



## NFL Draft 2018 Scouting Report: WR Deontez Alexander, Franklin

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

*\*WR-B stands for "Big-WR," a classification we use to separate the more physical, downfield/over-the-top, heavy-red-zone-threat-type WRs. Our WR-S/"Small-WRs" are profiled by our computer more as slot and/or possession-type WRs who are typically less physical and rely more on speed/agility to operate underneath the defense and/or use big speed to get open deep...they are not used as weapons in the red zone as much.*

Our computer scouting models had a pretty solid grade on **Deontez Alexander** pre-draft and the tape I previewed in April 2018 looked pretty solid as well. I planned to do a deeper study ASAP right around the time of the draft but kept putting it off for other more pressing scouting studies. I also delayed the study post-draft because Alexander didn't sign with a team as a UDFA right away. Alexander got a tryout with the Lions, was signed, and then pretty soon after had a little 'buzz' happening about his rookie camp performance...so, I pushed Alexander back up higher on the to-do list.

Alexander has a lot of interesting, conflicting scouting material to consider...

A high output producer in college (50-1,137-18 in 2017), and that gets a lot of play in local beat writer notes on Alexander, but it ignores the fact that his Franklin College offense was sensational – 48.6 PPG scored. Alexander's output, in context of the whole offense, was 'good' not 'wow'.

When you watch Alexander on tape you see reason to get excited...he's a pretty good-looking WR prospect on tape. However, it's tough to fully gage that because he's working against the lowest levels of college play (D3). He made coverage and tacklers look like he was the best football player in the neighborhood as a young kid playing sandlot football -- Alexander just ran rings around his hapless D3 opponents.

I spent time watching as much of his 2017 as I could. I think hidden within a dominant D3 athlete is a decent, natural, raw NFL WR prospect. A legit NFL WR prospect with a little work. He gets off the snap pretty well. He has very good hands and good concentration on 'up for grabs' passes. He looks and moves like a legit NFL WR prospect when/if you can block out all the obvious advantages he had over his opponents/coverage. We'll need to see how he works against the NFL athletes this preseason but he flashed pro skills on his college tape, I believe.

I'd say, from what I see on tape, and his impressive measurables, he's a future starting NFL WR prospect...not just 'maybe make a roster' guy. With work, he might be a really good starter. He's too raw



to make an impact right away in 2018, but I wouldn't be surprised if he makes the Lions' roster and is playing snaps early and a few more snaps as the season wears on. He's raw, but he can be used right away because of his athleticism (4.35+ runner) if he can add 5+ pounds of muscle.

Alexander wound up at a local, small college in part to be close to his father who has been very sick for years...and Alexander provided some of the 'dirty work' care needed. Alexander has shown character throughout his time in college and when I've seen him interviewed, he seems like a very good, head-on-straight young person.

Alexander has an NFL body, NFL athleticism, and good character...with a little work there's an NFL starter potential here down the road.

### Deontez Alexander, Through the Lens of Our WR Scouting Algorithm:

I'm not going to make too much of Alexander's college output other to note what I already have – he put up nice totals the past two seasons...but in the context of their offense he was 'good' not a dominating megastar. You typically want to see 'dominant' in D3 WR prospects...but you don't have that here, and it's a concern to some degree.

He did score 2 TDs in each of his final 6 college games.

Had a 50+ yard TD in eight of his 10 games in 2017. That's nice to see...a more 'dominant' type stat.

#### ***Pro Day Measurables...***

6'1"/196

4.35 40-time, 1.56 10-yard, 4.08 shuttle, 6.91 three-cone

15 bench reps, 37.5" vertical



The Historical WR Prospects to Whom Deontez Alexander Most Compares Within Our System:

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When I thought of a comparable name before I saw The Computer’s profile, I thought he reminds me of a more confident, better hands version of **Nelson Agholor**. Something in the way he moved reminded me of Agholor...and our computer models see it too.

| <u>WR Score</u> | <u>Draft Yr</u> | <u>Last</u> | <u>First</u> | <u>College</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>H</u> | <u>W</u> | <u>Power Strngth Metric</u> | <u>Speed Agility Metric</u> | <u>Hands Metric</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 5.895           | 2018            | Alexander   | Deontez      | Franklin       | 6        | 1.2      | 196      | 7.28                        | 8.35                        | 7.89                |
| 6.897           | 2015            | Agholor     | Nelson       | USC            | 6        | 0.1      | 198      | 7.80                        | 10.05                       | 8.29                |
| 6.125           | 2015            | Smith       | Devin        | Ohio State     | 6        | 0.3      | 196      | 8.17                        | 9.97                        | 6.47                |
| 6.980           | 2005            | Clayton     | Mark         | Oklahoma       | 5        | 11.0     | 193      | 7.53                        | 9.61                        | 7.59                |
| 7.385           | 2011            | Gates       | Edmond       | Ab. Christian  | 5        | 11.8     | 192      | 8.71                        | 15.05                       | 7.55                |

*\*A score of 7.0+ is where we start to take a Small-WR prospect more seriously. A score of 8.50+ is where we see a stronger correlation of a Small-WR 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 Small-WR.*

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

*Overall WR score = A combination of several on-field performance measures, including refinement for strength of opponents faced. Mixed with all the physical measurement metrics, rated historically in our database.*

*“Power-Strength” = 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.*

*“Speed-Agility” = 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.*





## 2018 NFL DRAFT SCOUTING REPORT

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