

LB | 44

JOE ANDREESSEN

AGE: 24 (February 7, 2000)

COLLEGE: Buffalo

HOMETOWN: Depew, NY

X JoeAndreessen

HT: 6-0 | WT: 239

NFL EXP: Rookie

ACQUIRED: UDFA (2024)

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FIRST-AND-10

JOE ANDREESSEN signed with the Bills as an undrafted free agent out of Buffalo following participating in the Bills 2024 rookie minicamp on a try-out basis.

SHOUTOUTS

- Finished his first regular season playing in 13 games (1 start) with 11 tackles (9 solo), 1 QB hit and a TFL.
- Made his NFL debut vs. Jax. (9/23/24), recording two tackles (one solo).
- Split his college career between Buffalo (2023) and Bryant (2018-22). Started all 12 games at linebacker for the UB Bulls in 2023. Led the Bulls in tackles with 90 and tackles for loss with 12. Added a sack, two pass breakups and a forced fumble.
- Finished his career at Bryant ranking third in career tackles with 256. Earned All-America honors after setting a Bryant school record with 116 tackles in 2022. Ranked eight in the FCS while averaging 10.5 tackles per game. In 2021, was a First Team All-NEC selection. Started all 11 games and finished second on team with 80 tackles. Added eight TFLs and led the NEC with three interceptions.

THE STAMPEDE

Favorite TV show: Breaking Bad Favorite movie: Gladiator

Favorite musical artist: Kenny Chesney

Favorite food: Wings from Frank's Grille in Lancaster First car: 2006 Red Ford Fusion, which he still drives

Dream vacation spot: Travel to Japan

Hobbies: Collecting baseball cards and anime

PERSONAL

Last name is pronounced "an-DREE-sen". The son of Jody and Paul Andreessen. Has one brother, JD, who played baseball at Campbell and Monmouth as a catcher.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

THE ROOKIE CARD

Over the past six months, Joe Andreessen has encountered a series of amazing moments on his unfathomable NFL journey. The suburban Buffalo kid navigated the fringes of college football, excelled in his lone season as a University at Buffalo transfer linebacker, got an undrafted rookie tryout with the Buffalo Bills, did enough to get signed as a training camp body and not only earned a spot on the 53-man roster, but also has played in real games for his favorite team.

The boyhood dream came into sharper focus and "Buffalo Joe" hardly could contain himself. At a desk in an upstairs bedroom of his parents' house in Depew, he rocked nervously in his chair and laughed at the thought of it all.

His first football card.

Might sound trivial to some, but not to Andreessen. He has a massive collection of those 3×5 pictures that urge a youngster to daydream, to study the game and to mark an innocent time. Andreessen reminisced how he and his dad would visit flea markets to look at all the memorabilia, and perhaps come home with a prize or two.

Andreessen insisted neither the little kid in him nor the specialteams overachiever will take it for granted.

"I'm just happy," Andreessen said, his smile still wide. "If you don't collect, I guess you don't know. Obviously, in the football collecting realm, the QBs hold the most value, and the offensive guys are below that – the specialty positions like wide receivers, running backs. So if you're not a first-round pick or notable draft pick, a lot of guys in the NFL don't get cards because their cards don't hold value ...

"That's why I even tweeted it out because I really wanted one, and kind of being in my position I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to get one. I'm just excited to be in this position."

(The Athletic, Tim Graham, November 7, 2024)