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# KAIIR ELAM

AGE: 22 (May 5, 2001) | HT: 6-2 | WT: 200

COLLEGE: Florida

NFL EXP: 3 Years

HOMETOWN: Riviera Beach, FL

ACQUIRED: Draft (2022, R1)

[kaiirelam5](#)

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## FIRST-AND-10

**KAIIR ELAM** was selected by the Bills in the first round (23rd overall) in 2022. Elam became the first player the Bills have drafted out of Florida since selecting LB Vosean Joseph in 2019.

## SHOUTOUTS

- Tallied an interception in the Bills first Wild Card playoff game vs. Pit. (1/15/24).
- Finished his rookie season in 2022 playing in 13 regular season games (six starts) and two playoff games (one start).
- Tallied an INT in his playoff debut vs. Mia. (1/15/23), becoming the first Bill with an INT in his playoff debut since Antoine Winfield (1/8/00 at Ten.).
- Intercepted Chiefs QB Patrick Mahomes at KC (10/17/22) to become the first Bills rookie to tally INTs in consecutive games since Tre'Davious White in 2017.
- Recorded his first career interception vs. Pit. (10/9/22), intercepting Steelers QB Kenny Pickett.
- Made his NFL debut at LAR (9/8/22).
- Finished his UF career with six interceptions in 35 games. Added 79 tackles (52 solo), 2.5 TFLs, six INTs, 26 passes defended and one fumble recovery. As a junior in 2021, started 10 games and recorded 29 tackles, six passes defended and one interception. As a sophomore in 2020, earned first-team All-Southeastern Conference honors. Started at cornerback in all 12 games of the season and tallied two interceptions, 11 PBU's and one fumble recovery.

## PERSONAL

His name is pronounced 'Kai-ear Ee-lam'. Son of Abram Elam and Shayla Davis. Majored in sports management. Ran track and played basketball at Benjamin High School. For more information, visit [kaiirelam.com](#).

## IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

### THE BLUEPRINT

Kairi did not have to look far growing up for inspiration and examples of what is possible on the football field. Both Kairi's father, Abram, and uncle, Matt, played in the NFL. Now that Kairi has made it to the NFL, his dad hopes that he can accomplish everything those who came before him accomplished and then some. "This is his moment," Abram told the Buffalo media after Kairi was drafted. "He took advantage of every opportunity and made the most of it. This isn't about me. This is him. As a father, this is what you always dream of, your son having more or better than what you set out to do...We always have a saying in the family. They call me 'The Blueprint,' but I see him and Matt and they took the plans and they enhanced it. You know what I mean? So they've taken it and did their thing with it and made it even better. And that's what you always want."

### SOPHIA THE FIERCE

Kairi Elam met Sophia (Benintende) in October 2022. On May 9, 2023, Sophia Benintende died. She was 9 years old. Born on Nov. 19, 2013, Sophia got her nickname, Sophia the Fierce, from her strength as she faced the unimaginable. In July 2021, Sophia was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare type of cancer that begins in the bones or soft tissue. A first-round pick, Elam grappled with the ups and downs of a rookie season. His friendship with Sophia grounded him. "At that time, I was struggling with trying to find myself coming here, dealing with expectations and trying to force (gratefulness)," he said. "She helped me out so much, mentally...We went out to dinner one night. And she started bursting out in tears out of nowhere, because she was just going through so much internally. But she never complained. You know? She was tough." (Buffalo News, Katherine Fitzgerald, May 15, 2023)

## THE STAMPEDE

**Favorite movie:** All About The Benjamins

**Favorite athletes growing up:** Michael Vick

**Pregame ritual:** Drink Pedialyte and pickle juice

**Little known fact:** Started playing football in 7th grade