

# NFL Network Media Conference

Thursday, April 18, 2019

## Daniel Jeremiah

THE MODERATOR: Thank you for joining us on today's conference call with NFL Network analyst Daniel Jeremiah to preview the upcoming 2019 NFL draft.

Before I turn it over to Daniel for opening remarks and then questions, a few quick NFL Network programming notes for the Draft. NFL Network provides live coverage of the 2019 NFL Draft from Nashville, April 25th through the 27th. First-round coverage begins at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time on April 25. Coverage of rounds 2 and 3 begins at 7:00 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, April 26, followed by rounds 4 through 7 at 12 noon Eastern time on Saturday, April 27th.

On Thursday, April 25 Daniel is joined by Rich Eisen, Kurt Warner, Stanford head coach David Shaw, Charles Davis, Steve Smith, Sr., Chris Rose, Ian Rapoport and Deion Sanders on NFL Network's coverage of the first round. NFL Network's coverage of the 2019 NFL Draft features the return of draft war room cameras in a record 23 team facilities, including the Arizona Cardinals, who hold the No. 1 overall pick. Daniel will review his final mock draft of the year and answer burning questions on Wednesday, April 24th, at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time on NFL Network.

DANIEL JEREMIAH: First of all, thank you guys for jumping on today. It's going to be a fun draft.

You kind of look at it from a 30,000-foot view here, I think that there's 15 to 16 players that everybody in the league kind of agrees are the top guys, and then after that once you get to 17, 18, all the way to 50 or 60, they're in all different order there. So it creates a lot of uncertainty of what's going to happen in the back half of the first round, which will be fun. And as we stand right now, it still looks like Kyler Murray to me will be the first overall pick, but that's not nailed down, so there's a little bit of drama still left at the top of the draft.

It's a historically good defensive line group and I think we'll see that reflected in the first 15 picks of this year's draft.

With that, I'll open it up and let's get going.

**Q. Just initial thoughts on what the Saints need,**

**and then I'm also wondering from your time as a scout, did you ever have a time where you didn't have a first-round pick, and what is that wait like? Because the Saints are obviously going to be in that situation.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, thanks. I'll answer the last part first. I was in Cleveland one year where we didn't pick until the fourth round, so I don't have any sympathy for teams that have to wait until the second round. Try waiting until round 4. Ate a lot of cookies while we sat and watched a bunch of people pick players.

It can be frustrating having to sit and wait, but again, as I kind of mentioned at the top, I think there's so little difference between player 20 and who a player is going to be in the 60s or the 50s. The Saints are 62, so there's going to be a player they're going to really like there.

In terms of needs or where I could see them going, I've tried to do a better job this year of tracking who these teams are spending time with, and all those signs point towards corner, cornerback being a place where they could look. I also think wide receiver is a possibility, and interior defensive lineman. Those are three areas I think you could look at the Saints drafting.

**Q. Speaking of a team that doesn't pick in the first or second round, looking at the Bears and their search for a running back in this draft, I'm curious what you see the strengths and weaknesses are of two guys: Dexter Williams from Notre Dame and Darrell Henderson from Memphis.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Two good players. Let's start with Dexter. Missed games due to suspension, but once he got out there, he's got some home run ability. He didn't run quite as fast as I thought he would, but in the high 4.5s, but he runs hard. He's got a little bit of a higher pad level, which is something he'll have to work on, but you see the big-time burst. I like the fact he's effective in pass protection. That's going to be big, especially in that offense. That helps him out a little bit there.

Henderson is a true home run hitter. He presses the hold, no nonsense, and he's got a lot of top-end speed. He plays much faster than the 4.49 he ran. He's a little bit stiff, but he runs lower to the ground. He's got good



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vision, and he's just more of a hit-it guy than Dexter. I have Henderson over Dexter Williams, and I think when it's all said and done, he'll end up going over him.

I think both of them, though, you could make a case would be good fits there.

**Q. Just curious, when it comes to the Patriots in the draft, does having Belichick and Brady, does that allow them to take some unique chances or unique approaches to the draft?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I mean, it's always a nice fallback. I think more than anything else, they just know what works with them. When you have the continuity that they have and the elite people in those roles, in those two roles as head coach and quarterback, they know they have a real good feel for where their team is and what they need and what they would do with guys if they were to bring them in.

There's zero guesswork in how guys would fit and function in what they do. That's huge.

I think with them, looking at them this year, I think getting some more size at the receiver position makes sense. Obviously the tight end position, trying to address that, bring in Austin Seferian-Jenkins, I think that frees them up. If they want to look at some tight ends that not necessarily are the in-line guy, they can find more of that move tight end. Irv Smith is one that comes to mind as somebody that would be a complement to Austin Seferian-Jenkins and have your in-line guy to go along with your move guy.

But your original question, yeah, scouting-wise when I was in Baltimore, knowing we had Ray Lewis on defense, that made it easy for us to scout defensive players because we knew Ray would kind of get them going, and we had that leader there.

I had never been in a position with a team where we had anybody remotely close to what Tom does offensively, but man, that's a nice luxury to have.

**Q. I see you have Sweat falling to 17. What are you hearing about differences of opinion on his medical report, and what are some other prominent guys or a guy who comes to mind off the top of your head who you think there's going to be on some boards and then not on some boards because of their medicals?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, more so than anything else, the medical and the character is what gets guys removed from your board. I have not talked to anybody on Montez Sweat that has completely removed him from their board. But it is -- I have talked to some teams that say, we have a little bit of a concern

there, and it can be a tiebreaker.

The reason why I have him sliding down a little bit is not because of anything he's done as a player or because you're worried he's failed a bunch of physicals. I have him sliding down a little bit because if you feel somebody else is in that same range or same ballpark, it can be a little bit of a tiebreaker. So that's why I had him sliding to the Giants there in the first round. But I don't anticipate you're going to see a major fall with him.

The other medical stuff, this year for the most part, the medical guys have been more fourth-, fifth-, sixth-round type players, and I always feel weird trying to put that stuff out there. If it's not already out there I'm not trying to put anybody's medical information out there. I won't go there on those guys.

But I can tell you a player like Hollywood Brown, people are very confident. I talked to a general manager that's sworn that they feel 100 percent confident he'll return to what he was and their doctors were fine with him. He looked at the situation with Jeff Simmons, there's confidence in him, that he's going to be back to full strength. I've actually gotten really good medical reports on some of those injured guys, first-, second-round type guys.

**Q. After the first round the Eagles have two picks in the latter part of the second round, 53 and 57. What do you think the running back crop is going to look like at that point in the second round as far as guys that could be good fits for their scheme?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, I think it's going to be kind of the sweet spot. I think you'll see some running backs kind of go in the late second, early third round. You look at Damien Harris from Alabama, I think he kind of fits that bill. It's kind of whatever style you want. I think the real intriguing name which has some risk, you talk about medical, just because of the number of injuries that Rodney Anderson from Oklahoma has had, but his upside is tremendous. You can go watch him in the game against Georgia in the bowl game last year and you can kind of see what he is. He is a tremendous player. But that would be kind of a wild card.

And then in that bottom second, I think that's probably where the conversation comes in with Justice Hill from Oklahoma State who's just pure speed. You bring in a Jordan Howard to kind of have a power guy. They've got to find a way to get more explosive, and that's where somebody like that would make some sense to me. And I think most people have him in the third-round range. But bottom of the second round, I think it's fair to have that conversation with a guy like Justice Hill who would make some sense there.

I thought early on in the process you might have a chance to see the Penn State running back at that point in time in Miles Sanders, but there's just too much juice on him. There's too much heat. There's too many teams that like him. I think he'll likely be off the board at that point in time.

**Q. Just with respect to Andre Dillard, Jonah Williams, Jawaan Taylor, can you just give me who you feel is the safest pick of those three, who has the highest ceiling of those three, and who has the most work to do once they get to the NFL?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. To me the safest, I would probably say Jonah because, look, Jonah has played a lot of ball at a very high level against elite players. He's played right tackle, he's played left tackle. I believe he can kick inside. That's personally where I think he's going to end up. I think he's going to be a very good player in there. But when you consider the number of snaps, the level of competition, the way he's come across in interviews with teams around the league, I've heard some very impressive -- to me he's the high-floor guy.

Now, does he have the -- he doesn't have that type of size or elite athleticism that I would put the ceiling really high but I think he's got a chance to be a real solid player, maybe could even be a Pro Bowl player on the inside in my opinion.

Then when you go to highest upside to me it's Dillard. He's already the best pass protector in the bunch. Had a chance to do a lot of it there for Mike Leach at Washington State. Did a nice job at the Senior Bowl in the run game getting better every day. He wasn't exposed to it. So getting a chance to show that he could pick that up and learn and grow, I think he's got a chance to be real solid in the run game. He's not going to be somebody that's going to drive you to the ground, but he can just kind of get on you, stay attached and stay walled up. But the pass protection and the athleticism was what gives him the highest upside.

And then Taylor to me is -- he's just the most physical. I mean, he's somebody that just -- he can move people in the run game at the point of attack. I think he's going to be a really good right tackle. Some people think he's going to kick inside. I think he can hold up out there. He's athletic enough when you watch him against Florida State against Brian Burns, he was able to kick out and cover him up with the speed.

But to me he's just a nasty guy who will bring the most physicality to the position. He's probably got some work to do just technique-wise, hand-wise, that needs to be ironed out compared to the other two. To answer your question about some room to grow, he would

probably be that guy.

But to me you've got the elite pass protector, you've got the steady Eddie, and then you've got the mauler. That's how I would describe those three guys.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about T.J. Hockenson. He seems to be gathering a lot of momentum the closer we get to the draft. You've had him as a No. 5 prospect. You've got him at No. 9 in your mock draft. What is your opinion of him in any way possibly being a generational type tight end? Because we all know tight ends don't go in the top 10 very often.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: No, good question. He's not like the Vernon Davis who we saw go really high that just had that rare athleticism. He's not that. I just think when you look at the success of a player like Jason Witten and the career that he's had and the skill set he possesses, I know a lot of people have made the comparison with Gronk. Gronk is a unicorn, as big as he was and as athletic as he was, I don't know that we'll ever see anybody like him. But with Hockenson, I just look and see the way Jason Witten has had his career, and I think he's got a chance to be that exact same guy. Witten is going to be a Hall of Famer. If we had to do that draft over again, he'd go in the top 15, no question. That's who I see him as.

I think we talk so much about him in the run game and how dominant he is, which he's outstanding, and it's just hard to find guys that are good in the run game at the tight end position now. But I think he's not a 4.5 guy; he ran 4.7 flat. He's very, very skilled as a route runner. He's nuanced. He's a guy that knows how to use leverage and create separation.

And to me when you look at the tight ends that have played long, long careers, at the end of their careers, Antonio Gates is still going, he can't really run right now. You look at Gonzalez at the end of his career, these tight ends are still productive because they understand the nuance, they understand how to work in space. There's a craftiness to that position. All the option routes that you can run. He's really, really good at all that stuff. He's just not going to blow right by you and run past you, he's going to have to set you up. But I think he's a little underrated as a route runner and as a pass catcher. But Jason Witten to me, that's what I envision him being.

**Q. I had a question about two defensive players, first with Nick Bosa. Is there a play that comes to mind that kind of best captures why he's widely viewed as the best overall prospect? And then on Washington's Ben Burr-Kirven. I think a lot of people think his size won't allow his production to**

**translate in the NFL. Do you kind of hold that opinion, and what do you see him as in the NFL?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I mean, it wasn't just one play with Bosa, but for me it was -- my first chance getting to see him live and in person was against USC in the Cotton Bowl, and he just completely dominated the game, took over the game early. I don't think Sam Darnold ever really recovered from as many times as he was getting to him early in that game.

But there's plays this year, I did not write down the game as I have looked at my notes here, but there are a handful of plays where he's triple teamed and he'll crawl to the quarterback, like he just finds a way to get it done. But look, if you want somebody that can win early with speed, he can overpower you. He's outstanding with his hands. The effort is off the charts. I mean, those are all in my time doing it, those are all key, key ingredients to an elite pass rusher. He has all that stuff.

I think he's going to be outstanding, and it's just a matter of him staying healthy. That's of obvious concern. But everything I hear is that things are okay with that. He's going to be a great pro.

And BBK, Ben Burr-Kirven, the size, he's six foot, 230. In today's game the way it's played, plenty big enough. At linebacker you've got to be able to run, you've got to be able to cover, and it's nice if he can use you to blitz. Hardly any of these guys are built to bang and take on blocks like the old 15-year-ago linebacker. It's not as important. You've got to be able to cover guys, you've got to be able to cover these running backs and tight ends and you have to be able to run.

So with him I see somebody that's instinctive, somebody that's got tremendous range and can help in coverage, and he's going to get swallowed up at times in the run game, but teams are more than willing to live with some of that because if you can't run, you'll get isolated in the pass game, and it's going to be a long day.

So I have him, I think he's going to go in the fourth round is about where I have him going.

**Q. In your experience talking to some decision makers, how much of a dive do organizations do into a potential draft pick's social media accounts? And have you ever heard of a team taking somebody off the board because a pattern they found was sort of questionable?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Every team in the league has somebody that's combing through that, and what they've done is they've gotten smarter, and instead of running these checks -- at this point in time in the

process, they're identifying these guys as prospects as young players, as freshmen and sophomores, and they're beginning to collect all that information and run all those reports on their social media years before they're even draft eligible. Most of the smart teams are doing that. Everybody is digging into it.

And I've been on a team -- my last year in scouting was 2012, but even during that time, and obviously social media has exploded since then, but even during that time we had -- I can remember one specific player, I won't say who he was, but had lots of guns in his social media stuff, and it was like, You know what, we're not going to mess with him, and we took him completely off of our board. Now, he had some other character stuff that concerned us, but that was kind of the last straw, like, Nah, that's not our guy.

I guarantee you every year all 32 teams, somebody on their board will be removed because of something that's taken place in their social media.

**Q. From a pass rushing perspective, it seems like there's not going to be a lot of guys that last third of the first round, but do you think there's an opportunity for the Eagles to kind of target a guy that might be a versatile guy that can play defensive tackle and defensive end in that range?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, in terms of the back end of the first round?

**Q. Yeah.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, look, you're going to find different guys. Somebody that can play inside and outside. I look at somebody that's primarily going to be playing inside like Jerry Tillery kind of falls in that. He falls in that range as somebody that can get to the quarterback. He would just do it from an inside alignment.

You can look at guys, we're looking at pure pass rushers, but an interesting name is a guy like Dexter Lawrence, where does he fill in. Yeah, he doesn't rush the passer, he hasn't had an opportunity to rush the passer that much, but when you've got edge pressure and you've got somebody on the inside that can create some pocket push, there's some value for somebody like that who can have an impact as a pass rusher without necessarily winning with quickness or getting it done himself. He can impact it in that regard.

He'll have an interesting decision to make if Jeffery Simmons were to somehow fall down there, who I think can move up and down the line of scrimmage, but again, you've got to wait out the injury coming off the ACL and see where he is at that point in time.

But the pure edge guys, I think it's too early for a guy like Jaylon Ferguson at that point in time. I think it's too early for somebody like L.J. Collier. Those are the type of guys -- Chase Winovich would be -- the conversation could start there. I think he probably is more of a trade-back scenario. But I hear what you're saying. They're in a little bit of no-man's land if you're just looking for a pure edge rusher in the bottom of the first.

**Q. I was wondering what you thought maybe the earliest and latest Justin Layne will come off the board and draft prospects where you have other Michigan State guys, LJ Scott, Khari Willis, Felton Davis.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure, let's start first with the corner. I thought second round there was -- somebody who's a former wide receiver who's got tremendous ball skills. There's always teams looking for size, speed corners. I would say right now you're probably looking more in the third-round range is his sweet spot. I don't think he would get out of the fourth round. I think that's right about where he finds himself. He's got real good ball skills. He ran fast enough at 4.5 flat. That's where I think he goes.

LJ Scott, I don't think he'll get picked. I have him as kind of a seventh-round priority free agent type. There's just too many other running backs that have kind of pushed him down the board. Unfortunately there's not a lot to go off of here recently when you study him. That kind of dings him, and didn't run as well as you'd want there. He's an interesting case study if he does get picked. I'll be a little bit surprised. I think he ends up being a priority free agent.

You've got to remind me again on who the other two are just so I can find them here on my list.

**Q. Khari Willis, safety, and then Felton Davis, wide receiver.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure, Khari Willis, when I look at my notes on him, I have him in that sixth-round range. I just thought he was somebody that needed to be down in the box. He ran faster than I thought he would in the low 4.5s, but to me I kind of have him in that -- I would say the fifth-, sixth-round range is where I would have him. So we'll see what happens. It's a pretty good group. There's good depth there at that position. So I think that could end up hurting him a little bit.

And then when we get to the wide receiver, Felton Davis, I have him as a late-round guy. I have him in the seventh round. Big frame, I thought he struggled against press, and obviously you've got the achilles. So coming off of that, I had him as probably a seventh round or a priority free agent.

**Q. I'd love to ask you about three Ole Miss players, D. K. Metcalf, A. J. Brown, Greg Little, maybe the earliest and latest you see them going and what your concerns are with each of them?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Metcalf, I feel like I'm a little bit of a Metcalf defender. I think he's been a popular target for people to kind of go after and say, Hey, well, he can't do that or this, that and the other and the production wasn't there. The guy got hurt. He missed time. He's obviously the height, weight, speed, everybody saw that at the combine. But he's made plays. When he's been healthy and on the field he's made plays. He's a pure vertical threat. He's going to be an X wide receiver who's going to be a big target.

I couldn't find the exact home form in my last mock draft. I do believe he'll go in the first round. It's just a matter of finding that team and who that is. I wouldn't sleep on a team like the Baltimore Ravens would make some sense. Who knows what the Packers will do. I think those teams make some sense for him. I do think he ultimately ends up going in the first round.

A. J. I think is probably going to go early second round. I think we'll see a run on those wide receivers, somebody looking for a real sturdy, firm slot receiver. I know he's played outside, but I think he ends up playing inside, somebody that you wish was just a little bit taller, but the toughness is there, working the middle of the field and the run after the catch is what you love. I think to me, though, he's got to play inside, so if you're looking at something to knock him on, I don't see him as an outside guy.

Little, teams are all over the map on him. I like him. I like him in that middle to late second-round range, but I would not be shocked in the least if we had a run on tackles. And you start hearing his name, potentially a team like Houston, all those tackles are gone, it wouldn't shock me if he snuck into the first round, and that would be a spot that I would look at him for. If not, he will not get out of the second round. He's somebody that's just -- there's a lot to work with there.

He's got some flaws. His hands can get a little bit wide at times. He's not always square. There's a little bit of stiffness. But you've got size, you've got somebody that can move people. He's got a real good anchor in pass protection, which you love, and he's pretty good in the pull game. There's things to like about him. I like him in that second-round range, and I think ultimately that's most likely where he goes, but I would not be shocked if somehow he snuck into the first.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about Dwayne Haskins, just your big-picture scouting report, and some people have him going as high as sixth, I think you have**

him 11th, some people have him falling all the way to the end of the first round. What are these red flags we keep hearing about? Is it skill-wise or something in his background? What is causing his stock to be all over the place?

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I think it's pretty simple. It's just really two things, and it's the one-year starter deal. It's the same thing that Kyler Murray gets hit on, but we have obviously the landing spot for Kyler Murray with Arizona. When you look at what you have with Dwayne, the one-year thing is one part of it. The other part of it is just the mobility concerns. Is he going to be able to create time, is he going to be able to move around and get away from pressure? Which nine times out of ten if you're getting picked in the top 10, you're on a team that's not great up front and you're going to have to be able to protect yourself and get away from some pressure, and that's the concern with him.

Sometimes I see him when we study him, the eyes are quick. He's moving his eyes through progression and getting there with his eyes but sometimes his feet are a little bit late to catch up. But what I like about him, he's a firm, sturdy guy. I think he'll be able to hold up physically the way he's built. He can drive the ball. He can layer the ball.

You look at the progression of him from the beginning of the year to the end of the year, I mean, it's a clear trend line that he's going in the right direction. And I would even add on to that the pro day, which was outstanding. He moved around a little bit better in that pro day than I anticipated, so that helps him. It's just a matter of finding a home for him.

Of all the quarterbacks, you talk to teams, he's in the mix with all these teams. Some teams really like Daniel Jones or some teams really like Drew Lock, but they aren't as high on the other one. But when you talk about the discussion, I think Dwayne is the No. 1 or No. 2 guy with the most teams, it's just you don't know if he's going to be the No. 2 guy for all of them, and that could cause him to slide.

But when you look at landing spot six, I would not rule out Denver, I would not rule out Cincinnati, and just lately, believe what you want to believe, but there's a lot of chatter talking to people around the league that Washington is high on Haskins.

I don't think when it's all said and done he gets out of the top 15. I know there's all this talk about could he fall and how far could he fall. I just don't see that happening.

**Q. When you look at the Jets' options at No. 3, I noticed you had Ed Oliver going to them in your**

**latest mock draft and passing on Josh Allen and Quinnen Williams. If you could break that down.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I think they're in a pretty good spot. You know, if the question is what would I do, I would take Quinnen Williams and I wouldn't turn back. I would pair Quinnen Williams with Leonard Williams, and I think you'd be not only -- got guys that can rush a little bit, you've got guys that can hold the point of attack, and in a division with a Patriots team that's becoming increasingly interested in running the football, you've got something that could hold up inside.

I think switching it up and putting Ed Oliver in there, just making the connection between Gregg Williams having coached Aaron Donald and envisioning a role for somebody like Ed to be able to really penetrate and get up field and kind of be more of the Robin type of a player to Batman there with Leonard Williams, just a different skill set to give you a little something different. So that's what his strength would be.

And then if you're looking at the edge on the outside, Bosa is gone, Josh Allen is next in line. I think he's outstanding as a rusher. He gives you that added benefit of being able to drop and cover. I just think who impacts the game the most out of all those guys, I would still stick with Quinnen because I think he impacts the game on every single down.

**Q. I wonder if you think that Bryce Love might have a chance to be the sleeper in this draft, coming off the injury and going back to that.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, you know, he's interesting because you just don't hear anything about him. It's almost a little bit of out of sight, out of mind after the injury he's had. I know we'll have Coach Shaw on our draft coverage. I'm looking forward to catching up with Coach, and he is a big fan of Bryce. And you go back and look at the production the year before, what he did when he was healthy, there's a lot to like there, and he's got big-time, big-time speed. All indications are he'll come back fully healthy from this ACL. He should be fine.

The little bit of a concern was just he wasn't used much out of the backfield in the pass game. That's kind of the -- you look at Christian McCaffrey, the production he had in that passing game in that offense, you just didn't see the same from Bryce. So you're lacking a little bit in size and you don't know exactly what you're going to get from him in the passing game. That's what kind of dings the value a little bit as well as the injury.

I think he's got somewhat -- if he can continue to work and improve in that area, if he returns to health, you might end up getting a real steal. In terms of where he goes, people around the league, I think you hear more

kind of in that fifth-round type range is where he could land himself, which would make him a definite sleeper if he returned to form.

**Q. Quick question on Montez Sweat. He worked out recently with the Texans. What do you think this means for the situation with Clowney, and how do you think Sweat would fit in in Clowney's position?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, you know, it's interesting, definitely different style of players. They're both athletically just freakish, but Clowney has got just a different level of power and twitch. We've obviously seen the clips of Clowney just run right through offensive tackles. That's not Montez Sweat's game. He's a little more finesse, he's going to be able to get to the edge, bend and wrap a little bit more than Clowney. Clowney is just a more violent football player.

So if you look at them coming out, I thought Clowney was a superior player coming out of college. If you look at the -- what this Houston Texans team can do, I'll be shocked, and who knows, we're prepared to be shocked, but I'll be shocked if it's not an offensive lineman or a corner in the first round. Those to me just seem like the two areas of focus for this team going forward, and I would expect in the first round it would be one of those two positions.

To get a guy like Montez Sweat, you're going to have to go up, and I know they have a couple twos, but I can't see them being that aggressive to go up for a pass rusher with some of the other holes they have.

**Q. The AFC West, care to make a pick for those teams and thoughts on where the SDSU tight end may end up?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. You know, look, it's going to be interesting to see what happens in the AFC West. When you look at what Mayock has done and the Raiders have done in the off-season and adding some firepower there and you kind of look at the division as a whole and now you see a division with Antonio Brown, with Tyreek Hill, obviously Sammy Watkins, you see Courtland Sutton who's got a chance to be a rising star in the league, the size, the Chargers with Keenan Allen and Mike Williams, there is a lot of talent at the wide receiver position.

And while I don't think it's a mystery that those teams in the division are looking for secondary help, so trying to find guys in the secondary that can come in and play, compete right away. I think you might see that theme emerge from the AFC West. The Raiders will have three cracks at it. I don't think there's anybody in the secondary worth taking in the top of the draft. I think that ends up being a pass rusher. Whether or not

that's Ed Oliver or Quinnen Williams, those would be my two guesses.

And then you get to the 20s, I could see a little bit of a mix there. It could be a running back, could be a receiver. I think maybe you get a chance to get an offensive player with one of those picks. But I'll be surprised if one of those picks in the 20s is not somebody in the secondary that can come in and play right away. And then you get to Kansas City, I think that just looks like corner to me. You can see Byron Murphy, a Greedy Williams, somebody like that.

The Chargers, safety is an opportunity there. They could look at a pure free safety, and they could also go look at the corner position, as well. I think I had them taking Rock Ya-Sin from Temple who is somebody that has a toughness that Gus likes to go along with some ball skills.

And then Denver, I guess I skipped over Denver. To me I know they've done a lot of homework on quarterbacks, but I just can't see them taking a quarterback when they haven't even seen Joe Flacco take a snap in this offense. So I would imagine they try and get somebody that can help him out there. You take a look along the offensive line and I would not sleep on Hockenson. If Hockenson were to get there to Denver that would not surprise me at all because he'll help their run game as well as their passing game.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about a couple Alabama guys, Christian Miller, Isaiah Buggs. Where do you see them kind of fitting in as pass rushers, and where could they go next level?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, you start with Buggs. Look, you're always trying to find some interior pressure. I haven't been able to get his -- a little bit surprised there hasn't been as much love for him around the league as I thought there might be in talking to guys. But he's somebody that can move around up and down the line of scrimmage. He's got some power. He's got pretty good get-off. The effort was a little bit inconsistent. I didn't love that. But I had him kind of in that fourth-round range, and all the teams I've talked to when his name has come up, I've got that he's more than likely to go after that. So I think you're probably talking fifth- or sixth-round pick on him.

Miller does have some love around the league. I like him, too. I think he's a good player. When he's been healthy, he really had an impact on that group, on that front. Again, I have him kind of in that fourth-round range, maybe he could sneak in the third, but I would say kind of third to fifth is where you see him. A lot of push-pull pressure there, really good with his hands. Really strong at the point of attack. For teams, 3-4 teams, asking him to drop, he's a little bit stiff there.

That's going to be an effort for him. But he's got some pass rush potential, and that's why I think you'll see him in the middle rounds.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about two University of Virginia defensive backs, Juan Thornhill, what's the outlook for him, what position particularly also do you project him at? And Tim Harris, what's the projection for him and how do his injuries factor into the outlook?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Thornhill is -- he's a player that I really like. He's somebody that he can play safety, he can play corner. I like him as a pure free safety. I think that's his best spot. I know he can drop down and cover if you want him to, but I just loved his range. In a draft where we've got a lot of guys that can play down low and can be force players, he's somebody -- I just like his ability to play in the middle of the field, to range around and make a bunch of plays that way, and that's what gets me excited about him.

Now, the concern is you're going to have to live with some fly-by missed tackles. That's going to be part of it. And some teams, that's why they just say, We're going to put him at corner, they have concerns about him in the run game, they feel like they can eliminate some of that with him playing corner.

Just for me personally, I think pure free safeties are hard to find right now. They can play over the top, and that's where I would put him.

With Tim Harris, I mean, the height, weight, speed is physical. You watch him against Virginia Tech, you can see his kind of instincts in zone. I just thought he was raw, a little bit stiff. I thought he was a developmental project, so I put him in the -- to me he was at the end of the draft, sixth, seventh round, height, weight, speed corner with a lot of work to do in man especially.

**Q. A lot of people think that teams need a big body wide receiver, especially in the red zone to help out with the jump balls. But after speaking with Ron Rivera and Marty Hurney yesterday, they said separation is more important than height. As far as receivers in this draft, who has shown an ability to separate that might be available in the mid to late rounds?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Look, I still think there's a place for size when you get down in the tight red zone. We can see, you'll see a lot of the pick plays, you want to play man coverage down there, you'll see a lot of those rub routes and you can escape and do some of those things. But I always go back to the theory of trying to get a basketball team. I want some of everything. I don't want to trot out a team with a bunch of little guys, and I don't want to trot a team out there of

all power forwards. I want to have a mix of size and skill set.

But I do get the thought on separation. To me that's more important when you're between the 20s. I think that size does play once you get down there in the red zone.

In terms of being able to really separate, we can kind of go through a couple rounds here. Obviously in the first round, if you want separation, Hollywood Brown, he's your guy for doing that. Mecole Hardman from Georgia, he creates a ton of separation. Some guys do it with speed. Some guys do it with route running.

I really like Ridley from Georgia. I know he didn't test well. I know he doesn't have a ton of production. But that dude knows how to run routes, and he generates separation. Talking to people around the league, he's probably going to end up going in the third round when it's all said and done, which I think is a tremendous bargain for me. But he's somebody that can definitely create some separation.

As you go kind of through the rounds here, a guy like Travis Fulgham from Old Dominion, there's another one who ran 4.58, but he creates separation, gets away from people, he's a really good route runner. Emanuel Hall from Missouri is probably top three vertical receiver in this draft, and he runs away from everybody. He definitely can create some separation.

And then if you want to go late, really late, there's somebody in the slot that can create some separation, you just watch Penny Hart from Georgia State at the Senior Bowl and the job he did of creating separation. He's just a really good player. Doesn't wow you with height, weight or speed, but he knows how to get away from people and create some room.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about a couple of Notre Dame players, cornerback Julian Love and wide receiver Miles Boykin. What's the latest buzz on them and some possible fits for both?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure, I'll start with Boykin. There is a lot of love around the league for Miles Boykin, so much so that I anticipate he's going to go in the second round. He's just -- he came on strong this year. He's big. He's physical. He ran really well. He's somebody that tracks the ball extremely well. He's got strong hands, and the drops that he does have are more concentration drops, but he can catch in a crowd, he's played inside and outside, a classic kind of a true X wide receiver, that's what he is. Worst case scenario is the third round, but I think there's enough heat on him that he's going to go in the second round when it's all said and done.

And Love is one of my personal favorites. I personally would take him in the second round if you need a nickel. I think he's a day one starting nickel. I think more than likely because of the lack of speed, he'll get pushed into the third round, but having done the Charger games last year and seeing Desmond King and the role he played and how valuable he was to that team, Julian Love is a Desmond King clone in my opinion. And I think you play him inside, you don't leave him hung out to dry on the outside, I think that speed would show up, but his toughness and play-making ability is ideal as a day one starting nickel for me.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about the few guys from Iowa State in David Montgomery and Hakeem Butler. When you look at them and their different skill sets at running back and wide receiver, what kinds of offenses or schemes do you see them really succeeding in once they get to the next level?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Montgomery is one of my favorites. I'm going to be really fascinated to see where he goes because he's got a 4.63 40 out there, which is not great, but man, this guy is so instinctive, the patience he has, the vision, he can make you miss. He's just not going to blow the doors off you with his speed. But I think he is built to run at the next level.

In terms of offenses he could fit, I think he fits any of them. He can run inside. He's a good zone runner. He's got the vision and the feel for that. He's decisive. I think he fits anything. I just think if you're looking for some electricity and just big-time, big-time top-end speed if that's your flavor, which I think is a little overrated at that position, then maybe he's not your guy. But I can definitely translate him to anybody.

When you look at Butler, he's one of the more difficult ones for me. I really see what he does -- I watched him more last night. I've continually just keep coming back and watching more because there's a lot of things I like. He's 6'5"-plus, almost 230 pounds. He ran much faster than I anticipated in the 4.4s. Just when I watch him, I think he's a little bit of a plodding, long-strider type. He's got a lot of dropped passes, which concerned me. But then you see some of the circus catches, and I love the competitiveness that he has after the catch. He just refuses to be tackled. So he's great in that regard.

He's one that people all over the place, some teams don't really care for him, other teams think he's worth a first-round pick. I think he ends up going in the second round. I think a team has to have a role and a plan for him and you're going to have to live with some of the drops because that's going to happen. But I think

ultimately he's got a really good shot at being a top-40 pick.

**Q. From your time in the NFL, I was wondering how did your teams evaluate draft classes four or five years after the fact? How many guys were expected to be signed to second contracts? What's expected of a first-round pick, second-round pick, so on?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, it really is pretty simple. However many picks you have, the goal -- I kind of look at a good draft is if you've got three starters from a draft class. I don't care where they come, first round, seventh round, whatever, but you'd like to come away with three starters. Anything north of that was gravy. You kind of look at some of the teams that have been on runs, I go back and kind of look at that Seattle team, you put together a couple drafts where you get four starters back-to-back years, you've transformed your team. That's a franchise-changing scenario if you can find four in a couple drafts.

You look at the New Orleans Saints and the recent resurgence and the run they've been on, you can trace it back to having a draft where you hit on four -- not only just four starters but four upper-echelon guys. Three is kind of the target, and you get more than that, you've got something special.

**Q. In your first mock draft back in January you had Josh Jacobs going No. 5 to the Bucs. Now he's not among your top 32 picks. What's the reason for that or is it just overlooking something?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: No, good question. I'm glad you asked that because I think a lot of people wonder about that. Early on in the process, I go off of -- these teams haven't assembled yet. You don't know where they have players. We still have also to see what happens in free agency. There's so much that changes. So on an early mock draft, a lot of times if I don't have any intel, I just go, Hey, this is a player I'm high on, and I've been a Josh Jacobs guy from the jump. He's still in my top-10 overall players, how I rank them.

But as you go deeper into mock drafts, you start hearing things. You start talking to people with teams. You start talking to people who know people. You follow who's spending time with players. You just get more information. And the way I try to explain it is for the most part, I try and do my mock drafts with my ears based off what I'm hearing, and I do my top-50 list off my eyes, what I think of a player.

So I personally think Josh Jacobs is one of the 10 best football players in this draft, and I can say that while also saying I don't believe he's going to go in the top 10. I think he's likely to go in the 20s or the 30s when

it's all said and done. But that's why when I looked at that team, Ronald Jones being a big disappointment and still having a need at that spot, I thought, man, this guy is plug and play and he'd be a great fit for that football team. But as you go through the process, you realize, okay, what I'm hearing does not match up with them taking him at that point in time.

**Q. How high do you think Miles Sanders can go? What team or teams would be an ideal fit for him? And I guess how impressed or surprised were you with him at the combine?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, he's just done a really good job. I would even just start with what he did in the fall. Having to wait his turn and then to play like he did, and then deliver in the postseason the way he has, he hasn't really had a misstep once he got his chance. You like to see that from him.

In terms of how high he could go, I'd say it's unlikely that he goes in the bottom of the first round. It wouldn't totally shock me. A team like the Rams, that might surprise some people considering who they have in Todd Gurley, but they've done a lot of homework on running backs. Maybe that's a scenario where they trade back if they looked at that position.

But I'd say there's a slim chance he could go bottom one, but I do think he's a lock to go in the second round, and I would anticipate he's somebody that goes in the top 40 to 50 picks. I think you'll see him go in the first part of the second round. He won't have to wait too long.

**Q. Specifically with the Chargers, I know you had the cornerback from Temple going to them in your last draft, but also wanted to know what you thought about defensive tackle prospects, kind of what the guy from Philadelphia asked you late in the first round.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, I think there are some intriguing defensive tackles late in the first round. I'd just go back and just watching the team in some big games, I thought, man, they can use another body, another guy at corner would be a big help, and unfortunately Jason Verrett just couldn't stay healthy. Michael Davis has some intriguing skills, but I think they look to upgrade that position pretty early on in this draft, and I think the sweet spot of the draft for corners is kind of where they're located. I mean, that's where I think you'll see that run take place.

But trying to get a defensive tackle, man, one guy I would keep an eye on just because I love his game and I think he would be such a great fit with the Chargers, if somehow Christian Wilkins started to drift a little bit, that would be somebody I would keep my eye on. I

would target him if I were the Chargers. I just think he'd be a fantastic fit. I do not think he ends up being there. Dexter Lawrence, I don't think that's really their style. I think you look for more of a penetrator. I think you'd be more likely to see somebody like a Jerry Tillery at that point in time that would make more sense.

It's a little bit early for Ohio State's Dre'Mont Jones, but I think he's somebody -- in a trade-back scenario in the second round, that's somebody that fits what they do who can penetrate and get up field a little bit.

**Q. Quick question looking at the Redskins: Obviously everybody is kind of focused on quarterback or edge rusher with that No. 15, but they've got a lot of holes. How do you see them approaching their first three rounds as far as trying to come away with a package guy?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I mean, I think you could look in a couple different directions. We'll see what happens. We're kind of in a holding pattern until the Cardinals figure out what they're doing in the Josh Rosen situation because I do think the Redskins make a lot of sense there. But let's assume that doesn't happen. I think they would go quarterback in the first round if that were the case, if they did not get Rosen I think it would be more than likely that's where they go. They have done so much work on this group, and you hear all different guys tied to them. I mentioned a little earlier that Haskins is kind of the latest that I hear there. But I think you come away with a combination of a quarterback and offensive lineman, and they've done a lot of work on the tackles in this group. That would not shock me.

And I think wide receiver, as well, if they're looking on the offensive side of the ball, I could see them adding somebody at those three spots, kind of looking at the combination of players. And I would also say you go over to the defensive side of the ball, addressing that secondary would be another place I would look.

Everybody is kind of zeroed in on the edge rusher. We'll see what they end up doing there. I actually tend to think they might be more offensive leaning in this draft.

**Q. For all the success the Ravens have had in the draft over the years, and obviously you were a part of it, it's been highly scrutinized, your ability to draft and develop wide receivers. Do you have a theory on or a reasoning why they struggled so much at that position in terms of drafting? And knowing Eric DeCosta the way you do, do you think they're kind of sticking with him and that's something he's going to want to rectify this year?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, it's interesting, they're tough to -- I can't tell you why it hasn't worked out for the most part. There have been some hits. Torrey Smith did a nice job. There's been some players that have come in and played well. But for the first rounders, I was there for Mark Clayton and had a little bit of success early and that just didn't happen. I don't know, I haven't been able to put my finger on why it hasn't worked out. I know I've been in there, how smart everybody is in that group. I think it's one of the elite scouting staffs in the NFL, and Eric has been running that department for a long time. It's just every team just kind of has one little area or one position that gives them a little bit of trouble, and that seems to be it.

One thing I know about Eric is Eric is extremely competitive, and why I think maybe a lot of people would say it's his first draft, maybe stay away from a position that's given them a little bit of trouble. I could see Eric saying, You know what, let's go ahead and exercise this team and let's go get a stud at that position and put that to bed.

But I think when it's all said and done, they end up trading back, and after they traded back, I would not be shocked if their first pick was a wide receiver. I'd just be shocked if their first pick is at 22, knowing the value they place on second-round picks, to not have right now due to the Lamar Jackson trade, I'd be surprised if Eric doesn't find a way to recoup that by sliding back, and then maybe you're looking at taking a guy like a Parris Campbell who can come in and give you some big-time speed and juice to go with a really unique offense they're putting together there.

**Q. If the Vikings were to wait on an offensive lineman and take one after the first round, how long could they wait given the depth in this draft and find a guy that could come in and start for them fairly quickly?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I think if you're looking for a starter on the offensive line, I think you're probably going to want to address that in the first three rounds. I think there's a situation where they pick, what, 18th, 50, and 81 their first three picks? I wouldn't be surprised if they doubled down. Whether or not it's their first pick, I don't know, but I could definitely see them using two of those picks on offensive linemen. And I think you get into that third round, you can find a guy -- you can find a Nate Davis from UNC Charlotte or a Michael Deiter from Wisconsin or a Dru Samia from Oklahoma. Interior players I think could come in and play right away and help that football team. I think you'll see all those top centers and guards, those guys are going to go in the second round. So if you wanted one of those, you have to probably address that at that point in time.

And then when you get into the tackle position, if you

want to take a tackle outside the first two rounds for the most part, you get into the developmental side of things. That's when to me I'd rather just wait a little bit and take a guy like a Trey Pipkins from Sioux Falls, you take him in the fourth or fifth round -- they don't have a five, so it would be the fourth round, that would be somebody you'd take a shot at, but I don't think he'd be ready to play right away.

**Q. I was wondering about like a lot of teams talk about like the evolution of the safety position and how they're looking for guys that can pretty much do everything back there, and with that in mind, I was wondering about two guys in particular in Nasir Adderley and Darnell Savage and how they fit that mold, and also if you can comment on the draft prospects of David Sills, where you see him going, what you think of his NFL future, that type of thing.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I'll work backwards. David Sills I think is going to be a late-round pick. I think he's got some ability. He's got some talent. Obviously a fascinating story with him, making the transition from quarterback to wide receiver. But there's just so many wideouts in this draft. I think he probably finds himself in that sixth-, seventh-round range. I do like the fact he can play inside, he can play outside, and he does a nice job down in the red area. But that's where I think his value is right now, probably talking sixth, seventh round.

Savage is, I'm glad you brought him up, because there's no player that's got more steam and momentum right now in this draft than Darnell Savage. Teams love him, love him to the point where I would not be surprised if he found his way into the first round. The only thing he's lacking is just kind of ideal size, a little bit undersized, but he ran 4.3, he plays to that 4.3.

I've done more work on him, and I'll have to do my last update here, I think that will come out next week, he'll be in my top 50, having watched a little bit more and you get a chance to see him, the things he can do, lining up all over the field and that versatility you're talking about. Ohio State game is fantastic.

I would say absolutely he's a top-40 pick, and I think he's got a real chance to sneak into the first round when it's all said and done. Teams love Darnell Savage.

Adderley, I'm a big Adderley fan. I think he's taken on a little bit of water in the postseason just being nicked up, didn't get a chance to run as fast as he had hoped running a 4.62. I have him in the second-round range. I think there's a chance he might slip into the third round. But I value him there in the second, and I love

his competitiveness, his toughness. I like him as a free safety. Some teams like him as a nickel. It's going to depend on who picks him, how his role evolves and develops, but I think he's a darned good football player.

**Q. Just wanted to get your thoughts on Kansas State offensive lineman Dalton Risner, where he fits right now in terms of projections and maybe some things he can do to perhaps climb a little bit higher.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I don't know that there's anything you can do to climb higher at this point in time. I like him. He's I think my 40th guy, so I have him in that early second-round range. Teams differ in terms of not only how they feel about him as a player but where he'll play. I have him holding on at tackle and being a right tackle. Some teams want him to go back and play center. I think you talk to some teams, they have him in the second round, some teams have him in the fourth round. So I think that's kind of the range for him.

He's got really strong hands. He's physical. He's just a little bit tight, and that shows up in space. And he's got some footwork stuff. He's a little bit of a heel clicker, something that can be ironed out and fixed. He's got a couple technical things he can work on at the next level, but a real solid football player that I think is going to start early and have a good career. I like him at tackle, but some folks think he'll play center.

**Q. I wanted to ask you about Daniel Jones. I saw you mocked him at 6 to the Giants, and I wanted to get your thoughts on why his stock has risen so far and why you think he would work for them.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. The first question is, it's a philosophical question of if you're the Giants, do you take a quarterback at 6, a little bit higher than you'd like, or do you wait at 17 and hope that the one guy you really want is there. I just think you kind of look at the teams for the most part, we'll see -- Lamar Jackson worked out well last year for the Ravens as their second first-round pick, but for the most part teams that have picked a quarterback with their second first-round pick, the Browns have done it three times, it never really worked out.

I just think if you have conviction in a guy and you want a quarterback, there's no such thing as taking him too early. You take him in the first round, you're putting your job into his hands anyway, you might as well guarantee you get the one that you want. That's why quarterback at 6 to me made more sense than 17. Maybe Gettleman wants to gamble a little bit. But I think the more conservative thing would be to secure the quarterback at 6, so that's why I had them going quarterback there.

Now, who that quarterback is is a total guess at that point in time. I've heard they like Haskins, I've heard they like Lock, I've heard they like Daniel Jones. I just know when you watch Jones play and the things he does, I think he can play an efficient game, a team that's going to build around his defense going forward. I think you'll see that with the Giants. We've seen it reflected in the Odell Beckham trade. I think the more conservative, efficient approach offensively, that to me fits with Daniel Jones' style, and everybody kind of made the Cutcliffe thing. I don't know if that has much impact when it's all said and done with that connection.

I just think stylistically how they want to play, having a long track record of having played there at Duke versus maybe Haskins with the one year, I just think that kind of falls in line more with the Giants.

I have it -- the order that I have them rated, I have it Murray, Haskins, Lock, Jones, but when you're putting these things together, you kind of go off fit, and I can see the fit there with Daniel Jones. So that's kind of a long way to get to why I had them taking Daniel Jones at 6.

**Q. What teams in the first round are most likely to actually pull a trigger on a tight end, and specifically with Iowa's T.J. Hockenson and Noah Fant, what is the furthest down the board you could see either one of them sliding?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. When I kind of look at where it starts for them, I think you start talking about them at 7 with the Jags. That would make some sense. This is kind of a spot for him here, 7 to the Jags, 8 to the Lions. I know Ebron did not work out well for them. Obviously he's kind of got things going with the Colts. But I could still see Hockenson fitting them and making some sense with them.

9 to Buffalo and 10 to Denver. I think all those teams at tight end can make some sense there. 12 to Green Bay, potentially landing spot. You can kind of go on through here. I think Minnesota is a sleeper team for a tight end. They've done a lot of homework on tight ends. That would not shock me. There is a boat load of teams that could be in the tight end market.

In terms of where the floor is, I had Noah Fant going to the Raiders at 24. I don't think he'll get down that far when it's all said and done. I think both those tight ends are gone in the top 20, and if it's not to a team that's there right now, when you look at the Patriots having a need and the Patriots having a lot of draft capital, I would think if either one of the Iowa tight ends started to drop and drift a little bit that that would be one phone call away for the Patriots to go get them.

**Q. In knowing Howie Roseman and Joe Douglas, how would you describe their draft philosophies and what do you make of the fact that almost all Howie's first-round picks have been on the line?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, I think that's one thing they have in common. I think people try and say what's the difference. That's one thing they share is building in the trenches, and that was something that having been with Joe in Baltimore, and that was something that was preached there, and having been with Andy and Howie, that was something that was shared -- I believe was shared in Philly. I think they have a lot in common in that regard.

I think when you look at Joe, Joe is big on the player, not just the person -- the person, not just the player. Really, really digging on those guys and finding out who are the real tough guys. That's something that's kind of been his calling card as a scout for a long time. And you can look at some of the guys they've picked, kind of that's a key ingredient to them.

Howie, the thing that's great about Howie is he understands the value. He understands kind of the board in terms of supply and demand at certain positions. He understands how to move around and just maximizing your value, and being able to say, Hey, I know we like this guy, but we can move, we can still get him or we can get somebody else we like just as much, and we can get a little something extra. He's just very good at kind of seeing the big picture and having a draft day strategy.

But I do think they have a lot more in common than people maybe realize in that they believe in building big. You start with the big guys and you go from there.

**Q. I just wanted to ask you, when do you see Gary Jennings of West Virginia going off of the board and what do you like about his skill set?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Again, all these wide receivers, it's just tough. There's a million of them. That's my free advice to anybody -- any parent that has a kid that's playing football and they want to play wide receiver or corner. Just please push them to corner because there are a billion wide receivers in these drafts every year, and we're always trying to find corners. That's a little bit what kind of gets to Gary a little bit.

I have him in that fourth-, fifth-round range slot. He can play outside, he's a vertical threat. He can make you miss. He just has some body drops. The ball got on his frame a little bit and had some drops, so that was a little bit of the concern there. But again, there's just a boat load of guys, and I think that pushes him down. So you're talking about that fourth-, fifth-round range.

**Q. I see you've got Rashan Gary going No. 15. What is your ceiling for him and your floor for him in regards to where he ends up going in the first round next week?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I mean, it's funny, teams are -- from an evaluation standpoint, they're not just personnel but coaches, there's teams that are production based and there are teams that are trait based in terms of what they look for in players. And I've talked to a coach the other day who said if I was in San Francisco, I would take Rashan Gary over Nick Bosa. There's people that love him because of what he has from a height, weight, speed and what he can become. Now, he's got to get healthy and you've got to hope the production is going to follow the ability at some point in time. Some people love him.

So in terms of how high could he go? I would probably say you start him at the probably four, five, Raiders, Bucs. And then how low does he fall, I just can't see -- Miami not having drafted a lineman last year, offensively or defensively, this has to be a trench draft for them. I expect them to go heavy there, and just picking there at 13, I would think if Rashan Gary fell down there that that would be one they would turn in quickly, so I would say that's a floor.

**Q. My question is this: What's your take on the way the Cardinals' organization has withheld information leading up to the draft? And Josh Rosen opened up with his situation in Arizona with Sports Illustrated this morning. Prove them right if they keep me, prove them wrong if they ship me off is what he said. Does that help or hurt the Cardinals with him breaking his silence when orchestrating a draft day trade?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: I don't think it has any impact. To me what will impact the Rosen value is if you wait into the draft, and now you start seeing some of these chairs fill up with quarterbacks. You get these teams that have needs and they start filling those needs then I think his value starts to go down because you can't just leverage one team against another team.

So I don't think anything he says or does in the meantime will have much impact on his value, his trade value.

In terms of how they've handled it, look, I fully understand not divulging what you're going to do. I would just say I find it hard to believe they don't know what they're going to do. So I think you can say, yes, we've made a decision, and no, I'm not going to tell you what it is. You'll find out on draft day as will everybody else. One of the reasons you do that is because if something were to happen, Kyler Murray, anything

were to take place with him, now you're on record as saying he's your guy and you've got to navigate through those waters, and if you just wait until the draft, you're covered there.

I get not saying what your decision is. I just find it hard to believe that decision hasn't already been made.

**Q. I was just wondering about Trayvon Mullen, if he could sneak into the first round, and then your suggestion right now for Austin Bryant, Tre Lamar and Mark Fields.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Sure. Let's start with Trayvon Mullen. I don't think he'll go in the first round. I think he's more in that second round, maybe even could go early third round. I think there's some other corners that just have a little more going for them right now. They've got some more steam around the league. He's a good player. He's difficult for me to evaluate just because he wasn't challenged very much. But obviously saved his best for last there against Alabama and played well, ended up running well. So you've got height, weight, speed. He's got some stiffness there, and just not a lot of production. Some of it not his fault because they didn't really go at him.

Austin Bryant, he's kind of the forgotten man as you know on that Clemson defensive line. I think he's probably going to go late second, early third round is where I have him. Unfortunately with the pec issue, pec strain he didn't get a chance to test and run, but he's a good player. He's strong point of attack guy, all power, he's really, really good playing over tight ends. I like what he brings to the table there.

I'm not as high on Tre Lamar. I have Tre Lamar as kind of a late draftable guy, really seventh-round priority free agent. He did not run well. I would say more than likely he does not end up getting picked would be my guess.

Fields is somebody with tremendous tools. You're going to have to rely on your secondary coach, try and get it out of him and develop him. He's very raw, but you've got a lot to work with there from a talent standpoint. I think when it's all said and done, he's going to hear his name called probably in that fourth-, fifth-round range, only one career interception. Don't love that, but you're definitely drafting the upside over the production there with Fields.

**Q. Quick question regarding the Texans' wide receiver group. Obviously Coutee and Fuller, they've had a lot of injury problems this past year. Can you see them taking a receiver between 54 and 86, and who do you think could fit that mold?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: That's a good question. I still

think -- as I said a little bit earlier, I think corner and tackle are probably priorities there. When you look at some receivers kind of in that mid-range round that could make some sense for them, look, there's a whole host of them. Again, I feel like I've been saying this a bunch, but the receiver group, there's so many of them. It just kind of depends on what you want. I like Travis Fulgham a lot from Old Dominion. I like Keelan Doss from UC Davis.

We'll see where Terry McLaurin goes. He's the speed guy, so if you want to kind of ensure against an injury which we've seen in this team with the offense, how it changes a little bit without Will Fuller, Terry McLaurin from Ohio State is somebody that can replace that, and it would be a nice complement to him when he's out there, but if you have an injury with McLaurin you want a flier. Terry McLaurin could be that guy if you have an injury to Fuller. I think he probably ends up going in that second-round range. I know there's some talk about him in 1, but I think he's more likely to go in the second round.

**Q. I was wondering if you could rank for me three quarterbacks in terms of if they're the best fit for the Patriots with Daniel Jones, Ryan Finley and Jarrett Stidham, understanding that Jones is probably going to go earlier than the other two, but as a follow-up, I'm wondering if you think there's a possibility that a lot of these teams that might be looking for quarterbacks in sort of that second tier could end up trading and trying to accumulate capital for next year, understanding that the quarterback class might be a little bit stronger next year.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, look, it's always a little bit dangerous when you start talking about what next year is going to bring because we never know. But on the surface from what I've seen, I think there's more high-end talent, consistent high-end talent. I can't speak to the depth of what next year looks like, and so that's always risky when you're putting all that eggs in that basket and if you don't end up with the top two picks, you don't get a shot at those guys. That's the tricky part about next year and trying to acquire some picks.

In terms of those guys with the Patriots, I'd have them just like you listed them. Jones to me, I don't think he'll be there. Finley is somebody that -- I was at his pro day, and Nick Caserio was there taking a look at him. He operates the way they like to operate. He's smart. He's efficient. He gets the ball out of his hand quick. I think he fits offensively what Josh McDaniels wants to do and likes to do. I think he'd be a great fit there.

Stidham is one of the true wild cards because he spins it as well or better than anybody in this entire draft

class. In shorts, he'd be a top-five pick. Unfortunately it hasn't clicked on the field like you'd want to see at Auburn. Some of that is the lack of protection. Some of it is an offensive system that's not great for him. But just throwing the football, he's a great athlete. I think it's going to take a little bit of time to develop him, but I could make a case he makes a lot of sense for the Patriots because they've got a little bit of time, no pun intended, with Tom there. He's not going anywhere right now. That would give you a chance to really develop a guy like this with a potential huge upside. Really as much upside as any quarterback in the draft class. Stidham is very talented. So that might be a risk worth taking.

**Q. You briefly spoke at the NFL combine about Penn State's strength and conditioning program, and since you've already addressed Miles Sanders on this conference call, I'm curious, are there any other Penn State prospects you're higher on than your colleagues, whether it's a day-two guy or a late-round flier?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: You know what, it's interesting, one of the more polarizing players is the corner, Oruwariye, another one who like we just mentioned, he ran better than I thought he would. So he's somebody that helped himself through that process. I questioned a little bit of his speed. I know he had the production. Obviously it entertained me to watch him finish off the App State game the way he did.

But no, he's somebody that teams are split on. I could see him going in the second round. I could see him going in the fourth round. So there's a little bit of a range on him. I kind of split the difference. I have him more kind of in that third-round range.

Another one that I am higher on, I shouldn't say everybody, there are some teams that are big on him, but I just like the offensive lineman. I'm a fan of McGovern, and some people like him, some people are not fans at all. So I find myself on the high end with him. I think he's worth a second-round pick. I talked to a team last night that wouldn't take him in the first four rounds. He's somebody that some people just don't care for as much. I like him. I think he's nasty. I think he's a finisher. I think he's very smart, plays with good awareness, and he can anchor down in pass protection. So he can play center, guard. I'm high on McGovern. So that's one I'm maybe a little bit higher on him than some of my colleagues.

**Q. Question about a running back who may not be on your board because he probably projects as an undrafted free agent, Dominic Bragalone from Lehigh. The reason I ask is because he's been putting up some big numbers in terms of testing**

**with a 4.4 and 31 reps on the bench.**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Yeah, he's one -- I've done almost 400 players now, and I have not got to him, so he's one that I will definitely put his name down and I will get to him before we get to Nashville.

**Q. Your pal Mike Mayock has discussed wanting to add foundational players with his four picks in the top 35, and although he's not an every-down rusher, Devin White would seem to qualify. If a team was to select White, be it early at No. 4, or perhaps later if they were to trade downward where he might be a better value, do you think they'd still be able to adequately address their need at pass rusher in the late first-round area as well as in the rest of the draft?**

DANIEL JEREMIAH: Well, I think when you hear foundational, to me you're talking about guys you feel are safe players that you can rely on and are going to be solid championship-caliber players early on, and they're second-contract guys. I think with pass rusher, with edge rusher, once you get into the 20s in this draft, I know there's a lot of depth, but these guys are going to fly off the board. So once you start getting into the 20s, we'll see, maybe a Brian Burns could fall down there a little bit, maybe a Clelin Ferrell could fall down there. I would put Ferrell in a term. I would say he's a foundational player. He's somebody that's steady, that's reliable. I know exactly what I'm getting. So that would be kind of the one guy I think has a chance to be there in the 20s that I think really fits that description.

I think there's a little more risk with Brian Burns. Tremendous upside, love his get-off and speed, but played really light last year, added a bunch of weight. Can he hold that weight is a question. Again, when I hear that word foundational, I think of steady, safe, dependable, reliable, and that's where a guy like Ferrell makes sense in that regard.