



NFL Draft 2019 Scouting Report: ILB Devin Bush, Michigan

**Our LB 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.*

Devin Bush and **Devin White** are everyone's top guys at ILB in 2019, and for good reason – lauded college players and great measurables at the NFL Combine. You wish this year's running back group would have measurables like the two Devins.

No one of any dignified football scouting lineage dislikes either Devin, not even our computer scouting models...everyone loves them except for me. I don't think they're bad NFL prospects, and I totally get their physical measurables/athleticism are worth higher draft stock, but I watch their tape and look at their performance numbers in our system and I see some problems...some cause for hesitation on paying such high prices.

If I had to take one Devin or the other, I'd take Bush. The computer and the NFL masses are with White. For me, I think people have been so talked into **Devin White** for years that no one even questions it. However, when I watch White...I see the athleticism, but I see a lot of *not-in-on-plays*, lesser instincts moving towards ballcarriers (and that hesitation will cost him a bit at the next level on plays), I see a lot of standing around and late to the action...and getting a bunch of assisted tackles to pad his stats.

With Bush, I see the makings of a great inside linebacker. Built like a fire hydrant but runs in the 4.4s. Hits like a Mack truck. He has it all...except, if he 'has it all' – then why are his college numbers so flimsy? A guy like Bush should be putting up sick **Luke Kuechly** numbers and he should consistently shine on tape, but he didn't. So you have to ask, "Why not?" How can someone so gifted be so mediocre in getting to tackles and TFLs, etc., in the Big Ten?

I think Bush is getting a free ride on 'Michigan' and more importantly a 'big hitter' reputation – 'big hitter' is the defensive equivalent of 'big arm' with quarterback scouting. Yes, great...he can really whale away on some people...but who cares if it only happens once every game or two? And what does it matter if he makes a clean tackle halting a runner to a 2-yard gain or 'blows them up' for the same 2-yard gain? If you watch Bush's best 10 play highlight reel...he looks amazing. But if you watch several of his games play-after-play, and then study UNC's Cole Holcomb (like I did), then you're just not as impressed with Bush.

On tape, compared to **Devin White**, Bush is way more aggressive and into the action. Bush is getting after things on the field and not standing around. I also saw Bush play much better in coverage. However, most of what I saw with Bush and what his numbers show – a lot of great movement and not as much output for it...he wasn't finding ballcarriers as well as you'd like an ILB to do. We'll get into some number comps in a moment.



Bush is very viable, and draftable because he has 'A' measurables and athleticism. He's also academically smart, personable, a team captain-type. Maybe he could find another gear at the next level...or maybe he's just 'good' and a team way overpaid with a top 10-20 draft pick for 'good'.

Devin Bush, Through the Lens of Our ILB Scouting Algorithm:

Five or more solo tackles in a game...

*7 times accomplished by **Devin Bush** in his college career.*

*7 times accomplished by **Devin White** in his college career.*

*17 times accomplished by **Cole Holcomb** in his college career.*

Bush, like White...a lot of noise but not a lot of making individual plays.

PDs and forced fumbles (career)...

18.5 TFLs, 11 PDs, 0 forced fumbles = Devin Bush (25 starts)

28.5 TFLs, 09 PDs, 4 forced fumbles = Devin White (30 starts)

15.5 TFLs, 12 PDs, 4 forced fumbles = Cole Holcomb (35 starts)

***Devin Bush** is this world class heavy hitter on tackles...but he never forced a fumble in his college career. I'm just saying...*

Ohio State 2x, Wisconsin 2x, and Penn State 2x (6 games) represented the toughest opponents/blocking/RB combos the past two seasons. Bush's numbers against that group...

5.5 total tackles, 2.2 solo tackles, 0.40 TFLs, 0.17 sacks, 0.17 PDs per game = Bush (2017-2018).

The numbers are weak (above), and the tape against that class of opposition shows me Bush moving around nicely but not creating or wreaking havoc on the opponents.



2019 NFL Combine Measurables...

5'11.0"/234 pounds, 9.6" hands, 32.0" arms

4.43 40-time, 2.58 20-yard, 1.53 10-yard (all stellar)

4.23 shuttle, 6.93 three-cone

21 bench reps, 40.5" vertical, 10'4" broad

The Historical ILB Prospects to Whom Devin Bush Most Compares Within Our System:

Bush's comps and whole profile are like a lesser **Devin White**, but Bush shows more range and ability (projected) covering in the passing game. A lot of the same players were in the **Devin White** top 10 comps. It's not an exciting list of comps...when you comp to great college athletes who were 'meh' at the next level in their reality.

<u>ILB Score</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Tackle, Strngth Metric</u>	<u>Speed, Agility Metric</u>
8.549	Bush	Devin	2019	Michigan	5	11.0	234	7.87	13.22
6.217	Adkins	Spencer	2009	Mia, Fla	5	11.1	230	7.07	10.87
8.322	Reddick	Haason	2017	Temple	6	1.4	237	6.76	10.09
4.933	Jacobs	Leon	2018	Wisconsin	6	1.1	246	6.92	10.71
5.627	Chaney	Jamar	2010	Miss St	6	0.6	242	8.34	9.90

A score of **8.00+ is where we see a stronger correlation of LBs 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 NFL elite LB.*

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

Tackle-Strength Metrics = A combination of several physical and performance measurements. An attempt to classify the LB prospect's ability to stop the run, as well as to gauge how physical the player is, and the likelihood of higher tackle counts in the NFL. All based on profiles of LBs historically.

