



# TITANS DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

April 27-29, 2023



**T JAELYN DUNCAN (ROUND 6, 186<sup>th</sup> OVERALL)**

**APRIL 29, 2023**

## **PRESS CONFERENCE WITH LOCAL MEDIA**

### **T JAELYN DUNCAN**

***Q. Did you talk with the Titans before the draft and how much contact did you have with them? Were you expecting to go around this point?***

I met with them at the Senior Bowl. I met with them at the Combine. I also had a 30 visit with them. All of the meetings went very, very good. I did not think I was going to leave today, if we are being completely honest. I thought I was going to leave yesterday. God has his own plans and he works in his own ways, so I went today. I'm proud of it. I'm grateful that they picked me up. I'm ready to get to work.

***Q. What your 30 visit was like here?***

It was great. I had a great time talking with everybody; the whole staff, coaches, player personnel, people, everything. It was just a great visit all around. I enjoyed it. I enjoyed the staff. I enjoyed being out there in Tennessee. It was all great.

***Q. How would you describe yourself as a player?***

I think I'm a great player, very athletic. I think I move well. I think, of course, I still need to practice on a couple of things. But, like I said, I'm great. I think I can move well. I've got good feet. I can bend. I excel in the pass play and keep working in the run, but it's always an improvement in every aspect of the game.

***Q. What excites you about the opportunity in Tennessee?***

Just to be able to get in there and just work. Like I said, I had a 30 visit with them and I really enjoyed the O-line coach. He's a great guy. Our visits went very well. The meetings we had together went very good. I'm ready to just get there and get coached by him and do what he tells me to do and be a great addition to the O-line.

***Q. Some reports said that you might be better at the NFL level playing guard. Do you have much experience at guard or are you just primarily a tackle?***

I don't have any experience at guard, but, like I said, I'm willing to do anything and everything. There's some things you have to work on at practice, you know, stuff like that. You just got to keep improving on it. It's a bunch of things you haven't done yet, so I just got to work on it. I have no issue playing guard. I wouldn't be against it, but I would just have to continue to work.

***Q. I saw somewhere that you trained with, or trained with the same trainer as Peter Skoronski worked with. Is that true? Do you know Peter a little bit?***

Yes, sir. We all trained. Me and Peter (Skoronski) were training together through this process.

***Q. How cool is it to be here in Tennessee with him?***

Pete (Skoronski) is a cool guy. We both played in the Big Ten, so we played against each other. We didn't really talk much. We got to Texas and we started training together. Peter's a great guy. He's a great athlete. He's smart. Like I said, he moves well. I'm happy to be with Peter. I think he's a great addition to the O-line room as well.

***Q. What are some of the things you mentioned that you might need to work at the next level?***

Just technique things, hand timing, punch timing, hand placement, just keeping great balance, stuff like that. You don't want to lean and stuff. Just being more consistent and finishing, just continuing to drive and get it done every play.

***Q. What have the last three days been like for you?***

It's a big waiting game. That's really all it is. You just sit in the house and wait for your phone to ring. It's been a little bit of being anxious. I've been a little bit nervous. At the end of the day, like I said earlier, God has a plan. I've just been waiting. I didn't get called last night. I wasn't upset about it. I just went home, prayed. I woke up today hoping that today would be the day. And it turned out.

***Q. What do you know about the Titans' style of play, what kind of offense they have and what you like about it?***

Up front, I know they run off the ball, they're very dominant, they finish to the whistle. They play very hard. I'm just ready to get in there and be a part of that, just go in there and just be a part of that grind, and just watch all the guys get through the workouts every day. You know, just like I said, just be together with the team.

***Q. Are you close with Chig Okonkwo from your Maryland days?***

Yes, sir. Me and Chig (Okonkwo) are pretty close. You know, we all we came in the same time of 2018. Chig is a great guy. I loved him as my tight end when he was here with me. And I still get to be with him again, so I can't wait to step in there and go see him.

***Q. Have you heard from Chig Okonkwo by chance already?***

I haven't. I haven't been on my phone, really? Not yet, at least. I've been talking to the staff, you know, Ran (Carthon) and Mike (Vrabel).

***Q. What did they tell you specifically in welcoming you to the team?***

Just come in and just be myself. Just work hard, you know? Just keep my head up, and just like I said, and if I need anything, they got me. They are going to take care of me, just make sure I'm doing okay, but just come in and be ready to work.

***Q. Did you just start playing football at 14?***

Yes, sir. I started playing at 14. You know, so life stuff was going on. Wasn't a lot in the right circumstances at a young age. I ended up when I turned 14, I found being in the right place, you know and found football.

***Q. What would you do to keep yourself busy or hobbies up until you were 14?***

You know, just outside, running around with friends, just playing basketball, playing throwback football. Outside in the grass, just having fun.

***Q. How big were you when you started?***

When I was 14, I was probably want to say like 6-4 maybe like 300, maybe. I'm not....

***Q. And then did it take you long to catch up with everybody else from a technique standpoint?***

Oh, yeah it took me pretty long. It probably took me until like my redshirt freshman year, maybe even a year after that, up until college, you know, throughout high school. I was just out there just moving people, just being a bigger body, not really using a lot of techniques. So when I got to college, that was one of the main focuses that I needed on my plays, just improving on technique because the same thing you do in high school definitely did not work on the college level.