

Written by  
Monday, 27 May 2013 14:00 -

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While the prospects and likely draft picks at the beginning of the NBA draft are fairly easy to predict with relative accuracy, the forecasting of the later picks can be much more murky, with so many more variables to account for, as well as the increase in overall parity among the bulk of the remaining players.

This year is no exception. The list of potential game-changing players in the coming draft is very short, but the overall pool of talent is very deep; with plenty of quality players who could fill various roles and make meaningful contributions to the teams who draft them.

Most of the attention has been directed toward The Phoenix Suns' 5th overall pick in the draft, and for good reason. This will be the Suns' earliest pick in over two decades, and they will have an opportunity to draft an exciting young player who could help bring this team back to relevance.

However, the Suns will not only be picking 5th, but also 30th in the first round as well. And as our own [Dave King so eloquently stated](#) , it's that second first-round pick that could be the key to the draft.

Here is a look at some of the prospects that attended the NBA Draft Combine earlier this month, whom the Suns could be choosing from with their second first round pick.

## Measurements:

Name	Height W/O Shoes	Height With Shoes	Weight	W
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[Reggie Bullock](#) (SF)

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6' 5.75"

6' 7"

199.8

6' 8.75"

8' 6"

6.95

8.5

9

[Allen Crabbe](#) (SG)

6' 5.25"

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6' 6.25"

197.4

6' 11.25"

8' 7.5"

4.65

8.25

8.5

[Jamaal Franklin](#) (SG)

6' 4"

6' 5.25"

190.8

6' 11.25"

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8' 7.5"

8.25

8.5

8.25

[Tim Hardaway Jr](#) . (SG)

6' 4.5"

6' 6.25"

199.4

6' 7"

8' 5"

6.05

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8

9.25

[Ricky Ledo](#) (SG)

6' 4.75"

6' 6"

197.2

6' 7.25"

8' 6.5"

10.25

8.5

9.25

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[Deshaun Thomas](#) (SF)

6' 5"

6' 7"

219.8

6' 10"

8' 8"

9.1

8

8.75

[Jeff Withey](#) (C)

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6' 10.75"

7' 0.5"

221.8

7' 2"

9' 2.5"

8.65

9

9.75

The players that stood out to me most here was Jamaal Frankiln and Allen Crabbe, who both had very impressive wingspans. Franklin is known as an explosive and athletic scorer is college, and did it all for San Diego State averaging 17 points, 9.5 rebounds, and 3.3 assists last season. His measurables only help his case to make a successful transition to the NBA. Crabbe, while not quite as athletic or explosive as Frankilin, is also a big-time scorer (averaged 18.4 ppg) and a better shooter, and helped ease the fears of him being undersized.

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Jeff Withey is the lone big man on this list and will most likely be gone by the time the Suns make their second selection, but he would be a steal with a late first pick if he's somehow still available.

## Results:

<b>Name</b>	<b>3/4 Court Sprint Time</b>
<b>Lane Agility Time</b>	
<b>Modified Time</b>	
<b>Standing Vertical</b>	
<b>Max Vertical</b>	

Reggie Bullock (SF)

3.31

11.33

3.3

31

36.5

Allen Crabbe (SG)



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3.32

10.67

3.1

30.5

36

Jamaal Franklin (SG)

NULL

NULL

NULL

NULL

NULL

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Tim Hardaway Jr. (SG)

3.25

10.68

2.93

31.5

37.5

Ricky Ledo (PG/SG)

3.32

10.72

3.16

27

33.5

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Deshaun Thomas (SF)

3.53

12.94

3.38

28.5

32

Jeff Withey (C)

3.47

12.49

3.29

26.5

29

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Tim Hardaway Jr. was the most impressive in the agility scores out of this list of prospects. Hardaway had the fastest times in every drill except for one, and also the highest vertical jump. the only unknown is whether or not Franklin could have given him a run for his money if he was able to participate. He was sitting out with a sprained ankle, but his speed and athleticism is one of his greatest attributes, so you have to wonder.

On the flip side, Deshaun Thomas struggled in the agility drills and confirmed the lack of speed and quickness that scouts have seen from him all year at Ohio St. This is no suprise...but Thomas can also shoot the ball very well and did so at the combine, so I doubt it hurts his stock too much. Unrelated to this but worth mentioning, Thomas also made news by [refusing to give the Spurs his phone number and email address](#)  
...I like the kid already.

Another noteworthy player, Ricky Ledo, the high school phenom who we've been waiting to see after being ruled ineligible to play during his freshman year at Providence, came in with one of the highest body fat percentages among the players in attendance. However, he didn't look any different from what I've seen of him before, so maybe this is just his natural weight. From what I saw of him in the drills he still looked pretty good, so it's hard to say if he was affected or not.

### Conclusion:

One thing you've probably noticed is the number of shooting guards and small forwards...and yes, that's just how this draft is very deep on wings. This isn't really an issue for a team like Phoenix though. With so many holes to fill, the Suns could easily justify taking a wing with both of their first round picks if they happened to be the best player available. And if guys like Franklin, Crabbe, and/or Hardaway are still there by the time they make their second pick, the Suns would be hard pressed to pass them up unless another more coveted prospect unexpectedly falls to them.

It's also worth mentioning that I left out quite a few international prospects who have been mocked in the late first round, but who did not attend the combine. Players such as **Sergey Karasev (SF)**

,  
**Giannis Adetokundo (SF)**  
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### **Lucas Noguiera (C)**

, and

### **Livio-Jean Charles (PF)**

have been mocked to the Suns but have no combine numbers to compare with the rest of the prospects, so they didn't make the list. However, any one of these players could certainly be in the mix for Phoenix once the draft rolls around.

In the end, the Suns will have a shot at getting another very talented prospect with their 30th pick in the first round. Any one, or even several of these players could end up being a diamond in the rough. This is where the Suns will rely on their scouting and new GM Ryan McDonough to make the most accurate prediction. There will of course be unforeseen risers and fallers just like every other year that the Suns will likely have to make last second decisions on, but this list at least provides an idea of who the Suns could be looking at with their second pick next month.