



ARIZONA CARDINALS FOOTBALL CLUB

NFL DRAFT — DAY 1

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2008

CARDS SELECT RODGERS-CROMARTIE WITH THE 16TH PICK

- Tennessee State cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie was the Cardinals first round selection in the 2008 NFL Draft, taken with the 16th overall pick.
- Rodgers-Cromartie was the second cornerback taken in the draft after Troy's Leodis McKelvin went to Buffalo with the 11th overall selection.
- Rodgers-Cromartie, from Division I-AA Tennessee State, becomes the 103rd Tiger player selected in the NFL Draft dating back to 1952.
- He becomes the first player from Tennessee State drafted since WR Avion Black was selected in the fourth round (121st overall) of the 2000 draft by the Bills.
- He becomes the first Tennessee State player taken in the first round since 1974 when both DE Ed "Too Tall" Jones (Dallas, 1st overall) and LB Waymond Bryant (Bears, 4th overall) were both selected in the opening round

ABOUT RODGERS-CROMARTIE:

- Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie is the second cousin of Chargers All-Pro cornerback Antonio Cromartie. Antonio led the NFL with 10 interceptions last year (plus two more in the Pro Bowl). He returned one of those interceptions for a touchdown and also scored an NFL record-setting touchdown when he returned a missed field goal 109 yards.
- Rodgers-Cromartie showed a similar knack for making big plays while playing at Tennessee State. Of his 11 career interceptions, he returned four for touchdowns and averaged 28.5 yards per interception return. In addition to his four interceptions for touchdowns, Rodgers-Cromartie also returned a fumble and a kickoff for touchdowns and blocked eight kicks in his career. On the offensive side of the ball, he caught two passes for 46 yards and rushed twice for 16 yards.
- In 39 career starts at Tennessee State, quarterbacks completed just 55 of 161 passes thrown in his direction for a completion percentage of 34.26. Along with his 11 interceptions, he deflected 25 others and held opposition to just 3.54 yards per pass attempt, the best of any collegiate defensive back in the last three years in the NCAA.
- He entered the lineup midway through his freshman year and never exited.
- Had a non-functioning kidney removed as a youngster and has played his whole life with just one.
- Was also a track star in college, qualifying for the NCAA Mid-East Regionals after he captured the Ohio Valley Conference long jump completion with a jump of 25' 0.75". At the 2007 OVC Indoor Track Championship, he won the Top Male Athlete award after winning the 60-meter dash (6.89), long jump (25' 0.75") and high jump (6' 9.5") and finished second in the triple jump (48' 8").

THE SMALL COLLEGE CONNECTION:

- Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie becomes only the second player from a non-NCAA Division I-A school to be drafted by the Cardinals in the first round. The only other time the Cardinals went outside of Division I-A in the first round was when they selected another cornerback—CB Leonard Smith out of McNeese State, in 1983.
- The Cardinals have had success drafting cornerbacks from outside of Division I-A, most notably with former Division I-AA Southern University standout Aeneas Williams, a player to whom Rodgers-Cromartie has been compared. Williams, a six-time Pro Bowler for the Cardinals, was drafted by

Arizona in the third round (59th overall) of the 1991 draft. Williams played 10 years for the Cardinals and ranks second on the franchise career list in interceptions (46) and INT yards (653) and is first in INT returns for touchdowns (6). As a sophomore, Rodgers-Cromartie held the opposition to just 1.86 yards per pass attempt, the best in Division I-AA since Aeneas Williams averaged 1.99 yards for Southern in 1990.

- The last time the Cardinals chose a cornerback from Division I-AA was in 1995, when they chose Cedrick Davis in the fifth round (150th overall) in 1995, coincidentally, from Tennessee State.
- Rodgers-Cromartie becomes the seventh player from schools outside of Division I-A selected by the Cardinals in the last 10 years. The other six include:

<u>Player</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>Yr Drafted</u>	<u>Rnd (Pick)</u>	<u>College</u>
Ben Patrick	TE	2007	7 (215 th)	Delaware
LeRon McCoy	WR	2005	7 (226 th)	Indiana (PA)
Reggie Wells	G	2003	6 (177 th)	Clarion (PA)
Josh McCown	QB	2002	3 (81 st)	Sam Houston St.
Chris Greisen	QB	1999	7 (239 th)	NW Missouri St
Zack Walz	LB	1998	6 (158 th)	Dartmouth

- The Cardinals have now drafted three players from Tennessee State in team history.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>Yr Drafted</u>	<u>Rnd (Pick)</u>
D. Rodgers-Cromartie	CB	2008	1 (16)
Cedrick Davis	CB	1995	5 (150)
Greg Kindle	T	1974	2 (33)

CARDS GO DEFENSE IN ROUND 1:

- After taking players on the offensive side of the ball with their first overall selection in the last two drafts (OT Levi Brown—2007, QB Matt Leinart—2006), the Cardinals went back to the defensive side of the ball with their selection of Rodgers-Cromartie.
- The Cardinals had taken offensive players with their first selection in four of the last five drafts, with the lone exception coming in 2005 when they selected cornerback Antrel Rolle with the eighth overall selection.
- Dating back to 1960, the Cardinals now have a perfect balance of offensive and defensive players taken in the first round, having selected one from each side of the ball a total of 26 times.
- Since 1970, the Cardinals have now taken a cornerback six times in the first round, tied with linebacker and offensive line as the most frequent first round selections.

CARDS SELECT DE CALAIS CAMPBELL IN THE SECOND ROUND (50TH OVERALL):

- The Cardinals used their second selection of the day to select University of Miami (FL) defensive end Calais Campbell. He becomes the 21st defensive player selected by the Cardinals in the second round since 1960.
- At 6-8, Campbell is the tallest lineman ever to suit up for the Hurricanes and was the tallest defensive lineman in the 2008 draft. He will join TE Leonard Pope (6-8) as the tallest players on the Cardinals roster.
- Was originally recruited to Miami (FL) as both a defensive lineman and a tight end after recording 19 sacks and 118 tackles on defense and hauled in 38 receptions for 412 yards and four touchdowns during his senior year of high school. Switched to defense full-time when he began playing for the Hurricanes.

- Campbell becomes the 11th Miami Hurricane player drafted by the Cardinals. In 2005, the Cardinals selected CB Antrel Rolle with the 8th overall pick. Campbell and Rolle become the only two Hurricane players drafted by the Cardinals since 1981 when the Cardinals took WR Jim Joiner with the 263rd overall selection in the 10th round.
- Younger brother, Jared, is a 2007 recruit at Miami (FL) and his other brothers played college football as well. His older brother Ciare was a defensive back at Colorado State from 2004-05 and his brother Raj played football at Butte and Orange County Junior Colleges and is currently at Adams State as a receiver.
- As a standout at South High School in Denver, CO, Campbell record a state career-record 58 sacks over his four seasons, 38 of those coming in his final two seasons.

CARDS USE FIRST TWO PICKS ON DEFENSE:

- The Cardinals used their first two picks of the 2008 NFL Draft on defensive players. It marks the first time since 2002 that the Cardinals used their first two selections on the defensive side of the ball (DT Wendell Bryant, first round, 12th overall and LB Levar Fisher, second round, 49th overall) and only the fifth time since 1970 (2008, 2002, 1998, 1991 and 1983).

2008 NFL DRAFT FIRST DAY:

- The first round of the new streamlined draft clocked in at roughly half the time it took to complete the first round in 2007. The first round of the 2008 draft took three hours and 30 minutes, as compared to the 2007 running time of six hours and eight minutes. The 2008 total marked the shortest first round since 1990 (three hours and 24 minutes).
- The Cardinals will head into tomorrow's second day with one pick in each of the final five rounds. As it currently stands, the Cardinals will have the following selections:

<u>Round</u>	<u>Round #</u>	<u>Overall #</u>
3	18 th	81 st
4	17 th	116 th
5	16 th	149 th
6	19 th	185 th
7	18 th	225 th