

BEN BRADEN

MICHIGAN

Height: 6'6" Weight: 331 Arms: 34"

Combine:

40 yd Dash: 5.04 3 Cone: 7.85 20 yd Shuttle: 4.90 Vert: 28"

<u>Pros:</u>	<u>Cons:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good athlete with long frame - Good effort in the run game - Blocks with a good base - Can anchor vs power - Holds weight very well, not much wasted mass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stiff-hipped waist-bender, off balance - Poor hand placement, hands shoot wide - Doesn't lock out and use long arms to post - Leans forward in pass protection - Limited power due to bad hips

Summary: Ben Braden may be the most physically talented offensive linemen to come out of Michigan this year. His work this year, which included a switch to tackle due to injury, earned him All-Big 10 Second team honors. Braden is a three year starter with most of his experience at guard. He's got a great frame and carries his weight very well at 6'6" while having good feet and decent speed for a linemen. He has good footwork and blocks with physicality and tenacity. However, Braden has stiff hips and can't get low and truly win the leverage battle. He also has a tendency to pass block like he's run blocking and lean forward. This opens him up to being pulled off balance and limits his range, arm length and power. He also does a poor job shooting his hands and hitting is target inside the frame of the defender. Braden has long arms but doesn't typically take advantage of that fact. Braden has a long way to go before he's ready to play in the NFL, but if he can work on his flexibility and play with better balance, he could be a late round steal who develops into a quality starter at either guard or right tackle. That seems unrealistic to be at this point though.