

## **NFL Network's 2013 NFL Draft Conference Call With:**

NFL Network Analyst **Mike Mayock**  
NFL Network Coordinating Producer **Charlie Yook**

**ALEX RIETHMILLER:** Some opening comments on the 2013 NFL Draft.

**CHARLIE YOOK:** Thanks for joining the call. Just wanted to go through a couple of important production bullet points for you that we wanted to highlight. Our coverage begins Thursday, April 25 and we plan on 47 hours of live coverage. Along with Mike [Mayock], we'll have analysts Charles Davis, Michael Irvin, Marshall Faulk, Deion Sanders, Steve Mariucci, Brian Billick, Charley Casserly, Scott Pioli, Daniel Jeremiah and Ian Rapoport.

This year also again we are going to have exclusive access to rolling cameras at various team locations. We'll have 15 rolling cameras this year offering behind the scenes video as team executives make their picks. One of those will include the Kansas City Chiefs, and that makes a fourth consecutive year that NFL Network has been inside the room of the team with the first overall pick.

We will also have college head coaches joining us again and those head coaches include LSU's Les Miles, Notre Dame's Brian Kelly, Stanford's David Shaw and Texas A&M's Kevin Sumlin.

Our coverage will also include draft parties, 19 total, including 16 on Thursday night providing fan reaction to each selection made by their favorite teams.

Finally I wanted to mention the outstanding coverage you can see on NFL.com and NFL Mobile. You can watch it on NFL Mobile from Verizon and we will have a lot of other stuff on the digital side across various platforms as they provide coverage on NFL Network.

**ALEX RIETHMILLER:** Now questions for Mike Mayock.

**Q. Players coming back for their senior year in school, I wanted to ask you about Landry Jones and Matt Barkley, both seem to be well regarded. Can you talk about those two guys and maybe where they might have slipped and where you see that they might have fallen to at this point?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Well, I'm a big believer that when kids are juniors, when they are underclassmen and there's a lot of momentum heading for them, like [Matt] Barkley as a junior, he'll be the first pick in the Draft...I just kind of giggle at that because the reality is once the 32 NFL teams start picking you apart, at some point, you're going to settle where you belong, anyway, based on your skill-set and your performances.

I didn't think a year ago Barkley was going to be the No. 1 pick or a top-5 pick or a top-10 pick. I didn't see that. Landry Jones, he also didn't have a good year. As a matter of fact the kid from Arkansas didn't have a good year, Tyler Wilson.

I went back and looked at junior year tape of all of them just to be fair to the kids to balance it out. When you get a guy like Barkley who is a very competitive kid and the team wasn't anywhere as good as they expected to be, I think he started to force things. And when you start to force things at the quarterback position and get outside of your comfort zone, bad things happen.

So that's kind of a long way of saying that I think things ultimately settle. I think Barkley is still going to go somewhere in the first round, probably the bottom third. I'm not sure yet where yet but I think as a team it's probably trading up from the second round to the first to get him.

And as far as Landry Jones is concerned, I think his sophomore year might have been his best year. And I think his decision-making has been somewhat questionable, and at this point, I've got Landry Jones in my fourth round. As a kid as a sophomore, I thought that had a lot of upside and kind of settled in and did not grow anymore.

**Q. If you're advising someone if they wanted to come back, is your advice to just identify some things that they want to work on and make sure that they keep improving?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think the important thing is to ask the NFL Advisory Committee for a grade. I think they try to be fairly conservative so they are fair to the kid; this is the range we think you can go in.

I'm not a big believer of what a lot of agents are telling players, underclassmen now; all that matters is the second contract, let's just get out there. All you have to do is look at the University of Miami's draft class a year ago, and there was a group of kids that went in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh rounds that should have been higher than that had they stayed another year.

I'm not saying that's the case for everybody at all. I'm just saying each individual is different. If you get a first round grade from the NFL Advisory Committee, you probably should go. If you can't help yourself in any way, shape or form, you should probably go; if you're a running back, you might go.

But for the most part, you ought to listen and see if you can improve your draft stock by saying another year.

**Q. Last year there were a ton of trades in the first round, I think six of the seven first picks were not as they were drawn out; do you think that was an aberration? Do you think there's going to be a lot of trading this year and do you see the Dolphins getting a tackle or cornerback?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think the big pressure point in the top 10 this year is the offensive tackle position, and I think you're going to see a run of tackles in general. And depending how quickly [Luke] Joeckel and [Eric] Fisher go, Lane Johnson is the next big commodity and I think there's a couple different pressure points.

I think the first pressure point could be if Fisher and Joeckel are gone in the first three picks, Philadelphia is sitting at four and Detroit desperately needs a tackle. I think Philadelphia is the first pressure point for Lane Johnson. And then beyond that, Cleveland sitting there in front of Arizona, depending on whether or not Johnson gets through that gauntlet.

I have trouble seeing Lane Johnson getting to Arizona cleanly, and so if you are San Diego at 11 and Miami at 12, you've got to make some decisions; do we go sign a free agent like a Branden Albert, make a trade for a Branden Albert, or do we look at a free agent to get us through the next year, or, are we going to move up. Miami has ammunition to move up. Or, do we decide we can take D.J. Fluker at 11 or 12.

That's a Miami overview, and as far as the trades, I think there's more uncertainty at the top end of this draft than I've ever been associated with and I think it adds more drama, and I do think there's going to be some movement. But especially at the tackle position.

So I think tackle position is going to trigger it. And the corner position, I don't see as much that way. I don't see any corners -- I don't think there will be a corner in the top 10, but that's just my position.

**Q. Wondering about your top five tight ends, how close are they in talent level, what do you think separates some of those guys, and if they are all kind of close or similar, how does that affect a team's draft strategy if they want a tight end?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I feel like Tyler Eifert has clearly differentiated himself from the pack and on paper, Eifert, [Zach] Ertz and [Gavin] Escobar are very similar body types: 6-6, 250,

plus or minus, all three of whom have excellent ball skills. On paper it looks like they are pretty similar.

I think Eifert is a little bit faster than Ertz and Escobar didn't run as well as I thought he would. And I think Ertz has a little more explosion than Escobar as far as being a burst and an acceleration. So in order for me on the pass catching side, it's Eifert, Ertz and Escobar.

On the blocking side, I think Eifert is the best blocker. So to me that's where he's differentiated himself because I think he's got a little more speed and a little better blocker, and I think his interest starts around 13 at the earliest with Tampa Bay and he doesn't get out of the first round.

Ertz could be interesting to San Francisco at 31 or in through the middle of the second round. I think Escobar, and then you start getting into Travis Kelce who is really a better player than people thought. He had some off-the-field issues, but he's got explosion and he might be the best blocker of that group we are talking about right now.

And my fifth guy is Vance McDonald. And I might be higher on him than some teams are, but at 267 pounds, he's probably an average blocker, but he's a better athlete than people give him credit for.

To me, all five -- I think Eifert goes in the first, I think Ertz goes in the second and I think Escobar, Kelce and McDonald probably fit in the third round.

**Q. And just a quick follow, I think the Eagles have privately worked out all of those guys. Do you get a sense they are really interested in one in particular?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I don't have any sense; and to be honest with you, I think the Eagles are the most fascinating draft team this year just because I think Chip Kelly thinks outside the box. He already signed James Casey who was an athletic tight end, h-back type of guy, and so I have no sense there at all.

**Q. Wanted to see what you thought about the difference in the Raiders draft this year with Reggie McKenzie having his own scouting staff in place. Last season he came aboard with an existing staff, and curious your take is and what the difference this year now that he has rebuilt the entire department.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, and I don't think you can underestimate that, and it's no different than a head coach getting his staff on board.

And when people understand what your priorities are and how you think and what you value, because there's an awful lot -- there's no one right way to do a draft. And everybody does it differently. And it's got to start with Reggie and it's got to emanate downwards and everybody has to be on the same page.

So I think it was huge for him and that organization to get new blood in there, because they were doing it one way for a lot of years and now they are doing it differently.

I get the sense from having done a Thursday night game, having been in their building and having seen these guys on the road for the last couple of months, I think he and coach [Dennis] Allen are joined at the hip, and more importantly than anything, that has to happen with the GM and the head coach. I think they have a similar philosophy and I think they are doing it the right way.

Let's face it, their first pick a year ago was No. 95. So either they have got a ton of debt money and more importantly than anything, they need to build a solid foundation and it needs to start with the third pick this year.

**Q. It looks like the Bengals have a need at safety and just wondering your views on the class this year and between Kenny Vaccaro, Eric Reid, Johnathan Cyprien and Matt Elam who might be the best fit for them?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** You hit the four main guys, and on most boards, [Kenny] Vaccaro comes off first. I think St. Louis has 16 and 22, and obviously [the Bengals are] sitting at 21, so that becomes of interest to follow them and see what they do at 16.

I think Matt Elam comes into play more at that kind of 25 to 32 range and it would not surprise me if he slipped into the second round and I like him as a first round.

And [Johnathan] Cyprien is interesting because teams were all over on him. He's got some minor medical concerns with some teams but he's a big, good looking kid with excellent movement skills and I've heard him all over the board from kind of first round all the way down to the third round. So he's kind of a wild card there and I think Cyprien is a guy that goes early second round.

So if you're sitting at 21 not moving anywhere, I think it's Vaccaro or Elam, with Cyprien as kind of the wild card there.

**Q. In terms of the Ravens, it's going to be probably a tough call for them at 32, do you think they go inside linebacker, or who are some of the closer guys at those positions that might make some sense for the Ravens?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think despite what a lot of other people think, I think A, you give them credit for winning the Super Bowl; and B, despite losing a lot of veterans, I still think this is could be a good football team, I really do. I love Ozzie [Newsome] and [Eric DeCosta], because I think they are patient. I don't think they make impulsive decisions.

You're sitting at 32, they are used to drafting late. They always draft late. And if they are sitting at 32 and there's nobody at a position of interest that fits into the top 32 on their board, they are looking to get out and it might be; there could be a team in the top 10 looking to get a quarterback.

So the first thing I would say, if you're a Baltimore fan, is just always be aware of the trade now because they are very good at that.

If they stay pat, they can't get out and they have got to make a pick, between inside linebacker and safety, I think the safeties you're probably looking at are either [Matt] Elam or [Johnathan] Cyprien, if one of those guys are there. And I think the inside linebackers are probably [Manti] Te'o and [Kevin] Minter. Te'o I think is going to be gone at that point. Minter is a really solid linebacker and the wild-card for you is [Alec] Ogletree from Georgia. If he slides, and he could, and he's staring you right in the face at 32, he's got an exciting physical talent with some question marks attached to his character. I think they are a group of names to be aware of.

**Q. The running back from Stony Brook, Miguel Maysonet -- when did he first pop on to your radar?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** He's kind of an interesting back. The first time I heard his name was my son was a safety at Villanova and couldn't play this year because of an injury. But they were in the playoffs against Stony Brook and he called me after a meeting at Villanova and said: Dad, Stony Brook has a couple of tailbacks, but this one guy, [Maysonet]; he went on.

Made me go out and take a quick peek at the kid. He made a couple plays in the Syracuse game. I think he hurdled somebody and dropped his pad level. He's a solid back with some burst and explosion. He's not on the national radar, but he's a guy that I get a kick out of. Not sure he's going to get drafted but he's one of those guys that certainly has an opportunity to make a team.

**Q. Obviously the Vikings are going to be looking for receiving help at some point in the Draft; given the quality of the draft class, wonder how closely stacked do you think the round one and two receivers are, and who specifically you might zero in if you were the Vikings?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think the receiver question is one of the big ones in this draft, because the Vikings were sitting at 23 and 25. Tavon Austin is going to be gone and Cordarrelle Patterson, who to me, along with Austin is one of the two most offensive players in this draft with the ball in his hands has a bunch of kind of character, maturity questions attached to him.

So I've got a feeling Patterson is going to slide a little bit and the Vikings are going to have to make a choice at 23 or 25, whether they want to get one of the most exciting players in the draft. Or, whether they pass, especially given the fact that they did that a few years ago with Percy Harvin, and he was very difficult to handle in their building.

So that's the first question, what do you do with them. Then you get into the whole Justin Hunter thing, who is Patterson's teammate at Tennessee; 6-4, wonderful skill-set, too many drops for me and not real physical. But he can give you immediate production in the red zone and outside the numbers.

Because Minnesota has four of the first 83 picks, you know, you can start trying to go from there. And you know, even [Keenan] Allen I think is going to slide a little bit. Didn't run well. But he's more of a little bit of a speed deficient, but tough Anquan Boldin type of guy, and DeAndre Hopkins and Robert Woods would be in the equation, as well, in the second round.

There's a lot of depth to this wide receiver draft. And there's no doubt in my mind between their four picks and that first 83, that we are going to get a receiver who is going to line up and play a lot of snaps, along with Greg Jennings this year.

**Q. Sorry to double up, if both Eric Fisher and Luke Joeckel are gone for the Lions, how do they decide between a Lane Johnson or any of those defensive ends? And with the local kid, Eric Fisher, when did he burst come on to the scene and are you surprised that a math kid has been able to climb the way he has?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** First of all, it's a testament to how good a player he is. And heading to the Senior Bowl, I had a list of players; and you know, I talked to some of my buddies around the league, and they said, you'd better put on some Central Michigan tape before you get to the Senior Bowl.

So I put on. I looked at the schedule, I said I'm going to watch Michigan State and Iowa. I thought he basically pitched a shutout in those two games. Just really impressed, big arms, big-bodied kid. Thought he could get a little more hip snap in the run game.

So I went to the Senior Bowl with a completely open mind, excited to see this kid, and I thought he dominated all week long. And I thought his movement skills against some of the best pass rushing linebackers and defensive ends in the country were tremendous.

So basically, I said to our guys at the Senior Bowl, I'm not sure he's not better than [Luke] Joeckel. I went back, because I don't do the juniors until after Senior Bowl. I went back and put the Joeckel tape on and I was like, wow, Joeckel is a technician and he's really good, but side-to-side, who do I like better? And after watching a bunch of tape over time, to me, Fisher has a higher upside and no lower downside. So why wouldn't I take the guy with the upside? And so that's the first piece.

The second piece is No. 5, if those two kids are gone and they could be, you have to make a decision between the tackle who probably has the most upside of any tackle in this draft, and I think personally had the freakiest Combine that I've ever seen.

People don't talk about it because he's not a skill position guy, but he had the freakiest Combine of any player I've seen in ten years and I think his upside is unlimited.

So you have to decide whether you want Lane Johnson right there, or whether you're going to take a chance on a Ziggy Ansah or a [Dion] Jordan if he's there. And to me if you're projecting an Ansah or a Jordan, who did not have all that many snaps, I'm going to probably sit there and take Lane Johnson.

Because on the other side of the line of scrimmage, Ansah and Jordans, you have questions, also. So if you have questions with all three of them, I think I'm going with a tackle because I need one.

**Q. General coverage, though I cover the Bucs, like any team, they have some picks they didn't happen and as a result, have had to invest money or picks, or will in the future to correct past mistakes. Can you talk about maybe just the long-term impact of missing on draft picks, like everybody does, again, like I said, can you just talk about generally how costly that can be for teams who don't hit on some key picks?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I think that effect has been minimized a little bit with the rookie wage scale, but mostly that's the top 10. The top 10 got mostly affected there.

So if you make a mistake at No. 1, if you draft JaMarcus Russell and you had \$50 million in guaranteed money, you've got a problem, A, because you don't have a quarterback and B, because your salary cap just got punched a big hole. So now, it doesn't cost you as much; it costs you about 50 cents on the dollar or less in the top 10 than it used to.

However, the same philosophy is still there. Where when you anticipate with a first-round pick, you anticipate you're going to get an immediate starter, and hopefully a Pro Bowl player. When that guy doesn't pan out, A, you've got big money attributed to him at his position and B at some point you've got to backfill.

So you're paying double for one position and you get all out of whack and obviously the more you do that the more it affects your salary cap and the teams that draft well and consistently -- the way today's NFL is going, if you're going to pay Joe Flacco, you can't pay everybody. If you pay Aaron Rodgers, you can't pay everybody.

So what we are getting in the NFL is no middle class. It's eight or ten guys that are paid heavily, and your rookies have to contribute because they are paid less and they keep you in whack with the salary cap. So if you make mistakes with rookies, it kills you.

**Q. What players from the East-West Shrine game do you see going earliest in this draft?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** The guy that's moved up the most from the end of the season is probably Sio Moore, the linebacker from Connecticut. He was kind of a fifth or sixth round consideration in most people's eyes, had a great week in the East-West game and has continued to ascend since then. I think he's going to be a late second round to early third round pick.

And the other guy from a talent perspective that's put out there was Christine Michaels, the tailback. He has more talent I think than any tailback in this draft, but he has off-the-field concerns.

You talk about a first or second round talent, I don't think he'll get out of the third round, but they are two East-West players that will go in the first two days of the draft.

**Q. Lane Johnson, you talked about him earlier and how you could possibly be interested in him; why do you feel that he's -- I don't know, everyone talks about moving up and dropping down but why has there been so much heat around him recently?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think there's an awareness that four years ago, he was a junior college quarterback. Talking about a skill position athlete -- this is freaky now, he was quarterback, goes to tight end, defensive end. Oklahoma finds a home for him at left tackle and his tape -- remember, we always go back to the tape -- his tape from the beginning of this year, or even the end of last year, up through Senior Bowl, has improved every single day. As the tape has gotten better, you can see the physical, freak-ish ability.

So you have a 6-6-plus, 310-pound guy that runs a 4:7.40, that's faster than Anquan Boldin did. He's jumped 34 inches, that's the same as A.J. Green. He broad jumps 9'10, the

same as Stevan Ridley. So you have a 300-pounder, who is putting up numbers at the Combine like a skill position player.

And everybody around the league and around the country now is starting to realize, wait a minute, we have this unbelievably freakish athlete who has only played a year and a half at left tackle, and every game you put on gets a little better; and how good could he get and that's what's fueling all this.

[Eric] Fisher might be safer and [Luke] Joeckel might be the safest. But this kid's ceiling is unlimited, and you might have a perennial All-Pro for ten years, and I think that's what's happening.

**Q. With the Buffalo Bills, given the state of their roster and so many other teams around them and behind them, can the Bills afford not to select the quarterback they covet most with their first round pick?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Here is my answer to you. From a value perspective and I don't think Chino Smith makes sense in Buffalo. I saw him play in cold weather in the bowl game and I saw him play in cold weather at Iowa State, and I don't see him fitting in in an outdoor arena in Buffalo. So if it's not him, do you want Matt Barkley or Ryan Nassib or E.J. Manuel at 8? That's way too high, for me.

And Buddy [Nix] could be sitting there going, hey, I don't care what round I get my quarterback in, I just need to get him, and I understand that.

But for me, I'd rather get a positional player at 8 that is going to help me immediately and hopefully it's an offensive lineman. If it's not an offensive lineman, I'm going to get somebody at 8; whether it's Chance Warmack or an edge player to pressure the quarterback, but I'm going to get somebody that I can plug in and make our team better.

Then I'm going to come back in, and if I have to come back in and trade up and get to 26 to 32, I'll do that. But I don't want to give up my first round pick to have that -- I want to give up my third or I want to give up something else, but I don't want to give up my first.

**Q. What are your thoughts on the mid-round prospects coming out of Florida, specifically linebacker Jon Bostic and tight end Jordan Reed?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think [Jon] Bostic has been one of highest risers in this draft, especially once the coaches get involved. The coaches really like this kid.

I think he was kind of looking like a late third rounder. I was at the pro day down there at Florida. Had a chance to talk to a lot of coaches since. And it would not surprise me if he went somewhere between about 60 and 75, late to mid three. Jelani Jenkins is another player that teams like but not quite as much. I think he's more like a fourth or fifth rounder.

Did you mention the tight end, Reed? He's an h-back type of guy, not a blocker, doesn't block and you can tell he was a former quarterback but has really good speed and hands and I think he's going to end up going in the fourth round.

**Q. Regarding Ryan Nassib, where would he have ranked among last year's quarterbacks? I know it was kind of a loaded class, but is it people falling for the prettiest girl at the dance?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Where would he have ranked? I don't know where. Let me give you two comparisons from a couple different years.

And to me, since the coaches have gotten involved, he's the kind of kid that rises, because they love his passion, intelligence and work ethic, and the intangibles are critical at that position. He reminds me a little bit of an Andy Dalton that went at the top end of the second round, and Kirk Cousins who last year; I think he went in the third or fourth round.

Both of those kids got pushed up a little bit by coaches, and the coaches really like Nassib. When I watch his tape, I kind of see a cross between those two guys. And one of them

is obviously a starting quarterback for a playoff team and the other one stepped in admirably when [Robert Griffin III] went down.

What I'm saying is I don't think his skill-set or his arm strength is Tyler Bray or Mike Lennon, but I love the kid, I love the intangibles and I think if you surround him with the right kind of talent, he can start in the NFL and I think he's going to go early in the second round.

**Q. For those of us without a first round draft pick, is this draft deep enough for the Seahawks to get a good player at No. 56 and who are some guys that you see as a fit there?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** This is a draft people are complaining is not sexy at the top but I would tell you that there's probably 25 to 35 more draftable players this year than last year.

So there's more depth in this draft than I've seen in a while. When you start talking about Seattle and I believe 56 is where it starts, what would I like to see Seattle come away with?

Well, it could be a defensive tackle to complement Brandon [Mebane] and a Jonathan Jenkins from Georgia, big, 340-pound nose tackle would make a lot of sense there. I think Sio Moore could play linebacker, Sio Moore from the University of Connecticut, really excited by his progress and he's versatile, I think he's the kind of guy that Pete Carroll would like.

And then maybe some competition at right tackle. Would you draft a Terron Armstead, whose physical skill-set is exciting, but he's awfully raw, couldn't develop into a left tackle with great feet and long arms.

But there are three players that will go somewhere in that 56 that I think fit a need for Seattle.

**Q. Want to ask you about a couple receivers at Virginia Tech, Marcus Davis who seems to have the size but maybe not the consistency, and Corey Fuller, who seems to have the speed and type of polish; what do you see?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think Fuller is the one who has kind of intrigued some people, because he was a former track guy, didn't have as much of a background, and when he transferred into Virginia Tech, he was very raw.

Seeing him come off the line of scrimmage, like you would expect from a track guy, it's awesome. I mean, the only problem is it's kind of -- it's long-legged speed; it's not quick twitch, get in and out of breaks kind of speed. But I think some of the teams with vertical games, a team coached by a Norv Turner that loves the vertical-type game, I think he makes sense. And I would expect to see him go somewhere late third round to the end of the fourth round.

As far as Marcus Davis is concerned, a little bit more polished, but again another big receiver with good hands. He's got some medical concerns with some teams and I'm not sure if that's going to cause him to slide or not but if he's clean medically; again, I would see him somewhere in the fourth round. I think they are going to go fairly closely to each other, and I think Fuller has got a little bit more upside.

**Q. The Saints don't have a lot of ammunition to move up in the draft and assuming at number 15 they want a tackle or a linebacker, are any of those guys likely to fall to them? Is there a chance they could still get a real good player at 15?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Depends how you define that. If you're looking for an edge guy or an edge rusher, I think they are two potential guys that could be there but they both have some kinks in the armor. One is Jarvis Jones from Georgia who didn't run well in his pro day but has a lot of production and explosion. Pittsburgh could be looking at him at 17.

And the other guy that fits that type of scheme, I believe, is Damontre Moore from Texas A&M. Now, he's longer; he looks the part for a 3-4 outside linebacker. But there's some off the

field work ethic type of things with him where teams are really nervous about him, despite his ability.

So I think they are two wildcards that will be sitting there at 15, and the Saints could pull the trigger on either one of those.

Now, the other position I think you mentioned was tackle; right? Now, you have to decide, how strongly do you feel about Charles Brown, who is a second round pick, first of all. How much do you like him? Zach Strief is pretty much an average right tackle. I agree with you, you need a tackle. The problem with sitting there at 15 is there's going to be a run on some tackles; [Eric] Fischer, [Luke] Joeckel, [Lane] Johnson – they are all going to be gone. I think [D.J.] Fluker will be gone. But Fluker is a starting right tackle, but I don't think he's a left tackle. He's a starting right tackle only, and a very good right tackle down the road. But I don't know if you want to invest No. 15 in a right tackle only.

And then after that, I'm just not seeing -- unless you want to go with Justin Push from Syracuse, who is an underrated guy, really underrated, but people have him as a guard, though. It will be intriguing when new or answer gets on the clock if they are sitting there, and I really feel like they will be, and whether or not they are willing to pull the trigger there.

**Q. You seem to be pretty high on Matt Elam. What are the pros and cons of his game as well as Sharrif Floyd?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I have Sharrif Floyd No. 2 on my board. I have Eric Fisher 1 and Sharrif Floyd 2, and that tells you how much I like Sharrif Floyd.

What I love about the kid is he's a prototypical three technique which is the defensive tackle in a 4-3 defense. His quickness and ability to get off the field and disrupt the pass game is unique for a defensive tackle, and if you can get a defensive tackle that can affect the pass game, you've got something special. And he's also stout enough to play the run, so I have him No. 2 on my board. I love the kid.

Elam, really the only downside is his height, and there's nothing you can do about that. I put the Tennessee tape on and the tight end, Michael Rivera, beat him down the seam twice. And it wasn't that he beat him down the seam, because it was really good coverage. It was just that they threw the ball up high and Rivera went and got it.

The only downside with Elam as far as teams are concerned is there's nothing they can do about 5-10, and occasionally you're going to have to live with that. But on the positive side you get a kid that tackles, a kid that's tough, a kid that cares; he's got better hips than I thought he did, and I think he's going to play a lot of years in the league.

**Q. One of the most intriguing protects to me is Davis Anderson, had a phenomenal sophomore season but production was definitely off, as a junior he got beat multiple times, had some big catches he gave up. Where do you see him being taken and what type of system do you think he fits best in?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** He's a lightning rod right now and some teams really like him because of his height, weight and speed. Some teams won't go near him.

If you put the Miami tape on from last year and the Tennessee tape, you wouldn't take him in the seventh round. I mean, two of the worst corner tapes I've ever seen. However, you're talking about a kid that's 6-1, 205, ran 4.38 and had 13 interceptions as a sophomore.

I think what you have to figure out with this kid -- I was a defensive back and I think I recognize some of the deficiencies, and the biggest one was eye discipline. His eyes were in the wrong place too many times trying to make a big play and instead of him making a big play, the other team did. He got exposed for a lack of eye discipline. He's a little bit stiff. He's not a good press man defender, but what he can do is back pedal and when his eyes are in the right place, it's really good.

So if you're an off-man team or an off-zone team, I think he can be a second round pick, and I think from a physical, gifted nature, height, weight and speed he's a first round pick.

But I think you need the right team to take him in the second round and he's the kind of guy that could slide just because teams are really -- let's face it, if you're a defensive tackle and you make a mistake, it's plus eight. If you're a corner and make a mistake, it's plus 80 and a touchdown, so it makes teams really nervous.

**Q. What scenario or decision you think the Titans will be faced with at No. 10 and which direction you think they will go.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I mean, they can go a lot of different ways. I think No. 1, you need an edge rusher, and is Barkevious Mingo there? I think [Ziggy] Ansah and [Dion] Jordan are probably gone. The Jets could take Mingo at 9.

I think Tennessee, certainly, even though you have got Andy Levitre, which is a great pickup, could certainly use another interior offensive lineman, and a Chance Warmack or a Jonathan Cooper would make sense for me.

And finally I love your corners because they are feisty but they are also small.

And I love to see upgrade athleticism and size on the corner. Most people think Dee Milliner is the No. 1 corner in the country. I happen to like D.J. Hayden and I have a new list coming out today and Hayden is going to be my No. 1 corner.

Those are the three positions I think they are playing with, Milliner and Hayden would be the potentials at corner. But they are the three areas I would see them concentrating on.

**Q. Why aren't you higher on Jamar Taylor?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I am high on Jamar Taylor, if you see my top 5 list. If you see my top 5 interior offensive linemen, there might be only three of them that are ranked in the top 100. Whereas I might have eight corners in my top 100 but only five obviously go in the top 5.

So I've got Jamar Taylor at No. 51 in my top 100. I think he's a mid-second round pick, he's got quick feet, he'll tackle and like most Boise players, he's tough and understand the game of football.

So trust me, I think Jamar Taylor is a starting corner in the NFL and I really like him.

**Q. The Dolphins obviously took a two-pronged approach in the off-season with the amount of money they had under the cap and 11 draft picks, and with what they did in free agency so far, how much do you feel they were able to narrow their focus next week with the 11 picks that they have?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think one of the nice things about plugging in gaps and free agency is exactly that. It should leave you wide open to pick the best player available with each one of your picks. Now obviously having said that, Miami has got a big hole at left tackle and that's got to be a priority, and if they sign Branden Albert, that's fine.

But from my perspective, I like the fact that you can sit there and outside of the tackle situation, you can sit back and go, okay, I need a corner, I need an edge rusher, I might even look at safety. As much as I like [Brent] Grimes to pick up in Atlanta, you've got to be concerned about his durability.

So I think that they have got to target a corner fairly early, whether it's at 12 or whether it's at 42 or could even be 54 but they have to get themselves a corner from my perspective. I think because of the move -- they are No. 27 in the league on offense last year in points scored.

But the fact this they got some weapons with a quarterback, re-signed [Brian] Hartline, get a vertical threat like [Mike] Wallace, get a tight end like [Dustin] Keller, that plugs a lot of those needs on offense.

So going forward, I think you've got to solve left tackle, you've got to solve corner but after that, I think you can just fill in and make your team better and that's what you're looking to do.

**Q. Will Davis and Kerwynn Williams, where do you see them fitting in and if you have any thoughts on Utah State improving its status as a producer of pro athletes?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Just ask Pete Carroll, right? He took [Bobby] Wagner and [Robert] Turbin last year, and Pete might of -- he had one of the best drafts in the NFL last year.

Bobby Wagner played great. Turbin had a really solid rookie season even though he dropped a touchdown pass on a Thursday night game against San Fran.

However, having said all that, any time you get players drafted out of a school like Utah State that play at the level they did in the NFL it just increases the viability in your school, and I think that's great.

Kerwynn Williams to me is an explosive kid. I really like him. Is he going to go as early as Turbin? No, he doesn't have the size. He's going to be a later, draftable guy that can contribute on special teams and he's got a real burst, acceleration to him.

Will Davis. Again, not the height, weight, speed guy but Will Davis to me, I think I got him in the fifth or sixth round, and I think he's going to end up being a heck of a player. It's just a matter of for him staying healthy and not making any mental mistakes early in preseason because that's what happens in those guys that get drafted a little bit later.

**Q. The Colts at No. 24, last year they obviously had the first pick and then they had the high picks in the second and third rounds. But seems that this year, they are kind of at that place where they maybe get the best player available that's not a quarterback. What are some of the players that you think that Ryan Grigson might be targeting this year and maybe even wanting to trade down and get in the second or third round?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I mean, whenever you don't have a second round pick, general managers, especially when they are at the end of the first, you're sitting there at 24 and going, okay, wonder if somebody might be coming and getting a quarterback, because I would like to get out of here and maybe pick up that extra second that I don't have now or another third, because their gap is what, 24 to mid-80-something.

So at this point if they have to hold pat, I look at them and go, they are another team that could use an edge rusher. Even though they picked up Lawrence Sidbury, from my perspective, a Brian Warner could be sitting there, who I don't have as highly rated as a lot of people, but I think he's a little bit similar to [Paul] Kruger who Chuck [Pagano] had in Baltimore, very similar kind of player coming out of college from my perspective. I think he fits a little bit what Chuck likes to do.

I also think they have to figure some interior offensive line stuff out, [Ben] Ijalana from Villanova has not been healthy. They need to upgrade interior offensive line and then there are some guys that are going to be available at that point; [Chance] Warmack and [Jonathan] Cooper will be gone. However, Kyle Long, Howie Long's son is going to be a late one to mid two. I think there's some logical names for Indy at that point. They could even be looking at a corner, also.

**Q. Some different wildcard scenarios that you've gone over that you could see playing out as far as 32?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Geez, I don't know. I think what I said earlier regarding a trade down, they typically don't trade up. And could they? Could Baltimore trade up? They could. But Ozzie [Newsome] typically and Eric DeCosta, they like multiple picks. They are a little bit like

[Bill] Belichick that way. They have 12 picks this year, they have had a couple in the fourth, I think they have three or four in the sixth.

So I really think it's one of two things, like I said earlier. Either it's a trade down, in their minds, looking to trade out for a team that wants to come up and get a quarterback.

Or, if they have to stand pat, I think they are usually -- because they always draft late, they are really good at understanding what may or may not be there when they get on the clock and the names I mentioned earlier, the safeties, the inside linebacker, the wildcard of [Alec] Ogletree, I don't think there's any way in the world those guys are all gone at that point.

So that's really all I see. I don't see many other scenarios.

**Q. I would just like to ask you a quick question about the paragraph tans that are in the draft this year, how high can you actually see Le'Veon Bell going and Dion Simms and Will Gholston? Have they fallen too far?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think Le'Veon Bell because of his size, height, weight, speed, I don't really see him getting out of the third round. I think he's too big and pretty.

Dion Simms is probably if not the best blocking tight end in the draft, one of the top two or three, and because of that, provides value probably in the fourth round.

Gholston, to me, is intriguing, because he can play 4-3 base end. Or, the 3-4 teams will like him as a five-technique. So with his size and his body, I think he's one of those guys, ends up in the right team, he'll be a better pro than he was in college. I can see him going in the third round.

And [Johnny] Adams, the corner, is going to go later. But I like him on tape. I think he's pretty feisty. I think he's probably going to go somewhere plus or minus the sixth round and he's going to have to play special teams.

**Q. Wanted to see if I can go back on D.J. Hayden, he's gone up on your prospect list for corners and want to see if teams now, more comfortable with the injury and kind of where you see, best case scenario for him in the draft?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I've got him No. 14 on my board, which tells you how good I think he is. And I think there are two things that have happened here. The most important is that from a medical perspective, I think as horrific as that whole thing was, I think most of the teams have come to the conclusion that it was a once-in-a-gazillion situation that has no more chance of being replicated than it did in the first place.

So for the most part, he's getting a bill of health. I think there's some residual concern, like will he be the same player after a near-death type of collision. And that's a legitimate question to ask.

However, if you assume, and I think most teams are, that this kid is going to be who he was, then the next question was, well what did he run, because the tape is great. And he went out in his pro day before he pulled his hammy and ran in the 4.48 and the 4.42 range depending who you talk to.

The two big issues I think were speed and medical and I think they have both been erased. And if that's the case, and you've got him on your board as a top-20 type of guy, which I do, I'm not sure who is going to take him.

But when you're going right down the list and looking at who needs a corner and where, I think it starts somewhere around Tennessee, continues through Tampa Bay and Carolina. So it starts around 10 and goes up till 20, 21, and I think he's off the board at that point.

**Q. Knowing that Bill Belichick has never, whether it was with the Browns or Patriots, taken a receiver in the first round of the draft and also that the Patriots only have five picks in total, the sweet spot to find a receiver could be in the second or third round. Who are some of the guys that you're projecting to be available in that range?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I think it depends on if you're talking about them at 59. At that point, the two guys that I would love are DeAndre Hopkins from Clemson and [Robert] Woods from USC. I'm not sure either of them is going to be there at that point. They could be. So I'd throw that out as potential. I think they understand the game. They catch the ball; they're tough; they run routes as well. They're two of my favorite route runners in this year's draft.

After that who might be there? Couple of bigger bodied guys like Terrance Williams from Baylor, Aaron Dobson from Marshall; both very big bodied guys who get some production out of them outside the numbers and the red zone could complement Danny Amendola.

A guy like Quinton Patton could be there from Louisiana Tech. I'm not sure he's quite as much a fit because he could end up inside the NFL. So some of those big bodied guys with speed and verticality I like for them.

**Q. Can I get your opinion on a few safeties that could be available for the Washington Redskins, Bacarri Rambo, Phillip Thomas, and Duke Williams?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I think Bacarri Rambo is probably going in the third or fourth rounds quick, explosive, good ball skills. Duke Williams from Nevada is a later guy. He's had some medical issues and off the field issues. I think he's more of a fifth or sixth round pick.

Phillip Thomas, I like him from Fresno. He might have as good of ball skills as any safety in this draft. Moves well on the ball, catches it, sees it. With Washington, the first pick is at 51, and he's a guy you could get in the third round. Again, I think he's a starting free safety, and I love his ball skills.

**Q. Question about some of the other USC guys, Khaled Holmes, T.J. McDonald, Nickell Roby, where do you see those guys ending up?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Nickell Roby, I like the kid. I was at the pro day, and he ran in the high 4.3s to mid-4.4s. Loved watching him compete against Michael Floyd two years ago. But because of his size, I mean, he's going to be a later pick. He's going to have to play in the subpackages as a nickel, and he's going to have to compete on special teams. So he's going to go somewhere in the fifth, sixth round.

T.J. McDonald is another lightning rod. Some teams like him, some teams really don't like him, think he's too stiff. My guess is he goes in the fourth round. He's got really good straight line speed. He's a tough kid; he just has some stiffness both in coverage and in ability to break down the tackle.

Then the center, Khaled Holmes, I give the kid a ton of credit. He played on a bad ankle most of the year. I like him a lot. I think he's probably going to be centers aren't as highly valued by most teams. I think he's going to be a fourth or fifth round pick, but I think he's going to be a solid pro.

**Q. Can you talk about a couple of FCS kids, Cooper Taylor, B.W. Webb, and Earl Watford?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Sure, Cooper Taylor kind of flashed for me at the East-West game, as did Watford, the JMU kid that I've got in the fifth round as a guard. What I like about him is he's really raw. I think you have a building block there. He's got size, really long arms, big hands. Really doesn't know what he's doing yet, he's so raw. But there is a piece of clay to mold there.

The Cooper Taylor kid, the safety has had a tough road to go, the transfer from Georgia Tech. Medically there were some issues. He's a little bit of a tweener. He's so tall; he's a little stiff, so teams look at him and say is he a safety? Do we make him a will linebacker? I like the way he moves around. In today's NFL, I would think he's the kind of guy that could match up with a big tight end.

I don't know whether he's going to be drafted or not with the combination of the previous medical and the kind of tweener status. But he's the kind of guy that if he plays well in special teams could get on the field in the nickel and dime package. Did I miss somebody?

I love B.W. Webb. Great feet, great feet, change of direction, competed at the Senior Bowl. I think what's going to keep him in the late second round discussion is his return skills. It's not a great punt return class, and he's one of the top three or four punt returners in the country.

So the combination of his feet, his ability to certainly play inside as long as he tackles inside, he's a starting nickel, and then the punt returnability, I think he's a late two to mid three.

**Q. Have not seen anyone say the Pittsburgh Steelers are interested in safety Kenny Vaccaro. Why not?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think Kenny Vaccaro makes a ton of sense there. Their starting safeties are both in their 30s, they both have had some injuries. As much as I love Troy Polamalu and Ryan Clark, they've got to get an infusion of youth, and Kenny Vaccaro is the top safety in this draft. If he's there at 17, he would have to be a consideration along with the edge rush guys that they have to replace.

**Q. You were talking a little about Aaron Dobson a little earlier. What are the things that you like and don't like about his game, where do you think he kind of falls, if not the Patriots?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Well, I don't know what specific team he's going to fall to. But I would tell you that I think his value starts somewhere late in the second round and will continue through the third round. I think teams like his height width, speed. I think he's got good hands. He's very raw. They didn't ask him to do all that many different kind of things from a route perspective at Marshall, but he's an explosive kid.

I remember being at the West Virginia pro day and the day before that was Marshall and a lot of the scouts were coming from Marshall to West Virginia, and they were kind of buzzing about how well this kid caught the ball on a 20 degree, windy day, outdoors at Marshall. So I think that makes an impression on teams, especially the cold weather teams. He's used to it. It doesn't bother him, and he can actually thrive. So I really like the kid. I think he could end up being a better NFL player than he was a college player.

**Q. I was wondering if you could give me an overview of Ryan Nassib's strengths and weaknesses, things he's ready for at the NFL level and things you think he needs to improve on?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I think the strengths are, and this is good for the quarterback. I think the strengths are his intangibles. I love his intelligence. I love his passion for the game of football, and I love his work ethic. From a physical perspective, he's got a really good arm. He doesn't have an elite arm, but he's got a very good arm. He makes good decisions.

What I like in the Syracuse offense, it's a pro-style offense where he had to fit it into some tight windows. He wasn't afraid to rip it, and a lot of college quarterbacks are. He wasn't afraid to rip it and fit it in. I really like that about him.

On the down side, it's just some minor technical stuff. I think his right foot comes off the ground too early and too high, causes some accuracy issues occasionally where you're going to go where did that come from? I think he hops around the pocket instead of slides around the pocket, and I think these are all coachable things. I think he's the kind of guy like I said earlier, an Andy Dalton. Where if you surround him with a run game and nice defense, he can come in day one and be your starting quarterback.

**Q. The Redskins obviously have some needs at the safety position. We just talked about that at the 51. But with the depth at safety and some of the other secondary positions in the draft this year, can you see them doing anything a little unexpected after a right tackle or maybe a David Bakhtiari or something like that?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** That's an interesting question. They signed [Jeremy] Trueblood who is a right tackle only. So whether or not they would go after with the first pick they have somebody that would compete with a free agent they just signed, I'm not sure they'd go in that direction. I think they signed Trueblood for a reason, and they've got Tyler Polumbus behind him.

To me, if they don't go safety, I'd like to see them look at 51. At wide receiver. [Josh] Morgan's coming off some off season surgeries, and Santana Moss is getting older. I think you get a quality receiver at 51, and you cannot support your quarterback enough. You put a lot of money and draft picks into your quarterback. I also could see if it's not the wide receiver, either corner depth or a defensive lineman depth.

I think either way. You signed E.J. Biggers, you resigned DeAngelo Hall, but you still need to get more depth and athleticism on the edge. So I think they're number 30 against the pass last year. I think there are a couple different ways they could go at 51 if it's not safety.

**Q. I was hoping you could comment on two defensive ends. You mentioned Damontre Moore from Texas A&M earlier. Can you expand a little bit on the concerns about him? Is that stemming from his combine showing? Also, SMU's Margus Hunt, not a lot of football, but are teams going to take a chance on his raw athleticism?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, he's overaged a little bit. I'm talking about Hunt now, because of his height, weight, speed and upside, there are a lot of teams really intrigued. This is an explosive kid that could play a couple positions. He could play the base end, and he could play that 34 defensive end known as the five technique.

So I think there are a lot of teams excited about him because of his athleticism and his upside. Some teams look at the age and say that's not a negative because we have a more mature kid that's ready to come in and work.

Now, Damontre Moore is a different animal. Damontre Moore can play either four three base end or 3-4 outside linebacker. Really, the knocks on him have less to do with what kind of player he could become. Because if he dedicates himself and if football is the most important thing in his life, he's a starter in the NFL, and he could contribute quickly. He's long. He's got really good get off at the line of scrimmage. But I don't think there are concerns coming out of that A&M program, what kind of worker is he? How consistent is he? When a good left tackler he played against a left tackle and he struggled. He's got to learn some additional moves. He's got upside, but teams are worried about him, and I hope that answers the question.

**Q. Zac Dysert out of Miami. There are a lot of different opinions on him. What are his draft range, and what are team's biggest concerns about him?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** He's a hard one to figure out. I did some work on him prior to the Senior Bowl. I remember he made a throw against Ohio State that took my breath away. He was rolling to his right, and through it on the run about 50 yards down the field, in between three defenders. He dropped it in the bucket while he was getting smacked in the mouth, and I went, wow. There are very few human beings in the world that can make that particular throw.

The more you watch it, you like a lot of what you see. You really don't like a lot of what you see from an accuracy perspective, foot work, et cetera. Anxious to see him at the Senior Bowl. Didn't think he stood out at the Senior Bowl. Again, it's more about technique, consistency, and accuracy. Like the kid, think he likes the game. At this point most of the teams I've talked to think he's going to be about a fourth round pick.

**Q. Brandt Sorensen of Southern Utah is another FCS quarterback that I've seen anywhere in the lower end of the Top 10 on a lot of draft boards among the quarterback position specifically. But where do you see him going? Does he have the potential to do stuff in the NFL?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** He's kind of interesting, and I've had a couple of teams kind of buzzing on him as far as a late potential draft pick. I can't remember how old he is. I think he's a little older age because of transfers...This a kid I think could go in the fifth or sixth round. You're talking 6'4", 230 pound kid. He's got a good arm. I like that a lot. He competes, smart kid.

I only saw one tape on him, and he's in the shotgun. Very limited mobility in the pocket, but I like his arm strength. He's just one of those guys that on the one hand you say he's a developmental quarterback, on the other hand you say he's overage. So I think the earliest he could go is fifth round. He could go undrafted, but there are enough teams out there that like the size and arm strength that they're going to want to guarantee they get him, therefore, he'll go late in the draft somewhere.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about a couple of cornerbacks that you haven't touched on really just yet. What are your thoughts including where they go and what system they fit best in in guys like Jordan Poyer, Dwayne Gratz, and Robert Alford?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, they're good players. Poyer to me is probably a better football player than he is an athlete, and I mean that as a compliment. He's got some return skills. He's tough; he's competitive; he's got pretty good feet, pretty good size. I liked him at the Senior Bowl. I think ultimately his long term home is going to be as a nickel and special teams, and I think he'll probably go in the third round.

Gratz is kind of an intriguing guy. He's long, has some size, and he ran better than people think. He ran 4.47 I had him at the combine. Teams are talking about whether or not he should be a safety, because he tackles. You know, UCONN's got two corners, Blidi Wreh Wilson was supposed to be the more gifted kid on one side, and the Gratz kid on the other. I'm sensing more momentum towards Gratz. I've got him in my third round. He tackles, he competes, he's long, and he ran better than people thought. So there is no way he gets out of third round.

Robert Alford. Quick footed, return skills, competes. I think not a big kid. I've heard second round grades on him. I've got him in my third round, early third round, because he's got great feet. But it wouldn't surprise me if he went a little higher than that.

**Q. I was going to ask about Barkevious Mingo. You've been kind of cool on him and things I've read in the past. Yet he still seems to be holding between 9 and 15. Have you changed your opinion on him or do you still feel he's kind of a Bruce Irvin type of a high risk reward type of potential for what he could offer teams?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think the Irvin comparison is there. They're similarly sized. They were both explosive kids. Here's what I like about Mingo: he's explosive. He's quick. He can win at the snap. He can dip. He can bend. I mean, this is a guy with tremendous potential as a pass rusher, and that is what this league's about, so I recognize that. I also felt like his best production was when he was on the move.

The Clemson game I thought was the best game I saw, and he was great. They moved him; they slanted him; they did stunts with him. When he was on the move, I thought he was almost unstoppable. When he was lined up on an island by himself against a quality tackle, I thought he struggled a little bit. But however to be fair to the kid, I think that's just kind of a 235 pound young man has to learn to win at the next level. He's got to learn how to be a good tackle, and from a technique perspective, he will. I'm willing to bet on the upside. I don't think he's a very good run defender. Doesn't mean he's not a tough kid. But he's undersized. He's

got to get stronger, especially in his lower body, and he might be a little bit of a liability like Irvin in the run game early in his career.

I like him a lot better than I like Damontre Moore or Bjoern Werner or any of those other guys that I thought would be top picks. Finally in the last few days when I put together my top 100, I've got Mingo in top 10. I think there is a good chance he'll end up going 9 to the Jets or somewhere in that area.

**Q. Earlier you said there were a lot of guys departing early and agents are sort of pitching them on the second contract they can get. Do you think that's something that's afflicted LSU with the number of guys they've had going early? Especially with a kid like Chris Faulk, who has an injury, but takes the risk on getting that second contract when he comes out?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I have no idea why Faulk came out other than the whole thing about just get in the league and get your second contract. The flaw in that thinking is assuming you're going to get to a second contract. Like some of those Miami kids that went in the fifth, sixth, and seventh round last year. If you're out of the league in two years, that doesn't do you any good, that second contract conversation. Whereas, a kid like Faulk, if he stood in, stayed in, got healthy, and had a great year next year, we're talking about a top 100 pick, potentially.

When a team has money invested in you, there is a much better chance you're going to get to that second contract. So I'm a big believer in a guy, especially coming off an injury, I don't understand why he came out.

**Q. Wanted to ask but some local guys here in Salt Lake City. One you briefly mentioned is Ziggy Ansah. Obviously, the rise that he's kind of come through this season and then from the University of Utah Star Lotulelei, if you could talk about him. Obviously, he had the medical thing he got cleared on, so I think his stock will probably rise again.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, the stock doesn't go down and up as much as most people think. We in the media talk about it and create excitement. But everybody knew where Star was, and it was just a matter of whether he was going to be cleared or not, and he did get cleared. There are apparently no issues.

Here's what I see. I see a guy that can play multiple places along a front. And in today's NFL you're not really a 3-4 team or a 4-3 team. Everybody's playing multiple fronts. That's part of the appeal of Star. Star can play nose tackle. He can play the three technique in a 4-3. He can play the five technique in a 3-4. He can pressure the quarterback on third down, which is unique, most big players can't. They have to come off the field.

So I think the appeal to him is versatility and the ability to stay on the field for three downs. I really like this kid. I have him as No. 11 on my board. I think what he brings to a team is versatility, toughness, and ability to push the pocket.

Ansah is almost the opposite. You're not sure what you're going to get, but you know there is a potential for this huge upside. I think it's the best story in the draft. I really do. A year and a half ago, a year ago, he was not even on NFL team's draft boards. Now we're talking about him as a Top 10 selection who has played minimal snaps. It scares me, and it scares teams how little he has played. Senior Bowl practices, very average, where I thought he dominated very average in one on one drills. In the game, he was the best player in the game. So there is this tantalizing upside that's going to push him up pretty high. But I would tell you, Jason Pierre-Paul is a guy a few years ago that had this unbelievable upside, but he wasn't as raw. He's really raw. But what I like about Ziggy is he plays hard. I think he played a little out of position at BYU, and I think he's much more comfortable out wide from what I saw in The Senior Bowl.

**Q. Two guys from Alabama that we've been hearing might be first round picks but seem to be borderline or less are Jesse Williams and Eddie Lacy. Where do you assess them right now?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Jesse Williams has some medical concerns. I don't see him as fully healthy, I don't see him as a first round pick. Fully healthy I see him somewhere late two. With the medical concerns thrown in, and some teams will have some concerns, some teams won't. So I think he could go in the second or third round.

Eddie Lacy to me has the talent and skillset to be a first-round back. I've got him at No. 18 on my board right now. I think he probably will go between 20 and 32. I think there are some teams with some need at tailback. If he slid a little, I wouldn't consider that a real issue, because I think he's going to be a solid three down back in the NFL.

**Q. I've seen wildly divergent opinions on John Simon of Ohio State. What do you think of his NFL potential?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I love him. The more coaches watch tape of him, the coaches love him. He's one of those guys that's going to appeal to a coach because he's got a great motor. He's tough as can be. He's a captain. He's got leadership intangibles. The scouts don't like him as much. The scouts look at certain physical limitations. How long are his arms what did he run? What burst does he have? What position can he play? He's not big enough to be a defensive end. But do we think he's athletic enough to be an outside linebacker? I've got him in my top 100. That tells you how much I like him.

I think he's a solid first round pick. And he's the kind of kid that I put under the heading, find a spot. I don't care what all your reports say, find a spot. The kid is going to play four special teams and we'll figure a way to get him on the field. He cares too much, he's too tough, and he's the kid I want on my team.

**Q. Where do you see wide receiver Keenan Allen falling to?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Hee was a borderline first round pick. I was at his workout in Greensboro last week or the week before. He was coming off a second minor irritation of the same knee. Wasn't really in running shape. Ran in the 4.75 range, but that doesn't change anything. On tape to me, he's a 4.55 guy. Always has been, always will be. If you like him, he's a potential Anquan Boldin type player. Big body, long arms, big hands, tough. If you don't like him, you're going to say he's speed efficient, so he'll appeal to some teams and not others.

**Q. I have a question about a Penn State guy, Mike Farrell, the offensive tackle. What are his chances of being an undrafted free agent type or sneaking into the later rounds? Secondly, he's a guy that only started for one season. How much of a challenge is it for guys that only have one year under their belts to get attention in the NFL Draft?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, and I haven't done him because he's not shown up anywhere for me as a draftable player. So I have not watched tape on him. I've heard his name, and I don't really want to make a comment, because unless I've seen tape on a kid, I don't go there. It's not fair to the kid, so I apologize.

**Q. The Lions have taken a player the last two years that kind of fell to them, Riley Reiff and Nick Fairley, guys that were thought to go higher. I was wondering if you see anyone that might fit that bill this year, whether it's Luke Joeckel or someone else at unexpected at defensive tackle or something?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think there are a finite number of guys that obviously, you're going to have a list of five guys. If you're Detroit, you have a list of five you're going to take one of them. Because worst case scenario, you're going to take one of them. So as Detroit, I think you're

looking at [Ziggy] Ansah versus [Dion] Jordan as a potential edge guy. That is first of all. Second of all, the offensive tackle situation. Okay, there are three guys there. Any one of which I'd be happy with.

And if Lane Johnson is sitting there at 5, I don't think he should be disappointed that [Luke] Joeckel or [Eric] Fisher isn't. So I would pull the plug on him in a heartbeat. I really believe in Lane Johnson. So you have two edge guys. You have Lane Johnson, and I don't think corners going to come into the conversation. I think one of those guys is going to be there for you.

If one of those other tackles slides through, fine. Are you kidding? Take them in a heartbeat. But if Sharrif Floyd comes through, that is the tough one for you. If other guys are gone, and Sharrif Floyd is there, and you're not really in the market for a defensive tackle. He's the one guy that could slide and you go, man, he's really special. But you've already got [Ndamukong] Suh and [Nick] Fairley, so that's a need for you guys. That's one where if it slid, I'd say that would be a tough one.

**Q. You mentioned Travis Kelce earlier from Cincinnati. What other players, they have several that are possibly draftable George Winn, people like that you tell me if they may be evaluated some of those guys.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** The only guy that I've done any work on is George Winn, and I think he's a seventh round or priority free agent. Kelce is the only guy that for sure you're going to bang the table for and say he's a draftable kid.

But I like the Winn kid. I believe again when you're a skill position guy and you're going to be a late draftable or priority free agent you're going to make the team or not make the team on special teams. That's what he's going to have to do. He's going to make a living in the NFL if he becomes a special teams player first, and then a positional player. But I like the kid on tape.

**Q. Evaluating quarterbacks with some quarterbacks in the college game these days, throwing 100, 120 screen passes, has evaluating them gotten harder in some ways? And what is the most difficult quarterbacking trait to project to the NFL?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Good question. It's changed, almost all the positions have changed because of the spread offense, and evaluators have to get used to that, and no more so than quarterback. The biggest problem is I can sit there and chart a quarterback, and I chart every quarterback. I start with throws between zero and ten yards of the line of scrimmage, 11 to 20, and 21-plus, and I'll chart every throw. For a high-level quarterback it will be a minimum of four to five games and sometimes beyond that.

The biggest difference between now and even five years ago is that a lot of times in these spread offenses, 90% of the throws are between zero and ten yards. So when you talk about the screen game you're talking bubble screens, tunnel screens, and stuff that happens right away off the throw. So if 90% of the throws are within ten yards of the line of scrimmage, you're only seeing 10% that might be typical NFL stick type throws. An 18 yard in, an 18 yard come back. What kind of deep ball accuracy does a quarterback have. That becomes a challenge.

Another challenge is what coaches call catch, rock and throw. You're in the shotgun, you catch it, you take a rocker step, no foot work, just a rocker step and the ball is out. So you're seeing a lot of quarterbacks that have never been under center in their lives who catch it and get rid of it. For instance, Geno Smith. Geno catches it and gets rid of the football. His foot work, and posture, and movement in the pocket pour. Now you can't ding the kid on that because that's what he's been taught. His job is to win college games, not anything else. So you can't ding the kid for it. You have to be able to evaluate beyond that. Because years ago it

was a heck of a lot easier when everybody was in I formation, and five step drop and play action. It's a lot easier to evaluate.

Now it's much more projection based. Can this kid, once we get him in the classroom and out in the field, can this kid become what we need him to become?

**Q. I wanted to ask about two more players out of Florida, and safety Josh Evans and running back Mike Gillislee. What are your thoughts on those two and where they might be selected?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I'm sorry if I missed them earlier. But I like Gillislee a lot. He kind of woke me up at The Senior Bowl. I think he's one of those guys that does everything pretty well but nothing elite. He's kind of sneaky big. He's 208 pounds, pass protects. So he does everything pretty well. I like him. I think he's going to go in the fourth or fifth round as a Jack of All Trades and a special teams guy.

Some people call Josh Evans the other safety. He's a pretty good football player. I think he's going in the same range. Fourth or fifth round, special teams. He's a sneaky good player that could ultimately two to three years from now elevate himself from special teams into competing for a starting spot.

**Q. Who, in your opinion, is the best ball hawking defensive back in this draft?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** From the safety position it's probably Phillip Thomas from Fresno, had eight or nine picks. Sees the ball extremely well. In this day and age of defensive backs that struggle catching the football, his ball skills are excellent.

At the corner position, I like D.J. Hayden from Houston in my top ranked corner. He finds the football. What I like about him is once he finds it, he turns into a running back. He returned two interceptions for touchdowns this year, and whether he's in press with his back to the quarterback or in off with his eyes on the quarterback, he finds the football and makes a play on it. So I really like those two players.

**Q. With two new age offensive coaches in Philly and Cleveland, do you think Chip Kelly and Rod Chudzinski might be the leading candidates to target E.J. Manuel early second or maybe even a trade back into the first?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Interesting question. I'm fascinated. I live in Philly, and I'm fascinated to watch Chip Kelly because I just don't know what he's going to do. I don't know if he values things the way the NFL has traditionally valued. Is a left tackle more important than the right? How important is the defense considered? With your tempo, you're trying to get as many snaps as you can get offensively, and trying to get off the field defensively, are you looking more for pressure players on defense? So to me they're a hot button item this year is Philadelphia. I agree with you.

Yeah, they've got Michael Vick there. And by the way, he can play with that offense to make it a pass first spread offense. You don't just spread to run the ball and run quarterback option. So Nick Foles in a spread offense is what Nick Foles did in Arizona, he just didn't run the football. However, yeah, I think E.J. Manuel would be really interesting in Philadelphia. He's raw as can be, he's got a big arm, and he's very athletic. That's kind of why I moved him up six weeks or eight weeks ago to my second quarterback because I think his upside is better than all the other quarterbacks in the draft, except for Geno [Smith].

As far as Chudzinski, I'm trying to find a home for Geno Smith in my draft. If Cleveland doesn't take him at six, you've got a new GM, you've got a new head coach. That's a logical place for him. If they don't take him at six, I'm not sure where he's going to go. But to answer your question, yeah, I think Chudzinski and Chip very much have their eyes open to quarterbacks who have to be able to throw the ball, No. 1, because that is critical, but also can hurt you in the run game.

**Q. I'm wondering about your thoughts on mock drafts in general? The popularity of them now, how crazy it's been maybe the last decade? When you did your first one, who you followed, and how things have changed?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I'm blown away in general about the interest in anything related to the National Football League. I mean, we have a show on television tonight that's about a schedule release show. People are going to tune in to see who is playing where next year. Because we already know who is playing who, we just don't know where and when. It's mind boggling to me. As far as mock drafts are concerned, I do one a year the night before the draft.

But I sit here on my own on a plane or in my house and I do them all the time because it triggers different thoughts in me. I do it on purpose so that if I give fill a different player in this mock draft than I did the last one. It changes everything else, and it makes you think outside the box a little bit. I think more than anything, to answer your question, I think with the proliferation of fantasy football, I think every fan at home now takes ownership like they're a GM. I think every fan says I'm going to draft my fantasy team. If I'm going to draft a fantasy team, I might as well put together a mock draft and compare it to all the pros out there. What's on television, what's online? So underneath it all it just continues to drive the NFL, and, to me, it's just really intriguing.

**Q. When was your first one?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** When was the first time I did a mock draft?

**Q. Yeah.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Geez, I don't know. Probably seven or eight years ago.

**Q. It's changed systems too, hasn't it?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Everybody's forms are all over the place. When the draft ends next Saturday night, some people are doing mock drafts that night for next year. It's beyond my comprehension. I couldn't name 20 players for next year yet. It's crazy.

**Q. Last year a lot of people correctly identified the wide receiver as a first round need for the 49ers but if you, if anyone, had A.J. Jenkins going to them. This year it seems that safety is a popular thing for the 49ers. Beyond the usual suspects, is there an A.J. Jenkins type safety as far as just kind of a surprise 49ers pick that you see being a possibility this year?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Well, I'm not sure. I'll throw a little bit of a different one out there. Maybe it isn't different, but Zach Ertz, the tight end from Stanford. There are some connections there. And keeping in mind that you guys are drafting at what, 31 and 34 I believe? So Zach Ertz with the connection to Jim Harbaugh in a position where they lost Delanie Walker. That kind of interests me at 31 or 34. As far as safety, the Jonathan Cyprien kid is obviously in the conversation at that point.

If you're looking for somebody kind of off the beaten track, maybe a J.J. Wilcox from Georgia Southern, and the reason I say him, he's a 210 pound safety that was a running back until last year. So he's only played the position for one year. Came to the Senior Bowl, did a heck of a job at the Senior Bowl, and a lot of teams think there is considerable upside. So most teams have him kind of late two to mid three, you could make an argument that there is a starting safety in that body and you just need to get it out of him.

**Q. You talked about corner and left tackle for Miami. If the big three left tackles are gone, would you suggest taking D.J. Fluker at 12 or is there a corner like Xavier Rhodes or D.J. Hayden that you'd consider that spot?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** What are you doing with your free agent, Branden Albert at that point?

**Q. Well, if they trade for Albert, left tackle wouldn't be needed. But if they don't, would you look at Fluker there? Is there a corner worth there at 12 or maybe Tyler Eifert?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I don't think Fluker's going to be there, because you have San Diego right in front of you, and San Diego needs any offensive linemen, trust me. That is a mess. So San Diego is sitting right in front of you without a starting tackle on their roster, in my opinion. So I don't even think Fluker's going to get to you unless you move up.

If that's the case, then, yeah, I think you're looking at corners or edge guys. To me, I think the conversation is D.J. Hayden from Houston. I think it's who is left of the edge guys? [Dee] Milliner at the corner. Is [Barkevious] Mingo still out there? You've got to have that kind of conversation. Even though your defense was number seven, I think in points allowed. They were like 20 and 21 in yards, and bottom line is they have to get better against the pass. So whether you're affecting the pass with the rush or the corner, I think that is the next place.

**Q. I was hoping to get your final overviews and projections on the guys. You talked about Kenny Vaccaro a little bit, him, and Alex Okafor, and Marquise Goodwin.**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, Alex Okafor is a guy I like. He's a 4-3 base end. I don't think he's a linebacker. I think he's a really solid pass rusher. I think it was the West Virginia game, he sacked Geno Smith in the end zone for safety. It might have been for a touchdown, strip sack. Has some burst off the edge. He doesn't have elite burst, but he does everything really well. He can play the run. He can get to the quarterback. He's got good hustle. I think he's going to go somewhere late two to mid three.

Marquise Goodwin. Opened my eyes a little bit. He's a Senior Bowl week that made me think a little bit of Mike Wallace coming out of Ole Miss, because you're looking at a slightly built speed guy, vertical guy. And you're going, ah. And coming into the week you're going not much production, and by the way, Mike Wallace didn't have much production coming out of Ole Miss. And you're looking at the numbers on Goodwin and going, the production wasn't great. I know he's a track guy and all that stuff.

But I came out of Senior Bowl week going this kid's a legitimate football player. He had a heck of a game too. I watched the practices and the game in the last two weeks, and he really played well in the game. You have a guy with potential return skills that runs as fast as anybody in the NFL runs. There is no way he gets out of the third round, even though he didn't have great college production.

**Q. Another Star Lotulelei question. How comfortable would you be taking a nose tackle/five technique guy with a top five pick?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I'd be comfortable with it because I know what I'm getting. I plug him in, and like I said earlier, his versatility fit what's they do, and he can play on third down. I'd be comfortable with that pick. The only issue I would have with that pick is just how explosive and how much of a difference maker is he? I think in the Top 5, you're looking for a difference maker.

But I would also caution that and go but I also said earlier you're looking for a starter and potential all pro, and I think this kid could be. If Philadelphia pulled the plug on him at four, I have no argument with that. You're going to get a guy that's going to start this year, play really well, and still has upside and can affect the quarterback. Sometimes I think you can look at an offensive tackle and say there is a ten year protection guy that's going to play in the league for ten years. Or can you look at an edge rusher and say, man, we like the edge guy more than we like the inside guy.

So a [Dion] Jordan or a [Ziggy] Ansah is a little sexier because the ceiling is higher. But I don't think the floor is as high for those guys as it is for Lotulelei.

**Q. My question is with the Jets at number nine. I know a lot of people have had them linked to Barkevious Mingo. I wonder what you think their scenarios and options would be at nine?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I think Mingo is a really logical guy. They need an edge guy. They also have some, to me, they've got some offensive line issues. Obviously, Willie Colon was a good sign, and D'Brickashaw [Ferguson] and [Nick] Mangold. So on the left side of the line you're doing pretty well. On the right side of the line with Brandon Moore as a free agent and Austin [Howard], and I don't know what's going on over there.

If one of those guards was available, I'd be pretty happy with that. Obviously, it's not sexy. The New York Post, and Daily Times, they're not going to have wonderful things about John Idzik, but to me you're looking for a quality football player. So if you can't get an edge guy, I think an offensive lineman would make sense there.

Obviously, they need a safety. They could use wide receiver depth. I don't think at number nine you're looking to do that. If they had an opportunity to trade down, I think they'd have to look at that because they have so many needs.

**Q. What do you think makes the most sense for the Buccaneers at number 13? If you don't mind, including in your answer, your opinion of the Darrelle Revis trade?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** If I'm the Jets, I'm not trading him. End of story. I'm going to find a way to make it work. I think sometimes we get too carried away with all these draft picks. I'm sitting there going, man, corner is a position of need. They're hard to find. This is the best corner in football. He's going to be one of the best of all times, and he's 27 years old.

So if I'm New York, I'm not going there. However, you're calling from Tampa. To me, that is pretty exciting. I'm giving up 13 to get him, and I'm also talking about some of those other picks. Because if I'm Tampa Bay and I'm looking any depth chart at corner, I'm going, okay, I just resigned Eric Wright at a reduced number. How long is he going to be here? E.J. Biggers is gone. Then I have a bunch of young guys that for whatever reason probably aren't going to be starters.

So from my perspective in Tampa, and I'm all over trying to get Darrelle Revis. If I get him, obviously my first round pick is gone. So now we're looking at an entirely different equation there. But I think they need a vertical tight end at some point. Whether or not that's Tyler Eifert in the first round at 13 or whether it's down the road a little bit because you traded and got Revis. They need a vertical tight end. They need a SAM linebacker, and I think they need some tackle depth.

So the whole thing hinges on what happens with Revis. To me, they could use more than one corner. Even if they get Revis, they need to draft another corner at some point.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about two guys from Georgia that aren't the headliners, Cornelius Washington and Sanders Commings. What are your impressions of them, and how do you view them fitting in position wise at the next level?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think the Washington guy is one of the most intriguing players in the draft. He played a little out of position at Georgia, and went to the Senior Bowl and really blew it up. He had a good Senior Bowl week. He jumps 39 inches. He's physically gifted. However, he's not a linebacker. I was at the Georgia pro day, and there is no way in the world he can ever drop in coverage. That's not who he is.

So for me, he's a 4-3 defensive end. He's a situational pass rusher. He's explosive off the edge, and I think he's going to go somewhere between late two and mid three. I like the kid maybe better than a lot of people, but my vision of him is a singular one. I want him on the

edge, and I want him rushing the quarterback. I think he's so explosive and talented in that area, he can be destructive.

Sanders Commings is interesting because I think he fits what today's NFL is becoming. More and more teams are looking for tall corners. He's over six feet tall, big bodied guy, a little stiff. But most big corners are stiff. I think on tape he's an average player, but I think he's got the skill set that the NFL is looking for. So I think he's going to go in the fourth or fifth round, and I think a team that likes big corners, Seattle, Jacksonville, Philly, somebody like that will pull the trigger on him and expect him to be not only a special teams player, but down the line compete for a job.

**Q. You've been asked a lot about Branden Albert. Is he worth the second round pick for the Dolphins or is the depth at tackle good enough that they don't need to pay him that kind of money?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I have reservations about giving up a pick and paying that money to Branden Albert for let me preface that for most teams in the league, I would have reservations about that. I would sit there and say, okay, maybe I'll get through this year with a right tackle like Eric Winston. Pay him a lot less money and figure it out next year.

For the Dolphins who went out and spent a lot of money and expect to compete this year, I think the fact that those first three tackles are pretty much going to be gone. I don't have any scenario where they get to 12th. Not even to 11, probably not to 7. So if that's the case, and you're able to sign Albert, and it costs you your second round pick at 54, and you're willing to pay the guy, I'm in. But I wouldn't say that for most teams. I think Miami, if you're playing poker, I think Miami has already pushed the chips out there. They've signed a lot of vets and said we're going to compete. But you can't compete without a left tackle in this league. So Miami is one of the few teams that's got to stand up and say, yeah, we've got to go get him.

**Q. You talked earlier about the Colts at 24, and there is a lot of talk of maybe moving back and all of those. How much, if at all, when you look at the past 24 picks, guys taking 24: Ed Reed, Aaron Rodgers, Steven Jackson. You can't let that impact whether you stay or move back. Is that just an aberration that great players have been taken at 24 or is it just the value at the position?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think there's an aberration there. Every year is different. From my perspective, the patient general managers that have a plan, and there are some really good ones. The head coach and GM have a plan at the bottom end of the draft, and you know what positions of need you have. You know which players from the value perspective match up with that position of need and you know you're not going to reach. That's just not who you are.

You also know if all your guys at position of need are already gone and you can't trade down, you have a player or two in your back pocket that you know aren't going in the first 23 picks, but are still solid NFL players. That's got to be your plan going in. If somebody's there, you execute it. If somebody's not and you have a chance to trade down, you execute that. But the best poker players and best general managers in this league have a plan. And the fact that we've had a bunch of all pros at that one mark, all that tells me is there is more depth in every draft than people think.

This draft in particular there is an extra 20 or 30 players draftable compared to the last several drafts. I'd just as soon be picking 24 as I'd be picking 10. I'm not sure. A lot of the guys that are boom or bust guys are already gone. And now you're looking at good, solid football players.

**Q. You talked about Washington possibly looking at wide receiver at pick number 51. So I wanted to see what do you think will be available for the Redskins at 51? And what are your thoughts specifically on Justin Hunter out of Tennessee?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Another lightning rod. Has first round talent. Could very well be gone in the first round. Tore his ACL back in, I think, it was 2011. He lit it up for three games, tore his ACL, and since that I don't know if he's the same physical presence over the middle as he was then and part of that is natural. He's a young kid, growing up. But his height, weight, speed is phenomenal. His production, outside the numbers and in the red zone ought to be phenomenal, just because of height, weight, speed.

He drops the ball too much and he's not real physical over the middle. That is what potentially keeps him out of the first round. Do I think he can slide to 51? No way in the world. I don't think he get there's. But I think he could go in the first 32, so I don't see him going at 51. I don't see Keenan Allen there. I think the guys that could be there at 51 are DeAndre Hopkins, Robert Woods, Terrance Williams, Aaron Dobson, Quinton Patton, that group of kids will be there. I think from that group you could find a heck of a receiver.

**Q. Wanted to ask you about a couple of Boise State football players. You mention Jamar Taylor being a projected second round pick and a potential starter in the league. How soon do you think he can start? And I wanted to ask you about D.J. Harper as well, and has his injury history put up a red flag on him at all?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, and that's a good question. The Harper kid I think is late draftable. I like him, but just because of that injury history and where he's been, he's kind of an interesting player. He's one of those guys in this draft where you might get a bargain. As far as Taylor is concerned, he's going to come in. Whoever drafts him, if you're drafting him in the second round, which by the way, you're going to be. If you're drafting him in the second round, you're going to expect him to come in year one and compete for a job. So I wouldn't expect anything else. That's what I would expect if I drafted him somewhere plus or minus 50 in this draft. I would expect Mark Taylor to come in and compete and start immediately. As far as Harper, as I said he's got straight line speed. He doesn't have make you miss kind of speed. Straight line speed, he'll play special teams. So he'll be a late draftable or free agent, but I think teams are going to like him.

**Q. What do you think the logical course of action is for Buffalo at number eight?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I think they're in a little bit of a tough spot. There is obviously a whole quarterback conversation that has to be held. And I don't think, and I said earlier in this call, I'm not a big believer that there is a quarterback worthy at that spot. Now Buddy Nix might disagree with me. It could be Geno Smith, who I don't think is a fit. It could be Matt Barkley. It could be Ryan Nassib. But to me, they're not fits.

So if you're not going to take a quarterback at eight and you don't have a chance to trade down, to me they have an offensive line need. I'd love to see them get a tack and move Cordy Glenn to the right side or inside. I think it would help two spots if you could get a left tackle.

But at eight, I don't think you'll get a left tackle unless you're willing to trade up. So sitting there, I mentioned Warmack and Cooper. Either one of which I'm good with at 8. So I don't think there is a wide receiver at eight. Initially I thought about Tavon Austin there. He's the most explosive offensive player in this draft.

The more I thought about t I thought you've already got Leodis McKelven to return punts. You have C.J. Stiller at tailback who can split out and do some of those things. So as much as I like Austin, I'm not sure he's a great fit there. So I think you're kind of stuck.

If it's not the quarterback, you're looking at the best offensive lineman on your board or an edge rusher. With Mario Williams on one side, Mark Anderson, and Chris Kelce, you've got room for an edge rusher. So a Barkevious Mingo or somebody like that, that wouldn't surprise me either.

**Q. I was wondering about a couple of Oregon guys in Corey Lemonier, Philip Lutzenkirchen and Ontario McCalebb?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Lemonier is a guy that looks great and tests well in the production and tape isn't as good. I think he won't get out of the fourth round. I think the teams are looking at him are 34 outside linebacker, as a 34 outside linebacker. He had some production. But I think his best year was a couple years ago, and I think he tailed off as the season went on.

Lutzenkirchen has to deal with the injuries. He's a good, solid tight end. He has more speed than I think people give him credit for. He's late draftable. And McCalebb is one of the fastest in the draft. He's small but he's explosively quick. He's going to have to play some special teams, but again, he's late draftable at the tailback position.

**Q. If you could pick one guy who you think could be a shocking Top 5 pick next week, who would that be?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** I don't think there are any shocks in our world. We have a good clue who the top guys are. Star Lotulelei is a No. 11 through No. 20 type player. He could surprise people and end up going higher than that. If he ended up with Philadelphia at 4, that might shock a lot of people outside, wouldn't shock me.

Tavon Austin because of his explosiveness and game changing ability. I don't think we'll see any surprises. There are seven or eight guys, ten guys at most that can go in that Top 5, and we know who they are.

**Q. I think the general consensus for the Saints is that they need to go with a linebacker. But could you see them surprising and going with a safety or something like that?**

**MIKE MAYOCK:** Yeah, I'm a big believer that need can't trump player. And if you have a need and that need is generally commensurate with the top end of your board, great, go for the need. But if you're sitting there and you don't like for instance, if Jarvis Jones and Damontre Moore are pick numbers, say they're No. 20 and 30 on your board and you're drafting 15, why are you reaching for one of those guys if another position of need, like safety, has the top ranked guy available? What if the kid from Texas, Kenny Vaccaro, was sitting there and you don't like the edge guys? To me, you go for the football player.

I don't think you reach. I think the smart coaches and general managers understand that more often you reach, the more often you dilute your own roster.