



NFL DRAFT 2017 SCOUTING REPORT: WR ROBERT DAVIS, GEORGIA STATE

**WR-B stands for "Big-WR," a classification we use to separate the more physical, downfield/over-the-top, heavy-red-zone-threat type WRs. Our WR-S/"Small-WRs" are profiled by our computer more as slot and/or possession type WRs who are less typically physical, and rely more on speed/agility to operate underneath the defense and/or use big speed to get open deep...they are not used as weapons in the red zone as much.*

Robert Davis is going to be a tough player to evaluate. However, I do know this... Those who follow 'SPARQ' (a simple speed-agility metric someone came up with years ago) are going to go bonkers proclaiming Davis a supreme sleeper. He's the current #1 'SPARQ' WR prospect from the NFL Combine. I get it. His NFL Combine numbers are stellar – elite NFL WR-like athleticism. He's a top 100-125 prospect just off his athleticism. But there's a slight problem by going with measurables alone with Davis; it's a two-fold problem that I see...

And for the record I'm pro-Davis, but I have some concerns.

1: I did not see a super-athlete on tape. I saw an obviously very good athlete, but I did not see him dominating opponents/coverage. He had a few moments, but overall Davis looked a little stiff – when compared to his incredible Combine. It reminds me a bit of **Tre McBride**...great athletic numbers on paper and no 'pop' on tape (considering them as a starting or star material for the NFL).

2: Davis's receiving numbers do not 'pop' either. Never had a 1,000+ yards season in four years of heavy play. Never had more than 6 TD catches in a season...and the passing game he played with was not stellar but it wasn't awful either.

The tape shows some weakness in that Davis was not constantly burning and outrunning defenders. Sometimes when I put on tape looking for an 'it' player...you



MARCH 14, 2017

see some 'it' within seconds of watching. I never saw the 'it' with Davis in several games. Just prior to Davis I studied Penn State WR **Chris Godwin**...he flashed signs of some NFL 'it'. I never got as excited watching Davis...and I expected to.

It's hard to say how good Davis is...or how he translates to the NFL, because most of his tape is filled with him outrunning coverage, which he should, and catching bubble screens and not being totally magical with them after the catch. Davis kinda strikes me as that #2 wide receiver you have on a team – takes on the lesser coverage, is a tall/jump-ball threat, and mostly works down the sidelines and not as much where things are messy underneath.

Everything looks right with Davis on paper...but something just isn't right — if that makes any sense.

Davis can catch the ball well. He has the perfect NFL starting WR size and speed. He has a nice frame. He puts some effort into blocking. Everything checks, but then you don't see him truly dominating on tape...he'll outrun some people and it looks good, but there's just not a **Zay Jones, Chris Godwin, Corey Davis, Cooper Kupp** 'killer instinct' on tape.

I wouldn't rule out Davis turning out better in the pros than in college. He's a sensational ball of clay to try to mold. He has all the tools. At Georgia State, the QB play was OK, but not precise. Davis may work better with a more efficient QB in the pros. He's coachable. He's a good kid. He's a multiple-time honor roll student. He's wonderfully raw. He's definitely worth taking a gamble on or even paying up a hair for...but I see indicators that it may not be as exciting as the measurables portend.

I just thought of a player he reminds me of in body type...**Josh Doctson**. I bring that up because Doctson wasn't the athlete on paper that Davis is but was kinda close. However, Doctson had a killer instinct — he went to a major school/conference and dominated. Davis just did 'pretty good' in the Sun Belt...I guess that's the best way to describe my hesitation.

Robert Davis, through the lens of our "Big WR" Scouting Algorithm

A 6'2.5"/219 pound WR working in the Sun Belt Conference who runs a 4.44 with a 41" vertical only winds up with TD totals in a season of 4-2-6-5. I don't get it. I



really don't. No 1,000+ yard seasons either...playing at least 12 games per season all four years.

In Davis's favor... When the big teams hit the schedule, Davis held his own. Facing Washington (2014), Clemson (2014), Oregon (2015), Wisconsin (2016), Davis averaged 4.3 catches for 62.8 yards and 0.75 TDs per game.

On the downside, one bowl appearance (2015) vs. San Jose State...and Davis had one catch for one yard.

You see, for all his physical tools, I just don't understand why Davis was such a choppy performer.

NFL Combine data...

6'2.5"/219, 33" arms, 9.6" hands

4.44 40-time, 4.28 shuttle, 6.82 three-cone

41" vertical, 19 bench press reps, 11'4" broad jump

Davis's college numbers on Fox Spots: <http://www.foxsports.com/college-football/robert-davis-2-player>

The NFL "Big WR" Robert Davis most compares with statistically in college, within our system:

It's a mixed bag of comps from our computer models...some eye-opening names and some not-so-exciting ones. It's kinda where my mind is at...is Davis just 'good' for the NFL...or a star...or more a disappointment? After a full study, I'm still not very sure.



Table 394

WR Score	Draft Yr	Last	First	College	H	H	Weight	Power Strngth Metric	Speed Agility Metric	Hands' Metric
7.958	2017	Davis	Robert	Georgia St	6	2.5	219	9.05	8.99	7.96
8.583	2014	Latimer	Cody	Indiana	6	2.4	215	8.60	7.03	9.53
7.415	2015	Davis	Jeremy	U Conn	6	2.3	216	8.97	7.06	6.45
8.367	2012	Sanu	Mohamed	Rutgers	6	1.7	211	6.79	6.23	9.98
10.234	2012	Jeffery	Alshon	South Carolina	6	2.7	213	6.18	8.46	11.87
7.901	2012	Goda	Devin	Slippery Rock	6	2.6	225	11.78	5.53	10.69
8.403	2002	Johnson	Andre	Miami, Fla	6	3.5	220	8.71	11.03	7.44

**A score of 7.0+ is where we start to take a Big-WR prospect more seriously. A score of 8.50+ is where we see a stronger correlation of a Big-WR going on to become NFL good/great/elite. A score of 10.00+ is more rarefied air in our system and indicates a greater probability of becoming an elite NFL Big-WR.*

All of the WR ratings are based on a 0–10 scale, but a player can score negative, or above a 10.0 in certain instances.

Overall WR score = A combination of several on-field performance measures, including refinement for the strength of opponents faced. Mixed with all the physical measurement metrics, rated historically in our database.

“Power-Strength” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding physical size profiling, bench press strength, etc. High scorers here project to be more physical, better blockers, and less injury-prone.

“Speed-Agility” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding speed, agility, physical size, mixed with some on-field performance metrics. High scorers here project to have a better YAC and show characteristics to be used as deep threats/create separation.

“Hands” = A combination of unique metrics surrounding on-field performance in college, considering the strength of opponents played. Furthermore, this data considers some physical profiling for hand size, etc. High scorers here have a better track record of college statistical performance, and overall this projects the combination of performance and physical data for the next level.

2017 NFL Draft outlook...

Robert Davis' draft projections are all over the pace right now. Some analysts are jacked by his Combine and now have him up into their top 100-125 prospects...while others are sticking by their sixth round or later projections. I think his measurables are too good for him to fall, so I'd project fourth or fifth round...a decent bargain.

NFL outlook: I could see any outcome possible...star, bust, or useful/solid. If I had to bet my life on one outcome it would be solid/useful. Will take a couple of years to get acclimated and then we could start to see a payoff of him moving towards a starting #2 WR in the NFL for a team.

