



NFL Draft 2022 Scouting Report: CB Derek Stingley, LSU

**CB grades can and will change as more information comes in from Pro Day workouts, Wonderlic test results leaked, etc. We will update info as it becomes available.*

I have to be honest... I went into this study thinking Stingley was a pretty decent cornerback prospect, maybe had some issues, but he was universally loved, and he was probably gonna be OK on a deeper study – I had that **Patrick Surtain, Asante Samuel**...sons of NFL CBs who ‘must be as good as they say’ vibe going in. But I left the study absolutely turned-off by Stingley, as a prospect...on and off the field.

I’m not saying he’s a bust, a no-talent hack for the NFL...but I am saying he’s a late day two, early day three talent corner -- and then you have ‘issues’ on-and-off the field to factor in. I think a team is going to make a mistake taking Stingley in the 1st-round.

I started this study with his tape from back in 2019...back when people say Stingley was so awesome...and, for me, that’s where the story fell apart right away. I was expecting to see this superman and all I saw was a fast guy corner who could run up and down the field with fast WRs...but who struggled when he faced ‘good’ college WRs and QBs. When he faced non-NFL level WRs and QBs, he looked much better.

Stingley’s whole game is sprinting deep with WRs who are sprinting deep. He LOVES to turn and sprint with receivers...it’s his whole game. He barely touches a WR off the snap...and he’s going into a backpedal quickly to win a foot race with a WR. The problem with this is...

Faster WRs can sprint past Stingley...in 2019, **DeVonta Smith** pulled down Stingley’s pants and spanked him with impunity. Now, I know it’s **DeVonta Smith**, maybe the greatest college WR of our lifetimes and Stingley was just a true freshman...but Stingley could hardly contain him deep or middle or short.

Stronger receivers just bully Stingley. He took on **Kyle Pitts** in 2019, with Stingley as a true freshman...which I used to give him credit for doing, and I know it’s Pitts...but Pitts just abused Stingley with his size working the middle and NOT running sprints with Stingley. When Pitts tried to run deep sprints on Stingley, he couldn’t shake him.

Savvy WRs have their way with Stingley too...like **Van Jefferson** in 2019. Smart WRs, with QBs who can throw with accuracy just lure Stingley into a sprint but then stop for a wide-open back shoulder throw as Stingley keeps running down the field. **Van Jefferson** abused Stingley on comeback routes in 2019.

I keep mentioning 2019, but this is what THEY tell us is proof of his greatness...his 2019.

Two minutes of Pitts/Van Jefferson vs. Stingley 2019: <https://youtu.be/TR-IOGxMwU4>



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If you were to go watch Stingley vs. Alabama, versus **CeeDee Lamb**, versus Georgia, versus **Ja'Marr Chase** in practice – Stingley will stay tight in a deep sprint, but when receivers make cuts, especially to the inside... good WRs leave Stingley a step behind (and that's the kind of talent he's gonna see all career ahead, there are no Vanderbilts or Northwestern States to beat up on next level).

Stingley plays very soft...no/low contact with receivers off the snap, wants to get into a full out 40-yard dash with receivers, and sometimes they'd oblige for reasons I don't get (some of them just clearing his space out for a pass underneath/the space left behind), but when they'd run real routes...Stingley was a hair slow to react.

I rarely saw Stingley putting his hands on, pushing/fighting WRs off the snap...not the good ones. Stingley has low tackle counts to further a narrative that he's a no-contact-desired coverage guy.

Now, he's not-nothing. He's got legit NFL speed and you want him covering someone in a sprint. It's his bread and butter. But he's going to give up a ton underneath and inside. I think he has an upside if he can be coached into a more complete corner, but the thought that he's ready to go and be a franchise or obvious shutdown corner, I don't see it at all. **Ahmad Gardner** is an NFL Pro Bowl corner right now, and he hasn't played a game in the NFL yet. I think Stingley will be attacked by opponents as soon as they see him on the field. He needs time and maturity.

I use 'maturity' on purpose because he was a total turn-off to me, on a background check. Nothing illegal, but maybe worse...in football eyes...he's low key smug and dismissive. He comes off as a silver spoon athlete (because he is) who has not had a difficult day in his life, coming from a family of athletes (Grandad was a 1st-round pick DB, dad played college football and was a baseball draft pick), and has likely been told how great he is since birth. He wears his 'privilege' on his sleeve. At his Pro Day, he did his drills in a beanie...and OK, I could see it to keep his hair out of his eyes but then he quick rushed to go put on big diamond stud earrings for the interviews after his drills. He just comes off as a smug little prick if I'm being honest...and I am. He doesn't give a vibe of a grinder, that's for sure.

His 2020 and 2021 were marred with injury and disappointment...I think he started checking out to go to the NFL three weeks into his freshman year, with everyone slobbering all over how great he was. So, he played soft and erratic his final two seasons...and then got a Lisfranc injury in 2021 further promoting the "he's a bit frail, on top of being 'soft' (S-A-W-F-T) in general" narrative.

The kid has tools but between his erratic play, his Lisfranc, his attitude, his 2019 tape against better opponents, and his cover flaws in general...I cannot see him paying off as a top 10 pick. He might be a decent zone cover, nickel or dime guy...anything where he avoids contact and uses his free-range running ways to his advantage.

I definitely walk away...not a fan.



Derek Stingley, Through the Lens of Our CB Scouting Algorithm:

Six picks as a freshman, and analysts LOVE interception totals as proof of how great a CB is. I don't agree...picks are typically random events and the worse the QB, the better the odds. Some/most of Stingley's picks were not 'great coverage'...he was just there for an underthrow or a miscommunication.

Stingley had six picks as a freshman, and then none in his last two seasons (10 games). Zero picks in 15 of his last 16 games, in fact.

Stingley started his career off hot in coverage, getting picked on by every team without much concern and against mostly weak teams off the jump he racked PDs and INTs, but then the stats fell off as teams figured him out, the schedule got tougher, and QBs had tape on him – and still went after him (it was that great LSU team, too).

Two or fewer solo tackles in a game in 12 of his final 16 games. If he's a tight cover guy he should be involved in tackles more...but as I've said -- he tried to avoid contact. And he's mostly running sprints with WRs, so he has low tackle opps and looks good on completion percentage against -- but basic college QBs are not going to complete a high rate of passes on bombs as it is...and not against Stingley, who covers them well. He gave up plenty underneath, however.

2022 Pro Day Measurables:

6'0.2"/188, 9.6" hands, 30.6" arms

4.45 40-time, 2.51 20-yard, 1.56 10-yard

No bench, 38.5" vertical, 10'2" broad

4.19 shuttle, 7.00 three-cone

If there is fluff in these Pro Day numbers, then he might be a 4.5+ runner with 7.0+ three-cone. Not great...



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The Historical CB Prospects to Whom Derek Stingley Most Compares Within Our System:

A lot of people point to **Marshon Lattimore** as a comp, and his body and speed kinda matchup that way. However, I remember scouting Lattimore...you could see he was a tough battler of a cover corner...and that's not Stingley. Maybe he can develop it but it's not there right now.

<u>CB Grade</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Draft Yr</u>	<u>College</u>	H	H	W	<u>Cover Rating</u>	<u>Speed Metrics</u>	<u>Agility Metric</u>	<u>Tackle Metric</u>
7.038	Stingley, Jr.	Derek	2022	LSU	6	0.2	190	8.01	7.02	7.20	5.43
6.876	Rochell	Robert	2021	C. Arkansas	5	11.6	193	6.76	8.38	8.35	4.78
8.146	Lattimore	Marshon	2017	Ohio State	6	0.0	193	9.29	8.62	7.14	5.81
6.577	Joseph	Kelvin	2021	Kentucky	5	11.4	197	6.37	8.91	2.61	3.78
5.944	Florence	Drayton	2003	Tenn-Chatt	6	0.2	198	7.86	5.89	5.16	6.58
4.314	Langley	Brendan	2017	Lamar	6	0.3	201	5.35	4.60	2.21	6.15

*The ratings are based on a 1–10 rating scale, but a prospect can score over 10.0+ and less than 0.0

OVERALL RATING -- We merge the data from physical measurables, skill times/counts from the NFL Combine/Pro Days, with college performance data available on pass coverage/tackles, etc. and grade it compared to our database history of all college CBs, with a focus on which CBs went on to be good-great-elite in the NFL. We found characteristics/data points that the successful NFL CBs had in common in college, that most other CB prospects could not match/achieve.

Scoring with a rating over a **7.00+** in our system is where we start to take a CB prospect more seriously. Most of the future NFL successful college CBs scored **8.00+**, and most of the NFL superior CBs pushed scores more in the **9.00+** levels...and future NFL busts will sneak in there from time to time. **10.00+** is where most of the elite NFL CBs tend to score in our system analysis.

COVERAGE -- A combination of on-field data/performance and physical profile data

SPEED -- Measurables from a perspective of straight-line speed, burst, etc.

AGILITY -- Measurables for lateral movements, quick cuts, body type, speed, etc.

POWER -- A look at physical size, tackling productivity in college, other physical measurables. One of the side benefits/intentions here, is to see which CBs may be more of a model for a conversion to playing safety successfully in the NFL. Also denotes CBs who are more physical/will have higher tackle totals...over pure speed/coverage CBs.



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2022 NFL Draft Outlook:

Everyone swears Stingley is going to be a top 10 pick, so he probably will be...but I would not be surprised if he fell out of the top 10...top 20, or even fell to the 2nd-round. Erratic last two seasons, injuries, and if he comes off smug in interviews...he could fall, because there are so many great/promising CB prospects this year.

If I were an NFL GM, I have no interest. I trade up for **Ahmad Gardner** or wait and take later shots on **Zyon McCollum** or **Tariq Woolen** types instead.

NFL Outlook:

Will be drafted highly. Will play. Will cover deep balls OK but will struggle in other facets unless he screws his head on straight and gets better, gets more gritty. I just don't think he's got that grit and he has little gear to find it. Big money shoved in his pocket is reinforcement of his current ways.

So, as an evaluator, having to make a call on the future that no one really knows...I have to 'pass' here. If I'm wrong, and he's OK...so be it. I got better things to do with my top 10 pick than to take a risky, smug corner and try to mature and coach him into a great corner.

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Signature _____

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "R.C." It is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and a smaller "C" next to it.

Date _____

4/11/2022