seems like a guy that will be a good fit in any locker room or film room. Goedert wasn't used as a blocker too often and will have work to do in this area. The real question that he will have to answer, again, is will he be able to get open as often in the NFL as he was able to in college. Dallas has all of the tools to be successful but it is possible that there will be a learning curve for him early in his career.

#3   Hayden Hurst (6'4, 250)
South Carolina
Rank: 60th Overall

Let's address the elephant in the room first. Hayden Hurst is going to be 25 years old before the season starts this fall. This will trouble certain teams more than others especially considering Hurst has some holes in his game that he needs to fill before he can reach his full potential. Hurst walked onto the South Carolina roster as a sophomore after failing to advance in the Pittsburgh Pirates system. He is a pleasure to watch play on the football field as he plays with passion and grit. Hurst has exceptional hands and superb concentration on all of his targets. He only has had one dropped pass in his collegiate career. Hayden is fast enough to get down the seam on a post route if the offense smells a mismatch. Hurst is explosive off the snap which helps him win early in the down Hurst lacks savvy in his route running which is likely only due to lack of experience. If you watch enough tape of Hayden you will find some of the more experienced SEC defensive backs running his routes for him and beating him to the spot. He needs refinement in this area. It is interesting for teams to gauge how he will be as a blocker at the next level. While Hurst is willing he doesn't seem to have the bulk to consistently line up next to the tackle on the line. Unlike some of the younger prospects at the position it is unlikely that Hurst will be adding more bulk to his frame at his age.

#4   Mark Andrews (6'5, 256)
Oklahoma
Rank: 61st Overall

If you are looking for a big-bodied converted wideout that is going to be productive in the passing game and a mismatch in the redzone, then Mark is your guy. If you are looking for someone that you can line up next to a tackle and give a good effort as an inline blocker you had better look elsewhere. Andrews was extremely productive at Oklahoma and lined up all over the formation. Andrews is a big target who uses his size to his advantage by walling off smaller defenders. At 6'5, Andrews is a huge threat in the redzone where the field shrinks down for smaller options in the passing game. Andrews has very good hands and is capable of running a full route tree which is impressive for his size. Andrews doesn't need a lot of room or space to look open. He also gets off the line very quickly. Mark can get sloppy at times and round off his routes which can drive a QB crazy. Andrews became more aware as a blocker this past season in Norman but still has a mountain of work ahead of him if he wants to become proficient in this area. Andrews has type one diabetes and has to check in with medical staff several occasions during the game but it is unlikely that this will be a material concern for any team.

#5   Ian Thomas (6'4, 259)
      Indiana
      Rank: 78th Overall

Thomas is a kid that is easy to root for having lost both of his parents at a young age. Thomas loves the game and is said to be a model teammate and citizen while on campus at Indiana. Thomas was a JR transfer who never really saw much of the field until 2017 but made up for lost time with an exciting senior season. Ian is still developing and is more of a projection at this point at the next level but seems to have the necessary tools and attitude to develop into a starting TE. Thomas is physical at the top of his route and uses his body to create separation. Thomas as good enough speed to make a LB feel uncomfortable on deeper routes and does a nice job in the redzone as well. Thomas improved his route running throughout the season but doesn't look as natural as you would like at it yet. Thomas shows effort as a blocker and is someone that should develop into a guy that can play all three downs. His technique is sloppy when engaging a defender and is going to need to improve his hand placement to be effective in the run game.

Keep an Eye On

#6 Christopher Herndon, Miami

#7 Dalton Schultz, Stanford

#8 Durham Smythe, Notre Dame

#9 Troy Fumagalli, Wisconsin

#10 Will Dissly, Washington

#11 Tyler Conklin, Central Michigan

#12 Ryan Izzo, Florida State

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Offensive Tackle

#1   Connor Williams (6'5, 320)
      Texas
      Rank: 16th Overall

Had Connor Williams been draft eligible last spring he might have been a top five selection. Injuries and inconsistent play has found scouts poking a lot of holes in his game while some even project Connor to play inside at guard. The good news for Williams is, for the second year in a row now, the talent atop the offensive tackle prospect list is very poor. When at his best, Williams is able to dominate the game from the LT position. He plays with a mean streak and it shows up both in the passing and running games. He plays with above average quickness off the snap and gets into his set smoothly. Williams is very strong and will win his matchup almost every time he gets his paws on the defender. He uses his powerful hands to steer the pass rusher off course in the passing game and is able to use his core strength to move the pile when his team runs behind him. Connor has the feet and length to deal with outside speed rushers but seemed slow in his slide at times last year. The question has to be asked if that has more to do with not being 100% healthy or if this is an area of potential issue. The other concern that NFL teams may have before trusting Connor to protect their QB's blind side is the competition level that he faced in the Big 12 Conference. It will be interesting to see how the medical evaluations come back for Connor as well.

#2   Mike McGlinchey (6'8, 309)
      Notre Dame
      Rank: 26th Overall

While McGlinchey may not have the upside of some of the other tackle prospects he likely has the highest floor of the bunch. McGlinchey dominates in the running game as he consistently wins the point of attack by driving defenders off the ball. He is aggressive off his stance and meets his opponent with force. Mike is also an able blocker when asked to pull and trap. McGlinchey has just average athleticism in pass protection and may struggle with elite speed rushers off the edge in the NFL. If McGlinchey is able to improve on his foot speed to kick out and slide more effectively he is going to get much better in this area. His reach at 6'8, obviously, is not going to be a concern. Mike played LT the last two years in South Bend but may return to his initial position at RT to start his NFL career. Expect Mike, who is well coached, to be someone that can step in and start opening day.

#3   Kolton Miller (6'9, 309)
      UCLA
      Rank: 62nd Overall

Kolton Miller is a prospect that has varying grades all the way from first round consideration to a player that some don't think will stick in the league. He has elite length to steer pass rushers to the outside and is comfortable in space. His footspeed is inconsistent on tape as sometimes it looks like he struggles to match edge rushers while at times this seems like a strength in Miller's game. Miller seems to have enough core power to anchor at the point of attack as well from the LT position. If Miller is asked to play RT, and this seems likely at least initially, Miller will need to continue to add muscle to his frame. Where Kolton has the most room for improvement is in his technique. Miller needs to play at a better pad level which is never going to be easy for someone at 6'9. He also seems to guess at times when trying to mirror top end talent instead of trusting his feet and using his long arms to win the matchup. Miller has the better skill-set to play LT as compared to RT but probably lacks the polish needed to start there right away.

#4   Orlando Brown (6'8, 345)
      Oklahoma
      Rank: 64th Overall

There were concerns about Orlando Brown before the combine. After posting perhaps the worst combine performance ever for a player of Brown's level there are even more concerns now. One thing that is not a concern is Brown's size. He absolutely looks the part at 6'8 and 345 pounds of a true NFL OT. Brown has a freakish wingspan, and despite his poor showing on the bench press at the combine, almost always wins with strength once he is able to get his hands on the defender. He is more than capable of dominating the line of scrimmage and pushing his man off the ball in the run game. Brown shows the ability to dominate in pass protection at times but is far too inconsistent in this area. Brown's feet look slow at times which effects his ability to slide and engage with outside rushers. Orlando will have to become more consistent in this area. Another area that Brown will need to become more consistent in are his mechanics and technique. Brown can get off balanced too easily and doesn't play with the leverage required to compete against NFL talent. Playing from the spread formation in Oklahoma, Brown was rarely asked to set out of a traditional three-point stance which will make this even more important in his transition to the NFL. If Brown is coached up and motivated he has the ability to become a Pro-Bowl level tackle on either side of the line.

#5   Martinas Rankin (6'4, 308)
      Mississippi State
      Rank: 67th Overall

Rankin doesn't dominate in any one single area but grades out well overall as a NFL tackle prospect. Rankin also has the skill set that might allow him to play at one of the interior positions as well which gives him more opportunities to get on the field for his team faster. As a matter of fact, Martinas spent a lot of time training at center going into his senior season. Rankin doesn't have the elite athletic ability to beat speed rushers to the spot and might not have the natural girth to dominate and drive the pile in the running game either. While he has proved capable of getting passing grades in both areas it does make it difficult to project his ideal position in the NFL. The former JR college transfer has continued to get better each year. No one can question the talent level that Rankin had to compete against week in and week out playing in the SEC West either. Rankin has the demeanor of a player that you wouldn't want to bet against. There is certainly a spot in the league for Rankin and it is very likely that Rankin will become a solid starter.

#6   Brian O'Neill (6'7, 297)
      Pittsburgh
      Rank: 71st Overall

There are concerns with O'Neill when it comes to consistency. There are times that he plays with impeccable technique and then there are times where he seems that he has forgotten how to play the position. This makes sense, however, when you consider the path O'Neill took to become Pitt's starting LT. Brian was initially recruited to play WR for the Panthers. O'Neill bulked up a little and the team switched him to TE before having him bulk up further and have him play LT. While Brian has added mass to his frame he doesn't appear to have lost much if any of his speed or athleticism. He is able to get to the second level as well as any prospect and has the quick feet required for the job. Brian struggled at the Senior Bowl and likely left a sour taste in the mouth of certain teams. While his technique can be coached up, it doesn't seem likely O'Neill will be able to drastically improve his power at the point of attack making it difficult to see a position switch to the right side.

#7   Tyrell Crosby (6'5, 325)
         Oregon
         Rank: 85th Overall

Crosby is a player that might end up being moved inside to one of the guard positions. He has excellent leg drive and is an aggressive blocker. He plays with a mean streak and uses a strong punch to win the initial contact with his opponent pushing him off the ball. Crosby looks physically imposing on film and it was surprising if not concerning that he only put up seventeen reps on the bench press at the combine. Some players simply play stronger than they will test though and in this case the film speaks for itself. Tyrell is an absolute mauler when his team runs behind him. Where Crosby will struggle to transition to the NFL at tackle is his agility in his feet. He is not someone that you want to trust on an island in pass protection despite showing some improvements in this area throughout his career in Oregon.

#8   Jamarco Jones (6'5, 299)
         Ohio State
         Rank: 94th Overall

Jamarco is often under-looked as a prospect which is unusual coming from a program as touted as Ohio State. Jones doesn't have a very high ceiling as he doesn't dominate in any one area but should be a player that settles nicely into the league. Jones looks comfortable in pass protection and has quick enough feet and long enough arms to protect the edge. He is able to get into his set quickly allowing him to set himself up off the snap. Jones also has enough strength to win at the point of attack but does not always play with proper leverage. With that said, while he may not ever lead the lead in pancakes, he does a nice job keeping his man engaged through the whistle. Jones is someone you can ask to get to the second level of the defense and find a LB to block. Jones has a reputation as being very coachable as he puts in his fair share of hours into the film room.

#9   Chukwuma Okorafor (6'6, 320)
         Western Michigan
         Rank: 96th Overall

Okorafor has an interesting story as he is still learning the game as he just moved to America in 2010. Okorafor has just about every quality you look for from a physical ability and athleticism standpoint. He has excellent initial quickness for someone of his size and plays with patience and sound technique. Chukes is able to absorb contact very well and won't lose too many arm wresting matches on the field. Okorafor is still learning the game, as you would expect he would be, and can be fooled in diagnosing defenses occasionally. Okorafor has played and played well at both sides of the line offering versatility for the NFL team that selects him. Chukes will have to learn to play with more of a nasty streak than his tape has showed so far. He does an excellent job at handling his block but he should be able to dominate at pushing the pile at his size.

Keep an Eye On

#10 Geron Christian, Louisville

#11 Brandon Parker, North Caorlina A&T

#12 Desmond Harrison, West Georgia

#13 Alex Cappa, Humboldt State

#14 Joseph Noteboom, TCU

#15 Brett Toth, Army

Offensive Guard

#1 Quenton Nelson (6'5, 325)
Notre Dame
Rank: 2nd Overall

Quenton Nelson is the best guard prospect to come out of college in a long time. Dominant is the most appropriate term to describe how he competes in the running game. He is powerful and mean at the point of attack and will not have a hard time pushing NFL defensive lineman off the ball. Nelson plays with the physicality and has the body type that will wear down his opponent by the fourth quarter. Quenton is very athletic and extremely capable of pulling and getting to the second level. Some critics will tell you that Nelson is only above-average in pass protection. Consider this stat and decide for yourself: Nelson has not given up a sack or even a QB hit over the past two seasons. Nelson uses his quickness and his long arms to steer defenders and help keep the pocket clean for his QB. Not every guard, however, had the luxury of playing next to a NFL-caliber LT like Nelson has. While it may not be fair to consider this as a weakness in Nelson's game, it is fair to consider. The floor is very high with this prospect. Expect him to be a guy that gets plugged into a starting lineup and helps his team right away. It is rare to see an interior offensive lineman slotted this high but it is very well deserved in this case.

#2 Isaiah Wynn (6'3, 315)
Georgia
Rank: 24th Overall

Wynn was a dominant player at LT for the Bulldogs last season but will probably transition back inside to LG in the NFL. Wynn has the feet and quickness required for an outside position on the line but does not have the ideal length that teams look for. Isaiah actually has more starts at guard than he does at tackle at Georgia which should make the transition less of a projection than it would be for others making the switch. Wynn will be one of the more athletic guard prospects this year. Wynn has good body control and uses his hands well. His time playing at LT will only improve his ability to feel the passing game and he should do better in space than most other prospects coming out of college. Wynn has the initial quickness to either give a pop at the line of scrimmage or to get downfield to the second level. Wynn, while, certainly strong enough at the point of attack, will have to get used to playing against defenders who will be just as big and strong as he is in the NFL. Isaiah's leg drive and pad level isn't always where it should be. Wynn was excellent at the Senior Bowl this year and looks like a player that can contribute on opening day.

#3 Will Hernandez (6'2, 327)
UTEP
Rank: 34th Overall

There might not have been another player that improved his draft stock as much as Hernandez did at the Senior Bowl in Mobile. Playing at UTEP, Hernandez did not have too many opportunities to compete against NFL talent and show scouts his potential. It should also surprise no one that Will's 37 reps on the bench press at the combine lead all offensive lineman. While Hernandez is a player that should have a long and successful career in the NFL he won't be a fit for every offensive scheme. He played LG at UTEP but will probably project best to RG in the NFL where he can best use his strengths. Hernandez is an absolute mauler in the run game that plays with a special level of power. He plays with the mean streak that teams look for. Will is capable of pulling, trapping, and getting to the second level but he is a player who you want to primarily have at the point of attack in the run game. Hernandez has better feet than most guards with his size and has the potential to be solid in pass protection. Hernandez was able to be proficient in this area mostly because he was just bigger and better than his competition in college. His technique and hand placement needs work and he will be exploited by quicker pass rushers in the NFL if he doesn't improve in this area.

Keep an Eye On

#4 Austin Corbett, Nevada

#5 Braden Smith, Auburn

#6 Wyatt Teller, Virginia Tech

#7 Sean Welsh, Iowa

Center

#1   Billy Price (6'4, 305)
Ohio State
Rank: 27th Overall

Billy Price would have probably been the last person you would expect to suffer an injury at the combine's bench press. While the injury is very upsetting it is encouraging that Price is projected to be ready at the start of NFL training camps. It is not every year that a center gets drafted in the first round like his teammate Pat Elflien did in 2017. While Elflien enjoyed a strong rookie season there is a lot of reason to believe that Price will end up having the better pro career. Price is one of the few players that has achieved the honors of being selected as an All-American at both LG and C during his career and certainly has potential to start at any of the interior spots on the line in the NFL. Price played last season at center and perhaps that is where his excellent intangibles will show best. Price is a leader on the field and by all accounts on the practice field and locker room as well. His awareness is superb and his work ethic is exceptional. Price is a very strong man and will dominate the point of attack and push defenders off the line. Price is very capable of connecting at the second level although is only going to grade as an average to above-average athlete for the position. Price plays with the correct technique in pass protection but will have to prove he can handle some of the quicker interior defenders in the NFL.

#2   James Daniels (6'3, 306)
Iowa
Rank: 35th Overall

Daniels is one of the quickest centers to enter the NFL in a long time. Daniels, only 20 years old, is still filling into his frame and might need to in order to handle some of the bigger defensive tackles he will have to line up against on Sundays. While he won't overwhelm anyone with his size he plays with power out of his stance and can more than handle his own at the point of attack. What Daniels does best, however, is pull and trap. He moves very well and is able to find and connect to his target on the second level. There are times where he almost gets there too quick ahead of the play. Daniels shows good awareness in the passing game. He is able to read the defense and make the correct calls for his line pre-snap. As all recent lineman coming out of Iowa, Daniels has been very well coached.

#3   Frank Ragnow (6'5, 312)
Arkansas
Rank: 75th Overall

Frank is solid prospect who is best suited for a power run focused offense. Ragnow is versatile as he has had success at Arkansas playing both RG and C. At 6'5 it might be likely that he starts his career at RG while adapting to the NFL. Frank shows good technique in pass protection and uses his strong hands to anchor and steer his opponent. Ragnow is certainly able and smart enough to handle the protection calls if he winds up at the pivot in the NFL. Frank's specialty is bullying off defenders at the line of scrimmage in the run game. He has nice burst off the snap and converts that quickness to power. Frank is built well and has a very strong upper body and plays with good balance. Ragnow is quicker than he is fast and might struggle to get to the next level consistently in the NFL when called upon to do so. Ragnow has played through ankle issues and it will certainly be something that teams will take a close look into.

Keep an Eye On

#4 Will Clapp, LSU

#5 Mason Cole, Michigan

#6 Bradley Bozeman, Alabama

Edge Rusher

#1   Bradley Chubb (6'4, 269)
NC State
Rank: 4th Overall

Bradley Chubb is the perfect example of a player deciding to return to school for his senior year and changing his status from a top fifty prospect to a top five prospect. Chubb was a man amongst boys last season and has the size and speed combination to be just as special on Sundays. Chubb is a true three down player and may even be better against the run than as a pass rusher. Chubb has the technique and awareness to set the edge and the mass to hold the line and keep his linebackers free. Chubb, like a lot of players with a high motor, can get upfield occasionally too quick and open up a lane. There are times where Chubb loses the pad level battle and relies too much on his strength alone. Chubb is more like a Mario Williams than Von Miller in that his pass rush abilities come more from his power than his twitchiness. Chubb has strong hands and is able to beat tackles with several moves around the corner. He has more flexibility in his hips than most players of his size. Bradley is a very technical player and has excellent hand placement. Chubb is capable of bringing up the energy level of an entire defense with his relentless style of play. While Bradley stood up at times at NC State he probably projects a little easier to a base end in an even front. Chubb's production speaks for itself and his game translates well to the NFL.

#2   Harold Landry (6'3, 252)
Boston College
Rank: 17th Overall

After posting 16.5 sacks as a junior, Landry was not going to sneak up on anyone this past season. Landry saw a significant drop in production last season for Boston College as he was only able to tally 5 sacks on the season. Nagging injuries and increased attention in blocking patterns are the most likely reasons for his dip in sacks. Landry is one of the fastest edge defenders off the snap that has entered the draft in a long time. He is very flexible, gets very low, and has an explosive first step. Harold turns the corner very quickly and locates the ball carrier just as fast. Landry is a playmaker and a finisher. Landry was asked to play in both a stand-up role as well a three point stance in college. He also has experience on both the strong and weak side. Landry looks comfortable in space when he is asked to drop into coverage. Landry is not exceptionally long or thick which is certainly a trait that NFL teams are looking for. He lacks the mass that can stack the line when he is run at. Landry gets into the backfield on speed alone and is undeveloped in terms of pass rush moves making him relatively easy to gameplan against. Landry would greatly benefit if placed on a team with another high-level pass rusher on the other side to keep the double teams away. If Landry is coached up and learns a counter pass rush move he has pro bowl potential.

#3   Marcus Davenport (6'6, 264)
UTSA
Rank: 18th Overall

If Marcus Davenport is paired with the right system and coach he has the potential to become a star at the edge of a NFL defense. Davenport is very raw and did not play against top level competition at UTSA. Davenport is an explosive athlete and has an elite ability to turn the corner and finish. Marcus has a very large wingspan and is starting to learn how to use that to his advantage and keep off the bodies of bigger lineman and separate from blocks. Davenport spent most of his time in UTSA's defense in a standup role where he was asked to play in space at times as well cover. Davenport's work ethic and attitude are said to be first rate and he plays with an excellent motor. Davenport is still growing physically and will likely need to add another ten-twenty pounds to be an effective three down player if he is drafted to man a traditional defensive end position. Davenport has some bad habits that he needs to break in terms of technique and pad level. Davenport would also benefit from working on his pass rush moves and not relying exclusively on athleticism.

#4   Arden Key (6′6, 238)
      LSU
      Rank: 37th Overall

Arden Key has elite traits at one of football's most important positions making him one of the highest ceiling prospects in this class. There are legitimate character, health, and work ethic concerns that Arden will need to address with his team interviews. This leaves him as one of the hardest players to project where he will be drafted. Let's focus on the good stuff first when Arden is focused, fit, and healthy. Arden is an explosive athlete that can terrorize lineman with his length and quickness off the snap. Key has superb snap awareness and converts power to speed as well as any prospect. Key has nice bend and flexibility and wins with low pad level. After Key turns the corner he is a finisher and is able to locate the ball carrier and make the play. Key recorded twelve sacks as a sophomore setting LSU's single-season record. Key's sophomore season seems like a long time ago, however. Key left the team after the season for an extended time frame in which he also had work done on his shoulder. While it is unclear to the public as to the reason for his leave and the current health of his shoulder it was crystal clear that Key came back at only a fraction of his potential. Key returned to the team overweight and showed an inconsistent effort. Having an unproductive season coming off of surgery is going to leave a sour taste in the mouths of general managers. If Key interviews well he could still hear his name called in the first round.

#5   Sam Hubbard (6′5, 265)
      Ohio State
      Rank: 38th Overall

Hubbard gets a high grade in large part because of his high floor. Hubbard is one of the safer options at the position due to his work ethic, his high motor, and his football intelligence. Hubbard is a football player that will find a way to perform in multiple roles across the formation. Hubbard has the ability to get to the quarterback but relies more so on his hands and moves rather than pure athleticism. Hubbard does not have the speed or twitchiness to be counted on as a double digit sack guy in the NFL. NFL teams will love his length on the edge. Hubbard plays with excellent body control and takes very few false steps. Hubbard holds his own at the point of attack although he may be asked to add a few pounds of muscle to his body. Hubbard does a nice job playing in space if he is asked to play in an odd front defense. Hubbard only has average snap anticipation and can look slow off the ball occasionally. Sam will be able to help a team early on his career as he takes pride in his preparation and development.

#6   Lorenzo Carter (6′6, 250)
      Georgia
      Rank: 45th Overall

Carter is an exceptional athlete who impacts the game more than his stat-line would often suggest. Carter was asked to play in multiple roles across Georgia's defense throughout his career and offers scheme versatility. Lorenzo best projects, arguably, to the strong side outside linebacker in a 3-4 defense where he will be able to use his full skill set best. Carter can run with almost anyone he will line up against in the passing game. Carter is comfortable in space and has the long arms to disrupt passing lanes even when he isn't the primary cover guy or if he is sitting in a zone. Lorenzo has strong field awareness. Carter never lived up to the hype that he had coming into the program as a pass rusher but still might reach that potential if coached up the right way as all of the physical tools are there. Carter is an asset in the run game as he uses his long arms to set the edge and keep runners inside where there is help. Bigger blockers will be able to push Carter's thin frame off the ball when they get into his body. Rarely are player comps accurate but there is a lot of Manny Lawson in Carter's game.

#7   Ogbonnia Okoronkwo (6′1, 242)
      Oklahoma
      Rank: 69th Overall

Okoronkwo has a lot of NFL qualities as a pass-rusher but seems to have limitations that may keep him from a full-time role early on in his career. Okoronkwo is a player that plays with an impressive motor as you won't find him taking any snaps off when on the field. While Okoronkwo may not have the ideal height that teams look for in edge defenders, he has extremely long arms, which in a lot of ways is more important. Ogbonnia also plays rather light at 242 but has good strength. Okoronkwo was very productive at Oklahoma. He plays with a good initial burst off the snap and is a closer when the ball carrier is in reach. Okoronkwo is going to have to do a better job at setting the edge in the NFL. While he does posses a good wingspan, he doesn't always use his long arms effectively enough to keep blockers off his body. Okoronkwo is also going to have to grow as a player in coverage but certainly has the speed to run with backs and tight ends.

#8   Dorance Armstrong (6'4, 246)
        Kansas
        Rank: 70th Overall

Armstrong's numbers dipped significantly in 2017 compared to his breakout 2016 campaign. Kansas has not fielded a strong team during Armstrong's career and it became very easy to send double teams his way seemingly every play. While the production was low last year the effort level was just as good and it doesn't appear as though Armstrong lost any talent over-night either. Armstrong played from both sides of the line standing up and from a three-point stance. Due to his thin frame it is likely that Armstrong will project best to an outside linebacker in a 3-4 system. Armstrong has excellent length and bend in the pass rush and is able to challenge his man to the corner. Dorance has shown good hand placement and pass rush moves at times but will try to sometimes rely exclusively on his athleticism to get into the backfield. Armstrong, at his current build may struggle shedding bigger NFL blockers at the point of attack when he is run at.

#9   Duke Ejiofor (6'4, 270)
        Wake Forest
        Rank: 79th Overall

Ejiofor isn't an explosive talent on the edge but is a player that just seems to consistently find a way into the backfield. Duke is a very prepared and a well-coached edge player. Ejiofor has excellent hand placement and plays with better balance than most. Duke is a true tactician and is able to get offensive lineman flat footed with a variety of moves. Ejiofor has a strong punch at the point of attack and can stack the line of scrimmage or set the edge against the run. Duke is not the fastest player off the edge and is rarely going to overwhelm with athleticism alone. Ejiofor has some experience rushing the passer from an interior position in sub packages which might be the quickest way for him to get on the field early on in his career. There are medical concerns with Duke as he has suffered multiple concussions throughout his career.

#10   Jeff Holland (6'2, 249)
        Auburn
        Rank: 82nd Overall

Holland rewarded the Auburn staff for giving the Jr his first chance in starting last fall by producing ten sacks, four forced fumbles, and 22 QB hurries. There are, however, physical limitations with Holland that he will either have to work on or else he might struggle to become more than a role player in the NFL. Holland isn't a burner off the edge and isn't going to win with speed alone. Holland also doesn't possess the long arms that are often required to keep lineman off his body and from redirecting him outside. Jeff lined up almost exclusively in a rush outside linebacker role and was rarely asked to play in space. Holland is probably either going to need to bulk up and play with his hand in the dirt or he is going to have to add dropping into coverage into his skill set. Holland can add a lot of value to a defense. Holland is relentless in pursuit and plays with a solid motor. Jeff shows off his ability to set up offensive lineman with pass rushing moves but needs some work in this area still. Jeff has a great initial burst off the snap.

#11   Uchenna Nwuso (6'3, 251)
        USC
        Rank: 83rd Overall

Nwuso is a late bloomer who didn't pick up the sport until late in high school. There is some potential with Uchenna as there is reason to think that he is going to continue to get better and grow as a player. While Nwuso is raw he was still had a very productive season for the Trojans. Like an elite shot blocker in basketball Nwuso has the natural instinct to get his hands up in the air at the right time and knock down passes. Nwuso recorded a ridiculous 13 deflections last season along with his 9.5 sacks. Nwosu is a good athlete and seems capable of playing in coverage although he was rarely asked to do so. He has good, not great, speed around the edge and plays with a lot of fight. Uchenna is going to have to learn to play with better leverage as he struggles to disengage from his blocker. It is unclear what Nwuso's best NFL position is going to be.

#12   Kemoko Turay (6'5, 252)
        Rutgers
        Rank: 95th Overall

While it is likely that a team will fall in love with Turay's athleticism they probably won't fall in love with his production at Rutgers. Turay has a special burst that you can't teach and has great bend around the edge. Kemoko is able to play in space and has excellent feet and body control. Turay has long arms but doesn't always use them as well as he should. Turay started playing football late and he still looks very young at times. He needs to develop more as a pass rusher and not just depend on his speed. He has a very thin frame and would benefit from adding some bulk on as he may struggle when teams run at him. Medicals will be an important part of evaluating Turay as he has had some shoulder issues during his career.

#13   Josh Sweat (6'4, 251)
Florida State
Rank: 97th Overall

Josh Sweat is an interesting edge prospect. Before teams start to put a grade or projection on Sweat as a player, they are going to need to decide if they are comfortable with Josh's medical evaluation. Sweat suffered a knee injury in high school and some wonder if it is still affecting him as a player today. Sweat is a good athlete and has a good build for the position. Sweat, while very fast for his size, does not move as well laterally which may make a transition to OLB difficult as he might struggle in space. Sweat has excellent playing strength and is going to be effective when asked to set the edge and hold up against the run. Sweat is almost always the last person out of his stance and he loses on the snap far too often. If his knee checks out and a coach can improve his snap-quickness then Josh can develop into a good NFL player.

#14   Chad Thomas (6'6, 275)
Miami
Rank: 100th Overall

Thomas is a heck of an athlete who has not yet been able to translate his size, quickness, and power into production. Thomas posted only pedestrian-level numbers while at the U during his three year career. Thomas has the ability to dominate on the line as he plays with good leverage. Thomas has extremely good feet and plays with confidence when in space. Thomas can cover a lot of ground in pursuit and plays with a good motor. Chad has a lot of room to grow as a true pass rusher as he tries to win more as an athlete than he does with technique and moves. Size and strength certainly won't be an issue for Thomas. He will be able to fit into either a 3-4 or a 4-3. Thomas needs to improve on his awareness in the run game and do a better job finding the ball as a closer. Thomas has a lot of upside but has a long way to go to unlock his potential.

Keep an Eye On

#15 Tyquan Lewis, Ohio State

#16 Hercules Mata'Afa, Washington State

#17 Jalyn Holmes, Ohio State

#18 Marquis Haynes, Mississippi

#19 Davin Bellamy, Georgia

Defensive Line

#1   Da'Ron Payne (6'2, 311)
Alabama
Rank: 13th Overall

Payne is one of the better defensive lineman to come out of Alabama in recent history, and that is certainly saying a lot. Da'Ron is going to improve a NFL run defense from day one and has shown recent flashes of being able to impact the game as a penetrator as well. Payne has rare strength. It has been said he was bench pressing 400 pounds in high school. His lower body is just as strong making him immovable at the point of attack. Da'Ron was coached like a professional and it shows in his craft as he plays with great pad level and hand placement. Payne got better as the season went on and he saved his best football for the college football playoffs last year. Da'Ron made strides as the season went on in terms of getting into the opponent's backfield. While he doesn't play with great bend or flexibility he is able to push the pocket back with power. He is very hard to block when he gets the better of the first step. Payne has a very high floor and if he is able to continue to improve as a pass rusher he has pro-bowl potential as a DT.

#2   Vita Vea (6'4, 347)
Washington
Rank: 15th Overall

There probably hasn't been a more impressive athlete at this position since Haloti Ngata came out. Vea has the ability to completely dominate from any spot on a defensive line with pure strength alone. Some lineman use speed to create power while Vea uses his power to create speed. Vea has the long arms and strong hands to hold off double teams and it might be easier moving an ox than moving Vea off the spot when you consider his mass and overall strength. Vea moves very well and is able to track ball carriers when teams run away from him. When Vea gets going with the correct pad level he has one of the best bull rushes in the game and can get into the backfield in a hurry. There is no question that Vea has all-pro level potential. So why didn't Vea dominate the Pac 12 week in and week out? Vea was a very frustrating prospect to grade as he would show the ability to take over the game on certain plays then disappear for others. Vea seems to wear down at times and plays with poor initial burst and pad level. Vea can become predictable as a pass rusher. The sky is the limit for Vita but he is going to have to improve in those areas.

#3   Maurice Hurst Jr (6'2, 282)
Michigan
Rank: 20th Overall

Imagine preparing your entire life for an interview for your dream job. The day of the interview comes, and to no fault of your own, something happens that cancels that interview. That is pretty much what happened to Hurst when he was sent home from Indianapolis to further evaluate a heart issue that was detected during the medical portion of the combine. Fortunately, Hurst has been reevaluated and cleared to return to football but it is yet to be seen if every team will feel comfortable drafting Hurst as early as his talent would naturally slot him. Hurst is a good player. He has an incredible level of quickness off the snap and is always going to be the first lineman moving off the ball. Maurice wins his first step and converts speed to power making blocking him an uncomfortable task. Hurst has an excellent punch at impact and keeps lineman off balance on the pass rush. Hurst has solid pass rush moves and has good flexibility. He has played entire drives in the opponent's backfield. Hurst does not have the ideal size that teams covet. At times Maurice has a hard time getting off his block in the run game as bigger lineman can overwhelm him at the point of attack. Hurst played all over Michigan's defensive line but will probably project best over the guard in a penetrating role.

#4   Taven Bryan (6'4, 291)
Florida
Rank: 31st Overall

Taven is a rare athlete who is still coming into his own as a football player. While his playing weight might not be as high as the prototype interior defensive lineman, make no mistake, Bryan is oozing with natural strength. He packs a powerful punch and is able to fight off bigger blockers. Bryan is a twitchy defender who has the explosiveness that would rival most edge players in the league. He plays with a quick first step and can sneak into backfields with his burst. Bryan has good open field speed and is rarely beaten to the spot. From a physical standpoint there is nothing stopping Bryan from becoming an instant star in the NFL. Bryan lacks the field awareness necessary, however, and often takes himself out of plays by being over-aggressive. Bryan is going to need to play with better body control as he loses the pad level contest far too often. The production was not what you would expect at Florida for someone of Bryan's talents. Bryan has a lot of potential but may be limited to rushing the passer from a sub role until he can improve on his awareness and gap-control.

#5   Rasheem Green (6'5, 275)
USC
Rank: 39th Overall

Green is a player with immense potential and is someone that is just starting to scratch the surface. Green played outside and inside for the Trojans. It seems likely that he will play DT on passing downs and rotate in on defensive end on early downs. Green is long and athletic and when he uses his hands with good technique he is a handful for tackles to keep him out of the pocket. When Green slides inside he uses his quick burst to split blockers. Green plays like his hair is caught on fire at times but then will seem gassed during certain parts of the game too. Green's technique is improving but he still has some work to do. Green has a good long frame but will have to add some more muscle if he plans on playing inside. Rasheem plays with average leverage and awareness. If Green accepts proper coaching and improves in these areas he is going to be a very good player at the pro level.

#6   Harrison Phillips (6'4, 307)
Stanford
Rank: 44th Overall

Very few interior defensive lineman can match the production that Harrison Phillips had last season. Harrison is always around the football and recorded 102 tackles last season including 16.5 behind the line of scrimmage. Phillips plays with exceptional awareness and is rarely put in a compromising position on the field. The former wrestler plays with a scrappy attitude and a high motor. Harrison is strong enough at the point of attack but probably lacks the mass that most teams require to play over the center in the NFL. Phillips uses above-average leg drive to push the pocket but doesn't stand out as a natural pass-rusher. Harrison also doesn't have the explosive first step to line up as the under tackle either making Harrison's best fit on a defense in question.

#7   Tim Settle (6'3, 335)
Virginia Tech
Rank: 48th Overall

Tim Settle is a big man with big potential. He at times looks like a kid who only played two years of college football and is still a long way from his potential. Settle is a guy that if lined up over the center can make things very uncomfortable for his opponent. He also moves well enough to slide into different spots in the defense and might best project to a DT in the 4-3. Tim carried too much weight earlier in his career and put in a lot of work into his fitness. With that said he will show some sloppy habits when he starts to wear down. Settle takes up a lot of space and does a nice job holding off blockers from getting to the second level. He pairs his natural strength with a nice initial burst and is more than capable of shooting a gap and getting into the backfield as well. Settle is raw and needs to learn how to use his hands better to keep blockers off his body. If Settle is able to keep his weight down and find a coach that is going to work with him on technique he has a chance to be an impact player in the NFL.

#8   Da'Shawn Hand (6'4, 297)
Alabama
Rank: 72nd Overall

Everyone was prepared for Da'Shawn to break out in his senior season but he was unable to meet those expectations. While Hand's statistics are underwhelming, his measurables are top shelf. Hand is built with power and is capable of driving lineman back he gets going. He also moves very well for a player of his size and stature. Hand was moved around Alabama's defense and played in thirty and forty fronts. Hand has the length to set the edge when asked to play outside and has the bulk to stack the line when asked to play inside. Hand doesn't always play with the best balance and pad level and lacks a variety of pass rush moves. Hand, coming out of Alabama, is a very well coached talent that just hasn't seemed to put it all together just yet.

#9   Trenton Thompson (6′4, 295)
Georgia
Rank: 86th Overall

Thompson spent a lot of time in the training room while playing at Georgia and his medical evaluations might make the difference of a late second round selection to a fifth rounder. Thompson was very highly regarded coming out of high school but rarely dominated the college game like it was expected. While Thompson's stock takes a hit when you consider how many injuries he suffered he does get some of those points back for showing toughness and being able to play hurt. Trenton, in fact, is a very tough kid and plays with a motor that coaches fall in love with. Thompson has quick feet and shows the ability to split blocks and get in the backfield with acceleration. Thompson isn't the biggest DT in this class but plays with above average strength at the point of attack. Trenton stands up in his stance too quickly at times and will sometimes lose the battle for leverage. There is still a lot of potential with Thompson that can be unlocked if he can put together a string of healthy seasons.

#10   Derrick Nnadi (6′1, 299)
Florida State
Rank: 89th Overall

Nnadi wins leverage very consistently and is able to get under the pads of offensive lineman in a hurry. He accelerates out of his stance with quickness and has enough strength to make him difficult to deal with at the point of attack. Nnadi is a true football player and plays with natural instincts when seeking the ball carrier. Derrick also plays with good pad level and uses his hands to his advantage. Nnadi seems to play his best when asked to line up at the NT position but might not have the mass to hold up against NFL starting centers. While Derrick does have the capability to shoot the gaps and get upfield he doesn't have the ideal height for that role either. Nnadi plays with a good level of intensity but may struggle to find a full-time role in a defense.

Keep an Eye On

#11 RJ McIntosh, Miami

#12 BJ Hill, NC State

#13 Deadrin Senat, South Florida

#14 Nathan Shepherd, Fort Hays State

#15 Andrew Brown, Virginia

#16 Breeland Speaks, Ole Miss

#17 Lowell Lotulelei, Utah

#18 Kendrick Norton, Miami

#19 Kentavius Street, NC State

#20 Poona Ford, Texas

Linebacker

#1   Tremaine Edmunds (6'5, 253)
Virginia Tech
Rank: 6th Overall

Tremaine Edmunds is one of the best overall athletes in the entire draft. Tremaine is built with a sturdy frame and has rare length for the position. Edmunds covers a lot of ground and plays with superb initial burst and explosion. He is a natural when it comes to running laterally as his feet and hips are fluid and smooth. Edmunds was a very productive player on the outside for Virginia Tech over the last two seasons recording over 100 tackles each year. Edmunds is an intimidating hitter that can change the momentum of a game with a single pop. Edmunds is effective on the blitz as he is a lot to deal with for offensive lineman when considering his physical power and quickness. Edmunds will not have a difficult time running with TEs and RBs in coverage in the NFL when asked to help in man coverage. Edmunds is still coming into his own as a football player in terms of reads and awareness. Edmunds can be too aggressive at times and take himself out of a play. Tremaine still relies on his reads more than his instincts. Edmunds is a very coachable young man and it is more likely than not he will continue to get better in these areas. Edmunds can line up all over field and is going to be a player that offenses will have to point out pre-snap.

#2   Roquan Smith (6'1, 236)
Georgia
Rank: 9th Overall

There are fast football players who can win foot races and 40 yard dash times. There are also players that play the game faster than most because of superior instincts and awareness. Roquan Smith checks the box on both of these descriptions. Smith has rare sideline to sideline speed and can meet the ball carrier to the edge by either putting himself in position for the tackle or driving the play back to where there is help. Smith is rarely going to get fooled on a play. Smith is a very cerebral player and has earned the praise of Georgia teammates and coaches as a strong leader and a very well-prepared LB. Roquan shows good technique as a tackler and will rarely miss a tackle. It would be rare, if not impossible, to put up the level of production that Roquan did last year for Georgia otherwise. Smith will play all three downs as he is exceptional both in man and zone coverages. Smith was featured mostly as the WILB for Georgia and there is some question as to if Smith has the size and the ability to disengage off blocks to be a true MLB in a 4-3. While Smith would not be the slightest starting MLB in the NFL he would be on the thinner and shorter side. Smith's best projected position might be in a 4-3 as the WLB where he is able to keep a little cleaner and just make plays by finding the ball.

#3   Rashaan Evans (6'3, 234)
Alabama
Rank: 23rd Overall

Evans is still a player growing into his own. The bad news is that Raashan possesses only average diagnosis ability and will sometimes appear to be a step slower than he is because of it. The good news is that this is an area that he struggled with less last year than in previous seasons, showing that he is getting better with reps. Evans is one of the best tacklers in the entire draft as he can lay an imposing jolt and wrap up like the best of them. He plays downhill and meets the ball carrier in the hole with aggression. Evans shows the ability to both take on blockers as well shed when necessary making him an ideal fit as an ILB in a 3-4 system. Evans is an excellent athlete and has the potential to be a player that can take on responsibility in coverage. Evans, a former DE, also is instinctive on the blitz and can influence the passer with his timing and burst. Evans is a passionate player and was one of the leaders on Alabama's defense last season. Evans has dealt with some minor injuries but was able to show toughness by playing through pain. Raashan can play ahead of the play at times and can be too aggressive.

#4   Leighton Vander Esch (6'4, 256)
         Boise State
         Rank: 25th Overall

There are times last season where Vander Esch looked like he was in the offensive huddle and knew the play as well as his opponent. Leighton is a very savvy MLB who will rarely take a false step on the field. While he might not have the measurable speed that some of the other prospects at the position might have Vander Esch will have above average range for the position. Vander Esch takes calculated angles and shows good timing against the run. Leighton is a sound tackler and won't get dragged for too many extra yards after contact. Vander Esch is a good athlete in space and will be an asset in pass coverage. While Leighton may have long arms he will struggle to get off blocks when he is not given a free path to the ball. Another year of getting stronger and some technique work when it comes to hand placement and Vander Esch may be able to overcome this weakness. Vander Esch is only a one-year starter and played against questionable competition at Boise State.

#5   Malik Jefferson (6'3, 236)
         Texas
         Rank: 47th Overall

At this stage of Malik Jefferson's career he is a better athlete than a football player. To be fair, Jefferson is a freak athlete. Jefferson moves extremely well for a player of his size and is able to cover more grass than most players at the position. Jefferson has the length and footwork to match-up in man to man coverage effectively. Malik is a strong tackler in space and in tight corners. Jefferson starred in a simplified role last year in Texas and was asked to find the ball and make a play. Jefferson rewarded his team with a productive 110 tackle season. Jefferson does not seem to have the natural instincts or awareness that will find him a starting role at MLB early in his career. Jefferson almost plays as if he is guessing. When he guesses correctly he is able to make impact plays. When he guesses wrong, however, he often takes himself right out of the play with false steps. Jefferson is a player that might take a little longer to develop but has great upside if it ever all comes together. His best fit in the NFL will likely be at OLB in a 4-3 or the WILB in a 3-4. There is no reason that Malik can't turn into a star on kick and punt coverage units from day one.

#6   Darius Leonard (6'3, 234)
         South Carolina State
         Rank: 65th Overall

Darius Leonard may not be the biggest linebacker but he is a very athletic one. Coming from a FCS program Leonard did not face top-tiered competition week in and week out while at South Carolina State. When his team did compete against bigger programs, like Clemson in 2016, Leonard rose to the occasion and was at his best. Leonard is a tall prospect and has very good speed making him a player that might be able to matchup with athletic NFL tight ends. Leonard's statistics back up his tackling ability as he is strong in this area. Leonard moves laterally very well and is excellent in space. Darius has added a lot of weight on to his build during college without losing any speed. He is still a thin looking linebacker and is going to struggle to get off blocks if he can't continue to get stronger physically. Leonard projects as a player that can eventually win a starting role on the weak side.

#7   Josey Jewell (6'1, 235)
         Iowa
         Rank: 68th Overall

Having Josey line up at LB is like having a coach on the field and in the huddle. Jewell has shown excellent work habits in the weight room bulking up and even better efforts in the film room. Jewell plays with precise angles and timing. He is a player that is always around the ball in the run game and his stats back it up. He has a good feel for blocking schemes and does a nice job keeping clean off of blocks so he can stay free to make the tackle. When Jewell is engaged he does a nice job with his hands to get off the block. Jewell can be effective in zone coverage but may struggle with certain matchups in the NFL if asked to play man. He is definitely a better prospect when asked to play the run than help out in the passing game. Jewell will likely develop into a starter but may never be asked to play in sub-packages on obvious passing plays. Jewell is well-coached and seems to be a glue guy that a team can rally around.

#8   Jerome Baker (6'1, 229)
       Ohio State
       Rank: 77th Overall

2017 did not turn out to be the breakout year that was expected of Baker. Baker is a very rangy and athletic LB who can be a matchup player for an opposing offensive weapon in the passing game. Not only is Baker fast but he is also quick and fluid in space. Baker is going to struggle against the run at his current build. He does well to avoid blockers but doesn't have the frame to fight off blocks to make a play. There does seem to be room on his frame to add a few more pounds of bulk and a NFL conditioning program may help Baker a lot. Baker seems to be a player that reacts more than one who trusts his keys and instincts. Baker should be able to get on the field early on passing downs where his athleticism will be a factor in coverage.

#9   Shaquem Griffin (6'1, 227)
       UCF
       Rank: 99th Overall

Griffin stole the show this off-season with impressive performances in the Senior Bowl and at the combine. Shaquem isn't just a good story, however, he is also a very good football player. By now everyone knows the story that Griffin lost his left hand at the age of four and has been playing his entire life without it. Griffin is an explosive linebacker who plays 100mph every snap. Griffin is athletic and can play in space if asked to. Griffin shows good timing and burst when blitzing off the edge and is a closer when he gets there. Griffin is a very well-studied linebacker as he puts the time needed in the film room. Griffin is on the smaller side for his position. Combined with relying on only one hand to fight off blockers there are questions as to how effective Shaquem will be shedding blockers at the next level. Tackling was rarely an issue for Griffin at UCF but he will be competing against a different level of ball carriers in the NFL. Griffin is a very aggressive player and can at times can take himself out of a play.

Keep an Eye On

#10 Micah Kiser, Virginia

#11 Mike McCray, Michigan

#12 Fred Warner, North Dakota State

#13 Matthew Thomas, Florida State

#14 Tegray Scales, Indiana

#15 Dorian O'Daniel, Clemson

#16 Skai Moore, South Carolina

#17 Shaun Dion Hamilton, Alabama

#18 Jack Cichy, Wisconsin

#19 Chris Worley, Ohio State

Cornerback

#1   Denzel Ward (5'10, 191)
Ohio State
Rank: 7th Overall

The signs were there that Ward was a player two seasons ago as Urban Meyer would rotate him in for Marshon Lattimore and Gareon Conley (both first round selections in 2017) as a sophomore. Ward plays within the offensive huddle and shows great route anticipation in coverage. Denzel is a track guy and his 4.32 40 time at the combine proves it. The speed translates onto the field when Ward wears pads as well. Ward is a pesky corner on the line of scrimmage and will press larger players. Ward has the loose hips and quick feet to mirror even the most slippery of NFL receivers making him an elite option for the nickel in sub-packages. Denzel tracks the ball well and will get his hand on a lot of passes although he only posted two career interceptions at Ohio State. Ward, while physical, is on the smaller side and could get boxed out by larger NFL targets if he isn't able to beat him to the spot. Ward is a couple of inches shy of an ideal height for playing on the outside as well making him susceptible to fade patterns against taller receivers.

#2   Josh Jackson (6'1, 192)
Iowa
Rank: 21st Overall

Josh Jackson, a converted WR, is this draft's ultimate ball hawk. Jackson tallied an incredible eight interceptions and 18 pass break-ups last season for Iowa. When Jackson does intercept a pass he is an elusive runner in the open field and knows how to set his blocks up making him a threat to score. Jackson's experience on offense is obvious as he just seems to have a great ability to read the play and jump the route. Josh is a natural hands catcher as he can pluck the ball away from his body with a good catch-radius. Jackson followed the opponent's best wide receiver for most of the season last year displaying that he can play on the left or the right. Jackson has the length that is coveted on Sundays. Jackson is still learning the position and should continue to get better as a player. Jackson will need to work on his feet to better at shadowing smaller and quicker wideouts. Jackson is quicker than he is fast and may struggle covering the deep third without safety help over the top.

#3   Jaire Alexander (5'11, 192)
Louisville
Rank: 30th Overall

Alexander struggled getting on the field last season as he fought the injury bug all year. It is yet to be seen if Alexander showed enough in his sophomore season to be drafted on the first day or if he might slide to day number two. Alexander's skill set probably translates better outside although his size might be a better fit for the slot. Alexander plays tough and is a competitive player. He plays like a veteran when it comes to route recognition as he plays with good anticipation and instincts. Alexander shows an ability to play in off coverage but is at his best when asked to jam his opponent on the line and delay his break. Alexander has good hand placement in press and shows a strong punch. Alexander is certainly fast enough for the position and it is difficult to get behind him on deep routes. Jaire can look rather stiff at times in open space which is probably coachable as he is a very good athlete. Alexander does not possess ideal size and has had trouble matching with bigger players in tight corners such as the red zone.

#4   Mike Hughes (5'11, 191)
UCF
Rank: 32nd Overall

Hughes is an electric playmaker in the return game who is just starting to hit his form as a shut-down corner. As a CB, Hughes is at his best when playing physical at the line of scrimmage jamming his opponent. Mike has very strong hands and knows how to mix it up with receivers of any size. Hughes posted a disappointing 40 yard dash time at the combine but is an example of a player that plays faster with his pads on. Mike has good feet and is able to stay in the pocket of his man in coverage. Hughes is competitive and a tough player against the run. Hughes does not have a lot of starts under his belt and it shows in his awareness and technique at times. Mike does not have the size that is sought for most number ones. Hughes will be able to make an impact on special teams if asked to as he is a game-changer when the ball is in his hands. There is a lot of upside with Hughes although he may need some time to fully develop.

#5 Isaiah Oliver (6'1, 190)
Colorado
Rank: 36th Overall

Colorado has sneakily produced some good NFL defensive back prospects over the past couple of seasons and Oliver might be as good as any of them. Oliver is a press corner as he does a nice job jamming at the line then running with his man down the field. Oliver is a smooth runner and a good athlete. Oliver plays his angles well and does a nice job closing when the ball is in the air. Oliver is a tall corner who plays even taller as he has an excellent vertical. As good as Oliver looks in press coverage he struggles when asked to play off. Isaiah has only started one season so expect him to get more comfortable in this area with more reps. Oliver has good long speed but is not elite in this area. Isaiah's footwork will also need to improve to be able to keep with smaller and shiftier receivers. Oliver is solid against the run but is not as physical as his size would suggest.

#6 Carlton Davis (6'1, 203)
Auburn
Rank: 41st Overall

While Davis has shown limitations in certain areas he will rank higher on certain boards if his skill set matches the defense of the team. There are a lot of corners in this draft that are at their best in press coverage. Davis might be the best in the class in this area. Davis is a very long and physical corner. He can win the arm wrestling match at the line of scrimmage with bigger wide outs and his the long wingspan to keep shiftier receivers from getting away cleanly using just their feet. Carlton's long arms also helps him downfield as well as his reach limits the QB's throwing window. Davis is an intimidating tackler who is always looking for a big hit. There are times on film, however, that Davis looks sloppy in his technique in this area. The NFL is a passing league and it is officiated as though. Davis does not have elite long speed for the position and his physical style down the field may draw flags. Davis looks uncomfortable when facing the football in off coverage and might struggle to transition to a zone defense. Davis hasn't posted ball-hawk type numbers and will get tested a lot more in the NFL compared to his last couple of years at Auburn.

#7 Donte Jackson (5'11, 175)
LSU
Rank: 49th Overall

You know you are assessing a freakishly fast player when they post a 4.32 40-yard dash time at the combine, and you were actually expecting a couple of ticks faster. Donte not only has the track speed but is also an incredibly fluid athlete in coverage as well. Jackson can cut, rotate, change direction and be get back to full speed as fast as anyone in this draft. Jackson is a very small and lean corner. He is still able to jam at the line when asked to. His punch won't be as powerful as some of the other larger corners but his backpedal and recovery is top notch. Davis can also play in off coverage as he is going to be able to turn and run with anyone in the game. Jackson may struggle against bigger receivers outside where they may be able to box his smaller stature out of the play. Donte is a willing tackler as well but NFL offenses might test him early in his career to see if he can bring down larger targets on screens. Jackson will rarely run the route for his opponent and will need to grow in the awareness category.

#8 Anthony Averett (6'0, 185)
Alabama
Rank: 84th Overall

Averette is a very sticky corner in coverage as he moves very fluidly in space. Averett depends too much on his speed and quickness at this stage of his career to hide his below average instincts and route recognition. Averett has an exceptional closing speed when the ball is in the air. While Averett has a good backpedal he does not possess the mass to bother receivers at the line in press. Averett has good long speed and will not struggle to keep pace with fast NFL wideouts. Averett puts a strong effort in run support but lacks the size to be a dependable tackler in the NFL. Averett can play inside or outside and is not afraid to mix it up on special teams either.

#9 MJ Stewart (5'11, 200)
North Carolina
Rank: 93rd Overall

Perhaps the best trait that Stewart has is his versatility. Stewart is a capable player playing press and off-coverage. He is able to line up outside, in the slot, and might project favorably to a safety/corner hybrid in sub-packages. Stewart is a tough player and will play tough in run support and in bump and run coverage. Stewart is very aggressive while the ball is in the air and will bat a lot of balls down. He is often a step ahead of the play and has a quick break on the ball. Stewart isn't the fastest corner in the draft and might struggle to keep up with some of the burners in the NFL. He also doesn't have the elite lateral quickness that is normally coveted for the slot position making him somewhat of a tweener. Stewart has not posted an interception in either of his past two seasons. Stewart can get grabby down the field and might be a liability when it comes to penalties. Stewart is a good football player but won't be a fit for every defense.

Keep an Eye On

#10 Rashaan Gaulden, Tennessee

#11 Nick Nelson, Wisconsin

#12 Duke Dawson, Florida

#13 Kevin Toliver II, LSU

#14 Tony Brown, Alabama

#15 Tarvarus McFadden, Florida State

#16 Quenton Meeks, Stanford

#17 Brandon Facyson, Virginia Tech

#18 Holton Hill, Texas

#19 Levi Wallace, Alabama

#20 Greg Stroman, Virginia Tech

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Safety

#1   Minkah Fitzpatrick (6'1, 2010)
Alabama
Rank: 3rd Overall

As you are reading this, NFL defensive coordinators around the league are currently begging their organization to find a way to bring Minkah into their defense. In a league of matchups, Fitzpatrick is the ultimate chess piece. Fitzpatrick has the savvy and awareness to line up at safety and call the defensive coverages from day one in the NFL. Fitzpatrick has elite instincts and plays the game faster than anyone on the field. Alabama used him mostly from the slot last season allowing him to play closer to the line of scrimmage. Fitzpatrick's hips can look stiff at times against shiftier receivers but he has the short-area burst closing speed needed to make up for it. Minkah doesn't take a false step when asked to play in zone as he keeps his eye on the ball while having a feel for where the other 21 men are on the field. From the slot Fitzpatrick was a threat to come off the edge on a blitz and affect the play with pressure. Fitzpatrick can play outside corner if asked to as well as he has excellent length and is faster than he is given credit for. Fitzpatrick has excellent take-on ability with blockers and is able to line up at linebacker in sub-packages if the defense calls for more speed on the field. From all accounts Minkah has off the charts intangibles and will become a strong leader on and off the field.

#2   Derwin James (6'3, 215)
Florida State
Rank: 8th Overall

Derwin James is the best prospect in the entire draft. Just ask former Seminole defensive back turned NFL star Jalen Ramsey. As we stand today, James is not as complete of a player as some of the other top prospects, but he certainly has the upside to make good on Ramsey's analysis. James is a very versatile player but will likely fit best as an in the box SS in the NFL. James is a big and imposing player at the safety position with the speed to line up in the slot or on the corner. James is a sound and punishing tackler in the open field as is always around the football. He has plus range and no one is going to beat him to the corner. He has excellent take-on skills and looks like a linebacker getting off blocks. Derwin has a knack for getting into the opponent's backfield when asked to blitz from the slot or a linebacker role. James is a rare athlete in coverage. He has the length, power, and speed to line up with anyone in the NFL. Derwin has elite closing speed when the ball is in the air. James suffered a bad injury in 2016 and missed most of the season making his medical evaluation very important. James was excellent in 2017 but might have been even better pre-injury. James, at times plays hesitant, as though he might not trust his instincts, which is needed for the position. James is an alpha and he will bring up the energy level to wherever he ends up.

#3   Ronnie Harrison (6'3, 214)
Alabama
Rank: 28th Overall

Harrison plays like a veteran safety who has the chance to be a very good starting player in the league. Harrison has experience playing at both safety positions but his appetite for mixing it up in the run game will likely find his ideal fit to be at SS in the NFL. Harrison is a downfield tackler and plays fast to sniff out plays before they develop. While Harrison is able to lay the lumber down he sometimes lacks the form required to bring down slippery ball carriers. Harrison is always around the ball, however, and almost always makes the play. Harrison's strong instincts allow him to take the appropriate angles in the passing game. Harrison also has the straight-line speed to handle man responsibilities down the field as well when asked. Harrison isn't a twitchy defender and may struggle if asked to man the slot. Harrison is more than capable when asked to rush the passer as he looks natural shooting the gap. Harrison seems to have a low floor and looks like a player that should be able to play at a high level early on in his career.

#4   Justin Reid (6'1, 204)
Stanford
Rank: 42nd Overall

Reid offers versatility and should become an early-starter able to play SS or FS in the NFL. Reid is listed as a FS but he spent most of last season for Stanford lining up closer to the line of scrimmage. Reid is a very aware player and seemed to quarterback Stanford's defense. Reid takes the appropriate angles in run support and always seems to be around the ball. Reid was able to roam free last season and may have a difficult time fighting through NFL blocks close to the line of scrimmage. Reid has very good straight-line speed and will rarely let someone get over the top when he is playing single high. Justin also sees the field well in zone coverages as well. Reid has good length and is aggressive when the ball is in the air showing that he can make a play on the ball. Reid lined up over the slot a lot last season but he may struggle if asked to cover smaller and shiftier targets in man coverage. Reid's footwork looks lazy at times which can draw penalties.

#5   Jessie Bates III (6'1, 200)
Wake Forest
Rank: 53rd Overall

Bates is a safety that shows good range in coverage who plays with excellent instincts. Bates is a fluid athlete and has plenty of speed to kill a play when sitting back in a deep safety role. Jessie reads the QB's eyes well and is rarely fooled while in zone. Bates is a good enough athlete to drop down and cover the slot or even outside if the defense calls for it. Bates is not a big safety and might struggle to break off blocks when playing close to the line. Jessie may not be a physical tackler but was productive in this area in college usually showing good form. In terms of starts, Jessie is a relatively young safety as he has only played two seasons at Wake Forest. There are times where his inexperience shows up as he can play too aggressive at times and take false steps. Jessie will likely need to continue to get bigger and add more body armor to have a long career starting.

#6   Kyzir White (6'2, 216)
West Virigina
Rank: 76th Overall

White is a football player who is part safety and part linebacker. White played a hybrid role at West Virginia and will likely be featured in the same way in the NFL. White is at his best when playing up at the line of scrimmage in run support. White is a big and imposing player and hits with authority. Kyzir plays all of the right angles and keeps his eye on the prize in pursuit. White has long arms but will too often let blockers get into his body. If White is coached up to improve in this area he might become even better against the run in the NFL than he was in college. White is a good man matchup for tight ends as his physical play and strength can jam them on the line. White is limited athletically in coverage and will struggle to match-up with faster wideouts and has below average range. White plays with fire and is said to be a great teammate. Expect White to earn a role on defense early on and for him to become a stud on special teams.

#7   Marcus Allen (6'2, 202)
Penn State
Rank: 88th Overall

You know exactly what you are getting when drafting a player like Allen. Allen is limited athletically and is not going to be the type of safety that you can slide down onto a wide receiver. He also might not be the safety that you will ask to play single high very often either as he shows only average range. Allen is a very physical player and a very sure tackler as well. While Allen is listed as a FS his future in the NFL best projects to be an in the box SS. Allen is aggressive in run support and will meet the back in the hole with power. Allen plays all of the correct angles and is always around the football. Allen is rather stiff in coverage and will be at his best in zone coverage. Allen looks too conservative in coverage at times and is too concerned with making the tackle after the catch rather than make a play on the ball. Allen is a locker-room guy and his effort and commitment will never be questioned.

#8   Armani Watts (5'11, 205)
        Texas A&M
        Rank: 90ᵗʰ Overall

From a pure athletic standpoint there isn't much on the football field that Watts can't handle from the free safety position. The main issue through Armani's career has been that he plays every snap at 100mph when some plays call for him to slow down and play with more poise. There are times where he over-runs the play and takes too many false steps. Watts has good range at the safety position and has very good closing speed when the ball is in the air. Watts is a playmaker and will make a lot of plus plays every week. Watts will be able to drop down into man coverage when called on without any issues. Watts is a willing tackler but is too inconsistent in this area considering he is the last line of defense. Watts will likely need to continue to add bulk to his lengthy frame. Watts has a high ceiling but might need some coaching to get there.

#9   DeShon Elliot (6'2, 205)
        Texas
        Rank: 91ˢᵗ Overall

Elliot is a smart and physical player who lacks the athletic upside of some of the other safeties in the draft. Elliot has a good understanding of the game and has a knack of always being in the right place at the right time. Elliot has good ball skills although the majority of the six interceptions that he recorded last season had a low degree of difficulty. Elliot has good size and is a nice match for athletic tight ends. DeShon plays with good awareness against the run and fills the hole with urgency. Elliot is a violent yet sure tackler and is at his best at the line of scrimmage. Elliot will struggle when asked to cover in space against more athletic players. DeShon lacks speed and would also be a liability if asked to play in a single high set.

Keep an Eye On

#10 Terrell Edmunds, Virginia Tech

#11 Quin Blanding, Virginia

#12 Jordan Whitehead, Pittsburgh

#13 Godwin Igwebuike, Northwestern

#14 Siran Neal, Jacksonville State

#15 Tre Flowers, Oklahoma State

Specialists

#1 Michael Dickson (P), Texas

#2 JK Scott (P), Alabama

#3 Daniel Carlson (K), Auburn

#4 Eddie Pineiro (K), Florida

32 Names To Watch For 2019

1. Nick Bosa, Edge Defender, Ohio State
Your first natural question would be to ask if Nick is related to Joey? The answer is yes, the star LA pass rusher is Nick's big brother. The second question you would ask is if Nick can be as good. The answer is also yes.

2. Ed Oliver, DT, Houston
It isn't just the size of Oliver that will remind you of Ram's star DL Aaron Donald. Oliver lives in the opposing team's backfields and has disrupted more plays at Houston in his first two years than maybe anyone else in the country.

3. Dexter Lawrence, DT, Clemson
Lawrence might be the most athletic DT the world has ever seen. He is one big young man and moves very well. A lower leg injury slowed him down last year after a promising freshmen year. Lawrence won't be the only Clemson Tiger on this list, but he might be the best.

4. Clelin Ferrell, Edge Defender, Clemson
Perhaps the greatest recruiting effort Dabo has achieved on campus was to get both Ferrell and Christian Wilkins to return to school for a senior year title run. Ferrell was a first round lock had he decided to enter this year's draft. Has the length, technique, awareness, and athleticism to be a top five player.

5. Devin White, LB, LSU
There have been a lot of really good LBs coming out of LSU. White might be the best of the bunch. He has sideline to sideline speed and can lay the lumber. Devin led the SEC in tackles last fall and it would be an upset if he didn't repeat that this year. White was actually recruited to Baton Rouge to play RB.

6. **Rashan Gary, Edge Defender, Michigan**

7. **Christian Wilkins, DT, Clemson**

8. **Greedy Williams, CB, LSU**

9. **Jonah Williams, OT, Alabama**

10. **Taylor Rapp, S, Washington**

11. **Greg Little, OT, Mississippi**

12. **Drew Lock, QB, Missouri**

13. **Raekwon Davis, DT, Alabama**

14. **DeAndrew Baker, CB, Georgia**

15. **Joe Jackson, DE, Miami**

16. **Collin Jonson, WR, Texas**

17. **AJ Brown, WR, Mississippi**

18. **Bryce Love, RB, Stanford**

19. **Damien Harris, RB, Alabama**

20. **Trey Adams, OT, Washington**

21. **Michael Dieter, OT, Wisconsin**

22. **Jarrett Stidham, QB, Auburn**

23. **Martez Ivey, OL, Florida**

24. **Cameron Smith, LB, USC**

25. **Mitch Hyatt, OT, Clemson**

26. **David Edwards, OT, Wisconsin**

27. **Austin Bryant, Edge Defender, Clemson**

28. **Rodney Anderson, RB, Oklahoma**

29. **Justice Hill, RB, Oklahoma State**

30. **Jeffery Simmons, DT, Mississippi State**

31. **Shea Patterson, QB, Michigan**

32. **Travis Homer, RB, Miami**