



2021
**NFL DRAFT
RECAP**

#BOLTUP

2021 DRAFT NOTES

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THE 2021 NFL DRAFT

In General Manager **Tom Telesco's** ninth draft with the team, the Los Angeles Chargers made nine selections — the most in a single draft in Telesco's tenure. This year's class of nine draftees was the most since taking 11 players in 2004.

The Bolts selected four players hailing from Southeastern Conference institutions — the most selections from a single conference since the Chargers drafted four players from the Big Ten Conference in 2016. Five members of the 2021 Chargers draft class participated in the Reese's Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., the most in a single Bolts class of Telesco's nine drafts.

Los Angeles kicked off the 2021 NFL Draft by staying put at No. 13 and selecting Northwestern tackle **Rashawn Slater**. He's the sixth player from the Big Ten to be drafted in the first round by the Chargers in the common draft era (since 1967), and the first Wildcat since selecting defensive end **Luis Castillo** at No. 28 overall in 2005.

Following the draft, the Bolts agreed to terms with 10 undrafted free agents. The Los Angeles Chargers 2021 Schedule will be announced in conjunction with the NFL's schedule release on Wed., May 12.

CHARGERS 2021 NFL DRAFT PICKS

Round	Round No.	Overall No.	Player Selected
1	13	13	Northwestern T Rashawn Slater
2	15	47	Florida State CB Asante Samuel Jr.
3	14	77	Tennessee WR Josh Palmer
3	34	97	Georgia TE Tre' McKitty*
4	13	118	Duke OLB Chris Rumph II
5	15	159	Nebraska G/T Brenden Jaimes
6	1	185	Iowa LB Nick Niemann**
6	14	198	Missouri RB Larry Rountree III
7	13	241	Georgia DB Mark Webb

*Compensatory Selection

**Pick acquired during 2020 season in trade with Tennessee

2021 OPPONENTS

HOME



AWAY



QUICK FACTS OF THE DRAFT

SCHEDULE:

Day	Date	Start Time	Rounds
1	Thursday, April 29	5 p.m. PT	1
2	Friday, April 30	4 p.m. PT	2-3
3	Saturday, May 1	9 a.m. PT	4-7

TELEVISION:

NFL Network, ESPN and ABC televised all three days of the 2021 NFL Draft.

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WHERE THE BOLTS PICK

ON THE CLOCK AT NO. 13

The Chargers made Northwestern **T Rashawn Slater** the 13th overall selection of the 2021 NFL Draft. He is the first Bolts choice in that slot in 35 years. Slater is the fourth player to be picked at No. 13 by the Bolts in history, joining **RB Leon Burns**, **TE Kellen Winslow** and **T James FitzPatrick**.

13th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1971	1	RB	Leon Burns	Long Beach State
1979	1	TE	Kellen Winslow* [†]	Missouri
1986	1b	T	James FitzPatrick	Southern California
2021	1	T	Rashawn Slater	Northwestern

2021 selections are bolded in Powder Blue

*Pro Bowler with Chargers

[†]Associated Press First-Team All-Pro with Chargers

[^]Pro Football Hall of Famer

The No. 13 overall pick in the common draft era has produced three Hall of Famers. Half of the 54 players selected with the 13th pick since 1967 have made a Pro Bowl.

HALL OF FAME PLAYERS DRAFTED 13th OVERALL, SINCE 1967

Year	Team	Pos.	Player	School
1972	Steelers	RB	Franco Harris	Penn State
1979	Chargers	TE	Kellen Winslow	Missouri
1997	Chiefs	TE	Tony Gonzalez	California

Among the players picked at No. 13 overall over the past 10 drafts, four have gone on to make a Pro Bowl, including two that did so in their first two seasons. Aaron Donald and Andrus Peat were each selected to multiple all-star games with their original teams. Donald also earned first-team All-Pro honors from *The Associated Press*.

Five players — DT Sheldon Richardson (NYJ, 2013), DT Aaron Donald (StL, 2014), T Laremy Tunsil (Mia., 2016), DT Daron Payne (Was., 2018) and T Tristan Wirfs (T.B., 2020) — were named to the *Professional Football Writers of America* All-Rookie team.

13th OVERALL SELECTIONS, LAST 10 SEASONS

Year	Team	Pos.	Player	School
2011	Det.	DT	Nick Fairley	Auburn
2012	Ari.	WR	Michael Floyd	Notre Dame
2013	NYJ	DT	Sheldon Richardson*	Missouri
2014	StL	DT	Aaron Donald* [†]	Pittsburgh
2015	N.O.	T	Andrus Peat*	Stanford
2016	Mia.	T	Laremy Tunsil*	Mississippi
2017	Ari.	LB	Haason Reddick	Temple
2018	Was.	DT	Daron Payne	Alabama
2019	Mia.	DT	Christian Wilkins	Clemson
2020	T.B.	T	Tristan Wirfs	Iowa

*Pro Bowler

[†]Associated Press First-Team All-Pro

HISTORICAL PICKS IN CURRENT SLOTS

Below is a list of the all-time Chargers draft picks in the common draft era (since 1967) in 2021 draft slots from rounds two through seven (regular drafts only):

47th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1991	2c	G	Eric Moten	Michigan State
2021	2	CB	Asante Samuel Jr.	Florida State

77th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1978	3	LB	Linden King	Colorado State
1981	3	CB	Irvin Phillips	Arkansas Tech
2021	3a	WR	Josh Palmer	Tennessee

97th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1973	4b	LB	Bill Singletary	Temple
1986	4b	ILB	Tommy Taylor	UCLA
2021	3b	TE	Tre' McKitty	Georgia

118th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1984	5	RB	Lionel James	Auburn
1986	5a	OLB	Doug Landry	Louisiana Tech
2021	4	OLB	Chris Rumph II	Duke

159th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
2021	5	G/T	Brenden Jaimes	Nebraska

185th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1974	8a	G	Tom Forrest	Cincinnati
1990	7b	G	Joe Staysniak	Ohio State
2021	6a	LB	Nick Niemann	Iowa

198th OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
1970	8	QB	Wayne Clark	U.S. International
2016	6b	FB	Derek Watt	Wisconsin
2021	6b	RB	Larry Rountree III	Missouri

241st OVERALL SELECTIONS, CHARGERS, SINCE 1967

Year	Round	Pos.	Player	School
2021	7	DB	Mark Webb	Georgia

Current Chargers are in bold italics

2021 selections are bolded in Powder Blue

*Pro Bowler with Chargers

[†]Associated Press First-Team All-Pro with Chargers

CHARGERS ALL-TIME FIRST-ROUND PICKS (SINCE 1967)

Year	Pick	Pos.	Player	School	Year	Pick	Pos.	Player	School
1967	14	DT	Ron Billingsley	Wyoming	1991	9	S	Stanley Richard	Texas
1968	4	T	Russ Washington*	Missouri	1992	23	DE	Chris Mims	Tennessee
	18	S	Jim Hill	Texas A&I	1993	22	CB	Darrien Gordon	Stanford
1969	9	QB	Marty Domres	Columbia	1998	2	QB	Ryan Leaf	Washington State
	18	LB	Bob Babich	Miami (Ohio)	2001	5	RB	LaDainian Tomlinson**^	TCU
1970	15	WR	Walker Gillette	Richmond	2002	5	CB	Quentin Jammer	Texas
1971	13	RB	Leon Burns	Long Beach State	2003	30	CB	Sammy Davis	Texas A&M
1973	25	WR	Johnny Rodgers	Nebraska	2004	1	QB	Eli Manning	Mississippi
1974	2	RB	Bo Matthews	Colorado	2005	12	LB	Shawne Merriman**	Maryland
	15	LB	Don Goode	Kansas		28	DE	Luis Castillo	Northwestern
1975	8	DT	Gary Johnson**	Grambling State	2006	19	CB	Antonio Cromartie**	Florida State
	22	CB	Mike Williams	Louisiana State	2007	30	WR	Craig Davis	Louisiana State
1976	4	RB	Joe Washington	Oklahoma	2008	27	CB	Antoine Cason	Arizona
1977	24	C	Bob Rush	Memphis	2009	16	LB	Larry English	Northern Illinois
1978	14	WR	John Jefferson**	Arizona State	2010	12	RB	Ryan Mathews*	Fresno State
1979	13	TE	Kellen Winslow**^	Missouri	2011	18	DT	Corey Liuget	Illinois
1981	24	RB	James Brooks	Auburn	2012	18	DE	Melvin Ingram III*	South Carolina
1983	5	LB	Billy Ray Smith	Arkansas	2013	11	T	D.J. Fluker	Alabama
	20	RB	Gary Anderson*	Arkansas	2014	25	CB	Jason Verrett*	TCU
	22	CB	Gill Byrd*	San Jose State	2015	15	RB	Melvin Gordon III*	Wisconsin
1984	6	CB	Mossy Cade	Texas	2016	3	OLB	Joey Bosa*	Ohio State
1985	12	T	Jim Lachey*	Ohio State	2017	7	WR	Mike Williams	Clemson
1986	8	DE	Leslie O'Neal*	Oklahoma State	2018	17	S	Derwin James Jr.**	Florida State
	13	T	James FitzPatrick	Southern California	2019	28	DL	Jerry Tillery	Notre Dame
1987	24	RB/TE	Rod Bernstine	Texas A&M	2020	6	QB	Justin Herbert	Oregon
1988	15	WR	Anthony Miller*	San Diego State		23	LB	Kenneth Murray Jr.	Oklahoma
1989	8	DE	Burt Grossman	Pittsburgh	2021	13	T	Rashawn Slater	Northwestern
1990	5	LB	Junior Seau**^	Southern California					

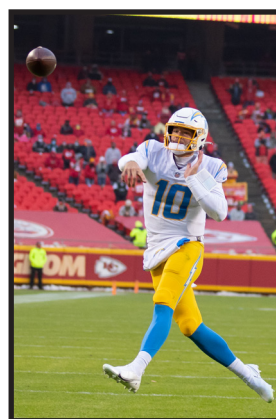
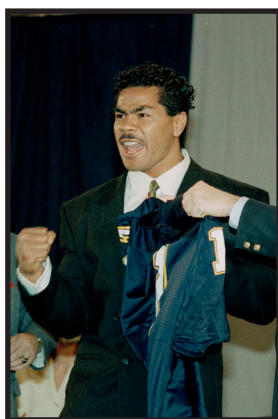
Current Chargers are in bold

2021 selections are bolded in Powder Blue

*Pro Bowler with Chargers

†Associated Press First-Team All-Pro with Chargers

^Pro Football Hall of Famer



MORE DRAFT NOTES

DRAFTED PRO BOWLERS

Since the Pro Bowl was instituted in 1970, the Chargers have drafted 39 players that went on to be selected to 104 all-star games while with the team. **WR Keenan Allen** (fourth) and **DE Joey Bosa** (third) were selected for their efforts this season.

Hall of Fame **LB Junior Seau's** 12 Pro Bowl selections are tied for the fourth-most in history by a defensive player. Eight Chargers draft classes ('75, '83, '85, '01, '04, '05, '06, '10) have produced multiple Pro Bowl players for the Bolts, including the 1975, 1983 and 2004 draft classes each producing three Pro Bowlers.

CHARGERS DRAFT PICKS TO MAKE PRO BOWL FOR BOLTS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	School	No.
LB	Junior Seau	1-5 ('90)	Southern California	12
QB	Dan Fouts	3-64 ('73)	Oregon	6
DE	Leslie O'Neal	1-8 ('86)	Oklahoma State	6
RB	LaDainian Tomlinson	1-5 ('01)	TCU	5
T	Russ Washington	1-4 ('68)	Missouri	5
TE	Kellen Winslow	1-13 ('79)	Missouri	5
WR	Keenan Allen	3-76 ('13)	California	4
RB	Gary Johnson	1-8 ('75)	Grambling State	4
WR	Anthony Miller	1-15 ('88)	San Diego State	4
OLB	Joey Bosa	1-3 ('16)	Ohio State	3
DE	Fred Dean	2-33 ('75)	Louisiana Tech	3
DE	Melvin Ingram III	1-18 ('12)	South Carolina	3
WR	John Jefferson	1-14 ('78)	Arizona State	3
DT	Louie Kelcher	2-30 ('75)	Southern Methodist	3
LB	Shawne Merriman	1-12 ('05)	Maryland	3
G	Walt Sweeney	1-2 ('63)	Syracuse	3
S	Eric Weddle	2-37 ('07)	Utah	3
RB	Marion Butts	7-183 ('89)	Florida State	2
CB	Gill Byrd	1-22 ('83)	San Jose State	2
RB	Melvin Gordon III	1-15 ('15)	Wisconsin	2
S	Rodney Harrison	5-145 ('94)	Western Illinois	2
WR	Vincent Jackson	2-61 ('05)	Northern Colorado	2
K	Nate Kaeding	3-65 ('04)	Iowa	2
T	Marcus McNeill	2-50 ('06)	Auburn	2
RB	Gary Anderson	1-20 ('83)	Arkansas	1
QB	Drew Brees	2-32 ('01)	Purdue	1
CB	Antonio Cromartie	1-19 ('06)	Florida State	1
QB	John Hadl	3-24 ('62)	Kansas	1
C	Nick Hardwick	3-66 ('04)	Purdue	1
RB	Earnest Jackson	8-202 ('83)	Texas A&M	1
S	Derwin James Jr.	1-17 ('18)	Florida State	1
T	Jim Lachey	1-12 ('85)	Ohio State	1
RB	Ryan Mathews	1-12 ('10)	Fresno State	1
RB	Natrone Means	2-41 ('93)	North Carolina	1
DB	Hanik Milligan	6-188 ('03)	Houston	1
P	Ralf Mojsiejenko	4-96 ('85)	Michigan State	1
DE	Shaun Phillips	4-98 ('04)	Purdue	1
S	Darrell Stuckey	4-110 ('10)	Kansas	1
CB	Jason Verrett	1-25 ('14)	TCU	1

TOTALS 39 PLAYERS 104 PRO BOWL SELECTIONS

Current Chargers are in bold

CHARGERS COMPENSATORY PICK HISTORY



The Chargers were awarded a compensatory selection in the third round (97th overall) this season. The team stayed put and used it to select Georgia **TE Tre' McKitty** — the first Bulldog picked by the Bolts in over 40 years.

The first compensatory selection by **General Manager Tom Telesco** was **LB Jatavis Brown**, who went on to be named to an All-Rookie selection by the *Professional Football Writers of America*. Brown went on to appear in 56 games with 23 starts over four seasons with the Bolts, ranking second on the team with a career-best 97 tackles in 2018.

The Chargers have had 20 compensatory selections since they began in 1994. Below is a look at all of the compensatory selections in team history:

ALL-TIME CHARGERS COMPENSATORY SELECTIONS

Year	Rd.	Pick	Player	School
1994	2	63	T Vaughn Parker	UCLA
1994	3	82	CB Willie Clark	Notre Dame
1994	5d	160	RB Tony Vinson	Towson
1997	7b	237	QB Tony Corbin	Sacramento State
1998	7b	234	WR Kio Sanford	Kentucky
2000	6b	203	CB Damen Wheeler	Colorado
2000	6c	205	QB JaJuan Seider	Florida A&M
2001	7b	244	S Robert Carswell*	Clemson
2004	7c	254	T Carlos Joseph*	Miami
2007	3	96	LB Anthony Waters	Clemson
2007	5	172	WR Legedu Naanee	Boise State
2008	5	166	RB Marcus Thomas	Texas-El Paso
2009	4b	133	G Tyrone Green	Auburn
2009	4c	134	RB Gartrell Johnson	Colorado State
2010	5b	168	QB Jonathan Crompton	Tennessee
2011	6b	201	T Stephen Shilling	Michigan
2011	7	234	LB Andrew Gachkar	Missouri
2012	7b	250	RB Edwin Baker	Michigan State
2016	5	175	LB Jatavis Brown^	Akron
2018	7	251	RB Justin Jackson	Northwestern
2021	3b	97	TE Tre' McKitty	Georgia

Current Chargers are in bold

2021 selections are bolded in Powder Blue

*Supplemental Compensatory Pick

^Professional Football Writers of America All-Rookie

TOM TELESKO DRAFT HISTORY



Chargers General Manager Tom Telesko has drafted 61 players since joining the team in 2013. Those draft picks have combined to play 1,739 games and make 938 starts in the regular season (43 games played with 26 starts in the postseason) for the Bolts.

2021 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
T	Rashawn Slater	1-13	0	0	0	0
CB	Asante Samuel Jr.	2-47	0	0	0	0
WR	Josh Palmer	3-77	0	0	0	0
TE	Tre' McKitty	3-97	0	0	0	0
OLB	Chris Rumph II	4-118	0	0	0	0
G/T	Brenden Jaimes	5-159	0	0	0	0
LB	Nick Niemann	6-185	0	0	0	0
RB	Larry Rountree III	6-198	0	0	0	0
DB	Mark Webb	7-241	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			0	0	0	0

2020 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
QB	Justin Herbert	1-6	15	15	0	0
LB	Kenneth Murray Jr.	1-23	16	16	0	0
RB	Joshua Kelley	4-112	14	0	0	0
WR	Joe Reed	5-151	11	0	0	0
S	Alohi Gilman	6-186	15	0	0	0
WR	KJ Hill Jr.	7-220	15	0	0	0
TOTALS			86	31	0	0

2019 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
DL	Jerry Tillery	1-28	31	14	0	0
S	Nasir Adderley	2-60	19	14	0	0
T	Trey Pipkins III	3-91	26	8	0	0
LB	Drue Tranquill	4-130	16	4	0	0
QB	Easton Stick	5-166	1	0	0	0
OLB	Emeke Egbule	6-200	29	0	0	0
DL	Cortez Broughton	7-242	11	0	0	0
TOTALS			133	40	0	0

2018 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
S	Derwin James Jr.	1-17	21	21	2	2
OLB	Uchenna Nwosu	2-48	45	10	2	0
DL	Justin Jones	3-84	40	24	2	2
LB	Kyzir White	4-119	30	20	0	0
C/G	Scott Quessenberry	5-155	47	9	2	0
WR	Dylan Cantrell	6-191	0	0	0	0
RB	Justin Jackson	7-251	29	5	2	0
TOTALS			212	89	10	4

2017 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
WR	Mike Williams	1-7	56	32	2	2
G	Forrest Lamp	2-38	25	18	0	0
C/G	Dan Feeney	3-71	63	57	2	2
S	Rayshawn Jenkins	4-113	61	32	2	2
DB	Desmond King II	5-151	53	23	2	2
T	Sam Tevi	6-190	58	44	2	2
DE	Isaac Rochell	7-225	51	9	2	0
TOTALS			366	215	12	10

2016 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
OLB	Joey Bosa	1-3	63	59	2	2
TE	Hunter Henry	2-35	55	49	1	1
C	Max Tuerk	3-66	0	0	0	0
LB	Joshua Perry	4-102	15	1	0	0
LB	Jatavis Brown	5-175	56	23	0	0
P	Drew Kaser	6-179	36	0	0	0
FB	Derek Watt	6-198	64	13	2	0
G	Donavon Clark	7-224	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			289	145	5	3

2015 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
RB	Melvin Gordon III	1-15	67	63	2	2
LB	Denzel Perryman	2-48	69	51	0	0
CB	Craig Mager	3-83	24	10	0	0
LB	Kyle Emanuel	5-153	63	32	2	0
DE	Darius Philon	6-192	54	19	2	0
TOTALS			277	175	6	2

2014 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
CB	Jason Verrett	1-25	25	21	0	0
LB	Jeremiah Attaochu	2-50	38	13	0	0
G	Chris Watt	3-89	17	8	0	0
DT	Ryan Carrethers	5-165	24	3	0	0
RB	Marion Grice	6-201	0	0	0	0
WR	Tevin Reese	7-240	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			104	45	0	0

2013 CHARGERS DRAFT SELECTIONS

Pos.	Player	Drafted	Reg. Season		Postseason	
			GP	GS	GP	GS
T	D.J. Fluker	1-11	59	59	2	2
LB	Manti Te'o	2-38	38	34	2	2
WR	Keenan Allen	3-76	100	95	4	3
CB	Steve Williams	5-145	31	4	0	0
LB	Tourek Williams	6-179	44	6	2	0
QB	Brad Sorensen	7-221	0	0	0	0
TOTALS			272	198	10	7

Current Chargers are bolded in Powder Blue

CURRENT AND UNDRAFTED CHARGERS

CURRENT CHARGERS ROUND-BY-ROUND

Below is a breakdown of how Los Angeles' current drafted players came into the NFL:

First Round (7)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
OLB	Joey Bosa	2016	3	Chargers
QB	Justin Herbert	2020	6	Chargers
WR	Mike Williams	2017	7	Chargers
S	Derwin James Jr.	2018	17	Chargers
T	Bryan Bulaga	2010	23	Packers
LB	Kenneth Murray Jr.	2020	23	Chargers
DL	Jerry Tillery	2019	28	Chargers

Second Round (3)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
DT	Linval Joseph	2010	46	Giants
OLB	Uchenna Nwosu	2018	48	Chargers
S	Nasir Adderley	2019	60	Chargers

Third Round (5)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
WR	Keenan Allen	2013	76	Chargers
DL	Justin Jones	2018	84	Chargers
OLB	Kyler Fackrell	2016	88	Packers
TE	Jared Cook	2009	89	Titans
T	Trey Pipkins III	2019	91	Chargers

Fourth Round (4)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
CB	Ryan Smith	2016	108	Buccaneers
RB	Joshua Kelley	2020	112	Chargers
LB	Kyzir White	2018	119	Chargers
LB	Drue Tranquill	2019	130	Chargers

Fifth Round (5)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
G	Oday Aboushi	2013	141	Jets
WR	Joe Reed	2020	151	Chargers
C/G	Scott Quessenberry	2018	155	Chargers
C	Corey Linsley	2014	161	Packers
QB	Easton Stick	2019	166	Chargers

Sixth Round (2)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
S	Alohi Gilman	2020	186	Chargers
OLB	Emeke Egbule	2019	200	Chargers

Seventh Round (4)

Pos.	Player	Year	Pick No.	Team
WR	KJ Hill Jr.	2020	220	Chargers
P	Lachlan Edwards	2016	235	Jets
DL	Cortez Broughton	2019	242	Chargers
RB	Justin Jackson	2018	251	Chargers

BOLTS UNDRAFTED PLAYERS HISTORY

Seven undrafted players signed by the Bolts have ended up making a Pro Bowl with the club, led by **TE Antonio Gates**, who's eight Pro Bowls are tied for the second-most by any Charger in history.

Gates also was recognized by *The Associated Press* as a first-team All-Pro three times. **P Darren Bennett**, **K John Carney** and **S Adrian Phillips** are the other undrafted players signed by the Bolts to earn AP first-team All-Pro honors.

CHARGERS UDFA SIGNINGS TO MAKE PRO BOWL FOR BOLTS

Pos.	Player	Year	School	No.
TE	Antonio Gates [†]	2003	Kent State	8
G	Kris Dielman	2003	Indiana	4
K	John Carney [†]	1990	Notre Dame	1
LS	David Binn	1994	California	1
P	Darren Bennett [†]	1995	None	1
WR	Kassim Osgood	2003	San Diego State	1
S	Adrian Phillips [†]	2014	Texas	1

[†]Associated Press First-Team All-Pro with Chargers

CURRENT CHARGERS UNDRAFTED PLAYERS

Undrafted (31)

Year	Pos.	Player	Team
2009	QB	Chase Daniel	Redskins
2011	CB	Chris Harris Jr.	Broncos
2014	G	Matt Feiler	Texans
2015	P	Ty Long	Redskins
2016	TE	Stephen Anderson	Texans
2017	CB	Michael Davis	Chargers
2017	RB	Austin Ekeler	Chargers
2017	T	Storm Norton	Lions
2018	K	Michael Badgley	Colts
2018	CB	Brandon Facyson	Chargers
2018	G	Ryan Hunter	Chiefs
2019	CB	Tevaughn Campbell	Jets
2019	WR	Jalen Guyton	Cowboys
2019	WR	Tyron Johnson	Texans
2019	LS	Cole Mazza	Chargers
2019	WR	Jason Moore Jr.	Chargers
2019	TE	Donald Parham Jr.	Lions
2019	TE	Matt Sokol	Chargers
2019	G/T	Tyree St. Louis	Patriots
2019	K	Tristan Vizcaino	Bengals
2020	RB	Darius Bradwell	Chargers
2020	CB	John Brannon	Chargers
2020	LB	Cole Christiansen	Chargers
2020	DL	Breiden Fehoko	Chargers
2020	OLB	Joe Gaziano	Chargers
2020	G	Nate Gilliam	Chargers
2020	WR	John Hurst	Buccaneers
2020	OLB	Jessie Lemonier	Chargers
2020	FB	Gabe Nabers	Chargers
2020	DL	TJ Smith	Chargers
2020	CB	Donte Vaughn	Chargers

LAST TIME TAKEN

QUARTERBACK

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1a	2020	6	Justin Herbert	Oregon
2	2001	32	Drew Brees*	Purdue
3	2006	81	Charlie Whitehurst	Clemson
4	1987	88	Mark Vlasic	Iowa
5	2019	166	Easton Stick	North Dakota State
6c	2000	205	JaJuan Seider	Florida A&M
7	2013	221	Brad Sorensen	Southern Utah

RUNNING BACK

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	2015	15	Melvin Gordon III*	Wisconsin
2	1999	60	Jermaine Fazande	Oklahoma
3	2008	69	Jacob Hester	Louisiana State
4	2020	112	Joshua Kelley	UCLA
5	2008	166	Marcus Thomas	Texas-El Paso
6b	2021	198	Larry Rountree III	Missouri
7	2018	251	Justin Jackson	Northwestern

WIDE RECEIVER

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	2017	7	Mike Williams	Clemson
2	2005	61	Vincent Jackson*	Northern Colorado
3a	2021	77	Josh Palmer	Tennessee
4a	2000	111	Trevor Gaylor	Miami (Ohio)
5	2020	151	Joe Reed	Virginia
6	2018	191	Dylan Cantrell	Texas Tech
7	2020	220	KJ Hill Jr.	Ohio State

TIGHT END

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	1979	13	Kellen Winslow*†^	Missouri
2	2016	35	Hunter Henry	Arkansas
3b	2021	97	Tre' McKitty	Georgia
4	2012	110	Ladarius Green	Louisiana-Lafayette
5a	1994	137	Aaron Laing	New Mexico State
6	2004	169	Ryan Krause	Nebraska-Omaha
7	2010	235	Dedrick Epps	Miami

OFFENSIVE LINEMAN

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	2021	13	Rashawn Slater	Northwestern
2	2017	38	Forrest Lamp	Western Kentucky
3	2019	91	Trey Pipkins III	Sioux Falls
4b	2009	133	Tyrone Green	Auburn
5	2021	159	Brenden Jaimes	Nebraska
6	2017	190	Sam Tevi	Utah
7	2016	224	Donavon Clark	Michigan State

DEFENSIVE LINEMAN

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	2019	28	Jerry Tillery	Notre Dame
2	2012	49	Kendall Reyes	Connecticut
3	2018	84	Justin Jones	North Carolina State
4a	2009	113	Vaughn Martin	Western Ontario
5	2014	165	Ryan Carrethers	Arkansas State
6	2015	192	Darius Philon	Arkansas
7	2019	242	Cortez Broughton	Cincinnati

LINEBACKER

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1b	2020	23	Kenneth Murray Jr.	Oklahoma
2	2018	48	Uchenna Nwosu	Southern California
3	2010	79	Donald Butler	Washington
4	2021	118	Chris Rumph II	Duke
5	2016	175	Jatavis Brown	Akron
6a	2021	185	Nick Niemann	Iowa
7	2011	234	Andrew Gachkar	Missouri

DEFENSIVE BACK

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
1	2018	17	Derwin James Jr.**	Florida State
2	2020	47	Asante Samuel Jr.	Florida State
3	2015	83	Craig Mager	Texas State
4	2017	113	Rayshawn Jenkins	Miami
5	2017	151	Desmond King II†	Iowa
6	2020	186	Alohi Gilman	Notre Dame
7	2021	241	Mark Webb	Georgia

KICKER

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
3a	2004	65	Nate Kaeding*	Iowa
6b	2006	188	Kurt Smith	Virginia
7	1967	173	Dave Conway	Texas

PUNTER

Round	Year	Pick	Player	School
4	1985	96	Ralf Mojsiejenko*	Michigan State
5	2003	149	Mike Scifres	Western Illinois
6a	2016	179	Drew Kaser	Texas A&M
7	1980	191	Stuart Dodds	Montana State

2021 selections are bolded in Powder Blue

*Pro Bowler with Chargers

†Associated Press First-Team All-Pro with Chargers

^Pro Football Hall of Famer



MOST CHARGERS DRAFTEES BY SCHOOL

School	No. of Picks	School	No. of Picks	School	No. of Picks	School	No. of Picks
Southern California	24	California	5	Johnson C. Smith (N.C.)	2	Marquette	1
Notre Dame	22	Houston	5	Louisville	2	McMurray (Texas)	1
Florida State	16	Idaho	5	Marshall	2	Middle Tennessee State	1
San Diego State	14	Indiana	5	Massachusetts	2	Mississippi State	1
Arkansas	13	Kentucky	5	McNeese State	2	Morgan State	1
Auburn	13	Maryland	5	Montana State	2	Muskingum (Ohio)	1
Louisiana State	13	North Carolina A&T	5	Louisiana-Monroe ⁵	2	New Mexico	1
Mississippi	13	North Carolina State	5	Nebraska-Omaha	2	Norbert (Wis.)	1
Ohio State	13	South Carolina State	5	Oregon Tech	2	North Carolina College	1
Tennessee	13	Stanford	5	Rice	2	North Texas	1
UCLA	12	Utah State	5	Southern Methodist	2	Northern Colorado	1
Nebraska	11	Arizona	4	Stephen F. Austin	2	Northwestern State	1
Texas A&M	11	Citadel	4	Tuskegee (Ala.)	2	Pasadena CC (Calif.)	1
Arizona State	10	Kansas	4	Virginia Union	2	Pennsylvania	1
Oklahoma	10	Los Angeles State	4	Weber State	2	Prairie View A&M	1
San Jose State	10	Oregon State	4	Western Michigan	2	Presbyterian	1
Syracuse	10	Pacific	4	Wichita State	2	Sacramento State	1
Clemson	10	Richmond	4	Adams State (Colo.)	1	San Francisco State	1
Alabama	9	TCU	4	Air Force	1	Santa Clara	1
Colorado	9	Baylor	3	Akron	1	Souix Falls	1
Iowa	9	Boston University	3	Alabama State	1	Slippery Rock (Pa.)	1
Michigan State	9	Boston College	3	Angelo State (Texas)	1	Sonoma State (Calif.)	1
Washington State	9	Brigham Young	3	Appalachian State	1	Southern Illinois	1
Florida	8	Dayton	3	Arkansas State	1	Southern Mississippi	1
Fresno State	8	Florida A&M	3	Arkansas Tech	1	Southern Utah	1
Georgia	8	Hawai'i	3	Army	1	Southwest Texas State	1
Grambling State ¹	8	Illinois	3	Bloomsburg (Pa.)	1	Tampa	1
Long Beach State	8	Iowa State	3	Boise State	1	Temple	1
Memphis ²	8	Louisiana Tech	3	Bradley	1	Tennessee A&I	1
Miami	8	Miami (Ohio)	3	Brown	1	Texas A&M-Kingsville ⁶	1
Michigan	8	Minnesota	3	Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo	1	Texas State	1
New Mexico State	8	Montana	3	Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	1	Toledo	1
Oregon	8	Norfolk State	3	Central Michigan	1	Towson State (Md.)	1
Penn State	8	North Alabama	3	Columbia	1	Troy	1
Texas	8	North Dakota State	3	Concordia (Canada)	1	Tulane	1
Texas Tech	8	Northern Illinois	3	Dartmouth	1	U.S. International	1
North Carolina	7	Portland State	3	Delaware	1	Wake Forest	1
Northwestern	7	South Dakota State	3	Delaware State	1	Western Kentucky	1
Pittsburgh	7	Tennessee Tech	3	East Central Oklahoma	1	Western Ontario (Canada)	1
Purdue	7	Texas Southern	3	East Tennessee State	1	Whitewater (Wis.)	1
Virginia	7	Utah	3	East Texas State	1	Whitworth (Wash.)	1
West Virginia	7	Villanova	3	Eastern Michigan	1	Winston-Salem State (N.C.)	1
Cincinnati	6	Virginia Tech	3	Eastern Montana	1	Wyoming	1
Colorado State	6	West Texas State	3	Elon	1	Xavier	1
Georgia Tech	6	Western Illinois	3	Florida International	1	Yale	1
Kansas State	6	Abilene Christian	2	George Washington	1	Yankton (S.D.)	1
Missouri	6	Arkansas-Pine Bluff ⁴	2	Hardin-Simmons	1	Youngstown State	1
Oklahoma State	6	Bethune-Cookman	2	Idaho State	1		
South Carolina	6	Bowling Green	2	Indiana State	1		
Southern (La.)	6	California-Davis	2	Jacksonville State (Ala.)	1		
Tennessee State	6	Connecticut	2	Kansas City	1		
Texas-El Paso	6	Duke	2	Kent State	1		
Tulsa	6	East Carolina	2	Lamar (Texas)	1		
Washington	6	Hampton	2	LaVerne (Calif.)	1		
Wisconsin	6	Howard Payne (Texas)	2	Lincoln (Mo.)	1		
Alcorn State ³	5	Jackson State	2	Louisiana-Lafayette	1		

Schools of 2021 Draft choices are bolded in Powder Blue

¹Known as Grambling College from 1946-73

²Known as Memphis State from 1967-94

³Known as Alcorn A&M from 1878-1973

⁴Known as Arkansas AM&N from 1927-72

⁵Known as Northeast Louisiana from 1969-98

⁶Known as Texas A&I from 1929-92



ROOKIE PLAYER *BIOS*

RASHAWN SLATER

TACKLE || NORTHWESTERN
6-4 || 305 lbs || ROUND 1 – 13th OVERALL || SUGAR LAND, TEXAS



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ 2020 Preseason All-America (Phil Steele & Athlon)
- ▶ 2020 Preseason First-Team All-Big Ten
- ▶ 2019 Honorable Mention All-Big Ten
- ▶ 2018 Third-Team All-Big Ten
- ▶ 2017 Freshman All-Big Ten (Big Ten Network)

2020: Opted out of the 2020 season (COVID-19)...Preseason All-America recognition from Phil Steele and Athlon Sports... Earned preseason First Team All-Big Ten honors (Phil Steele)... Outland Trophy preseason watch list.

2019: Started and appeared in 11 games at the left tackle position...Allowed zero sacks, one QB hit, and five QB hurries, totaling just six QB pressures in 11 games...Made 30 consecutive starts on the offensive line before missing NU's game at Nebraska (Oct. 5)...Started 37 games in his career...Named NU's offensive player of the week vs. Ohio State (Oct. 18) and Iowa (Oct. 26)...**Accolades:** Consensus honorable mention All-Big Ten...Academic All-Big Ten.



2018: Appeared in all 14 games in his sophomore season...Has started 26-straight games at right tackle...Was named Third-Team All-Big Ten by coaches...Ranked as the fourth-rated offensive tackle in the Big Ten, per Pro Football Focus...Helped protect quarterback Clayton Thorson as he threw for 3,183 yards, the third-highest mark in the Big Ten...Helped pave the way for first-year running back Isaiah Bowser, who averaged 108 rushing yards per game over the last eight games of the season...**Accolades:** Academic All-Big Ten.

2017: One of 13 true first year players to see action during the regular season...Started 12 games at right tackle...Graded as the No. 1 freshman offensive lineman in the country by Pro Football Focus...Helped pave the way for running back Justin Jackson to rush for 1,000 yards for the fourth-straight season...Protected All-Big Ten quarterback Clayton Thorson, who ranks fourth in the Big Ten in passing yards per game...Helped lead an offense that scored 29.2 points per contest, good for fourth in the Big Ten...**Accolades:** Freshman All-Big Ten by Big Ten Network.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: 2016 Second-Team All-Greater Houston...Two-time First-Team All-District selection the offensive line, and a two-time Second-Team honoree on the defensive line... Ranked as a consensus three-star prospect by 247Sports, Scout, Rivals and ESPN...Rated the No. 32 offensive guard in the nation by 247Sports...Ranked as the No. 11 guard in the Midland Region by Scout...Team captain for the Rangers...Competed in the shot put in discus events in a four-year track & field career...Three-time Academic All-District...Father, Reginald, played eight seasons in the National Basketball Association with the Nuggets, Raptors and Timberwolves after college career at Wyoming.

RASHAWN SLATER COLLEGE GAMES

Year	College	GP	GS
2017	Northwestern	13	12
2018	Northwestern	14	14
2019	Northwestern	11	11
College Totals		38	37

ASANTE SAMUEL JR.

CORNERBACK || FLORIDA STATE

5-10 || 180 lbs || ROUND 2 – 47th OVERALL || SUNRISE, FLA.



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ 2020 First-Team All-ACC
- ▶ 2019 Third-Team All-ACC

2020: Started all eight games in which he appeared and recorded 31 tackles, including 1.0 for loss, three interceptions, six pass breakups, one forced fumble and two fumble recoveries... Third Seminole since 2000 with at least three interceptions and two fumble recoveries in a season... Ranked third in ACC and 12th nationally in fumble recoveries and ranked fourth in ACC in interceptions... Was second FBS player since 2000, and first since 2003, to have three interceptions and two fumble recoveries in team's first four games... grabbed career-high two interceptions and also had six tackles and two pass breakups in season opener vs. Georgia Tech... Earned ACC Defensive Back of the Week honors for his performance... Recorded career-high nine tackles and one interception in 41-24 win vs. Jacksonville State... Made two solo tackles and recovered one fumble at No. 12 Miami... Recorded four solo tackles, one fumble recovery and one pass breakup at No. 5 Notre Dame... registered five tackles and two pass breakups in 31-28 victory vs. No. 5 North Carolina... Made one solo stop at Louisville... Recorded three solo tackles, 1.0 for loss, one forced fumble and one pass breakup vs. Pitt...
Accolades: First-team All-ACC.



2019: Started all 12 games in which he appeared and recorded 48 tackles, including 1.0 for loss, one interception and 14 pass breakups... Pass breakups total led ACC and tied for eighth in NCAA... Only Power 5 defender with 14 pass breakups and more than 45 tackles... Recorded career-high eight tackles and first career interception at No. 25 Virginia... Tied career-best tackles total and added one pass breakup at No. 2 Clemson... Opened season with three tackles and one pass breakup vs. Boise State... had solo stop and two pass breakups in 45-44 win vs. ULM... Made two solo tackles in 35-24 victory vs. Louisville... Recorded six tackles and two pass breakups in 31-13 win vs. North Carolina State... Registered four solo tackles and two pass breakups at Wake Forest... Made three tackles and one pass breakup in 35-17 win vs. Syracuse... made five tackles in 38-31 victory at Boston College... Registered two solo tackles and two pass breakups at No. 8 Florida... Recorded one solo tackle and two pass breakups in Sun Bowl vs. Arizona State...
Accolades: Third-team All-ACC.

2018: Appeared in all 12 games as a true freshman, starting three of final four games... Recorded 17 tackles, including 1.0 for loss, and nine pass breakups... Pass breakups total led Seminoles and tied for third among ACC freshmen... Five pass breakups against ranked opponents were most among ACC freshmen and tied for fourth overall in conference... Made season-high four tackles at North Carolina State in first career start... Registered season-best Three pass breakups and had one solo tackle vs. No. 2 Clemson... made one solo tackle in 36-26 win vs. Samford... Had two tackles at Syracuse... Credited with one pass breakup in 37-19 win vs. Northern Illinois... Recorded two solo tackles and one pass breakup at No. 17 Miami... Registered two pass breakups and one solo tackle in 38-17 win vs. Wake Forest... Had one pass breakup at No. 3 Notre Dame... made three tackles, 1.0 for loss, in 22-21 victory vs. No. 22 Boston College... Ended season with two solo tackles and one pass breakup vs. No. 13 Florida.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: Ranked No. 25 overall by ESPN and a consensus four-star recruit... Named an Under Armour All-American... Helped led St. Thomas Aquinas to 7A state titles as a sophomore and junior and the state semifinals in 2017... Earned first-team all-state honors as senior... Blocked a field goal in his final high school game against Venice... Finished 2017 with 32 tackles, one interception, two blocked field goals and two blocked PATs... Attended same high school as recent Florida State standouts Lamarqus Joyner and Rashad Greene... Father is Asante Samuel, who played at UCF and spent 11 years in the NFL with the Patriots, Eagles, and Falcons.

ASANTE SAMUEL JR. COLLEGIATE STATISTICS

Year	Team	GP	GS	— Tackles —					— Interceptions —					— Fumbles —		
				Total	Solo	Asst	Sacks	Yds	No.	Yds	Lg	TD	PD	FF	FR	Yds
2018	Florida State	12	3	17	14	3	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	9	0	0	0
2019	Florida State	12	12	48	34	14	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	14	0	0	0
2020	Florida State	8	8	31	23	8	0.0	0	3	74	38	0	6	1	2	0
College Totals		32	23	96	71	25	0.0	0	4	74	38	0	29	1	2	0

JOSH PALMER

WIDE RECEIVER || TENNESSEE

6-1 || 210 lbs || ROUND 3 – 77th OVERALL || BRAMPTON, ONTARIO



2020: Proved to be the top receiver on the squad and one of the best in the SEC...Led the Vols in receiving yards (475), catches (33) and receiving touchdowns (4)...23 of his 33 catches went for first downs, while 62 yards came after the catch...Ranked 13th in the SEC in 20+ yard catches (9)...Was UT's leading receiver in seasonopening win at South Carolina (9/26), tying a career high with six catches for 85 yards and scoring the gamewinning touchdown with a 32-yard reception in the fourth quarter...Collected 71 yards on four receptions including a 33-yard grab against Missouri (10/3)...Delivered the first multi-touchdown game of his career at No. 3 Georgia (10/10), finishing with four catches for 71 yards...Both TD grabs came in the second quarter, including a 36-yarder from Jarrett Guarantano that tied the game at 14 all...Added another on the ensuing possession, a 27-yarder that gave the Vols the lead in Athens...Logged four catches for 57 yards and one touchdown against No. 2 Alabama (10/24), including a 27-yard score in the third quarter...Tallied 53 yards receiving on four catches in win at Vanderbilt (12/12), and a week later against Texas A&M finished with three receptions for 55 yards.

2019: Made another leap in his third season on Rocky Top, finishing second on the Vols with 34 receptions to go along with 457 yards and one touchdown ... Appeared in 13 games with 11 starts ... Led Tennessee with a career best-matching six receptions for 68 yards vs. Indiana in the 2020 TaxSlayer Gator Bowl (1/2) ... Was outstanding at Missouri, grabbing six passes for a career-best 124 yards as Tennessee had three 100-yard receivers for the first time in school history and clinched bowl eligibility (11/23) ... Pulled down his first receiving touchdown of the season in UT's win over Kentucky (11/9), a 12-yarder in the third quarter that proved to be the game-winning score ... Finished with four receptions for 55 yards against the Wildcats ... Totaled five catches for 55 yards in win over South Carolina (10/26) ... Pulled in a season-long 20-yard reception at No. 1 Alabama (10/19) ... Had four catches for 56 yards vs. BYU (9/7) ... Made three catches in season-opener vs. Georgia State (8/31).

2018: Emerged as one of the most explosive players on the Tennessee offense...Played in all 12 games with eight starts...Finished the season first in the SEC and tied for fifth in the nation in yards per catch (21.0)...Hauled in 23 catches and ranked second on the team with 484 receiving yards and two touchdowns while averaging 40.3 yards per game...Added five carries for 27 yards and a touchdown...Led the Vols with 10 20-yard plays...Capped season with two catches for 22 yards at Vanderbilt (11/24)...Had two catches for 23 yards against Missouri (11/17)...Had a team-high four catches for 71 yards and a touchdown in win over Charlotte (11/3)...Had one catch for 30 yards against No. 1 Alabama (10/20)...Had three catches for a career-high 84 yards in win at No. 21 Auburn (10/13)...Hauled in a 37-yard pass from Jarrett Guarantano for his first-career touchdown catch at No. 2 Georgia (9/29)...Had a career-long 53-yard reception and 64 receiving yards in win over UTEP (9/15)...Recorded his first-career rushing touchdown and had 51 yards receiving in home opener against ETSU (9/8)...Totaled three receptions for 33 yards in the season-opener against West Virginia (9/1).

2017: Appeared in 12 games, making six starts...Finished with nine receptions for 98 yards...Made collegiate debut in season-opening win over Georgia Tech in Chick-fil-A Kickoff Game (9/4), making one catch for seven yards...Had an 18-yard grab vs. Indiana State (9/9) and made an 11-yard catch at Florida (9/16).

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: Rated as a three-star prospect out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, prep powerhouse St. Thomas Aquinas High School...2016 Florida Class 7A All-State Second Team...Helped lead St. Thomas Aquinas to the Florida 7A state title in 2016...Collected 32 catches for 506 yards and eight scores as a senior in 2016...Full name is Joshua Keith Palmer...Born Sept. 22, 1999...Son of Keith and Alethia Palmer...Majoring in management...Part of VOLeaders Class that traveled to Rwanda in the summer of 2019...Only the sixth Vol from Canada to earn a letter all-time...Parents are of Jamaican descent and father played football at Windsor...Grew up mostly playing basketball and football and became serious about football in the ninth grade...Recipient of the Emmon Love Athletic Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

JOSH PALMER COLLEGE STATISTICS

— Receiving —															— Rushing —					— Scrimmage —	
Year	College	GP	No.	Yds	Avg.	Lg	TD	Att	Yds	Avg.	Lg	TD	Yards								
2017	Tennessee	12	9	98	10.9	18	0	1	6	6.0	6	0	104								
2018	Tennessee	12	23	484	21.0	53	2	5	27	5.4	20t	1	511								
2019	Tennessee	13	34	457	13.4	33	1	2	4	2.0	4	0	461								
2020	Tennessee	10	33	475	14.4	36t	4	0	0	—	—	0	475								
Collegiate Totals		47	99	1,514	15.3	53	7	8	37	4.6	20t	1	1,551								

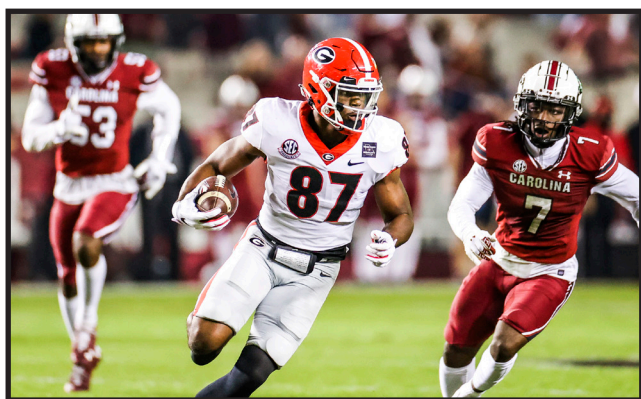
TRE' McKITTY

TIGHT END || GEORGIA
6-4 || 246 lbs || ROUND 3 – 97th OVERALL || WESLEY CHAPEL, FLA.



2020: Started at tight end in the last seven regular-season contests...Finished with six catches on the season for 108 yards and one TD...Saw his first action of the season in win over Tennessee, catching two passes for 47 yards, including a 28-yarder...Had missed the first two contests because of injury...Both of his catches in win at South Carolina came in the first drive and included a 40-yarder and his first TD catch as a Bulldog...Named to the pre-season watch list for the John Mackey Award (nation's top TE)...Played for the American squad in annual Senior Bowl game and caught one pass for 14 yards.

2019 (Florida State): Appeared in 12 games with nine starts and caught 23 passes for 241 yards...Matched career high with five receptions for 44 yards at Wake Forest...Recorded career-best 70 yards on four receptions at No. 25 Virginia...Caught eight-yard pass in season opener vs. Boise State...Made two catches for 21 yards in 45-44 win vs. ULM...Secured a 17-yard reception in 35-24 victory vs. Louisville...Caught two passes for 11 yards in 31-13 win vs. North Carolina State...Grabbed two passes for 19 yards at No. 2 Clemson...Gained 40 yards on four receptions in 35-17 victory vs. Syracuse...Caught two passes for 11 yards vs. Miami.



2018 (Florida State): Appeared in all 12 games, starting 10...Recorded 26 receptions for 256 yards and two touchdowns...His 26 receptions ranked fourth among ACC tight ends and were 12th-highest single-season total by a tight end in school history and the most since 2014...11.6 yards per catch on third down led all ACC tight ends with minimum of 10 targets...Opened season with career-high five receptions for 25 yards vs. No. 20 Virginia Tech...Recorded career-high 59 receiving yards and first collegiate touchdown on career-high-tying five receptions in 36-26 win vs. Samford...Tied career high with five catches for 57 yards and career-long 32-yard reception at North Carolina State...Totaled 46 yards and one touchdown on three receptions in 28-24 victory at Louisville...**Accolades:** All-ACC Academic Team.

2017 (Florida State): Appeared in 11 games in a special teams and offensive role...Hauled in his first career catch for 23 yards in the season finale at home against ULM.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: IMG Academy...Three-star tight end on the 247Sports Composite rankings...Was the No. 18 tight end prospect in the 2017 class...Ranked No. 251 on the ESPN300, the No. 6 tight end...Caught 25 passes for 341 yards and four TDs for IMG Academy in Bradenton in 2016, helping lead the Ascenders to a perfect 11-0 record...Named to the 2016 All-USA Today Florida first team...Full name: Tre' Roosevelt McKitty...Earned his undergraduate degree at FSU in Criminology...Recipient of the Peter and Kay Amann Football Scholarship.

TRE' McKITTY COLLEGE STATISTICS

Year	College	GP	— Receiving —					— Rushing —					— Scrimmage —	
			No.	Yds	Avg.	Lg	TD	Att	Yds	Avg.	Lg	TD	Yards	
2017	Florida State	11	1	23	23.0	23	0	0	0	—	—	0	23	
2018	Florida State	12	26	256	9.8	32	2	0	0	—	—	0	256	
2019	Florida State	12	23	241	10.5	30	0	0	0	—	—	0	241	
2020	Georgia	7	6	108	18.0	40	1	0	0	—	—	0	108	
Collegiate Totals			56	628	11.2	40	3	0	0	—	—	0	628	

CHRIS RUMPH II

OUTSIDE LINEBACKER || DUKE

6-2 || 244 lbs || ROUND 4 – 118th OVERALL || GAINESVILLE, FLA.



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ 2020 Second-Team All-ACC
- ▶ 2019 First-Team All-America (PFF)
- ▶ 2019 Second-Team All-America (Sports Illustrated)
- ▶ 2019 Third-Team All-ACC
- ▶ 2018 Freshman All-America (USA Today)

2020: Team captain...Started all 11 games...Garnered 53 tackles (third most on team), 12.5 TFL (team high), 8.0 sacks (team high), five QB hurries, one caused fumble, one fumble recovery and one PBU...Registered 3+ tackles in every game and 5+ stops in six contests...Tied with Chris Combs (1996) for sixth all-time on Duke's single-season chart for sacks...Recorded a season-high 3.0 sacks against Charlotte to tie him for third in program lore for a single game...Matched his career-best tackle performance with eight against Boston College...Earned four games with two-plus TFL and two contests with two-plus sacks...Ranked tied for first in the ACC in sacks and seventh in TFL ... lone forced fumble came against Georgia Tech, while only fumble recovery occurred against No. 9 Miami...Tallied a QB hurry against Notre Dame, Boston College, Virginia, Charlotte and No. 9 Miami...On the field for 646 snaps...**Accolades:** Second-team All-ACC.

2019: Played in all 12 games, compiling 47 tackles, 13.5 TFL, 6.5 sacks, three PBUs, 11 QB pressures and one forced fumble...In the ACC, ranked tied for eighth in TFL and tied for 11th in sacks...Registered nine games with 3+ tackles and four games with 5+ stops...Recorded a career-high eight tackles against Miami...Logged 3.5 sacks in the win over the Hurricanes to post the second-highest single-game sack total in Duke history, trailing only a 4.0 sack outing by Blaine Earon vs. Georgia Tech in 1949...Had 4.0 TFL at Middle Tennessee to match the seventh-highest single-game total in school history...Season sack total matched the ninth-highest single-campaign total in Duke history...On the field for 505 snaps...**Accolades:** First-Team All-America (PFF)...Second-Team All-America (Sports Illustrated)...Third-team All-ACC...ACC Defensive Lineman of the Week (vs. Miami).

2018: Played in all 13 games with one start...Started in a road matchup against Georgia Tech...Totaled 25 tackles, 8.0 TFL, 3.0 sacks, one fumble recovery, one PBU and two QB pressures...Received ACC Rookie of the Week honors after recording seven tackles, 4.0 TFL, 1.0 sack and one fumble recovery in the victory at Georgia Tech...Fumble recovery came with 2:41 left in the third period and set up Duke's game-winning score...Had 2+ tackles in five games including a season-high seven stops at Georgia Tech...Recorded 2.0+ TFL twice with 2.0 at Baylor in addition to the outing versus the Yellow Jackets...Booked first career sack at Northwestern and 1.0 sack a week later at Baylor...**Accolades:** Freshman All-America (USA Today).

2017: Did not see game action.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: Played at Buchholz High School for coach Mark WhittemoreC...Consensus three-star prospect by ESPN.com, Rivals.com, Scout.com and 247Sports.com...Two-time first team all-state pick...Earned first team all-state honors and was named the Large School Player of the Year by *The Gainesville Sun*...Received 2016 *USA Today* American Family Insurance All-USA Florida second-team accolades...Born October 19, 1998...Graduated from Duke in December, 2020 with a degree in sociology and a minor in cultural anthropology...Son of Chris and Kila Rumph...Father lettered four seasons (1991-92-93-94) as a linebacker at South Carolina, totaling 141 career tackles while helping the Gamecocks to the program's first bowl victory with a 24-21 win over West Virginia in the Carquest Bowl to cap the 1994 campaign...Father is currently a member of the Chicago Bears staff as its defensive line coach.



CHRIS RUMPH II COLLEGIATE STATISTICS

Year	Team	GP	GS	— Tackles —			Sacks	Yds	— Interceptions —					— Fumbles —		
				Total	Solo	Asst			No.	Yds	Lg	TD	PD	FF	FR	Yds
2017	Duke	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
2018	Duke	13	1	25	12	13	3.0	22	0	—	0	1	0	1	0	0
2019	Duke	12	0	47	19	28	6.5	30	0	0	—	0	3	1	0	0
2020	Duke	11	11	53	25	28	8.0	54	0	0	—	0	1	1	1	0
College Totals		36	12	125	56	69	17.5	106	0	0	—	0	5	2	2	0

BRENDEN JAIMES

GUARD/TACKLE || NEBRASKA
6-5 || 298 lbs || ROUND 5 – 159th OVERALL || AUSTIN, TEXAS



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media)
- ▶ 2020 Academic All-Big Ten
- ▶ 2019 Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media)
- ▶ 2019 Team Offensive MVP
- ▶ 2019 Academic All-Big Ten
- ▶ 2018 Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media)
- ▶ 2017 Big Ten Network Honorable Mention All-Freshman Team

2020: Started Nebraska's first seven games at left tackle before opting out of the season's final game to prepare for the 2021 NFL Draft...Finished his career with a streak of 31 consecutive starts at left tackle and 40 consecutive start overall...Made his 39th consecutive start at Purdue, setting a Nebraska record for consecutive starts by an offensive lineman...His 40 career starts rank second all-time among all offensive linemen in Nebraska history, one shy of the record of 41 by Jeremiah Sirles...Helped Nebraska boast the Big Ten's second-best rushing attack in 2020...**Accolades:** Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media)...Academic All-Big Ten.

2019: Started all 12 games at left tackle as a junior...Nebraska's Offensive MVP, Jaimes helped the Husker offense rank third in the Big Ten in rushing and fifth in total offense...For his efforts, Jaimes earned honorable-mention All-Big Ten recognition for the second straight season...Helped Nebraska produce its most total yards in a Big Ten Conference game (690 yards at Illinois) and tied its highest point total in a Big Ten game (54 at Maryland)...Against Illinois, the Huskers totaled 300 yards rushing and 300 yards passing for just the second time in school history en route to gaining the most yards in any conference game since 2007...**Accolades:** Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media)...2019 Academic All-Big Ten.



2018: Nebraska's primary right tackle in 2017, he moved to left tackle in 2018 and started every game at the position...Helped Nebraska post its most yards (659 against Minnesota) and highest point total (54 against Illinois) in a Big Ten Conference game dating back to the Huskers joining the league in 2011...Helped protect true freshman quarterback Adrian Martinez, who ranked 12th nationally in total offense per game...Nebraska also produced its first 1,000-yard receiver in school history in 2018 and had its first 1,000-yard rusher since 2014...After Nebraska posted back-to-back games with more than 500 yards of total offense against Purdue and No. 16 Wisconsin, helped the Huskers total 606 yards of offense in a win against Illinois setting a school record with its seventh straight game producing at least 450 yards of total offense...**Accolades:** Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Coaches & Media).

2017: Started the final nine games at right tackle...Making his debut by starting the Rutgers game, Jaimes became just the fifth true freshman offensive lineman to start at Nebraska...Was one of only three true freshmen offensive linemen in the Big Ten to start every conference game in 2017...Helped Nebraska rank second in the Big Ten in passing (277.5 yards per game) in 2017...**Accolades:** Big Ten Network Honorable Mention All-Freshman Team.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: A standout on the offensive line at Lake Travis High School in Austin, who posted a 15-1 record en route to a Class 6A Division 1 state title in 2016...Named the District Offensive Lineman of the Year...Was a second-team all-state honoree and all-district choice in 2015, when Lake Travis posted a 15-1 record and was the Class 6A state runner-up...Also participated in lacrosse as a freshman and was also a track standout...Regional finalist in the discus in 2016 and 2017...Son of Mark and Erica Jaimes and he was born on May 28, 1999...He earned his degree in criminology and criminal justice in December of 2020...Volunteered his time with Day of Service, the Nebraska Football Road Race and local hospital visits.

BRENDEN JAIMES COLLEGE GAMES

Year	College	GP	GS
2017	Nebraska	9	9
2018	Nebraska	12	12
2019	Nebraska	12	12
2020	Nebraska	7	7
College Totals		40	40

NICK NIEMANN

LINEBACKER || IOWA

6-3 || 234 lbs || ROUND 6 – 185th OVERALL || SYCAMORE, ILL.



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ 2020 Third-Team All-Big Ten (Coaches)
- ▶ 2020 Third-Team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
- ▶ 2020 Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Media)
- ▶ Academic All-Big Ten (2020, 2019, 2018, 2017)

2020: Started all eight games, with seven starts at weakside linebacker and one at middle linebacker...Led team with 77 tackles, including 37 solo stops and 40 assists...Also recorded 2.5 tackles for loss and one recovered fumble...Seven tackles vs. MSU, including three solo stops and four assists...Career-high 17 tackles at PSU, including six solo stops and 11 assists, with one tackle for loss...12 tackles vs. Nebraska, including five solo stops and seven assists...Eight tackles at Illinois, including six solo stops and two assists...Eight tackles vs. Wisconsin, including three solo stops and five assists, with a shared tackle for loss...Fumble recovery against Wisconsin that led to field goal and early 3-0 advantage...

Accolades: Third-Team All-Big Ten (Coaches)...Third-Team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)...Honorable Mention All-Big Ten (Media)...Academic All-Big Ten.

2019: Saw action in all 13 games, with eight starts...Recorded 32 tackles, including 15 solo stops and 17 assists, with 2.5 tackles for loss and one sack...Started at outside linebacker in 30-3 win over Rutgers as defense allowed just 125 yards total offense...Matched a season-high with four tackles at Wisconsin, including three solo stops and one assist...Returned first career interception 25 yards for final touchdown of the game vs. USC and recorded one sack...

Accolades: Academic All-Big Ten.

2018: Saw action in 11 games, with five starts at outside linebacker, recording 43 tackles, with 2.5 tackles for loss and one tackle for loss and one QB pressure...Started at outside linebacker in 33-7 win over Northern Illinois as defense allowed just 211 yards total offense...Totaled a then-career-best seven tackles vs. ISU, including three solo stops and four assists, along with one sack...Set a new career-high with 10 tackles vs. Wisconsin, including three solo stops and seven assists, along with a shared tackle for loss...Returned a blocked punt seven yards to help set up second-quarter touchdown at Illinois...**Accolades:** Academic All-Big Ten.

2017: Appeared in all 13 games...Primarily contributed on special teams...Saw action in 21-19 loss to #4 Penn State, recording one assisted tackle...Appeared in 17-10 win over Minnesota, recording one solo tackle as defense allowed just 281 yards total offense...Saw action in 55-24 win over #3 Ohio State, recording one solo tackle...Saw action in 27-20 PinStripe Bowl win over Boston College, recording one solo tackle as defense allowed just 21 net rushing yards and 102 yards total offense in the second half.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: First-team all-state and all-conference as a senior at Sycamore High School (Ill.)...Named Defensive Player of the Year in Northern Illinois Big 12 Conference...*Daily Chronicle* Player of the Year...Honorable mention all-conference as a junior...Two-year letterman as linebacker and tight end...As a senior recorded 94 tackles with eight tackles for loss and four sacks, while also recording 14 receptions for 366 yards...Totaled 81 tackles as a junior with three tackles for loss, along with nine receptions on offense for 276 yards and three touchdowns...Helped prep team reach state quarterfinals as a junior and returned to the playoffs as a senior...Team captain as a senior....Born on Dec. 2, 1997 in Waterloo, Iowa...Parents are Lou Ann and Jay Niemann...Was a member of of National Honor Society....Father, Jay, is an assistant football coach at Rutgers...Played with his older brother, Ben, at Iowa...Ben is a linebacker for the Kansas City Chiefs.



NICK NIEMANN COLLEGIATE STATISTICS

Year	Team	GP	GS	— Tackles —			Sacks	Yds	— Interceptions —					— Fumbles —		
				Total	Solo	Asst			No.	Yds	Lg	TD	PD	FF	FR	Yds
2017	Iowa	13	0	5	4	1	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
2018	Iowa	11	5	43	18	25	1.0	9	0	0	—	0	0	0	0	0
2019	Iowa	13	8	32	15	17	1.0	8	1	25	25t	1	1	0	0	0
2020	Iowa	.8	7	77	37	40	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	1	0
College Totals		.45	20	157	74	83	2.0	17	1	25	25t	1	1	0	1	0

LARRY ROUNTREE III

RUNNING BACK || MISSOURI

5-10 || 211 lbs || ROUND 6 – 198th OVERALL || RALEIGH, N.C.



CAREER ACCOLADES

- ▶ **2020 Second-Team All-SEC**
- ▶ **2018 SEC Academic Honor Roll**
- ▶ **2017 All-SEC Freshman Team All-Purpose/Return Spec. (Coaches)**

2020: Registered a career-best 14 rushing touchdowns on the season to finish his Tigers career with 40 scores to tie for the most in school annals by a running back...Added 972 yards on 209 attempts (4.7 avg.) and 15 catches for 100 yards (6.7 avg.)...Ended his career with 3,720 yards, the most by a running back program history...Topped 100 rushing yards in five games to reach 14 such performances for his career — again a record among Tigers running backs...Set a season high with 185 yards and three touchdowns in the win against Arkansas...**Accolades:** Second-Team All-SEC.

2019: Finished his junior season with 829 rushing yards on 186 carries (4.5 average), scoring a team-high nine touchdowns on the ground...Concluded his junior season with 2,748 career rushing yards, sixth-most in program history and trailing fifth-place Henry Josey by just 23 yards...Posted three 100-yard rushing performances as a junior, including a season-high 142 yards on just 18 carries with a pair of scores against Southeast Missouri (9/14)...Tallied 126 yards on 21 carries with his second two-score game of the season in a Homecoming win over Ole Miss (10/12), capping a five-game winning streak for the Tigers...Caught 13 passes for 70 yards as a junior...Averaged 74.9 all-purpose yards per game and 69.1 on the ground...Surpassed the 2,000-yard career rushing mark during Mizzou's week two matchup win over West Virginia (9/7)...He passed the 2,000-yard threshold on his 374th career carry, becoming the third-fastest Tiger to reach 2,000 yards by carries.

2018: Turned in a breakout sophomore season that saw him lead Mizzou and rank fourth in the vaunted SEC with 1,216 yards, as he averaged a solid 5.4 yards per carry and tallied 11 touchdowns on the ground...His 1,919 rushing yards through his first two seasons is the most ever by a Mizzou running back, surpassing the previous best of 1,647 by former great Tony Galbreath (1974-75)...Closed his season in prime fashion as he ran for 204 yards and a touchdown in the Liberty Bowl against Oklahoma State, averaging a salty 7.6 yards per attempt...Closed the regular season with a 119-yard performance against Arkansas (11/23) and the week before went for 135 and a score in Mizzou's big road win at Tennessee (11/17)...Also reached the 100-yard mark in wins at Purdue (168 yards) and at home against Memphis (118) when he had a career-best three rushing touchdowns...Had 90 yards on 13 carries (9.6 average) with two touchdowns at South Carolina (10/6)...**Accolades:** SEC Academic Honor Roll.

2017: Turned in a very impressive rookie season for the Tiger offense, and finished as one of the top freshmen running backs in the conference and nation...Ended with 703 rushing yards on 126 attempts with six touchdowns, good for a solid per-carry average of 5.6 yards...His rushing total was the third-most by a freshman in Mizzou history, and the second-most by a running back...Played in all 13 games...In the final seven games, he averaged 82.0 yards per game, racking up 574 yards and five scores while averaging over six yards per rush...Had huge consecutive outings in crucial wins over Florida (11/4) and Tennessee (11/11), where he ran for a combined 238 yards and four touchdowns...**Accolades:** All-SEC Freshman Team All-Purpose/Return Spec. (Coaches).

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: Attended Millbrook High School in Raleigh, N.C., where he had an impressive senior season, rushing for 21 touchdowns and accounting for 1,147 yards on 201 carries (5.7 average)...Also proved dangerous at returning kickoffs, as he averaged 33.8 yards per attempt, with 338 yards on 10 returns, one of which went for 98 yards...Drew attention at the Shrine Bowl of the Carolinas All-Star game following the season, rushing for 87 yards on 17 carries...Won conference co-offensive player of the year honors as a senior...High school coach was Clarence Inscore.

LARRY ROUNTREE III COLLEGE STATISTICS

Year	College	GP	Att	— Rushing —			Lg	TD	No.	— Receiving —			Lg	TD	— Scrimmage —	
				Yds	Avg.					Yds	Avg.				Yards	
2017	Missouri	13	126	709	5.6		64	6	5	57	11.4		25	0		766
2018	Missouri	13	225	1,241	5.4		59t	11	14	62	4.4		18	0		1,303
2019	Missouri	12	186	864	4.5		415	9	13	70	5.4		10	0		934
2020	Missouri	10	209	1,019	4.7		46	14	15	100	6.7		23	0		1,119
Collegiate Totals		48	746	3,833	5.0		64	40	47	289	6.1		25	0		4,122

MARK WEBB

DEFENSIVE BACK || GEORGIA
6-1 || 207 lbs || ROUND 7 – 241st OVERALL || PHILADELPHIA, PA.



2020: Saw action in eight of 10 games, including starting assignments in three games...Finished with 21 total stops on the season...Career-high nine tackles in win over Mississippi State...Had first collegiate interception in third quarter of win over Auburn...Credited with one stop in win at Arkansas...Had four tackles vs. Alabama...Had two tackles and a pass breakup in win at Kentucky...named one of three team captains for the Tennessee game...Played for American squad in annual Senior Bowl game and finished with five tackles.

2019: Co-winner of Charley Trippi Award for versatility, given at team's post-season awards gala...Starter at the STAR position in nine of 14 games...Fifth on the team with 46 total tackles (31 solo, 15 asts.)...Also had four QB pressures and three pass breakups...Led team with five stops in win at Tennessee...Had six tackles and a pass breakup vs. Florida...One of his two tackles vs. Georgia Tech resulted in a 2-yard loss...Had three stops and a forced fumble vs. Notre Dame...One of four winners of Coffee County Hustle Award after Spring drills.

2018: Played in all 14 games, starting vs. Middle Tennessee State...Had 14 total stops...career-high six tackles in win over Auburn...Had a pass breakup at Missouri, as well as vs. Vanderbilt...Recorded two tackles in win at Kentucky, as well as vs. Alabama.

2017: Played in 13 games, seeing action mostly on special teams...Credited with a tackle on opening kickoff vs. Missouri...Began the season as a receiver but switched to the defensive backfield in mid-September.

HIGH SCHOOL & PERSONAL: Attended Archbishop Wood in Philadelphia, Pa., where he was coached by Steve Devlin...High School teammates with Falcons TE Kyle Pitts...Selected to the inaugural Polynesian Bowl in Hawai'i...PrepStar Magazine 4-star prospect, No. 91 player nationally on the Top 150 Dream Team...ESPN.com four-star prospect, #175 player nationally, No. 25 WR nationally, No. 6 player in the state of Pennsylvania...247Sports.com four-star prospect, No. 134 player nationally, No. 22 WR nationally, No. 6 player in the state of Pennsylvania...Rivals.com four-star prospect, No. 101 player nationally, No. 14 WR nationally, No. 5 player in the state of Pennsylvania...Scout four-star prospect, No. 55 WR nationally, No. 9 player in the state of Pennsylvania...Helped his team to a 11-2 record in 2016, winning the 2016 PIAA Class 5A State Championship...Recorded 703 receiving yards and six touchdowns in his senior season...Majored in financial planning at Georgia...Recipient of the James W. and Elizabeth P. Plant and Charles G. Rood Football Scholarships.



MARK WEBB COLLEGIATE STATISTICS

Year	Team	GP	GS	— Tackles —				Yds	— Interceptions —				— Fumbles —		
				Total	Solo	Asst	Sacks		No.	Yds	Lg	TD	FF	FR	Yds
2017	Georgia	13	0	1	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	0	0	0
2018	Georgia	14	1	14	8	6	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	3	0	0
2019	Georgia	14	9	46	31	15	0.0	0	0	0	—	0	3	2	0
2020	Georgia	8	3	21	10	11	0.0	0	1	13	13	0	3	0	0
College Totals		49	13	82	49	33	0.0	0	1	13	13	0	9	2	0

UNDRAFTED SIGNINGS



DB BEN DELUCA

Charlotte | 6-1 | 202 | Orlando, Fla.

Four-year starting safety and two-time team captain at Charlotte...Culminated career as Charlotte's all-time leader in tackles (313), forced fumbles (7), fumble recoveries (6) and pass breakups (17)...Appeared in 43 career games...Named honorable mention All-Conference USA

on three occasions, voted by the league's coaches (2020, 2018, 2017).

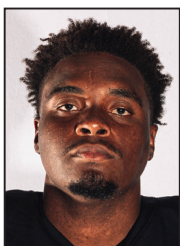


DL JARED GOLDWIRE

Louisville | 6-6 | 305 | Tacoma, Wash.

Appeared in 33 games over three seasons for the Cardinals, accumulating 83 tackles (46 solo), six tackles for loss, four sacks and four passes defended...Notched a career-best five tackles for loss in 2020...On special teams, recorded two blocked kicks, the first of which occurred in the

fourth quarter of Louisville's 2018 win over Western Kentucky.



T DARIUS HARPER

Cincinnati | 6-6 | 300 | Springfield, Ohio

Anchored American Athletic Conference-champion Cincinnati's offensive line from the tackle position in 2020, earning honorable mention All-AAC recognition...Helped the Bearcats offense average a conference-best 5.6 yards per carry and led the league in fewest sacks allowed by an offensive line

unit (nine)...Prior to UC, played basketball at Miami (Ohio) University, where he started 14 of his 30 game appearances as a true freshman in the 2016-17 season.

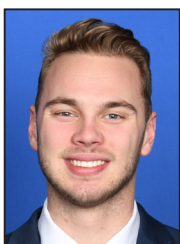


TE HUNTER KAMPMOYER

Oregon | 6-4 | 243 | Bishop, Calif.

Played in all 14 games, making seven starts, in 2019 for the Rose Bowl and Pacific-12 Conference-champion Ducks...Last season, started four out of Oregon's five games in the Pac-12's condensed season, recording a career-best 14 receptions for 161 yards and three touchdowns. Contributed as a

defensive lineman during his first two seasons with the Ducks, before switching to tight end prior to the 2018 season...Special teams contributor, primarily on kickoff return and punt coverage, in his final all four seasons.



K ALEX KESSMAN

Pittsburgh | 6-2 | 189 | Clarkston, Mich.

The University of Pittsburgh's all-time leader in made field goals (69) finished his career with 341 points, the third-most by any player in program history...Named second-team All-Atlantic Coast Conference in 2020 and was a semifinalist for the Lou Groza Award after connecting on 23-of-29

(.793) attempts, matching the program record for most field goals made in a single season...Over his four-year career, set a school record by connecting on 12 field goals of 50-plus yards.



LS RYAN LANGAN

Ga. Southern | 6-1 | 237 | Cedar Rapids, Neb.

Appeared in 51 career games for Georgia Southern, serving as the team's primary long snapper all four seasons...Received honorable mention All-Sun Belt Conference honors from the league's coaches after last season...Named third-team All-America and first-team All-Sun Belt Conference by Phil Steele...

Semifinalist for the Patrick Mannelly Long Snapper of the Year Award...Recorded three tackles in punt coverage.



DL FORREST MERRILL

Arkansas State | 6-0 | 322 | Willard, Mo.

Totaled 121 tackles, 18.5 tackles for loss, 10.0 sacks, two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries in his three seasons at Arkansas State...Started 25 of his 26 career appearances along the defensive front...Received second-team All-Sun Belt Conference recognition on two occasions (2020,

2018)...Participated in the 2021 Hula Bowl.



LB AMEN OGBONGBEMIGA

Oklahoma State | 6-0 | 231 | Calgary, Canada

A two-time second-team All-Big 12 Conference selection, he led the Cowboys with 15.5 tackles for loss in 2019 and recorded over 80 tackles in each of his final two seasons...Tabbed as a semifinalist for the Lott IMPACT Trophy in 2020...Last season, recorded three forced fumbles against TCU,

breaking a program record and tying the conference's all-time mark for the most in a single game...The two-time team captain was named Outstanding Special Teams Player Award following the 2018 season after leading Oklahoma State's in special teams units in tackles (six).



T KYLE SPALDING

San Diego St. | 6-6 | 299 | McKinleyville, Calif.

A first-team All-Mountain West Conference selection in 2020, started all eight games at left tackle for the Aztecs in the team's condensed eight-game season...Was named to PFF's *College Team of the Week* for his performance in San Diego State's win over Utah State last season...Logged 37

game appearances for the Aztecs over four seasons.



WR ELIJAH STOVE

Auburn | 5-11 | 194 | Niceville, Fla.

Appeared in 52 games for the Tigers, capping his career ranked fifth all-time in program history with 136 career receptions...Totaled 1,748 yards from scrimmage and 10 total touchdowns in his five seasons at Auburn...Redshirted the 2018 season after sustaining an injury in the spring...As a true freshman

in 2016 against Arkansas, took a handoff 78 yards for a touchdown on Auburn's first play from scrimmage for his first career score...Contributed in the return game last season and averaged 31.0 yards per kickoff return with a long of 47 yards...Served the program's representative on the Southeastern Conference's Community Service Team.

TRANSCRIPTS

Chargers 2021 NFL Draft Availability — Day 1

Thursday, April 29, 2021 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

GENERAL MANAGER TOM TELESCO

On T Rashawn Slater being available at No. 13:

"Our pro scouting staff does a great job of knowing the League and putting a report together on each team's needs, what their tendencies are, what their schemes are. We try and go through some different exercises to kind of predict where guys may go. It helps us with draft management. They did a great job with this one. Once he got past pick No. 8, we felt pretty good that he would get to us at that point. It's just a great job of preparation and planning by the pro staff to get a feel for where different guys may go. We're not 100 percent in predicting it, obviously, but it's to get a feel. It just helps with the draft management part of it for trying to get the players you would like to select. That worked out perfectly there, so hats off to the pro [scouting] guys — [Senior Director of Pro Personnel] Louis Clark, [Assistant Director of Pro Scouting] Regis Eller and [Director of Pro Scouting] Dennis Abraham did a great job of kind of setting the table for us there."

On if the team considered trading up:

"I don't know who was falling or rising, but we had scenarios to go up, we had scenarios to stay and pick, and we had scenarios to trade back. It worked out very well to be patient, sit and pick, and select Rashawn."

On the process of deciding on Slater:

"A lot of work we did with him was early on in the process. Obviously, he didn't play this [past] year in 2020. We had all of the information we needed on Rashawn."

"We've had conversations with him, but it's the same with every other prospect. You have to put it all together. You have to put a big puzzle together. Obviously, he didn't have any game film from this year, but he had three years of game film at Northwestern. He was a three-year starter there. All of the background from Northwestern and all of our scouts do — I'll tell you what, [Northwestern Head Coach] Pat Fitzgerald does a tremendous job with that program. The culture they've created there, the players that come out of there are football smart, they're tough. He does a great job with that program. To see a player like Rashawn come out of there, you know he's coming from a good place. He was coached hard and coached well, and they won a lot of games there. We did a lot of work on him throughout the whole process and he's a perfect fit for us."

On relying on the scouting staff:

"Yeah, I rely a lot on the scouts and the coaches. Especially this year because it's been a little bit different. We'll talk with everyone on the draft board at one point or another over the last 12 months. The coaches get involved in that, as well. Do I have to talk to every single player? No, not really. I trust our scouts and I trust our coaches, too. The coaches do a lot of the football work with the players. Our scouts do a lot of the background and character work. I can't get to everybody. We have a great staff that I trust, 100 percent. Certainly this year, with just not being able to get face-to-face with very many players other than the players at the senior bowl. I got lucky enough to see a little bit of Rashawn two years ago — I was at the game they played against Iowa looking at some other players. At that point, I didn't know he'd be out for the next year, but he was a prospect at that point, obviously, as a junior. It's a great amount of work by a lot of people in this whole organization to put the whole thing together."

On Slater opting out of the 2020 season:

"Like I said last week, I don't think it's really up to us to judge each individual's decision on opting in or option out. We go back to how he's been brought up, his family, high school coaches, college coaches. He's made of the right stuff. I think you'll see a little bit of that when he gets in here, and you'll see a lot more of it the longer he's here. He loves to play the game, he's very smart, he knows football, has been very well-coached. Last year was fun celebrating the picks at home with my family, but nothing beats the excitement of the draft room when we draft a player that we're excited about. Your head coach is there, ownership is there and all your scouts are in there. There's just nothing better than that. Last year was fun, but it does not top when you do this experience with everybody here in the building."

On Slater's father having played in the NBA:

"You guys saw in the background how big his dad is. I do remember him as a power forward and a good NBA player. That does play a little bit into it. Obviously, he comes from good stock. His dad was talented enough and big enough to be an NBA player, and a very good one, at that. The genes are in there. Part of playing tackle, left or right, is to have really light feet, body control, balance and leverage. All of those things go into being a basketball player, especially being a power forward and especially when his dad played. The game has changed a little bit since then. Some of those same traits — the quick feet to put them down and the awareness and leverage."

On Slater's versatility between both tackle spots:

"Yeah, I think he can play left or right. He could probably play left guard or right guard. He hasn't played guard; he's always been a tackle — at least at the college level. He's played mostly a left tackle so that's where he'll kind of go right now, but he could play anywhere probably up front but certainly left or right."

On the Ohio State vs. Northwestern game film:

"That's the great thing about playing in the Big Ten. Between Ohio State's defensive front, including Chase Young, Iowa last year with [AJ] Epenesa — who was drafted by Buffalo — and a couple of guys this year in the draft that are good players. He faced some rushers in that conference last year and he held up very well. It makes the projection a little bit easier because you see him going against top talent in that conference — I just named a couple, but there are more than that. That certainly helps as part of the scouting process."

On what made Rashawn Slater the perfect pick for the Los Angeles Chargers:

"He was a good pick. I don't — perfect is a tough word to throw around there, Fernando. But, no, we're excited about it. He fits us on and off the field. He's a high-level player, very athletic tackle that fits in the scheme we're going to run extremely well which is a big part of how we draft these players — how they're going to fit exactly what we're going to do. I don't want to just concentrate on the passing game. He's a very good run blocker; he can cut off defensive ends, he can reach people and he can get to the second level which is the linebackers with really good speed and angles. That's all part of your run game and that has to get better as well. It's not just protecting our quarterback; it's being able to run the ball when we have to run the ball. He's a pretty balanced player, which is why he's a first-round draft pick but the fact that he can excel in both areas, again, that's why he's a first-round draft pick."

On the offensive line signings being about helping the run game:

"Yeah, it's to improve our offense. It's just not — I mean, obviously protecting the quarterback is a big part of their job — but we have to be able to run the ball when we have to run the ball in all areas of the field. He's going to help out with that as well."

On the surfboard being in the draft room:

"Yeah, we got it in. We put it in the back. It's doing very well right now."

On Rashawn Slater's versatility among all the offensive line:

"It's certainly a bonus. You never know what can happen in a game when the players get hurt that he can bounce around. When you're athletic as he is and as strong as he is, yeah, he does have some versatility, but we see him as a tackle right now."

On the tackles starting to drop in the draft:

"No, not really. Again, you guys with the dropping and risers, these guys kind of go where they go, but like I said, that eighth pick was kind of a pivotal spot for us. Once he passed eight, I just couldn't see anybody taking him. You never know, but you play the odds game. We'd rather not trade up if we didn't have to and that's where we stayed patient with it, trusted the information we have and it worked out."

On being surprised by the lack of trades through the first 10 selections:

"I hadn't really thought about it. Typically, if you're going to trade in the top 10 it costs a lot. It's big premium on that so if you're going to do it, it's usually for a quarterback. They kind of went off the way they went off. It just costs a lot of draft capital to move up in the top 10, even if it's just from like four or five picks away. It just costs a lot. Not totally surprised there weren't a lot of trades up there, but every year is a little bit different."

HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY**On culminating Day 1 of the 2021 NFL Draft:**

"We were excited. Today is the culmination of a lot of work, a lot of preparation — our personnel department, our coaching staff, sports performance, our ownership — all coming together, being a team and getting a chance to compete together. There's so much work that goes into this. Tonight is just a great expression of all that hard work. We're certainly excited about our pick tonight. We're just so thankful for all of those people making tonight possible."

On T Rashawn Slater:

"He had a high level of production at a program we really respect. [Northwestern Head Coach] Pat Fitzgerald, we feel like he's one of the elite coaches in the country. It's an outstanding program playing in an outstanding league against a lot of quality players. We just felt like Rashawn fits all of the characteristics of a player that we're looking for and all of the position-critical factors for being a tackle in this league. He's a guy that has a lot of position flexibility, but on the left side of the line for Northwestern, this guy was as good as an offensive tackle that there was in college football. We feel like this guy is an outstanding athlete. He's a guy that's really strong, has outstanding balance and body control. When you think about just the way he plays the game, he understands angles, the front structures that he's playing against. You can just see that this guy really can process. He has the physicality to play the position at a high level. He comes from an outstanding family. He has the make-up, he has the critical factors, and he plays a premium position, which is left tackle, so we're really excited about him."

On Slater's flexibility:

"I think it just puts a feather in his cap, just the versatility. We certainly see him as a tackle, that's why we drafted him — to play outside. We feel like he's a natural out there. We feel like he has rare athleticism to kick to these wide rushers. I think, athletically, he had an outstanding pro day. After being out for a year, you wonder what he's going to look like. He had an outstanding workout and he had the film to match it. I mean, this guy started well over 30 games in his career and produced against a lot of quality players. We're just really pleased with this pick. Our goal going into this offseason was to become a line of scrimmage team, a bigger team, a more athletic team. Certainly, I think we achieved that tonight."

On Slater opting out of the 2020 season:

"I think you just saw the over 30 starts. You got to see him from his freshman year to his junior year. When he came to the workout, this guy was ready to play. He looked great. We feel like he's only going to get better. I just felt like the quality of competition, the quality of his play and his production — and then, all of those position specifics that we look for and the way he tested, we felt like he's a great fit for what we're trying to build here up front."

On if they thought Slater could last to No. 13:

"We felt like there was a better chance [for him to be available at No. 13]. We kind of felt like Dallas that there was still maybe a chance there that something could happen or somebody trying to trade up, but once he got past No. 8, we felt like this was a real possibility."

On Slater joining the line:

"The No.1 thing that we want to be able to do is protect the passer, but then the way we want to run the ball, too. I think he's an outstanding fit for the way we want to run the ball because he's so athletic. This guy has production in the passing game, one-on-one pass protection and he has a lot of production in the running game — both as an individual, blocking a guy one-on-one and then working in combination and really creating movement, being able to get to that second level, being able to get out to the perimeter and play on any kind of perimeter, screen plays, any of those loose space plays. We just feel like he's a complete player that way and he's really strong. I mean, 33 reps on the bench press and he has a strong lower body. We just feel like this guy is a complete player. I feel like his best ball is ahead of him. We're just really excited about his make-up, his production and his physical traits in critical factors that we're looking for."

On Slater playing in the Big Ten:

"I just think you're able to see him against rushers that you're going to face here in the NFL. You got to see him against guys that you're going to competing against, whether it was [Washington DE] Chase Young, [Bills DE A.J.] Epenesa, from Iowa, just to name a few. Just going through that type of schedule and then playing in the bowl games that they were able to play in. You saw a player and got a pretty pure evaluation on him. Then, when he came and showed up to his workout, he was just in outstanding shape. You could tell that he had just been really working at his game, working on his body. You could put all of that into one evaluation — all of his games he played for three years, the workouts, and then what you know about his make-up and the program he's coming from. We just really felt that he's a great fit for what we're trying to build here with the Chargers."

On Slater's strength:

"I think he's got a really good combination [of power and finesse]. He's really athletic. You're not going to find too many tackles that run 4.88 [40-yard-dash] that have that type of movement. When you watch him run, this guy is moving. This guy is out and running. He can kick to these rushers. When you have to block the guys that you have to be able to block in this league, he can get out there. He's strong enough to anchor and that's hard enough for any tackle. Sometimes it's to deal with the power element as much as the speed. The power is just as critical. You have to have that ability to anchor, too. You have to have the smarts. You're working with four other guys up front and five, six or seven with your running backs, tight ends and even your receivers sometimes. There's a lot of moving parts on a pro offensive play. The fact that he has the smarts, too and comes from a great family — has that toughness and competitive character — like I said, we're so happy to have him."

On the improvements on the offensive line:

"We're very encouraged [with what we've done]. It was our No. 1 goal in free agency and going into the draft — not just specific to the offensive line, but just our entire team. We wanted to be more of a line of scrimmage team. When we walk out there to play teams, I want to feel good about who's out there. I want to know that these are a bunch of real guys blocking for us that are really setting the tempo for our offense — not only for [QB] Justin [Herbert], but for all of our players and all of our skill players. I feel like the teams that play at the end of the year are the teams that have lines of scrimmage on both sides of the ball that can stand the test of time. We feel like what we've done over the last several months is make that a real possibility. I think Rashawn is going to fit well with the guys that we have."

On Special Assistant to the Head Coach Cody Cejda's relationship with Slater from Northwestern and the potential impact that played:

"I think it just added an extra component to it. Our area scouts do such a fantastic job. Kevin Kelly, our Director of College Scouting, and JoJo Wooden, our Director of Player Personnel, they just wrap such a tight evaluation for you — so thorough, so detailed. Then, when you have a guy like Cody, who's been in that program for over a decade and has seen a lot of players come through there, just to have his insight — that intimate knowledge of who Rashawn is on a day-to-day basis, the type of person, the type of competitor and the type of leader that he is — it just gives you an extra feather in the cap of the evaluation process. Really proud of the way that we evaluated this guy because we felt like we were getting a really clean player and a player that we had a lot of conviction on."

On Slater's arm-length measurement:

"[Former Browns OL] Joe Thomas had a really awesome NFL Network segment on that, because I think Joe [Thomas] was rated at like 33.5 [inches] or something like that. He was talking about, 'How many times do you block a guy with your arms fully extended?' It doesn't happen very often. I think what we try to factor into the equation was just his athleticism. It mitigates a lot of that, whatever the ideal length, that people would prefer, 34-34.5 [inches] — whatever that length is, his athleticism and then his strength. This guy is a very strong, heavy-handed guy who takes great angles. So much of pass protection is being able to set with great angles and understanding your protection plan and who you're playing with. I feel like Rashawn has all those things that really make him an excellent pass protector one-on-one. We're really excited about him."

On using his athleticism in run-blocking, particularly with outside-zone schemes:

"I think what we're really trying to do is force people to defend horizontally and get these guys to run. It's hard to run at these defenses consistently, the ones that have big fronts. I think that is a tough task in the NFL. We want to have the athleticism up front to be able to get these guys having to run on the other side of the football, and then be able to use guys like Rashawn in the screen game, as well. I think that's a big part of how you want to play nowadays, getting the ball to your play-makers in space. Just feel like he's the total package that way. He can give us the athleticism in the run game, in the perimeter screen game, and then, obviously, the number one priority, being one-on-one in pass protection. Just feel like he fits really nicely. Really thrilled that we were able to pick him."

On Slater's 2019 performance against former Ohio State DE Chase Young:

"I think that any time that you're studying a player, you want to see him playing against premium players. I think that it's not exclusive to his matchup against Chase, it's all of the players that we're evaluating. But, certainly, when he's in a premium matchup like that, what did he look like? How did he play? How did he compete? Certainly, Chase is held in high regard — rightfully so. I felt like Rashawn Slater played like a first-round pick against him. When you play against high-level players like that, you're going to win some and you're going to lose some, but how do you compete for four quarters? I think Rashawn certainly competed well in that game, and against a lot of other good players on that defense, too. There were a lot of other highly drafted players on that team that he was blocking. Just felt like that was a pretty thorough way to evaluate him, just within that game along. But, then, going through that whole schedule and then going back through three years worth of work, we were able to get a pretty clear picture on him. Really excited about his body of work."

On the chances of the Chargers having the opportunity to draft Rashawn Slater increasing after Oregon T Penei Sewell was selected at No. 5 overall:

"We weren't really surprised about how the top 10 went in terms of the positions that went. I feel like we felt that rhythm of that sequencing was certainly going to express itself that way. The only component was if Rashawn going to go in the top 10. That was probably the only question mark. We felt like he was worthy of that selection, and so, would he make it past there? A lot of that had to do with the quarterbacks and who was going to try to come up. Were there going to be four quarterbacks taken that early? When that didn't happen, we were certainly glad to take him at 13."

On if he felt 'nervous' when the Cowboys were on the clock at No. 12, one pick before the Chargers selection:

"We felt very comfortable with where we were. We felt like we knew who was behind us and we knew who was ahead of us. We felt like, regardless of how it went down, we were going to be able to select a really good player. When they decided to go with [LB] Micah [Parsons], I think that our draft room was excited because we had unanimous feel for Rashawn. Felt like the position he plays, a premium position in this league, being able to get a guy at a premium position that had his type of production and his physical traits and critical factors, it just felt like, 'Man, that's an awesome pick for the Chargers.' Just really excited that it happened that way."

On athletes with parents who played professionally:

"Bloodlines are important. Any time you have been shaped by the game, I think that's always a positive. Certainly, with his father being such a big influence in his life, you can't help but factor that into your equation. His father is a big man, too, if you saw that draft video. You put all that together and then you take Rashawn, who he is as a person, and then factor the bloodlines in, it makes the evaluation even easier."

On Slater's use of the word 'technician' and how that relates to what he's seen on film:

"You'll sometimes hear the word 'raw,' or, 'Hey, this guy is going to get a lot better at the next level,' Maybe he doesn't have that polish or whatever. I feel like Rashawn, very well-schooled at Northwestern, but you can just see a guy that really understands how to play, a guy that has his own style. That's something that I really like, that he has his own style of play that he's created that works for him and that takes advantage of his gifts. Just feel like he's going to get a lot better, too. He's still a young guy. There's still so much in front of him as an NFL offensive lineman. Coming into the NFL, there's such a big transition, but he's got all the right stuff; the make-up, the body and all that physical stuff put into one. He's going to be able to get a lot better very quickly. Really looking forward to [Run Game Coordinator/OL Coach] Frank Smith and [Assistant Offensive Line Coach] Shaun Sarrett being able to coach this guy, and Rashawn being able to partner up with a really good group of guys here on our team that are going to push him, as well."

On Slater's intensity:

"One of the things we were really attracted to, in the process, is that he's an intense competitor. He has a play style that you are attracted to. This guy really competes to the end of the down and competes for four quarters. I think that shows up. When I talk about being a line-of-scrimmage team, you want to be an all-the-time line-of-scrimmage team. You don't want to have this pick and choose when you are a line-of-scrimmage team. He's one of those really intense competitors where the game means a lot to him. He works at his craft a lot, from a position skill standpoint. He's in the weight room, big weight room guy. Just studying a lot of the tape and being a gym rat. I think that you're seeing a player that has the right stuff to play one of the toughest positions in sports. That competitive nature is something we were really attracted to."

On having 'his own style' as an offensive lineman:

"Because of his athleticism and because of his strength, this guy is able to take different set angles. He's able to do a lot of things that most offensive linemen aren't able to do because he's so athletic and strong, and then he's got the brain to make it all work. There's a lot of variety in how he plays, which for young players isn't that common. That's a great sign that he's already ahead of the game. Then, there's going to be an even bigger transition coming to this level. He has an awesome make-up. Certainly excited to start working with him."

TACKLE RASHAWN SLATER**On being selected by the Chargers:**

"I'm so excited for this opportunity. The first thing on my mind is showing up to that rookie camp. I talked to [Head] Coach [Brandon Staley] a little bit, and he kind of pointed towards that. I'm ready to show up and get to work and show that I've earned it."

On Staley's expectations of him:

"We haven't talked that far in detail yet. Just talked a little bit of logistics stuff."

On the amount of dialogue he had with the Chargers before tonight and how he felt about potentially being selected by the club entering the draft:

"I felt pretty good about them. I actually had not talked to the Chargers at all on Zoom, at least not the coaches. It was a little bit of a surprise from that standpoint, but at the same time, I've seen the mock drafts. I try not to pay attention to them, but I knew that it could be a possibility."

On joining the Chargers:

"I couldn't have picked a better place for myself — a great young quarterback, a young team. We're going to have so many weapons. It's just an honor to be a part of that system."

On receiving the call from the Chargers and meeting Commissioner Goodell on the draft stage:

"Leading up to that moment, it was still just disbelief that all of my work had paid off, and I was here in Cleveland at the draft. It was an amazing feeling. The first thing I did was hug my family and thank them for being here. I teared up a little bit at the thought of the journey that it's taken to be here. Pure excitement."

On what sets him apart from the rest of the offensive tackles in this year's draft class:

"I'm a technician. I'm consistent. I feel like the best thing that you can be, as an offensive lineman, is consistent, and I'm the most consistent offensive lineman in this draft. I owe that to my technique, my understanding of the game, and just my work ethic."

On playing high school football in Texas and how that prepared him for the collegiate level:

"It's all that I ever knew growing up. To me, it was just normal. Sometimes it was like a college game. When playing in a homecoming game, the whole stadium would be packed. It's definitely a big deal down there. I feel like being a part of a program at a high school where football is taken so seriously — you know, we had a coach that was pushing us really hard, and it molded me into being who I am today. So, I'm really appreciated of it."

On opting out of the 2020 season and his subsequent training regimen:

"I'm ready to hit somebody. It's been way too long. I've been in Dallas training with Duke Manyweather, working out with a lot of his pro guys. Since the fall, it's been tenacious — two-a-days constantly. Working on my body in the weight room, getting stronger, faster, leaner, and just working on my technique. I feel like I'm a far better football player than the last time that I touched the field, and I'm ready to show it off."

On the areas in which he improved:

"Just so much more refined in all of my techniques. My understanding of leverage and angles. My ability to change direction. It's all just taken two steps up."

On playing collegiately in the Big Ten Conference:

"I had the opportunity to go against a lot of guys who ended up being highly-touted draft picks and are having success in the NFL now. Even at practice, going against [DL] Joe Gaziano, who is now with the Chargers, going against people like that in the Big Ten, it's just that iron sharpens iron. I wouldn't have wanted to play in any other conference. I feel extremely prepared."

On his decision to not opt back in once the Big Ten commenced plans for a season:

"They said that they weren't coming back, so I was like, 'Alright, well, I'm going to start training.' My mindset is that I want to be the best offensive linemen in the NFL in my rookie year. I took that work ethic straight to training. When they brought it back, there was just so much uncertainty that I decided that I just wanted to focus on this goal of mine."

On if his performance in 2019 against former Ohio State DE and reigning NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year Chase Young helped 'put him on the map' for NFL evaluators:

"I think that it definitely did. That's a game that a lot of people look at to prove that I can play tackle at the next level, with him being who he is. I was thankful for that opportunity. Playing in the Big Ten, you go against guys like that more than once a season. I feel prepared."

On the number of occasions that he played against Young:

"I played him one time the year prior in the Big Ten Championship Game [2018], and then in that game [2019]. Two different years."

On wearing a powder blue suit tonight and if that had anything to do with potentially being selected by the Chargers:

"Absolutely. That's my favorite color, too. It works out perfectly."

On representing Northwestern as a first-round selection:

"It's an honor to represent Northwestern. That's a program that does it right. It's destined for great things. I think that you're going to start to see a trend of a lot of guys going this high out of Northwestern."

On what he was experiencing emotionally while sitting in the draft room waiting to be selected:

"There was definitely anxiety just leading up to today, not knowing what my future held. At the same time, I've always had the mindset that I don't care which team it is; I don't care who the coach is, I'm going to come in and absorb as much as I can and be able to execute when it comes my time to show who I am. I was extremely thankful and happy that it was the Chargers. That was a team that I was really excited about. I'm in a blessed situation, and I'm going to make the most of it."

On the intensity displayed in a pre-draft weightlifting video:

"I kind of have the ability to flip a switch like that. In a lot of the interviews, teams were like, 'Some people say that you're too nice,' and I'm like, 'You've never watched the film. I know how to flip that switch.'"

On if he developed a 'chip on his shoulder' in high school:

"Absolutely. I think that it all started there. I've been an underdog all of my life, going from being under-recruited in high school to Northwestern, where someone said earlier that not a lot of expectations come out of there. I feel like I've always had that chip on my shoulder — trained with that chip on my shoulder and played with that chip on my shoulder, and it's not leaving because that's just part of who I am now."

On joining a veteran offensive line unit with the Chargers:

"One of my biggest wishes in going to an NFL team was to be in a room with a lot of good veterans, and that's exactly what they have. I'm going to be a sponge. I'm going to be talking to those guys all of the time, picking up everything I can, as far as the playbook, experience, how to train, everything. It means a lot to be able to be around those guys."

On sharing this moment with his father, who played in the NBA:

"It was amazing. Ever since I was a little kid, he has always had that athlete mindset that he was going to be a grinder, a worker. He has kind of pushed that upon us. To realize that him being with me, as someone who molded my mindset into who I am today, I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. It was such an honor to have him there. I was so happy that they were able to make the trip. It's unbelievable."

On choosing football over basketball:

"Ever since we were kids, we were big. You know how it is, you show up to football practice and they're like, 'Alright, you can go with the O-line.' We probably knew even then that basketball wasn't in our future."

On a message to his father:

"Thank you for everything. Thank you for being an example and leader for me all of my life. Thank you for laying the foundation of who I am as a person. I'm so thankful that you could be here and I'm going to keep making you proud."

On his biggest inspiration:

"Definitely my dad. I've been blessed to have been raised in such a great family, with my mom and my dad. Ever since I was a little kid, we would just be chilling in the house and minding our business, and he would just sit next to us and be like, 'Did I tell you about that time where I had to do yada, yada, yada?' He has just always been in our ear with that. We didn't know it at the time, but all of that stuff that he was telling us, it was shaping us under our skin. So, definitely him."

On where he developed his technique and understanding of the game:

"It all started in high school. When I really started pursuing football, I had the privilege of working with an O-line coach back in Houston. He kind of just taught me the details of technique. That was really when I started getting into football, so at an early point, I started to realize that you put yourself ahead by the way that you work, but you also put yourself ahead by the way that you execute the technique. Everyone's strong, everyone's fast, but do you have great technique? From there, that's where it started to build. Since then, I've just had great coaches and people in my life that continued me down that road."

On having ‘five-position flexibility’ across the offensive line:

“I think part of it is just who I am. I am always going to rise to whatever challenge is presented to me. At the same time, at Northwestern, I ended up playing right tackle. I was recruited as a guard but played right tackle my first two years, then switched over to left tackle, so I have experience on both sides. I just have that chip on my shoulder to prove. If you think that I can’t do something, I’m going to do it. So, I can play any position.”

On the arm-length measurement:

“It definitely got tiresome, but at the end of the day, through my meetings with coaches, I knew that they valued who I was as a technician, as a player and as a person, so I wasn’t too hung up about it.”

On if he felt any hesitation toward not opting back in due to a potential impact on his draft status:

“I was confident. I wouldn’t have made that decision if I wasn’t confident. But like I said earlier, once I entered that decision, there was no room for looking back. I didn’t have any regrets with it. As a competitor, I missed playing with my team, but it just motivated me to go harder on my training. I feel good about it, and I have from the start.”

On if he has any ‘pent-up emotion’ that will come out in his first game:

“Absolutely. 100 percent.”

On if watched QB Justin Herbert and the Chargers last season:

“I remember following that storyline and just watching up grow and erupt onto the scene. I can’t tell you enough how much it means to me to be able to join an organization with a quarterback like that. It’s going to be everything for me to make sure that he is protected.”

On what excites him about playing with Herbert:

“His leadership and his ability to find a way to win, no matter what. At the end of the day, he’s a winner, and that’s what matters. That’s what you want in a quarterback.”

Chargers 2021 NFL Draft Availability — Day 2

Friday, April 30, 2021 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

GENERAL MANAGER TOM TELESKO

On WR Josh Palmer:

"We love his size and strength. Excellent route-runner. He can really separate at the top of the route very well. Strong hands. Very good blocker. He has a lot of NFL traits to him as a wide receiver. Great make-up, as far as work ethic and being a pro while was in college, week after week after week. He played against really good competition in that conference and he stepped up each week. He really showed the same thing at the Senior Bowl. A lot of things that we saw in the fall, he did the same thing down in Mobile [Ala.] against a pretty good corner. We're happy to add him."

On how Palmer complements the rest of the wide receiver group currently on the roster:

"We'll add him to the group. He has real NFL size, strength, route-running and very good hands to be a receiver in this league."

On selecting CB Asante Samuel Jr. in the second round:

"Very excited that he was there. We weren't necessarily drafting for need. He has such a great competitive spirit with how he plays and challenges receivers every down, both in the run game and pass game. Rally instinctive at both reading routes and finding the football. Extremely quick. He'll fit in very well with our defensive back room. Very, very excited that we were able to select him right there."

On of Samuel 'fits' more as a boundary corner in the defensive scheme:

"Since the NFL's hashes are so much closer, there really isn't boundary and field — not like college. He'll play wherever [Head Coach] Brandon [Staley] and [Defensive Coordinator] Renaldo Hill and [Secondary Coach] Derrick Ansley, wherever they want to put him is where he'll go. He can go inside and outside. He can play wherever we need him to play."

On how the group evaluated Samuel's height due to routinely having to cover taller receivers:

"Good question. Sometimes we throw around that a player, 'Plays bigger than his size.' We heard that a lot from our scouts. You do see that when he plays. He has all of those traits and attributes that you need to have at that position if you're going to be a little bit size deficient. What I mentioned before are his incredible instincts, his ability to key in on and diagnose routes and the football. The tempo at which he plays, he challenges every single down. He's strong. He's built well for his size. He's a little bit on the shorter side, but he's built well. He's strong, durable. His athletic traits, as far as his quickness and his feet — his short burst explosion — it's all there. You'd love for them all to be 6-foot, 6-foot-1, but they all can't be that tall. He has everything else that we look for. Some versatility there, too, as far as playing inside and outside, wherever our coaches want to put him."

On if the staff evaluated TE Tre' McKitty as more of a blocking tight end:

"You hit it right on the head. One of the best things that he does is really block at the line of scrimmage. Very good size, strength and power. Good feet to stay on blocks. He likes to do it, and you can tell. He comes from more of a pro-style offense at Georgie, so he has had to do it. That position is very hard to find in college nowadays; the guys that do it and do it well. A big part of our offense moving forward here is having a tight end that can get on the line of scrimmage and block. It's a huge part of the run game to do that. He's also a pretty good athlete. He runs well. He's smooth. He wasn't used a lot in the passing game, as you saw at Georgia, which he was a little bit more at Florida State, but still wasn't a primary receiver. There are still some things there to work with and develop, but we think that he is a very good line-of-scrimmage blocker. He showed that again at the Senior Bowl, as well. His strength, size, and frame will help us in that position group right now."

"At that position, it's hard, coming out of college, to find players that do that. A lot of tight ends are out in the slot, and they're excellent receivers, but we do need somebody to kind of handle that role at the line of scrimmage. I hate to say it, but someone to do some of that dirty work. That's going to be some of his job. Hopefully, we'll get him some balls, too. He does have some athletic ability to get out in space and run. We're happy to add him."

On Palmer's ability to play at multiple spots:

"I think that he can outside or inside. He's played more outside, but he has very good quickness. He has quick feet. He can beat press. He can separate from tight coverage. So, I think that he has some versatility there to be inside or outside. You can't compare anybody to [WR] Keenan [Allen]. Then, he's a different style than [WR] Mike [Williams]. I do like having that receiver room having some different styles of receivers that we can go to. He really stood out through the whole fall. Obviously, with the SEC schedule, they played a lot of games this year, so it was helpful to see him a lot. Then we saw him at the Senior Bowl. Just has a lot of key attributes that we think can work in this offense."

On Palmer being from Canada and playing at St. Thomas Aquinas High School [Fla.]:

"I'll tell you what impresses us is how St. Thomas Aquinas can find all of these players. It's unbelievable the talent that they have there. It's incredible. The state of Florida, in general, but St. Thomas Aquinas has players there. He played American high school football and then, obviously, at Tennessee. He's traveled a different road. All of these kids — and they are all kids — they all come in with a different journey. There isn't just one way to do it. He has an interesting story to him. We're excited to have him."

On what stood out about Palmer and Samuel upon evaluation:

"That's part of being a professional player, that intangible part. We called them intangibles, but there are some tangible aspects that you can really see. With both of those guys, their ability to compete every day just really stands out. As far as Asante at the corner position, and then Josh at the receiver position, how they compete in practice, I mean our scouts have talked about that at the meetings, how these guys practice on an everyday basis, which you have to do at this level to get better and to develop — not to mention, the competition is much bigger. We talk about trying to find players that love to play the game. We talk about it all of the time, but you have to follow through on that. Those are two guys that really fit that category."

On adding Palmer to the wide receiver group to provide a wide array of pass-catching options for QB Justin Herbert:

"It just gives him more options, more weapons to throw to or hand it off to. That's a pretty deep group that we have in that receiver room right now, including all of these guys that we have coming back. It's a very strong group. You need depth in this league. We're drafting these players not just for opening day in 2021 but for the next three, four and five years, hopefully. Hopefully, he can add to that."

On the Senior Bowl performances of Palmer and McKitty:

"I don't know about elevating, but it does give you some more verification. It's a great all-star game. Hats off to [Senior Bowl Director] Jim Nagy, who runs that all-star game. To do that in the middle of a pandemic, there are a lot of hurdles to jump through. It was a great evaluative process for us, for our scouts to get down to Mobile [Ala.] and actually speak to some players face-to-face. I think there was plexi-glass between guys, but at least get a little bit of interaction with the players, and then see practice live against some good, caliber competition. It was a great competition. It was a great game this year. It really does help us see these players. Now, obviously, those two guys you mentioned are SEC players. They played against big players every week, but every piece of evaluation tape that we can get, helps. To see those guys perform down there was certainly helpful. I'm so glad that the Senior Bowl was able to be run as well as it was. Jim Nagy is the director of that game and did an incredible job."

On McKitty's adaptability:

"Each system is going to be a little bit different. We have a good coaching staff here, but he is football smart. We'll get him going for minicamp and see how far he can take it. He's a young player. We have a defined role for him that he has a chance to earn. He's going to have to put the work in this training camp and we'll see how far he can take it."

On Samuel's playing style being similar to his father's:

"Actually, yes, when I was with the Colts, we played against his dad for a long time — and he used to kill us. He picked off a lot of balls against us. I think they showed some highlights of his dad picking off a couple of balls that [former Colts and Broncos QB] Peyton [Manning] threw. They actually showed one of him picking off [former Chargers and Colts QB] Philip Rivers, believe it or not. The one thing that stands out between those two players — because now I've scouted both of them, which makes me really old — the definite carryover is the instincts. His dad just had incredible instincts and feel for the position and how to play it — route combinations and everything. Asante Samuel Jr., plays very similar to that. He's very football smart for the position."

On the special teams value of the Day 2 picks:

"It's great, I love it. Everybody we'd like to have, if you can just pitch in — this is if you're a starting player, I'm not talking about him specifically — to be on one special team would be helpful. Guys like him, maybe it's more than one. We need to be able to use some of our better players in those spots if we want to improve on special teams. Certainly, his position with his speed, his physicality and his feel for the game, there is no doubt he'll be able to help in some area of special teams."

HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY**On his assessment of Day 2:**

"Really excited. I felt like it was a very productive day. Felt like we got a lot of really good value. Felt like we were able to follow our draft board. I felt like all three players that we selected tonight we had really good grades on, really thorough evaluations — both with the personnel side and the coaching side. I felt like it really came together nicely tonight."

On how Secondary Coach Derrick Ansley's evaluations impacted WR Josh Palmer's pick:

"It played a component in it. It certainly starts with our area scouts and then [Director of College Scouting] Kevin Kelly and his side of our personnel staff and then [Director of Player Personnel] JoJo Wooden tying it all together for us. Then when we got into the coaching side of things, there was a lot of like for this player from Chris Beatty, our receivers coach and Joe Lombardi, our offensive coordinator. Just going back to DA who had to defend him everyday in practice. You just get a strong sense of his make-up, strong sense of his work ethic, just how talented he is. Derrick Ansley has been at Alabama. A lot of the premier programs in the country, he knows the defensive backs that this guy has to beat. Then [Derrick Ansley] DA also coached with the Raiders so we felt like we had a really strong sense of Josh as a player. We felt like we had a very thorough evaluation and the SEC was outstanding in the senior bowl. Evaluating all these DB's in the secondary, this guy just kept showing up over and over again. That's what I told Josh when I called him. Just feel like this guy is a complete player and adds to a really good room that we have already."

On where TE Tre' McKitty will fit in:

"We really believe in having tight ends on the roster. The more tight ends you have on the roster, the more advantage you can have formationally and really dictating the terms to the defense and the more gaps you create in the run game and the more vertical threats you create in the passing game. There's evidence of Tre' playing on the line of scrimmage, which is rare this day and age in the premier league in the country, in the SEC this past year, and then certainly at Florida State. It just felt like we had a really thorough evaluation of him as a tight end playing in a pro-style offense at Georgia and at Florida State and then how he competed at the senior bowl, how he worked out. Just felt like we had a player that could play 'Y' — those guys are difficult to find. But also a guy that can get vertical in the scene, that can create separation, that has strong hands. We felt really good about him and adding to a room that we're already excited about. There's going to be really good depth there in that position. He's a big guy, adding size to our offense. That was a big goal of ours."

On if he considers McKitty more of a stretch tight end:

"I see him as a 'Y' tight end that can play on the line of scrimmage and then a guy that can play off the line as our 'F' tight end as well. He's a guy that has dual flex but where he's different is that he can play on the line of scrimmage and that was a dimension that we wanted to add to our offense."

On evaluating CB Asante Samuel Jr.:

"This guy is really instinctive. He can play bump and run, he can play off. This guy has outstanding feet. He has really good concept trigger. When he's off and he's visual off the quarterback, being able to see the quarterback first and then the receiver — this guy has a really good feel for route concepts. You really see a guy that can key-diagnose and that really jumps off the page. He has outstanding quickness. This guy can judge the ball in the deep part of the field. This guy has really good ball skills. This guy can play in and out of phase and he's a really well-rounded player. He's a good open field tackler and we feel he has position flexibility. Just feel like he's a complete DB, he's really tough, competitive, fearless competitor, and that's what we're looking for."

On if he's getting closer to having that flexibility in the back end:

"Yeah, it's an advantage. We want guys that can play outside. [CB] Chris [Harris Jr.] has certainly proven that, that he can play outside and then has made his name inside as an All-Pro player and one of the better inside players of the last decade. Asante [Samuel Jr.] played primarily outside at Florida State and that's how Chris played at Kansas, he was primarily an outside corner. In our secondary right now, we're getting closer to the way we want to play with [S] Derwin's [James Jr.] flexibility, Nas [Nasir Adderley] — we feel like we have some chest pieces there that we can work with. Certainly excited about what Asante brings to the table."

On how Palmer fits into his scheme:

"He's a guy that can play outside, he can play 'X' or 'Z' for us. Truly he can be an outside receiver and he has a really good body, really strong, physical, can really run the route tree out there and get separation against press. We really believe in outside receivers. Can you beat press? It kind of starts there. Can you beat press coverage? And then can you separate, level two? And then what's your ball judge like, level three? He kind of clicked all three of those boxes for us. We feel like he can go inside to the slot and run that tree as well. It gives us a bigger bodied guy that can match-up against smaller nickel-type people or a linebacker to be able to get that separation. Feel like he's a complete player and we're really excited about him. He really showed up a lot in the evaluation process."

On how Ansley's input on Palmer from Tennessee impressed him:

"That he's a pro, that he takes his craft really seriously. You can tell by his route detail if you watch this guy. He's got the route detail, if you take a look at his senior bowl, being able to separate against those corners that were in that All-star game. All you got to do is watch the film in that league against Georgia, against Alabama. You saw all the DB's that got taken off both those teams and how he performed in both those games will tell you a lot about who he is. He just has really good make-up too so just excited about what he brings. We know what we have with [WR] Mike [Williams] and [WR] Keenan [Allen]. We have two of the premier wideouts in the NFL and we felt like we could add another weapon to go along with T-Billy [WR Tyron Johnson], [WR] Jalen Guyton, [WR] Joe Reed. We feel like, 'hey, you add a Tre' McKitty' and now you're close to where you want to be as an offense."

On Samuel:

"I said to you guys a while back about corners — they come in all shapes and sizes. I don't think everybody in the NFL is six-foot or over. As a matter-of-fact, the data will show you that it's the opposite. What you do have to take into consideration is if they are in that 5'10, 5'10 1/2, under 5'11 range, do they have that other stuff that can allow them to climb the ladder with big guys because we all know the type of caliber receivers that are out wide and the tight ends now that are out wide — [TE Travis] Kelce, [TE Darren] Waller, all these guys that are split out. The Atlanta guy that they drafted fourth overall. Those guys are showing up outside. We felt like there is a lot of evidence of Asante playing out there and the one thing we really value with this guy is that he can get you the ball. He has those instincts, that processor, that concept trigger that can get you the football. He has a really good body. If you take a look at him, this guy is a really strong player. He's a complete DB for us."

On what he enjoys the most about the NFL Draft:

"Well, I told you guys, I'm a sucker for the NFL Draft. I love it. I love all of it because dreams are coming true right before your eyes. You can't get enough of the stories of where these guys come from and seeing their families. That's what I reminded all the guys is, make sure you thank all the people who helped you make it. At the same time, this is just the beginning for all of you. As much as this is a dream come true, you're just at the beginning and there's a lot of work to do. When you get to next week you're going to be joining up with some of the best players in the world. I think that what we love to do, and why we do it, is we love to compete and I think really that is your dream coming true — to be able to compete doing what you love. I think that's what makes the game special and I think what I'm excited about — these for guys, we've been able to join up with, they're competitors and they fit the way we want to play. I think that maybe even as important as the players on our team, these guys are worthy of joining up with the guys we already have on our team and that's important. We want to make sure we onboard guys that all these special players that we already have, they can say, 'Hey! That guy is one of us.' That's very important to us too."

On the expressing the culture of the Los Angeles Chargers to the draft picks:

Yeah, we're going to have to get to work on that right away. Hopefully, because we're at the beginning, that we don't skip any steps with them. We have a little bit of a head start with the veteran group, the guys coming back, but it's really important with us that we don't skip any steps with the rookies. That they go through that same onboarding process that we've had with the team that's already here in place. We have to make sure that we go back and do that and then hopefully because we're off to a start with the older guys — some of these guys who have played a lot of football — hopefully they can help us accelerate that process. Hopefully they can be that mouth piece for us where, hey, your players turn into your coaches. You know you have a good thing if your players turn into your coaches and hopefully they start sounding like we do and that's why I love our team so far because I know that that's exactly what is going to happen.

On the development of the culture in the building:

"[It's developing] each and every day. We had meetings this morning, it's Friday. Everyone said, 'Hey, are you excited about the draft?' I said, 'Well yeah, but the first thing that we're going to do is have big-time meetings about the draft. From 8-10 a.m., we're going to meet with these guys and try to compete as [well] as anybody in the world.' That's what we started out with and then we get to compete tonight with the draft process and take some guys that are going to make us a better team. We're really excited about our start to the draft. Now, we have to finish it tomorrow."

On McKitty's adaptability:

"There's a component in it [with him having had four offensive systems in four years]. I know, certainly, you guys went through that one last year in [QB] Justin Herbert — and him having to go through all of that. I think it says a lot about a guy and his aptitude for the game, and I think just competing at the level he was competing at, too. At Florida State, you're playing against Clemson. You're playing against a lot of high-level competition. Then, he goes to the SEC this past year with Georgia in a COVID year — an abbreviated offseason — and being able to join up with those guys. I have a lot of respect for [Georgia Head Coach] Kirby Smart and [Georgia Offensive Coordinator] Todd Monken. Those guys do a really good job of coaching. I just felt like we were getting a really good evaluation of the guy. It felt like you could really see the projection to a guy that can play that position in the NFL."

On special teams value in the Day 2 picks:

"Yeah, there has to be. I think there has to be. I think that's something that we were attracted to all of these guys. I feel like whether it's Asante [Samuel] being a complete DB and a guy that can do a lot of things — holdup, gunner, kickoff, you name it. I know Asante could catch a punt if he had to. Then, Josh [Palmer], he has that body that I was talking about — a guy that can really help you on special teams because he can be a matchup guy. A guy that can really change the math that way and is a guy that could really help [Special Teams Coordinator] Derius [Swinton II] and Mayur [Chaudhari] out on special teams. Tre' certainly has that body type as well. He's a bigger skill player that can play on the interior on a lot of our protection phases, and certainly could be a guy on the interior on kickoff as well."

CORNERBACK ASANTE SAMUEL JR.**On being selected by the Chargers:**

"It means the world to me. I know that I've been grinding for this. I'm at home and I just want to cherish it with my family. Just soaking in everything right now."

On playing alongside S Derwin James Jr., another former Florida State defensive back:

"He's been in my ear. He always wanted to play with me, and he tells me that the coaches love me. He just wanted to make sure that we ended up on the same team. I'm just blessed to have him on the team, an older guy from FSU. Blessed for the opportunity."

On his knowledge of the Chargers:

"I don't know too much, but I know that we're going to get on the right path."

On the influence that his father played throughout the draft process:

"He was there. He just let me do my own thing but kept telling me, 'Stay grounded and stay humble.'"

On continuing the lineage of Florida State defensive backs to the NFL:

"I kind of went to Florida State because of that. Just trying to keep the tradition going and keep 'DBU' alive. That was my main goal when going to Florida State."

On the strengths that he possesses as a defensive back:

"Play-making abilities. Making plays on the ball, whether it's on special teams, at nickel, on the outside. I make plays everywhere."

On where he impacts the game the most:

"Wherever I step on the field at. Whether it's on special teams, at outside corner, inside corner — I feel like wherever I line up at, I'm going to make an impact for the team."

On his mindset when playing:

"I'm a true competitor. I just want to win every rep that I'm on the field. I prepare like I'm the best, so when I go out on the field, I know that I'm the best and that I'm prepared, and I'm ready to dominate my opponent."

On now having the ability to learn from a veteran cornerback in Chris Harris Jr.:

"It's a blessing to be in this position. I have the opportunity to be around great guys, great DBs. I'm just going to soak everything in and just take it one day at a time."

On his initial reaction upon being selected:

"I just wanted to soak it in with the family. I've been grinding all my life for this. Soaking it in with the family. They know how much time that I've put into football. Just soaking it in."

On playing with a sense of tenacity and where that comes from:

"Just always being doubted because I'm undersized. A lot of corners got picked before me because of their size. I feel like I'm going to make them correct that sooner or later."

On his reaction to still being on the board in the second round:

"Wherever I ended up, I was blessed to be in this position. I really didn't worry about when and where; I just wanted to get an opportunity."

On where he prefers to play in the secondary:

"I don't have a preference. Wherever [Head] Coach [Brandon Staley] wants me to be. But, I feel like I'm a dominant outside corner."

On the challenges he faced with coaching turnover at Florida State:

"It was a lot. I experienced a lot at Florida State, good and bad. I feel like it helped me on and off of the field. With all of the coaching changes and everything going on at Florida State, I feel like it prepared me for the next level. Anything that could happen at the next level, I feel like I'm prepared for it."

On if he has spoken with Rams CB, and former Florida State defensive back, Jalen Ramsey since being selected:

"I heard that he tweeted me, so I'll have to see what he said about that. But, not really. I haven't really spoken to Jalen like that. I speak to Derwin [James]."

On the most important lesson that he learned from his father:

"Staying humble and staying grounded at all times."

On if a primary man-to-man defensive scheme fits his skillset:

"Every scheme in college, I played zone and man. I feel like I could adapt to wherever I go. I feel like I can adapt."

On where his confidence comes from:

"How I prepared each day and each week — whether it's for a game or just in the offseason, the way I prepare."

On his experience as a slot corner in college:

"I played a lot inside my freshman and sophomore years. My junior year, we wanted guys to get some more reps — younger guys — so I went and played strictly outside. But, for most of my sophomore and freshman years, I was in the slot a lot."

On his relationship with James:

"Derwin is kind of like a big brother because we went to Florida State — the same school and all. We're good. We talk football and about some good things."

On if he spoke to James throughout the draft process:

"I haven't really talked to him. I only talked to him one time. The board could've gone any way, so we really didn't know."

On mentally preparing for the draft:

"I was prepared for this moment. This is what I have been grounded for all my life. I was just taking it one day at a time, just trying to soak everything in. The experience of this happens once in a lifetime. Many people don't get this experience, so I just take it one day at a time and be grateful for everything."

On what he brings to the Chargers:

"My play-making abilities wherever I'm at; on special teams, outside, inside. I feel like I'm just going to make plays, whether it's a strip-sack, a strip, a fumble recovery, an interception, anything. Just being able to make plays on the field."

WIDE RECEIVER JOSH PALMER

On being selected by the Chargers:

"Words can't describe really how I feel right now. I'm really excited to come in and get to work. The last four months I've been training so hard. Now that this is over, I'm just excited to get with the team and get to work and get to winning some games."

On the strengths that he possesses as a wide receiver:

"My ability to go up and attack the ball. Sink into my breaks. The ability to get the defender's hips moving. Getting off the ball vertically and catching it with my hands. My route-running, getting in and out of my breaks."

On if he spoke with the Chargers before the draft:

"No. If I remember correctly, I had not. Small talks, but I didn't have any Zooms."

On if he was surprised to be drafted by the Chargers:

"I don't even know. I'm just so happy because I think any team that were to draft me would have been surprising. To go to the Chargers, they're such a great team to play for. This moment right now, I can't put it into words. I haven't stopped smiling yet."

On getting to play with QB Justin Herbert:

"I'm ready to get to work. If I could fly down right now, I would be there running routes tomorrow."

On playing in the slot at Tennessee:

"I played a majority outside, but I did play a lot in the slot this year. I feel like I can play inside and outside. My coach, [former Tennessee Assistant Head Coach/Passing Game Coordinator/Wide Receivers Coach] Tee Martin, put an emphasis on being able to play multiple positions, from 'Z' to the 'X' to the 'F.' He told us that 'Z' receivers don't get drafted, receivers get drafted. So, I take a lot of pride in playing every position on the field."

On joining a WR room that features Keenan Allen and Mike Williams:

"Learning as much as I can. I'm going to be in their back pocket, I can tell you guys that right now. I'm going to be watching them like a hawk, trying to study everything that they do on and off of the field — how they live their lives around football, the decisions that they make around football, how they take care of their bodies. I'm going to be in their back pocket like some spare change. I'm going to try to learn as much as I can while I'm here and while they're there. Just soak it all in like a sponge."

On growing up in Canada and experiencing the native football culture:

"The culture was definitely there. It wasn't on the same level that it is across the border, but we have the CFL. We have [Washington Football Team CB] Benjamin St-Juste, who just got drafted before me, so we have a lot of ballers up here. I can't wait for players in Canada to get bigger and for the country to grow in football. Down there, though, it's a great environment to play football down there. The field is bigger and you have one more player — a little bit different rules, but they love it just like everybody else."

On developing high-caliber catching abilities:

"Practice. I was catching on The JUGS Machine, catching balls every day, strengthening my hands and doing grip drills. Just things like that. I played goalkeeper growing up a lot, and you have to use your hands to get that ball. That's one thing that I can attribute to that. Just a lot of work that I put in."

On playing at Fort Lauderdale (Fla.) St. Thomas Aquinas High School and battling against his new teammate, CB Asante Samuel Jr.:

"I tell everybody that my very first rep at St. Thomas Aquinas was against Asante Samuel. He put his hands on me. It's going to be exciting to be reunited with him and just to go to work. Iron sharpens iron. I'm ready to go back and get to work with Asante."

On the transition from growing up in Canada to playing at Aquinas:

"I had no choice but to develop as a better football player, just seeing the competition that I was around. One of the biggest things about going down there was the exposure. There wasn't a lot in Canada at the time. That was the place to be. It was the best high school team in the country. I knew that this was the place that I needed to be if I wanted to be great."

On battling through coaching changes and adversity while at Tennessee and how that benefits him now:

"It'll definitely help me. If I didn't go to Tennessee, I wouldn't have been drafted by the Chargers right now. That's how I see it. I was fortunate to learn from so many coaches and so many different ways of coaching. That's what I loved about going to Tennessee. I learned how to deal with different coaches and what they see and what they look for. It's a blessing."

On the 'talent disparity' between Canada and South Florida:

"There was a lot of talent back home, but getting down to St. Thomas [Aquinas], I was surrounded by five-stars, four-stars [prospects]. I was a small guy there. Just being around and playing 7-on-7 with guys that are even getting drafted right now, I was forced to get better. I had no choice. I had to develop that hunger to want to get better and to be great because I moved down there for a reason."

On if he will lean on that experience while transitioning to the NFL:

"For sure. It's always the things in your past that will help you in your future, after you learn from the mistakes that you made. Just going up against different guys, seeing different techniques, all that stuff is what I'm going to bring to my NFL team."

On his message to Chargers fans:

"I'm coming to work. Man, you're going to get everything out of me. I won't care what role I have; I'm going to learn. You're going to get everything from me. We're going to win some games and we're going to win some championships, for real."

On if he will enjoy tonight, then get to work tomorrow morning:

"For sure. I've been working out this whole time since the draft started — just because the draft is going on doesn't mean I stop working. This is the moment I have been waiting for. Once I'm finally there, that's when everything starts to happen. I realized that throughout these months that there was a lot of work being put in. This is what I have been training for, and now that it's here, it's time to go take advantage of it and be great."

TIGHT END TRE' McKITTY**On his initial reaction to being selected by the Chargers:**

"It's crazy right now. Once my phone rang, my heart started beating right away. I talked to [Head] Coach [Brandon Staley] and the GM [General Manager Tom Telesco]. I'm trying to calm down. My heart is beating really fast right now, so I'm just trying to stay calm."

On what Chargers fans can expect out of him:

"A hard-worker. A guy that's going to get it done on all three downs. I feel like I'm an all-around tight end. I'm more than willing to come in and learn and then do whatever I can to help the team win."

On blocking:

"First thing, 80 percent of blocking is the want to. I think I have that dog in me who wants to go and put somebody on their back. It also comes down to technique. I have to continue to grow in that. I think it's there and that I can definitely improve in that, as well."

On his message to Chargers fans:

"I can't wait to get out to L.A. Just can't wait to be in the city. Thank you guys so much for this opportunity. I can't wait to see the Chargers fans."

On if 'creating an impact' starts with being a good blocker:

"This season definitely didn't go the way that I planned, as far as targets. But, one of the reasons that I wanted to go to the SEC this year was so that I could become a good blocker, and I think I did that. I think that I improved a lot in my blocking this year and got to show that. The production wasn't there, as far as receptions, but still was a good year."

On if he contributed on special teams during his collegiate career:

"Yes. I played a lot of special teams while I was at Florida State. I definitely think that's part of my game that I am going to have to do in the NFL, and I think that I can excel in that, as well."

On joining a tight end group that features TE Jared Cook:

"I think it's great. I get to learn from a veteran like that. I've been watching him the last few years. That's one of the tight ends that I've been trying to watch film on. That's going to be an awesome opportunity. I can't wait to work with him."

On competing against Chargers S Derwin James Jr. in practice consistently at Florida State:

"I still say to this day that Derwin is probably one of the best players I've ever gone against, as far as in practice or in a game. My freshman year at Florida State, it was great working with him. It got me a lot better. I can't wait to work with him again."

On the offensive scheme he played in at Georgia in 2020 compared to the systems he played in at Florida State from 2017-19:

"To be honest, the offensive coordinator, Coach [Todd] Monken this past year, his offense was actually pretty similar to [former Florida State Head] Coach [Jimbo] Fisher's my freshman year. As far as that aspect, it was kind of similar, but with [former Florida State Head] Coach [Willie] Taggart, things were definitely different; just the style of offense and the face of the offense, as well. There was more of an emphasis on getting up to the ball quick, whereas with Coach Monken and Coach Fisher, it was more of a pro-style focus."

On how playing under four offensive coordinators in four collegiate seasons can assist with his transition into the NFL:

"I think it does nothing but help me, having to pick up something new every single year. I think my ability to learn is quick, so I think that will help me a lot. Having fellow teammates like [FB] Gabe Nabers on the offense is going to help me, as well. We will be able to pick up the offense together. Definitely think that my experience, as far as changing offensive coordinators and staffs, is going to help me in the future."

On his knowledge of the Chargers offense:

"I definitely looked at film. To be honest, me and Gabe Nabers are very close, so me and him talked about it a lot. I've only spoken with the head coach and GM thus far, so still waiting to talk to the tight ends coach and the rest of the staff tonight."

On what excites him about joining the Chargers:

"The fact that they took faith in me. They gave me this opportunity, and that makes me want to go and give my all for them. I want to give them my all for giving me this opportunity and just put my heart into it."

On being able to 'stretch the field' from the tight end position:

"I think that I can do that very well. I was not exactly myself this past year after the injury happened at the beginning of the year, but I'm finally back at 100 percent. I think that I'm one of the exclusive tight ends in this class that can definitely stretch the field."

On Nabers' relationship with QB Justin Herbert:

"So far, he's a great guy and a cool guy to be around. He's a professional. He's obviously a baller. We talked to him a few times before this situation, but now it's going to be awesome that we're all going to be teammates."

On his biggest inspiration:

"My father. Me and my dad don't really have a father-son relationship. It's kind of like a best friend type of thing. He's been there leading me on for my entire life. That's my best friend right there. He's a true mentor for me and my biggest inspiration, for sure."

Chargers 2021 NFL Draft Availability — Day 3

Saturday, May 1, 2021 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

GENERAL MANAGER TOM TELESKO

On where he sees G/T Brenden Jaimes fitting in:

"Kind of a guard/tackle. He played mostly tackle at Nebraska. Right tackle, I think, as a freshman and then left tackle after that. We think he has some flexibility to guard, so it would be a guard/tackle right now."

On DE Chris Rumph II:

"What really stood out with him is his speed, his explosiveness, and he just plays with a relentless motor and hustle. He made a lot of plays for them [Duke], good technician as a rusher. He has some things to still develop in his game that hopefully will continue to come. We also see some high-level special teams traits with him because he's very fast, plays hard, and plays physical. That was an exciting pick for our scouts in the room. He was a guy they liked a lot."

On LB Nick Niemann:

"He ran fast. He ran a low 4.5. All these players drafted on day three have to come in and earn a special teams role first or else it's hard to make the team. You come in, you have to contribute on special teams, and then start to work your way into a role on defense or offense. For these guys coming in, in this day three, we're trying to find the best players we can. We'll figure it out when they get here but they have to have some special teams value, and Nick brings that — very smart, tough, has good size, athletic, very productive in the Big Ten. He has a chance to earn the role, he'll have the opportunity here to come in and compete for playing time. Hopefully everything works out; he plays against his brother at some point, twice a year."

On DB Mark Webb switching from wide receiver to safety:

"Yeah and really, he played mostly corner this year. He played nickel corner. He's a defensive back for us — play corner, maybe even safety, we'll see. Obviously, another special teams player. He played in a great defense, really well coached at Georgia. Played a complicated position there so he has good football intelligence. He has good size, speed, athletic ability, and comes from a really good defense there. He kind of seems like a big nickel type player."

On if they picked all the players they targeting:

"No. We were just looking at the board. It looks good as far as the players we took but it's never perfect. We had nine draft picks. Obviously we had more than nine players on the board that we really, really liked a lot. It just happened, you can't get every player you want. That's just the way that it goes, the way the draft is. There are thirty-one other teams that are drafting. All in all, really happy. This was a difficult year for our scouts to acquire the information they needed to acquire. They had to do it in different ways. But between getting to know the player with his ability on the field, getting to know them off the field, talking with their coaches, this was an uphill climb for everybody in the league. Everyone did a great job. We did a great job here with it so we're happy. All thirty-two teams look at their draft right now and they're really happy with it. Once they get here, go through OTAs, go to training camp, we'll have a better feel about all of these guys. They have to come in and earn a role. That's the biggest thing. Now the real work for them starts now. That competition won't be in OTAs, that competition will be in training camp."

On what RB Larry Rountree III brings to the table:

"They are all favorites but this is one the scouts liked a lot, and the coaches liked a lot. Played very well in the senior bowl, but a lot of production in Missouri. Built well, strong, really thick body type, very good pass protector, catches the ball in the back field and ran for a lot of yards at Missouri. He has really good game speed, we saw that at the Senior Bowl. We think he can come in and compete for a job in the backfield and also compete on special teams too. Like I said, most of these guys are going to have to find a way through special teams first. We think he can come in and compete for a job and we'll see how far he can take it."

On welcoming the competition with the addition of Rountree:

"Yeah, I think everyone welcomes the competition. That's how we all get better. We put as much depth and competition we can at every position group and let it play out from there."

On if Larry is someone who can return kicks on special teams:

"No, I don't see him as a kickoff returner, but covering a kick, punt protection. A lot of times that personal protector or the wing, you have to have some pass protection ability, so we'll see where he can fit in there."

On if he feels good knowing his first two picks:

"Yeah, it's a good point. It's always nice when you hit on that first-round pick, a guy that really everybody is so excited about; especially a position that obviously we have some inexperience so we wanted to add somebody there if we could, if it was the right player. You hit that first one and everything else can kind of fall into place and that's kind of what happened. As you get into Day Two and Day Three, I know you guys get tired of hearing about this, but we're just not drafting by positions, we're drafting players. We may have some crowded position rooms at this point but that's a good problem to have. We can only draft what is on the board. It just so happened with this group, they're all really big school players. Not like it was by design, it just kind of happened, all the way down to our seventh round pick with Mark Webb. We're really pleased with how it worked out and now we have to get everyone on the field and see how it works out."

On the offensive line:

"When we went into this offseason, changing out four starters on the offensive line is kind of a big project to take on. Quite frankly, I thought it may be more of a two-year project to do. It's just hard to be able to do that in one offseason, but I'm happy. I'm happy with what we have right now up front, I'm happy with some depth. It's never perfect, but I feel pretty good about it. Now, it's like you said — let's see once we get on the field in training camp. Let's see how guys come along. This is a new offensive scheme we'll be running. All-in-all as we sit here today, I'm pretty pleased with the plan that we put together back in February. As we sit here on May 1, to kind of see it crystalize and go to where we needed to go is a good feeling."

On making changes to the line during a coaching staff and scheme change:

"It wouldn't really matter. If you're trying to get better, it really wouldn't matter if it was a new coaching staff or not. It is probably going to take place no matter what."

On if there are any undrafted players the team has its eyes on:

"Yeah, a small handful that are still up there. I think the draft may still be going on right now. Our area scouts are kind of in a holding pattern right now, kind of waiting to see. It's always hard when you're an area scout and you see a guy you really like and want to sign him after the draft, but just waiting for the draft to end to see if he gets drafted or not. That's what we are kind of waiting on right now. Hopefully, we can put a good group together. The area scouts and [Assistant Director of College Scouting] Kevin Kelly, [Director of Player Personnel] JoJo Wooden and [Executive Vice President of Football Administration/Player Finance] Ed McGuire run that process. It's fun to watch. It's really efficient. Trying to match the talent with the roster spots we have, competing with other teams and match the contract language and the money you have to pay out. To do it all quickly, efficiently and hit on some players — which you need. You need to hit on some of these guys, especially in the salary cap world. That's what they're working on heavily right now."

On where the team would like to address depth:

"I have to take a step back here, get my voice back and get some food and drink. I'm going to do that first and then we'll kind of look after the dust settles, see where we are and see if there's anything that we may be able to do with some players that are still available out there. Quite frankly, we don't know yet if it's going to be a 90 or 80-man roster, so that could affect some things. We'll kind of see. We'll let the dust settle a little bit and kind of take it from there."

On selecting players with connections to the coaching staff:

"It's probably a little bit of a coincidence, just because a lot of these players, we had all of that information before these guys even came on board. It may have been a quick conversation just to make sure we verify what we have is the real thing. Most of that work was already done in the fall, so by the time we got to February, it didn't really make a difference, but it is nice to be able to go ask one of our coaches, 'Hey, just want to make sure that we're good with this,' and they give you a thumbs-up or thumbs-down. A bulk of that work was already done early in the process."

"We started off with thousands of players and we get that narrowed down. There are a lot of people involved in that process. I just want to make sure, as we check with different people, that we're good. I'll tell you what, it will be a help next year with some of our coaches now that just directly came from college. That will help us in next year's draft. There are a lot of players that they recruited either to go to their school or they didn't get, but they recruited them so they know them. We'll have that information much earlier in the process than we do now. That will be helpful next year."

HEAD COACH BRANDON STALEY**On DB Mark Webb and where he fits in the defensive scheme:**

"Really excited about Mark Webb. He started two years at Georgia. We have really good relationships with [Georgia Head Coach] Kirby Smart, [Georgia Defensive Coordinator/Outside Linebackers Coach] Dan Lanning, [Georgia Co-Defensive Coordinator/Inside Linebackers Coach] Glenn Schumann, all of those guys that kind of run that defense there. He fits the style of DB that we're looking for. He's a guy that can play really anywhere in the secondary, but played in a lot of different spots for them in a pro-style defense. You guys all know that they had like five DBs drafted today. Just have a lot of respect for the way that they play. I just feel like he can add to our group with the versatility that we like to play with, but also be a really big factor on special teams in the kicking game. He has a pro body; long arms, strong, fast. We feel like he can be a really strong contributor in that phase, too."

On the coaching staff's ability to develop Webb further as a defensive back:

"He started two years in the SEC with one of the top-five defenses in the country, so we feel like this guy has been a really productive player on a really good defense. He certainly had pro-style coaching with those guys whom I mentioned. I feel like this guy is really going to thrive in our environment with [Defensive Coordinator] R-Hill [Renaldo Hill], [Secondary Coach] Derrick Ansley and [Assistant Secondary Coach] Tom Donatell. I just feel like he has a lot of the traits that a defensive back has that we're looking for, and we feel like he's a good fit for how we like to play."

On the current depth of the defensive line:

"There are some guys that are probably under-the-radar guys whom not a lot of people know about, but we feel like they are guys that are developing players. [Defensive Line Coach] Giff Smith is one of the best coaches at that position in the NFL. I feel like there are some guys that are under the radar who can be a factor come training camp. Those guys are kind of developmental guys that we're going to count on to grow a lot between now and the season. There are a lot of other ways to onboard guys before the season, too. We'll be looking to do that in some shape or form, whether it's college free agency here or veteran free agency before August."

On DL Cortez Broughton, Breiden Fehoko and OLB Joe Gaziano:

"Excited about all three of those guys."

On if G/T Brenden Jaimes will play guard or tackle:

"We think a little bit of both. He's done both. Really like his body of work. Set a career record at Nebraska for most games started by an offensive lineman. [Run Game Coordinator/Offensive Line Coach] Frank Smith and [Assistant Offensive Line Coach] Shaun Sarrett both had really good grades on this guy. This is a guy that had a lot of inside-out flex. Felt like he would really contribute to the depth of our group. He's a guy that's been a productive player in a really good conference. I think, athletically, we liked him as that flex guy, but this guy is really strong, too. Felt like we were getting a player that can develop behind an already established group and can be a swing guy for us moving forward."

On if steps were taken this weekend to grow as a 'line of scrimmage team' and offensive unit:

"Certainly, it started in free agency. Then, you get [T] Rashawn [Slater] in the first round. We were looking for another young guy in the draft. Then, obviously, in undrafted free agency, we'll try to do that, too. But, we were looking for a developmental guy in the draft. To get someone like this, who has been that productive at a school like Nebraska, we just felt like that was a really good opportunity to address that. We had really good grades on him."

On how the offensive line unit stands today compared to when he was first hired:

"It's a lot different group. I'm aware of the guys that have played in the NFL. These guys that we joined up with in free agency — [C] Corey [Linsley], [G] Oday [Aboushi], [G] Matt Feiler — I'm really familiar with those guys because I was able to either play against these guys or see them in NFL games. I feel really confident in who those players are. Then, [T] Bryan Bulaga, whose body of work speaks for itself. I think what we wanted to do was be able to develop the guys that are already on our roster, guys that are younger players that are still emerging. You guys have heard me talk about developing those guys. When they're in a rookie contract or something like that, sometimes it takes two, three years, maybe a fourth year, to get them where they're able to really express themselves as a player. We're looking to do that. Certainly, we've done a nice job here in the draft. We feel like that room has a good mix of experience and youth. We have flexibility with guys that can play outside, guys who can play inside. We're certainly a much different group than we were a few months ago."

On if there are any positions in which the team might be 'light' at the moment:

"There is always work to do, but I would say that we're excited about where we are. In the draft, we had nine picks. We were going to take advantage of those nine picks. That was our plan to execute. We wanted to stick with our picks and be able to take some swings. I feel like we did that. I like where our roster is. There's a lot of time between now and when we play. You guys know how that goes. We're going to always be looking for players who can contribute and make us the best team that we can be. Like I said, there's a lot of time between now and our first game."

On the 2021 NFL Draft being held in his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio:

"It's a great American city. Definitely worthy of the draft. The passion that that city has for football is as good as anywhere in the world. Definitely excited about that. One of my former players announced the second-round pick for the Browns. I was kind of disappointed in a way because I would've rather had him announce our pick because [Mentor Lake Catholic Head Coach] Marty Gibbons is my guy. He was a safety for me at John Carroll who took his alma mater to the state championship this year. He did a heck of a job announcing that pick. I knew that he wouldn't be nervous. He definitely killed. Tip of my cap to 'Gibby.' Cleveland was a great venue to host the draft and I think that there was a lot energy. They did a great job."

On OLB Chris Rumph II:

"Really athletic, instinctive, long. The way that the game is played now, the quarterback is who you have to defend. You have to be able to get these guys on the ground. The mobility, the athleticism and the creativity that these quarterbacks have nowadays, you have to have players on the edge that can play on their feet and that can do a lot of different jobs. That's a style of how we play. We just felt like the sack production for this guy — normally, sack production in college will translate to sack production here. But, then, his versatility to play on the edge and play a variety of techniques. Then, certainly, helping in the kicking game. In a system like ours, you're hoping that a backup edge player can play in the kicking game. We feel like he can and that he's athletic enough to be one of those big-skill bodies. He comes from a coaching family. He comes from a program that we really respect with [Duke Head Coach] David Cutcliffe. We felt like we were getting a player that still is developing, but has been extremely productive and fits our style of play."

On his first draft as an NFL head coach:

"I think that we were prepared. I think that was the one thing that showed up. When you have nine picks, there's a lot that happens between your first pick and your ninth pick. But, there's a lot that's happening now in undrafted free agency. But, I think that we were prepared. I think the big thing was just having a strong sense of the draft board. Certainly, coming from the defensive coordinator role where you have half of the board that you're responsible for, to now the whole board — including specialists — I feel like I had a good command of the draft board and I felt like we were connected as an organization in how we were going to attack this. I feel like we're really proud of the way that we've competed the last couple of days."

On if he is experiencing any sense of fatigue or weariness, now having culminated the draft weekend:

"Great competitors, we're ready to go. I have to get ready for meetings on Monday. This just gives you something to be even more excited about, onboarding guys that you believe in. Now, we have to get these guys ready to go. It's on to the next thing. I told these players, 'Get ready, guys. If you think that we're going to wear out, you're going to be disappointed.' We're going to be coming back, like we always do — and that's a big hallmark of how we want to operate, with consistency. I hope that's OK with you."

On if he views DB Mark Webb as a cover corner:

"I see him as a defensive back. I think this guy can really play anywhere. He played in the slot more at Georgia as a Star and Money type of guy. But, in four defensive back groupings, he met as a safety and as a corner in his time at Georgia. We'll figure that out when he gets here, but I just think that his body type, his athleticism, all of that, we're just going to look at him as a defensive back and we're going to figure it out when he gets here."

On the defensive back group:

"You start with [S] Nasir [Adderley] and D.J. [S Derwin James Jr.]. We feel like that tandem is an exciting tandem to start with in the NFL. Those two guys give you a lot of flexibility in how you want to play. [S] Alohi Gilman is a guy that we drafted last year who we're excited about. Then, you add Mark Webb. Then, in undrafted free agency here, we take that really seriously. We're in that recruiting process right now. Like I said, we feel like we have a professional DB training operation here that people are going to want to join up with. Then, we have a lot of corners that can do a lot of things, too. We're looking forward to coaching these guys."

On his message to drafted players of thanking the people that helped them get drafted:

"I just think that sometimes, in the moment, your mind is going a lot of different places. You want them to enjoy it to the fullest because it only happens one time. But then, there is also a reason why that moment happened. Certainly, starting with the player and all of the hard work that he put in, but then there are so many people that have helped you accomplish living your dream. I certainly feel like I'm an example of that. I feel like we're all the best versions of ourselves because of a lot of other people. Just trying to remind players to keep the main thing the main thing. This is an amazing experience that these guys are going through right now. We want them to remember it the right way."

"I think that's an awesome point because what we're trying to do with these guys is give them impactful experiences as competitors. It's a big part of the job. You'll hear me talk about how the best businesses are personal. It's a tough business, but it's a personal business, and you better be good at it."

On selecting players with a variety of experience at the collegiate level:

"I think that you guys have all touched on that in some shape or form. Those are all good observations. What you're trying to do is get a full evaluation of the player. I think that seeing them in a variety of settings just increases your odds of making a good decision. It's probably a little bit coincidental that a lot of these guys are Senior Bowl guys, but at the same time, that's where the best players in the country usually join up, too. I just feel like the level of competition that these guys played at, all of these draft picks, their level or production — and then some of their postseason stuff, whether it be a bowl game, all-star game, it just gives you that final observation, and then moving into that pro day season, so that you can make a good decision. Really proud of our process and making really good picks with these guys."

OLB CHRIS RUMPH II

On who he models his game after:

"Personally, I watch [Broncos OLB] Von Miller and [Bears OLB] Khalil Mack. I have some similar traits to those guys. You have one guy with the Chargers [OLB Joey Bosa] right now that I'm happy to learn under, so I'm excited to learn from him. He's great. All of the accolades that he has are well-deserved. I'm excited to get to work."

On what he has learned from his father, Bears defensive line coach Chris Rumph:

"Just to stay humble and continue to give God the glory. Just play with passion and for the love of the game. All of the money and all of that kind of stuff is going to come along with it, but as long as you have that passion and love for the game, and you play at 100 percent all of the time, then everything is going to fall into place."

On if he has spoken with Head Coach Brandon Staley about the role he will play in the defensive scheme:

"I'm just going to keep that between us for right now. I don't want to give away any plans. We have some other teams in the league. I'm just excited to be drafted by them. I'm ready to go out to L.A. and get started."

On the strengths he possesses as a pass-rusher and in run support:

"I'd definitely say my IQ. I just have the instinct of trying to getting to the ball. It's in my blood. I have a feel for it. Definitely, my athleticism and my versatility allow me to get in the backfield on a consistent basis, and at the end of the day, getting the quarterback on the ground."

On if he had any familiarity with members of the Chargers coaching staff prior to being selected, due to his father being a coach:

"I think so. He's mentioned a couple of coaches on the staff that had some relevance to us. I'm excited to get out there and see some familiar faces. [Chargers TE] Tre' McKitty, I've worked out with him, so I called him up to talk about being potential teammates. It's a good day."

On playing for Staley, who has previously coached Miller and Mack:

"I'm looking forward to continuing to improve my game, eventually getting up to that status of Von Miller, Khalil Mack and [Joey] Bosa. I'm excited to learn under him and to continue to improve my game."

On OLB Joey Bosa:

"Joey's a dog. I'm excited to play with someone who is as relentless to the quarterback as he is. I'm ready for that. Also, the competition, because if he's trying to get there, I'm trying to get there at the same time. Somebody has to get there first, so it's only going to make all of us better, improve the team and make a run to the Super Bowl."

On if he has benefitted from his father being a coach:

"Definitely. There are lessons that I've learned from being around the players that he's coached and learning from their mistakes, and also those things they have done to be successful. Just being around that and absorbing that energy and their feel for the game, that definitely helped me become the player I am today."

On what led to his increased production each year at Duke:

"I definitely would say that confidence continues to rise each year that you get comfortable playing, at that point, in college. It's just a testament to not being complacent. Whatever you did last year doesn't matter; it was last year. Whatever you have to do to improve yourself, you have to do it to continue to get your stats better and to continue to help the team win."

On his emotions upon receiving the call from the Chargers:

"We were all excited. It was a sigh of relief. This whole journey, dealing with COVID-19 this past season, all of my hard work and dedication paid off. I give God the glory for putting me in a very blessed situation."

G/T BRENDEN JAIMES

On where he will play along the offensive front for the Chargers:

"Wherever they want me is where I'm going to play. If it's at tackle, then I'm going to do my best to stay out there. If it's at guard, then I'm going to do my best right there."

On who he models his game after:

"Since I played tackle for the majority of my career, I like watching the technicians at tackle, so [Cowboys T] Tyron Smith, [Packers T] David Bakhtiari, [former Chiefs T] Eric Fisher, guys like that who really hone in on their technique."

On starting all 40 of his career game appearances at Nebraska:

"I think that it'll help me out a lot. I've played against a lot of good competition in the Big Ten. A lot of those guys are in the league now, so I think that just goes to show that I can play at that level in this league. I'm going in here with a chip on my shoulder and I'm ready to compete."

On playing lacrosse in high school:

"I feel like I was pretty good. I was kind of the leader of the defense. I had fun playing it. It was a great second sport to play. I think that if football didn't work out, I would've tried to pursue a career in lacrosse."

On participating in track & field in high school:

"I threw the shot put and discus in high school. I made it to regionals in high school with a 172-foot [discus] throw."

On maintaining the streak of consecutive starts throughout his collegiate career:

"It was very important. I committed to Nebraska to be a part of a tradition of great offensive linemen, and I don't think that you could have done that on the sideline. I did my best to stay on the field through the little injuries and do what I could off of the field to prevent major injuries, and I feel like I did that pretty well. I'm going to continue to do that. I think that will serve a good purpose in the NFL."

On if he has any experience playing guard:

"The only experience that I have inside was at the Senior Bowl. I just felt like I got better and better, even if though it was only three days of practice. You give me a couple of weeks, or a month or so, to kind of get used to that position. I think that I can really strive in that position."

On how playing in the Big Ten Conference prepared him for the NFL:

"It was the physicality of the conference. In the Big Ten, you had a ton of edge rushers and interior guys that were really big, strong and fast. I think that they are some of the best in all of college football. It was mentioned before that I played in 40-straight games, and I think I got through a lot of competition that I did very well against. I've proven to myself that I can play at this level with these types of caliber guys. I'm ready to finally be able to do it at the next level."

On where the 'chip on his shoulder' originated from:

"I feel like I was just as good, if not better than, some of these guys that have been drafted before me. Obviously, they're all great players and they all deserve to go where they went, but I feel like I'm right up there with them. I have always been doubted throughout my football career for being too light, not strong enough, not fast enough, so it's just another obstacle to overcome."

On what he brings to the Chargers:

"A blue-collar worker who works his ass off, on and off of the field. I understand that this is a business, and I know how businesses work. Obviously, I'm coming in as a rookie, so I know my place on the team, but I also want to compete with the older guys. That's what I'm coming in to do. I'm going to have a lot of appreciation for the older guys who pass down the wisdom. I'm going to try to soak in as much information as I can and use it to the best of my ability."

On his contributions in the community:

"Giving back to the community — the community that supports us as football players and as people, in general — to give back to that type of community and communities all over has been important to me since I've been in high school. To be on this stage and to have this platform, to not do something good with it would be somewhat of a waste."

On if he plans to let his hair grow back out:

"I don't know. I might keep it short. I think that was just a college thing where I was finally out of the house and didn't have my mom telling me to go get a haircut. I think that might've just been a one-time thing."

LB NICK NIEMANN**On having the opportunity to play against his brother, Chiefs LB Ben Niemann, twice a year:**

"That's like the first thing we talked about. We have to get after each other a little bit. I'm fired up for that. I just don't have a lot of words right now. I'm really excited. Hopefully, I can beat up on him a little bit."

On playing at Iowa and how that prepared him for entering the NFL:

"That's one of the reasons I went to Iowa; they have a great NFL pipeline. The way [Iowa Head] Coach [Kirk] Ferentz runs his program, it's run essentially like an NFL program. You have to take care of your personal stuff. You're not going to have a babysitter there. You're going to have to show up and work your tail off every day, just trying to improve and be a good teammate. You're held accountable for everything. I'm excited because I think a lot of that stuff will translate very well."

On areas in which he can impact the Chargers:

"I don't really have one thing pinpointed. I just know that I'm going to be a team guy. I'll find a role, whether that's on defense or special teams. I'm just going to do what's asked of me, show up, try to make plays and help the team win."

On if he played special teams at Iowa:

"Yeah, I did earlier on. Once I started playing more on defense, that kind of dwindled a little bit. My senior year, I still played on punt [coverage] a little bit."

On if he feels that he is an 'underrated' athlete:

"Yeah, I guess that's one way to put it. I know what I am capable of doing. However people see me on film is how they see me. I can't control that. I definitely still have a high ceiling in front of me, I think. I think that I can make a lot of strides."

On the advantage of his father being a football coach:

"Just growing up and being in a football family, both with my dad and brother, it forced me to be around the game more. I saw how guys at a high level in college play and how they do things on and off of the field. Being around the game, and see where it can take you in life, it really helped me motivate myself and drive me to reach some of these goals. It helped me a lot."

On receiving Academic All-Big Ten recognition each of his four seasons:

"I looked at it as an equal, or even more important, than football. Getting a degree was really important for me. I think that having good time management was a big part of that. I definitely pride myself on that. Being successful in the classroom helped take some things off of my plate so that I could give more attention to football."

On his most significant attribute as a defensive player:

"I just have a good nose for the football, in general. I think that I have good football instincts, especially within the system that we played at Iowa. I think I do some coverage things well, too. I would say those are just the two biggest, general things."

On his relationship with Running Backs Coach Derrick Foster, dating back to Foster's time at Iowa:

"He was obviously an offensive coach. He was on the opposite side of the ball to me, but he still had a personal relationship with me. He's been around a lot of coaches in the business and he's one of the best people I've met. He's a great guy and I'm thrilled to be around staff with a familiar face. He's a guy that's going to treat people well and take care of his players. Great dude."

On his tackling abilities and what inspires that:

"Just committing to making the tackle. I don't know that there is one thing that makes me good at it. Just trying to get as much of my body on the ball carrier as possible and being in the right position. Being at a place like Iowa, it helps when you have teammates that are accountable on the field with their assignments because then, when the ball gets pushed to you at the linebacker level, you're often in a great position to make those tackles."

On if he had a sense that teams evaluated him as a special teams contributor throughout the draft process:

"Absolutely, especially when you're a mid- to late-round linebacker. You have to be able to play on special teams if you want to make the roster. That just comes with the territory of being a linebacker in the NFL, so that's something I definitely expected to do."

RB LARRY ROUNTREE III

On his style of running:

"Very physical at the point of attack. I'm a north and south runner. I would say that the best part of my game is that I'm never satisfied. I'm always looking to get better at things; blocking, running and even the little things. I would say that the best part of my game is being the workhorse of the offense, being able to carry the load and being able to go get it on third down and at the goal line."

On his pass-catching abilities and how he will fit into a new offensive scheme:

"I think I fit great, despite having three offensive coordinators coming out of college. I've been in different offenses, so that will be nothing new for me. I think I have to get better at it, though. That's something that I wasn't really used as in college, but I always worked on catching out of the backfield, along with pass-protection, too. I don't think that it will be much of a big adjustment, but I know that it's something that I'm going to have to work on consistently."

On if he played special teams at Missouri:

"Yes. Freshman year, the only way I got on the field was playing on special teams. Special teams were the only way that I got on the field in college, so I take special teams as a very important aspect of my game. Some kids don't feel like playing special teams, but I think that if a coach wants you on special teams, that means that they trust you because special teams is a big factor in football. Games are won and lost on special teams. Special teams was my only way to get on the field as a freshman, so I take it very, very personal when I'm on special teams. Whatever they need me to do, I'll do. When it's time for my opportunities, as far as running the ball, I'm going to make the best of it."

On if he met with Chargers personnel at the Senior Bowl:

"I did, but I really didn't get to talk to them as much. When I had my Zoom meeting with them in March, I think that there was a bit of a connection there with the running backs coach [Derrick Foster]. We talked for a long time. I really enjoyed my conversation. We were talking about the game of football and the things that are important in my life. The relationship was built off of that. Out of that hour or two of talking to them, I think that they really liked me and admired my game. I appreciate them giving me the opportunity to show my talents at the next level. Only one percent make it, so I didn't take it that I was going to be complacent and just get this opportunity to play in the NFL. I understand that not everybody is going to make it. Being in that one percent, it's a blessing."

On the aspects of his game that he has improved since the end of last season:

"I've just been working on my pass protection. I've been working on my speed, agility. I've been trying to get back to my old self of before I went to college. I've been working, lifting harder and running, wanting to be over-conditioned instead of being just in condition. I don't want to get tired at all. I am getting back to where I started, where you just eat, sleep and drink football. I'm trying to get back to that. I know that when I get my mindset back to that, it will elevate my play."

On how he decides between 'punishing a defender' and 'saving it for the next day' when carrying the ball:

"That's a really good point. You really have to pick and choose your battles, but if it's third-and-one or third-and-two, you really have to duck your head down in there. You have to get the first down, no excuses. Sometimes, you do have to know when to go down. If there are two guys on your legs and you're up, you're in the midst of trouble. You could get an ankle injury or a knee injury, so you have to play it smart. You have to know when to go down. I think with how my style of play is, I'm very north and south, so a lot of the time, when I'm running, I'm falling forward, so I don't really have to worry about that. But I know that at the next level, it's a whole different type of game. I just have to be on my p's and q's with picking and choosing my battles. But, obviously, being the hammer at the point of attack and not the nail."

On when the realization hit that he could play in the NFL:

"The first game of my senior year, playing against Alabama. In high school, when it comes to your last two years of high school, the game kind of slows down a little bit. So in my mind, I'm thinking, 'OK, well when the game starts slowing down for me in college, I think that I'll be ready for the next level.' The game slowed down just a little bit, so I felt like I was ready. But, I will always ask my coach, 'Am I ready?' He would always be like, 'The NFL should not even be in your mind right now. You have other things to worry about right now.' Just putting my front foot forward and worrying about now, not the future. I took care of me being able to play in the NFL because of how hard I worked in my four years of college. It wasn't more of me thinking that I have to get to the NFL; it was me thinking that I need to go to college, I need to get a degree, I need to get better as a man, get better in the classroom, get better on and off of the field, then, do my due diligence. It's just a blessing for me to even be at this point. My mom and dad, they were just trying to get me into college. The NFL was not a dream. It was about getting into college, getting your degree, do what you're supposed to do, take care of your business and don't embarrass our name. That was the goal. Now, it's just a blessing. Looking forward, in the future, I just have to maintain myself and keep my 10 toes down, and I'll be fine."

DB MARK WEBB**On transitioning to defensive back after starting his career as a wide receiver at Georgia:**

"It's crazy. To think about it all, it's just crazy. I came from the bottom. I was at the bottom of the depth chart and worked hard to get here. It's been a crazy road. Now, I'm here. I'm finally getting picked."

On what has gone through his mind since being selected:

"Everything. All of the hard work that I've put in. This is a blessing. People don't know the hard work that I've put in. It's crazy."

On if he can keep developing as a defensive back:

"I have everything it takes. My ceiling is super high. I'm still getting used to the position. I'm ready to take the league by storm. It's time."

On his versatility in the secondary:

"I feel like my versatility is second-to-none. There aren't a lot of people who are going to be willing to do what I'm trying to do out there on the field. I also play linebacker, too. I just do it all. I'm a man of many trades. Mr. Everything; that's what I call myself. I do whatever the coaches tell me to. I'm heavy into competing. Whatever they want me to do, I'm willing to get into it."

On what was going through his mind upon receiving the call from the Chargers:

"Everything. My family and everything that we've been through -- the hard work, injuries, switching positions, everything."

On joining the Chargers:

"What really excites me is that I have two, 'Big Homies,' there in [S] Nasir Adderley and [S] Derwin [James Jr.]. Just knowing them, I already know my upside. I know that I'm going to have a great career in the NFL just by learning from them because they're already on the right path. I know that if I'm talking to them and learning from them, the sky is the limit."

On if he communicated with Adderley and James throughout the draft process:

"Yes. I talked to Derwin back when I was in California. He was giving me upsides about the game and things like that. I grew up with Nasir. We played little league [football] together. I've known Nasir, so I always talk to him."

On if he was a better athlete than Adderley when the two were growing up:

"At that time, Nasir used to touch the rock more than me, so he was definitely better than me at that time."

On his relationship with Adderley:

"Strong. That's my brother. He really is like a brother. I grew up with him and all of that, and we did everything. That's my brother."

On the connection between him and Adderley outside of football:

"We're both family guys. We're both very highly tuned family-wise. We're both from Philadelphia, so we both have that Philly grit. We know what it takes. We know that there aren't too many people in our spots, so we're going to take full advantage of it."

On playing at Georgia and how that prepared him for entering the NFL:

"The biggest takeaway is that we hold everybody to a standard. We make sure everybody comes in at that standard. We make sure that they uphold that standard on and off of the field. That grit that I had from Philly, and then going to Georgia, it's just second-to-none. Now, I get a chance to take it to the league and to the Chargers."

On if getting drafted was a 'dream come true' for him:

"This is a dream come true. You don't even know. I had plans of being undrafted. That's always been my mindset. I already knew what I was getting into. I'm a workhorse, so I don't trip about not making it and stuff like that because I know that in the end, it's all about longevity."

On preparing to go undrafted:

"That's just me. That's my mindset. I know that a lot of people probably don't think like that. I always think like that. That's always been my mindset. It's probably always going to be like that."

On growing up with Adderley:

"We played on the same little league [football] team, so we were always together. That's how I met him."

On his age when he and Adderley first started playing together:

"I had to be like 11 [years old]. 11, maybe 12. One year, it was me, him, [Lions RB] D'Andre [Swift]. That was our team. It was a pretty good team."

On training in California throughout his draft preparations:

"I trained out there for my pro day. I trained for my pro day at Proactive [Sports Performance]. I met my trainer from back home down there. Derwin [James] has the same agent as me, David Mulugheta. Those guys come back and help the younger guys out during their draft process and everything. He was one of the guys that were helping us out, giving us tips and things like that."

On if he has remained in contact with D'Andre Swift throughout the draft process:

"Yes. He's here right now celebrating. He just told me to keep my head down and keep doing what I've been doing. We both come from the same situation, so we know what it takes. That's what we're going to keep doing. We're going to keep working hard and see what happens."