

ED BOUCHETTE'S NFL MOCK DRAFT 2012

The veteran Post-Gazette pro football writer offers his take on how tonight's first round might play out:

Pk	Player	Team	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	School
1	Andrew Luck	Colts	QB	6-4	234	Stanford Skinny: Peyton Manning's replacement, they hope his equal.
2	Robert Griffin III	Redskins	QB	6-2	224	Baylor Skinny: Paid a pretty penny for this opportunity.
3	Matt Kalil	Vikings	OT	6-7	305	USC Skinny: Forget the CB, can't pass up a good tackle.
4	Trent Richardson	Browns	RB	5-9	228	Alabama Skinny: Browns still searching for the next Jim Brown.
5	Luke Kuechly	Buccaneers	LB	6-3	242	Boston College Skinny: Bucs looking for next Hardy Nickerson.
6	Justin Blackmon	Rams	WR	6-1	208	Oklahoma State Skinny: Top need, top wide receiver.
7	Morris Claiborne	Jaguars	CB	5-11	188	LSU Skinny: Too good to pass up at this point.
8	Fletcher Cox	Dolphins	DT	6-4	298	Miss. State Skinny: Need a quarterback, take a defensive tackle.
9	Quinton Coples	Panthers	DE	6-6	284	North Carolina Skinny: Still looking to replace Julius Peppers.
10	Stephon Gilmore	Bills	CB	6-1	190	South Carolina Skinny: But Riley Reiff is tempting here.
11	David DeCastro	Chiefs	G	6-5	315	Stanford Skinny: Alan Faneca-like, but too high to pick him.

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12	Ryan Tannehill	Seahawks	QB	6-4	220	Texas A&M Skinny: That's three QBs in first dozen picks to fill obvious holes.
13	Melvin Ingram	Cardinals	OLB	6-2	265	USC Skinny: Joey Porter can't play forever.
14	Mark Barron	Cowboys	S	6-1	214	Alabama Skinny: Not a consensus on this choice.
15	Riley Reiff	Eagles	OT	6-6	313	Iowa Skinny: A steal at this point in the draft.
16	Chandler Jones	Jets	DE	6-5	265	Syracuse Skinny: Top need is a pass rusher.
17	Michael Floyd	Bengals	WR	6-3	220	Notre Dame Skinny: Second straight year a receiver in first round.
18	Shea McClellin	Chargers	LB	6-3	260	Boise State Skinny: Natural 3-4 outside linebacker to rush QB.
19	Michael Brockers	Bears	DT	6-6	322	ISU Skinny: He's only 322 pounds, so no next Fridge here.
20	Dre Kirkpatrick	Titans	CB	6-2	186	Alabama Skinny: Tide filling out first round nicely.
21	Courtney Upshaw	Bengals	DE	6-2	275	Alabama Skinny: Another pass-rusher for Ben Roethlisberger to deal with.
22	Kendall Wright	Browns	WR	5-10	197	Baylor Skinny: Browns going all out for more firepower on offense.

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23	Cordy Glenn	Lions	G	6-5	345	Georgia Skinny: Looking to protect that franchise quarterback.
24	Dont'a Hightower	Steelers	LB	6-2	265	Alabama Skinny: The next James Farrior arrives quickly.
25	Dontari Poe	Broncos	DT	6-4	345	Memphis State Skinny: And Denver thanks Steelers for passing on him.
26	Whitney Mercilus	Texans	OLB	6-4	261	Illinois Skinny: A good pass rush just got better.
27	Nick Perry	Patriots	LB	6-3	272	USC Skinny: Could be the steal of the draft at this point. Maybe fix is in.
28	Peter Konz	Packers	C	6-5	315	Wisconsin Skinny: Aaron Rodgers has his batterymate.
29	Mike Adams	Ravens	OT	6-7	323	Ohio State Skinny: Another Blindside movie in the making.
30	Amini Silatolu	49ers	G	6-4	311	Midwestern State Skinny: And pass on Wisconsin's Kevin Zeitler.
31	Derek Wolfe	Patriots	DL	X-X	XXX	Cincinnati Skinny: Adding defense and need lots of it.
32	Stephen Hill	Giants	WR	6-4	215	Georgia Tech Skinny: Have to replace Mario Manningham.