Pittsburgh Steelers Draft Information



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2017 NFL Draft Thursday, April 27 – Saturday, April 29



PITTSBURGH STEELERS 2017 DRAFT PICKS

	No. In							
Rnd.	Rnd.	Overall	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	College
1.	30	30	T.J. Watt	LB	6-4	252	22	Wisconsin
2.	30	62	JuJu Smith-Schuster	WR	6-1	215	20	USC
3a.	30	94	Cameron Sutton	CB	5-11	188	22	Tennessee
3b.*	41	105	James Conner	RB	6-1	233	21	Pittsburgh
4.	29	135	Joshua Dobbs	QB	6-3	216	22	Tennessee
5.	30	173	Brian Allen	CB	6-3	215	23	Utah
6.	30	213	Colin Holba	LS	6-4	248	22	Louisville
7.	30	248	Keion Adams	LB	6-2	245	21	Western Michigan

^{*}Compensatory selection

Kevin Colbert and Coach Tomlin Pre-Draft Press Conference April 24, 2017



General Manager Kevin Colbert: Good afternoon to everybody. The draft preparation is winding down. We just finished up a session this morning, and we will put some final touches on things over this afternoon and tomorrow morning. We will go through a mock scenario on Wednesday. And we will get ready for Thursday night and [for the overall] three days. Nothing much has changed since we started. We talked right before the Combine. And going through it, really, the numbers look the same by position. On offense, there are good numbers at wide receiver. The offensive line probably isn't as deep as it has been in recent years. The tight end numbers are up some over recent years. There are good numbers in the secondary. There are good numbers for the outside linebacker candidates. Decent numbers for the defensive line, which isn't unusual. There aren't too many of those body types. We have been talking in recent days. A lot of times, going into this part of the draft process, we have a pretty good idea about where this thing could go, but this year, it's really an unpredictable draft. So many different variables that we see could happen around the league. I think it all starts with the quarterback position. We think there are so many different opinions on who the quarterbacks are and who is going to take who, where, Really, it doesn't matter to us, I just think it leads into the unpredictability, because I think you are going to see more trade up and trade down possibilities, not so much with us, but around the league. Depending on people looking for the exact guy that they want, so that part of it is unpredictable, more so than in the past. Of course we are open to trading up or trading down. We will make all the calls. We will know what the cost is to go up. We will know what we can pick up to go down. We will leave ourselves open. But really, we are interested in, and we say it every year, [this year] we are picking at 30. I am sure there are 30 guys that can help us. Some years it is easier to say, it looks like we are going to get offensive help or defensive help. but this year, it's really more unpredictable than it has been in a long time.

Head Coach Mike Tomlin: It's the usual process for myself and the coaching staff. We have come alongside Kevin and the scouts, who have been working tirelessly since training camp. It has been a good process for us. We have gotten out and beaten the bushes, going to pro days, [doing] interviews and things of that nature. Nothing out of the ordinary from the process standpoint. I am really excited about getting it going this weekend. And to Kevin's point, there is added excitement because of the many layers of how this thing could unfold, for the reasons that he stated.

Re: Martavis Bryant update:

KC: We have not heard anything. We do know that he did go for a review by the league, but we have no information. And we have no idea whether we will get information prior to [the draft] or not. We just have to operate under the assumption that until he is here, he is not here.

Are you allowed to have contact with Bryant? KC: No.

Does not knowing about Bryant play any part into how you look at receivers in the draft?

KC: Not really. As we have said all along, until he is here, he is not here. So we just have to prepare as such. It doesn't change. Whether he would be here or not, we are going to look at all the receivers and be prepared to act accordingly.

Re: Players being confined to a specific position and how you take that into account:

MT: I think that is a great discussion. We have spent a lot of time talking about it. They are different, varying animals, in today's football drafts. The tight end position, being an example of it. Some guys are move guys. Some guys are traditional tight ends. Some guys are oversized wide receivers. I think you see the corresponding hybrid animals on the other side of the ball. You have cornerbacks, who play like safeties. You have safeties that play like linebackers. Etc. That is part of today's football, from a specialization standpoint. We get an opportunity to see dynamic players that fit those descriptions, but again, that's nothing new. I think guys like Tyrann Mathieu and others that have been in this league for a number of years, kind of fit those descriptions.

Re: Ladarius Green update:

MT: We don't have an update on any of the medical issues relative to the guys on our team. Like we stated at other locations, the Owner's Meeting being the last one, it won't affect us in terms of our decision making.

Are there still tight ends out there like Heath Miller?

KC: There are certainly well-round tight ends, for sure. There are smaller guys, as Coach referenced, who are faster than the traditional tight ends. When you see the spread offenses, a lot of times they are taking the traditional tight end, they are putting him in the slot so he can block on the perimeter in their speed passing game. To say they can't play in an attached formation, I think would be selling their talent short, just because they haven't [player in an attached formation]. It's the same as quarterbacks. Just because they are not in a traditional offense doesn't mean that they can't, even though they may not be the prototypical 6-5, 255 pounders. They can certainly do some things. There are smaller guys that play in the league. Even though they don't do it, it doesn't mean that they can't.

Re: Long cornerbacks in this draft:

KC: Off the top of my head, I would say it's no different [than in recent drafts]. There are a couple of guys that are taller than in recent years, but I think collectively, they come in all shapes and sizes. I am not so sure that taller guys exist in the college game that much, and I talking about the receivers. Because, again, as I referenced, regarding the small-quick guys, where you get the ball into their hands quick and they can get up the field. They are prevalent as well. But really, I don't think this year's class, if you put it together collectively, would be that much different in terms of height.

How do you do a mock draft?

KC: We mock ourselves. It's impossible to sit here and think about what 31 other teams are going to do, and how that can affect you. You would drive yourself crazy. We were just talking before we came down here. This unpredictability, it's there, but it's really not going to affect us, because there will be 30 people, in an order that we would like them. So whether they go or not, or someone else takes a guy, we know we are going to get a player. So we will just be prepared to take them in the order we like them.

Re: Guessing about who might be available:

KC: It doesn't matter. If player one is not there, then player two will be there. So on and so forth. So there will be 30. Of those 30, I am sure they can upgrade our team.

Re: Fifth-year option as a first-round pick and how that impacts trading out of the first round:

KC: It doesn't affect us at all. I can't think that far down the road. You are never going to neglect the future, but we are certainly not going to not take a guy, and I know that is a double-negative. But we aren't going to stay away from a guy because of that. We have to win now and in the future. But that doesn't affect us at all.

How far do you mock?

KC: We will get through the first round, all the way through a trade down possibility. In the event that we trade down, we are going to know if we go four spots, do we have four people? So, we have to be prepared to do that before we get into the room, and we will be. And then we will reset our board based on what happened the day before. We will do it through rounds two and three on Friday morning, and then we will do it again Friday evening and Saturday morning before we get into Saturday, just to see how the rest of it may unfold.

Re: Variables on how you draft based on how you rank the players:

KC: You are going to have your board set the way the players are graded, but that's not how you pick them, if that makes any sense. We don't grade them how we will pick them. We grade them how they are. You get to a quarterback and a cornerback. In our scenario, you are probably going to take a cornerback over a quarterback, as long as they are close. If the quarterback is significantly better than the corner, they we may be kicking ourselves if we didn't take the quarterback that was available to us.

Re: Adding a quarterback this draft:

KC: I think we are always open to putting a quarterback in the mix, because it is the most critical position in our game. If you don't have a quarterback, then you are probably going to leave your team short at some point. Again, at what cost? We have a great quarterback. We think that he is going to be here for a while. At least we hope that. But we have to be prepared. If somebody shows that we didn't think would be there at that point, then you have to make sure that you secure that position for the long-term. Again, great franchises that have sustained it, have done it because they went from Joe Montana to Steve Young, or from Brett Favre to Aaron Rodgers. You want to be prepared. Again, you don't want to have that lull. Because if you do, you probably aren't going to win a lot of games.

Re: This year there are so many good pass rushers that you could still get a quality player at 30, like last year when a lot of cornerbacks went before Artie Burns:

KC: The pass rushers/outside linebackers in our scenario are much harder to predict than a cornerback. A corner is a corner. Pass rushers for us, a lot of times are projections, and they may not be valued as high as they are for a 4-3 team that can say he is a 4-3 end. They would look at them as a first-rounder as we would look at them as a second. So that group is hard to nail down. That's part of the unpredictability. And when we grade these kids, we grade them for the league, not for us. We will pick them for us, but we will grade them for the league. We may have a guy graded higher because we may know in a 4-3 scenario, this guy is probably higher on other team's boards. We just grade them for the league. So that position is always tricky.

Re: Flexibility in that position in regards to sub-package football:

KC: I believe we are 73% in sub-package football, but they still have to have a home position. We still have to consider if they are defensive linemen or linebackers, because you aren't going to be sub-package the entire time. That's part of the unpredictability at that position, more so than any other. Because where they are playing might not be, and most of the time, is not where we are going to ask them to play overall. They are probably going to have to grow to be outside linebackers.

Re: Drafting pass rushers that way for a long time and your success rate:

KC: It's a hit-and-miss. We have had some that didn't work out and some that have worked out. We have had some that played in the conventional defense, played outside linebacker, where some worked out and some didn't work out to our expectations. I don't know what the success rate will be. I just know it's the most difficult. Really the quarterback position, we spend an inordinate amount of time on it, because it's such a critical position. The outside linebackers, you almost have to do double the work. As a personnel group, we will look at them. But we are going to have the defensive line coach look at him, as well as the outside linebackers coach, and the strength coach, as they try to predict growth, and look at their body types, what their measurements are, to see if the player is going to go from 260 to 285 or go to 245. We have to make those kinds of projections. I don't look into the past. I just try to figure out the future.

How much do you two debate?

KC: We both have the same goal. We want to win. We want to win in 2017. But also, I don't think either one of us is shortsighted enough to just draft for now, because you will make mistakes. Again, you get the guys that can help you now, and hopefully they can help you – they all have a four-year window, even the five-year guys. Four years is a long time in this league.

Re: Evaluating the guarterback position and if you look one year ahead:

KC: Again, you are talking about who is coming out and who isn't. There are underclassmen. Again, if we make decisions in 2017 based on what is going to be available in 2018, then we could really be making a mistake. Because that kid that we avoided drafting, the one we are thinking about could be coming out in 2018, and that's way too far down the line for me.

So the 2018 Draft doesn't factor in at all in this draft?

KC: No. It's too unpredictable.

Re: 10-11 years of drafting now and how the process has changed:

MT: I don't know how much the process has changed for us. I think technology has made the process an easier one for us. The mobility of video, relative to 10-11 years ago, when we first started, now we can take video home. We can take video on the road as we travel. Those weren't discussions that we were having 10-11 years ago. I think the evolution of the games, whether it was the pro game or the college game, is another set of variables that have changed our discussions over the years. The spread football and the way college football is played now has changed a lot of these discussions that we have. That outside linebacker/4-3 defensive end discussion is not what it was 10 years ago, because spread football in college has reduced the size of that defensive end, even if they are 4-3. The guy is not 6-6, 270 anymore. Even for the college 4-3 teams. So, just those types of discussions, those types of things, if you look at it from a 10-11-year standpoint, natural evolution of things, in some instances have made the job easier, and in some instances made it more complex, or at least made the discussions lengthier.

Re: On how using analytics to assess college players is going:

KC: The analytics, again, it's advanced statistics. And of course there are some different things they can research now: fumbles, fumbles per touch and all of that other stuff. You can factor it in, but we don't have any formula or quotient. It's just a piece of the puzzle. And just to follow up on Coach's point, there's all kind of video, stats, you name it, it's all available to us. But at the core, you're still looking for football players. And once we figure out if we can measure a mind and a heart, then we'll have something. In the meantime, we'll use every tool available to us. But that's still the core. How are you going to figure out who's going to make a play when they're dead tired, or we're down six and we need seven, who are we going to rely on? The only thing you can rely on is the guy who's done it for his team and hope he can do it for yours.

MT: The analytics guys who develops a 'will' index, they're on the cutting edge.

Re: On the Wonderlic test:

MT: It's a tool.

Re: On how much a particular matchup or opponent plays in drafting a player:

KC: What we will do in line with the statistics, if we're watching return guy and he has a 100-yard return, we're going to look to see who he did that against. So yes, we will look at that. If a guy has a two-sack, three-sack game, who did he do that against? If a guy rushes for 200 yards, who was it against? Absolutely you can separate the competition and look for the one-on-one matchups. I think that's what the All-Star games give us a lot of. Unfortunately, the underclassmen don't play in them, but the All-Star game gives you an advanced look at a wide receiver versus a corner that maybe you didn't see in the season. But in the all-star setting, maybe you see it in practice, maybe you see it in the game. The matchup is important.

Re: On if the value of positions changes from year to year:

MT: I don't know that there is a cookie-cutter, black-and-white ranking of positions. It might be a ranking of positions per discussion based on two guys we might have in a moment. But there isn't a global, black-and-white ranking of positions in terms of importance, other than the natural acknowledgement of the quarterback position.

KC: To follow up, there are only so many big people in the world. That's why defensive linemen get valued maybe more so than others. But again, we don't put a quotient on any position because any given year there might be more so than others. Like this year, there isn't. But in past years there was. Last year, there was an inordinate amount of defensive tackles. That's why we were fortunate enough to get Javon Hargrave when we did in the third round. Whereas in years past, he probably would have been picked higher.

Re: On if the AFC North or other teams are taken into account when evaluating players:

KC: No. I think you know who your opponents are going to be any given year. So obviously, you know you're playing Baltimore, Cleveland and Cincinnati. You don't know who your team is going to be when you play them. So if you go into it saying, "We need this to match up with this," you don't even know if that matchup will occur when you play them. And you don't know if you'll get in the playoffs, let alone whether another team will make it and how far they go. So maybe I'm just not smart enough to do the, "We have to get this to match up with this guy," but I just say let's get as many good ones as we can and hope for the best.

Re: On evaluating players:

KC: Just because you have a great player, I mean, we have a great running back and a great receiver, but we still graded each one of those guys the same as we graded defensive players in any position. We will always look at all of the players. Maybe we don't interview as many at those positions where we're a little stronger, whether or not we might be drafting. But the evaluation is exactly the same for every position, really, for every round.

Re: On if the draft has changed with free agency:

KC: I don't think. People talk about the great Steelers team of the 1970s. They were great because they stayed together. But the flipside of that to your point, they couldn't go outside, so they had to be great drafters, and they were. I think in our case now, you still do the evaluations the same. You don't want to ever feel that if you miss on a guy you can go get a free agent, because that may or may not be the case based on your cap scenario. So it hasn't changed in the way I've approached it.

Re: On if there are nerves the first day of the draft:

MT: I think we've chopped up the variables so much in the preparation process over the years that there's less anxiety for me. There's excitement, but there's less anxiety. But there should be. We have a definitive process, we have experience in working together and it should show. And I think it does.

Re: On if players have gotten more polished in interviews over the last decade:

MT: I don't know that there's a significant change in terms of how they address issues or questions. They're all young man, 20 to 23 years old, the vast majority of them. It's a re-run for us. It's a process we go through every year. It's the first time for all of them, so from that perspective I don't think there's an evolution there. I think they're young people chasing their dreams.

Re: On if the approach changes after a season when the team has come so close to its goal:

KC: I don't think it changes at all.

MT: It doesn't.

KC: We're 0-0 like everybody else. So last year was last year. Everybody's deck of cards is going to change. It has changed already. So I have no idea. I mean, really, you can't even think about being close because we're all starting off the same. Over these next eight months, things will change drastically.

Re: On the spread offense in college translating to the NFL:

MT: I think our game has changed because of it. So yes, I think we're all continually evolving as individual players and coaches, but also globally speaking. From an NFL perspective, I think a lot of what we do is geared toward what our guys are capable of doing, or what they're good at doing. A lot of guys come in with experience that is directly related to that style of play. And I think guys are utilizing those skills, those known-skills. I'm open to changing. I think we all are.

Re: On if he ever sees a player and thinks he can create a new niche for him:

MT: I'm not that innovative in thinking. I try to, from an evaluation standpoint, I try not to speculate too much. I try to look at what they do on tape and what they do well or don't do well, and not try to forecast and be cute and creative from that perspective in the evaluation process.

Re: On if he's leerier of prospects with character issues:

KC: We take it on a case-by-case basis and just look at each individual and try to predict their ability to stay out of trouble. Again, the best indicator of that is past behavior. We can do all kinds of testing, we do physiological testing like everybody else, but much like the analytics, until we can figure out a way to say that someone is going to get in trouble other than knowing he's been in trouble before, I think that's the only indicator. And it's really no different. They've gone through the same process this year that they did back in 2000 when we started. So it hasn't changed.

Re: Continued:

KC: We'll reject certain guys based off of character and our feel for them. Sometimes they may not have anything in their record, but we just don't get a good feel when we visit with them. We'll factor that in, as well.

Re: On if last year's rookie class' success changes how he perceives readiness:

MT: No. My perceptions are based off of what they display in preparation in training camp, preseason games and so forth. And the guys you talked about, specifically, proved their readiness and delivered. So I won't go into it with any preconceived notions. We'll give the next group a similar opportunity and what they do with it is what they do with it.

Re: On how he feels about his overall depth:

MT: I think at this juncture we're just trying to improve all of the areas of our team. Obviously, there are certain areas that we've identified and talked about repeatedly throughout the offseason, Kevin and myself. But just in general as I sit here, I don't believe that we're closed to improving in any area as we move closer to draft day.

Re: On looking at injuries to draft-eligible players:

KC: We have to rely on the doctors' medical information and their prediction on when these guys will be available. Because there are some that may be available in June and there are others that may not be available until December. So there are different levels of readiness in each scenario. Just like the character, we'll take it on a case-by-case basis and we just have to rely on the doctors' information. And then place a value on that as to when we would be willing to take the risk they've identified.

Re: On if quarterbacks usually go higher than he expects:

KC: Again, we can guess as to when somebody might take them, but it really doesn't affect us. We just have to decide when we would take them in comparison to who. So really, as I said before, we did away with trying to predict other teams' course of action on draft day. Because we'll be shocked. We're going to hear a name and we'll say, "Wow. Where did that come from?" Again, it doesn't mean they're right and we're wrong, or we're right and they're wrong. It's just that's what they saw that maybe we didn't. I'm sure they do that with some of our players, as well.

Re: On if he went to more pro days this year:

MT: Not as much. I had some traveling conflicts, some calendar conflicts with Competition Committee duties, the movement of the Combine relative to some of the pro days, so I didn't get to as many this year as I have in the past. But I got to a substantial number.

Re: On Senguez Golson:

KC: Last year I sat here and said we would view him as an extra draft pick. Unfortunately, we can't do that right now. Again, through no fault of his own, he has been injured two years in a row. In all honestly, I worry about a defensive back coming off of a foot injury because you don't know what he's going to be like. We won't know until we get into the OTAs and mini-camps, things of that nature. I hope he does for his sake, for our sake, but it's less predictable at this point because we're dealing with two injuries. Two years off, I don't think you can minimize not playing for two seasons. You have to get back. He has to re-learn a lot of football movement.

Re: On if they got a full 30 visitors:

KC: I think we were at 29 official ones [that counted]. I don't know how many locals we did.

Is Penn State local?

KC: No. We had a new rule this year: it's West Virginia, Kent State and Pitt.

Re: Continued:

KC: But not Youngstown State. Don't ask me why. It's like the compensatory pick formula. We didn't get yelled at, so I'm assuming we didn't break the 30. But I think it was 29 here. Of course we talked to 60 at the combine. Some of those were re-dos, some were not. We probably talked to 40 or 50 at the Senior Bowl. And pro days, those don't count. But Coach does a good job of getting to those pro days, and we try to visit with as many kids as we can the night before or the day of. So I don't know how many we talked to. We talked to as many as we can, as many times as we can. Because every time we see a kid or visit with a kid, we learn something we didn't know.

Re: On how many draft selections over the last five years he hasn't spoken to prior to drafting the player:

KC: I don't know.

Are there any?

MT: Yes.

KC: There are some. I can't [recall] off the top of my head without looking. I can't even remember who the last five years were, let alone who we talked to.

Re: On if they spoke to all of last year's picks:

MT: We try to speak to everyone. We don't want to misguide you with the answer. Our goal, I think, when we go out in the spring is to have as much closure to as many draftables as we can, in as many different scenarios. Senior Bowl, Combine, pro days or formal or informal business local, we try to talk to as many as we can. We're not just trying to talk to the ones we might draft. We're just trying to talk to as many draft eligibles as we can. So the fact that we talk to a lot of the guys we draft is not out of the ordinary. We try to talk to as many draftables as we can.



T.J. Watt Linebacker Wisconsin 6-4, 252 Pewaukee, Wisc. Pewaukee High School 1st Round – 30th Overall

CAREER NOTES

Played in 27 games, making 14 starts, over a two-year span...totaled 70 tackles, including 17 stops for losses and 11.5 sacks...majored in retailing and consumer behavior.

2016 SEASON

First-team All-Big Ten selection and Academic All-Big Ten...started all 14 games at outside linebacker, finishing with 63 tackles (38 solo), 15.5 tackles for losses and 11.5 sacks...his 11.5 sacks marked the fifthmost in program history in a single season...tallied 2.5 sacks at Michigan State (9/24)...posted a career-high 11 tackles, two tackles for losses and 1.0 sack at Michigan (10/1)...returned his first career interception for a 17-yard touchdown, to go along with a sack, at Purdue (11/19).

2015 SEASON

Academic All-Big Ten...appeared in all 13 games...was part of a defense that ranked No. 1 in the nation in scoring defense, holding opponents to 13.7 points per game...totaled eight tackles, 1.5 tackles for losses and three pass breakups.

2014 SEASON

Did not play due to injury.

2013 SEASON

Redshirt.

HIGH SCHOOL

First-team all-conference quarterback, linebacker and punter at Pewaukee (Wisc.) High School...honorable mention all-area at linebacker by the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*...threw for 527 yards and seven touchdowns, adding 554 rushing yards and nine rushing touchdowns as a senior, to go along with 42 tackles and 5.0 sacks...caught 27 catches for 505 yards and three touchdowns in his junior campaign...also lettered in track and field.



T.J. Watt Linebacker Wisconsin 1st Round – 30th Overall

Re: Level of interest from the Steelers throughout this:

I knew schematically it was a great fit for me, and that's why I was intrigued by them so much. I had dinner with them right before my pro day, and I worked out with them on my pro day as well. So, they did show quite a bit of interest, but after my pro day, it kind of tapered off. So that was probably the point where I didn't know. But I had a feeling come draft night that it was a really good match for me and a really good fit. I thought that it could happen.

Re: Mock drafts had you going to the Packers:

[Laughs] I am not upset at all. I am ecstatic to be a Pittsburgh Steeler. It is still crazy to say it. It's insane. I saw the Packers trade back, and I knew right away that there was a really good possibility that I could end up in Pittsburgh, and I am so happy that it happened.

Were the Packers your favorite team yesterday?

[Laughs] No. I honestly did not have a favorite team coming into this whole process. I grew up watching my brothers play football. I didn't really have a favorite team.

Re: Coach Chryst's ties with the Steelers and if he knew of their interest in you:

I don't know what their talks were individually. I know Coach Chryst spent a good amount of time there when he was coaching at Pitt. He was at dinner that night with us as well. I am sure they probably exchanged lengthy conversations on the type of player I am and the type of person I am. I am glad he was on my side, because it all worked out really well.

Re: Just starting to scratch the surface:

Yeah, and that's my selling point. I was a first or second-team All-American on 18 months of playing defense. I am truly scratching the surface on what I can do. I feel like the sky is the limit for what I can do on the field.

Re: James Harrison:

I have watched him for years growing up, and especially since I switched over to defense, I have watched him more and more. He is a really good, veteran presence. He is a really good football player. I can't wait to get under the tutelage of him and that locker room.

Re: Coach Leonhard and if he told you anything about the Steelers-Ravens games he was a part of:

The only thing he told me was to just enjoy the process and to be myself. We really didn't catch up on any games in the past.

Re: Embracing the move to linebacker from tight end:

When they approached me about the move, I think it took me all of 12 hours, if that. I kind of went home and thought about it, and came back and told Coach that I wanted to play defense.

Re: Steelers playing so much nickel defense and how you prepare for that:

That's something that I have been doing throughout my whole career at Wisconsin, and in these past two years. I think that's why I translate so well to the defense. I am showing on film that I can play a three-technique if I really have to. I can set the edge really well, and I can get after the passer. I think that's ultimately what makes a really good football player, and I think having great players around me is what is going to make us a great team.

Who was at your dinner before pro day?

Coach Tomlin. Coach Porter. A few others, including General Manager Kevin Colbert. And Vince Biegel.

Where did you play in 2015? Were you a backup outside linebacker?

Yeah, I played backup outside linebacker. And I played as a defensive lineman in our nickel package.

So the move from tight end was the spring of 2015?

Correct.

Re: Matchup on Christmas in Houston against your brother J.J.:

It will be weird to be on the same field as J.J. in shoulder pads. I was just thinking about that. I played with him in the backyard, and I have seen him play a bunch, but we've never been on the same field in full uniforms, competitively, before. I think that will be a really cool and kind of weird day for me.

Has J.J. reached out to you yet, or have you reached out to him?

No, my phone is absolutely blowing up. They are probably mad at me right now, because I haven't talked to them.

Re: Creating your own path:

Obviously everybody knows me as J.J.'s younger brother, but people don't know the little things, the work ethic, the countless hours of film study. Doing all the little things, like getting the right amount of sleep, hydration, just treating myself like a professional athlete while I was still in college. I think I have learned so much from J.J. and I have been able to translate that to myself. I don't think people really even know who I am at this point, just because I have been in such a big shadow, and that's why I cannot wait to get to Pittsburgh and kind of become my own person.

Re: Combine numbers and if that surprised you:

Not at all. I knew coming into the Combine that I was going to have great numbers. I don't know. People were kind of surprised by them. Me and the people that are around me weren't surfside at all.

Re: Agility times and shuttles were similar to cornerbacks:

Yeah. It's just being able to bend and getting out of cuts, repetition after repetition, and taking the Combine process really seriously, and it showed during the Combine.

Re: Coach Tomlin and Kevin Colbert said they liked how you used your hands already and where you want to see yourself improve:

I think I need to get better in every single aspect of my game. obviously as a rookie in the NFL, you are going to have to adjust to many things. But I think one of the biggest things to me is still developing my pass coverage skills and dropping back into coverage. But I think that will come to me, and I don't think that will be a problem at all.



Kevin Colbert and Coach Tomlin Re: T.J. Watt

KC: Thanks, first of all for sticking around. I know it's late. It's 11:30. We're still excited. It's always exciting to get that first pick. T.J. Watt is somebody we've had our eye on really since the early fall. We made a visit up there. We had two other scouts go in. He was one of those junior possibility guys that might come out early. After their season, Coach Chryst actually texted me and said, 'Hey, can you take a look at this young man, and give me an idea of where his draft value might be before he decides to come out?' We did that. I looked at him and said, 'Coach, this kid is a first-round pick.' So we followed up on that. Of course we visited with him at the Combine. On one of our trips on the Pro Days, Coach Tomlin and I spent a night with T.J. He continued to impress. We're excited to get him. This kid is a solid football player that has really only scratched the surface as a defensive player. His first two seasons he had some injury issues that we're comfortable with. He was a converted tight end. They moved him over to linebacker this year, and he gets 11.5 sacks in the Big Ten. It was really remarkable one year production. So we don't even think he's a complete product at this point. We're excited about where he can go.

MT: It's really simple. T.J. is a rock solid young man who has a lot of upside. He doesn't have a lot of experience at the position, but at the same time we saw some things that were exciting to us. His hand usage in particular for a guy with his short resume at the position was exciting. His production speaks for itself. He's just a quality guy and a quality pick for us. We're excited about bringing him into the fold, getting started, and continuing his development not only as a football player, but as an outside linebacker. That's probably the most exciting element of the T.J. discussion. He's worthy of the pick but boy are we excited about the potential upside and growth given the short length of time he's played the position.

Re: On if Watt will eventually replace James Harrison:

MT: not looking at anything of that nature. He'll be given an opportunity like the other guys. Obviously because of where we took him in the draft, we believe that all of those things are on the table for him.

Re: On what he will look like when he is a complete product:

KC: I don't know. I think that's the exciting part about this. To do this in his first year at the position was pretty amazing, so where he can go from that – his next year at that position will be at the NFL level, so you expect a natural growth against obviously better competition at this level. But I think there is no reason why he can't contribute and be a significant player, but he'll be a young player, especially a young player at that position.

Re: On if it is typical for a college coach to reach out to an NFL general manager to ask questions:

KC: It is when you have relationships and obviously with Paul (Chryst) being next door, we had a great relationship with Paul, so the rules allow for coaches to reach out — and the kids turn their names into the committee as well — but a coach can reach out to a person friend that he has in myself and Coach Tomlin and say, 'He turned his name in, but what do you guys think?' And again, after I watched him again on film and he had that full fall to complete — when I looked at him early in the fall he probably only had two or three sacks and (I thought,) 'Okay, this might be our guy.' At the end of the season I said, 'Coach, he's a first-rounder.'

Re: On how soon the draft became unpredictable:

KC: Well I mean, you saw trades right out of the gate and I thought that was going to happen and I think there were a couple more after us, I think there were five or six trades? The unpredictability unfolded like we thought. Again, we knew there were 30 guys and T.J. was certainly one of the.

Re: On what impact Watt's family tree has:

KC: I think is about T.J. it's not about J.J., it's not about Derek his other brother. It's a unique story, three guys in the NFL, but this about T.J. and what he can do. I think one you meet him, you'll get that feeling from him. I don't think he ever mentioned any of his brothers — unless we asked about them. He's himself, he's his own man and he's going to try to make his own mark. I wouldn't be shocked if he tries to out-do everything that his family has done to this point. He seems to be that kind of guy and he's going to be very quiet about it too. This kid isn't going to say a heck of a lot. He just lets his play speak for itself.

Re: On his agility time at the NFL Combine:

MT: I think that is the benefit that he gains from his brothers being in the National Football League. The knowledge of what lies ahead, the mentality regarding training, that was one of the things that was attractive to us as we dined with him in preparation for his pro day. Just his outlook regarding preparation and his mentality regarding training was that beyond a guy that was preparing for the draft and I think that's the benefit of having older brothers that are National League Football players. I know his workout regimen is probably that that mirrors a veteran player because he has siblings that are.

Re: On if he is a very fluid athlete:

MT: His combine results speak for themselves. His change of direction and things of that nature were excellent and excellent on game tape.

Re: On if this changes not wanting to have a heavy rotation at the linebacker position:

MT: It does not.

Re: On if it was natural pass-rushing capabilities from Watt that caught his eye:

KC: The first thing you notice and Coach touched on it earlier, again, for a one-year linebacker, his ability to use his hands is advanced. He beats people with is upper body just as much as his lower body and usually you don't see that type of hand usage and that type of know-how in a one-year player. That part was very attractive and he's a longer guy, so you put the hands and the feet and the length together, plus he's pretty tenacious about it as well. It all worked for him last year and we just think it will work again.

Re: On his abilities to drop back in coverage and set the edge:

MT: Just watching him play, there's no question about his versatility relative to the position. My first exposure to him was the LSU game at Lambeau (Field) earlier last year in September and just to watch him with some of the things he was asked to do in that game. I think the myriad of things they asked him to do within that scheme made it an easy evaluation. You see him come off the edge, you see him drop into coverage and cover people, you see him work out of a rover front where he is floating over and around the ball in a similar way that we ask our guys to play. All of the things that he would be asked to do here we've seen him do on Wisconsin tape and we've seen him do very well.

Re: On T.J. wanting to be his own man:

MT: He said he wants to be his own man.

KC: I don't remember him ever mentioning—coach does a really good job of getting these guys to open up, but it took a little extra. I'm sure he's proud of his family name, but I think he wants to make "T.J." just as proud as the "Watt" name. There was just a feeling that you had that if you didn't know who his family was, if you didn't know who his brothers were, he certainly wasn't going to tell you. And I just think that was good for him.

Re: On if he visited Pittsburgh:

KC: No. Because we got to him at the combine and we were able to get with him the night before his pro day, we were very comfortable with where he was. So he did not make the visit here.

Re: On Watt being raw:

MT: I don't want to paint him as "raw." He just doesn't have a lot of experience at the position, but I wouldn't necessarily characterize his play as "raw." And I think that's what's exciting about it—the potential upside. He's a guy who doesn't have a lot of experience at the position, but in watching his game tape it's not extremely evident.

Re: On if he can play inside linebacker, too:

KC: He's lined up primarily on the outside. Coach will figure out what he wants to do with him. He's rushed some in a stand-up position from the inside. So I think once Coach Tomlin and the rest of the defense gets ahold of him, they'll figure that part of it out. But I'm assuming he's going to line up as an outside backer first.

MT: He will.

Re: On if him playing some defensive end, as well, will be a struggle:

MT: I don't anticipate it being that. I would imagine there's going to be some growing pains with the transition, globally speaking, but not that technique. Specifically, he was asked to do the same thing within his scheme at Wisconsin. And he did it very well.

Re: On the depth of the draft:

KC: There's good depth, really, at most of the positions except interior offensive line. I don't know who got picked after we picked, but we felt comfortable with that depth. The first round, there were a few surprises. Not too many. But there are certainly tons of good players left. We look forward to getting ready to go on again tomorrow.

Re: On drafting underclassmen:

MT: Very rarely is that the variable—the deciding factor. If two guys are extremely close in potential, which could be. We value young guys because we like their upside. But very rarely is it that significant of a variable where it's the ultimate decision maker.

Re: On him being introverted:

KC: Let me clarify that a little bit. Off the field, he's quiet. There's a sneaky little aggression that you see when you watch him play. I didn't see him live in a game, but when you watch him play on the video there's a little burning intensity in this guy. In conversation, in a dinner the second time we met him, you have to draw that out. But I think once he gets in a competitive atmosphere—and it even leaked out a little bit in his pro day. There were some competitive issues going on with the kid, because he was actually running some routes as a tight end to help his teammate Vince Biegel with his linebacker drills, and it was competitive. He makes catch and he winks at coach Chryst and says, "See, I could have done that for you, too."

MT: And really to that point, we sat down and interviewed his brother in Madison, Wisc., some five or so years ago and it wasn't much different of the personalities then. I think his brother has become the guy we know today. So we'll see what type of man and player T.J. becomes.

Re: On if there will be an offensive sub-package for him:

MT: Not hardly.



T.J. Watt Introductory Press Conference

Steelers President Art Rooney II: Good afternoon. We are here to welcome T.J. Watt, our first-round draft pick to Pittsburgh. Obviously we are excited to have him. He comes from a football family, as you all know, which is exciting to have him be a part of the Steelers' family. He also comes from a college program we are very familiar with, the college coaching staff we are very familiar with, which helped us in the evaluation process. T.J., obviously had a great year last year. He is still learning his position, but we are excited to have him come here, help him develop here and have him contribute here. It's my pleasure to introduce T.J. Watt.

T.J. Watt: First I would like to thank Mr. Rooney, Mr. Colbert and Coach Tomlin. Just to finally be here is so incredible. And also a thanks to Steelers Nation. It is my job now to play for the Pittsburgh Steelers and to work my butt off each and every single day for this organization. I truly mean that from the bottom of my heart. This means the world to me, but this is just the beginning. I promise to put everything I have into this organization and to work with my teammates, and to be under the tutelage of these guys, just be on the "Stairway to Seven." We are here to win a Super Bowl. I feel like I can help this team win games.

Re: Hard at first being known as J.J.'s little brother:

I would say in the high school years it was a little harder for me, a little more difficult, because I didn't know how to handle it. As I grew older and matured more, I kind of saw it as more of an asset than a liability. Just to be able to gain knowledge from someone that is so good at football, and to see the background information and background work that no one else gets to see, to see what goes on behind the scenes that makes him so successful, has definitely helped me along the journey.

Re: The trip you took with your two brothers to Europe:

That trip was really cool. I think the most special part about that trip was just spending time with my two brothers for 15 straight days, and to truly bond and grow as brothers. It wasn't always football, but we definitely did find time to work out when we were in Rome and all throughout Europe. I think it just shows that it's the type of people we are. It doesn't matter if we are on vacation. It doesn't matter if I got drafted yesterday. I am going to work my butt off regardless of circumstances. That's just how my family works.

Re: Backyard football games like with your brothers:

Usually ended in a bloody nose or a fist fight with some of us. Obviously growing up, we were really competitive, especially in the family. We were always doing drills in the backyard. But my parents were always there to oversee it.

Re: Transition from tight end to linebacker:

I think early on the transition was a little more difficulty to me, because everything was new. But a lot of stuff came naturally for me, like pass rush and stopping the run. I feel like I did a great job, and I feel like I have a lot more to learn. I feel like whether you are a first-year guy or a 15-year guy, there is always room to work on your craft. That is why I am so excited about getting to work with these gentlemen over here, to just keep getting better.

Re: Taking 12 hours to make the decision to switch to defense when asked:

Just tried to see what gave me the best chance to try to get to the spot where I am right now. I think I just kind of learned about the mentality of being on defense, being a ball-hawk and getting after the ball, and being able to be a playmaker on every single play as an outside linebacker. It was really intriguing to me. I feel like once I made the switch, it was the best decision I ever made.

Re: Having two knee surgeries and how that played a part in your relationship with your brothers:

I think, if anything, it grew stronger, because they were kind of feeling for me with what I was going through. I think as they went through their injuries on their own, later on, it kind of helped our relationship as well, because I was able to help them through their injuries.

Re: Having the same exact injury on both knees:

I knew after having both that it was susceptible to happen again if I didn't have the surgery. I think it's just the way I was born, just the way my knees are. Thankfully the doctors were able to fix my knees up, and they have been fine.

Re: Having those injuries and if that made you question playing:

No. I think maybe it might have crept into the back of my mind after the second injury. But I truly think this is what I was born to do. And I have believed that since a really young age. I am at this point now. I can't wait to keep going.

Re: Overcoming adversity:

I would say once I had my second knee injury, it was probably when I decided to take football really seriously. I have been treating myself like a professional athlete in college. I finally realized how important the game is to me, because it had been taken away twice. I truly love the process of football. I am not just a gamer. I love practice. I love working out. I love all the little details of football. I think being injured and sitting out for an extended period of time really taught me the values.

Re: On his greatest strength as a pass rusher:

I think just tenacity. A lot of sacks are just relentlessly getting after the passer. You will see guys winning on the first move, but it's just being tenacious, getting after the passer and not giving up on a play. I feel like that's something I do really well.

Re: On if he chose to play offense at Wisconsin, or the coaches:

I think it was a mix of both. I came out of high school as a tight end and I think that's what they recruited me as. That's just how it worked out when I got to school.

Re: On early in his college career and if it was frustrating:

I don't think so. I think it's the attitude that you bring to work every day, really, sets the tone for how you're going to learn. I think that's what I carry with me, just a positive attitude. And I'm going to be the hardest worker there is, just because I have an opportunity to play in the National Football League now. And there, I had an opportunity to get on the field as a Wisconsin Badger, which was the coolest thing in the world to me. And you can't have a down day. I think you just have to realize it's not going to come overnight, but you just have to keep eating away at it day after day, and it will come.

Re: On the Steelers having a long line of great linebackers:

It definitely does [put a smile on his face]. To be a part of a group that has such a great tradition, and guys who are here today still playing football, flying around and making hits, playing Steelers football, my type of football, is awesome to be a part of it. I can't say it enough, but I cannot wait to get out there and start working with those guys.

Re: On if he watches James Harrison's Instagram videos:

I do. They kind of freak me out a little bit, but I can't wait to see it in person [Smiles].

Re: On him being his own man:

I think this is finally the next step for me. Just being in the National Football League, being with my own organization and totally be separate from my brothers. Obviously, the name is always going to be with me, but I feel like now this is one step forward to making plays and making a name for myself. Obviously, I love my brothers to death. It's something we can't control. I'll always be attached to them. But I'm here to bring my hard work and dedication every single day and to be my own person. And just work my butt off.

Re: On his weight and conditioning plan:

To get as conditioned as possible. And just see where the coaches want me at, weight-wise. But the biggest thing I can do is to come into camp conditioned and take as many plays as I can.

Re: On his LSU game:

I expected to perform the way I did. I had a really good spring ball going into the season. Against LSU, I feel like there were a bunch of plays I missed, just like a lot of the games throughout the season. But it felt like it put me on the map a little bit. If anything, it kind of brought more attention to me and created better matchups.

Re: On if he and his brothers wanted to be in the NFL as kids:

I think it was definitely a dream, but it was never one we thought would be reached. As we grew older and we saw J.J. do it, it became more of an expectation almost. Because you see how much hard work is put into it and you realize a kid from Pewaukee (Wisconsin) can make it. I see the work and I know what it takes, that's why I take this so seriously day after day. And I just take it one day at a time to get here. Yeah, it's great to be here, but I'm not satisfied at all to just be here. I'm chasing greatness, and that's what I'm here for.

Re: On playing quarterback:

The quarterback dream belly-flopped. I didn't have a great senior season as a quarterback, but it was a lot of fun.

Re: On if him playing quarterback experience helps him as a defender:

I don't know. If anything, it's more of the leadership [quality], being the guy in the huddle to calm everyone down and to be that voice to lead the huddle. But I don't know if being a quarterback helps me sack quarterbacks.



JuJu Smith-Schuster
Wide Receiver
USC
6-1, 215
Long Beach, Calif.
Long Beach Polytechnic High School
2nd Round – 62nd Overall

CAREER NOTES

Recorded 213 catches for 3,092 yards and 25 touchdown receptions, along with 16 kickoff returns for 185 yards...finished fourth on the Trojans' all-time list in catches (213)...eclipsed 100 receiving yards in 12 games, and caught at least one pass in each of his 40 games played (39 starts)...majored in social sciences (psychology).

2016 SEASON

Second-team All-Pac 12...started all 13 games...led the team in receptions (70) for 914 yards with 10 touchdown catches...posted at least 100 receiving yards in four games...added five carries for 27 yards...caught two touchdowns (3 and 15 yards), en route to finishing with seven catches for 56 yards vs. Utah State (9/10)...caught a career-best three touchdowns, including a 67-yarder, finishing with seven catches for 123 yards vs. Arizona State (10/1)...totaled three receiving touchdowns at Arizona (10/15), amassing nine catches for 132 yards...posted 133 receiving yards on seven catches, along with a touchdown, vs. Penn State (1/2).

2015 SEASON

First-team All-Pac 12...started all 14 games, leading the team in receptions (89), receiving yards (1,454) and touchdown catches (10)...led the Pac-12 in receiving yards (11th in the Nation)...his 89 receptions were seventh on the school's single-season chart and his 1,454 receiving yards were the third most...eclipsed 100 receiving yards in six games...had four catches for 89 yards with a career-long 61-yard touchdown catch vs. Arkansas State (9/5)...posted career-high in receptions (10) and receiving yards (192) to go along with a pair of touchdown catches vs. Idaho (9/12)...led all players with eight catches for 153 yards and a 54-yard touchdown vs. Stanford (9/19)...caught two touchdowns, finishing with five catches for 103 yards at Arizona State (9/26).

2014 SEASON

Second-team All-Pac 12 as an all-purpose/special teams player...appeared in all 13 games, making 12 starts...hauled in 54 receptions for 724 receiving yards with five touchdown catches...had 123 receiving yards — more than any USC first-year freshman in a season opener — on four catches vs. Fresno State (8/30)...eclipsed 100 receiving yards, finishing with 104 on four catches and a touchdown vs. Colorado (10/18)...caught six passes for 74 receiving yards with a school freshman-tying record three touchdowns at Washington State (11/1).

HIGH SCHOOL

Played wide receiver and safety at Poly High (Long Beach, Calif.)...totaled 71 tackles in 2013...as a junior in 2012, caught 49 passes for 752 yards with nine touchdowns, and made 51 tackles and six interceptions on defense



JuJu Smith-Schuster Wide Receiver USC 2nd Round – 62nd Overall

Re: Showing emotion when you were selected:

It's a blessing. It's tough, because you have your whole family behind you and your supporters. Your name finally gets called by a team that you didn't expect a call from.

Re: JuJu okay by you:

No, I don't mind. Just growing up as a kid, my aunt called me John-John and Joe-Joe. It finally went to JuJu.

Re: Interaction with the Steelers:

I only had one meeting with them when I was at the Combine. That was the only meeting. That was it. Ever since then, I hadn't spoken to them.

Re: Steelers have talent at wide receiver:

They have so many great talents. But I have the opportunity to have mentors in those guys to learn as a young player coming in and coming up. I will do anything possible to bring the Steelers back to the Super Bowl, whether that's on special teams, being a backup or a role player, anything that it takes.

Have you ever returned punts?

In high school I did but not in college.

Did they talk about returning kicks when you met with the Steelers at the Combine?

They asked if I had done it before. I said yes. They asked about me playing special teams at the gunner position and playing up in the punt return and kickoff return.

Re: Lynn Swann talking to you about being drafted:

He always gave me advice about staying focused, always staying positive, keep working hard, don't give up, just keep going strong. He said whatever team gets you, it's going to be special. You just have to keep fighting. He didn't talk about me going to the Steelers or anything like that. It was just advice about being a good person and keep working hard.

Any issues with your back?

No. No. No. That was just a one-time thing.

Re: Surprise the Steelers drafted you:

I only spoke to them one time. At the formal Combine meetings, it's like speed dating. You get 15 minutes. Seems like less than that because of how fast it's going. Ever since then, pro day and everything, I haven't even spoken to them until today.



Offensive Coordinator Todd Haley Re: JuJu Smith-Schuster

Obviously, we took JuJu Smith-Schuster out of USC. We are excited about it. He is a young guy. I think he's the youngest in the draft. As you know in the last few years we've had good success with young guys like that that. We feel like we are getting them early enough to really make an impact on their development. He is a good sized receiver. He was very productive out there at USC. He is a really do-it-all guy. He can play inside, outside. If you had to say what he excelled at, I'd say his ability to catch the ball in combative situations, 50/50 balls as we call them, and he usually comes down with them. He's a really exciting guy and we are excited to get him here to work on.

Is he a competitive and emotional player?

I'd say he's very competitive and passionate about what he does. That shows up in the run game, which is an exciting thing for us. He's not a guy that's afraid to stick his nose in there and block safeties and even some linebackers. He plays with a great passion, which is one of the exciting things about him.

Is he comparable to Anguan Boldin, who you coached?

I hate to compare guys. I coached Anquan, obviously in Arizona. He's a great player. We're talking about a young player who is just starting his career. I will say he is into football. He plays with a great passion. You can see it on the tape when you watch him. Those are guys that I get excited about and we get excited about. It's great to see a receiver that's not afraid to go in there and mix it up. We have a very good running back in Le'Veon Bell, and part of what makes that run game go is having guys out there on the perimeter that do their job in the run game also.

You have a lot of bodies at wide receiver. Does this indicate you're looking for a more dynamic player?

I don't know that I'd say that. I think we're trying to find the good players all the time that create competition. We do have a number of players at the receiver position that we're excited about. This is now another young guy that we add to the group that will just elevate that competition even more. When you have great competition, you tend to see the cream rise to the top.

Re: On if he knows where he wants to use Smith-Schuster in formations:

No, not right now. We'll let him get in here and run around some and figure out what we're doing, but he's a smart kid, that like I said played everywhere at USC. You saw him inside, outside, which usually indicates he knows what's going on, and that is being an advantage him, but we'll figure that out as we get moving forward.

Re: On if this selection was insurance for Martavis Bryant's situation:

No I wouldn't say that. I think that we'll get to Martavis at the appropriate time. Right now, we're excited about adding JuJu to the mix and getting him here to Pittsburgh and seeing what he's got.



Cameron Sutton
Cornerback
Tennessee
5-11, 188
Jonesboro, Ga.
Jonesboro High School
3rd Round – 94th Overall

CAREER NOTES

Started all 45 games in his Tennessee career, recording 127 tackles (111 solo), 13 tackles for losses, three forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and seven interceptions...added 45 punt returns for 657 yards and three touchdowns...graduated in December 2016 with a degree in communication studies.

2016 SEASON

Started each of his seven games played en route to recording 23 tackles and an interception...recorded the seventh interception of his career vs. Appalachian State (9/1) and made four tackles...had a career-high six tackles in start at Vanderbilt (11/26).

2015 SEASON

Started all 13 games, finishing with 28 tackles, three for losses, along with an interception, six passes defensed and two forced fumbles...ranked first in the nation in punt return average (18.7), returning 25 for 467 yards and two touchdowns...his 467 punt return yards set a new school single-season record...returned a punt 84 yards for a score at Kentucky (10/31)...hauled in his sixth career interception, along with two tackles at Missouri (11/21).

2014 SEASON

Started all 13 games, totaling 37 tackles, including four tackles for losses with a team-high 16 pass breakups (fourth in the SEC)...tied for second on the team with three interceptions...added 14 punt returns for 158 yards with a 76-yard return for a touchdown...recorded a career-high eight tackles and a pass break-up at Oklahoma (9/13)...posted a career-best four pass breakups and an interception vs. Florida (10/4)...returned a punt 76 yards for a touchdown at Vanderbilt (11/29).

2013 SEASON

Freshman All-Sec...started all 12 games, finishing sixth on the team with 39 tackles...had a team-high nine pass breakups, an interception returned for a touchdown, two fumble recoveries, four tackles for losses and a sack...became the first true freshman to return an interception for a touchdown since Eric Berry (2007 at Florida) on a 36-yard return vs. Western Kentucky (9/7)...posted his first career sack, finishing with six tackles and two for losses vs. Auburn (11/9).

HIGH SCHOOL

Played cornerback and wide receiver, as well as returner and punter on special teams at Jonesboro (Jonesboro, Ga.) High School...totaled 1,396 all-purpose yards as a senior at wide receiver and scored 19 touchdowns...tabbed All-State by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in Class AAAA as a senior, and first-team all-county, all-area as a sophomore, junior and senior...also played baseball and basketball for three years.



Cameron Sutton Cornerback Tennessee 3rd Round – 94th Overall

Re: Playing both inside and outside and if you have a preference:

I do not at all [have a preference]. Wherever the team needs me is where I will be at, whether that's inside or inside. I am just excited about this opportunity that are giving me, and I will make the most of it.

Did you speak with Coach Lake at the Combine?

I did. And the day before my pro day we talked a little bit, a little football. He got a chance to see how much I loved the game, my preparation through film.

So you got the dinner treatment?

Not the dinner treatment, but they came in. They came in to look at the other guys that are in the draft. They were there the night before our pro day. All the teams came in and talked to all the guys.

Re: Returning punts:

They brought it up. That's going to be a big part of it as well. Hopefully I get the opportunity to do that as well.

Re: Injuring your ankle and the recovery process:

I felt my best, 100%, when I got to the Senior Bowl. That's when I felt comfortable moving. That's when I felt my best moving around again, then at the Combine and pro day. I haven't had any problems. I am feeling really good right now.

Re: Coach Lake mentioned playing a lot more press and man-to-man coverage:

I am very comfortable. That's something that I did pretty much ever play in college. We played man, single-high, or some form of man coverage every single play. And played some zone. So I am very comfortable with playing press-man or off-man.



Defensive Backs Coach Carnell Lake Re: Cameron Sutton

We're glad to draft Cameron Sutton from Tennessee, a cornerback. Cameron is a press corner and plays close to the line of scrimmage but can also play off. He does a good job of mirroring the receiver. He stays close, and that shows in his productivity as a corner for Tennessee over the years in his career. He has led his team and is the all-time leader in passed defensed for Tennessee. He knows how to cover, he stays close, and that is something that we've been looking for in the draft. In the third round, he was available and that's why we took him.

Is man coverage a big issue looking at guys this year?

I think for us to be versatile as a defense we're going to instill a little more man this year. That's apparent in how we can improve our defense and get closer to defenders. We believe that Sutton will help us in that area.

How much does an emphasis on man coverage change the way you draft?

At least speaking for myself, I think versatility in a defensive back is something you always should look for, the ability to be able to call any defense and the defensive back should be able to draw upon his skills to be able to handle that. I think that just comes with drafting the right guys. I think this is a good attempt, especially in the third round, of getting someone who can help us do that.

Will he be playing inside, outside or both?

We'll take a look. Cameron has probably been someone who has done both. We're looking to see what he can do when he gets here, to see if he can play inside or help us outside. The more versatile he is, the quicker he can get on the field. We'll just have to take a look and see where he best fits when he gets here.

Does he have safety capabilities too?

I would probably consider him a true corner at this point. I think he's built like a corner. That would be a stretch right now at this point.

Re: On if Sutton is a slash-type defensive back:

For me anyway, I probably think he'd be a slash nickel-corner just referring back to what has been mentioned earlier. I think he's nickel-corner slash, as opposed to corner-safety slash.

Re: On Sutton being a captain at the University of Tennessee:

You know leadership is big. We're always looking for that. That means if he thinks of himself as a leader, he probably takes pride in his preparation and his communication skills, so that's always helpful in the secondary. I hope that's true.



James Conner Running Back Pittsburgh 6-1, 233 Erie, Pa. McDowell High School 3rd Round – 105th Overall

CAREER NOTES

In 39 games, finished second on Pitt's all-time rushing yards chart (3,733), total touchdowns (56) and rushing touchdowns (52), trailing only Tony Dorsett in all three...set Atlantic Coast Conference records for career rushing touchdowns and total touchdowns, finishing with 52 and 56 respectively, in his career.

2016 SEASON

First-Team All-ACC selection...rushed for 1,092 yards and 16 touchdowns on 216 carries...added 21 catches for 302 receiving yards and four touchdown catches...his 20 total touchdowns ranked eighth in the nation...receiving the 2016 Disney Sports Spirit Award, presented annually to college football's most inspirational figure, recipient of the Maxwell Club Thomas Brookshier Spirit Award and the Brian Piccolo Award...compiled four 100-yard rushing games in the last five contests...scored two touchdowns vs. Villanova (9/3)...rushed for 117 yards and scored two touchdowns vs. Penn State (9/10)...totaled 141 rushing yards on 19 carries and three touchdowns vs. Virginia Tech (10/27)...posted 132 rushing yards on 20 carries and a score vs. Clemson (11/12)...finished his regular season career with a 115-rushing yard game, scoring two touchdowns and adding two catches for 45 yards and a touchdown vs. Syracuse (11/26).

2015 SEASON

Rushed for 77 yards and two touchdowns on eight carries vs. Youngstown State (9/5) before suffering a season-ending knee injury.

2014 SEASON

First-team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association, becoming the first Pitt running back to garner first-team accolades in 27 years, dating back to Craig "Ironhead" Heyward in 1987...selected the ACC Player of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year by the league's media and coaches...rushed for 1,765 yards and 26 touchdowns on 298 carries...ranked third nationally in rushing touchdowns, fourth in scoring, sixth in rushing yards per game and seventh in total rushing yards, leading the ACC in all four categories...set a Pitt single-season record for rushing touchdowns, total touchdowns (26) and points (156), surpassing Tony Dorsett in all three...his 26 rushing touchdowns also set an ACC record, and his 1,765 rushing yards ranked third in ACC history and fourth in school history... had a career-high four touchdowns on just 14 carries to go along with 153 yards vs. Delaware (8/30)...rushed for 214 yards and a touchdown on 36 carries vs. Boston College (9/5)...posted a career-best 263 rushing yards and three touchdown on 38 carries vs. Duke (11/1).

2013 SEASON

Played in 12 games, leading the program in rushing yards (799) and rushing touchdowns (8)...became the first true freshman to lead Pitt in rushing yards and rushing touchdowns since 2009 (Dion Lewis)...eclipsed 100 yards rushing in four games... rushed for 119 yards on 12 carries with two touchdowns in a win vs. New Mexico (9/14)...rushed for 173 yards on 26 carries with a touchdown in a 58-55 win at Duke (9/21)...named MVP of the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl after a 229-yard rushing performance on 26 carries and a touchdown vs. Bowling Green (12/26)...his 229 yards set a Pitt Bowl game record.

HIGH SCHOOL

At McDowell (Erie, Pa.) played running back and defense...led school to quarterfinals of the PIAA Class AAAA playoffs as a senior, after rushing for 1,680 yards and 21 touchdowns on 155 carries...set a school single-season record with 164 points, including 26 touchdowns (tied for the most in school history)...also set school records for sacks in a season (12) and career (17).



James Conner Running Back Pittsburgh 3rd Round – 105th Overall

What was your first reaction when you were picked by the Pittsburgh Steelers?

It's a dream come true. I'm forever grateful for them for giving me the opportunity after everything I've been through. I know a lot of teams were scared, but they gave me the opportunity of a lifetime, and they are going to get a great person and a great football player, and I'll give it my all for them.

What does it mean for you to be staying in Pittsburgh?

I'm right back at Heinz Field. I'm familiar with the place. The city has been great to me. There are huge things left to come.

What was it like tonight sitting there and waiting to be drafted?

I was getting a little antsy and a little worried because I know my talent level. I saw some other running backs go before me. I'm different, and I know what my talent is. I got a little worried at first, but it's Steelers Nation and I'm coming home.

Did you have a feeling it might be the Steelers at all?

Yes, a little bit. I knew that Coach Tomlin got to watch me all my time here playing right next door. For it to come through is a blessing.

How do you feel you can help them?

In any way they want me to. Obviously Le'Veon Bell is the primary running back. He's one of my guys and good friends. He's put the work in and proven it. He earned [the right] to do what he does best. Whenever I come into the game, whether it is special teams or anything, I'm going to make sure to give it my all and help the team anywhere they need me.

How much will it help to come into a team where you know Le'Veon Bell, Ben Roethlisberger, Antonio Brown and a bunch of the other guys?

I know that they already have great chemistry. Hopefully, I can just come in there and pick it up, build with that chemistry and keep the ball rolling.

What did the Steelers want to know about you when they met with you?

They wanted to know the background. Even though we're so close, it's a totally different organization. They asked me everything other teams from the Combine asked me. They asked about my family and how I was raised.

Who is with you?

A lot of people.

Is Coach Narduzzi with you?

No, he's not here.

Did he call you?

Yes, he called. He just told me congratulations. I have to call him back. I know he's incredibly proud of me. I'll have a long talk with him.

How did you sense that some teams were hesitant to draft you based on the history?

That's just what I thought. Me personally, I believe that what I put on tape is right up there with the best of the best. That's one of the only reasons why I could think of why other teams were drafting running backs before me.

Why did you feel the need to write the letter to say that you're 100% healthy?

Because a lot of people look at me as just that [story]. I just wanted to get that word out there.



Running Backs Coach James Saxon Re: James Conner

So you guys all know right now we just finished drafting James Conner with the third round compensatory pick. We are very excited about this young man. He is an excellent football player; he is a hard worker player and a no-frill football player in terms of running the ball downhill, a Pittsburgh Steelers type.

Have you gotten to know him being next door?

Yes, we bump into these kids on a regular basis. They are on the practice field and we are on the practice field as well. We get to meet these young men and that's a good thing. James is a great guy and obviously what he does as a football player, is what we want.

Re: The players all know the guy, so they are probably happy about this pick:

Yes. In this whole process any one of these kids who's getting the opportunity to get picked by an NFL team, they have earned it and deserved it. This guy is no different. The fun thing about being around this guy is that you know what you are going to get. You are going to get hard work, a guy who is committed, a guy who wants to learn and get better every day.

Re: James Conner as a player:

This guy is who he is. He's accountable. He has done everything he has been asked to do in terms of playing at Pitt. Now, he is going to get an opportunity and get to come next door and work for the Steelers.

How does his skill set complement Le'Veon Bell?

Different kind of guy, but a smart football player, tough, physical. The guy has great stature, and that is something that is going to pay dividends as we go down the road.

Did you go for someone who was a little different than Le'Veon Bell?

I think what Coach Tomlin and Kevin Colbert look for who is going to fit the type of a Steeler. This guy is that.

Coming in with his mask at 5:30 a.m. in the morning practicing, were you aware of any of that? Did you see any of that with his mask?

No. I mean none of that stuff we got to see. I didn't get a chance to see. I saw some of it on television. Again, that's not the focus I had on terms of evaluating this young man. What I did was I looked at the tape and the tape told me what he was.

Re: On how Conner will fit into the passing game:

That's something that is probably a little bit down the road. We'll see what he can do. Obviously he can catch the football. Obviously we're going to ask the guy to do the things he's capable of doing just like we would any of our other players.

Re: On how he can evaluate the no-huddle offense capability when watching film with a prospect:

Everybody that is asked to play football for the Steelers has a job that we allow them to do as coaches, and as a coach, it's going to be my responsibility to help this young man understand what everything he's being asked to do. We will be okay in that regard.

Re: On what Conner does well that translates to the NFL right away:

He runs the football downhill. He can bend, obviously he can catch the football, he's tough, he's smart and he's going to be a guy that's going to come in here and want to learn every day.

Re: On if he read the letter Conner sent out to teams:

I'm not familiar with the letter.

Re: On if Conner knew ahead of time that he was on the Steelers' draft board:

Yes, he was one of the 30 visits, and so I got a chance to sit down and talk to young man for a while and talk about football, and obviously watching football with him, and it went well.

Re: On if the Steelers had any other running back visits other than Conner:

No, not that I'm aware of.

Re: On if he knew Conner was the guy he wanted:

Again, you go through the evaluation process and you have players ranked the way they are, and the rounds go the way they are, and then there are guys standing there when you get an opportunity to choose them, and he was in that position.

Re: On if coaches have to get past the sentiment of what Conner has overcome to see the kind of football player he is:

This is not a story about sentiment. This is a story about a young man that is a very good football player, and I hope that the guys that we play against are sentimental [Laughs], because he is going to share with them some sentimental, physical things.

Re: On if he believes Conner is back to the player he was before the knee injury and cancer battle:

Again, as a position coach, we're privy to the video that we're given as these guys are coming out of school. I was aware of the kid, but he wasn't a guy that I studied at that point because he wasn't available, frankly, but we're just happy with what we saw leading up to this.



Joshua Dobbs Quarterback Tennessee 6-3, 216 Alpharetta, Ga. Alpharetta High School 4th Round – 135th Overall

CAREER NOTES

Finished his Tennessee career with a 23-12 record, 3-0 in Bowl games, as a starting quarterback, tying for the fifth-most wins by a starting signal caller in program history...set school records for career rushing yards by a quarterback (2,160), career rushing touchdowns by a quarterback (32), single-season rushing yards by a quarterback (831 in 2016) and single-season rushing touchdowns by a quarterback (12 in 2016)...ranked fifth in Tennessee history in career passing yards (7,138) and his 9,360 yards of total offense (7,138 passing, 2,160 rushing and 62 receiving) rank third in school annals...one of three quarterbacks in SEC history to record 15 passing touchdowns and 10 rushing scores in multiple seasons...one of four conference quarterbacks to have over 50 career passing touchdowns and 25 career rushing scores.

2016 SEASON

Second-Team All-SEC AP...started all 13 games...totaled 3,781 yards of total offense (2,946 passing, 831 rushing, 4 receiving) – the second-most in Tennessee history...passed for three touchdowns – 10-of-19 completions for 91 yards and rushed for 106 yards with two scores vs. Virginia Tech (9/10)...threw for four touchdowns, completing 16-of-32 passes for 319 yards, and added one rushing touchdown on 80 yards and 17 carries vs. Florida (9/24)...threw for a career-high 398 yards, completing 28-of-47 passes with a touchdown at Texas A&M (10/8)..accounted for five touchdowns (three passing and two rushing) in wins vs. Kentucky (11/12) and Missouri (11/19)...set a career high in completions (31) and attempts (34) at Vanderbilt (11/26)...recorded 340 passing yards and two touchdowns leading Tennessee to its third straight Bowl victory, over Nebraska (12/30), throwing for 291 yards on 23-of-38 passing with a touchdown, and adding 118 rushing yards and three touchdowns on 11 carries.

2015 SEASON

SEC Academic Honor Roll...threw for 2,291 yards on 205-of-344 passing with 15 touchdown passes and five interceptions in 13 starts...added 671 rushing yards with 11 rushing touchdowns...rushed for 387 yards with five rushing touchdowns at Florida (9/26)...amassed 430 yards of offense, throwing for 312 yards on 25-of-42 passing with three touchdowns and rushing for 118 yards with two scores vs. Georgia (10/10)...totaled 284 yards of offense and four touchdowns at Kentucky (10/31)...led program to an Outback Bowl win vs. Northwestern (1/1) with 214 yards (166 passing and 48 rushing), scoring two scores on the ground.

2014 SEASON

SEC Academic Honor Roll...recorded a 4-1 record in five games started, six played...compiled 1,675 yards of total offense and 17 touchdowns (nine passing and eight rushing), leading the Volunteers in touchdowns scored with eight...threw for 1,206 yards on the season, completing 112-of-177 passes and rushing for 469 yards...became the first Tennessee player with 300 passing yards and 100 rushing yards in the same game at South Carolina (11/1), setting a school record for the most rushing yards by a quarterback (166), and accounted for five scores (three rushing and two passing)...registered 345 yards of total offense with four touchdowns vs. Kentucky (11/15), throwing for 297 yards with three scores and adding a nine-yard rushing touchdown...had 183 yards of offense with two rushing scores at Vanderbilt (11/29)...named MVP of the TaxSlayer Bowl vs. lowa (1/2), accounting for 205 yards of offense and three touchdowns.

2013 SEASON

Started four-of-five games played, becoming the eighth true freshman to start at quarterback in program's 117-year history...threw for 295 yards, completing 72-of-121 passes with two touchdowns, and ran for 189 yards and a score...threw for 249 yards on 26-of-42 passing in his first career college start at Missouri (11/2)...tossed the first two touchdowns of his career at Kentucky (11/30), and added his first career rushing touchdown.

HIGH SCHOOL

As a senior at Alpharetta (Alpharetta, Ga.) High School, threw for 3,625 yards and 29 touchdowns, while rushing for 419 yards and 10 scores...finished his junior campaign with 3,113 passing yards and 29 touchdowns and added 200 rushing yards and two scores...named the Georgia Rising Senior Bowl MVP with a 237-passing yard performance and rushing for 56 yards with three total touchdowns in the game...also participated in baseball.



Joshua Dobbs Quarterback Tennessee 4th Round – 135th Overall

Re: Talking with Ben Roethlisberger when you visited the Steelers:

It was a very good exchange. I was sitting down watching some film in the quarterback room. It was cool to see him stop in. He just stopped in to say help briefly. It was really cool to see him in person. He is a great quarterback. I am excited to get the chance to learn from him and be able to take in as much as I possibly can from him.

Were the Steelers on your radar?

I did. It was funny, I had a couple of friends over and my parents. We were looking at the pick order. I saw Pittsburgh up there, probably 15 picks ago. And I was like, "Pittsburgh, that will be the one. Stayed tuned to Pittsburgh." Two picks before the pick, I got the call from a 412 area code and it was Coach Tomlin on the phone. It's amazing. It's truly a dream come true, the opportunity. God works in mysterious ways, but I am definitely excited to be a part of the Steelers.

Re: Internship designing aircraft engines for the U.S. Government:

That is true. I was in Florida, working on the F-135 engine in the fighter jets. This was a couple of months before the aircraft actually went into action, but there was flight testing. It was a really great opportunity to branch out and learn about the aerospace industry and the most technologically advanced engine ever created, to this day. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Re: Recommendations to make the engine better:

[Laughs] At that point I was just in the learning process. I didn't have any recommendations, because I was just learning how the whole engine worked, everything that went into testing and everything they were doing regarding how they developed the engine as they pushed towards certification. I learned a lot about that and the engineering world.

Any confusion between separating school and football?

It's great to have an engineering degree, because just the preparation and the mental aptitude and mental toughness that it takes to push through four years in college, pursuing an aerospace engineering degree with a business minor, and playing division one SEC Football, that's the same amount of pressure you have to take on the field as a quarterback. And the preparation day-to-day, and the constant trying to find every detail that is going to give you a good, competitive edge on Sunday. It's the same mindset that you have in the classroom that you take into the film room and then onto the field.

Re: Strengths and improvements:

No. 1, my leadership and being a consistent leader each and every day, and positively impacting my teammates on and off the field. No. 2, the physicality that it takes to be successful at the next level, from my competitive spirit and my arm strength and accuracy, and to my footwork, and understanding the play calling and what the coaches are trying to get out of you each and every play. Just being a coach and a field general. And No. 3, my consistency, pushing to be great and pushing to win. That's what I want to do at the end of the day, compete and win. That's my mindset. I am just excited to bring that to the Steelers.

Why you want to play football, considering your successful academic background:

I don't feel like your academic background should prohibit you from playing football. I love the game of football. I have loved it since I played it when I was five. My mom signed me up at five years old, when we were running around in helmets bigger than your body. Football is all I know. Going to college, I could have played football or baseball, but I chose football because that was the sport I couldn't see myself not playing. I love the game. I give it all, every time I step onto the field. It's great to have a backup plan for 15 years down the road when I can't play football. But until that day, I am giving it all to the sport I love. I will definitely do that each and every day.

Re: Ben Roethlisberger's replacement:

I am not trying to replace anyone. I am just trying to be the best I can be each and every day. Show up and work. Learn as much as I can from a future Hall of Famer. It's definitely an amazing opportunity. Each day I am working and preparing like I am a starter, but also treating it as a learning opportunity so that whenever my number is called, I am ready to go, ready to play and ready to play at a high level.

Re: Similarities between this offense and your one in college:

There are a lot of similarities, being able to come up to Pittsburgh. I spent some time with the coaching staff and watched some plays. It's similar plays and lingo that I was familiar with at the college level, similar progressions. Of course, the Steelers are going to draw up different plays for different people, get Antonio Brown the ball. But at the end of the day, it's similar progressions, similar thought process that goes into being successful at quarterback. Of course there is going to be a learning curve and whatever you have to do to make yourself polished at the professional level, but it's still in the same category of the stuff I have been doing at the college level, so I feel better prepared to make that jump successfully.

Re: Limiting the fumbles when running:

Have to take care of the football. Have to be smart. Make sure you hold it high and tight. Hold your dreams, goals and aspirations moving forward, and achieve that. Committing less turnovers gives you a higher chance to win. It's all about the ball, and you have to protect it.

Re: Cameron Sutton:

That's my guy. We walked in freshman year of college. We are both from Georgia. We actually played fourth grade football against each other. He won one. I won one. So we are 1-1 on opposite ends. We were roommates our freshman year. We created a great relationship. We were able to become leaders at Tennessee, on and off the field. I saw him get drafted yesterday. I was so excited for him. I am definitely excited to come join him. He was one of the first people that called me after I got drafted. We knew we are going to be back together, and we weren't going to be broken up. It's definitely very exciting to see a familiar face, a great teammate and a great friend and brother with me in Pittsburgh.

Re: Position in baseball:

I played shortstop and third base.



Quarterbacks Coach Randy Fichtner Re: Joshua Dobbs

Obviously I am excited about the opportunity to strengthen our room. I got a chance to meet Josh a couple weeks ago; I think it was April 3rd. I visited with him at the combine for a little bit. He is a super young man, talented, checks a lot of boxes, a winning quarterback. He did a nice job in fourth quarter wins. I believe he had five in the last two years. Lot of strengths, obviously, a lot of people are going to talk about his above the neck is strong no question. I don't know if I'm in that category as far as he is with his mind, but we definitely hit it off. I think one of the things that happen when you get to meet the guy and you spend time throughout this process is you get a chance to feel their love for the game. I think this a very sharp young man who loves football. That is unique. To be as sharp as he is, to be as accomplished as he is, and this is what he chose to do. I am excited about that as we move forward.

Is it hard knowing that players are smarter than coaches?:

Aerospace engineering, I think he has already worked on his business degree, I mean he is very accomplished.

Why did you feel you needed to add a quarterback in this draft?:

Well, we evaluate a lot of the quarterbacks. I think you are always trying to better yourselves in the room. Regardless of what Ben Roethlisberger is doing, just to throw that out there. Whether he plays five more years, six more years, I tease him all the time saying we have to go eight. That's irrelevant. It's a matter of strengthening the room, finding some characteristics that he can bring to the Steelers that we value to make us better. I think our room just gets competitive. That's always a good thing. You are looking for competition and it just happens that it fell at quarterback this year. It's been awhile. Like I said when I walked in, I have only been in here one time in 11 years. Landry was about five years ago.

Re: Fumbles:

There's always going to be a number of favors. First and foremost you are always going to look at fumbles that don't have to be caused. Ball security in the pocket, he has big enough hands to play in AFC in this football that we play here. He has big enough hands, he is strong enough but you are talking about an athletic runner. They asked him to run to be a part of the run game at certain times. I think it's not a complete spread where he is asked to run every fifth play or is running a whole bunch of run pass options. You definitely get a chance to see him in the pocket. He is definitely an athletic quarterback at 6'3, who can extend plays, willing to extend plays. So now you are in a position where some of the fumbles might occur. I'm not sure that is a stat that is lost though. Again, sometimes when you are talking about shotgun, you are doing meshes and things like that, the ball is on the ground and next thing you know it's the quarterback responsible and he is the one who is guaranteed to fumble. But obviously, those will be things you always talk about, those are things we work individual. Ball security is a must. Anytime you are a developing backup quarterbacks for the Pittsburgh Steelers, you have to protect the football.

Re: On the challenges of a quarterback learning to take snaps under center:

He's been exposed to some under-center-football. They've asked him to do some of that, so it isn't going to be foreign to him like it will be for a handful of guys that have already been drafted to this point. One of the things these guys do as soon as their season is over, they work toward working under center the whole time, so if you go to their pro day, they're under center. They're going to try and prove to you and show you the coach, the general manager, the head coach, all the scouts that, 'Hey, I can do this and you don't have to worry about.' Any of the quarterback coaches that work with these guys from the time their season is over until the draft, they know that if it's an emphasis they haven't had, then they're going to put them in those situations. So we would have gotten a chance to see him even at their pro day do these types of things.

Re: On if the comparisons between Dobbs and Dak Prescott are accurate:

Well I think you go comparisons because you're talking about guys that can throw for x-amount of touchdowns in the SEC and rush for x-amount of touchdowns in the SEC and he's one of those guys. I was at Dak's workout a year ago and you're talking about an athletic guy. We might even be saying the same thing potentially about the fumble numbers okay, because we're talking about guys that extend that create to make plays and Joshua is in that category. He's capable of doing that.

Re: On how big of a deal is arm strength as in the NFL:

I think it's a must. We all talk about it. I've coached guys at different levels and it's been unique to see because you see guys that can understand the game and make very quick decisions and the ball comes out. And if that arm strength isn't elite like Ben (Roethlisberger), like Byron Leftwich, like a handful of guys in this league that have that kind of arm, you have to win above the neck and the ball has to come out on time. Decisions have to be made and you're talking about delivery and getting the ball out. So to me, it starts with arm strength, but I've been able to see others that didn't necessarily have that elite arm be very successful in their system.

Re: On how he rates Dobbs' arm:

I'd say it's very good, very good, strong, very good. There aren't many throws that we would ask him to make that I haven't already seen him do on tape.

Re: On Dobbs' accuracy and decision making:

I think that's two different questions. I think accuracy is very good. I want to say - so I don't speak out - I think he's a career plus-60, 61, 62, 63 percent passer. Again, you're talking some play-action-type things where you're throwing the ball down the yard. You noticed and you probably even saw some of the highlights of him, pushing the ball down the field. His offense isn't built on a ton of the bubble screens and all just wide-receiver-type screens, so accuracy is to me, within a pattern how well does he get the ball out, making decision, but it's also is he putting the intended receiver in position to be able to catch the football? And generally he does.

Re: On having him ready to start:

Tomorrow. We take everyone in the room and that's what we're working on. I'm not going to coach him any different than I'm going to coach Ben Roethlisberger and the expectations aren't going to change for him. I know that sounds like an answer you don't want to here, but the truth is, that's it. His growth will start as soon as we get out of here and I get the chance to get him on the phone again. Again, I got to visit with him a couple weeks back, we spent a couple of hours in here and Ben didn't meet him. Like I said, that will all go as he goes, too. But we're going to get an opportunity to go into rookie minicamp, and we're going to fire a lot at him. I think he made a comment before that there probably aren't too many playbooks he's real nervous about not being able to understand. But the truth is, it will be different. It will be a different system, the tempo will be totally different in the practice and the looks he's going to see are going to be totally unique and different than what he's probably been exposed to. So that learning curve still exists.

Re: On his deep-ball accuracy:

You see him make those plays. Again, you see a couple of the highlighted ones late in games when he made game-winning throws. We're blessed because Ben is one of those deep-ball throwers—that's unique. He's really good at it. And I think if you're asking about one trait that you would love to have when you're looking at our wide receiver group, you better be able to throw the deep ball.

Re: On if there was anything that stuck out on his visit:

Like I said, I probably had generally an hour or an hour and a half that might have bled over to two in between all of the interviews and everything he has to do while he's in this building for that short period of time. And it's one of those things that happens really fast. And it goes by so quick that you're like, "Wow. What just happened?" And then he's leaving, because you enjoy it that much. When you're around folks like that, it's fun. And I'm sure you've all been out to dinner with somebody or sat with someone and you just talked and three hours just went by, and it was unbelievable. You sit in the same room sometimes and you think, "Wow. I can't wait for this dinner to be over with." He's got that dynamic.

Re: On him being Ben's replacement:

I would say that right now you would consider first things first—let's make our room better in competition. Let's soak up everything Ben has left in the tank, which he can sponge off and learn. Because being with the respect that Ben Roethlisberger has at the level he plays at, it's unbelievable. And I would expect, and I know because I've seen Landry and every quarterback come through here try to sponge off of that. And I would be shocked if Josh isn't already thinking about that. How much can I pull from this quy every day that he's on the grass or in a meeting?

Re: On his major:

I guess you could say that. It's funny because I'm a Memphis guy. You all know I married a Memphis gal. I coached at Memphis for many, many years two different times. DeAngelo Williams is one of my favorites. We're all blue in our house. This will be the one exception for orange—that I will allow orange to be in our house. I'll be one of the first to go get one of his jerseys. So I'm excited about having him. And we'll make an exception for the orange. I'm sure Ramon, Big Dan and Cam are all celebrating. It's great.



Brian Allen Cornerback Utah 6-3, 215 La Marque, Texas La Marque High School 5th Round – 173rd Overall

CAREER NOTES

Played in 42 games (12 starts) in his Utah career...tallied 62 tackles (44 solo), 14 passes defensed and five interceptions.

2016 SEASON

Started nine-of-13 games played, recording four interceptions to tie for fifth in the Pac-12 and second on the defense...added 35 tackles (4.5 for losses and a sack)...10 passes defensed with six pass breakups...had a two interception game at UCLA (10/22)...posted a season-best five tackles at Arizona State (11/10).

2015 SEASON

Played in all 13 games (three starts)...recorded 26 total tackles and four pass breakups...hauled in his first career interception at Arizona (11/14)...amassed a season-high six tackles vs. Colorado (11/28).

2014 SEASON

Honorable mentioned Pac-12 All-Academic...saw action in the first six games, mainly on special teams, before suffering a season-ending injury.

2013 SEASON

Appeared in 10 games, primarily on special teams.

2012 SEASON

Redshirt.

HIGH SCHOOL

Hauled in 59 receptions for 942 yards and 10 touchdowns in his senior year at La Marque (La Marque, Texas) High School...football and basketball captain, lettering three years in both sports...helped lead his team to the state finals in football and basketball in 2010.



Brian Allen Cornerback Utah 5th Round – 173rd Overall

What prompted your switch from receiver to cornerback?

My first two years at Utah, I played receiver and I wasn't being utilized a lot, so my head coach came up to me and told me, "We want to try you out on defense." I made the switch to defense in 2014, and I have just been there ever since.

Would you say tackling is the toughest part of your transition to corner?

Yeah, it was tackling and learning to play backwards because I had never played defense before in my life. But over the years I feel like I have improved on it, and it has helped my game a lot. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done, but I am just happy for this opportunity and ready to get to work.

What kind of insight do you get from starting out as a receiver?

I think route recognition is one of those things that I can learn from playing receiver. You look at splits, different formations, a lot of stuff that I learned that helped me as my keys as a receiver, can help me in the defensive backfield.

Your shuttle time was almost the same as your 40. Do you have a problem cutting or shifting?

Not at all. I really don't know. I went to my pro day and improved on all of my times. I am not really too concerned with that anymore. I am just happy to be a Pittsburgh Steeler and ready to work.

Why two degrees?

My parents were just real big on school. So the fact that I started one of my majors and I ended up finishing it early, and I still had eligibility, so I was like, well why not try and get another degree if I can. My last semester of school I ended up taking 22 credits. I just wanted to finish, and I ended up finishing with two degrees. That was a big thing for me.

22 credits. Didn't you go crazy with all that?

There were definitely times where it was overwhelming, but you really can't look at it that way. I got it done, and everybody has those days where things get hard, but I got through it. I got it done, and I can say it is one of my most proud moments.



Defensive Backs Coach Carnell Lake Re: Brian Allen

We drafted Brian Allen, cornerback from Utah. Brian is a tall, physical corner, 6-3. He has good skills with playing the football, is long at the line of scrimmage and plays press coverage in man. He hasn't played the position very long but he has shown a real knack for a position-converted receive, who is, probably with another year under his belt, would be picked even higher than we acquired him in the draft. There are a lot of upsides with this player. We are excited to have him.

Re: Drafting underclassmen:

I think part of that is just the nature of the NFL. Guys are coming out early and they have a chance. Whether they have vetted out their possibilities or not, I think it's just what guys are doing. For me, in particular, and for the Steelers, we are concerned with acquiring good talent. We happen to think that Brian is worthy of a draft pick and that's what we did.

Re: Conversion of receiver:

From what I understand, for him, just talking about it, was tackling. He has turned out to be a very physical player. That did not bother me at all. In my notes, he actually did a great job tackling, before I knew that he thought it was one of his areas of concern.

Re: On if he saw Allen's pro day:

I talked to him at the Combine. I did not see his pro day workout, but fortunately most of the pro day workouts are filmed, which we look at those things. I thought his tape for the games that he started as a corner looked good. Like I said, I think with some more games under his belt I think he probably would have been drafted a lot higher, based on his measurables, his physicality, his ability to play the deep ball, etc.

Re: On if Allen played special teams in college:

I didn't look at his special teams tape. Fortunately for me, that's Coach (Danny) Smith's area. I particularly just watched his defensive film. I think the way he attacks the ball carrier, I think he can really help Coach Smith's room and the special teams. I'm sure with his size they'll be using him guite a bit in special teams early on.

Re: On what he can do with a long cornerback:

Well it depends on him, but Brian has shown the ability to get up in a receiver's face and he's done a good job of pressing the receivers and disrupting receivers at the line of scrimmage. A guy that's got 35-inch vertical and he's 6-3, he's a good jumper with good ball skills. It's going to be tough for guys to throw that over his head. If his technique is good, which it is, and he continues to improve, it's very difficult for these quarterbacks to get one in on the deep ball, especially if they attack it, and that's what Brian gives you right now. He gives you the ability to disrupt at the line, the ability to play the deep ball, and he's fast enough at 4.49 to stick with most receivers.



Colin Holba Long-Snapper Louisville 6-4, 248 Louisville, Ky. Eastern High School 6th Round – 213th Overall

CAREER NOTES

Handled long-snapping duties on a full-time basis in the 2015 and 2016 seasons.

2016 SEASON

Performed all of the long-snapping duties in each of the school's 13 games.

2015 SEASON

Handled all of the long-snapping duties successfully in all 13 games...was the short snapper on field goals and point-after-touchdowns.

2014 SEASON

Saw action at long-snapper in one game, the team's 66-21 win vs. Murray State (9/6).

HIGH SCHOOL

Played two years of football and three years of baseball at Eastern (Louisville, Ky.) High School...served as long-snapper during sophomore and junior years, when he was perfect on every snap.



Colin Holba Long-Snapper Louisville 6th Round – 213th Overall

Re: On if he had a draft party:

Not really. My family came over. I went to my parents' house, had a couple of friends over, but I wouldn't call it a party. It was just something to keep my mind off of today.

Re: On if being drafted is a surprise to him:

Absolutely. Being at a specialist position, very rarely do guys get drafted, so just for this to happen is beyond my wildest imagination, and I can't wait to get to Pittsburgh and start working.

Re: On what he knows about the Steelers long-snapper situation:

I know they have Greg Warren. He's been there for a while. He's one of the best there is, so I just can't wait to soak up all of the information that he has to offer and just do what all the coaches tell me to do, and to work my butt off.

Re: On how much contact he had with the Steelers during the draft process:

I talked to them a little bit at the Senior Bowl. I talked to them again at the Combine and then I talked to the General Manager (Kevin Colbert) at my pro day, but other than that, there wasn't a whole lot of contact.

Re: On who called him to tell him he was selected:

Coach (Mike) Tomlin was the one that called me, but I talked to Mr. (Art) Rooney, I talked to a bunch of people. I talked to the special teams coach (Danny Smith) as well.

Re: On what he thought of Coach Smith:

I can't wait to get to work with him. The Steelers have some of the best special teams in the NFL, so I can't wait to learn and soak up all the information that he has to offer.

Re: On what kind of questions a long-snapper gets asked during this process:

Kind of crazy ones, a lot of it how you got into long snapping. A lot of it is just, "Do you understand your role as a long snapper?" Some people don't understand the role. Your role is to be perfect on fourth downs and when the game is on the line, and I just told everybody that I'm excited to be a long-snapper and I've been trying to perfect this craft over the last four years in college and trying to continue to do it in the NFL.

Re: On how he became a long-snapper:

In fifth grade we started punting and I was a quarterback all growing up, so I was the only one strong enough to throw the football in between my legs upside down in fifth grade. It was just sort of something I could do, and when I was done with high school and couldn't play major college football as a quarterback, I just decided to give long-snapping a shot at Louisville and it worked out.

Re: On if he was quarterback through high school:

I was a quarterback in high school, yes sir.



Keion Adams Linebacker Western Michigan 6-2, 245 Salisbury, N.C. Salisbury High School 7th Round – 248th Overall

CAREER NOTES

Appeared in 50 games at Western Michigan, posting 124 tackles (71 solo), 32.0 tackles for losses, 14.5 sacks, five forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

2016 SEASON

All-MAC second-team selection...led the defense in sacks with 7.5, to go along with 49 tackles (34 solo), 17 stops for losses and three forced fumbles in 13 games...his 17.0 tackles for losses led the MAC...posted at least one sack in five straight games from 9/17-10/15...recorded a season-best eight tackles vs. Georgia Southern (9/24)...had 2.0 sacks and a forced fumble vs. Toledo (11/25).

2015 SEASON

Started seven of 13 games played, leading the team in sacks (5.5) and ranking second in tackles for losses (10)...made three tackles, a sack and forced fumble vs. Murray State (9/19)...posted 2.5 tackles for losses and a season-best five tackles at Ohio (10/17)...along with a sack...recorded five tackles in two other games, vs. Ball State (11/5) and vs. Toledo (11/27).

2014 SEASON

Appeared in all 13 games (Three starts)...had three tackles, including one for a loss at Virginia Tech (9/27)...recorded a half-sack vs. Ohio (10/25).

2013 SEASON

Made collegiate debut at MSU (8/30)...set a personal-best with six tackles vs. Buffalo (10/12)...forced a fumble vs. Ball State (10/19), and a fumble recovery vs. CMU (11/16).

HIGH SCHOOL

Member of the 2010 North Carolina State Championship team at Salisbury (Salisbury, N.C.) High School...earned Central Carolina Conference and regional championships along the way...tabbed All-CCC as well as All-Rowan County...three-sport athlete earning letters in football, baseball and track.

Kevin Colbert and Coach Tomlin Post-Draft Press Conference April 29, 2017



General Manager Kevin Colbert: Just to wrap up the draft, we're very pleased as you might well expect. We think we really added some good players that will help us in different areas and areas that we needed to get some help, guite honestly. It unfolded as we had hoped. There weren't many surprises. The guys we took, we were hoping they would be available when we did pick them. We felt that it sorted out good. T.J. Watt, we have already talked about. JuJu Smith-Schuster, I know the assistant coaches and coordinators came in and talked about the guys. The ability to add a young receiver, who has big possession type abilities and big red zone abilities, was important. You never have enough good players at any position, but this guy adds a size and strength dimension that we thought was important. Cameron Sutton, Cameron is a footballmature quy. When we went down to the Tennessee Pro Day, Coach Tomlin and Coach Butler sat in with Cameron and we went through some film and different things and the different schematics. Cameron was very, very impressive with his knowledge of their defense, not only his position, but also every other position on the defense. He has also done some put returning. He had an injury issue the last year that he came back from, which was impressive for a senior. Sometimes in that climate, last year, when kids weren't finishing bowl games, this kid made an effort to come back and play in their last game and their bowl game. We were every impressed with that. Not a lot needs to be said about James Conner that everyone isn't aware of. But from a football standpoint, the thing that really attracted us about James was not only his ability as a runner but as any runner will have to do, in our situation, obviously with Le'Veon, they will have to contribute on special teams. I'm sure you are all aware that James used to do spot rushing, some spot pass rushing over next door at Pitt. We aren't saying he is going to be a pass rusher, but his domineer when he does that, I'm just as anxious to see him cover a kick as I am to see him carry a football. He just has that domineer, again, the character and the football character beyond compare. Joshua Dobbs, a lot will be talked about, about a quarterback. We have a great one. We've said this all along, we'd like to get a young guy in the mix. Ideally, you get a young guy in the mix and they learn at a comfortable pace. Joshua is somebody that we were really impressed with. Again, that same evening we met with Cameron Sutton, we met with Joshua and he was a highly, highly intelligent kid. His skill level is really good and he has won some big games at Tennessee. You put those three factors together, coupled with the understanding that it will take time for him to learn a pro system as it always does with these spread guys. It was exciting to add someone of his caliber at that position. Brian Allen, CB, another young guy at the position. Brian is a converted receiver, who was a backup in 2015 both at corner and safety. He had some spot play. This year he became a starter after four games, a full-time starter as a corner. He's long, he's fast, he's young, he's inexperienced at the position, but he also got four interceptions. It's nice to get a guy like Sutton who has been there done that and is a senior who has all that experience and then get a guy like Brian Allen to complement him and hopefully develop as a corner. Colin Holba, long-snapper. Not many long snappers come along that we believe are draftable. New England took a kid a few years back who is their starting long snapper. And when we see one, we want to add him in the mix just like we would any other position and provide competition for Greg [Warren]. Colin certainly fit that bill and that's why we pulled the trigger when we did. Keion Adams, DE/LB from Western Michigan. He put up, I believe it was, 7.5 sacks this year for Western Michigan. He's another upside quy who has really developed over the last two years and he is athletic enough that he can stand on his feet and be that outside backer. Obviously, we picked eight guys. We were at 80 going into this thing. The picks leave us at 88. We will probably sign somewhere in the neighborhood of eight-to-ten free agents. Of course, that would put us over the limit, so you can expect as we get free agents signed, we will be trimming our roster. We have to trim out roster as some of those guys sign, and if we are trimming obviously we think it's an upgrade with the potential free agents that are going to replace the guys already on the roster.

Head Coach Mike Tomlin: Not much to add. Really exciting weekend for us. I'm excited about the young men we added to our roster, but also excited about the process we have gone through this weekend as a culmination of a lot of work. It's been a very enjoyable process for us as scouts and coaches coming together and trying to get the best roster that we can. We feel good about what we were able to do this weekend, but it's not the end. It is just the beginning — whether it's the beginning in terms of making additional signings, or whether it's the beginning in terms of getting these guys acclimated to Pittsburgh and getting to know them from a football perspective. We are equally excited about what lies ahead as we are about what transpired this weekend.

A lot of these guys, from what we are told and what we read, are passionate about the game, high-character guys, leader-type guys and football junkies. Is that coincidental, or are those the type of guys you were looking for?

MT: That is the type of guy we have coveted always. You hear Kevin mention it all the time: Hearts and smarts. A lot of these guys excel in those areas. They display a tremendous passion for the game in their play. They are smart, accomplished young men, not only in the game of football, but outside the game of football. Rocket scientists and so forth.

Typically a long snapper is a guy you could sign as a free agent. What was it about Holba? Was there an indication other teams were in on this guy? Plus, Greg Warren's contract was extended this season. Can you explain that?

KC: In college football, most long snappers are walk-ons. And because of their rules — there are different rules as to how you can defend them or block them after they snap — they have a lot more liberties than we do in the NFL. So a lot of the college snappers are these 6'1, 215-220 guys, which really would have a hard time snapping and blocking in our league. So, Colin, he is really 6'3, 248 and he has some coverage ability. Not that he will be the first line of defense, but he has the size to go along with the snapping. Again, not many come along that are that size who are competent snappers. It's really a supply and demand issue. It's no secret, Greg is moving into what I believe will be year 13. You have to be able to back that up, and sure we signed Greg and this will be competition for him just like we have competition at other spots. We have drafted guys in the sixth and seventh rounds that don't make the team and maybe they are practice squad types. So, the competition will be there. If he makes it, he makes it. If not, I don't know if we would have a guy on the practice squad, but we certainly just wanted to have that option. As these guys come along, there aren't too many draftable long snappers.

Re: On if the Steelers targeted creating competition in this draft:

KC: I believe all of these guys - no one is going to give away the job to T.J. Watt and those receivers, you've seen the little shenanigans they've already started and that's great. That's going to be great for us, to sort that out will be fun. Every one of these guys will have to compete and we think that they all can compete for positions and how far they go, who knows?

Re: On the thinking in taking JuJu Smith-Schuster in the second round and waiting to take a defensive back in the third round:

KC: It really always comes down to, we never will pass on a player because we might get another one down the road, because you often see in these drafts where once one goes, boy it just seems to run, which they call a run on that position, because I think once one goes, everybody says, "Uh oh, we better go get one." We never want to pass up a guy feeling we'll get a guy in the third round or the fourth round or whatever, so really it was just JuJu and about his abilities that warranted us taking him in the second round.

MT: As Kevin mentioned, we're excited about the competition. Competition is the truest motivator. We have a lot of capable men in that room. He's worthy of being in that competition. We were really excited about not only his skill set and what he did at USC over three years, over 3,000 yards, but the youth associated with that production. This guy just turned 20 in November. He played last season roughly at 19, he might have been the youngest guy in Indianapolis at the Combine. All of those things are attractive to us not only the present, but moving forward.

Re: On what separated Dobbs from the rest of the quarterbacks:

MT: We just like everything we saw about Josh, not only in terms of the potential upside with his game, but also the individual demand and natural leadership skills, the communication skills, the things accompany the quarterback position are very natural for him. We were excited about him.

Re: On if Greg Warren is healthy:

KC: Yeah, right now, yes. Like I said, we're going to provide him competition. We'll see where it goes.

Re: On if the Steelers were hoping to get an inside linebacker in this draft given Lawrence Timmons' departure:

KC: Again, if you go back to the previous free agency period, we knew there was a chance Lawrence would leave and that's why we signed Vince Williams to an extension, and we're very confident in Vince. Vince has started games for us and we're confident in that, not that we wouldn't have had another guy at the inside linebacker position if he would have made sense. Vince is fine and we'll see where it goes. You also have some other guys in there, Steven Johnson, Tyler Matakevich and L.J. Fort. Steven and L.J., specifically, have started games, so there will be competition in there, but obviously Vince is a leader, I would believe going into the season.

Re: On if the Steelers were thinking of drafting a tight end during a stretch where a lot of tight ends were drafted in the fifth round:

KC: I can't remember who went in there. If there was one available, we would have taken him, you know what I mean? If we didn't take one, I guess there wasn't one available at that point for us.

82nd ANNUAL SELECTION MEETING APRIL 27 - APRIL 29, 2017

ROUND 1

START OF ROUND: 8:05PM

#	1-1.	CLEVELAND	Garrett, Myles	DE	Texas A&M
#	2-2.	CHICAGO	Trubisky, Mitchell	QB	North Carolina
		from SAN FRANCISCO			
#	3-3.	SAN FRANCISCO	Thomas, Solomon	DE	Stanford
		from CHICAGO			
#	4-4.	JACKSONVILLE	Fournette, Leonard	RB	Louisiana State
	5-5.	TENNESSEE	Davis, Corey	WR	Western Michigan
		from LOS ANGELES RAM	S		
#	6-6.	NEW YORK JETS	Adams, Jamal	DB	Louisiana State
	7-7.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Williams, Mike	WR	Clemson
#	8-8.	CAROLINA	McCaffrey, Christian	RB	Stanford
#	9-9.	CINCINNATI	Ross, John	WR	Washington
#	10-10.	KANSAS CITY	Mahomes, Patrick	QB	Texas Tech
		from BUFFALO			
#	11-11.	NEW ORLEANS	Lattimore, Marshon	DB	Ohio State
	12-12.	HOUSTON	Watson, Deshaun	QB	Clemson
		from PHILADELPHIA throu	igh CLEVELAND		
	13-13.	ARIZONA	Reddick, Haason	LB	Temple
#	14-14.	PHILADELPHIA	Barnett, Derek	DE	Tennessee
		from MINNESOTA			
#	15-15.	INDIANAPOLIS	Hooker, Malik	DB	Ohio State
#	16-16.	BALTIMORE	Humphrey, Marlon	DB	Alabama
	17-17.	WASHINGTON	Allen, Jonathan	DE	Alabama
#	18-18.	TENNESSEE	Jackson, Adoree'	DB	Southern California
	19-19.	TAMPA BAY	Howard, O.J.	TE	Alabama
#	20-20.	DENVER	Bolles, Garett	T	Utah
	21-21.	DETROIT	Davis, Jarrad	LB	Florida
#	22-22.	MIAMI	Harris, Charles	DE	Missouri
	23-23.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Engram, Evan	TE	Mississippi
	24-24.	OAKLAND	Conley, Gareon	DB	Ohio State
#	25-25.	CLEVELAND	Peppers, Jabrill	DB	Michigan
		from HOUSTON			
	26-26.	ATLANTA	McKinley, Takkarist	DE	UCLA
		from SEATTLE			

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	27-27.	BUFFALO	White, Tre'Davious	DB	Louisiana State
		from KANSAS CITY			
	28-28.	DALLAS	Charlton, Taco	DE	Michigan
#	29-29.	CLEVELAND	Njoku, David	TE	Miami
		from GREEN BAY			
#	30-30.	PITTSBURGH	Watt, T.J.	LB	Wisconsin
	31-31.	SAN FRANCISCO	Foster, Reuben	LB	Alabama
		from ATLANTA through SE	ATTLE		
	32-32.	NEW ORLEANS	Ramczyk, Ryan	T	Wisconsin
		from NEW ENGLAND			

END OF ROUND: 11:39PM

TIME OF ROUND: 3 HOURS, 34 MINUTES TOTAL TIME 3 HOURS, 34 MINUTES

Underclassman

82nd ANNUAL SELECTION MEETING APRIL 27 - APRIL 29, 2017

ROUND 2

START OF ROUND: 7:08PM

	1-33.	GREEN BAY from CLEVELAND	King, Kevin	DB	Washington
#	2-34.	JACKSONVILLE	Robinson, Cam	T	Alabama
		from SAN FRANCISCO the	rough SEATTLE		
#	3-35.	SEATTLE	McDowell, Malik	DT	Michigan State
		from JACKSONVILLE			
#	4-36.	ARIZONA	Baker, Budda	DB	Washington
		from CHICAGO			
	5-37.	BUFFALO	Jones, Zay	WR	East Carolina
		from LOS ANGELES RAM	IS		
	6-38.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Lamp, Forrest	G	Western Kentucky
	7-39.	NEW YORK JETS	Maye, Marcus	DB	Florida
#	8-40.	CAROLINA	Samuel, Curtis	WR	Ohio State
#	9-41.	MINNESOTA	Cook, Dalvin	RB	Florida State
		from CINCINNATI			
#	10-42.	NEW ORLEANS	Williams, Marcus	DB	Utah
#	11-43.	PHILADELPHIA	Jones, Sidney	DB	Washington
	12-44.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Everett, Gerald	TE	South Alabama
		from BUFFALO			
#	13-45.	CHICAGO	Shaheen, Adam	TE	Ashland
		from ARIZONA			
#	14-46.	INDIANAPOLIS	Wilson, Quincy	DB	Florida
	15-47.	BALTIMORE	Bowser, Tyus	LB	Houston
#	16-48.	CINCINNATI	Mixon, Joe	RB	Oklahoma
		from MINNESOTA			
	17-49.	WASHINGTON	Anderson, Ryan	LB	Alabama
	18-50.	TAMPA BAY	Evans, Justin	DB	Texas A&M
	19-51.	DENVER	Walker, DeMarcus	DE	Florida State
#	20-52.	CLEVELAND	Kizer, DeShone	QB	Notre Dame
		from TENNESSEE			
#	21-53.	DETROIT	Tabor, Teez	DB	Florida
#	22-54.	MIAMI	McMillan, Raekwon	LB	Ohio State
	23-55.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Tomlinson, Dalvin	DT	Alabama
	24-56.	OAKLAND	Melifonwu, Obi	DB	Connecticut

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#	25-57.	HOUSTON	Cunningham, Zach	LB	Vanderbilt
	26-58.	SEATTLE	Pocic, Ethan	T	Louisiana State
	27-59.	KANSAS CITY	Kpassagnon, Tanoh	DE	Villanova
	28-60.	DALLAS	Awuzie, Chidobe	DB	Colorado
#	29-61.	GREEN BAY	Jones, Josh	DB	North Carolina State
#	30-62.	PITTSBURGH	Smith-Schuster, JuJu	WR	Southern California
	31-63.	BUFFALO	Dawkins, Dion	T	Temple
		from ATLANTA			
	32-64.	CAROLINA	Moton, Taylor	T	Western Michigan
		from NEW ENGLAND			

END OF ROUND: 9:27PM

TIME OF ROUND: 2 HOURS, 19 MINUTES TOTAL TIME 5 HOURS, 53 MINUTES

Underclassman

82nd ANNUAL SELECTION MEETING APRIL 27 - APRIL 29, 2017

ROUND 3

START OF ROUND: 9:27PM

	1-65.	CLEVELAND	Ogunjobi, Larry	DT	North Carolina-Charlotte
	2-66.	SAN FRANCISCO	Witherspoon, Ahkello	DB	Colorado
#	3-67.	NEW ORLEANS	Kamara, Alvin	RB	Tennessee
		from CHICAGO through SA	AN FRANCISCO		
	4-68.	JACKSONVILLE	Smoot, Dawuane	DE	Illinois
	5-69.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Kupp, Cooper	WR	Eastern Washington
	6-70.	MINNESOTA	Elflein, Pat	C	Ohio State
		from NEW YORK JETS			
	7-71.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Feeney, Dan	G	Indiana
	8-72.	TENNESSEE	Taylor, Taywan	WR	Western Kentucky
		from CAROLINA through 1	NEW ENGLAND		
	9-73.	CINCINNATI	Willis, Jordan	DE	Kansas State
	10-74.	BALTIMORE	Wormley, Chris	DE	Michigan
		from PHILADELPHIA			
	11-75.	ATLANTA	Riley, Duke	LB	Louisiana State
		from BUFFALO			
	12-76.	NEW ORLEANS	Anzalone, Alex	LB	Florida
	13-77.	CAROLINA	Hall, Daeshon	DE	Texas A&M
		from ARIZONA			
	14-78.	BALTIMORE	Williams, Tim	LB	Alabama
#	15-79.	NEW YORK JETS	Stewart, ArDarius	WR	Alabama
		from MINNESOTA			
	16-80.	INDIANAPOLIS	Basham, Tarell	DE	Ohio
	17-81.	WASHINGTON	Moreau, Fabian	DB	UCLA
#	18-82.	DENVER	Henderson, Carlos	WR	Louisiana Tech
	19-83.	NEW ENGLAND	Rivers, Derek	DE	Youngstown State
		from TENNESSEE			
#	20-84.	TAMPA BAY	Godwin, Chris	WR	Penn State
	21-85.	NEW ENGLAND	Garcia, Antonio	T	Troy
		from DETROIT			
	22-86.	KANSAS CITY	Hunt, Kareem	RB	Toledo
		from MIAMI through MINN	NESOTA		
	23-87.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Webb, Davis	QB	California
	24-88.	OAKLAND	Vanderdoes, Eddie	DT	UCLA

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	#	25-89.	HOUSTON	Foreman, D'Onta	RB	Texas
		26-90.	SEATTLE	Griffin, Shaquill	DB	Central Florida
		27-91.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Johnson, John	DB	Boston College
			from KANSAS CITY through	h BUFFALO		
		28-92.	DALLAS	Lewis, Jourdan	DB	Michigan
		29-93.	GREEN BAY	Adams, Montravius	DE	Auburn
		30-94.	PITTSBURGH	Sutton, Cameron	DB	Tennessee
		31-95.	SEATTLE	Hill, Delano	DB	Michigan
			from ATLANTA			
		32-96.	DETROIT	Golladay, Kenny	WR	Northern Illinois
			from NEW ENGLAND			
+		33-97.	MIAMI	Tankersley, Cordrea	DB	Clemson
+		34-98.	ARIZONA	Williams, Chad	WR	Grambling
			from CAROLINA			
+		35-99.	PHILADELPHIA	Douglas, Rasul	DB	West Virginia
			from BALTIMORE			
+		36-100.	TENNESSEE	Smith, Jonnu	TE	Florida International
			from LOS ANGELES RAMS	S		
+		37-101.	DENVER	Langley, Brendan	DB	Lamar
+	#	38-102.	SEATTLE	Jones, Nazair	DT	North Carolina
+		39-103.	NEW ORLEANS	Hendrickson, Trey	DE	Florida Atlantic
			from CLEVELAND through	NEW ENGLAND		
+		40-104.	SAN FRANCISCO	Beathard, C.J.	QB	Iowa
			from KANSAS CITY through	h MINNESOTA		
+	#	41-105.	PITTSBURGH	Conner, James	RB	Pittsburgh
+		42-106.	SEATTLE	Darboh, Amara	WR	Michigan
+		43-107.	TAMPA BAY	Beckwith, Kendell	LB	Louisiana State
			from NEW YORK JETS			

END OF ROUND: 11:35PM

TIME OF ROUND: 2 HOURS, 8 MINUTES TOTAL TIME 8 HOURS, 1 MINUTE

- + Compensatory Pick
- # Underclassman

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ROUND 4

START OF ROUND: 12:07PM

	1-108.	GREEN BAY	Biegel, Vince	LB	Wisconsin
	2-109.	from CLEVELAND MINNESOTA	Johnson, Jaleel	NT	Iowa
		from SAN FRANCISCO			
	3-110.	JACKSONVILLE	Westbrook, Dede	WR	Oklahoma
	4-111.	SEATTLE	Thompson, Tedric	DB	Colorado
		from CHICAGO through SA	N FRANCISCO		
	5-112.	CHICAGO	Jackson, Eddie	DB	Alabama
		from LOS ANGELES RAMS	S		
	6-113.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Jenkins, Rayshawn	DB	Miami
#	7-114.	WASHINGTON from NEW YORK JETS	Perine, Samaje	RB	Oklahoma
	8-115.	ARIZONA	Johnson, Dorian	G	Pittsburgh
	0 113.	from CAROLINA	Johnson, Dorlan	J	110001511
#	9-116.	CINCINNATI	Lawson, Carl	LB	Auburn
		LOS ANGELES RAMS	Reynolds, Josh	WR	Texas A&M
	10 117.	from BUFFALO through CH	•	*****	TONUS TICCIVI
	11.	NEW ENGLAND	Choice Forfeited		
	11.	from NEW ORLEANS			
	12-118.	PHILADELPHIA	Hollins, Mack	WR	North Carolina
		CHICAGO	Cohen, Tarik	RB	North Carolina A&T
		from ARIZONA	,		
	14-120.	MINNESOTA	Gedeon, Ben	LB	Michigan
		SAN FRANCISCO	Williams, Joe	RB	Utah
		from INDIANAPOLIS			
	16-122.	BALTIMORE	Siragusa, Nico	G	San Diego State
#	17-123.	WASHINGTON	Nicholson, Montae	DB	Michigan State
	18-124.	DETROIT	Reeves-Maybin, Jalen	LB	Tennessee
		from TENNESSEE through 1			
	19-125.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Ebukam, Samson	LB	Eastern Washington
		from TAMPA BAY through			-
#	20-126.	CLEVELAND	Wilson, Howard	DB	Houston
		from DENVER			
	21-127.	DETROIT	Roberts, Michael	TE	Toledo

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	#	22-128.	CINCINNATI	Malone, Josh	WR	Tennessee
			from MIAMI through MINN	NESOTA		
	#	23-129.	OAKLAND	Sharpe, David	T	Florida
		24-130.	HOUSTON	Davenport, Julie'n	T	Bucknell
		25-131.	NEW ENGLAND	Wise, Deatrich	DE	Arkansas
			from SEATTLE			
		26-132.	PHILADELPHIA	Pumphrey, Donnel	RB	San Diego State
			from KANSAS CITY through	gh MINNESOTA		
		27-133.	DALLAS	Switzer, Ryan	WR	North Carolina
		28-134.	GREEN BAY	Williams, Jamaal	RB	Brigham Young
		29-135.	PITTSBURGH	Dobbs, Joshua	QB	Tennessee
		30-136.	ATLANTA	Harlow, Sean	G	Oregon State
		31-137.	INDIANAPOLIS	Banner, Zach	T	Southern California
			from NEW ENGLAND			
+		32-138.	CINCINNATI	Glasgow, Ryan	DT	Michigan
+		33-139.	KANSAS CITY	Chesson, Jehu	WR	Michigan
			from CLEVELAND through	PHILADELPHIA and MINNESC	TA	
		34-140.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Gallman, Wayne	RB	Clemson
+	#	35-141.	NEW YORK JETS	Hansen, Chad	WR	California
			from LOS ANGELES RAM	S		
+		36-142.	HOUSTON	Watkins, Carlos	DT	Clemson
			from CLEVELAND			
+	#	37-143.	INDIANAPOLIS	Mack, Marlon	RB	South Florida
			from SAN FRANCISCO			
+		38-144.	INDIANAPOLIS	Stewart, Grover	DT	Albany State, Ga.
			END OF ROUND:	1:59PM		
			TIME OF ROUND:	1 HOUR 52 MINUTES		

TIME OF ROUND: 1 HOUR, 52 MINUTES
TOTAL TIME 9 HOURS, 53 MINUTES

- + Compensatory Pick
- # Underclassman

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ROUND 5

START OF ROUND: 1:59PM

	1-145.	DENVER	Butt, Jake	TE	Michigan
		from CLEVELAND			
	2-146.	SAN FRANCISCO	Kittle, George	TE	Iowa
	3-147.	CHICAGO	Morgan, Jordan	G	Kutztown
	4-148.	JACKSONVILLE	Brown, Blair	LB	Ohio
	5-149.	ATLANTA	Kazee, Damontae	DB	San Diego State
		from LOS ANGELES RAM	S through BUFFALO		
	6-150.	NEW YORK JETS	Leggett, Jordan	TE	Clemson
	7-151.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	King, Desmond	DB	Iowa
	8-152.	CAROLINA	Elder, Corn	DB	Miami
	9-153.	CINCINNATI	Elliott, Jake	K	Memphis
	10-154.	WASHINGTON	Sprinkle, Jeremy	TE	Arkansas
		from NEW ORLEANS			
	11-155.	TENNESSEE	Brown, Jayon	LB	UCLA
		from PHILADELPHIA			
#	12-156.	ATLANTA	Hill, Brian	RB	Wyoming
		from BUFFALO			
	13-157.	ARIZONA	Holden, Will	T	Vanderbilt
	14-158.	INDIANAPOLIS	Hairston, Nate	DB	Temple
	15-159.	BALTIMORE	Eluemunor, Jermaine	G	Texas A&M
#	16-160.	CLEVELAND	Johnson, Roderick	T	Florida State
		from MINNESOTA through	NEW YORK JETS		
#	17-161.	INDIANAPOLIS	Walker, Anthony	LB	Northwestern
		from WASHINGTON throu	gh SAN FRANCISCO		
#	18-162.	TAMPA BAY	McNichols, Jeremy	RB	Boise State
	19-163.	BUFFALO	Milano, Matt	LB	Boston College
		from DENVER through NE	W ENGLAND		
	20-164.	MIAMI	Asiata, Isaac	G	Utah
		from TENNESSEE through	PHILADELPHIA		
	21-165.	DETROIT	Agnew, Jamal	DB	San Diego
#	22-166.	PHILADELPHIA	Gibson, Shelton	WR	West Virginia
		from MIAMI			
	23-167.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Moss, Avery	DE	Youngstown State
	24-168.	OAKLAND	Lee, Marquel	LB	Wake Forest

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		25-169.	HOUSTON	Decoud, Treston	DB	Oregon State
		26.	SEATTLE	Choice Forfeited		
		27-170.	MINNESOTA	Adams, Rodney	WR	South Florida
			from KANSAS CITY			
		28-171.	BUFFALO	Peterman, Nathan	QB	Pittsburgh
			from DALLAS			
	#	29-172.	DENVER	McKenzie, Isaiah	WR	Georgia
			from GREEN BAY			
		30-173.	PITTSBURGH	Allen, Brian	DB	Utah
		31-174.	ATLANTA	Saubert, Eric	TE	Drake
		32-175.	GREEN BAY	Yancey, DeAngelo	WR	Purdue
			from NEW ENGLAND throu	gh CLEVELAND and DENVER		
+		33-176.	CINCINNATI	Dielman, J.J.	C	Utah
+		34-177.	SAN FRANCISCO	Taylor, Trent	WR	Louisiana Tech
			from DENVER			
+	#	35-178.	MIAMI	Godchaux, Davon	DT	Louisiana State
+		36-179.	ARIZONA	Logan, T.J.	RB	North Carolina
+		37-180.	MINNESOTA	Isidora, Danny	G	Miami
			from KANSAS CITY			
+		38-181.	NEW YORK JETS	Donahue, Dylan	LB	West Georgia
			from CLEVELAND			
+	#	39-182.	GREEN BAY	Jones, Aaron	RB	Texas-El Paso
+		40-183.	KANSAS CITY	Eligwe, Ukeme	LB	Georgia Southern
			from NEW ENGLAND			
+		41-184.	PHILADELPHIA	Gerry, Nathan	DB	Nebraska
			from MIAMI			

END OF ROUND: 3:47PM

TIME OF ROUND: 1 HOUR, 48 MINUTES
TOTAL TIME 11 HOURS, 41 MINUTES

- + Compensatory Pick
- # Underclassman

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ROUND 6

START OF ROUND: 3:47PM

#	1-185.	CLEVELAND	Brantley, Caleb	DT	Florida
	2-186.	BALTIMORE	Clark, Chuck	DB	Virginia Tech
		from SAN FRANCISCO			
	3-187.	SEATTLE	Tyson, Mike	DB	Cincinnati
		from JACKSONVILLE			
	4-188.	NEW YORK JETS	McGuire, Elijah	RB	Louisiana-Lafayette
		from CHICAGO through HC	OUSTON and CLEVELAND		
	5-189.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Smart, Tanzel	DT	Tulane
	6-190.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Tevi, Sam	T	Utah
	7-191.	DALLAS	Woods, Xavier	DB	Louisiana Tech
		from NEW YORK JETS			
	8-192.	CAROLINA	Armah, Alex	RB	West Georgia
	9-193.	CINCINNATI	Evans, Jordan	LB	Oklahoma
#	10-194.	MIAMI	Taylor, Vincent	DT	Oklahoma State
		from PHILADELPHIA			
	11-195.	BUFFALO	Vallejo, Tanner	LB	Boise State
#	12-196.	NEW ORLEANS	Muhammad, Al-Quadin	DE	Miami
	13-197.	NEW YORK JETS	Clark, Jeremy	DB	Michigan
		from ARIZONA through CH	ICAGO and LOS ANGELES RAM	1S	
	14-198.	SAN FRANCISCO	Jones, D.J.	DT	Mississippi
		from BALTIMORE			
	15-199.	WASHINGTON	Roullier, Chase	C	Wyoming
		from MINNESOTA			
	16-200.	NEW YORK GIANTS	Bisnowaty, Adam	T	Pittsburgh
		from INDIANAPOLIS throu	gh NEW ENGLAND and TENNES	SSEE	
	17-201.	MINNESOTA	Hodges, Bucky	TE	Virginia Tech
		from WASHINGTON			
	18-202.	SAN FRANCISCO	Taumoepenu, Pita	LB	Utah
		from DENVER			
	19-203.	DENVER	Henderson, De'Angelo	RB	Coastal Carolina
		from TENNESSEE			
	20-204.	NEW YORK JETS	Jones, Derrick	DB	Mississippi
		from TAMPA BAY			
	21-205.	DETROIT	Ledbetter, Jeremiah	DT	Arkansas

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	22-206. LOS ANGELES RAMS	Rogers, Sam	RB	Virginia Tech
	from MIAMI 23-207. CINCINNATI	Wilson, Brandon	DB	Houston
	from NEW YORK GIA	ANTS through TENNESSEE		
	24-208. ARIZONA	Ford, Johnathan	DB	Auburn
	from OAKLAND			
	25-209. WASHINGTON	Davis, Robert	WR	Georgia State
	from HOUSTON			
	26-210. SEATTLE	Senior, Justin	T	Mississippi State
	27. KANSAS CITY	Choice Forfeited		
	28-211. NEW ENGLAND	McDermott, Conor	T	UCLA
	from DALLAS			
	29-212. GREEN BAY	Amichia, Kofi	C	South Florida
	30-213. PITTSBURGH	Holba, Colin	LS	Louisville
#	31-214. PHILADELPHIA	Qualls, Elijah	DT	Washington
	from ATLANTA throu	gh TENNESSEE		
#	32-215. DETROIT	Kaaya, Brad	QB	Miami
	from NEW ENGLAND)		
	33-216. DALLAS	White, Marquez	DB	Florida State
	from KANSAS CITY t	hrough NEW ENGLAND		
	34-217. TENNESSEE	Levin, Corey	G	Chattanooga
	from CINCINNATI			
	35-218. KANSAS CITY	McQuay, Leon	DB	Southern California
	END OF ROUND:	5:20PM		

TIME OF ROUND: 1 HOUR, 33 MINUTES TOTAL TIME **13 HOURS, 14 MINUTES**

- **Compensatory Pick**
- # Underclassman

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ROUND 7

START OF ROUND: 5:20PM

	1-219.	MINNESOTA	Coley, Stacy	WR	Miami			
from CLEVELAND through SAN FRANCISCO								
	2-220.	MINNESOTA	Odenigbo, Ifeadi	DE	Northwestern			
	from SAN FRANCISCO through WASHINGTON							
	3-221.	OAKLAND	Luani, Shalom	DB	Washington State			
	from CHICAGO through ARIZONA							
	4-222.	JACKSONVILLE	Myrick, Jalen	DB	Minnesota			
	5-223.	TAMPA BAY	Tu'ikolovatu, Stevie	DT	Southern California			
	from LOS ANGELES RAMS through MIAMI							
	6-224.	CLEVELAND	Gonzalez, Zane	K	Arizona State			
		from NEW YORK JETS						
	7-225.	LOS ANGELES CHARGERS	Rochell, Isaac	DE	Notre Dame			
	8-226.	SEATTLE	Moore, David	WR	East Central			
		from CAROLINA						
	9-227.	TENNESSEE	Carraway, Josh	LB	Texas Christian			
		from CINCINNATI						
	10-228.	DALLAS	Ivie, Joey	DT	Florida			
		from BUFFALO						
	11-229.	SAN FRANCISCO	Colbert, Adrian	DB	Miami			
		from NEW ORLEANS						
	12-230.	WASHINGTON	Harvey-Clemons, Josh	LB	Louisville			
	from PHILADELPHIA through MINNESOTA							
	13-231.	OAKLAND	Ware, Jylan	T	Alabama State			
from ARIZONA								
#	14-232.	MINNESOTA	Lee, Elijah	LB	Kansas State			
	15-233.	CAROLINA	Butker, Harrison	K	Georgia Tech			
	from INDIANAPOLIS through CLEVELAND							
	16-234.	LOS ANGELES RAMS	Price, Ejuan	LB	Pittsburgh			
		from BALTIMORE						
	17-235.	WASHINGTON	Holsey, Joshua	DB	Auburn			
		TENNESSEE	Seaton, Brad	T	Villanova			
#	19-237.	MIAMI	Ford, Isaiah	WR	Virginia Tech			
		from TAMPA BAY						

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	20-238.	GREEN BAY	Mays, Devante	RB	Utah State		
		from DENVER					
#	21-239.	DALLAS	Brown, Noah	WR	Ohio State		
	from DETROIT through NEW ENGLAND						
	22-240.	JACKSONVILLE	Williams, Marquez	RB	Miami		
		from MIAMI					
	23-241.	TENNESSEE	Muhammad, Khalfani	RB	California		
		from NEW YORK GIANTS					
#	24-242.	OAKLAND	Hood, Elijah	RB	North Carolina		
	25-243.	HOUSTON	Fuller, Kyle	C	Baylor		
	26-244.	OAKLAND	Hester, Treyvon	DT	Toledo		
		from SEATTLE					
	27-245.	MINNESOTA	Tocho, Jack	DB	North Carolina State		
		from KANSAS CITY					
	28-246.	DALLAS	Carrell, Jordan	DT	Colorado		
#	29-247.	GREEN BAY	Dupre, Malachi	WR	Louisiana State		
	30-248.	PITTSBURGH	Adams, Keion	LB	Western Michigan		
	31-249.	SEATTLE	Carson, Chris	RB	Oklahoma State		
		from ATLANTA					
	32-250.	DETROIT	O'Connor, Pat	DE	Eastern Michigan		
		from NEW ENGLAND					
	33-251.	CINCINNATI	Schreck, Mason	TE	Buffalo		
	34-252.	CLEVELAND	Dayes, Matthew	RB	North Carolina State		
		from DENVER					
	35-253.	DENVER	Kelly, Chad	QB	Mississippi		
		END OF ROUND:	6:36PM				
		TIME OF ROUND:	1 HOUR, 16 MINUTES				

TOTAL TIME 14 HOURS, 30 MINUTES

- + Compensatory Pick
- # Underclassman