49ers Clips - April 26, 2017

Local Media

What Experts Said about 49ers 2016 Draft Class

By Staff, 49ers.com

http://www.49ers.com/news/article-2/What-Experts-Said-about-49ers-2016-Draft-Class/a758b32b-1437-4be0-bc8d-b37f3711f32d

49ers will induct Tom Rathman into team's Hall of Fame

By Eric Branch, San Francisco Chronicle

http://www.sfchronicle.com/49ers/article/49ers-will-induct-Tom-Rathman-into-team-s-Hall-11098462.php

The Chronicle's mock 1st round of NFL draft

By Eric Branch and Vic Tafur, San Francisco Chronicle

http://www.sfchronicle.com/49ers/article/The-Chronicle-s-mock-1st-round-of-NFL-draft-11098704.php

San Francisco 49ers add Tom Rathman to team Hall of Fame

By Daniel Brown, San Jose Mercury News

http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/04/25/san-francisco-49ers-add-tom-rathman-to-team-hall-of-fame/

Tom Rathman to be inducted into 49ers hall of fame

By Matt Barrows, Sacramento Bee

http://www.sacbee.com/sports/nfl/san-francisco-49ers/article146833379.html

TOM RATHMAN TO BE INDUCTED INTO 49ERS HALL OF FAME

By Matt Maiocco, CSNBayArea.com

http://www.csnbayarea.com/49ers/tom-rathman-be-inducted-49ers-hall-fame

49ers' draft approach to quarterbacks a question of patience

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/blog/san-francisco-49ers/post/_/id/24562/49ers-draft-approach-to-quarterbacks-aquestion-of-patience

Riddick's GM Mock Draft: The first-round picks I'd make

By Louis Riddick, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/nfl/draft2017/insider/story/_/id/19229308/louis-riddick-gm-mock-draft-making-first-round-picks-every-team-2017-nfl-draft

OJ Howard Deserves More Hype, Trubisky, Watson and Mahomes All in The Top 15?

By Albert Breer, MMQB.com

http://mmqb.si.com/mmqb/2017/04/25/themmqb-10-things-albert-breer-nfl-draft-2017-trubisky-mahomes-watson-davis-webb-medical-red-flags

49ers to induct Tom Rathman into Hall of Fame

By Mike Florio, ProFootballTalk.com

http://profootballtalk.nbcsports.com/2017/04/25/49ers-to-induct-tom-rathman-into-hall-of-fame/

Jeremiah mock draft 5.0: Trubisky, Mahomes go back-to-back

By Daniel Jeremiah, NFL.com

http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000802161/article/jeremiah-mock-draft-50-trubisky-mahomes-gobacktoback

2017 NFL mock draft 12.0: Two experts take one last look at Round 1

By Chris Burke and Emily Kaplan, Sports Illustrated

https://www.si.com/nfl/2017/04/26/nfl-mock-draft-first-round-picks-results

National Media

Ranking the Seahawks' position needs as the NFL draft approaches

By Bob Condotta, The Seattle Times

http://www.seattletimes.com/sports/seahawks/ranking-the-seahawks-position-needs-as-the-nfl-draft-approaches/

Rams rookie coach Sean McVay finally gets on the field with his team for a practice

By Gary Klein, Los Angeles Times

http://www.latimes.com/sports/rams/la-sp-rams-report-20170425-story.html

NFL reinstates Arizona Cardinals' Daryl Washington

By Kent Somers, The Arizona Republic

http://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/nfl/cardinals/2017/04/25/cardinals-premature-discuss-potential-return-team/306491001/

Seahawks, Raiders agree to trade for Marshawn Lynch's rights

By Mike Garafolo and Ian Rapoport, NFL.com

http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000802591/article/marshawn-lynch-agrees-to-raiders-deal-teams-to-trade-terms

Vikings likely to pass on Bridgewater's fifth-year option

By Adam Schefter, ESPN.com

http://www.espn.com/nfl/story/_/id/19246688/minnesota-vikings-unlikely-pick-fifth-year-option-teddy-bridgewater

Local Clips - Full Version

What Experts Said about 49ers 2016 Draft Class

By Staff, 49ers.com

Draft day has finally arrived. After months of evaluation, guessing and speculation, the 2017 NFL Draft kicks off on Thursday night at 5 p.m. PT with the first round. Keep up to date with all of the 49ers draft news here.

But before we find out the names of this year's San Francisco 49ers draft class, let's first look back at how the team's haul from 2016 was initially received by the media.

DeForest Buckner, Joshua Garnett, Rashard Robinson and Ronald Blair all played key roles on a young San Francisco 49ers roster in 2016. Buckner was selected to the Pro Football Writers of America All-Rookie Team. As a Day 1 starter, the seventh overall pick posted six sacks and 73 tackles in 2016.

Meanwhile, John Theus, Aaron Burbridge and Prince Charles Iworah contributed on special teams. Will Redmond spent the season on the Reserve/Injured List with an ACL injury.

All of the below comments were written in the immediate aftermath of the 2016 draft:

NFL.com's Bucky Brooks

Analysis: "DeForest Buckner will join former Oregon teammate Arik Armstead on the front line to give the 49ers a long, rangy set of defenders to build around. Will Redmond and Rashard Robinson will compete for playing time on the perimeter as sub-package corners."

"Ronald Blair is a productive pass rusher with a non-stop motor. He could crack the rotation as a situational rusher on passing downs."

NFL.com's Chad Reuter

Analysis: "Buckner is an excellent pick in the top seven as the impact defensive end they've missed since Justin Smith has left. Garnett is my favorite offensive line prospect in this draft, and the 49ers need to replace Alex Boone."

"In Round 4, Robinson's athleticism was worth the gamble. They got great value in the Blair pick. He should be a starter as a five-technique despite a poor combine workout. Theus and Cooper are swing tackle candidates who should only get better with time."

ESPN's Mel Kiper Jr.

Analysis: "I'm a fan of DeForest Buckner, but you expect to get a top-10 player if you're drafting in the top 10. They used valuable draft assets to get Joshua Garnett, a player they clearly coveted."

"I like the addition of Ronald Blair in the fifth round. There's a clear emphasis on finding some depth at cornerback and perhaps some developmental options on the offensive line."

PFF's Steve Palazzolo

Analysis: "One of the best picks in the draft, the 49ers took the No. 2 player on the PFF draft board in Buckner, as he happens to be a perfect fit for their 3-4 scheme. He's a disruptive presence against the run. San Francisco then traded back into the first round to secure the top run-blocking guard in the draft in Garnett."

"Robinson didn't play in 2015, but his length and speed made him a coveted mid-round option. Blair's 42.7 overall grade ranked 13th in the draft class, as he can make plays against the run and as a pass rusher though he has to get stronger at the point of attack in the run game."

49ers will induct Tom Rathman into team's Hall of Fame

By Eric Branch, San Francisco Chronicle

Tom Rathman is gone, but the longtime 49ers fullback and running backs coach won't be forgotten: The 49ers will make sure of that by inducting Rathman into the team's Hall of Fame this fall.

CEO Jed York announced the news, via Twitter, on Tuesday, about two months after Rathman and the team amicably parted. Rathman will also announced the 49ers' second-round pick at the NFL draft in Philadelphia on Friday.

"Tom Rathman embodies everything this organization wants in its players, coaches and staff," York said in a news release. "Throughout his more than two decades with our team, Tom set a tone for the 49ers both on and off the field."

Rathman, 54, a 49ers assistant since 2009, left in February after head coach Kyle Shanahan brought running backs coach Bobby Turner with him from Atlanta. Rathman has spent 22 seasons with the 49ers, winning two Super Bowls from 1986-93 as a player.

"I've always considered myself a 49er and I always will consider myself a 49er," Rathman said. "I'll take that brand with me wherever I go because that's who I am."

Said Colts running back Frank Gore, 33, who had Rathman as his position coach for the final seven seasons of his 10-year tenure with the team: "I look at him like a father. He came into my career at the right time. If he didn't coach me the way he coached me, making me look at the big picture of football, I don't think I'd still be in the league. He helped me become a complete player. You wanted to make him look good. I wanted to make him proud of me."

Shanahan, who was a ballboy during Rathman's final two seasons with the 49ers, unsuccessfully tried to get him to stay on the staff in another capacity.

"[love	Tom	Rathman	," Shanahan	said in	February	r. "He's a he	ero of mine.

The Chronicle's mock 1st round of NFL draft

By Eric Branch and Vic Tafur, San Francisco Chronicle

2. 49ers: RB Leonard Fournette, LSU

The 49ers get a potential generational talent — very few bulldozers with Ferrari engines ever come off assembly lines — and their wretched (and oh-so-boring) offense suddenly has an area that could dominate. Fournette and Carlos Hyde will run behind fullback Kyle Juszczyk and an offensive line that general manager John Lynch has identified as one of the team's few bright spots. About the passing game: Fournette will take plenty of pressure off the yet-to-be-determined QB of the future. Finally, Fournette could help keep the defense off the field — welcome news after a season with Chip Kelly.

San Francisco 49ers add Tom Rathman to team Hall of Fame

By Daniel Brown, San Jose Mercury News

Before earning a glamorous role as the do-everything fullback in Bill Walsh's innovative offense, Tom Rathman made his mark as a special teams grunt.

The bruises he administered to opponents while blocking on kickoffs and punt return units might still be under an ice pack somewhere.

Now, Rathman is leaving permanent mark in a far grander way: The 49ers on Tuesday that Rathman will be inducted into the team's Hall of Fame this fall. There are plans for a press conference Wednesday at Levi's Stadium.

"Tom Rathman embodies everything this organization wants in its players, coaches and staff," 49ers CEO Jed York said in a statement announcing the news.

Jed York ✔ @JedYork

No one epitomizes being a @49ers more than Tom Rathman. So happy for him to take his place in the #49ersHoF

Rathman spent 23 of the past 31 seasons with the 49ers as either a player or coach but parted ways in February after the team hired Kyle Shanahan as head coach. Shanahan brought in Bobby Turner to take over as running backs coach.

"I always will consider myself a 49er. I'll take that brand with me wherever I go because that's who I am," Rathman said in statement Tuesday. "It feels great to be with the guys who are already in the 49ers Hall of Fame. ... To be able to say that you're in a fraternity with those guys, so to speak, the 49ers Hall of Fame fraternity, says volumes. It's pretty special."

As part of the 49ers backfield from 1986-93, the Nebraska-tough 230-pounder was an integral part of some of the era's best offenses. Though blocking got him on the radar, Rathman proved to be more than just a human wrecking ball.

Rathman was also reliable runner (3.7 yards per carry) who, under Walsh, blossomed as a pass catcher. In 1989, Rathman led NFC running backs with 73 catches for 616 yards.

"His tenacious attitude for giving his all on every play makes him a shoe-in for the 49ers Hall of Fame," former defensive back Ronnie Lott said in a statement. "He should have played defense!"

Whatever the role, Rathman never lost his first love: knocking opponents out of their cleats. As Rathman once told a reporter that his ideal play was "to take a pass in the flat and turn up the field on a defensive back. It's always nice when you find those 190-pound defensive backs trying to take on a guy who is 235-pounds in full stride. I don't bother trying to put a move on them. I just try to go through them."

Born on Oct. 7, 1962, Rathman grew up in Grand Island, Nebraska, where he learned an appreciation for doing the dirty work. As a teenager, his summers were full of tedious, demanding labor in the cornfields. He also helped his father and uncle on a construction crew, pouring cement under a blazing Midwestern sun.

The 49ers drafted Rathman out of Nebraska in the third round (56th overall) of the 1986 NFL Draft. When the country kid reported, it didn't take Joe Montana to size him up. The quarterback promptly nicknamed him "Woody," after the naive bumpkin on Cheers.

But Rathman proved incredibly sophisticated when it came to football, handling whatever duty Walsh, and later George Seifert, threw his way.

In eight seasons in San Francisco, Rathman helped the 49ers win seven division titles and two Super Bowls (XXIII and XXIV). Rathman scored two touchdowns as the 49ers repeated as Super Bowl champions with a 55-10 rout of the Denver Broncos on Jan. 28, 1990.

He played his final season with the Raiders in 1994, closing out his career with 2,020 rushing yards and 34 total touchdowns.

Rathman became one of the league's best running back coaches, and his first stint in that capacity with the 49ers came in 1997-2002 under Steve Mariucci. He also coached running backs with the Detroit Lions (2003-05) and Raiders (2007-08) before returning to the 49ers, where he served under five coaches through this past season.

"The best coach I ever had professionally," said former 49ers RB Garrison Hearst.

Frank Gore, his most notable disciple, learned to embrace the idea of becoming a complete back. Thanks to Rathman's constant one-on-one mentoring, Gore thrived as a power runner, receiver and, of course, a blocker.

"I look at him like a father," Gore said in Tuesday's news release. "He came into my career at the right time. If he didn't coach me the way he coached me, making me look at the big picture of football, I don't think I'd still be in the league. He helped me become a complete player. You wanted to make him look good. I wanted to make him proud of me – of how I was playing and how I did."

Rathman is second to only Eddie DeBartolo (24 years) for the most years of service to the team among members of the 49ers Hall of Fame. He also joins Joe Perry and Y.A. Tittle as the only members of the 49ers Hall of Fame to both play and coach for the team.

Established in 2009, the Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. Hall of Fame annually salutes players who, in the team's words, qualified via "outstanding production and performance on the field, key contributions to the team's success, and/or the embodiment of the spirit and essence of the San Francisco 49ers."

Previous inductees include Eddie DeBartolo Jr., Leo Nomellini, Joe Perry, Hugh McElhenny, Y.A. Tittle, John Henry Johnson, Bob St. Clair, Bill Walsh, Jimmy Johnson, Joe Montana, Ronnie Lott, Dave Wilcox, Steve Young, Fred Dean, Charlie Krueger, John Brodie, Dwight Clark, Jerry Rice, Tony Morabito, Vic Morabito, Roger Craig, R.C. Owens, Gordy Soltau, John McVay, George Seifert and Charles Haley.

Tom Rathman to be inducted into 49ers hall of fame

By Matt Barrows, Sacramento Bee

Tom Rathman won't be part of the 49ers' coaching staff this season, but he will be featured at Levi's Stadium.

The team announced Tuesday that Rathman, who spent eight seasons in San Francisco's backfield and another 14 as the team's running backs coach, would be added to the team hall of fame at the stadium. Rathman also appeared in 14 postseason games, including two Super Bowls, when he was a player and rushed for 287 yards and four touchdowns in the postseason.

A press conference will be held Wednesday. Rathman will also travel to Philadelphia to announce the 49ers second-round pick of the draft on Friday.

"Tom Rathman embodies everything this organization wants in its players, coaches and staff," said 49ers CEO Jed York in a statement. "Throughout his more than two decades with our team, Tom set a tone for the 49ers both on and off the field."

"I look at him like a father," said former 49ers running back Frank Gore, who is now with the Colts. "He came into my career at the right time. If he didn't coach me the way he coached me, making me look at the big picture of football, I don't think I'd still be in the league. He helped me become a complete player. You wanted to make him look good. I wanted to make him proud of me – of how I was playing and how I did."

Rathman, 54, will not be on staff this season after Kyle Shanahan hired another long-time running backs coach, Bobby Turner, for the job. The 49ers offered to find another role for Rathman, but he was leery about undermining Turner.

Rathman said he would sit out this season with the hope of joining another squad next year as its running backs coach.

The Edward J. Debartolo Sr. Hall of Fame was established in 2009. Recent inductees include Roger Craig, R.C. Owens, Gordy Soltau, John McVay, George Seifert and Charles Haley.

TOM RATHMAN TO BE INDUCTED INTO 49ERS HALL OF FAME

By Matt Maiocco, CSNBayArea.com

Former 49ers fullback Tom Rathman, who was not retained this season on Kyle Shanahan's coaching staff, will be coming back to the organization in a permanent fashion.

Rathman, 54, who spent a total of 23 seasons as a player and coach, will be inducted into the 49ers Hall of Fame, CEO Jed York announced on Tuesday.

"Tom Rathman embodies everything this organization wants in its players, coaches and staff," York said in a statement. "Throughout his more than two decades with our team, Tom set a tone for the 49ers both on and off the field. As a player, he was selfless, hard-working and dedicated to bringing his best every single day. Tom coached very much the same way.

"It was his mission to help every man he coached realize his full potential, as both a player and a man. Tom is family and we are so thrilled to induct him into the Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. 49ers Hall of Fame, where he will take his place among the all-time greats in our team's history."

Rathman discussed having a role on the 49ers' coaching staff after the hiring of Shanahan. But Shanahan had already promised the position of running backs coach to Bobby Turner.

"It was all positive," said Rathman told NBC Sports Bay Area in February. "I have no hard feelings. It's just the nature of the business. Everybody just has to understand that. In pro football, coaches get fired and new guys come in and they bring their guys. I totally understand it. I don't have a problem with it. Being in the business for 28 years, playing and coaching, you understand what it is. You can never take anything for granted."

Rathman played for the 49ers from 1986 to '93. He was a starter on two Super Bowl-winning teams and seven NFC West champions. Used mostly as a lead-blocker for Roger Craig, Rathman's best season came in 1989, when he caught 73 passes for 616 yards.

After his playing career concluded with the Los Angeles Rams in 1994, Rathman entered into a career in coaching. He coached under Steve Mariucci from 1997 to 2002. He returned to coach with the 49ers in 2009, serving on the coaching staffs of head coaches Mike Singletary, Jim Harbaugh, Jim Tomsula and Chip Kelly.

"I've always considered myself a 49er and I always will consider myself a 49er," Rathman said in a statement. "I'll take that brand with me wherever I go because that's who I am. It feels great to be with the

guys who are already in the 49ers Hall of Fame. Dating back to Joe Perry, it's an honor to be associated with the likes of Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, Ronnie Lott, Roger Craig and Dwight Clark.

"That's a lot of history right there. To be able to say that you're in a fraternity with those guys so to speak, the 49ers Hall of Fame fraternity, says volumes. It's pretty special."

49ers' draft approach to quarterbacks a question of patience

By Nick Wagoner, ESPN.com

The 2017 NFL draft is to begin April 27 in Philadelphia. The San Francisco 49ers own 10 picks in this year's draft, including No. 2 overall.

With a new regime in coach Kyle Shanahan and general manager John Lynch in place, it's hard to know what direction the 49ers will go with their picks. But they have plenty of needs as they go about reconstructing their roster.

Here's a look at what the 49ers need at quarterback:

In place: Brian Hoyer, Matt Barkley.

Potential fits: Clemson's Deshaun Watson, North Carolina's Mitchell Trubisky, Notre Dame's DeShone Kizer, Texas Tech's Patrick Mahomes, California's Davis Webb, Miami's Brad Kaaya, Pittsburgh's Nathan Peterman, Tennessee's Joshua Dobbs, Virginia Tech's Jerod Evans, Mississippi's Chad Kelly, Iowa's C.J. Beathard, Baylor's Seth Russell.

What's needed: For anyone paying attention, there's no greater need here than a franchise quarterback. For a brief period of time, the 49ers thought they finally had that guy in Colin Kaepernick but without a dominant supporting cast, Kaepernick regressed and is now a free agent. The 49ers signed veterans Hoyer and Barkley in free agency. Shanahan feels comfortable with Hoyer as his starter heading into the 2017 season, but Shanahan and Lynch have never minced words about the importance of finding a quarterback who can handle the position for the long haul. They're well aware that player isn't on the roster.

"We're really happy with what we have right now but yet, I have been very upfront with you guys and everyone, Kyle and I, when you start talking about priorities, this is a quarterback-driven league," Lynch said. "I knew that when I played. I learned it even more as a broadcaster, because I don't think I could ever admit it as a player, because I didn't want to give those guys that much credit. I had to play against them. But as I stepped in that broadcast booth, you talk about commonalities between the teams who have had sustained success, they've got that guy minus a few anomalies. Some of the teams I played on in Tampa that were defensive-driven.

"But that's a common thread. As long as Kyle and I are here, we're going to be searching for one of those guys."

So the question isn't really if the 49ers will be adding another quarterback and investing in the guy they believe can be the future, but when? Though Shanahan and Lynch have consistently discussed the need to find a quarterback, they've also said patience can be a virtue in these situations. With bigger and better possibilities on the horizon in 2018 -- both in the draft and free agency -- Shanahan and Lynch might be willing to wait to find the right fit. Armed with six-year contracts, it's feasible for the 49ers regime to be a little patient -- especially knowing that picking the wrong guy can set them back even further.

Verdict: Chances are, the 49ers will have their choice of any quarterback they want with the second overall pick. The Cleveland Browns are expected to take Texas A&M pass-rusher Myles Garrett, and even if they throw a curveball and take a quarterback like Trubisky, the 49ers would be in a prime position

to take Garrett, auction the pick in a trade or take another quarterback. Still, it's hard to shake the idea that a Shanahan reunion with Washington quarterback Kirk Cousins is coming at some point. Even if it's not this year, the 49ers can wait and potentially pounce on him as a free agent next year. And if that doesn't pan out, they could find someone else in the draft or pursue someone like New England's Jimmy Garoppolo. All of those options seem to point to the idea that the 49ers won't be using the second overall pick on a quarterback. We can't rule it out entirely given the amount of work they've put in on this class, but there seems to be a more likely plan of attack for the position.

That plan? Waiting until the middle rounds (or potentially even moving back into the end of the first round if someone they love falls) to get a developmental prospect that Shanahan can get in the system and begin building without having to play right away. Someone like Kizer would be an intriguing fit in Round 2, and players like Peterman, Dobbs and Evans would be interesting possibilities in Rounds 3 or 4. That way, Shanahan would have a young player with the skill set he wants to work with while also keeping an eye toward the future.

Riddick's GM Mock Draft: The first-round picks I'd make

By Louis Riddick, ESPN.com

2. San Francisco 49ers

Solomon Thomas, DE, Stanford

Picking at the top of the draft is about managing risk, and Thomas is the safer pick over Myles Garrett. While Thomas lacks the same kind of athletic upside as Garrett, he poses minimal risk from a competitive character/consistency perspective from all that I have been told.

*OJ Howard Deserves More Hype, Trubisky, Watson and Mahomes All in The Top 15?*By Albert Breer, MMQB.com

- 1) At least half the top 10 teams picking have shown a desire to trade down 49ers, Bears, Titans, Jets, Panthers. It's harder to find teams going up.
- 8) Question for the 49ers Is Solomon Thomas redundant to Arik Armstead/ DeForest Buckner? I think they could use them together. Marcus Lattimore is also a possibility at 2.

49ers to induct Tom Rathman into Hall of Fame

By Mike Florio, ProFootballTalk.com

Tom Rathman's 23-year run with the 49ers ended earlier this year. He'll now permanently be part of the organization.

The 49ers will induct Rathman into the franchise's Hall of Fame.

"Tom Rathman embodies everything this organization wants in its players, coaches and staff," 49ers CEO Jed York said in a statement. "Throughout his more than two decades with our team, Tom set a tone for the 49ers both on and off the field. As a player, he was selfless, hard-working and dedicated to bringing his best every single day. Tom coached very much the same way. It was his mission to help every man he coached realize his full potential, as both a player and a man. Tom is family and we are so thrilled to induct him into the Edward J. DeBartolo Sr. 49ers Hall of Fame, where he will take his place among the all-time greats in our team's history."

The move comes roughly two months after Rathman decided not to remain with the team as part of Kyle Shanahan's staff.

"I'm not going to be back," Rathman, a former fullback and running backs coach, said at the time. "I feel like it's the best for everybody if I just parted and let those guys do their thing and take me out of the equation so that nobody's uncomfortable. I'm looking to coach running backs and that's what I want to do. I'm just going to wait for the next opportunity and go for it when it happens."

"I spent 23 years with the 49ers," Rathman said in Tuesday's press release. "I've always considered myself a 49er and I always will consider myself a 49er. I'll take that brand with me wherever I go because that's who I am. It feels great to be with the guys who are already in the 49ers Hall of Fame. Dating back to Joe Perry, it's an honor to be associated with the likes of Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, Ronnie Lott, Roger Craig and Dwight Clark. That's a lot of history right there. To be able to say that you're in a fraternity with those guys so to speak, the 49ers Hall of Fame fraternity, says volumes. It's pretty special."

Rathman's 23 years puts him behind only 49ers Hall of Famer in terms of tenure with the team. Edward J. DeBartolo, Jr., the man for whom the Hall of Fame is named, had 24 years with the franchise.

Jeremiah mock draft 5.0: Trubisky, Mahomes go back-to-back

By Daniel Jeremiah, NFL.com

PICK 2

Jamal Adams - S

School: LSU. This pick is anyone's guess. I wouldn't be surprised if they took Leonard Fournette, but Adams is the cleanest player in the draft.

2017 NFL mock draft 12.0: Two experts take one last look at Round 1

By Chris Burke and Emily Kaplan, Sports Illustrated

2

SOLOMON THOMAS

DE, STANFORD

The 49ers have used their first-round pick each of the past two years on a defensive lineman (Arik Armstead, DeForest Buckner). They're still not set up front, though, especially with an expected shift from a 3–4 scheme to a 4–3. Thomas's inside-outside game would make him a complement for Armstead and Buckner, not necessarily a replacement for one. San Francisco would have three versatile, athletic options to plug in at tackle or end.