

2024 NFL Mock Draft

By Callum Rawkins

With the 2024 NFL Draft now less than one month away, anticipation is starting to build nicely.

Free agency is now done and it saw a number of notable departures as well as big acquisitions for teams across the league, and we're now starting to get a much better idea of what positions each team needs to address in the upcoming Draft.

With that being said, here is my full 2024 NFL first-round Mock Draft (disclaimer: there will be no trades in this mock draft, so each team will pick where they currently sit in the draft order):

1) Chicago Bears - Caleb Williams (QB, USC)

Having traded away starting QB Justin Fields to the Pittsburgh Steelers, it now seems almost a certainty that the Chicago Bears will select Caleb Williams with the first overall pick in the draft.

The 2022 Heisman Trophy winner is a real dual-threat QB who many pro scouts are comparing to none-other than Patrick Mahomes in terms of his playing style and throwing ability.

He'll be joining a team that went 7-10 last season, and has since improved the offense this off-season after trading for Keenan Allen and signing the likes of D'Andre Swift and Gerald Everett in free agency, giving Williams plenty of weapons to work with and a great opportunity to succeed early in his NFL career.

2) Washington Commanders - Jayden Daniels (QB, LSU)

Whilst Williams looks to be the certain first pick, there has been great debate about what the Washington Commanders will do with the second pick.

They are in the market for a franchise QB after trading Sam Howell away this off-season, and will have their choice of some top prospects such as Jayden Daniels, Drake Maye or J.J. McCarthy. In this mock draft, I have them taking the 2023 Heisman Trophy winner Jayden Daniels.

Another dual-threat QB who threw for 3812 yards and 40 touchdowns as well as racking up 1134 rushing yards and 10 rushing touchdowns in his final season at LSU, proving to be a real nightmare for defensive coordinators to gameplan against.

The Commanders hired Kliff Kingsbury as their new offensive coordinator this off-season who has previously worked with the likes of Mahomes, Kyler Murray and Baker Mayfield, and he'll no doubt be licking his lips at the opportunity to work with a QB like Daniels given the athletic traits he possesses.

3) New England Patriots - Drake Maye (QB, UNC)

Even though the Patriots will have to settle for the QB not selected with the first two picks, this certainly is no consolation prize as they get their hands on Drake Maye.

The UNC QB's college tape isn't the cleanest, showing a number of head-scratching misses and poorly placed throws, however he has great size and a cannon of an arm, and the raw talent is clear for all to see on the tape.

He will need to be developed and refined, although one could argue that he has the highest potential out of any QB in this draft class. The Patriots get their QB of the future as they continue their search for a long-term replacement for the great Tom Brady.

4) Arizona Cardinals - Marvin Harrison JR. (WR, Ohio State)

The Arizona Cardinals find themselves in an ideal situation. They already have their QB in Kyler Murray, therefore with the first three picks all being QB's, they can get their favourite prospect in the Draft without having to trade up.

I have them taking Marvin Harrison Jr., a generational WR talent who recorded 14 receiving touchdowns in each of his last two seasons in college. FOX Sports college football analyst [Joel Klatt](#) even described Harrison as: "one of the best college football players I've covered in my career."

Arizona are in desperate need of a game-changer on the perimeter after losing Marquise Brown in free agency, therefore Harrison will have the opportunity to be a big part of the offense right away in Week 1.

5) Los Angeles Chargers - Malik Nabers (WR, LSU)

In reality, this could most definitely be a spot that the Chargers look to trade out of for a haul of picks, but in this mock draft I have them sticking and picking Malik Nabers.

The LSU WR is another special receiver in what is a very deep class of quality wide-outs, who caught for 1,569 yards and 14 touchdowns in just 13 games for the Tigers last season.

New head coach Jim Harbaugh will be keen to give Justin Herbert some weapons to work with having lost Keenen Allen, Gerald Everett, Mike Williams and Austin Ekeler this off-season, and Nabers is certainly capable of becoming a key contributor in the Chargers' new-look offense right away.

6) New York Giants - Rome Odunze (WR, Washington)

I wouldn't rule out the Giants trading up to potentially take one of the top QB's in the draft, however I believe they desperately need to add a playmaker on offense after losing Saquon Barkley in free agency, and given their lack of productivity at the receiver position last season.

Barkley and Darius Slayton led the team in receiving touchdowns last season with just four each, so adding Rome Odunze would give opposing defences much more to worry about on gamedays.

50/50 deep balls are more like 70/30-type passes for Odunze, who boasts a 6'3", 212 pound frame. Despite his big frame, he still recorded a 4.45 40-yard-dash time and showcased impressive agility and explosiveness during Combine testing as well.

There's no use in the Giants drafting a QB if they can't supply him with any weapons, therefore I see them keeping Daniel Jones for one more year before attacking the QB spot next off-season.

7) Tennessee Titans - Joe Alt (OT, Notre Dame)

This seems like a pretty simple pick for the Titans with all the top QB's and WR's already off the board.

Will Levis had a promising rookie season but was sacked 28 times in the nine games he played, therefore I see the Titans drafting their franchise left-tackle in the form of Joe Alt to help bolster their offensive line and protect Levis.

The Titans added Calvin Ridley and Tony Pollard in free agency having lost Derrick Henry, so their priority in the first round should be to add protection on the front line.

8) Atlanta Falcons - Dallas Turner (EDGE, Alabama)

The Atlanta Falcons look to have sorted out their offense after signing Kirk Cousins in free agency, therefore they need to address their defence in the first round, and they're in luck.

With no defensive players taken to this point, they have their pick of the defensive talent and I have them taking edge rusher Dallas Turner from Alabama to help bolster their pass rush.

They were tied 21st for the number of team sacks last season, but bringing Turner in would definitely put QB's Baker Mayfield, Bryce Young and Derek Carr on alert in the NFC South.

9) Chicago Bears - Jared Verse (EDGE, Florida State)

The Bears addressed their offense with the number one overall pick, therefore it makes sense for them to get one of the best defensive players in the draft to cap off a productive first round.

Jared Verse is a dynamic edge rusher who recorded nine sacks in each of his two seasons with Florida State, so partnering him up with Montez Sweat - who they acquired from Washington during the season - on the edge of the defensive line would certainly make for great viewing for Bears fans.

With Jordan Love and Jared Goff in their division for the foreseeable future, beefing up their pass rush wouldn't be a bad move for Chicago at all.

10) New York Jets - Brock Bowers (TE, Georgia)

The New York Jets did a good job in filling a lot of holes this off-season after signing the likes of LT Tyron Smith, DE Hasson Reddick and WR Mike Williams.

With Aaron Rodgers now 40-years-old the Jets need to capitalise whilst they still have him on the books, and I think they go out and get him another weapon on offense in the form of Brock Bowers out of Georgia.

The TE is everything a team would want at the position - good with his hands who also adds protection up front with his impressive blocking skills.

The Jets can bolster their offensive line with their later draft picks, but the opportunity to draft a player as good as Bowers with the 10th pick in the draft is too good to turn down in my eyes.

11) Minnesota Vikings - J.J. McCarthy (QB, Michigan)

Although it's likely they would need to trade up in the Draft for this to happen, this would be the ideal scenario for the Minnesota Vikings if they were able to get their QB of the future at pick 11.

J.J. McCarthy's draft stock has sky-rocketed after impressive showings at the NFL Scouting Combine and his Michigan pro-day.

Although there are question marks surrounding this ability to throw the football given the fact he didn't do an awful lot of throwing in Michigan's offense, one thing that cannot be questioned is his ability to win having led his team to a 2024 CFP National Championship.

The Vikings have themselves a star RB in Aaron Jones, two elite WR's in Justin Jefferson (arguably the best in the NFL) and Jordan Addison, a productive TE in T.J. Hockenson and a franchise LT in Christian Darrisaw. Now, they add the missing piece on offense in the form of McCarthy at the QB position.

12) Denver Broncos - Bo Nix (QB, Oregon)

The decision for Denver to release QB Russell Wilson means that Wilson will count \$53 million against Denver's salary cap in 2024 and \$32 million in 2025. This means they need to get cheap at QB for the next few seasons at least, therefore I think they take Bo Nix out of Oregon here.

A starter for five years in college who has 61 games under his belt already, Nix is arguably the QB in this draft class who is most ready to start in the NFL from day one, and that's exactly what the Broncos need.

He's a QB who looks after the football but also makes plays, throwing for 45 touchdowns and just 3 interceptions in his last season at Oregon. He was a Heisman Trophy finalist this year, and I think he heads to a great spot in Denver where Sean Payton - most known for his time working with QB Drew Brees in New Orleans - will be able to nurture him and get the best out of him.

13) Las Vegas Raiders - Taliese Fuaga (OT, Oregon State)

The right side of the OL is an area the Las Vegas Raiders have needed to address for a while, and I think they do just that in the first round of the 2024 Draft by selecting Taliese Fuaga out of Oregon State.

I think he's the most technical pass-protector in this draft, and with Gardner Minshew needing all the time in the pocket he can get, Fuaga will be ready to come in and start right away and do just that.

The Raiders could be in the market for a QB, but I think pick 13 is too high to take Michael Penix, Jr who's still on the board, so I think they add a day one starter on the OL instead.

14) New Orleans Saints - Olumuyiwa Fashanu (OT, Penn State)

Olumuyiwa Fashanu's draft stock has fallen a little given his lack of consistency in his final year at Penn State, however this will play perfectly into the hands of the New Orleans Saints.

They could really do with a LT after their 2022 first-round pick Trevor Penning didn't work out, and here they get one of the best LT prospects in the draft with great size and great potential without needing to trade up and give up any assets.

Fashanu will need to work on his run-blocking, however his athleticism at the position is simply too good to turn down here for the Saints, who need to bolster their OL.

15) Indianapolis Colts - Quinyon Mitchell (CB, Toledo)

The CB spot was a need for the Indianapolis Colts heading into the off-season, and that need has now been amplified following the news that their division rival Houston Texans have acquired star WR Stefon Diggs from the Buffalo Bills.

However, the Colts are in luck as they get their pick of the corners in this draft, and I have them taking Quinyon Mitchell out of Toledo.

He shone at the Senior Bowl before posting a 40-yard-dash time of 4.33-second at the NFL Scouting Combine, and that speed on the outside will definitely come in handy when facing the likes of Diggs, DeAndre Hopkins and Christian Kirk twice a year in the AFC South.

16) Seattle Seahawks - Troy Fautanu (OT, Washington)

The Seattle Seahawks went 9-8 last season, meaning they weren't good enough to make the playoffs but also weren't bad enough to land a top-10 draft pick.

They do have a very talented young roster though, and I think selecting interior offensive lineman Troy Fautanu makes a lot of sense here. He's at his best playing on the inside, but his versatility means Seattle will be able to playing both inside and outside on either the left or the right side of the line.

It would also reunite Fautanu with Seahawks offensive coordinator Ryan Grubb, who was his offensive coordinator in college at Washington.

17) Jacksonville Jaguars - Terrion Arnold (CB, Alabama)

Jacksonville could look to strengthen their defensive line, but with Terrion Arnold still on the board, it makes too much sense to pass on him.

Alabama has a history of producing great defensive backs like Minkah Fitzpatrick, Marlon Humphery, Trevon Diggs and Pat Surtain II, and Arnold is the latest product of the Crimson Tide who is ready to make the set up to the NFL.

His 40-yard-dash time of 4.50 seconds at the NFL Scouting Combine did raise some question marks as many thought he'd run quicker, however when you watch his tape there is no question that he can keep up with quick receivers both on the outside and in the slot.

18) Cincinnati Bengals - JC Latham (OT, Alabama)

I've got back-to-back Alabama selections at picks 17 and 18 with JC Latham heading to Cincinnati.

The Bengals need to address the OT position early in the draft, and they have the chance to select one of the best in the class at pick 18 in Latham.

Latham has long arms and great strength at the point of attack on the right side of the offensive line, and would no doubt be a popular selection with Bengals QB Joe Burrow.

19) Los Angeles Rams - Laiatu Latu (EDGE, UCLA)

The Los Angeles Rams need to get a pass-rusher, especially after future Hall-of-Famer Aaron Donald announced that he is retiring.

Luck is on their side as they get free choice with no edge rushers currently off the board, and I have them taking Laiatu Latu from UCLA.

He's a supremely talented pass-rusher, and may have gone earlier in the draft if it wasn't for concerns about his injuries. However, so long as the Combine medical reports come back clean, I see the Rams picking Latu and adding a great piece to their defence.

20) Pittsburgh Steelers - Jackson Powers-Johnson (OT, Oregon)

Pittsburgh are renowned for having a strong defense, and they added further depth to their defense the free agency after signing LB Patrick Queen.

Therefore, I think they prioritise offense in the first round, and I have them taking OT Jackson Powers-Johnson to bolster their offensive line.

Having revamped their QB room as well with the additions of Russell Wilson and Justin Fields, adding Powers-Johnson to play opposite last year's first-round pick Broderick Jones on the offensive line would give the new QB's the best chance to see success early in Pittsburgh.

21) Miami Dolphins - Graham Barton (OT, Duke)

The Miami Dolphins lost their starting C Robert Hunt in free agency, who signed a 5-year, \$100m deal with the Carolina Panthers, and therefore need to address this need early in the draft.

With interior offensive linemen Fautanu and Powers-Johnson now off the board, I think the Dolphins go with Graham Barton in this spot.

This may seem a little high and there may be more talented players in other positions still on the board, but I don't think the Dolphins can pass up on taking one of the more talented lineman in the draft here, especially when it's at a position of need.

22) Philadelphia Eagles - Nate Wiggins (CB, Clemson)

Despite finishing 11-6 and making the playoffs last season, the pass-defense of the Philadelphia Eagles was a clear point of weakness in the team.

They have a chance to address that weakness by adding one of the quickest corners in the draft in Nate Wiggins, who ran a 4.28 second 40-yard-dash at the NFL Scouting Combine.

There are some concerns amongst scouts regarding his slight frame being just 170lbs, but he is still regarded as being one of the most natural cover corners in the draft, and is a real turnover threat with his great ball skills.

23) Minnesota Vikings - Chop Robinson (EDGE, Penn State)

This extra first-round pick Minnesota acquired from Cleveland through Houston could well be used as ammunition to move up further in the Draft, however in this Mock Draft I have them sticking at pick 23 and addressing the defensive side of the ball having already drafted McCarthy at pick 11.

They could do with help on the edge of their defensive line, and with Chop Robinson from Penn State still available, I think that's the direction they go.

He is a very raw talent and has a lot of developing to do, but scouts have compared him to fellow former Penn State pass-rusher Micah Parsons, and when you watch his tape it's clear to see why they came to that conclusion.

He causes chaos for offensive linemen and is a freak of an athlete, so if the Vikings can be patient with him and nurture him, Robinson has the potential to be a very effective weapon on defence.

24) Dallas Cowboys - Tyler Guyton (OT, Oklahoma)

The Dallas Cowboys lost two key pieces of their offensive line in free agency with Tyron Smith and Tyler Biadasz both departing, and with this draft class loaded with OT's, I have them taking Tyler Guyton.

He doesn't have as many college starts as the other tackles in this class do, but it's clear that he has tremendous upside with his athleticism and long arms.

It may not be the sexy pick that we've become accustomed to Jerry Jones taking in the first round, but Guyton is a player that the Cowboys can plug and play on the right side of the offensive line from Week 1.

25) Green Bay Packers - Cooper DeJean (CB, Iowa)

If there's one thing we know about the Draft, it's that the Packers rarely draft offensive players in the first round.

Their secondary took a big hit in free agency with Jonathan Owens, Rudy Ford and Darnell Savage all departing, therefore I expect them to address their defense in the first round.

I have them taking Cooper DeJean, a versatile defensive back that can play on the outside, in the slot or as a safety. He'll be a fun piece to add into a secondary which includes the likes of Jaire Alexander and Xavier McKinney.

26) Tampa Bay Buccaneers - Darius Robinson (EDGE, Missouri)

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers lost their long-time edge-rusher Shaq Barrett in free agency, who was a big part of their defence. He leaves a big hole that needs to be filled, and Darius Robinson out of Missouri can do just that.

Robinson would offer athleticism, physicality and versatility to the Bucs' front, and would be a great complementary piece to YaYa Diaby, the Bucs' third-round selection last year who already looks to be a steal.

With the NFC South up for grabs this year, Robinson could be a huge difference maker when it comes to getting to the opposition QB and making plays.

27) Arizona Cardinals - Byron Murphy II (DT, Texas)

Having already picked a generational wide-receiver in Marvin Harrison Jr. with the fourth overall pick, it's time the Arizona Cardinals address their defense with their second first-round pick.

I have them taking Byron Murphy II, the best interior pass rusher in the draft class to bolster their defensive line.

If the Cardinals were to come away with a game-changer on offense and a playmaker on defense, I'd say you could class that as a very successful first-round for Arizona.

28) Buffalo Bills - Brian Thomas Jr. (WR, LSU)

Having traded star wide-receiver Steffon Diggs to the Houston Texans, the Buffalo Bills' current number one receiver is Curtis Samuel who they picked up in free agency, meaning this

is very much a position of need.

Luckily for the Bills, Brian Thomas Jr. has fallen all the way to pick 28 in this mock draft, where in reality they may have to trade up in the Draft if they were to want him.

Thomas may have been overshadowed in this draft by his LSU teammate Malik Nabers, but he's certainly just as much of a threat on the outside having caught 17 touchdown passes last season as well as having run a 4.33 second 40-yard-dash at the NFL Scouting Combine.

29) Detroit Lions - Kool-Aid McKinstry (CB, Alabama)

The Detroit Lions took great strides last season making the NFC Championship game, but their defense needs to be addressed early in the Draft.

Kool-Aid McKinstry is still on the board and I think it makes too much sense for them to not take him here.

They partner him up with his former Alabama teammate Brian Branch in the secondary, who the Lions took in the second-round last year and had a big impact in his rookie season.

30) Baltimore Ravens - Keon Coleman (WR, Florida State)

Keon Coleman going to Baltimore would be a fun addition to the Ravens' offense, and would also be a needed addition having lost Odell Beckham Jr. in free agency.

Coleman is a deep threat who is great at winning 50/50 balls with his big frame, and would be a great complimentary piece to WR Zay Flowers.

You can always count on Baltimore having a strong defense, therefore I think adding an explosive talent on offense is the way to go at pick 30.

31) San Francisco 49ers - Jer'Zhan Newton (DT, Illinois)

The San Francisco 49ers were agonisingly close to winning the Super Bowl last season, however they lost a number of key pieces on their defensive line which many saw as the team's biggest strength.

With Arik Armstead, Javon Kinlaw and Chase Young all gone, I think adding a talent like Jer'Zhan Newton at the end of the first round would be a smart move.

Newton is a disruptive interior defensive lineman who can slot right into the 49ers defense and not look out of place.

32) Kansas City Chiefs - Xavier Worthy (WR, Texas)

Despite winning their second successive Super Bowl last season, the Kansas City Chiefs had a big problem with dropped passes by their wide receivers.

Whilst they addressed this in free agency with the acquisition of Hollywood Brown, I don't think they'll be able to resist the temptation of giving Patrick Mahomes - who likes his speedy receivers - the quickest player in the history of the NFL Scouting Combine.

Xavier Worthy ran a 4.21 second 40-yard-dash at the Combine, and would certainly be a popular pick with Mahomes as the Chiefs add another dynamic weapon on their offense as they look to three-peat.