

Chargers RB Kimani Vidal Draft Availability

Saturday, April 27, 2024 + Hoag Performance Center + Costa Mesa, Calif.

On being selected by the Chargers:

"It feels great. Going through the whole entire process, you never know where it can take you. I was just blessed that I happened to get the call. I'm feeling on top of the world right now."

On his mentality in the run game:

"Obviously, I believe in it, being a running back. I came from a team that believed in running the football. That's what it's all about. I'm blessed and just happy that I got in that kind of offense."

On being the great-nephew of Baseball Hall of Famer Hank Aaron:

"He's given me all kinds of advice, going up through high school and into college, too. It was more so about battling adversity, more than anything. He would give me context on that."

On when he initially met with the Chargers:

"Yes, the Senior Bowl and the Combine, I met with them at both."

On if he participated in a pre-draft visit to Los Angeles:

"No, I didn't."

On his running style:

"I would say that I'm a three-down back. I'm able to run between the tackles. I can catch out of the backfield and pass protect."

On the program's advancement at Troy and increased exposure:

"I think that it was really good. Coming off of back-to-back conference championships, playing more games will get you more time on TV. It's just simple as that."

On if he played baseball growing up:

"No, I never did. I guess it was just always football. Since I was little, I always wanted to play football."

On 'being a shorter running back' and if he knows former Chargers RB Austin Ekeler and if he 'tries to pattern his game' off of Ekeler's:

"I've definitely watched Austin Ekeler. He's almost like the definition of a three-down back. There are many short running backs out there that have done more than good."

On if there are any running backs that he 'looks up to':

"Obviously, I can say that the best of the best is [Hall of Fame RB] Barry Sanders. I would also say [former NFL RB] Maurice Jones-Drew, [former Ravens RB] Ray Rice, too."