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Chargers General Manager Tom Telesco Draft Availability

Saturday, April 29, 2023 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

On selecting QB Max Duggan in the seventh round:

"Starting with the seventh round. Down there at that point of the draft, we thought he had some traits to work with. Obviously, a dual-threat quarterback. Tough, strong, physical, fast. I guess, not typically the first four traits you say for a quarterback, but he just has those at such a high level and really good arm strength. He has some skills to work with and give him a chance to come in and compete. If you've seen him play through the course of his career, he just has that grittiness and toughness that's just hard to find. We'll kind of work with him and see how it goes from there."

On if there was a common thread in selecting three players from TCU:

"Not necessarily, but it was a really good football team this year, as you saw how far they went. They had a lot of NFL players this year."

On selecting WR Derius Davis in the fourth round:

"We'll see. Really, it's a dual returner position — punts and kicks. We think he has some dynamic ability to do that. Then, we'll kind of see how offense comes along and see if he can have any role there. It's really as a returner and we'll kind of take it from there."

On Davis' abilities:

"He has vision, good instincts first. Acceleration and then home-run speed."

On selecting OL Jordan McFadden in the fifth round:

"A really solid, consistent player in college. Played left and right tackle, which is nice. We also think he can play some guard, so there's some versatility there. He's strong, powerful and has long arms. He's had a really nice college career. What's big with him — and kind of similar with [OL] Jamaree [Salyer] — is being able to play some different positions as a depth offensive lineman. We'll get him in here and kind of take it from there."

On if McFadden is seen as a guard with tackle flexibility or a tackle with guard flexibility:

"That's a good question. There's definitely tackle and guard flex. We'll kind of figure it out when he gets here, but definitely both of those positions."

On if McFadden could play center:

"Yeah, it's something maybe down the road. It's just nice with these guys coming in that played some different positions and maybe have some extra flexibility down the road, possibly at center, but right now guard and tackle, and kind of go from there."

On selecting DL Scott Matlock in the sixth round:

"Big frame, really nice size and athletic. He has a really projectable NFL body, essentially, and athletic. He was pretty productive at Boise State. A good depth defensive lineman and a chance to compete and earn a role."

On if there was a position that the team looked to fill that it couldn't:

"Not typically because we don't really go in trying to fill positions. We kind of draft what the board presents us. We're pretty happy with how it turned out, though."

On the tight ends on the roster:

"We like our tight end room. We draft what the board presents us. You really can't manufacture anything. I think it's a really good group of players. We have some depth there at that position. We're ready to go."

On if the run blocking is 'good enough at tight end':

"I think we're going to be okay, yeah."

On if the team will be active in free agency after the draft:

"After the draft, we're always kind of looking to see what's out there. We'll continue to do that. Nothing imminent right now."

On not selecting a defensive back:

"Like I said, the board is the board. We put months and months — eight, nine months into getting it right and then you draft off it. You just can't predict where it's going to be. It's not like you go into a draft looking for specific positions and try to fill them out. That's just not how it works. It's just kind of the way that it fell."

On if the roster can achieve what last year's did and possibly improve:

"I'll let you in training camp."

"I'm not talking about moves. I'm talking about what do we really have? We'll see when we get on the field. I think the players, at least that we added today, and players in free agency kind of added a lot more depth to some positions and got some younger players in the pipeline. We'll kind of see how it plays out in July and August."

On if he'd like to have CB Bryce Callahan and OLB Kyle Van Noy return:

"Those guys did a great job for us last year. Drafting an edge player as high as we did, it may be a little difficult there. Our secondary may be full now, but we never close the door on guys like that."

On S JT Woods:

"We have high hopes for him."

On slot corner:

"I don't think anybody is taking anything over. Guys will come in and compete for those jobs and kind of see where it goes. That whole group in the secondary, we'll see how it plays out. It's not like we're going to anoint anyone here on April 29th. We'll let it kind of compete in training camp and go from there. We have a lot of options there. Like I said, it's April 29th. We'll see how it goes."

On if the team received any trade interest regarding RB Austin Ekeler:

"Nope."

On if the team could look to add a veteran running back:

"I wouldn't think so. I kind of like the guys that we have right now. Austin is a veteran. [RB Joshua] Josh Kelley is a young veteran. [RB] Isaiah Spiller is young. It's a good mix."