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football: senior bowl

## CU cornerback Jalil Brown set to showcase skill

By Jeff Legwold  
*The Denver Post*

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MOBILE, Ala. — When Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown was fortunate enough to find an invitation to the Senior Bowl in his mailbox, he was assured of many things.

Things such as plenty of coveted gear, an opportunity to make his case in front of the NFL's decision-makers and maybe even a little national TV airtime.

He is not counting on any second chances.

"That's how you have to look at every play in practice and every play in the game (Saturday)," Brown said. "There are no 'get it next times,' no do-overs. What you do here is what you do and what they'll remember."

While most scouts would rather take a root canal or two rather than show their true feelings for a

player before the April draft, it's clear Brown has turned some heads this week.

At 6 feet and a 1/4-inch and 202 pounds, Brown is the biggest cornerback invited to this annual all-star affair, especially since his Buffs counterpart Jimmy Smith turned down an invitation. Brown has shown quickness and agility, making him a popular target after practices as scouts gather his contact information.

"It's just a fortunate situation for me," Brown said. "I've been working hard since the season was over. I just want to let everybody know I'm a guy they might be sleeping on, that I'm a guy they should be looking towards if they're not."

"When I wanted to take a day off, skip a workout after our season was over, I just would tell myself this was something that was waiting for me, that I had too much work to do to get where I wanted to go."

Brown has been working out in Bradenton, Fla., to prepare for Senior Bowl week and will return there Monday to get ready for next month's scouting combine in Indianapolis. Most teams see him as a mid-round pick, but because big cornerbacks often move up the draft board during selection weekend, he has a chance to significantly improve his standing in the next few weeks.

Teams also like his ability on special teams, having been the Buffs' special-teams player of the year as a redshirt freshman. He 46 tackles

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and three interceptions in the 2010 season.

He also saw this week as a chance to showcase his skills, given that Smith had been scouted heavily as a potential early-round pick.

"We both received a lot of attention," Brown said. "He probably got a little more, but we both were on the radar, I think. I'm very excited to have the opportunity to play here, and every time I get an opportunity to make a play, I want to make one.

"I want to show 'This is me' and I'm ready to interview for this job, let them know I can play with the best, that I can do what a smaller corner can do and I have the size a lot of guys don't.

"I can do it all."

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