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Chargers WR Quentin Johnston Draft Availability

Thursday, April 27, 2023 ⚡ Westfield Century City ⚡ Los Angeles, Calif.

On being selected by the Chargers:

"I'm excited. I wasn't really sure who I would be picked by or where I would go. All I knew was that I wanted to go to a team as soon as I can and get to work. I'm very happy and I'm very blessed."

On receiving the call from the Chargers:

"They told me that I impressed them in the first interview that they had with me at the Combine. After watching the film, they said that they were sold."

On if his Combine interview was 'the only interaction' he had with the Chargers throughout the Draft process:

"There was some back and forth to confirm the numbers, but that was the main one right there."

On what he 'displayed on tape that impressed the Chargers':

"Being a six-foot-four, taller receiver that is able to create real separation at the line, as well at the top of the route. Then, what I can do with the ball in my hands is something that, I feel like, it's a no-brainer for somebody to pick me. I set records in the Big 12 my first two years with yards after catch."

On 'specific routes' where he 'likes to get the ball':

"I'm really comfortable with everything, but the things that I have had the most success at would be curls, slants, in-routes and posts — a lot of in-cutting routes."

On playing at SoFi Stadium in the CFP National Championship and spending the week in Los Angeles:

"It was a good experience, a very good platform for us to be on as a team. Obviously, like you said, it didn't turn out the way we wanted it to, but, shoot, now I have a second chance to come back and win week after week on the same stage, kind of get that sour taste out of my mouth."

On if he connected with Chargers Offensive Coordinator Kellen Moore and Wide Receivers Coach Chris Beatty at the Combine:

"Yes, sir. A little bit. We got straight to business, as far as football talk and stuff like that, seeing what I could obtain, drawing routes up — my favorite routes, favorite concepts. Then, going over my film."

On his necklace:

"It's a piece right here for my grandma. She died in 2020 right before I started playing college football. She knew what I wanted to do, she knew what I had dreams of. But, she, unfortunately, didn't make it to see me live my dream out. I wanted to keep her with me. This is a big moment for me and my family."

On joining the Chargers' wide receiver group:

"That's a great receiver room. It's going to be good for me. I can go in early and pick up a lot of knowledge from those guys and apply it to my game."

On TCU preparing him for the NFL:

"Overall, discipline, mindset things. Then, most importantly, off-the-field stuff, stuff that is essential to keep your mind right, to keep your body in shape while you're on the field, such as treatment. The goal is to prepare as much as you can. You can't really help injuries, but you can help it to the best of your ability by going in before [it occurs], getting iced down before practice and after practice, doing the little stuff. Nutrition was a big part of it, too; eating the right stuff, shakes, putting into your body what you lost at practice."

On playing with QB Justin Herbert:

"Great quarterback. I saw the call pop up and I'm like, 'OK, that's a great quarterback to be playing under.' I shouldn't have any problem coming in early and adjusting, soaking up as much stuff as I can from him as far as just football in general. I feel like I need to come in, as a young guy, as a sponge, taking in as much information as I need to. Then, eventually, clicking with the quarterback and gaining that trust from him."

On his ability to gain yardage after the catch:

"The skillset comes from different sports that I played; basketball, track, stuff like that. At the same time, it comes down to a mindset. It's a want to get extra yards, a want to keep fighting for yards, a first down, things like that. I feel like it has been instilled in me long ago in high school, and it's just something that's been carried out with me throughout my college career."

On if he has ever returned punts or kickoffs before in games:

"In a game? No, sir. In practice, a little bit."

On if he was 'surprised' that a wide receiver was not selected before No. 20 overall:

"Honestly, yes, as far as receivers going that late. As far as the run, I knew some of the first receivers that were going to get picked — whether it was me, whether it was [Seahawks WR] Jaxon [Smith-Njigba], whether it was anybody, it was just going to keep going from there, as far as line of receivers. Going in the 20s, a little bit, but at the same time, you can't really do anything about it, so I didn't put too much thought into it."