dave gettleman draft history

Dave Gettleman draft history is a topic that has garnered significant attention and analysis among NFL fans and analysts alike. As a seasoned executive with a wealth of experience in player evaluation and team building, Gettleman's draft strategies have been both praised and criticized throughout his career. He is known for his unique approach to the NFL Draft, which often emphasizes size, physicality, and a strong foundation in the trenches. This article will delve into Dave Gettleman’s draft history, examining his selections, strategies, and the impact of his decisions on the teams he has managed.

Early Career and Philosophy

Dave Gettleman began his NFL career in the early 1990s, initially working as a scout for the Buffalo Bills and later the New England Patriots. His philosophy surrounding the draft has evolved over the years, but certain principles have remained constant.

Key Principles of Gettleman's Draft Philosophy

1. Size and Physicality: Gettleman has often prioritized players with a significant physical presence, particularly in the offensive and defensive lines. He believes that games are often won in the trenches.

2. Position Value: Gettleman has a clear understanding of positional value and often targets positions that he believes will yield the best return on investment in terms of performance.

3. Building Through the Draft: Gettleman has been a proponent of building a team primarily through the draft rather than relying heavily on free agency. He emphasizes the importance of developing young talent.

4. Character and Work Ethic: Gettleman places a strong emphasis on character and work ethic, often selecting players who demonstrate leadership qualities and a strong commitment to the game.

Carolina Panthers Draft History (2013-2017)

Dave Gettleman was hired as the General Manager of the Carolina Panthers in 2013. His tenure in Carolina was marked by a series of impactful draft decisions that helped shape the franchise.

2013 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Star Lotulelei (DT, Utah)
Lotulelei was a cornerstone pick for the Panthers, providing immediate help to a defense that would eventually become one of the league's best.

- 2nd Round: Kawann Short (DT, Purdue)
A standout selection, Short developed into a Pro Bowl defensive tackle and was crucial to

the Panthers' success in the mid-2010s.

- 3rd Round: Mike Tolbert (FB, Coastal Carolina)
Though not a traditional pick, Tolbert's versatility added depth to the backfield and helped establish a strong running game.

2014 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Kelvin Benjamin (WR, Florida State)
While Benjamin showed flashes of brilliance, his career was marred by inconsistency and injuries, leading to mixed reviews of the selection.

- 2nd Round: Kony Ealy (DE, Missouri)
Ealy had a promising start, including a standout performance in Super Bowl 50, but failed to sustain his initial success.

- 3rd Round: Trai Turner (G, LSU)
Turner developed into one of the league's best guards, showcasing Gettleman's ability to identify talent in the later rounds.

2015 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Shaq Thompson (LB, Washington)
Thompson provided versatility and athleticism

to the linebacker core, and he became a key contributor to the team.

- 2nd Round: Kurt Coleman (S, Ohio)
Coleman was not a draft pick but was later signed as a free agent and became a Pro Bowl selection, illustrating Gettleman's knack for finding talent.

2016 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Vernon Butler (DT, Louisiana Tech)
While Butler showed potential, he struggled to find consistent playing time, and his impact was limited.

- 2nd Round: James Bradberry (CB, Samford)
Bradberry emerged as a reliable starter in the secondary, further solidifying Gettleman's reputation for finding talent.

2017 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Christian McCaffrey (RB, Stanford)
McCaffrey has become a transformative player for the Panthers, showcasing elite playmaking abilities and versatility.

- 2nd Round: Curtis Samuel (WR, Ohio State)
Samuel brought speed and playmaking ability to the offense, contributing significantly in

various roles.

New York Giants Draft History (2018-Present)

After his time with the Panthers, Gettleman was hired as the General Manager of the New York Giants in 2018. His approach in New York has been met with both excitement and skepticism, particularly regarding high-profile draft decisions.

2018 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Saquon Barkley (RB, Penn State)
Barkley was a polarizing pick, with many analysts questioning the value of drafting a running back second overall. However, he quickly established himself as one of the league's top talents.

- 2nd Round: Will Hernandez (G, UTEP)
Hernandez was expected to bolster the offensive line, but his performance has been inconsistent, raising questions about the selection.

2019 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Daniel Jones (QB, Duke)

Jones was a surprising pick at sixth overall, and opinions remain divided on whether he was the right choice. His development has been closely monitored.

- 2nd Round: Dexter Lawrence (DT, Clemson)
Lawrence has been a strong presence on the defensive line, validating Gettleman's decision to prioritize interior defensive talent.

2020 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Andrew Thomas (OT, Georgia)
Thomas has had an up-and-down start to his career, but the Giants remain hopeful that he will develop into a franchise left tackle.

- 2nd Round: Xavier McKinney (S, Alabama)
McKinney was viewed as a steal in the second round and has already made significant contributions to the secondary.

2021 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Kadarius Toney (WR, Florida)
Toney's selection sparked excitement but has been marred by injuries and inconsistency in performance.

- 2nd Round: Azeez Ojulari (EDGE, Georgia)
Ojulari has been a bright spot for the Giants'

defense, showing promise as a pass rusher.

2022 NFL Draft

- 1st Round: Kayvon Thibodeaux (EDGE, Oregon)
Thibodeaux was highly regarded and has the potential to be a game-changing defensive talent.

- 2nd Round: Evan Neal (OT, Alabama)
Neal was expected to bolster the offensive line, and there are high hopes for his development.

Analysis of Gettleman's Impact

Dave Gettleman’s draft history reflects a blend of successes and shortcomings. His time in Carolina saw several impactful picks that contributed to a Super Bowl appearance. However, his tenure with the Giants has been scrutinized, particularly regarding high-profile selections and positional value.

Strengths

- Defensive Line Talent: Gettleman has consistently prioritized defensive line talent, yielding several Pro Bowl-caliber players.

- Offensive Skill Players: Selections like McCaffrey and Barkley show his ability to identify game-changing offensive talents.

Weaknesses

- High-Risk Picks: Decisions like drafting Daniel Jones and Kadarius Toney have not yielded consistent results, leading to questions about his evaluation process.
- Inconsistent Offensive Line Selections: While he has targeted offensive linemen, results have varied, which has been a concern for the Giants.

Conclusion

Dave Gettleman's draft history is a testament to the complexities of NFL roster building. His ability to identify talent has produced notable successes, particularly in the trenches. However, his high-profile decisions have also faced scrutiny and raised questions about his long-term vision. As the NFL continues to evolve, Gettleman's strategies will be closely watched as he seeks to build a competitive roster capable of contending for championships. The success or failure of his draft picks will ultimately determine his legacy in the league.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some key highlights of Dave Gettleman's draft history during his tenure with the New York Giants?

Dave Gettleman's draft history with the Giants includes selecting crucial players like Saquon Barkley second overall in 2018 and Andrew Thomas fourth overall in 2020. These picks have significantly impacted the team's performance.

How did Gettleman's draft strategy differ from previous Giants' general managers?

Gettleman emphasized building through the draft, focusing on selecting high-character players and prioritizing positional value, particularly on the offensive line and defensive front.

What criticisms has Dave Gettleman faced regarding his draft choices?

Critics have pointed to his decision to draft Saquon Barkley over a quarterback in 2018 as a major misstep, especially considering the team's struggles at the quarterback position since then.

Which late-round picks by Gettleman have turned out to be valuable for the Giants?

Notable late-round picks include linebacker Tae Crowder, who was selected in the seventh round of the 2020 draft and has become a key contributor on defense.

How did Gettleman's drafting approach affect the Giants' roster construction?

Gettleman's approach often favored selecting best-player-available, which helped in building a strong core of talent, but it sometimes led to a lack of depth in certain positions, particularly in the secondary.

What impact did Gettleman's draft history have on the Giants' long-term strategy?

Gettleman's draft history has focused on creating a foundational roster that can compete in the long term, though the effectiveness of his strategy is still debated among fans and analysts.

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