

Sports

Corey's mock NFL draft — version 2.0

We are officially 48 hours until the first name is called in the NFL draft. In the midst of a pandemic with no sports, fans will have something to watch Thursday.

To make things interesting, amidst actual trades that took place with first-round draft picks, I predicted a few mock trades that might take place in the next two days. Following each pick is the prediction from my initial mock draft, published March 10. Enjoy!



COREY KIRK

ing or cutting their top talent, including corner Darius Slay. Through these deals and their

outbreak, and he was throwing the ball really well!

(Mock Draft 1.0: MIA- Tua Tagovailoa, Alabama, QB)

6. New York Giants (4-12) — Tristen Wirfs, Iowa, OL

Now that the Giants have traded back two picks, I rescind my idea of them going high on Louisville offensive lineman Mekhi Becton, and instead choosing Wirfs. Though Becton's ceiling is high, Wirfs is the safer pick on blocking both for Daniel Jones in the pocket and Saquon Barkley running down the middle.

(Mock Draft 1.0: LAC- Justin Herbert, Oregon, QB)

7. Carolina Panthers (5-11) — Isaiah Simmons, Clemson, LB

Contrary to some mock drafts, I have Simmons drafted here simply on need, as based on talent he might be one of the top five players in the draft. Luke Kuechly's retirement makes this a perfect match.

(Mock Draft 1.0: CAR- Isaiah Simmons, Clemson, LB)

8. Arizona Cardinals (5-10-1) — Mekhi Becton, Louisville, OL

Though Wirfs is the safer pick, Becton should be exciting for Arizona to grab here. He has a great wingspan and speed, which will fit well in Kliff Kingsbury's system with how quick they are offensively. They now have a highly coveted QB in the reigning offensive rookie of the year in Kyler Murray, and newly acquired DeAndre Hopkins. They need to keep Kyler safe.

(Mock Draft 1.0: ARI- Tristan Wirfs, OL, Iowa)

9. Jacksonville Jaguars (6-10) — Derrick Brown, Auburn, DL

I remain adamant about this pick with the official trading of Calais Campbell to the Ravens, lighting up the free agency fire. Derrick Brown

is a terror on the line and can really make an impact alongside Josh Allen as this team ushers in a new age of talent on the defensive side of the ball. Jacksonville is a ways from postseason form, but this would be a right step.

(Mock Draft 1.0: JAG- Derrick Brown, OL, Auburn)

10. Cleveland Browns (6-10) — Jedrick Wills, Alabama, OL

The priority remains the same for the Browns, and they need to find better protection for Baker Mayfield. Being one of the most sacked quarterbacks in the league is not a distinction anyone in the league would want, and Wills would be the right fit for their offensive line. His size and frame is too good to pass on.

(Mock Draft 1.0: CLE- Jedrick Wills, Alabama, OL)

Mock trade proposal: The New York Jets trade their 11th pick to the New Orleans Saints for their 24th pick, 169th pick and their 2021 1st round pick

11. New Orleans Saints (13-3) — Jordan Love, Utah State, QB

As the only threat to pick up Love was Tampa Bay at 14, that is no longer an option with Tom Brady shocking the world and leaving New England. Drew Brees is not going to be in New Orleans forever, and with Teddy Bridgewater heading to the Panthers they need someone ready for the transition of life after Brees. Love's senior numbers are concerning, but I do like him being in a position to back up an elite quarterback, and he will be a suitable replacement for Brees.

(Mock Draft 1.0: NYJ- Andrew Thomas, OL, Georgia)

Baker City Herald sports editor Corey Kirk's mock draft 2.0 will continue in Thursday's issue.

respective picks, they have four of the top 85 picks. Okudah is the most skilled secondary player in this draft, and is a good starting point in their draft. They flirt with the idea of trading down to the 5th or 6th pick, but they don't bite.

(Mock Draft 1.0: Okudah)

Mock trade proposal: Los Angeles Chargers trade their 6th pick and the 71st pick for the New York Giants 4th pick

4. Los Angeles Chargers (5-11) - Tua Tagovailoa, Alabama, QB

First trade is on the board! Bluffing the Dolphins all along, the man the Chargers wanted all offseason was the Crimson Tide product. Though his injury history makes most NFL executives — and me — pretty skeptical, Tagovailoa couldn't be more of a polar opposite than his predecessor, Phillip Rivers. It is worth the risk to trade up for this guy, steal him from the Dolphins' clutches, and hopefully have their franchise QB of the future.

(Mock draft 1.0: New York Giants, Mekhi Becton, Louisville, OL)

5. Miami Dolphins (5-11) — Justin Herbert, Oregon, QB

Stunned by the Chargers grabbing Tua with the previous pick, Herbert isn't a terrible fallback plan for the Dolphins. In my opinion, after Burrow, Herbert is the most NFL-ready quarterback. Herbert is going to provide a tremendous upgrade, and he can learn a lot from Ryan Fitzpatrick on how things work in the league. Herbert was one of the very few that I know of who was able to squeeze in his pro day prior to the COVID-19

1. Cincinnati Bengals (2-14) — Joe Burrow, LSU, QB

Cincinnati remains steadfast in keeping their pick, though their phone rings off the hook come draft night. Andy Dalton has packed his bags, and is garnering interest on the free agent market, so they won't seem interested in either Tua or Herbert to trade down. Burrow is the most polished quarterback in the draft, and I expect Burrow jerseys in black and orange to fly off the shelves immediately.

(Mock Draft 1.0: Burrow)

2. Washington Redskins (3-13) — Chase Young, Ohio State, EDGE

The Redskins are one of the few teams that have problems everywhere, so just like the 49ers did with this pick last year, the Redskins go with the best available with this pick, and that is Chase Young. His impact will become immediate as he will become the biggest threat on their defensive line. Redskins fans should be salivating at the possibility of this talent, and shouldn't fumble this pick.

(Mock Draft 1.0: Young)

3. Detroit Lions (3-12-1) — Jeff Okudah, Ohio State, CB

The secondary in Detroit is now in need of a major overhaul after trad-

PRICES

Continued from Page 1A

Deschutes County, the most populous county east of the Cascades, had the third-highest average price, at \$2.49 per gallon.

Generally, prices are lower east of the Cascades than in the more densely populated counties west of the mountains.

Oregon's overall average price Monday was \$2.48 per gallon, and eight counties west of the Cascades had a higher average price than Baker County's \$2.51.

Curry County, at the southwest corner of the state, had the second-highest average price among Oregon's 36 counties, its \$2.71 figure behind only Willowa County's.

Average prices varied more widely west of the Cascades, as well.

In the Willamette Valley, for instance, the average price in Linn County, just south of Salem, was \$2.05 per gallon.

The next county to the north — Marion, home to Salem — had an average of \$2.32, while its neighbor to the north, Clackamas County, had an average of \$2.59. Multnomah County, the state's most populous with about 830,000 residents, had an average price of \$2.68.

The other county in the Portland metropolitan area — Washington — had an average price of \$2.67

Other average prices in eastern side counties:

- Malheur — \$2.13
- Lake — \$2.29
- Harney — \$2.33
- Sherman — \$2.35
- Klamath — \$2.35
- Morrow — \$2.37
- Union — \$2.39
- Umatilla — \$2.39
- Wasco — \$2.40
- Grant — \$2.44
- Crook — \$2.45
- Jefferson — \$2.45

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