

2007 NFL DRAFT DAY NOTES

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMON DRAFT

<u>THE 2007 NFL DRAFT</u> marks the 40th year of the "common draft," when the NFL and American Football League started drafting as one (March 14, 1967; **DT BUBBA SMITH** of Michigan State selected No. 1 overall by Baltimore).

Colleges with the most first-round picks in the past 40 years: USC, 56; Miami (Fla.), 52; Ohio State, 48; Notre Dame, 34; Florida, 33; Florida State, 33; Tennessee, 32; Michigan, 30; Penn State, 30; and Texas, 28.

JA MARCUS RUSSELL NOTES

<u>WITH HIS SELECTION</u> today by Oakland as the No. 1 pick in the draft, quarterback **JA MARCUS RUSSELL** becomes the second LSU player in history to be taken No. 1 overall. LSU running back **BILLY CANNON** was selected first by the Los Angeles Rams in 1960.

RUSSELL becomes the sixth SEC quarterback to be chosen No. 1 overall, and the second in the past four years:

SEC NO. 1s

| YEAR | QUARTERBACK | SCHOOL | TEAM |
|------|------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1948 | Harry Gilmer | Alabama | Washington |
| 1952 | Billy Wade | Vanderbilt | L.A. Rams |
| 1998 | Peyton Manning | Tennessee | Indianapolis |
| 1999 | Tim Couch | Kentucky | Cleveland |
| 2004 | Eli Manning | Mississippi | San Diego |
| 2007 | JaMarcus Russell | LSU | Oakland |

RUSSELL'S SELECTION marks the fourth year in a row that LSU has had a player taken in the first round:

TIGER TAKES

| YEAR | LSU PLAYER | TEAM | OVERALL |
|------|---------------------|--------------|---------|
| 2004 | WR Michael Clayton | Tampa Bay | No. 15 |
| 2005 | DE Marcus Spears | Dallas | No. 20 |
| 2006 | RB Joseph Addai | Indianapolis | No. 30 |
| 2007 | QB JaMarcus Russell | Oakland | No. 1 |

NFL Draft Day '07 Notes, Page 2

QUARTERBACKS HAVE BEEN CHOSEN No. 1 overall in eight of the past 10 drafts, starting with another SEC quarterback, **PEYTON MANNING** of Tennessee, in 1998.

RUSSELL & DOMINO: JaMarcus Russell came to the aid of Rock and Roll Hall of Famer **FATS DOMINO** during Hurricane Katrina in September 2005.

Domino, his wife Rosemary and their two daughters stayed in their home during the hurricane in the city's low-lying 9th Ward for as long as they could before they had to be evacuated by rowboat. They were taken to a shelter in Baton Rouge – at which point they were picked up by Russell.

The tie-in? The family of Russell's girlfriend was friends with Domino's family. Fats and family joined the 15 other evacuees already in Russell's two-room apartment. "Fats just stayed at my apartment, rested, and watched the news," says Russell. "I had people sleeping on the floor, the couch, everywhere. It was pretty crazy."

And it will never be forgotten by Fats Domino. "Without JaMarcus, it would have been even worse," he says.

<u>CALVIN JOHNSON'S SELECTION</u> by Detroit with the No. 2 choice in the draft marks the highest pick ever for a Georgia Tech player:

RAMBLIN' WRECK'S FIRST-ROUNDERS

| YEAR | PLAYER | POSITION | TEAM | OVERALL |
|------|-----------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| 1945 | Eddie Prokop | В | Boston Yanks | 4 |
| 1955 | Larry Morris | С | L.A. Rams | 7 |
| 1963 | Rufus Guthrie | G | L.A. Rams | 10 |
| 1979 | Eddie Lee Ivery | RB | Green Bay | 15 |
| 1979 | Kent Hill | Т | L.A. Rams | 26 |
| 1992 | Marco Coleman | DE | Miami | 12 |
| 1998 | Keith Brooking | LB | Atlanta | 12 |
| 2007 | Calvin Johnson | WR | Detroit | 2 |

TWO TACKLES, TOP FIVE: It has been almost 40 years (1968) since at least two tackles were drafted in the first five picks, as they were today. And that sequence has happened only three times in history. In 1963, three tackles were taken in the first five selections. The rundown:

| YEAR | TACKLE | COLLEGE | TEAM | OVERALL |
|------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------|
| 1963 | Jim Dunaway | Mississippi | Minnesota | 3 |
| | Ed Budde | Michigan State | Philadelphia | 4 |
| | Bob Vogel | Ohio State | Baltimore | 5 |
| | | | | |
| 1968 | Ron Yary | USC | Minnesota | 1 |
| | Russ Washington | Missouri | San Diego | 4 |
| | | | | |
| 2007 | Joe Thomas | Wisconsin | Cleveland | 3 |
| | Levi Brown | Penn State | Arizona | 5 |

NFL Draft Day '07 Notes, Page 3

<u>TOP 10 TIGER</u>: Clemson defensive end **GAINES ADAMS** today tied for the highest pick in Tiger history. Adams was chosen No. 4 overall by Tampa Bay, tying LSU halfback **BANKS MC FADDEN**, who was taken No. 4 in 1940 by the Brooklyn Dodgers.

<u>Highest picks in Clemson history</u>:

| YEAR | PLAYER | POSITION | TEAM | OVERALL |
|------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------|
| 1940 | Banks McFadden | В | Dodgers | 4 |
| 1979 | Jerry Butler | WR | Buffalo | 5 |
| 1982 | Jeff Bryant | DE | Seattle | 6 |
| 1949 | Bobby Gage | В | Pittsburgh | 6 |
| 1983 | Terry Kinard | DB | N.Y. Giants | 10 |
| 2007 | Gaines Adams | DE | Tampa Bay | 4 |

OKOYE'S A YOUNG 'UN!: With his selection by Houston with the 10th pick in today's draft, Louisville defensive tackle **AMOBI OKOYE** – at 19 years old -- becomes the youngest first-round draft choice since 1967, the first year of the common draft.

On Kickoff Sunday (September 9), if Okoye appears in a game, he will become the youngest NFL player since '67.

The top five in each category (since 1967):

YOUNG AMOBI

| YOUNGEST FIRST-ROUND DRAFT PICKS | | | YOUNGEST TO PLAY IN AN NFL GAME | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|---------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Player | Season | Years/Days | Player | Season | Years/Days |
| DT Amobi Okoye, Hou. | 2007 | 19/322 | DT Amobi Okoye, Hou. | 2007 | 20/91 |
| LB Jamir Miller, Ariz. | 1994 | 20/156 | T Jamie Nails, Buff. | 1997 | 20/110 |
| CB DeAngelo Hall, Atl. | 2004 | 20/157 | DT Randy Starks, Tenn. | 2004 | 20/272 |
| WR Reidel Anthony, TB | 1997 | 20/181 | TE Jean Fugett, Dallas | 1972 | 20/276 |
| RB Walter Payton, Chi. | 1975 | 20/187 | RB David Nelson, Minn. | 1984 | 20/284 |

<u>AN LSU QUARTET</u>: Louisiana State had one first-rounder chosen in each of the past three drafts. Today they had <u>four</u> first-rounders in <u>one</u> draft. That is the most in Tiger history, besting their three first-round picks of 1951.

Most first-round selections in LSU history:

| YEAR | PLAYER | TEAM | OVERALL |
|------|---------------------|---------------|---------|
| 1951 | QB Y.A. Tittle | San Francisco | 3 |
| | HB Ebert VanBuren | Philadelphia | 7 |
| | DB Ken Konz | Cleveland | 14 |
| | | | |
| 2007 | QB JaMarcus Russell | Oakland | 1 |
| | S LaRon Landry | Washington | 6 |
| | WR Dwayne Bowe | Kansas City | 23 |
| | WR Craig Davis | San Diego | 30 |

NFL Draft Day '07 Notes, Page 4

<u>FIRST-ROUND RECORD</u>: Today's first round took six hours and eight minutes, the longest since the advent of the common draft in 1967. Today topped the previous first-round record of five hours, 48 minutes in 2002.

-- <u>NFL DRAFT '07</u> --

QUINN GOES BACK HOME: With his selection by the Cleveland Browns with the 22nd pick in the first round, Notre Dame quarterback **BRADY QUINN** is "returning home."

Quinn was raised in Dublin, Ohio ("A great place to grow up," he says) – 139 miles from Cleveland – as a big-time Browns fan. When he visited the Browns on April 5, he said that he wanted to play for his hometown team. He even wore an orange shirt to show his colors.

On March 4, Browns head coach **ROMEO CRENNEL** – who coached with Notre Dame coach **CHARLIE WEIS** at New England – was at Quinn's pro day in South Bend and was impressed.

"He's a polished quarterback," said Crennel. "He's smart. When you watch him on tape, you can see he knows where to go with the ball. He will, at times, throw it away when he has to, so we think he's a good, young prospect."

-- NFL DRAFT '07 --

<u>CENTRAL MICHIGAN GOES HIGH</u>: The Chippewas have a first-rounder. Central Michigan tackle **JOE STALEY** was chosen today by San Francisco with the 28th pick of the first round – the first first-rounder in school history.

The highest-drafted player in Central Michigan history before today was defensive back **JIM BOWMAN** by New England in 1985 in the second round with the 52nd pick overall.

-- <u>NFL DRAFT '07</u> --

FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, seven defensive backs were chosen in the first round, tying for the most ever in a draft, along with 1998.

-- NFL DRAFT '07 --

OHIO STATE ON TOP!: With the selection of wide receivers **TED GINN** by Miami at No. 9 overall and **ANTHONY GONZALEZ** by Indianapolis at No. 32, Ohio State now moves into first place with the most first-round draft choices in history – 66.

Colleges with the most first-round selections in history:

| COLLEGE | FIRST-ROUND PICKS |
|------------|-------------------|
| Ohio State | 66 |
| USC | 65 |
| Miami | 61 |
| Notre Dame | 61 |
| Florida | 42 |
| Michigan | 42 |
| Tennessee | 38 |
| Texas | 38 |