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Chargers WR Quentin Johnston Introductory Media Availability

Friday, April 28, 2023 ⚡ Hoag Performance Center ⚡ Costa Mesa, Calif.

On the time that has passed since being selected:

"It's been a quick turnaround with getting picked and coming here, super quick. It's been a mix of emotions. I didn't know whether to smile, do a back flip or cry [*laughter*]. It's been fun. It was, obviously, a special experience for me and also my family, as well."

On his first impressions of Los Angeles:

"I like it. I've been in Texas all my life. To kind of step out of that, I feel like this is the best place for me, for sure. As soon as I got off the plane, I'm like, 'Yeah, I can feel it.' Then, I saw my jersey. I met a few people. I'm already liking it."

On his prior knowledge of the Chargers:

"I knew a little bit, a few players — not personally, but not too much. I talked to them at the Combine, and then a few phone calls after that. That's pretty much it."

On having the ability to do a backflip:

"Yes, 100% [*laughter*]."

On if he will remain with jersey number 1:

"Yes, for sure. 100%."

On familiarizing himself with the Chargers over the last 18 hours:

"That's the only thing that you'll find in my Google search right now [*laughter*], Instagram searches, everything. I've been doing as much as I can to get familiar with everything and everybody before I got here."

On if he watched the NFL growing up:

"I did from time-to-time. Obviously, there were teams that liked growing up, favorite players, knowing somebody on a team. Not too much, though. I was really locked into the season."

On receiving support from TCU and the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas region:

"It's huge. They're very, very, very family-oriented. There are a lot of people that I have made a lot of lifetime connections with early on. Then, as I started going to TCU, I started doing stuff like camps — I was the coach of a little league flag football team around that area. So, not only was I cool with the coaches, professors and stuff like that, but parents and the young kids in the community, as well."

On his calm demeanor when receiving the call from the Chargers:

"On the inside, I wanted to do all types of stuff, but I try to stay level-headed as much as I can."

On if that is 'how he plays, as well':

"Yes, 100%."

On his parents' military background:

"Both of my parents were in the Army. The baseline of who I am, of Quentin, is based on discipline and respect. That's something that I feel like has stayed with me from the time I could talk until now, and something that I'm going to keep doing. There was a lot of waking up early in the morning just to do whatever — a lot of everything, being on-point. I got used to it and that's just how I move now."

On if he had a 'strict upbringing':

"It was fair. I wouldn't say that it was super strict. I had some freedom to do certain things. Healthy boundaries, I would say."

On his biggest inspiration:

"My parents. That's who I am, as a person. I see a lot of myself in them, whether it's something that I say, it's something that my Dad would do. For sure, them."

On his work ethic:

"My dad taught me not to go into anything thinking that you're just going to slack off or quit midway through. Whatever you do, do it 100%, full-speed ahead. That's my mindset going into anything."

On if he 'looked up' highlights of QB Justin Herbert:

"No, I already know about him [*laughter*]. I didn't have to go back and look those up. It definitely didn't hurt to go back and do it again [*laughter*]. I'm excited to get to work."

On Herbert:

"Accuracy. Everything is on-point. He is always calm in the pocket. I'd like to stay here. I feel like he is one of those guys that doesn't get too high or too low."

On the significance of jersey number 1:

"I feel like that number comes with a lot. A lot is expected of you. If you have that 1, you go on the field and look at a guy with number 1 and go, 'OK, he must be doing something.' I was that number the second half of my high school career. Then, going into college, I was in a good situation at TCU; our top receiver was going out — [Eagles WR] Jalen Reagor — he had number 1, then when I came in, I wasn't expecting to get that number so early. I was like, 'I'm probably going to have to work my way up.' Then, we had a photo shoot. I went to the end looking for my jersey and they said, 'Your name is over there with the 1.' But, obviously, I knew that that came with a lot. It kind of just made me want to fight more at practice, do the little things to show that I deserved to have that number."

On coaching youth flag football:

"It was a thing with TCU and little football club that goes worldwide, doing different stuff. They needed extra coaches. At first, I wasn't very vocal, outspoken guy. I was kind of quiet, staying to myself. They were taking volunteers. They didn't make me do it, but I'm like, 'I probably need to do it to get outside of my comfort zone and put myself in a different space,' which I'm glad that I did."

On putting on his own youth football camp:

"Me and our running back did one in Mansfield [Texas], over by Dallas a few weeks ago. That was pretty fun. To actually go back to my hometown and do it, it would mean the world to me. I have a lot of people over there looking up to me. It's definitely going to mean a lot to go there and give back to them."

On his first impression of his Powder Blue Chargers jersey:

"It's crazy. I'm still trying to take everything in. From the time that I got my name called, I was just in awe, to be honest."

On today's activities:

"Getting the lay of the land of everything. I'm from Texas. People were telling me different streets and stuff, and I'm like, 'How far is that from here?' Just getting adjusted to everything, for sure."

On leaving Texas:

"I'm cool. It's about time for me. I'm kind of glad that I didn't get drafted anywhere in Texas. I feel like I've been there too long, I need to go out and expand."

On if he is a 'gamebreaker':

"Yes, for sure. I feel like what I can do with the ball in my hands, at this height, is very special. I set the record my freshman year for the most yards after the catch in Big 12 [Conference] history. Then, I turned around and did it again my sophomore year. I feel like that's something that I do very well. It's a big part of my game."

On his skillset:

"I feel like I'm not like anybody else. I feel like I'm special in my own way. Qualities of different people that I can take, for sure, but especially, going into this wide receiver room with a lot of experience, I'm excited to get in and take from their knowledge and apply it to my game."