

BASIC PROSPECT INFORMATION											
	Name Carnell Tate		Position Wide Receiver		School Ohio State			Class Junior			
	Date of birth 1/19/2005		Jersey Number #17		247 Recruit Rating ★★★★★			Draft Class 2026 NFL Draft			
	MEASUREMENTS										
	Height 6' 2"		Weight 192 lbs		Arm Length 31 3/4"			Hand 10 1/4"			
NOTABLE AWARDS											
Second-Team All-American (2025), First-Team All-Big Ten (2025), Biletnikoff Award Semifinalist (2025), First-Team Academic All-American (2025)											
NFL TRANSITION											
Draft Grade: First Round		Player Comparison Nico Collins		Scheme Fit Boundary "X" Wide Receiver			Player Archetype Smooth vertical threat boundary receiver				
NFL COMBINE ATHLETIC TESTING											
40 Yard Dash		10 Yard Split		Bench Press		Vertical Jump		Broad Jump		3 Cone Drill	20 Yard Shuttle
4.53		1.61		DNP		DNP		DNP		DNP	DNP
CAREER RUSHING STATISTICS (PFF)											
Years:	Games Played	Receptions	Targets	Yards	Yards Per Reception	Touchdowns	Yards Per Route Run	ADOT	Drops/Fumbles		
2025	11	51	66	875	17.2	9	3.02	14.6	0 / 0		
2024	15	52	67	733	14.1	4	1.91	11.3	3 / 0		
2023	11	18	28	264	14.7	1	1.74	12.6	2 / 0		
Career	37	121	161	1,872	15.5	14	2.27	12.9	5 / 0		
SCOUTING REPORT											
Home Games Scouted:		Texas, Grambling, Ohio, Minnesota, Penn State				Away Games Scouted:		Washington, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan			
Conference Championship Games, Bowl Games, and College Football Playoff (CFB) Games Scouted:					Indiana (Big-Ten Championship), Miami (College Football Playoff)						
<p>Summary — Born January 15, 2005, in Chicago, Illinois, Carnell Tate is a junior wide receiver from the Ohio State Buckeyes. Standing around 6'2" and 192 pounds with a long, lean frame, Tate fits the mold of a modern boundary receiver. A five-star recruit out of IMG Academy, Tate arrived at Ohio State as one of the top receivers in the 2023 class and quickly earned rotational snaps in a crowded, NFL-caliber receiver room composed of Jeremiah Smith and Emeka Egbuka. While his early production was modest, his flashes of polish and reliability became more evident as his role expanded in his junior season, positioning him as a key contributor in the Buckeyes' passing attack. Tate's game in his early years was unrefined, but in his final season, his game developed to the point that it is built on technical refinement and a mature understanding of the position, highlighted by his ability to vary route tempo, attack leverage, and consistently create throwing windows without relying on elite top-end speed or sudden explosiveness. Tate's route running prowess is most dangerous on the vertical plain where he has nearly mastered the rocker-step, creating explosive plays. Tate also shows strong hands and natural ball skills, routinely extending outside his frame and finishing through contact. His body control and sideline awareness also allow him to maximize his catch radius and operate effectively along the boundary. Tate's spatial awareness against zone coverage and overall football IQ make him a quarterback-friendly target who can be trusted to be in the right place at the right time, particularly in the intermediate areas of the field. Another area Tate took a leap in his final year is as a run blocker, where he proved to be more than capable, securing the edge with good technique, hand placement, and the ability to sustain blocks on the edge. He has shown the ability to block on the boundary, tight to the formation, or when used as an insert motion receiver. The primary concerns in his profile center on his lack of elite vertical speed, where his speed could potentially limit his ability to consistently threaten defenses deep. There are also some inconsistencies that come up in his release against bigger, longer press corners. And finally, he's not a dynamic run-after-catch (YAC) threat, where he relies on a one-cut, physical approach rather than being a creative runner with the ball in his hands. Tate's overall play-style and NFL projection remind me of a lighter version of Houston Texans wide receiver Nico Collins (Tate 6'2", 192 lbs and Collins 6'4", 215 lbs) — a big-bodied separator who can run routes, has excellent ball skills, and can contribute in the run game despite being a one-dimensional YAC threat and lacking top-shelf athleticism. Overall, Tate projects as a high-floor receiver with the floor of a Tee Higgins-level WR2, but the upside to develop into a WR1 in the mold of a Nico Collins or Drake London type.</p>											
<p>What Encouraged Me</p> <p>Age & Upside — Tate is a young receiver, an early declare true junior, leaving significant room for continued development. His time at Ohio State and work with Brian Hartline have already advanced his route polish significantly from 2024 to 2025. His combination of age, frame, and current development provide a high developmental ceiling as he adds strength and refines his game further.</p> <p>Size & Build — Tate possesses a prototypical boundary receiver frame at 6'2" with long limbs, above-average arm length, and a naturally wide catch radius that shows up consistently at the catch point. His lean build still has room for added mass and with continued physical development should allow him to improve his play strength and better handle press coverage without sacrificing his fluid movement skills.</p> <p>Athleticism — Tate displays smooth, coordinated athleticism with efficient movement skills and a gliding stride that allows him to build speed and operate effectively across all three levels. While he lacks elite top-end speed and sudden explosiveness, he is able to build speed throughout the route. Additionally, his overall body control, balance, and play speed translate well to consistently create separation at the NFL level.</p> <p>Route Running — One of Tate's most improved traits from his sophomore to junior season. He shows a fundamentally sound release package with the ability to vary tempo and use footwork to avoid contact off the line of scrimmage. Transitioning this into his route running, he is a nuanced route runner who consistently attacks leverage with disciplined stems and a strong understanding of tempo. He leverages pacing, controlled tempo, and body control to manipulate defenders throughout routes and creates separation by changing speeds rather than sudden explosiveness, allowing him to win consistently at all three levels. Tate's understanding of zone coverage, ability to consistently identifying soft spots, and adjusting his routes to uncover in combination with his spatial awareness and consistent ability to work back to the quarterback allow him to present clear throwing windows making him a quarterback friendly target.</p> <p>Ball Skills — One of Tate's most dominant traits which were on display throughout his junior season. Tate's concentration, tracking ability, and ability to adjust and finish at the catch point are elite. His length, hands, and body control allow him to extend outside his frame and win in contested situations regardless of situation. Tate had ZERO drops on 66 targets in 2025 which is a remarkable achievement when you watch some of the throws he was able to reel in during his final campaign.</p> <p>Yards After Catch (YAC) Ability — Tate is capable of picking up additional yardage when space is available, but is unlikely to consistently create explosive plays on his own. His YAC ability is more a product of a linear, one-cut, violent approach rather than a dynamic elusive approach.</p> <p>High Effort, Effective Run Blocking — Tate shows a willingness to engage as a blocker, using his length to get into defenders and sustain blocks on the edge. He was relied on often in Ohio State's offense to operate as a blocker on the perimeter and with continued growth into his frame this projects to become a significant asset to his game.</p>					<p>Areas of Growth/Concern</p> <p>Lean Frame — Tate's lean, wiry frame can show up against more physical defensive backs, particularly in press situations or against highly physical corners at the line of scrimmage. He will want to add more functional strength or he may struggle to consistently win outside when aligned at X or Z against physical press corners at the next level.</p> <p>Some Timed Long Speed Limitations — Tate is more of a speed builder as evident by his 1.61 10-yard split, but finishing with a 4.53 40-yard dash. Tate wins vertically with tempo, pacing, and gliding strides rather than elite long speed. This could result in struggles winning on the vertical plane with the same level on consistency that he did at the collegiate level.</p> <p>Route Running Inconsistency — For as much as Tate has improved as a route runner, there are still some inconsistencies that have popped up. Occasionally, he will round routes, but most of these instances are because he will stem off the wrong foot on in-breaking and out-breaking routes. There are also times his chest will rise early on stops or comebacks, which can tip routes to corners. This has allowed corners to close the space and get engaged at the catch point. After seeing his growth from 2024 to 2025, these are areas that are easy to see the path to continued improvement with NFL coaching.</p> <p>YAC Limitations — Tate is not a dynamic creator and lacks elusiveness with the ball in his hands. Most of his production after the catch comes from available space or strength, physicality, and toughness rather than creating explosive plays independently.</p>						