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THE FALCONS REBUILD

The Fan's
Los Medina Ranks the
Top 50 Players in the
2022 NFL Draft

- Player Profiles
- Top 50 Draft Board

2022 NFL DRAFT PREVIEW



WELCOME TO THE 2022 NFL DRAFT

By Los Medina

The Draft Is Where You Build Your Team

Every March the NFL headlines explode with moves during NFL free agency. But free agency is the place where you fix your mistakes and fix holes in your roster. But I point this out each and every year: The NFL Draft is where the foundational pieces of championship teams come from. Last year the Atlanta Falcons took Kyle Pitts as a playmaking tight end and he proceeded to record the first 1,000 yard receiving season by a rookie since Pro Football Hall of Famer Mike Ditka did it as a rookie tight end. The Dallas Cowboys had their franchise's worst defense in history in 2020. After adding linebacker Micah Parsons, who was the unanimous defensive rookie of the year in 2021, the defense was back to respectable in 2021. The NFL Draft is where the foundational pieces for success come from each and every season.

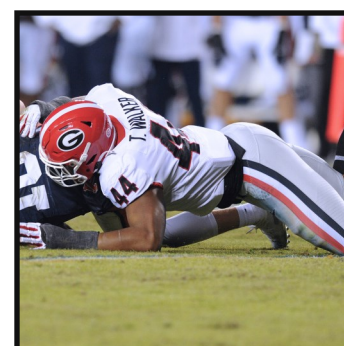


Building The Draft Board 2022

The 2022 draft board is going to be a wild one! For the first time in the better part of a decade, there is no quarterback at the top of the board that warrants consideration with the top overall pick. Not since the 2013 draft have we had a situation where there was not a clear possibility of a franchise quarterback at the top of this draft. This clearly creates an awkward situation for an Atlanta Falcons team that is in search of a franchise signal caller for the first time since Matt Ryan was drafted in 2008. After his trade to the Indianapolis Colts, Ryan now leaves a massive hole in the roster that has to be filled. The 2022 NFL Draft will be characterized by which team feels comfortable reaching for one of these quarterbacks and how they end up performing in their career. As many as four quarterbacks will find their way into the first round, yet this guide finds none of them to warrant a first round pick based on the grade they have received.

What to Watch in This Draft:

- This draft is a meat-and-potatoes draft at the very top. There are three offensive linemen who project as franchise quality left tackles at the next level. After the 2021 draft where we had a lack of edge rushers at the top, this draft is loaded with college players who have show they can get quarterbacks on the ground. This draft features as many as four players who rush the quarterback that can command a top 10 draft selection.
- While there is not an elite pass catcher in this draft, this draft is loaded with more than enough starting quality receivers who can make plays at the next level. Starting quality receivers will be found in each of the top three rounds. After the success of last year's receivers, expect to see teams more than happy to draft this group from picks 10 to 100 in this draft.



Happy NFL Draft season to all of you NFL lovers out there! -los

TOP 50 DRAFT BOARD

By Los Medina

1. Travon Walker – DE – Georgia
2. Ikem Ekwonu – LT – NC State
3. Aidan Hutchinson – DE – Michigan
4. Evan Neal – LT – Alabama
5. Charles Cross – LT – Mississippi State
6. Ahmad Gardner – CB – Cincinnati
7. Kayvon Thibodeaux – DE – Oregon
8. Derek Stingley Jr. – CB – LSU
9. Trent McDuffie – CB – Washington
10. Jermaine Johnson – DE – Florida State
11. Garrett Wilson – WR – Ohio State
12. Kyle Hamilton – S – Notre Dame
13. Treyton Burks – WR – Arkansas
14. David Ojabo – DE – Michigan
15. Jordan Davis – DT – Georgia
16. Tyler Linderbaum – C – Iowa
17. Drake London – WR – Southern Cal
18. Nakobe Dean – LB – Georgia
19. Devin Lloyd – LB – Utah
20. Lewis Cine – FS – Georgia
21. Trevor Penning – LT – Northern Iowa
22. Malik Willis – QB – Liberty
23. Jameson Williams – WR – Alabama
24. Andrew Booth Jr. – CB – Clemson
25. Kenny Pickett – QB – Pittsburgh
26. Daxton Hill – CB/S – Michigan
27. Devonte Wyatt – DT – Georgia
28. Chris Olave – WR – Ohio State
29. George Karlaftis – DE – Purdue
30. Kenyon Green – G – Texas A&M
31. Zion Johnson – G – Boston College
32. Jahan Dotson – WR – Penn State
33. Bernard Rainmann – LT – Central Michigan
34. Arnold Ebiketie – DE/LB – Penn State
35. Jalen Pitre – S – Baylor
36. Sam Howell – QB – North Carolina
37. Logan Hall – DE – Houston
38. Matt Corral – QB – Ole Miss
39. Kenny Walker III – RB – Michigan State
40. Quay Walker – LB – Georgia
41. Jamaree Salyer – G – Georgia
42. Kaiir Elam – CB – Florida
43. George Pickens – WR – Georgia
44. Desmond Ridder – QB – Cincinnati
45. Darian Kinnard – G – Kentucky
46. Breece Hall – RB – Iowa State
47. Christian Harris – LB – Alabama
48. Roger McCreary – CB – Auburn
49. Jalen Tolbert – WR – South Alabama
50. Travis Jones – DT – UConn

QUARTERBACKS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Malik Willis - Liberty 6'0 219 - (22nd overall ranking)

Pros: Strong-armed quarterback who makes it look easy getting the ball downfield and out to the sidelines. Quick release. Smooth in his ability to drop the ball right on the receiver downfield near the sidelines. Arm strength allows him to fit a ball in late when needed rather than anticipating every throw. Keeps his eyes downfield until the final moment before escaping the pocket. Creative offensive coordinator will enjoy the ability to move him and shift the pocket. Can scramble out of trouble and has the strength to get yards when he has to. Is a factor when he gets away from the defense. Transfer from Liberty to Auburn after failing to secure the starting quarterback job. Atlanta, GA hometown.



Cons: Drops down to a three-quarter delivery and is already a shorter quarterback. Tries to make plays with his feet and takes unnecessary hits. Doesn't give up on plays, needs to realize when to move on to the next opportunity. Worked almost exclusively from shotgun. Limited experience in taking five step and seven step drops. Passing accuracy dips when on the move as his throwing mechanics get out of whack. Very little climbing of the pocket shows up on tape.

Kenny Pickett - Pittsburgh 6'3 217 - (25th overall ranking)

Pros: Accurate passer with a good-enough throwing arm. Maintains accuracy when he is forced off his spot by the pass rush. Climbs the pocket and has the athleticism to leave the pocket and get yards down field. Moves well and shows his athleticism when it's time to pick up a few yards for a first down. Timed 4.73 forty time and the combine. Tossed 42 touchdowns against just seven interceptions in 2021. Heisman finalist 2021.



Cons: Mechanics tend to fall apart when he's consistently pressured. Must provide him a platform to consistently set his feet. Passing arm isn't big enough to throw from poor platforms. needs to get the ball out on time against professional defensive backs. Needs to avoid sacks and fumbles, take the incompleting. Plays in gloves to compensate for small hands. Small hands have been noted as part of his combine experience measuring 8 1/2 inches. Has fumbled 38 times over his four seasons at Pittsburgh and lost 26 of them. Football does have some wiggle on it when he has to throw it quickly without securing his grip.

Sam Howell - North Carolina 6'1 218 - (36th overall ranking)

Pros: His game is toughness and sandlot. Just tries to make plays constantly. Clearly confident on the field. Has an above-average throwing arm. Worked the football deep to short when given the opportunity. Capable of evading traffic and still getting the pass off downfield. Did show the ability to score in the red zone as a runner. Isn't nimble, but does realize when the opportunity to get yards with his feet is there and takes advantage of it.



Cons: Small, stocky build. Doesn't look the part of an NFL quarterback. Worked nearly exclusively from the shotgun. Inconsistent deep ball throws. Allows safeties to get back into the play. Doesn't have great accuracy in terms of putting the ball in a place for his receivers to gain yards after catch. Had a much stronger season in 2020 as opposed to 2021 when he lost a lot of talent around him. Takes too many sacks rather than getting rid of the football.

QUARTERBACKS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Matt Corral - Ole Miss 6'2 212 - (38th overall ranking)

Pros: Athletic quarterback who moves well inside and outside of the pocket. Very accurate on slants and in-breaking routes. Quick release featuring a tight spiral on his passes. Good arm strength despite smaller size. Can get the ball downfield even when his feet or set. Good touch on his deep ball and accurate. Skates away from pressure. Takes care of the football, will take a sack or get down to fight on the next play.



Cons: Small, one of the lightest weighted quarterbacks in this class. Slender frame. Questionable durability. Reads only half the field as part of the offense he was playing in. Inconsistent mechanics, plays the game like he's turning double plays on a baseball field. Throws from all sorts of different platforms. Accuracy fails when he is forced to move. Needs to get the ball out sooner for some of the deep ball opportunities. Will have to be successful without the benefit of the RPO game which was regularly part of his college offense.

Deshaun Watson - Cincinnati 6'3 207 - (44th overall ranking)

Pros: Long and lean athlete. Starter since 2018 at Cincinnati. A winner, led his school to the college football playoffs in 2021. Commander on the field, clear leader. Team captain. Has the mobility to leave the pocket but looks to hang in and deliver the football. Consistent mechanics, well-schooled in playing the quarterback position. Mature understanding of route combinations and what to wait on as opposed to what to hit quickly. Features touch on his passes, will dial it back when needed. Ran 4.52 forty time at the NFL Scouting Combine.



Cons: Just an average throwing arm. Needs to have his feet set in order to deliver the ball with authority downfield. Deep balls lack the finish to overwhelm the defense. Has to windup to get the ball downfield. Lack of velocity allows the defensive backs to get back into the play. Avoids trying to fit the ball into tight spots. Does take hits when he leaves the pocket.

RUNNING BACKS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Kenny Walker III - Michigan State 5'9 211 - (39th overall ranking)

Pros: Lateral quickness and change of direction is in his game. Can beat the defense to the sidelines and turn the corner with his speed. Posted a 4.38 forty time at the combine. Has a feel for the defense around him and will slide to the areas where space is present. Can turn a play that looks like nothing into something. A creative runner with burst to score when the opportunity arises. Strongly built runner. Willing to block in the passing game, mirrors the pass rusher and looks to catch him, does enough.



Cons: Will give up on play designs. Can be taken down on first contact with regularity when he's running wildly. Looks to square up pass rushers in the pass game and catch them, then acts as if he's entering the route to see if they follow him away from the quarterback. Might be best used early as a 3rd down back before giving him a regular workload.

Breece Hall - Iowa State 5'11 217 - (46th overall ranking)

Pros: A nice size back with explosive speed and power. Looks like he could carry a full workload. Can be creative when the play breaks down at make something out of nothing. Maintains good balance on initial contact. Can drive the pile forward with his strength. Has a plan on how to attack the defense, gives them different looks. Especially uses his natural ability and feel for the game when he gets into the secondary. He looks to setup the safeties, not just run past them. 3rd down he's a factor as well.



Cons: Have to worry about the amount of tread on the tires after taking a ton of carries as a college player. For as fast as he tests, the short area burst doesn't show up much on tape. Needs to be more decisive in his attacks against faster NFL defenses.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Ikem Ekwonu - NC State 6'4 310 - LT - (2nd overall ranking)

Pros: Looks to deal it out on the football field, looks to finish everyone who he can get his hands on. Plays with a nasty streak. Will block you into your own bench. Athletic, can play in any system. Mirrors opposing pass rushers. Long arms show up consistently on tape, measured 34 inches at the combine. Excels in finding opponents in the open field and putting defensive players on the ground. Can run for a big man.



Cons: Needs to dial it back a bit, tends to play just over the edge at times. Hands better in 2021, punch needs to get cleaner in the pass rush. Tends to stop his feet once he makes contact with the opposing pass rusher. Pass protection in general will need to improve, especially against more experienced pass rushers in the NFL. Potentially gives up his inside shoulder with his pass protection setup.

Evan Neal - Alabama 6'7 337 - LT - (4th overall ranking)

Pros: A classic mauler of a tackle. Technically solid. Tough to move him once he anchors in and gets his hands on the defender. Good punch off the snap of the football in pass protection. Athletic enough to handle twists and stunts, keeps his eyes up and can quickly redirect his pass protection responsibilities. Always protects his inside shoulder with his pass protection setup. Dares opposing players to beat him to the outside. Locks up opposing players once he gets his hands on them.



Cons: Heavy-footed and not very nimble in reach blocking to the second level. Tends to get his head over his feet and loses his balance in the open field looking to block. Can be beaten by quickness, speed rushers on his outside shoulder challenge him given his heavier feet. Looks to "catch" the opposing pass rusher and gives away access to his chest. Prefer he played with more of a nasty offensive lineman attitude. Weight has fluctuated during his career.

Charles Cross - Mississippi State 6'5 307 - LT - (5th overall ranking)

Pros: Athletic left tackle who allowed just two sacks in 682 pass drops last season. Best pass protection technique of anyone in this draft. Clamps onto opposing pass rushers and ends their attack. Has no trouble shifting and moving his feet to mirror defenders and handle any twists or stunts in front of him. Stays connected in the pass and run games once he secures the block. Lean athlete, good body.



Cons: Played exclusively in a two-point stance in the Mississippi State air raid offense. Will have to work on gaining experience in the run game. Will get called for holding in the NFL with his current run game technique. Will have to create some various pass protection techniques, not many were good enough to take advantage of his rinse-and-repeat technique.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Tyler Linderbaum - Iowa 6'2 296 - C - (16th overall ranking)

Pros: Movement skills show up quickly on tape. Quickly gets to the second level and gets on the linebackers. Would be excellent in a zone-based running scheme. Moves well, his feet and hand placement always look perfect when he gets to his opponent quickly. Looks to attack his opponent, aggressive player at center. Mirrors defenders well, also excels at hitting moving targets. Will go seek out someone to punish if he's left uncovered. Multi-sport athlete in high school. Wrestling background. Fun to watch him pin Buccaneers tackle Tristan Wirfs in high school tournament.



Cons: Not the ideal size and body for the position. Athletic, but light for the position and will have to constantly be on the move as a blocker. Bigger defenders can break his anchor. Bull rushers can get him backing up into his quarterback. Has to win quickly with his hands and setup or else things get more challenging. Not the longest arms, measured just over 31 inches at the combine.

Trevor Penning - Northern Iowa 6'7 330 - LT - (21st overall ranking)

Pros: Plays with a nasty streak, looks to punish his opponent. Lives for pancaking his opponent. Wants to finish his opponent to the ground. Good athlete, three-year starter in college. Looks like a soda machine on the field. Moves well to the second level to reach the linebackers in the run game. Can pull and move in the run game. Worked out at both guard and tackle at the 2022 Senior Bowl.



Cons: Punch still needs some work, but work ethic is not a question with Penning. Going to have to scale back a bit, as he will draw penalties if he continues to play after the whistle or when the play is over. Can be beaten to his inside shoulder when he opens up his outside shoulder too far on his kick-step. More athletic players can escape his grasp.

Kenyon Green - Texas A&M 6'4 323 - G - (30th overall ranking)

Pros: Position flexible, Green lined up everywhere during his college career. Played both guard positions during his first two seasons, before having to help out at tackle in 2021. A very difficult player to move once he drops his anchor. Mirrors well in the passing game. Gets his hands on the pass rusher and ends the play. Blows open holes in the running game, wrecking ball in the gap. Does a fine job of getting his hands on the opposing player and rooting him out of the running lane. Clearly strong, good punch.



Cons: Needs work in the zone run scheme, lateral movements can be heavy at times. Has to clean up the holding penalties he can be prone to. Twists and stunts can give him problems in recognition at times. Would benefit from playing just one position and it being his to improve and work at. Guard play is much cleaner than his tackle play.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Zion Johnson - Boston College 6'3 312 - G - (31st overall ranking)

Pros: Plays with noticeable power. 34 inch arms, delivers punches that stall pass rushers when he connects. Has the length that gets to opposing players in the run game and mauls them. Good at opening up cutback lanes by getting to the backside linebackers. Rarely has anyone move him once he anchors in and establishes his hand placement. Tons of strength in his game. A difficult man to beat unless you manage to beat him with quickness going around him.



Cons: Will lose his eyes and get his head over his feet when attempting to reach block. Has trouble hitting moving targets, much better on guys in front of him. Can be beaten to his outside shoulder in pass protection by quicker athletes. Is a step slow when dealing with games being played in front of him, twists can cause a delayed reaction from him. Has trouble locating another target in the passing game when left uncovered.

Bernard Rainmann - 6'6 304 - LT - (33rd overall ranking)

Pros: Former tight end who has moved to tackle just two seasons ago. Room to grow at the position. More than capable of getting out into space and making blocks. Good feet, able to mirror pass rushers and flush them out of the play. Has the quickness to lose initially, make an adjustment and defeat the pass rusher.



Cons: Allows opposing players to get into his chest, seemingly catches the pass rusher with his chest. Plays the game but it's not yet natural, playing tackle is not yet a natural position for him. Not as powerful in the run game. Does not deliver blows that blow open holes. Will get better but needs time on the field.

Jamaree Salyer - G - Georgia 6'3 321 - (41st overall ranking)

Pros: Started at left tackle for Georgia in 2021, moved inside to guard during the championship game against Alabama. Versatile athlete. Was recruited as one of the nation's best guards. Has played all five positions during his college years. Sets his base and is a strong blocker in the run game. Capable in pass protection, athletic enough to survive at tackle but looks more comfortable at guard. Once he sinks and gets his hands on his opponent, the play comes to an end.



Cons: Gets his head over his feet, loses balance in the run game. Tends to lose leverage in the passing game by coming out of his kick-step early, plays high. Not a natural mirror protector on the edge, most certainly less of an issue inside at guard. Will have to take the best of what he does at tackle and add the elements back to his guard play.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Darian Kinnard - Kentucky 6'5 322 - G - (45th overall ranking)

Pros: Played at right tackle in 2021, but future looks to be as an interior player. Washes guys out in the run game when he works down the line of scrimmage. Pure mauler. 35 inch arms, just a massive player who can get to you before you get to him. Plays a nasty brand of football. Anchors in and looks to deliver a strong punch to his opponents. Can get out and adequately reach the second level when asked to reach or pull.



Cons: Has some issues with lateral quickness and change of direction. Moves like a massively strong cruise ship. Has trouble with countermoves as he does not continue to move his feet and adjust to the new move. Feet get very sloppy in those pass rush situations. Will tend to leave his kick-step and overset, allowing multiple angles to the quarterback for more talented pass rushers.

RECEIVERS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Garrett Wilson - Ohio State 6'0 183 - (11th overall ranking)

Pros: Extremely slippery receiver, eats up open space and becomes a force with the ball in his hands in the open field. Very difficult player to jam at the line, has high-end speed to run by the defense. Hands catcher, very smooth in his ability to snatch the pass and pick up yards after the catch. Excels at running routes in space, double moves are very difficult for the defense to deal with. Very good at working back to the quarterback, very friendly to throw to.



Cons: Route running needs work. Tends to win with his pure abilities. Will not be able to give away as many steps at the next level. Has to win with speed, does not have the physical size to win the jump ball game. Not much of a factor in the run game. Tends to try and run-off defenders rather than physically blocking them.

Treyton Burks - Arkansas 6'2 225 - (13th overall ranking)

Pros: A physical receiver who played all over the Arkansas offense. Featured in a Debo Samuel type of role, playing outside, in the slot and in the backfield. His game features strength and power, capable of shedding defensive backs without a problem. Runs his routes at various speeds, will reach another gear when he needs to. Strong hands, snatches passes. Realizes he won't run away from everyone, uses his strength and stiff arm to separate for YAC.



Cons: Does not have breakaway speed. Defensive backs are able to crowd him and force contested catches. Not a sudden athlete in and out of his breaks. Will have to improve the technical aspects of his route running to consistently create separation at the NFL level.

Drake London - Southern Cal 6'4 219 - (17th overall ranking)

Pros: Big hands catcher who plays smaller than his size, moves very well in the open field. Capable of taking screen passes and dodging the defense with good feet. Former basketball player who moves extremely well. Able to win downfield with his size and high-pointing the football. A red zone weapon.



Cons: Route running will need to improve. Quicker defensive backs undercut his routes. Not going to run by the defense at the next level. Not much of a factor in the run game. Will have to use his size to consistently create space as his playing speed and route running do not do that on tape.

RECEIVERS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Jameson Williams - Alabama 6'1 179 - (23rd overall rating)

Pros: Home run hitter at the college level. Yardage after the catch is next level. Has elite speed to knife through the defense. Great acceleration, takes off as if shot out of a cannon. Good hands, snatches it out of the air and can high-point balls when working from the slot. Lined up all over the field. Defense can not keep up with him if the quarterback is given time to let the deep route develop.

Cons: Tore his ACL during the national championship game against Georgia. Not the strongest player on the field. Looks to wall off defenders in the run game. Needs time for his routes to be damaging to the defense. Will not win the contested, 50-50 balls downfield.



Chris Olave - Ohio State 6'0 187 - (28th overall rating)

Pros: Speed receiver who is a prolific touchdown maker. Caught 35 touchdowns as a Buckeye, a school record. Solid route runner, consistently puts defenders in a back peddle and wins at the top of the route. Can get behind the defense with his speed. Feels zone defense around him and works to find the open space. Good hands. Works with his quarterback and provides scramble drill opportunities.

Cons: Lacks play strength, defensive players consistently push him around. Not very helpful in the run game. Smaller player. Bigger cornerbacks will push him around. Does not win 50-50 balls down the field. Can be pushed off his route.



Jahan Dotson - Penn State 5'11 178 - (32nd overall rating)

Pros: Dynamic playmaker who puts defenders on their heels. Has the hands and ball skills to make plays all over the field. Smooth athlete, separates from the defense at the top of his route regularly. Has the ability for YAC, accomplished punt returner to who turns routes into open field opportunities. Quality hands, can take the ball away from the defender in the air.

Cons: Plays with limited strength, stronger players can push him around. Limited success well lined up inside. Not a factor in the running game. Doesn't run through many tackles, consistently taken down with arm tackles. Needs to create space before the catch, has trouble winning when the defender is on top of him.



RECEIVERS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

George Pickens - Georgia 6'3 195 - (43rd overall rating)

Pros: Elite pass catcher on downfield 50-50 throws. Big catch radius. Has no problem dealing with defensive players in his space. Sudden in his breaks and his ability to snatch the ball out of the air. Red zone weapon. Excellent body control. Ran a 4.47 forty time at the combine coming off of an ACL injury that kept him out of the majority of the 2021 season. Looks to punish defenders in the run game. Former five star recruit.

Cons: Questionable on-field maturity, missed the first half of the 2019 SEC title game after an on-field fight against Georgia Tech player. ACL tear in the spring of 2021. Route running needs to become more precise. Allows defenders back into the play at the top of his route.



Jalen Tolbert - South Alabama 6'1 194 - (49th overall rating)

Pros: Strong, had no problem against better competition. Doesn't mind contact, fights through defenders who attempt to slow him down and grab at him. Finds the football and adjusts to it as if playing the outfield. Former baseball player. Breakaway speed in the open field. Glides down the field with his route running.

Cons: Inconsistent hands, looks to make plays before securing the football. Picks his plays, doesn't run hard on every route. Looks to block but looks mechanical, going through the motions of what he's supposed to do. Defenders can influence his catching ability by crowding him.



EDGE NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Travon Walker - Georgia 6'5 275 - (1st overall ranking)

Pros: Plays as a traditional defensive end, a stand-up edge rusher and kicks inside to rush as a defensive tackle at times. Moves very well for a player his size. Changes direction and attacks the ball carrier fluidly. Can shoot gaps with a quick and powerful first step. Hold the point power in the run game. A difficult player to move once he drops anchor. Keeps hunting, tracks down ball carriers from behind regularly. Plays violently, looks to punish his opponent. Destroys oncoming blockers in the run game. Can drop and play coverage when needed. Former basketball player. Had a career-high seven pressures against Alabama in the championship game. Could be used as an interesting chess piece in the NFL.



Cons: Will have to improve his pad level as he faces better competition. Tends to play to high at times and has gotten away with it at the college level. Will have to develop a countermove when his opponent defeats his first move. Hand fighting technique will need to improve. Playing a defined role in the NFL might take something away from his game.

Aidan Hutchinson - Michigan 6'6 265 - (3rd overall ranking)

Pros: Played as both a traditional defensive end and stand-up edge rusher. Lined up on both the right and left side of the offense. Agile athlete, able to get down the line of scrimmage to pursue the ball carrier or get out to the flats on screen plays. Plays with power in the run game to set the edge, stacks the block and finds ball carriers. Uses his power to bullrush and beat tackles to their inside shoulder. Can take an offensive tackle and walk him back into the quarterback. Often sheds the tackle as he's grabbing the quarterback. Features a spin move to attack the outside shoulder of opposing tackles. Has a short-area burst that gets him to quarterbacks. Plays hard every play. Motor is always running.



Cons: Does not have elite pass rusher speed. Does not have the quick-twitch burst off the line of scrimmage as other elite pass rushers do. Limited acceleration once making a change of direction. Quarterbacks can escape him if they can move decently well in the pocket. Mostly looks to rush to a point where the quarterback will be, doesn't adjust well when the quarterback moves to a different spot on the field. Plays with heavy feet.

Kayvon Thibodeaux - Oregon 6'5 258 - (7th overall ranking)

Pros: Plays as a traditional defensive end and a stand-up edge rusher, along with at times kicking inside to rush as a three-technique defensive tackle. Lines up on both the left and right sides. Very good athlete for the position. Capable of dropping in coverage and getting down field. Quick twitch athlete who explodes up field on the snap of the football. Can beat tackles using his speed. Looks to arm-bar his way to the quarterback when it comes to using his power. Will takeaway leverage from the offensive tackle and open up space for him to get to the quarterback. Can convert speed to power with a quality bullrush.



Cons: Will have to get better using his power to set the edge defensively. Does not have countermoves when his first plan is defeated. Chooses when to play hard at times. Will throttle back from play to play. Does not look to finish every play, often goes into "coast mode" when his pass rush is over even when the play ends up on his side of the field. Not great with his hand fighting, will need to develop that aspect of his game.

EDGE NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Jermaine Johnson - Florida State 6'4 259 - (10th overall ranking)

Pros: Lined up in 2021 at both left and right defensive end in a traditional stance and as a stand-up linebacker. Recorded 12 sacks in 2021. Explosive short-area quickness to close on the quarterback or the ball carrier. Active hands, looks to defeat the initial punch from opposing linemen. Always appears to be moving up field on the pass rush. Does not get blocked solidly for long. Can quickly break off his pass rush and chase the ball. Will track the quarterback down from behind as he shows the ability to always maintain awareness of where the quarterback is. Former Georgia Bulldog who left after the 2020 season for Florida State.



Cons: Playing the run consistently is a chore. Basically pass rushes on every down. Has difficulty with setting the edge and containing the run to the inside. Doesn't appear to have the flexibility to bend and run the arc at high level. Will have to work on his hand fighting as he currently just slapping at his opponents. Will have to learn to use his hands to open up pass rush lanes. Will need to develop a countermove off of his speed and bullrush.

David Ojabo - Michigan 6'5 250 - (14th overall ranking)

Pros: Speed to run the arc. Displays good feet and uses them as part of his pass rush by stutter-stepping opposing tackles. Shown the ability to lineup on either side of the field and to stand-up or be in a traditional stance. Looks to take the ball away from quarterbacks once he's making the sack. Always seems to attack the hands and wrists of the quarterback to get the ball out. Counters his own speed with an inside spin move to attack the inside shoulder of the opposing lineman and create a lane to the quarterback. Created five forced fumbles in 2021 to go with his 11 sacks.



Cons: Moved from Scotland for high school. Relatively new to football in terms of experience and maturity. Just five years of playing experience. Needs more time to develop instincts for the game. Struggles when the run game is focused on him. Will get swallowed up at times by zone run games coming his way. Doesn't get off blocks as quickly as you would think given his athleticism. ***Suffered a torn Achilles tendon during his pro day workout***

George Karlaftis - Purdue 6'4 275 - (29th overall ranking)

Pros: Fire hydrant strength when it comes to being an edge defender. Tough player to move once he drops anchor. Teams have difficulty moving him in the run game. Doesn't take plays off. Brings it every down. Plays like a wrecking ball pass rusher. Looks to use one arm to keep the offensive lineman off balance while he works them into the quarterback. Has clear power. Moves to a countermove much cleaner than other prospects in this draft.



Cons: Plays a bit mechanically. Not as naturally gifted athletically as some of the premiere pass rushers in this draft. Does not change direction very well once the quarterback moves in the pocket or the ball carrier changes direction. Arm length questionable, as bigger longer tackles tend to get their hands on him and control him. Not much wiggle to his game in terms of setting up opposing tackles.

EDGE NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Arnold Ebiketie - Penn State 6'2 250 - (40th overall ranking)

Pros: Brings it off the edge on a regular basis. 9.5 sacks in 2021. Added 10 pounds to his frame after playing at Temple in 2020. Led Temple in 2020 in tackle for loss, sacks and forced fumbles. Has some wiggle to his game, finds gaps in the defense and exploits them with his speed. Hands are good, he uses them to create space and look for the football to create fumbles. Doesn't get cheated on the snap, looks to blast buy the opposing lineman every time. Grew up in Cameroon as a basketball and soccer player, still growing as football player.



Cons: Still learning the game, did not play until he was a high school sophomore. Already a smaller sized defender, has to avoid getting involved with bigger players as they can run him over. Doesn't shed many blocks, typically he looks to just lock up the block and hold the point of attack.

Logan Hall - Houston 6'6 283 - (37th overall ranking)

Pros: A big, long man who has some agility to his game. Features an arm-over swim move and can also bullrush his way to the quarterback. Played as an interior defensive lineman but did play off the edge in several pass rush situations. Has the build of a classic 3-4 defensive end. Has explosion out of his stance on the snap of the football. Can shed his opponent and find the football. Will continue to play even if his initial pass rush is stopped, will continue looking to find the quarterback and get back into the play. Continuously looking to advance up the field against his opponent.



Cons: Struggled when double team blocks would find him inside. Could get pushed off the ball. Will probably need some time to gain the comfort of playing on the edge of the defense consistently. Does not have the playing strength for interior line play in a 4-3 alignment. Would have value as a situational pass rusher early on.

DEFENSIVE TACKLES NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Jordan Davis - Georgia 6'6 341 - (15th overall ranking)

Pros: A mountain of a player who developed from an overweight three star athlete to won of the best defensive players in college football. Had an unreal combine performance, showing off his 4.78 speed in the forty. Has consistently timed out during the season running in the open field from 17-20 miles per hour. Can clog up any run game and has the lateral quickness to get down the line and chase plays down from behind. Displayed the power to crush the pocket and times and force the quarterback off of his spot. Never ends up on the ground, has the agility to just keep working.



Cons: Played in a limited amount of snaps due to Georgia's rotation on defense and would come off the field at times on 3rd down. Has to win in the pass rush with pure power, does not have any additional moves to disengage from the block and attempt another move. Takes his rushing lane and fills it, not going to change of direction and catch the quarterback very often.

Devonte Wyatt - Georgia 6'3 304 - (27th overall ranking)

Pros: Slasher with first step quickness and the ability to knife through lanes of the defense. Backfield disrupter. Often lined up in Georgia's defense as the three-technique, designated to blowup run and passing plays. Less about a swim move, Wyatt looks to rip his way past any attempts to block him. Constantly looking to make the play. Always searching for where the ball once he's won up front. Can change direction and chase the quarterback down from behind. Ran 4.77 at the combine at his size.



Cons: Can be washed out of the running game, will at times lose his gap. Down blocks can be a problem, they will move him. Doesn't feature a counter move if his initial quickness and rip is defeated. Not really a hold the point type of defensive tackle. Will be most valuable on third downs when he doesn't have to worry about the run.

Travis Jones - Connecticut 6'4 325 - (50th overall ranking)

Pros: Power to walk back opposing linemen into the quarterback. Plays as a traditional nose tackle, wide body who's difficult to move. Smaller interior linemen struggle with his power and punch. Good enough at shedding blocks to make tackles in the run game. Can handle two-gapping responsibility and hold the point of attack against multiple offensive players.



Cons: Not going to be a factor on third down unless his hand fighting ability increases. Lacks the first step explosion that the top of this class has. Zone run schemes may give him trouble if he has to move laterally and react to the running back's decision making.

LINEBACKERS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Nakobe Dean - Georgia 5'11 229 - (18th overall ranking)

Pros: Three down linebacker, reaches the ball carrier and end plays in explosive fashion. Diagnosis play flow and gets to the ball carriers quickly. Disciplined in his gap responsibilities, does not look to side-step blocks. Can track a ball carrier from across the field and get to the other side of the field for the tackle. Finishes ball carriers by going through them. Sneaky good as an interior pass rusher, times his blitzes very well. Does a good job in zone coverage, feels his responsibilities while keeping his eyes on the quarterback. Highly intelligent.



Cons: Not the ideal size for an interior NFL linebacker. Has not been tested in the 40, but does not seem to have great speed. Plays faster than he would time. Benefited from a big defensive front at Georgia, can get swallowed up on the second level when interior linemen reach him. Will benefit greatly from an NFL team with size up front to protect him.

Devin Lloyd - Utah 6'3 237 - (11th overall ranking)

Pros: Plays as both an interior linebacker and off the edge in some passing situations. Has the speed to be a factor as an edge pass rusher. Converted wide receiver. Very athletic on the field, moves very well. Cat quick. Has a burst to run plays down from behind. Does feature a double-hand swipe when rushing the passer to keep opposing offensive lineman from getting to him.



Cons: Looks like a blown-up safety, very light weight given his length. Doesn't play with much power. Once the interior linemen reach him in the running game, he doesn't have the strength to stack and shed them to find the football. Catches the ball carrier more than a striker when it comes to tackling. Coverage skills need to improve in the passing game.

Quay Walker - Georgia 6'4 241 - (40th overall ranking)

Pros: Versatile linebacker who can play anywhere on the field. Good size and ability to read and react to the play design. Reliable in the run game, stays disciplined to his gap integrity. Has the size and athleticism that stands out. Can get to either hash in the pass game with relative ease. Long arms allow him to keep blockers off him and shed them to make the play in the run game. Constantly mirrors the ball carrier. Just keeps moving up field as an interior pass rusher. Tough player for offensive linemen to deal with.



Cons: One-year starter. Drag tackler, would like to see him work through ball carriers more. Gives up his feet on the tackle. Needs to improve coming under control when making the tackle in space. Plays a bit too-high when in space.

LINEBACKERS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Christian Harris - Alabama 6'0 226 - (39th overall ranking)

Pros: A run-and-hit linebacker who played corner and receiver as a high school recruit. Moved to do-it-all linebacker in Alabama's scheme. Lined up as both an interior and outside linebacker. Plays fast, comes downhill very quickly once he diagnoses the play. Timed in the 4.4 range at the combine. Speed shows up on tape as well. Uses his leverage to play against bigger interior linemen, looks to get into their chest and use his power before they can get hands on him. Can be used as a blitzer, times his attacks well. Looks to be ideal as a weak side linebacker at the NFL level where he can run and hit.



Cons: Still working to become a natural at the position. Sometimes doesn't feel where the block is coming from at times in the run game. Athletic, but still can get lost in the passing game when asked to play in coverage. Doesn't have a good feel in the zone scheme. Can be isolated and taken advantage of with a variety of games like double crossers in his zone.

CORNERBACKS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Ahmad "Sauce" Gardner - Cincinnati 6'3 190 - (6th overall ranking)

Pros: Elite length for the position. Uses his hands and long arms to ruin the route runners plans at the line of scrimmage. Consistently throwing hands at the opposing receiver. Constantly cocky. Baited quarterbacks into throws before exploding to the football. Mirrors in man coverage well and stays on the receiver's hip. Has a good feel for his zone responsibilities, always lurking to attack the play and get to the football. Plays the game like it's easy for him, even handled Alabama's Jameson Williams in the college football playoffs when matched up on him.



Cons: Will have to clean up his holding, will get constantly called for it in the NFL. Flagged 12 times early in his career, has since cleaned that up. Has used his natural ability to win in college, will have to clean up his footwork playing against professional receivers. Not much of a striker in the run game, looks to catch and drag ball carriers to the ground. Skinny, may not be able to put on much more weight.

Derek Stingley Jr. - LSU 6'0 190 - (8th overall rating)

Pros: Which version are you getting has to be the biggest question as far as the first-round cornerbacks in this draft. At his 2019 best, he's the best cornerback in the draft. Elite speed and ball skills are evident after intercepting six passes in 2019. Very athletic, smooth in nearly everything he does. Features long arms and can press receivers at the line of scrimmage. Always looking to use his explosiveness to undercut routes. Downfield 50-50 throws belong to him. Plants and attacks.



Cons: Has played in just 10 games over the past two seasons. Played well, just haven't seen the 2019 version of him. Believes he's recovered from his latest foot injury. Concentration lapses at times. Not interested in getting too dirty in the run game.

Trent McDuffie - Washington 5'11 193 - (9th overall ranking)

Pros: Elite coverage skills, sticks to opposing receivers and uses his outstanding feet and hands to make plays. Takes away space from the quarterback with his ability to close on the football. Ultra-aggressive, constantly looking to make plays for his defense. Allowed just 16 catches in 2021, according to PFF College. Has no hesitation about attacking ball carriers in the run game. Fearless football player on the tape. Always looking to deal out punishment despite average size.



Cons: Not the ideal size for the position, will have to really challenge taller NFL receivers. Will have to prove he can consistently win the 50-50 balls. Play style may lead to some injury issues at the next level.

CORNERBACKS NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Andrew Booth Jr. - Clemson 6'0 194 - (24th overall ranking)

Pros: Likes to mix it up on the field. Looks to deliver shots to receivers, punish them when they attempt to block him. Excels in press-zone coverage, looks to slow the receiver's release from the line of scrimmage and then get his eyes on the quarterback and read the patterns. Smooth in his back peddle even after delivering a punch to his opponent. Tracks the ball well and can get his hands on it. A very good zone corner.



Cons: Issues show up in man coverage. Can get spun around by quality route runners. Takes false steps that hurt him much more in man than in zone. Needs to throttle down and come under more control when tackling, will shoot at the play and miss allowing for many more yards than it should have produced.

Kairr Elam - Florida 6'1 191 - (42nd overall ranking)

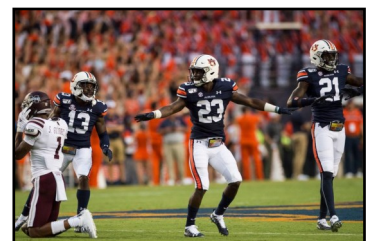
Pros: Press corner who looks to play in the face of his opponent. Does not panic and the line of scrimmage when the receiver attempts to give him some moves to escape his press. Uses his speed and technical play to take space away from receivers on routes to the sideline. Comfortable hand fighting down the field. Has the size to challenge the receiver in the air down the field. Seldom beat by a double move. Plays a patience game when out on the field.



Cons: Receivers tend to create space against him early in the route. Has difficulty getting off of the block. Tends to stay blocked once he's blocked. Gets very grabby when he fails to recognize the pattern combination when playing zone coverage. Should be better in the run game given his size on the field.

Roger McCreary - Auburn 5'11 190 - (48th overall ranking)

Pros: Gets his hands on opposing receivers and looks to jam their timing. Just looks to frustrate his opponents, keeps them from establishing rhythm in the passing game. Constantly pushing guys around. Tough player, makes up for some of his lack of size and pure speed. Always looks to attack the wrists and hands of the receiver at the catch point. Good tackler, useful player in the run game and near the line of scrimmage.



Cons: Tends to reach out and hold when in a trail position across the field. Gets worked by good route runners. Taller players can box him out and elevate to land the football. Receivers tend to create enough space to make catches on him. Lacks the sudden burst to quickly close the space when at the top of the route.

SAFETIES NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Kyle Hamilton - Notre Dame 6'4 220 - (12th overall ranking)

Pros: All-American safety, played in the slot and as a deep safety. Superior length, speed to cover from centerfield to the sidelines. Good ball skills, feels the receiver in space and undercuts routes. Unique athlete. Has the speed and quickness to recover from missteps in coverage. Versatile player who can be moved around the defense like a chess piece. Solid space tackler. Should get bigger and stronger as a pro.



Cons: Quicker receivers give him problems when playing in the slot. Feet stop on tackle, looks to drag down ball carriers. Takes poor angles to the ball carrier when playing deeper downfield. May have to convert to linebacker as he gets bigger. Will have to play as a deep safety at the pro level if he remains at the position.

Lewis Cine - Georgia 6'2 190 - (20th overall ranking)

Pros: Features unique closing speed, can eat up space from his safety position in a hurry. Has no issue with physical play, will deliver a blow to ball carriers in the running game. Works downhill. Can maintain coverage when in the slot in goal line situations. Comfortable with hand fighting at the top of the route. Makes big plays when needed.



Cons: Weight is less than ideal for the position. Comes in too high on tackles at times, allows the ball carrier to drive him for more yardage. Much better of a tackler when playing on the hash, takes odd angles at times when chasing the play from centerfield. Can be isolated and taken advantage of in man coverage at times.

Daxton Hill - Michigan 6'0 191 - (26th overall ranking)

Pros: Plays as a slot corner in the Michigan defense. Will also drop into a traditional safety position. Mirrors receivers well and has a great feel for where he needs to be in zone coverage. Hybrid player, allows an NFL team to play three safeties on the field at all times. Smooth athlete, can flip his hips and go in the passing game. Has plenty of speed, 4.38 forty time at the combine. Might make more sense for him to play cornerback full time.



Cons: Play strength is lacking. Does not handle larger players well in the run game. Tends to get swallowed up. Not a factor in the run game when playing near the line of scrimmage. Not much a force as a tackler. Looks to catch and drag ball carriers and receivers.

SAFETIES NFL DRAFT 2022

NFL Draft Top 50

BY LOS MEDINA

Jalen Pitre - Baylor 5'11 198 - (12th overall ranking)

Pros: Played the "star" position for Baylor, lined up all over the field. Constantly looking to play downhill. Has a unique closing burst on the opposing ball carrier. Very good tackler, constantly wraps up players in the open field. Brings plays to an end very quickly. Never takes a play off. Smart player, had many diverse responsibilities in the Baylor defense.



Cons: Not the smoothest athlete in coverage downfield. Will struggle if ask to cover in space against quicker NFL receivers. Play speed and timed speed might be significantly different. Not big enough to play linebacker at the next level or consistently be at the line of scrimmage.