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**By Glenn LaFaye**

## **A method of evaluating undersized wide receivers entering the NFL draft - Part 1**

The NFL draft makes and breaks many teams and is widely considered the most important day of the year for teams as a whole. The future of a franchise and tens of millions of dollars hang in the balance with each draft day decision. The braintrust of each organization spends countless man hours and devotes all of their resources to evaluating each position relative to the hierarchy of team needs. One such area is the evaluation of the wide receiver position including attributes such as physical skill, football IQ, and mental toughness. Can he catch, can he catch under pressure, can he be trusted, can he make people miss, does he have game speed, does he have the focus and discipline needed to thrive at the highest level? Is he tough enough for the NFL?

There are a lot of questions and some of them can not be answered by watching a wide receiver play the position in college. Running a post in college and catching a touchdown when you are open by 10 yards is not the norm in the NFL. In the NFL everyone is fast, you catch the ball and you get hit.

The speed of the NFL will create more pressure. Will the young man be able to handle it?

The NFL team interview is a rigorous undertaking designed to dive deep into the player's psyche. The goal is to paint as accurate a portrait as possible and compare it to the perfect player avatar. In today's NFL an incoming rookie must pass the grade of everything from background tests to the Wonderlic Exam. Even with all this in place busts still happen at all positions including wide receiver. The draft prospect's college coach can be a great source of information, but they are reticent to provide negative

information in the absence of glaring red flags. They are more likely to elaborate upon player statistics and highlights that can easily be found on the prospect's game film.

So how do we peer into the coaches mind and know what he really feels about his wide receiver and answer these important questions which are essential for a receiver to thrive in the NFL?

Does the coach think he has game speed and/or quickness?

Does the coach think he has reliable hands?

Does the coach think he has reliable hands when he is going to get hit in traffic?

Does the coach think he's tough?

Is he durable?

Does he trust him in high pressure situations when the game is on the line?

Does the coach feel the receiver is good at adjusting to passes?

Does the coach feel he has discipline and focus?

Does the coach think he is a playmaker under pressure?

Is he a good route runner?

Is he easily coachable?

In poker there are things called "tells" that can give you insight to what someone is thinking about in a situation.

*A **tell in poker** is a change in a player's behavior or demeanor that is claimed by some to give clues to that player's assessment of their hand. A player gains an advantage if they observe and understand the **meaning** of another player's **tell**, particularly if the **tell** is unconscious and reliable.*

The "tell" of the coach (the poker player) with regard to how he really feels about the player (his poker hand) comes from the observation of how that player is used by the coach...

If the coach is the "poker player" and the wide receiver is the "poker hand" how can we get a tell on the coaches assessment of his hand?

The closest thing in college football to the pressure and speed of being an NFL wide receiver is without a doubt a punt return. Every punt return is a high pressure situation. Punts are almost always caught in your own territory and a muffed punt is usually a significant point in any close game. It is also an opportunity for a coach to get the ball in the hands of the player he feels is his most reliable and best playmaker. Who the coach decides to put back there says a lot and **who the coach decides not to put on punt returns says even more**. The coach will often ask himself these questions when choosing a punt returner

Is he a playmaker?  
Does he have game speed and elite quickness?  
Does he have reliable hands when he is going to get hit in traffic?  
Is he tough and not afraid to catch ball in traffic?  
Is he durable?  
Does he trust him in high pressure situations when the game is on the line?  
Does the coach feel the receiver is good at adjusting to the ball?  
Does the coach feel he has discipline and focus?  
Is he coachable?

As you can see many of these questions overlap with the the qualities needed to thrive at wide receiver in the NFL.

How can we take this overlap of information and use it to have a “tell” on how the coach thinks about the wide receiver in question? First we have to eliminate wide receivers who might not return punts for other reasons that are not viewed as a negative. Certainly a receiver who is 6’3 or 6’5 might possess all those traits except elite quickness but that should not be viewed as a red flag whether he can make it in the NFL. Players with size can get by without needing the quickness that a receiver at say 6’1 or 5’10 will need to thrive at the next level. Understanding that I have decided to use 6’1 as the split. Players 6’1 and under will go in one group and 6’2 and over in the other.

The 6’1 and under group will need to have returned at least 7 punts in college for them to receive a positive and what we call the “draft pool”

For players 6’2 they will have had to return 4 punts or more for it to be considered a positive however it will not be viewed as a negative if they have not returned punts.

For players 6’1 and under who have not returned the required punts will be considered undraftable and placed on the excluded list.

**Hypothesis:** A wide receiver 6’1 or shorter who does not return punts for his college team is believed by the coach to be lacking in at least one of the essential traits needed to thrive in the NFL.

**Exception:** The existence of a second elite superstar on the college team.

**Beliefs:**

1. To be draftable, a wide receiver 6’1 or shorter should be viewed by their coach as the top playmaker on the team or the top playmaker must be a top NFL prospect.
2. Catch % rates of receivers 6’1 and under WITHOUT punt return experience in college will be lower on average in the NFL than players under 6’1 with punt experience.

**Proof:**

Draft analysis beginning in 2017 and working backwards to 2010.

### Criteria

1. Receivers 6'1 or shorter with less than 7 punt returns in college = Strong Negative. Excluded from the draft pool.
2. Receivers taller than 6'2 who returned 4 or more punts = Strong Positive.
3. Receivers 6'2 and over who did not return punts should be evaluated solely on a teams normal evaluation process for wide receivers.

The amount of punts was chosen to take out situations where a player might have been back there for 1 game and then never put back there again. If a coach has confidence to have a player back there 7 times he should feel he has the traits mentioned. If a player 6'2 and over is back there even just 4 times it is more than likely for more than one game and he has the traits mentioned and for a big man it is a positive.

### Indicators :

1. Round chosen
2. Pick Chosen
3. Team
4. Player
5. H for Height - **Up arrow** for players 6'2+ & **Down arrow** for players 6'1 and under
6. P for punt returner Green Star = Reached required punt returns for height group.
7. Position
8. Age when drafted
9. College
10. Years in College
11. Contract value
12. Signing bonus
13. Cap Hit

Below each chart we will group the 6'1 and under players in the draft pool column or the excluded and the taller players(up arrows) will be grouped into positive or neutral but will still be in the draft pool.

## 2017 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2017 CAP
1	5	TEN from LA	Corey Davis	↑		WR	22	Western Michigan	4	\$25,394,688	\$16,608,864	\$4,617,216
1	7	LAC	Mike Williams	↑		WR	22	Clemson	4	\$19,749,928	\$12,503,584	\$3,590,896
1	9	CIN	John Ross	↓		WR	22	Washington	4	\$17,115,863	\$10,587,900	\$3,084,444
2	37	BUF from LA	Zay Jones	↑		WR	22	East Carolina	4	\$6,779,831	\$3,070,786	\$1,232,696
2	40	CAR	Curtis Samuel	↓		WR	20	Ohio State	4	\$6,453,683	\$2,833,588	\$1,132,100
2	62	PIT	JuJu Smith-Schuster	↓	E*	WR	20	Southern California	4	\$4,195,779	\$1,191,475	\$735,516
3	69	LA	Cooper Kupp	↑	☆	WR	23	Eastern Washington	4	\$3,831,760	\$954,760	\$703,690
3	72	TEN from CAR via NE	Taywan Taylor	↓		WR	22	Western Kentucky	4	\$3,681,012	\$916,012	\$694,003
3	79	NYJ from MIN	ArDarius Stewart	↓		WR	23	Alabama	4	\$3,376,574	\$846,324	\$676,581
3	82	DEN	Carlos Henderson	↓		WR	22	Louisiana Tech	4	\$3,325,984	\$817,984	\$552,496
3	84	TB	Chris Godwin	↓		WR	21	Penn State	4	\$3,284,164	\$792,164	\$663,041
3	96	DET from NE	Kenny Golladay	↑		WR	23	Northern Illinois	4	\$3,196,324	\$718,824	\$644,706
3	98 (C)	ARI from CAR	Chad Williams	↓	☆	WR	22	Grambling State	4	\$3,176,288	\$706,288	\$641,572

### Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

#### Draft Pool

#### Excluded

Chad Williams	John Ross
Juju Schuster*	Taywan Taylor
	ArDarius Stewart
	Carlos Henderson
	Chris Godwin

### Receivers 6'2 and Taller

#### Positive

#### Neutral

Cooper Kupp	Corey Davis
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	<b>Mike Williams</b>
	<b>Zay Jones</b>
	<b>Kenny Golladay</b>

Total signing bonuses of the five “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$13,960,384 for an average of \$2,792,076 per player.

\*JuJu Schuster is listed on the Draft Pool list even though he is listed at 6’1 and did not return the required punts in college. The punt returner for USC was Adoree Jackson who was considered a star special teams player and drafted in the NFL for his return ability.

## 2016 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	20
15	CLE from LA via TEN	Corey Coleman	↓		WR	21	Baylor	4	\$11,654,997	\$6,676,361	\$2,
21	HOU from WAS	Will Fuller	↓		WR	22	Notre Dame	4	\$10,164,313	\$5,592,228	\$1,
22	WAS from HOU	Josh Doctson	↑		WR	23	Texas Christian	4	\$10,049,642	\$5,508,831	\$1,
23	MIN	Laquon Treadwell	↓		WR	20	Mississippi	4	\$9,934,979	\$1,806,360	\$1,
40	NYG	Sterling Shepard	↓	☆	WR	22	Oklahoma	4	\$5,944,571	\$2,523,324	\$1,
47	NO	Michael Thomas	↑		WR	23	Ohio State	4	\$5,118,971	\$1,922,888	\$9
55	CIN	Tyler Boyd	↑	☆	WR	22	Pittsburgh	4	\$4,258,969	\$1,297,432	\$7
85	HOU	Braxton Miller	↑		WR	23	Ohio State	3	\$3,114,103	\$709,103	\$6
86	MIA from MIN	Leonte Carroo	↓		WR	22	Rutgers	4	\$3,100,388	\$700,388	\$6

## Receivers 6’1 and Shorter

## Draft Pool

## Excluded

Sterling Shepard	Corey Coleman
	Will Fuller
	Laquon Treadwell
	Leonte Carroo

Receivers 6'2 and Taller

## Positive

## Neutral

Tyler Boyd	Michael Thomas
	Josh Doctson
	Braxton Miller
	Leonte Carroo

Total signing bonuses of the four "6'1 and under" excluded players was \$14,866,337 for an average of \$3,716,584 per player.

With the exception of Will Fuller, 3 out of the 4 non-draft pool players have been clear bust. Will Fuller has been productive but he has yet to catch either 50 passes in a season or 700 yards and has missed 16 games over the last 3 years. Did he not return punts because his coached questioned his durability?

\*Notable-Tyreek Hill 5th round-Pick 165, wide receiver and punt returner in college.

# 2015 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2015 CAP
1	4	OAK	Amari Cooper	↓		WR	20	Alabama	4	\$22,663,116	\$14,742,266	\$4,120,566
1	7	CHI	Kevin White	↑		WR	22	West Virginia	4	\$16,563,047	\$10,305,852	\$3,011,463
1	14	MIA	DeVante Parker	↑		WR	22	Louisville	4	\$10,876,543	\$6,170,213	\$1,977,553
1	20	PHI	Nelson Agholor	↓	☆	WR	21	Southern California	4	\$9,377,374	\$5,079,908	\$1,704,977
1	26	BAL	Breshad Perriman	↑		WR	21	Central Florida	4	\$8,705,317	\$4,591,139	\$1,534,607
1	29	IND	Phillip Dorsett	↓	☆	WR	22	Miami (FL)	4	\$8,135,414	\$4,176,665	\$1,479,166
2	37	NYJ	Devin Smith	↓		WR	23	Ohio State	4	\$5,872,419	\$2,530,850	\$1,047,064
2	40	TEN from NYG	Dorial Green-Beckham	↑		WR	22	Missouri	4	\$5,603,597	\$2,335,344	\$1,018,836
2	41	CAR from STL	Devin Funchess			WR	20	Michigan	4	\$5,520,887	\$2,275,190	\$1,003,797
3	69	SEA from WAS	Tyler Lockett	↓	☆	WR	22	Kansas State	4	\$3,318,751	\$786,751	\$631,687
3	70	HOU from NYJ	Jaelen Strong	↑		WR	21	Arizona State	4	\$3,281,346	\$771,980	\$627,995
3	76	KC from MIN	Chris Conley	↑		WR	22	Georgia	4	\$3,123,684	\$712,434	\$613,108
3	87	PIT	Sammie Coates	↓		WR	22	Auburn	4	\$2,911,515	\$631,515	\$592,878

## Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

### Draft Pool

### Excluded

Nelson Agholor	Amari Cooper
Phillip Dorsett	Devin Smith
Tyler Lockett	Sammie Coates

## Receivers 6'2 and Taller

### Positive

### Neutral

None	Kevin White
	DeVante Parker



	<b>Breshad Perriman</b>
	<b>Dorial Green-Beckham</b>
	<b>Chris Conley</b>
	<b>Jaelen Strong</b>

**Total signing bonuses of the three “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$17,904,631 for an average of \$5,968,210.33 per player.**

***Notable*-Undrafted Free agent Adam Humphries 5’11, Wide receiver and punt returner in college,**

## 2014 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2014 CAP
1	4	BUF from CLE	Sammy Watkins	↓		WR	20	Clemson	4	\$19,935,603	\$12,818,620	\$3,624,655
1	7	TB	Mike Evans			WR	20	Texas A&M	4	\$14,631,502	\$8,961,092	\$2,660,273
1	12	NYG	Odell Beckham, Jr.	↓	☆	WR	21	Louisiana State	4	\$10,406,198	\$5,888,144	\$1,892,036
1	20	NO from ARI	Brandin Cooks	↓	☆	WR	20	Oregon State	4	\$8,383,452	\$4,417,056	\$1,524,264
1	28	CAR	Kelvin Benjamin			WR	23	Florida State	4	\$7,664,250	\$3,894,000	\$1,393,500
2	39	JAC	Marqise Lee	↓	☆	WR	22	Southern California	4	\$5,174,022	\$2,082,924	\$940,731
2	42	PHI from TEN	Jordan Matthews	↑	☆	WR	21	Vanderbilt	4	\$4,949,269	\$1,919,468	\$899,867
2	45	SEA from DET	Paul Richardson	↓		WR	22	Colorado	4	\$4,712,835	\$1,747,516	\$856,879
2	53	GB	Davante Adams	↑		WR	21	Fresno State	4	\$3,933,402	\$1,180,656	\$715,164
2	56	DEN from KC via SF	Cody Latimer	↑		WR	21	Indiana	4	\$3,708,650	\$1,017,200	\$674,300
2	61	JAC from SF	Allen Robinson	↑		WR	20	Penn State	4	\$3,510,870	\$873,360	\$638,340
2	63	MIA from DEN via SF	Jarvis Landry	↓	E+	WR	21	Louisiana State	4	\$3,474,911	\$847,208	\$631,802
3	86	PHI	Josh Huff	↓		WR	22	Oregon	4	\$2,820,944	\$555,944	\$558,986
3	90	IND	Donte Moncrief	↑		WR	20	Mississippi	4	\$2,808,520	\$543,520	\$555,880
3	91	ARI from NO	John Brown	↓	☆	WR	24	Pittsburgh State	4	\$2,798,900	\$542,900	\$555,725

### Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

#### Draft Pool

#### Excluded

Odell Beckham Jr	Sammy Watkins
Brandin Cooks	Paul Richardson
Marqise Lee	Josh Huff
Jarvis Landry*	
John Brown	

**Receivers 6'2 and Taller**

**Positive**

**Neutral**

<b>Jordan Matthews</b>	<b>Mike Evans</b>
	<b>Kelvin Benjamin</b>
	<b>Davante Adams</b>
	<b>Cody Latimer</b>
	<b>Allen Robinson</b>
	<b>Donte Moncrief</b>

**Total signing bonuses for the three “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$15,122,080 for an average of \$5,040,693**

**\*Jarvis Landry is listed on the Draft Pool list even though he is listed at under 6’1 and did not return the required punts in college. The punt returner for LSU was Odell Beckham Jr who was considered a superstar special teams player and drafted in the NFL 12th overall the same year as Landry.**

## 2013 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2013 CAP
1	8	STL from BUF	Tavon Austin	↓	☆	WR	22	West Virginia	4	\$12,751,002	\$7,653,456	\$2,318,364
1	27	HOU	DeAndre Hopkins	↓	☆	WR	20	Clemson	4	\$7,626,702	\$3,926,692	\$1,386,673
1	29	MIN from NE	Cordarrelle Patterson	↑	☆	WR	22	Tennessee	4	\$7,221,049	\$3,631,672	\$1,312,918
2	34	TEN from KC via SF	Justin Hunter	↑		WR	21	Tennessee	4	\$5,424,148	\$2,324,836	\$986,209
2	41	BUF	Robert Woods	↓	☆	WR	21	Southern California	4	\$4,866,769	\$1,919,472	\$884,868
2	59	NE	Aaron Dobson	↑		WR	21	Marshall	4	\$3,428,370	\$873,360	\$623,340
3	74	DAL from CAR via SF	Terrance Williams	↑	☆	WR	23	Baylor	4	\$2,896,972	\$619,472	\$559,868
3	76	SD	Keenan Allen	↑	☆	WR	20	California	4	\$2,813,800	\$613,800	\$558,450
3	78	BUF from STL	Marquise Goodwin	↓		WR	22	Texas	4	\$2,853,876	\$598,876	\$554,719
3	79	PIT	Markus Wheaton	↓		WR	22	Oregon State	4	\$2,811,376	\$591,376	\$552,844

### Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

#### Draft Pool

#### Excluded

Tavon Austin	Marquise Goodwin
DeAndre Hopkins	Markus Wheaton
Robert Woods	
Terrance Williams	

**Receivers 6'2 and Taller**

**Positive**

**Neutral**

<b>Cordarrelle Patterson</b>	<b>Marquise Goodwin</b>
<b>Keenan Allen</b>	<b>Markus Wheaton</b>

**Total signing bonuses for the two “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$1,190,252 for an average of \$595,126**

***Notables-* Undrafted free agent Adam Theilan 6’3 wide receiver and punt returner in college.**

## 2012 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2012 CAP
1	5	JAC from TB	Justin Blackmon	↓		WR	22	Oklahoma State	4	\$18,512,010	\$11,903,272	\$3,365,818
1	13	ARI	Michael Floyd	↑		WR	22	Notre Dame	4	\$9,971,500	\$5,692,000	\$1,813,000
1	20	TEN	Kendall Wright	↓	☆	WR	22	Baylor	4	\$8,218,452	\$4,417,056	\$1,494,264
1	30	SF	A.J. Jenkins	↓		WR	22	Illinois	4	\$6,947,533	\$3,492,752	\$1,263,188
2	33	STL	Brian Quick	↑		WR	22	Appalachian State	4	\$5,386,599	\$2,357,528	\$979,382
2	43	NYJ from SEA	Stephen Hill	↑		WR	21	Georgia Tech	4	\$4,712,345	\$1,867,164	\$856,791
2	45	CHI from DAL via STL	Alshon Jeffery	↑		WR	22	South Carolina	4	\$4,547,830	\$1,747,516	\$826,879
2	54	DET	Ryan Broyles	↓	☆	WR	24	Oklahoma	4	\$3,678,500	\$1,115,272	\$668,818
2	63	NYG	Rueben Randle	↑		WR	20	Louisiana Tech	4	\$3,291,930	\$834,132	\$598,533
3	68	HOU from TB	DeVier Posey	↓		WR	22	Ohio State	4	\$2,962,092	\$684,092	\$561,023
3	69	BUF from WAS	T.J. Graham	↑		WR	22	North Carolina State	4	\$2,901,252	\$671,252	\$557,813
3	83	CIN	Mohamed Sanu	↑	☆	WR	22	Rutgers	4	\$2,713,252	\$563,252	\$530,813
3	92	IND from SF	T.Y. Hilton	↓	☆	WR	22	Florida International	4	\$2,642,000	\$527,400	\$521,850

### Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

#### Draft Pool

#### Excluded

Kendall Wright	Justin Blackmon
Ryan Broyles	A.J. Jenkins
T.Y. Hilton	DeVier Posey

### Receivers 6'2 and Taller

#### Positive

#### Neutral

Mohamed Sanu	Malcom Floyd
	Brian Quick

	<b>Stephen Hill</b>
	<b>Alshon Jeffery</b>
	<b>Rueben Randle</b>
	<b>T.J. Graham</b>

Total signing bonuses for the three “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$12,936,616 for an average of \$4,313,205.33

## 2011 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2011 CAP
1	4	CIN	A.J. Green	↑		WR	22	Georgia	4	\$19,688,098	\$12,818,620	\$3,579,655
1	6	ATL from CLE	Julio Jones	↑	☆	WR	22	Alabama	4	\$16,183,750	\$10,270,000	\$2,957,500
1	26	KC from ATL via CLE	Jonathan Baldwin	↑		WR	21	Pittsburgh	4	\$7,551,602	\$3,992,072	\$1,373,018
2	44	DET	Titus Young	↓	☆	WR	21	Boise State	4	\$4,561,321	\$1,817,324	\$829,331
2	58	BAL	Torrey Smith	↓		WR	22	Maryland	4	\$3,389,232	\$964,896	\$616,224
2	59	CLE from ATL	Greg Little	↑		WR	21	North Carolina	4	\$3,327,500	\$920,000	\$605,000
2	64	GB	Randall Cobb	↓	☆	WR	20	Kentucky	4	\$3,209,430	\$834,124	\$583,531
3	78	STL	Austin Pettis	↑		WR	22	Boise State	4	\$2,729,416	\$614,416	\$519,567
3	79	WAS from MIA	Leonard Hankerson	↓		WR	22	Miami (FL)	4	\$2,721,376	\$606,376	\$526,594
3	82	SD	Vincent Brown	↓		WR	22	San Diego State	4	\$2,626,068	\$586,068	\$521,517
3	83	NYG	Jerrel Jernigan	↓	☆	WR	21	Troy	4	\$2,690,252	\$575,252	\$518,813

Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

**Draft Pool**

**Excluded**

Titus Young	Torrey Smith
Randall Cobb	Leonard Hankerson
Jerrel Jernigan	Vincent Brown

Receivers 6'2 and Taller

**Positive**

**Neutral**

Julio Jones	A.J. Green
	Jonathan Baldwin
	Austin Pettis
	Greg Little

Total signing bonuses for the three "6'1 and under" excluded players was \$2,157,340 for an average of \$719,113



## 2010 Wide Receivers first 3 rounds

ROUND	PICK	TEAM	PLAYER	H	P	POS	AGE	COLLEGE	YRS	TOTAL VALUE	SIGNING BONUS	2010 CAP
1	22	DEN from NE	Demaryius Thomas	↑		WR	22	Georgia Tech	5	\$15,500,000	\$6,375,000	\$1,310,000
1	24	DAL from PHI via DEN via NE	Dez Bryant	↑	☆	WR	21	Oklahoma State	5	\$11,800,000	\$1,950,000	\$1,280,000
2	39	TB from OAK	Arrelious Benn	↑	☆	WR	21	Illinois	4	\$4,640,000	\$2,100,000	\$845,000
2	60	SEA from SD	Golden Tate	↓	☆	WR	21	Notre Dame	4	\$3,411,500	\$1,000,000	\$570,000
3	77	TEN	Damian Williams	↓	☆	WR	21	Southern California	4	\$2,613,250	\$823,250	\$525,812
3	78	CAR	Brandon LaFell	↑		WR	23	Louisiana State	4	\$3,478,400	\$818,400	\$524,600
3	82	PIT	Emmanuel Sanders	↓	☆	WR	23	Southern Methodist	3	\$1,801,000	\$586,069	\$515,356
3	84	CIN	Jordan Shipley	↓	☆	WR	24	Texas	4	\$2,546,746	\$756,746	\$509,186
3	87	DEN from PHI	Eric Decker	↑		WR	23	Minnesota	4	\$2,522,150	\$732,150	\$503,037
3	88	ARI from BAL	Andre Roberts	↓	☆	WR	22	Citadel	4	\$2,668,200	\$724,200	\$501,050
3	89	CAR from ARI via NE	Armanti Edwards			WR	22	Appalachian State	4	\$2,558,840	\$713,840	\$498,460
3	90	NE from DAL	Taylor Price	↓		WR	22	Ohio	4	\$2,495,000	\$704,600	\$496,150

### Receivers 6'1 and Shorter

#### Draft Pool

#### Excluded

Golden Tate	Taylor Price
Damian Williams	Armanti Edwards
Emmanuel Sanders	
Jordan Shipley	
Andre Roberts	

### Receivers 6'2 and Taller

## Positive

## Neutral

Dez Bryant	Brandon LaFell
Arrelious Benn	Eric Decker
	Demaryius Thomas

Total signing bonuses for the two “6’1 and under” excluded players was \$1,418,440 for an average of \$709,220

*Notable* - 6th Round - Pick 195 Antonio Brown 5’10, Wide Receiver and Punt returner in College.

## 6’1 and under excluded list for Wide Receivers drafted in round 1-3 from 2017 through 2010

### 2017

### 1000 YARD SEASONS

John Ross  
Taywan Taylor  
ArDarius Stewart  
Carlos Henderson  
Chris Goodwin

### 2016

Corey Coleman  
Will Fuller  
Laquon Treadwell  
Leonte Carroo

**2015**

Amari Cooper	3
Devin Smith	
Sammie Coates	

**2014**

Sammy Watkins	1
Paul Richardson	
Josh Huff	

**2013**

Marquise Goodwin  
Markus Wheaton

**2012**

Justin Blackmon  
A.J. Jenkins  
DeVier Posey

**2011**

Torrey Smith	1
Leonard Hankerson	
Vincent Brown	

**2010**

Taylor Price  
Armanti Edwards

The EXCLUDE list contains 25 players. 7 of those players were drafted in the first round. 14 of the 25 players were on 2018 NFL rosters. The group as a whole received \$79,556,080 just in signing bonuses. For an average signing bonus of \$3,182,243. The group has five years between them where a receiver has gained a 1000 yards with Amari Cooper contributing 3 of them.

**Below is the Draft Pool group for the 6'1 and under receivers with the required punt return experience.**

**2017****1000 YARD SEASONS**

Chad Williams

JuJu Schuster

1

**2016**

Sterling Shepard

**2015**

Nelson Agholor

Phillip Dorsett

Tyler Lockett

**2014**

Odell Beckham Jr

4

Brandin Cooks

4

Marqise Lee

Jarvis Landry\*

2

John Brown

1

**2013**

Tavon Austin

DeAndre Hopkins

4

Robert Woods

1

Terrance Williams

**2012**

Kendall Wright

1

Ryan Broyles

T.Y. Hilton

**2011**

Titus Young

Randall Cobb

1

Jerrel Jernigan

**2010**

Golden Tate	3
Damian Williams	
Emmanuel Sanders	3
Jordan Shipley	
Andre Roberts	

**The Under 6'1 Draft Pool list consist of 26 players. 7 of those players were drafted in the first round. 21 of the 26 players were on 2018 NFL rosters. The group as a whole received \$55,538,428 just in signing bonuses. For an average signing bonus of \$2,136,093.38. The group has twenty-Five 1000 yard seasons amongst them.**

**In Part 2 we will evaluate the 2019 Wide Receiver.**