[](http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://static.nfl.com/static/content/public/photo/2014/08/21/0ap3000000381386.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.nfl.com/news/story/0ap3000000381382/article/ecu-coach-calls-receiver-definite-firstround-pick&h=350&w=640&tbnid=TE17zeCodvmg0M:&zoom=1&docid=qMjsLm-w2H7yKM&ei=Fd8NVeG_EISyggSK9oPIBA&tbm=isch&ved=0CCsQMygOMA4)

**Justin Hardy**

WR

East Carolina

5’10” 192 lbs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses | Combine results |
| Great hands | Size | 40 yard dash- 4.56 |
| Willing blocker | Deep speed/ separation | Bench- 11 |
| Return experience | limited route tree | Vertical- 36.5 inches |
| Consistently gathers 1st downs | Limited athlete | Broad- 114 inches |
| Work ethic | Fighting the jam | 3 cone- 6.63 (top performer) |
| Works back to the ball |  | 20 yd shuttle- 4.21 |
| Finds the open area |  |  |

**Games watched**: UConn 2014, South Carolina 2014, Florida 2014

**Summary**: Justin Hardy brings with him a remarkable story of perseverance. He began his career as a walk-on at East Carolina University and ended his career as the all-time receptions leader (387) in FBS play. Hardy’s skill set is perfect for today’s passing offense as he excels from the slot making tough catches over the middle to gain a 1st down. On comeback and hitch routes he works back toward the ball to seal off the defending CB. While his great hands are clearly his best asset he doesn’t mind doing the dirty work and blocking for his RB. Hardy is limited as an athlete which hamper his ability to separate from CBs and be a deep threat downfield. He also struggles to disengage from CBs when they jam him at the line. Although his lack of deep speed hinders his ability to take advantage of the full route tree, he will become an instant starter for 3 WR set offenses and take advantage of less coverage when paired with a strong WR core.

**Scheme Fit**: West Coast & Spread

**Comparison**: Lance Moore

**Projected Round**: 3rd round

**Best Fits**: Cincinnati Bengals, Atlanta Falcons, NY Jets, Baltimore Ravens