



NFL Draft 2018 Scouting Report: TE Dallas Goedert, South Dakota 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.*

It's very simple... **Dallas Goedert** is the best tight end prospect in the 2018 NFL Draft. Not everyone sees it that way, but no one believes that statement too crazy either.

Everything about Goedert in football analysis to this point seems to feel like...*"Look at all those cool, amazing one-handed catches! But, they did happen in FCS, so maybe it doesn't matter."*

We can't have nice things in football analysis... We love something (his highlight reel catches) and then immediately crap on it (it was in FCS). *It's the business we've chosen.* There are three key pieces to consider as to why one can promote Goedert as the best TE prospect in this class...

1) The measurables are all intact; they're where you want them to be.

6'4.5"/256. 34" arms, 10" hands...that's a perfect start to building a TE prospect.

23 bench reps at the NFL Combine...best of any TE prospect participating in 2018.

Pro Day 4.06 shuttle (would have been #1 at the Combine among TEs) and a 6.87 three-cone (would have been #2 at the Combine among TEs). Bump the Pro Day numbers up a bit for Pro Day fluff...and he's still right there at #2–3 in agility times.

35.0" vertical...#4 among 2018 TE prospects. 10'1" broad jump...#3.

Goedert didn't run a 40-time at his Pro Day, but considering everything else he did and what you see on tape – it's safe to say he's not a bust in 40-time. Perhaps, a 4.60–4.70-range runner...maybe better?

On paper, when it comes to the measurables, there are no flaws showing.

2) Myth: He's just a WR playing TE...

First, he's a terrific receiver, so of course he's going to do a lot of receiving. But second, he can block as needed. He was solid, and willing to block on tape. He has the frame for it at 6'4"+/255+ with long arms,



big hands, and a Combine/TE best bench press. I'm sure he needs training in blocking...as does everyone hitting the NFL, or so they claim.

"Needs work blocking" is a thing scouts will often say to sound smart. You can never go wrong with it. It would be like most any adult saying, *"I could stand to lose a few pounds."* Who can argue with that? The NFL Draft is not designed to reach for, nor are great NFL teams built on the backs of, great blocking tight ends. If you want a blocking tight end, there's always some 'Fells' (Darren or Daniel) available in free agency every year. You want a radical, offensive-changing weapon type tight end...they are rare, and one of them is named **Dallas Goedert**.

3) So much is made of Goedert's highlight reel catches it kind of wears off on after a while. I don't think we all realize just how great Goedert's hands are. I'd say he's the best receiving TE since **Rob Gronkowski**, as far as pure hands go...probably better than Gronk. Goedert makes the routine catches just fine and then often, I mean very often, pulls surreal one-handers out of the sky. Almost every game I watched him in he had a stunning grab...he makes plays out of throws destined for an incomplection – that's a major thing not to overlook.

Goedert is like the **Larry Fitzgerald** of tight ends. He is THAT good.

The only fear with Goedert would be that you're getting a 'soft' tight end like a **Jace Amaro**-type...big receiving numbers in college for a TE but has the heart of a WR and gets blown away by the physicality of the NFL as a REAL tight end. I don't fear that as much here. Goedert seems to have a good head on his shoulders and a body likely to flourish in the NFL. He didn't seem to cower on tape in his toughest matchups. Goedert was eventually a captain for every team he played with, whether high school or college. He's also been an honor roll student all along. He's a very reasonable, all-about-football guy when he's in interviews. He just seems solid, grounded, enthusiastic at every turn.

You get a good citizen, a high-end NFL TE body, and movement skills with exquisite hands...what else are you looking for in a TE prospect?

Dallas Goedert, Through the Lens of Our TE Scouting Algorithm:

In his last two seasons, Goedert did get to face a D1 team – TCU in 2016. He posted a 5 catch, 96 yards and 1 TD effort against them.

SDSU lost six FCS games the past two seasons (presumably some of their toughest games), and in those games Goedert averaged a very solid 5.2 catches, 64.5 yards, and 0.50 TDs per game.

North Dakota State is a huge rival and a frequent FCS champion. The past two seasons against NDSU, Goedert has averaged 9.0 catches, 133.0 yards, and 1.0 TDs per game.



There really is no statistical/output flaw to be found with Goedert...and note that his teams did not have the greatest passing games/QBs either.

2018 Measurables...

6'4.5"/256, 34.0" arms, 10.0" hands (Combine)

DNP 40-yard, 4.06 shuttle, 6.87 three-cone (Pro Day)

23 reps bench (Combine), 35.0" vertical, 10'1" broad jump (Pro Day)

The Historical TE Prospects to Whom Dallas Goedert Most Compares Within Our System:

It's easy to want to compare Goedert to **Gronk**, but it's the closest we have in our database. A better **Tyler Eifert**?

<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>
11.006	9.26	Goedert	Dallas	2018	So. Dakota St.	6	4.5	256	8.29	8.09	12.57
11.765	4.52	Gronkowski	Rob	2010	Arizona	6	6.2	258	5.60	8.44	15.29
10.665	7.91	Gates	Antonio	2003	Kent State	6	4.0	258	11.07	8.29	9.10
8.250	8.09	Eifert	Tyler	2013	Notre Dame	6	6.0	250	8.02	6.18	10.07
8.584	4.37	Hodges	Bucky	2017	Va Tech	6	6.0	257	8.11	7.76	9.25
8.072	4.70	Shockey	Jeremy	2002	Miami, Fla	6	4.6	255	7.73	8.81	9.66
8.714	5.85	Egnew	Michael	2012	Missouri	6	5.2	252	8.00	7.32	8.21
9.266	12.07	Winslow	Kellen	2004	Miami, Fla	6	3.7	247	13.06	7.93	8.15

**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.

2018 NFL Draft Outlook:

I see projections for Goedert all over the place – from pick #45 to #90. In the end, if teams were willing to pay a #45 pick for **Adam Shaheen**...then they should see Goedert as a 2nd-rounder. I wouldn't rule out the 1st round, but considering the NFL's hesitancy in taking tight ends highly and Goedert being an FCS guy...2nd round is the call.

If I were an NFL GM, and my team needed a tight end...I'm a buyer in the 2nd round. College is starting to spit out ever better TE prospects, so I wouldn't feel like Goedert is a generational talent, but his hands are. We can argue about what level of good or great he'll be, but he's going to be a weapon and I'd want in on that for a fair price.

NFL Outlook:

The only thing that can hurt him is a bad landing spot with a terrible QB/passing game and a non-offensive minded head coach. Even then, he'll be productive. Too much talent, too big a target to just be a nobody in the NFL.

Why do I feel like New England makes this pick late first round and the Gronk-to-WWE future will have a succession plan in place?



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