FIRST-AND-10

MIKE WHITE signed with the Bills practice squad on August 28, 2024. White originally entered the NFL in 2018 as a fifth round pick of the Dallas Cowboys. In addition to Dallas, White spent the 2019-22 seasons with the Jets and the 2023 season with the Dolphins.

SHOUTOUTS

- Made his Bills debut at NE (1/5/25).
- In 2023 for the Dolphins, saw action in six games.
- Finished the 2022 season for the Jets going 103-of-175 passing for 1,192 yards and three passing touchdowns plus one rushing TD and a QB rating of 75.7. Against the Bears (11/27/22), was 22-of-28 passing for 315 yards, 3 TDs and a QB rating of 149.3. His first possession of the season he connected on an 8-yard TD pass to WR Garrett Wilson. Was subsequently named the FedEx Air NFL Player of the Week.
- Completed the 2021 season 88-of-132 passing for 953 yards and five TDs while with the Jets.
- In his first career start vs. Cin. (10/31/21), went 37-of-45 passing for 405 yards, 3 TDs and a QB rating of 107.9.
 Completed a touchdown pass to now Bills RB Ty Johnson.
 Collected AFC Offensive Player of the Week honors and became the first QB in NFL history with 300+ passing yards and a 75+ completion percentage in their first NFL start.
- Made his NFL debut at NE (10/24/21) and went 20-of-32 passing for 202 yards. On his first career pass attempt, threw a touchdown on a 3-yard TD pass to Corey Davis.
- Totaled 8,540 career passing yards at Western Kentucky, which ranked 3rd in school history when he left.

PERSONAL

Married to Mallory White and is the father of twins. Attended South Florida (2013-14) before heading to Western Kentucky (2015-17). Went to University School in Davie, FL where he also lettered in baseball and earned 1st-team all-county honors as a pitcher.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

MONO TO MANIA

"Fourteen has mono," Adam Gase said matter-of-factly, referring to Sam Darnold and his jersey number.

Darnold's mononucleosis created a domino effect. It's not a stretch to say that if the Jets hadn't lost Darnold for a few weeks to the so-called "kissing disease," their current quarterback wouldn't be Mike White.

White was an emergency addition during the Jets' 2019 QB crisis, a former Dallas Cowboy who almost opted for the XFL over the Jets. Later that year, he nearly got poached from the Jets' practice squad. They stuck together -- White and the Jets -- through a lot of quarterback drama and now here they are. From mono to mania -- Mike White mania.

"It's crazy how things work out," White told ESPN. "There are so many stories like that with guys getting an unexpected shot. I just happen to be the story of the guy here."

"At the time, it was pretty tough," White said of his decision. "I knew I was an NFL quarterback -- I wasn't an XFL quarterback -- but (the XFL) was an opportunity to play and I knew I needed film. The only film I had was preseason from Dallas, and it wasn't the greatest film, to be honest."

White signed a practice squad contract. After much consideration, he decided "it felt right," and that he wouldn't be just a practice arm.

"You've got to be prepared because when that time does come, you've got to be able to seize it," White said.

"This didn't come to him easy," said Brandon Copeland, a former undrafted free agent who knows what it's like to get cut several times. "[Guys like us], I don't want to say we cherish it more, but we can deal with the ebbs and flows because we've been at the bottom. He's been at the bottom. There's nothing for him to lose, so to speak, and I think that makes him extremely dangerous."

(ESPN.com, Rich Cimini, December 2, 2022)