



# TITANS DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

April 27-29, 2023



**OL PETER SKORONSKI (ROUND 1, 11<sup>th</sup> OVERALL)**

**APRIL 27, 2023**

## **PRESS CONFERENCE WITH LOCAL MEDIA**

### **G PETER SKORONSKI**

*(on how much he felt the Titans were interested in him)*

I felt like, honestly, they probably had a need at O-line. My interview went really well. They seemed to be really interested in me and what I had to say. Coach Vrabel was very involved in the meeting, too. That was a good sign so I felt like I could be a possible fit there. They definitely seemed interested in me.

*(on if he will play guard or tackle with the Titans)*

I don't really have too much of a preference. I'll play where the Titans need me to play. I think my biggest thing is I can play any position, including tackle, but guard, center and right side too. I'm happy to help the team, so I'll play wherever.

*(on overcoming criticism about his arm length)*

Yeah, you know obviously, that came up a ton. There's so much more that goes into a pass block or a run block than just arms. There's things I can do to fix them, including my hands. There's so much more in terms of footwork and hand placement and hand usage that I can definitely use to overcome that arm length deal.

*(on if his strength is more of a pass protector or run blocker)*

I think I've become pretty proficient at both. I think early on in my career in college I was definitely more of a pass protector, but I really worked hard in recent years to get better at run blocking too. I think I do both well. Obviously at O-lineman, we love to run the ball. Run blocking is kind of fun, but I love to pass block too. I don't know if I really have something I prefer or that I'm more proficient at. I obviously just try to perfect both sides of the game.

*(on if the Titans were a preferred destination for him with the team's history of running the ball)*

Yeah, for sure. Like I said, I'm an O-lineman. I love to run the ball and the Titans are obviously huge on that. I was really, really happy with that. That was definitely a big thing that I thought the Titans would be awesome just for that aspect alone.

*(on how much his versatility came into play with what the Titans liked about him)*

Yeah, I think, you know, I think any O-line coach is going to like that. Obviously, you never know what's gonna happen on O-lines. You want guys who can play multiple positions, which I think I can do. I think, obviously, Coach Hoss and Coach Vrabel really valued that. I think that was an asset for me in this process.

*(on Titans Coach Mike Vrabel referring to him as violent and if that is a good thing on the offensive line)*

I think so. Yeah, it's the trenches, man, You gotta be violent.

*(on the significance of watching the draft at a pizzeria)*

We've come here my whole life. My dad's an investor here. My baptism reception was held here so it's about as old as I am. It felt like the best place to have this major event. It's pretty private too, so definitely a top spot to go.

*(on who he models his game after and who he thinks he is similar to)*

There's tons of guys that I've watched growing up and continue to watch, (Los Angeles Chargers Guard) Rashawn Slater obviously being a number one, having been my teammate. Growing up I loved watching (Indianapolis Colts Guard) Quenton Nelson, (former Cleveland Browns Tackle) Joe Thomas. Having been a Packers fan growing up, (Green Bay Tackle) David Bakhtiari. I don't know if I'm necessarily just like them in that sense. But I think it's someone, guys I look towards and try to take stuff from their game and try to emulate that. But those are definitely some names that I really like to watch.

*(on the biggest differences in playing guard and tackle)*

I'll be completely honest. I don't have a ton of experience at guard, especially at the college level. I know that things happen a lot faster, especially at pass rush for sure. It will be a timing thing for sure. I think that will challenge me. I've got a ton of experience but I'm ready to learn anywhere and adapt to whatever position I'm at. I guess I'll learn that as I go in the process.

*(on what it has been like at the pizzeria where he is)*

Yeah, I'm outside, because it's about a 100 people inside right now and you guys will not be able to hear me. I'm sure you're always through for long, anyways. But outside right now, because (there are) just tons of tons of fun for just everyone. So excited and supported with me, and had to run away like in the corner to get the phone call originally, but just awesome to be surrounded by supported people and a lot of people for sure. That's why I'm outside right now.

*(on the name of the pizzeria)*

Should I reveal that? Well, just for the sake of local media, maybe keep that private? Maybe sometime tomorrow I can say.

*(on what he had to eat and drink)*

I've only had about, I probably had one beer. I don't know I've got to stay locked in for the night. Tons of pizza that I've been eating. I don't know if you guys can tell, I'm pretty sweaty right now, it's hot in here.

*(on how much growing up in a football family had an impact on his career and love of the game)*

For sure, yeah, you know, my grandfather having played with the Packers, you know it's just wanting to follow in his footsteps and playing that up all some day. So it's been a it's been a goal of mine from since I knew what football was so super happy and yeah, just happy to carry on his legacy.

*(on how much being a Big Ten guy he knows of his new teammate Nicholas Petit-Frere)*

Yeah, I obviously watched him a ton on film in terms of scouting other defenses, and I've always thought he's a really good player. Just so athletic and physical just kind of someone that you want to play as well as too, because he had a great career at Ohio State and he started off really well with Tennessee, so excited to play with him for sure.

*(on his previous experiences in Nashville)*

I just came here one time for a visit to Vandy, just maybe there for 24 hours, but heard tons of good things about Nashville. So, definitely excited about that.

*(on if he is a country music fan)*

Definitely, yeah.

*(on how close he came to picking Vandy)*

Not super close. Just being honest.

*(on familiarity with Derrick Henry and the rest of the team)*

Yeah, you know, I'm decently familiar. Obviously (I know) that Derrick is one of the best you know to run the ball in the league right now, so going to be an honor to block for him. Obviously just a really really physical team and a team that's always competitive, you know even I know they had a lot of injuries last year, and so a really competitive team. So, I think that's the kind of mentality as an organization I think I'm really happy to be a part of because Titans are kind of known for that. I've already got people coming up to me at the party right now, saying how much they respect the Titans, how much they love the way they play. So really happy to be a part of it.

*(on how he would describe himself as a player, what he is good at, and what he needs to get better at)*

Yeah, you know, I think I'm someone who you know. Just have the top of my head consistent pad level. So work mirroring rushers. You know, physical in the run game and finishing. Just in terms of working on, I think you know efficiency with my hands both in the run and pass game, and in terms of hand usage, and hand timing with my punch. So, obviously there's tons of stuff I can work on. That's just what comes off on the top of my head

*(on possibly sticking with the number 77 and how much he is a fan of Taylor Lewan)*

I am, yeah, I know he's really physical. I love watching him play yeah. Definitely big shoes to fill there but love the 77 too. I don't know, is it available? It is? Yeah, he's a beast, another big-time lineman. I love "Bussin' with the Boys" too.