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Chargers LB Junior Colson Draft Availability

Friday, April 26, 2024 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

On 'what excites him' about reconnecting with Head Coach Jim Harbaugh:

"Everything. I'm just happy to be back with him. I went to Michigan for a reason, he was that reason. He picked me again. I'm blessed and highly favored, and I can't wait to get to work for him."

On the defensive scheme and how he 'fits into it':

"I believe that I fit into that very easily and very, very well. I think that I'm that guy in the middle that they've been looking for, that guy that can run the defense and call the plays. It's very similar, we ran the exact same defense back in college. It's going to be very easy to get in and get to work."

On his level of excitement having familiarity with the scheme:

"I'm very excited. It just gives you that edge, gives you that thing to go out there and grind. Be able to compete for a starting spot right away from Day 1, I'm just excited for it, I'm ready for it. I'm just ready to go out there and compete."

On if he feels like he is 'going to Michigan of the West':

"[Laughter] I would say so, yeah. Michigan of the West, we just swapped out the cold for the warm. Other than that, nothing really changes -- still go out there and win, play hard-nosed football."

On the 'best part' about playing for Harbaugh at Michigan:

"What part wasn't great? You know? What part wasn't great about playing for him? He's the best coach out there. He's the best coach to play for, I believe in. He's a winner. That's something that you always want to follow, you want to follow a winner, you want to be with winners. I believe that I'm with a winner right now."

On his play-style and skillset:

"I think that I'm bringing a lot to the Chargers with my skillset. I'm bringing my ferocity, the way that I play the game, the way that I attack each and every day. I'm just ready to go out there and dominate."

On Defensive Coordinator Jesse Minter and playing for Minter at Michigan:

"Playing for him was freaking phenomenal. It was phenomenal. He's one of the smartest guys I know, if not the smartest guy I know. To be able to play in that same defense, be able to play in his defense, he's been able to customize and change and create a way to being the number one defense in the country last year. I'm just excited to see where we can continue to grow, and then build with that."

On his new position coach, Chargers Linebackers Coach NaVorro Bowman:

"I'm excited, man. One of the best to ever play the game. I'm ready to go, let's make it happen. I'm already on my way, let's make it happen."

On if he 'feels like' he can 'be a Day 1 starter':

"Yes, sir. I believed that I could be a starter anywhere I went, especially being able to go back to a system that I've been running and calling for the last couple of years. I'm ready for it. I'm going in there to compete, that's my mentality."

On being the on-field play-caller last season at Michigan:

"Yes, sir. I did."

On Chargers LB Denzel Perryman:

"Oh yeah, I know of him. I've watched him. He's a leader. He's a phenomenal player. He's been in this league for a very long time. To be in this league for that long, you just have to sacrifice so many things. You have to put in the grind. That's something that he's done. Now, it's paying off."

On learning from veteran leadership on the Chargers defense:

"With those guys, I'm just going to become a sponge and soak everything up, everything that they have to say. I'm not going to say too much right now. Coming in, just watching the way that they carry themselves, watching the way that they practice, watching the way that they attack each and every day, and being able to go out there and emulate that, in a way."

On which players he 'admires' in the NFL:

"There are so many different players that I admire. I try to keep adding to my game. I think that I am a mix of a lot of different players right now."