

# CENTERS RANKINGS

## CENTERS

Rk	Name	College	HT	WT	40 Time	Proj. Rd
1	<b>Maurkice Pouncey*</b>	<b>Florida</b>	<b>6'5</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>1-2</b>
2	<b>Matt Tennant</b>	<b>Boston College</b>	<b>6'5</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>2-3</b>
3	<b>JD Walton</b>	<b>Baylor</b>	<b>6'4</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>3-4</b>
4	<b>Theodore Larsen</b>	<b>NC State</b>	<b>6'3</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>4-5</b>
5	<b>Eric Olsen (OG)</b>	<b>Notre Dame</b>	<b>6'4</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>5-6</b>
6	<b>Jeffrey Byers (OG)</b>	<b>USC</b>	<b>6'3</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>6</b>
7	<b>John Estes (OG)</b>	<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>6'2</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>6-7</b>
8	<b>Joe Hawley (OG)</b>	<b>UNLV</b>	<b>6'3</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>6-7</b>
9	<b>Kenny Alfred</b>	<b>Washington State</b>	<b>6'2</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>7-FA</b>
10	<b>Jim Cordle (OL)</b>	<b>Ohio State</b>	<b>6'4</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>7-FA</b>

**#1** Maurkice Pouncey  
 Florida  
 Height: 6'5 • Weight: 304  
 40 Time: 5.25

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Year	Gms Played	Gms Started
2007	13	11
2008	14	14
2009	14	14
TTL	41	39



**Strengths:** Solid shotgun snap with good quickness and accuracy firing the snap. Stout at the point of attack. Quick of his stance when pulling and trapping and has the straight-line speed and balance to get out in front. Able to be a punishing blocker. Good effort to sustain and finishes block. Has rare combo of size, leverage, and power as a drive blocker. Good balance and ability to hit moving targets downfield. Hustles as well. Smart player that made all the calls. Good toughness.

**Weaknesses:** Decent but not great speed to get to the second level. Not asked to pull a lot. Needs time to develop as an underclassmen.

**Overall:** Three-time postseason honoree who declared for the draft after his junior season. One of the best linemen in the draft and could ultimately land in the first round due to his consistency, upside, and power as a drive blocker.

# CENTERS RANKINGS

**#2** Matt Tennant  
 Boston College  
 Height: 6'5 • Weight: 296  
 40 Time: 5.15



## PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Year	Gms Played	Gms Started
2005	Redshirted	
2006	5	0
2007	14	14
2008	14	14
2009	13	13
TTL	46	41

**Strengths:** Reliable shotgun and traditional snapper. Solid combo blocker that provides pop at the first level. Athletic enough in pulling and trapping to play guard. Good initial quickness with a good burst off the snap. Good hand punch. Shows some nastiness.

**Weaknesses:** Needs to gain additional muscle. Plays high at times and can get in trouble anchoring against shorter power tackles. Needs to improve strength to wall-off and sustain. Needs to get stronger in the upper body.

**Overall:** Two-time All-ACC selection and 2009 All-American. Has good athleticism and is a reliable player with good durability shown with his 41 consecutive starts. Could possibly move to guard because of his athletic ability. Possible second or third round selection.

**#3** J.D. Walton  
 Baylor  
 Height: 6'4 • Weight: 300  
 40 Time: 5.19

## PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Year	Gms Played	Gms Started
2005	Redshirted	
2006	DNP Transfer	
2007	12	12
2008	12	12
2009	12	12
TTL	36	36

**Strengths:** Mauler inside that is a leader who gives everything he has. Smart and durable pivot man that is liked by teams. Good footwork taking the right angles when on the move. Quick set off the snap. Works hard to keep contact. Mirrors well and keeps his feet moving and arms punching to assist on double teams. Solid shotgun snapper.

**Weaknesses:** Short arms make it tough to sustain against tackle with above-average length. Must improve his ability to cut block on quick throws. Lacks agility to adjust to oncoming defenders. Sometimes leans into his man making him lose his balance and body control at times.

**Overall:** Two-time All-Big 12 selection that started every game since sitting out the 2006 season as a transfer. Shows good pop, does well in close quarters, and sustains well. Could be considered the top center by some teams. Third or fourth round selection.

# CENTERS RANKINGS

**#4 Ted Larson**  
**North Carolina**  
**Height: 6'3 • Weight: 304**  
**Time: 5.19**

## PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Year	Gms Played	Gms Started
2005	Redshirted	
2006	11	3
2007	12	2
2008	13	13
2009	12	12
TTL	48	30

**Strengths:** Adequate shotgun snapper. Quick set up and balance. Bends at the knees and plays on the balls of his feet. Good initial quickness and upper-body strength to knock defenders off the ball. Flashes nastiness as a run blocker. Good lateral quickness for the down block when pulling and trapping. Adequate footwork in getting to the second level. Takes good angles to meet the linebacker in space. Good body control to adjust to the moving target.

**Weaknesses:** Needs to do a better job of sustaining blocks. Needs to use technique when pulling more often. Has not played center very long so he is still learning. Struggles at times to adjust to stunts and blitzes.

**Overall:** Signed with NC State as a defensive tackle and even started at the position in 2007. Needs time to develop but has strength, tenacity, and above-average mobility to make him worth developing as a mid-late round selection.

**#5 Eric Olsen**  
**Notre Dame**  
**Height: 6'4 • Weight: 306**  
**40 Time: 5.25**

## PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Year	Gms Played	Gms Started
2006	8	0
2007	11	6
2008	13	13
2009	12	12
TTL	44	31

**Strengths:** Adequate athletic ability (29.5 vertical, 7'9 broad jump, 4.82 short shuttle), strong anchor, and good knee bend. Able to mirror. Sell run block fake on bootlegs. Good drive blocker that keeps feet moving on contact in run blocking. Adequate foot speed and change of direction ability when pulling and trapping. Gives good effort. Gets his hands up quickly initially with a good initial punch. Plays through the whistle. Effective cut blocker downfield. Smart enough to make line calls. Plays with a nasty streak.

**Weaknesses:** Will miss adjusting to oncoming defenders when pulling and trapping. Lacks the power in his punch to knock his man back. Heavy-footed moving to the linebackers.

**Overall:** Two-year starter whose father was a firefighter on the ground after the collapse of the World Trade Center towers in 2001. Started at right guard in 2007 and then started at left guard for every game of his junior year before moving to center in 2009. Solid mid to late round selection.

**#6 Jeff Byers, USC • Height: 6'3 • Weight: 301 • 40 Time: 5.2**

Missed combine with hamstring strain. Nice arm length. Gives great effort on every play. Durability a question after missing two full seasons.

**#7 John Estes, Hawaii • Height: 6'2 • Weight: 305 • 40 Time: 5.15**

Durable player that has a nice solid punch. Does not possess a lot of upside with his limited size.

**#8 Joe Hawley, UNLV • Height: 6'3 • Weight: 297 • 40 Time: 5.25**

Plays with a lot of energy and emotion. Solid run blocker. Struggles in the open field and getting to second-level blockers.

**#9 Kenny Alfred, Washington St • Height: 6'2 • Weight: 286 • 40 Time: 5.25**

Plays very hard and shows good technique. Has some durability concerns and lacks ideal size and strength.

**#10 Jim Cordle, Ohio St • Height: 6'4 • Weight: 297 • 40 Time: 5.1**

Versatile player that can play all 5 positions. Limited upside but can a reliable backup at the next level.