

# NEWS RELEASE

714.540.7100 ⚡ Chargers.com ⚡ @Chargers



Josh.Rupprecht@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Jennifer.Rojas@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Jamaal.LaFrance@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Lauren.Meyer@Chargers.NFL.com  
Brock.Anderson@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Danny.Markino@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Jordan.Colquitt@Chargers.NFL.com ⚡ Leonie.Strehl@Chargers.NFL.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Friday, April 26, 2024**

## **Los Angeles Chargers Select McConkey and Colson on Day 2 of NFL Draft**

The Los Angeles Chargers continued the 2024 NFL Draft with two selections on Friday — Georgia wide receiver **Ladd McConkey** (34th overall) and Michigan linebacker **Junior Colson** (69th overall). The Bolts moved up from No. 37 overall in a trade with the New England Patriots to select McConkey, acquiring the 34th overall choice used to select McConkey and a fifth-round pick (No. 137) in exchange for the 37th overall pick and a fourth-round selection (No. 110).

**McConkey** was a key contributor to Georgia’s run to win a College Football Playoff National Championship in 2022, earning second-team All-Southeastern Conference honors and recording career highs in receptions (58), receiving yards (762) and touchdown grabs (seven). In the Bulldogs’ victory in the National Championship game, McConkey hauled in five catches for 88 yards (17.6 avg.) and two scores, while adding a 14-yard carry. That season, he averaged 12.3 yards per punt return, totaling 197 yards on 16 punt returns.

Over three seasons at Georgia (2021-23) after redshirting in 2020, McConkey caught 119 passes for 1,687 yards (14.2 avg.) and 14 touchdowns, adding four touchdowns and 216 yards on the ground). In 2023, he won the Wuerffel Trophy — which honors the player who best combines exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement — and was a finalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy, also known as the ‘Academic Heisman.’ McConkey becomes the highest-drafted Georgia Bulldog by the Chargers and the first wide receiver chosen by the Bolts in the second round since Vincent Jackson in 2005.

**Colson** was a second-team All-Big Ten selection each of the last two seasons after leading the team in tackles in 2022 (101) and 2023 (95). He ended his Michigan career by starting all 15 games in 2023, leading the nation’s top-ranked defense as the Wolverines went on to record an undefeated season and win the College Football Playoff National Championship. Colson was voted as the program’s toughest player by his teammates in 2023 and was on the watchlist for multiple national awards.

Over his three seasons (2021-23) in Ann Arbor, Mich., Colson started 36-of-43 contests at linebacker, posting 257 tackles (114 solo), 8.5 sacks, 2.5 sacks, four pass breakups and a fumble recovery. He was a Freshman All-American in 2021 after contributing on defense and special teams in his first season with the Wolverines. Colson is the ninth Michigan player drafted by the Chargers and the first since 2012.

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