



## NFL Draft 2018 Scouting Report: TE Codey McElroy, SE Oklahoma State

*\*Our TE grades can and will change as more information comes in from Pro Day workouts, leaked Wonderlic test results, etc. We will update ratings as new info becomes available.*

*\*\*Our TE formulas had some slight changes in the offseason—an adjustment to better identify and value TE prospects that are smaller physically and are primed for the era ahead...the era of Jordan Reed and Delanie Walker-type TEs. Our historical grades will have changed some on various prospects as well, to show their grades by comparison.*

As I was going through the post-Draft, I got to the Rams and was looking over the various rookie UDFAs and saw a name that was unfamiliar to me...**Codey McElroy**, tight end (6'4"+, 230+) South East Oklahoma State.

My memory is not flawless...so, I don't know every single prospect available in the draft, but I usually know most all of the offensive skill players that matter in any way shape or form – but I hadn't come across any notes or notices on McElroy. So, I took a quick glance at the information I could find about him on the Internet...and I found myself going down a weird, wonderful rabbit hole.

McElroy was a major league baseball prospect who started playing baseball for Eastern Oklahoma and then worked his way to transferring to the vaunted Texas Longhorns baseball team, but then left there to go to little Cameron University...and soon after was grabbed by the Atlanta Braves and played a couple unspectacular seasons in the minors for them.

He left baseball and decided to try to walk on and play basketball at Oklahoma State, which he did. After a season at OSU he then took a job as a baseball coach at top college baseball program Wichita State. I guess he got bored with that, because he then decided to go to South East Oklahoma State to try out for the football team and he became their starting tight end.

You hear this story and assume he's 35+ year's old...but he's only 25 years old (as of this writing).

McElroy hadn't played football since middle school but jumped right in at SE Oklahoma and caught 5 TDs...of the team's 17 TD passes last season. It wasn't a great passing team to be sure.

Watching McElroy's tape and trying to get a feel for his upside...it's hard to say how well he projects to the NFL given just his one season of play, and at such a low level of competition. My takeaway was that he's probably a 4.7-ish runner (Pro Day report of a 4.69) with a (estimated) near 7.00 three-cone. He moves really well off the snap and makes very sharp/precise cuts, routes in the passing game. I was very impressed with his feet...not surprising from a guy who could play pro baseball and then go to a D1 basketball power and walk on. He's obviously quite a natural athlete.



MAY 24, 2018

A lot of the throws to McElroy in college were 'up for grabs' and end zone timing throws...and McElroy's athleticism shined through as he jumped, leaped over, adjusted to underthrows, high-pointed catches several times. You could see the natural hand-eye coordination.

It's one thing to see 'size' and push a guy to tight end and see what you can do with them. It's another thing with McElroy's late jump into football – he has such smooth feet for a guy his size, it has me very intrigued with the possibility that he could actually make it as a pass game weapon in the NFL at some point.

The size is there. The athleticism is obvious. The logic to give him an NFL look is sound. He probably needs a year or two of practice squad development. On most NFL teams, I'd assume he'd be forgotten or not taken too seriously. On the Rams, with **Sean McVay**...if there is some kind of offensive weapon to be extracted here – McVay is going to find it and exploit it. It's not like the Rams have all-Pro tight ends ahead of McElroy. He has a small window, a chance here with a great training camp.

McElroy is an intriguing, interesting preseason camp gamble, one to watch to see if he can emerge quickly and make some noise to get onto the 53-man roster, furthering one of the strangest, most fantastic journeys/paths to the NFL of all time.

### Codey McElroy, Through the Lens of Our TE Scouting Algorithm:

---

Hard to get a read on McElroy's college output, given the one season and him just jumping into football out of the blue, but considering the obstacles, McElroy had a decent season with 14 catches for 173 yards and 5 TDs on a low volume/output passing game in his first year of football in 15+ years.

If I had to project his measurables, I'd estimate (no official numbers, but I feel good about running with)...

4.75 40-time, 7.00 three-cone, 4.25 shuttle.

35"+ vertical, +/- 20 bench reps (he's got pretty big/muscular arms).

For what it is worth: Was a poor hitter in the minors. Barely played for Oklahoma State hoops but did make the team and started one game late in the year.



The Historical TE Prospects to Whom Codey McElroy Most Compares Within Our System:

McElroy is tracking with a few other hoops-to-football conversion project TE prospects. McElroy has signs of the physical and athletic profile for NFL TE conversion, but most times this NFL conversion story plateaus at ‘hung around the fringes of the NFL for a while, and then is forgotten’.

<u>TE Grade</u>	<u>TE-Reed</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Spd-Agil Metric</u>	<u>Strgth Blxing Metric</u>	<u>Hands Metric</u>
4.609	6.12	McElroy	Codey	2018	SE Okl State	6	5.0	250	4.07	5.98	7.63
5.558	4.89	Maulhardt	Jake	2017	Wyoming	6	5.2	241	3.71	2.62	7.89
4.798	5.13	Ross	Richard	2015	Old Dominion	6	4.5	237	5.15	1.97	7.54
4.183	6.87	Sperry	Kory	2009	Colorado State	6	4.6	238	6.36	3.28	8.60
3.614	5.56	Travis	Ross	2015	Penn State	6	5.0	231	5.74	-0.93	6.41
3.078	7.52	Swoope	Eric	2014	Miami, Fla	6	4.6	224	5.90	-2.60	5.59

*\*A score of 7.0+ is where we start to take a TE prospect more seriously. A score of 8.50+ is where we see a stronger correlation of TEs 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 TE.*

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

*\*\*The ‘TE-Reed’ score is in honor of Jordan Reed’s 2015 season...looking at TEs in a different manner—the smaller, speedy receiving threats.*

*“Speed-Agility Metric” = 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.*

*“Power-Strength Metric” = 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.*

*“Hands Metric” = 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 project the combination of data for receiving success at the next level.*

