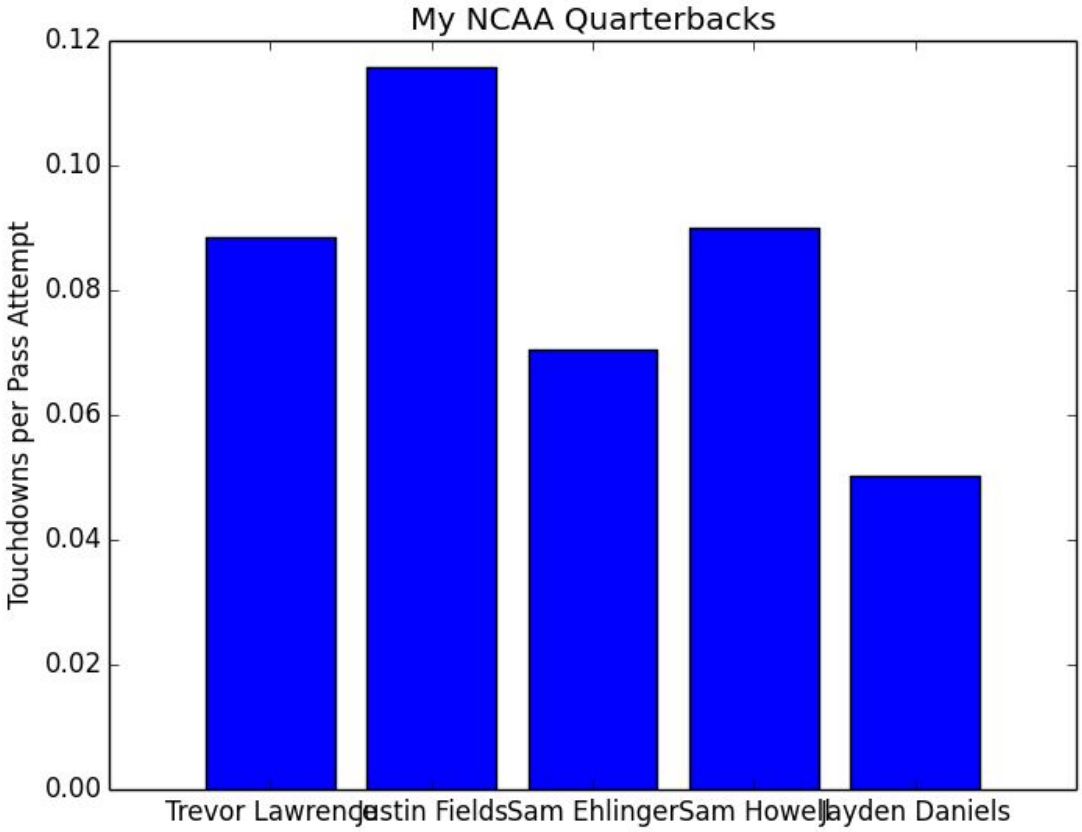
PySports

Typically, most people will overlook that there is more to sports than just “playing a game”. The vast amount of numbers that come into play are more than imagined, there’s a reason they call football a “game of inches” (numeric unit of measurement). As we go into the future, more and more sports metrics are recorded, calculated and analyzed. Professional sports scouts start to put down their traditional pens and paper and begin picking up tablets and computers. Some proof of the sports transition to the digital age is the 2020 National Football League Entry Draft being completely digital due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Due to this progression, the topic I decided to work on was sports data analysis using python. After the draft, I decided to do some research and stumbled upon a library that would be quite useful. This library was *sportsreference*. After Installing this library using PIP, I wrote a couple of python programs that could be helpful to scouts, sports writers and fans alike. This is just a small sample compared to the limitless amount of programs that can be written using this sports data. The handful of programs are:

nhl-teams-search.py
The first one I made is a simple one to start. This is nhl-teams-search.py This program grabs all the teams in the National Hockey League and displays their current number of wins, loses and points. This type of program would be for the everyday fan looking at stands.
zetterberg.py
The next is zetterberg.py. This program will display the career stats for former NHL star Henrik Zetterberg. It will list year by year stats.
zetterberg-2010-11.py
The next is zetterberg-2010-11.py. This program will display the stats from a specific year of Henrik Zetterberg’s career, in this case the year was set to the 2010-11 season. This and zetterberg.py might be useful to the sports writer looking to write about zetterberg’s history.
QBs.py
The final program is the most involved. This program is also most useful for NFL scouts looking to keep track of prospects that they may draft in the next year’s entry draft. The program takes 5 of the most promising upcoming quarterbacks in the NCAA’s college football next season and displays their stats. Also, using the matplotlib, it takes the touchdown efficiency of each quarterback and displays this value on bar charts. The next page contains a small of what the bar chart looks like.


My NCAA Quarterbacks
Touchdowns per Pass Attempt
0.12
0.10
0.08
0.06
0.04
0.02
0.00
Trevor Lawrence
Justin Fields
Sam Ehlinger
Sam Howell
Jayden Daniels