



Photo Courtesy: CUBuffs.com



04/30/2011 Curtis Snyder, Associate SID

Brown, McKnight Selected Saturday In NFL Draft

BOULDER – University of Colorado cornerback **Jalil Brown** and wide receiver **Scotty McKnight** were selected on the final day of the 2011 National Football League Draft Saturday.

Brown was selected with the 21st pick of the fourth round, the No. 117 overall pick, by the Kansas City Chiefs, while McKnight was the 24th pick of the seventh round, the No. 227 overall pick, by the New York Jets.

Somewhat mirroring the first round for the Buffaloes, Brown was CU's third player drafted, first Saturday, exactly 100 picks after OT **Nate Solder** went (No. 17 overall to New England) and McKnight was the fourth CU player taken, second on Saturday, exactly 200 picks behind CB **Jimmy Smith** (No. 27 overall to Jacksonville). This is the most players CU has had drafted since 2006 when four players also went.

BUFFALO EXTRAS



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Jalil Brown Interview
10/03/2010



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Scotty McKnight TD
04/25/2011



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Jalil Brown
10/17/2010



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Jalil Brown Big Hit
04/25/2011



Watch:

McKnight Interview

With Smith and Brown, this is the fifth time CU has had two cornerbacks drafted in a single draft and it's the fourth time that the two regular starters from the previous season were drafted, the first since 2000 when Ben Kelly and Damen Wheeler were both drafted.

University of Colorado Cornerback Duos Drafted (1980, '93 and 2000 were the starting duo the season before at CU):

<!--[if !supportLists]-->* <!--[endif]-->1977 – Mike Spivey, Chicago (2nd round, No. 43) & Horace Perkins, Miami (8th round, No. 207)
 <!--[if !supportLists]-->* <!--[endif]-->1980 – Mark Haynes, N.Y. Giants (1st round, No. 8) & Jesse Johnson, N.Y. Jets (4th round, No. 95)
 <!--[if !supportLists]-->* <!--[endif]-->1993 – Deon Figures, Pittsburgh (1st round, No. 23) & Ronnie Bradford, Miami (4th round, No. 105)
 <!--[if !supportLists]-->* <!--[endif]-->2000 – Ben Kelly, Miami (3rd round, No. 84) & Damen Wheeler, San Diego (6th round, No. 203)

Brown finished his CU career with 167 tackles, six interceptions and 24 pass break-ups. He made his name at Colorado on special teams, compiling 65 points in his career, sixth most in CU history. He played in 39 career games and started the final 22 at cornerback for the Buffaloes. He had five tackles for a loss, 19 third down stops, three quarterback hurries and four fumble recoveries.

McKnight left CU as its all-time leading receiver, catching 215 passes in his career, and is No. 3 all-time in receiving yardage with 2,521 yards, just 27 behind CU's all-time leader Michael Westbrook. He also caught 22 touchdown passes, most in CU history. He caught a pass in all 48 of his career games, just the 10th player in NCAA history to accomplish that feat, and he is the first CU player to lead the Buffs in receiving four different seasons.

Brown is the 10th CU player drafted by the Chiefs but first in nearly two decades since C Jay Leeuwenberg went there in the 1992 draft. He is the second-highest drafted player by both round and overall selection by the Chiefs behind RB Tony Reed, who was the No. 37 overall pick in the second round in 1977.

CU and the Chiefs history are more intertwined than that, however. CU's new head coach Jon Embree coached tight ends for the Chiefs for four seasons from 2005-08. There have been two Buffs who have played for the Chiefs in the past decade, as well, as OLB Fred Jones was on the roster in 2003-04 and OG Edwin Harrison in 2008.

McKnight is the sixth player drafted in CU history by the Jets, the first wide receiver, and he will be the first player to play for the Jets since Donald Strickland in 2009. He also joins his best friend since childhood, QB Mark Sanchez, with the Jets. He is the first wide receiver drafted since Jeremy Bloom in 2006 to Philadelphia.

Brown is the 260th CU player drafted into the NFL, McKnight the 261st.

Question & Answer With Jalil Brown By KCChiefs.com

Q: How are you doing Jalil?

BROWN: "Pretty good, how are you doing?"

10/12/2010



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Scotty McKnight Drafted
04/30/2011



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Jalil Brown
10/19/2010



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McKnight Record Breaker
09/05/2010



Watch:

Jalil Brown Interception
04/25/2011



Watch:

Scotty McKnight TD 2
04/25/2011



Jalil Brown Senior Bio



Scotty McKnight Final Bio

Q: Great, first off congratulations.

BROWN: "Thanks a lot, I appreciate it, I'm very excited right now."

Q: Tell us a little bit about what you were asked to do at Colorado, it seems that you kind of played multiple positions there, obviously you were a big contributor on special teams as well.

BROWN: "I started off on special teams going in as a freshman. I was actually special team's Player of the Year my freshman year. From that point on I moved on to kind of a nickel role, a little bit of safety and then I evolved into my role of playing cornerback the last few years of my career at Colorado."

Q: It seems that you're a pretty physical guy, special team's gunner obviously, playing safety, do you take that approach when you play cornerback as well?

BROWN: "Yes, it will definitely help a lot, I feel like with special teams, that's just a position where it is kind of about who has the most tenacity and the most 'go get it,' and that's something that I have. I think that attitude helps me when it comes to playing cornerback too, being physical and playing the way I do."

Q: Tell me a little bit about this Iron Buffalo Award you won for the DBs last season?

BROWN: "That's actually an award given to different positions on the team, a few on defense and a few on offense. It's kind of the guy who puts the most dedication and hard work inside of the weight room, and working hard on and off the field you know, developing as a player, and I was the player on defense who was selected to have that award given."

Q: And your background as a high schooler, you were home-schooled, is that correct?

BROWN: "Yes, it is correct, I was homeschooled by my parents early on in middle school and part of high school, kind of helped me a lot and prepared me a lot to make the transition to college and learning and motivated me to push myself to get better."

Q: So while you were home schooled how did you play high school football? Did you get to play at a local high school?

BROWN: "it's actually kind of a big thing - homeschooling - around the world today and you're actually allowed to play sports at a high school in your district and I was able to go play football at the local high school which was South Mountain High School."

Q: Was it difficult not going to school with a lot of those teammates and then showing up to play football or did you fit right in with the team?

BROWN: "Not at all. I actually fit right in because I actually played multiple sports growing up, I ran track and played basketball as well so I kind of knew a lot of the kids in the area and then going to the school, a lot of the faces I saw, I knew them and also, I feel like I'm easy to talk to and I'm very talkative when it comes to people. I'm easy to get to know."

Q: Was it a surprise today when the Chiefs drafted you? How many conversations did you have with them leading up to the draft?

BROWN "I didn't have too many. I kind of was surprised but I'm definitely excited to play for Coach (Todd) Haley and the Hunt Family."

Q: What did they tell you when they congratulated you on the phone?

BROWN: "they just told me that they're excited to have me come there, I told them I was excited to come there"

and I'm excited to play in Arrowhead Stadium. I know they have a ton of great fans and this is terrific for me."

Scotty McKnight Conference Call With Jets Beat Media

Is this a dream come true?

"Are you kidding me. Teaming up with a great organization and a great team. Then being teamed up with my childhood buddy who I grew up with - we've never played on the same team together - we've always just trained together, it's a dream come true, I'm looking forward to making the most of the opportunity."

Have you talked to Mark (Sanchez) yet?

"Yeah, he's at my house, his whole family is over here. Our two families are celebrating together. It's such a cool experience, something that deep down I was hoping it would happen, but knowing how the draft works, trying not to get my hopes up."

How much did he pump you up to the Jets' staff?

"You know with the lockout, he couldn't have any communication with any of them. I think he was trying to. He came and threw for me at my pro day and that was a good showing for both of us, hopefully they got word from that we work well together and that had some affect on it."

Will you be carrying bags, rookie hazing?

"I know I'll get it bad, he'll take advantage of that. I'm going to go in and work hard, I don't have issues doing that for anybody, I know it's part of the deal."

What's your favorite story on Mark?

"Appropriate for the media? I'm going to think about it and get back to you guys. I have a lot of stories I'll hold on to in case he wants to do a little too much hazing. I have some ammo to work with."

What was it like seeing the Jets coming up on the draft board?

"We were talking about it, we were talking to a couple of other teams. But it was hard not to think about how it would be great to go to the Jets. Honestly I feel so grateful just to be drafted. Deep down I was hoping I was going to the Jets. Everything with the Jets is so appealing to me and my family. I love what they're about, competing and winning games, tough, hard-nosed football, both on special teams and as an offensive player. I'm so excited about the opportunity and how it played out."

Who have you had contacted within the Jets?

"During the process, I just talked to their scout that came to the pro day. After the draft pick was made, I talked to everybody. I had talked with them and met them before just from being Mark's friend. It was a great experience to talk to those guys. They said the same thing, they said to be ready to work when you get here, play special teams and hopefully get on the field on offense. I'm like that, anything to help that team win, I'll do whatever it takes."

Are you going to Jets West next week now?

"I was going no matter what. This means I'll be able to sit in if they watch film and learn the playbook. I'm going to be there, I've been training all year. We've been working out recently. Mark, myself and Patrick Turner, we've been working out the last couple months. Some other guys will be out. I've meet some of them while in New York on some breaks from school. It will be good."

On the importance of being signed because of the lockout?

"Going into my senior year even, obviously i was hoping to get drafted, but I knew I could work hard, get into camp and make a team. With the lockout in effect, you really want to be drafted, because you can't have any contact with any team. I'm really fortunate how it worked out, I'm ready to get to New York and get rolling."

SHOW MENU

Thorburn: NFL Draft highlights Buffs' bright spots

By Ryan Thorburn Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 04/30/2011 11:41:16 PM MDT

In recent seasons it was difficult for even the most loyal Colorado football fans to watch the team play.

Fortunately, Bill Belichick was paying close attention. So were Ozzie Newsome and Scott Pioli.

Some of the smartest men in the NFL get it: CU still produces great players.

And quality young men.

Nate Solder, selected 17th overall by the New England Patriots, was a very bright spot during some dark Saturdays and is the perfect poster boy for the program.

The 6-8, 319-pound, left tackle decided to spend draft night with family and friends in Leadville instead of traveling to New York to hug the commissioner on the Radio City Music Hall stage. Roger Goodell had already experienced having his right hand disappear in Solder's grip when the two met at the awards banquet for the William V. Campbell Trophy earlier this year.

"I've always held this place in really high regard," Solder, a first-team All-American whose number now hangs on the west facade of Folsom Field, said during a press conference at Gillette Stadium on Friday. "I have a ton of respect for the players and for (Patriots owner) Mr. Kraft and what he's built here. This is an amazing place. I would not rather be any other place in the world, actually."

Solder, who graduated from CU with a biology degree a year ago and took postgraduate classes toward a second major in integrative physiology during the fall semester, was a finalist for the "Academic Heisman."

The young man is intelligent enough to solve the NFL's labor issues if the owners and DeMaurice Smith asked him for some advice. For now, Solder is just thinking about doing whatever it takes to make sure he's prepared to protect Tom Brady's blind side some day.

"We turned in the pick relatively quickly," Belichick noted on Thursday night. "We felt pretty good about what was on the board and picking Nate there."

Nine years earlier, Belichick selected Dan Graham with the 21st overall pick. The former CU tight end became the Patriots' captain and won two Super Bowls.

"My mentality is that I don't want anything given to me," Solder said in perfect Patriot lingo. "I want to earn everything I get."

Ten picks after Solder was picked, the Baltimore Ravens stole CU cornerback Jimmy Smith without apology.

Most of the draft geeks were of the opinion that Smith would have gone in the top 10 if not for his "character issues." Before maturing into a Big 12 star, the talented, soft-spoken kid was given two minor-in-possession tickets and had a positive marijuana test.

Newsome -- Baltimore's brilliant general manager, whose picks over the years have included Jonathan Ogden, Ray Lewis, Peter Boulware, Chris McAlister, Jamal Lewis, Terrell Suggs, Ed Reed and Joe Flacco -- didn't hesitate in tabbing Mr. Smith as the Ravens' top pick this year.

"We think he's got a good heart. We think he's very committed to being a great football player, and we're going to do everything we can to help him be that," Ravens head coach John Harbaugh explained to reporters when asked about Smith's transgressions. "I want you to know, as a head football coach, I'm excited about this pick. This guy makes us

better."

Most organizations were drooling over Smith's game tapes and will likely regret passing on the shutdown cornerback. Pioli, the former New England general manager, also took notice of CU's other starting cornerback and drafted Jalil Brown for the Kansas City Chiefs in the fourth round on Saturday.

In the seventh and final round, the New York Jets took Scotty McKnight off the board. This was another move that makes a lot of sense considering CU's sure-handed wide receiver already has incredible chemistry with Mark Sanchez, his best friend and personal pro day quarterback.

It's hard to believe the Buffs didn't play in a bowl game the past three seasons with these four future NFL stars and role players thriving individually in the program.

Having two marquee first-round picks (the Pac-10 totaled three) and a worthy pair of late picks led to a lot of CU highlights -- even though there weren't a lot, team-wise, to choose from in recent seasons -- being shown over the last three days and nights on ESPN and the NFL Network.

Which makes this the best weekend Colorado football has enjoyed in a long time.

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Kansas City Chiefs select CU Buffs defensive back Jalil Brown

By Kyle Ringo, Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 04/30/2011 11:53:19 AM MDT

Former Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown and the rest of his teammates didn't have much success playing in the state of Missouri during his career with the Buffs. Maybe his luck will change now that he'll be playing home games in the state at Arrowhead Stadium for the Kansas City Chiefs.

The defending AFC West champs selected Brown in the fourth round of the NFL Draft Saturday with the 118th overall pick. Brown was the third Buff to be drafted this year. Scotty McKnight became the fourth later in the day when the New York Jets picked him in the seventh round.

"They just told me that they're excited to have me come there, I told them I was excited to come there and I'm excited to play in Arrowhead Stadium," Brown said in an interview posted on the Chiefs Web site. "I know they have a ton of great fans and this is terrific for me."

Brown joins one of the most exciting and up-and-coming teams in the league. The Chiefs have made major improvements in recent years through the draft, particularly on offense, but haven't won a playoff game since 1993.

Brown earned regular playing time on special teams and as a nickel back and free safety early in his Colorado career before moving to cornerback full time as a junior and senior. He is the eighth Colorado defensive back drafted since 2000.

Kansas City general manger Scott Pioli indicated the organization liked Brown's versatility and his experience on special teams. Brown left Colorado as one of the leading special teams points earners in the program's history.

"We identified him as being one of the better special teams players, difference makers in this draft," Pioli said.

Brown played opposite fellow cornerback Jimmy Smith who also was drafted this week, No. 27 overall by the Baltimore Ravens. The tandem gave Colorado one of the best secondary units in college football during the 2010 season.

Brown proved to have a nose for the ball and completed his career with 10 takeaways to his credit -- six interceptions and four fumble recoveries. He doesn't have the same lock-down coverage ability that Smith possesses and could move back to safety at some point at the pro level.

Brown said he wasn't aware the Chiefs were interested in him prior to the draft because he hadn't talked much with anyone from the organization. But none of that mattered once they called his name.

"I kind of was surprised, but I'm definitely excited to play for coach (Todd) Haley and the Hunt family," Brown said.

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New York Jets draft CU Buffs' Scotty McKnight

Wide receiver will get to play with Mark Sanchez for first time

Kyle Ringo Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 04/30/2011 04:36:46 PM MDT



Colorado wide receiver Scotty McKnight never has played football on the same team with his best friend -- New York Jets starting quarterback Mark Sanchez.

That will change as soon as the NFL lockout is resolved.

McKnight was drafted in the seventh round Saturday by the New York Jets where Sanchez is the starting quarterback.

Sanchez and McKnight have been friends since they were both kids in Southern California. Fittingly, they and their families were together at McKnight's parents' home Saturday when they got the news that the Jets had used their final pick of the draft to pick the Buffs' all-time leading receiver No. 227 overall.

"Our two families are celebrating together," McKnight said in a conference call with reporters. "This is such a cool experience. It's something that deep down I was always hoping would happen, but with how unsure the draft is, I didn't want to get my hopes up. I'm obviously ecstatic right now and it's just setting in."

Reporters speculated during the conference call that McKnight will be targeted for rookie hazing and practical jokes by Sanchez whenever players are allowed to return to team headquarters and begin workouts and practices. Perhaps McKnight will have to carry Sanchez's bags?

"I already know he's going to take advantage of that," McKnight said.

Some will certainly question whether McKnight's relationship with Sanchez influenced the Jets in picking him, but an impressive pro day in March in which Sanchez flew to Boulder to serve as McKnight's personal quarterback for the workout might have been just as big an influence.

The two performed well together as McKnight ran numerous routes for the 19 organizations on hand and didn't drop a pass.

"I don't think it could have gone any better for him," Sanchez said after that March 9 workout. "His drills were great. His numbers were awesome. ... All the stuff that he's been working towards these last few months, it all just came to fruition today. He deserves it because he did a great job this entire process."

McKnight was asked whether he believes his friendship with Sanchez was a factor in being selected.

"I think he was trying to, but with the lockout he couldn't have any communication with any of them," he said. "He came and threw to me at my pro day and it was a really good showing for both of us. Hopefully they got word of that, that we work really well together and that had some effect on it."

McKnight will be a familiar face around Jets headquarters as soon as he arrives. He has made multiple trips to New York to hang out with Sanchez over the past two years since Sanchez was drafted out of the University of Southern California in 2009.

Sanchez also regularly visited McKnight in Boulder and managed to see the Buffs play numerous times despite his busy schedule in the league.

McKnight caught a pass in every game during his CU career, becoming just the 10th player in NCAA history to do so. He is just the sixth player to manage the achievement without ever missing a game with an injury.

McKnight set school records in Boulder with 215 career receptions and 22 touchdown catches. He finished third in receiving yards, just 27 yards shy of first place.

McKnight will have his work cut out for him in trying to make a Jets roster already filled with playmakers at wide receiver. The Jets also selected Texas Christian wide receiver and punt return man Jeremy Kerley earlier in the draft.

But McKnight is not the type to shy away from a challenge. He came to CU as a walk-on prior to the 2006 season and left the program with his name near or at the top of most of the program's career receiving lists.

McKnight was the fourth Buff to be drafted this year, the most since four were taken in the 2006 draft. He joined Nate Solder (No. 17 overall to New England), Jimmy Smith (No. 27 overall to Baltimore) and Jalil Brown (No. 118 overall to Kansas City).

He was the first CU wide receiver to be drafted since Jeremy Bloom was taken in that 2006 draft by Philadelphia.

"I just feel so fortunate the way this thing played out and to have this opportunity," McKnight said. "I'm ready to make the most of it and come to New York and start something great."

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Former South Mountain star Jalil Brown becomes fifth in-state player chosen in NFL draft

by **Richard Obert** - Apr. 30, 2011 06:15 PM
The Arizona Republic

Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown became the fifth in-state football player taken in the NFL draft when the Kansas City Chiefs took the former Phoenix South Mountain High three-sport star in the fourth round on Saturday.

Brown (6 feet 1, 204 pounds) said he is looking forward to making the transition to the NFL.

"They called me five minutes before (the 118th overall choice) and told me they were picking me," Brown said. "I was super excited.

"I feel I can pick it up to the next level, work more on my technique and play in the NFL."

Brown joins a strong class of Arizona high school football players to be drafted. Nebraska cornerback Prince Amukamara (Glendale Apollo) [was taken by the New York Giants](#) and California defensive end Cameron Jordan (Chandler) went to the New Orleans Saints in the first round; Arizona defensive lineman Brooks Reed (Tucson Sabino) went to the [Houston Texans](#) in the second round; and Nevada defensive lineman Dontay Moch (Chandler Hamilton) went to the Cincinnati Bengals in the third round.

Nebraska safety Eric Hagg (Glendale Ironwood) became the sixth and final in-state player drafted when the Browns selected him in the seventh round.

Lawrence Guy had a long wait, but his NFL wish finally came true.

[GreenBayPackers](#) selected [Guy in the seventh round](#) with the 233rd overall pick. Guy was the only ASU player drafted, fewest for the Sun Devils since 1996.

Two more UA players [were selected Saturday](#): Defensive lineman Ricky Elmore was taken by the Packers in the sixth round with the 197th pick, and defensive lineman D'Aundre Reed went to the

Minnesota Vikings in the seventh round with the 215th pick.

Brown played football and basketball and ran track at South Mountain.

George De La Torre, who coached football and track at South Mountain during Brown's final two years of high school, credited Brown for changing the culture at a school struggling to win football games.

"He's a good, hard worker who bought into the system," said De La Torre, now the head football coach at Florence High. "He fought it in the beginning. When I first got to South, Jalil was there and he said, 'We're not used to working in the off-season. That's not in our contract.' I said, 'Jalil, I don't [knowhow](#) to do it any other way.'

"Whether you're a superstar or not, you have to be in the weight room. He was instrumental in getting kids in the weight room. He was such a talented athlete, kids looked up to him."

Republic reporter Doug Haller contributed to this article.

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No surprise: Sanchez's Jets draft Colorado's McKnight

By **Tom Kensler**
The Denver Post

POSTED: 04/30/2011 04:33:00 PM MDT
UPDATED: 04/30/2011 10:46:31 PM MDT

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In what was absolutely no surprise, Colorado's all-time leading receiver, Scotty McKnight, was drafted by the New York Jets today.

Taken in the seventh round at No. 227 overall, McKnight grew up in Orange County with Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez. McKnight considers Sanchez to be his best friend, and Sanchez threw passes to McKnight in front of NFL scouts during CU's pro-timing day in March.

McKnight, 5-foot-11 and 185 pounds, has sure hands, is a clever route runner and surprised NFL scouts by clocking 4.5 for 40 yards during the pro-timing day.

He led CU in receptions in each of his four seasons in Boulder, including 50 catches for 621 yards and seven touchdowns last fall. He finished with 215 career receptions,



Scotty McKnight finished his college career as Colorado's all-time leading receiver. (RJ Sangosti, The Denver Post)

needing only the first game of the 2010 season to surpass the former school mark of 167 by Michael Westbrook.

Former Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown, who was drafted in the fourth round by Kansas City, said earlier Saturday that McKnight "was one of the toughest receivers I had to cover, in games or in practice, and whichever team gets Scotty will get a steal."

Tom Kensler: 303-954-1280 or tkensler@denverpost.com



New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez, left, was the personal quarterback for a childhood friend, and now the two will play together for the New York Jets. (RJ Sangosti, The Denver Post)

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THE DENVER POST

Kansas City Chiefs draft Colorado's Jalil Brown in 4th round

By Tom Kensler
The Denver Post

Posted: 04/30/2011 11:38:50 AM MDT

Updated: 04/30/2011 11:48:02 AM MDT



Former University of Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown lines to do the 40-yard dash for NFL scouts during pro timing day last month. (RJ Sangosti, The Denver Post)

Perhaps it's a good thing that former University of Colorado cornerback Jalil Brown is originally from Phoenix and did not grow up as a Broncos fan.

Today, Brown was selected in the fourth round by Kansas City, the Broncos' rival in the AFC West. The Chiefs made Brown the No. 118 overall selection. He became the first defensive back chosen by Kansas City.

In the Colorado secondary, the 6-foot, 202-pound Brown played in the shadow of cornerback Jimmy Smith, who was selected in the first round by Baltimore. But Brown intercepted more passes (six) during his CU career than did Smith (three).

Brown became the third draftee with ties to the state of Colorado, joining first-rounders Nate Solder (offensive tackle to New England in round one) and Smith.

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**ESPN.com:** AFC East[\[Print without images\]](#)

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Jets draft Mark Sanchez's boyhood buddy

By Tim Graham

The [New York Jets](#) are committed to adding [Mark Sanchez](#)'s former teammates to the roster.

They drafted USC running back [Joe McKnight](#) last year and, when the [Miami Dolphins](#) waived receiver [Patrick Turner](#), the Jets claimed Sanchez's top USC target.



Saturday afternoon, the Jets drafted Sanchez's high school buddy.

They used their seventh-round choice on Sanchez's best friend, Colorado receiver [Scotty McKnight](#) (no relation to Joe McKnight). Sanchez was with him when the Jets called.

"Are you kidding me?" McKnight said on a conference call with reporters. "I'm teaming up with a great organization, a great team and being together with my childhood buddy who I grew up with. We have never played on the same team together. We've just always been chained together.

"It's a dream come true. It's cool. I'm just ready to make the most out of the opportunity."

Sanchez and Scotty McKnight grew up in the same neighborhood, played Pop Warner football together and were ball boys for Santa Margarita High in California, but they ended up attending different high schools.

Scotty McKnight was a 5-foot-10 walk-on at Colorado but left as the school's all-time leading receiver with 215 catches and 22 touchdowns. He's a possession receiver who projects to the slot.

Sanchez attended a couple Colorado games last year and was the quarterback at its pro day in March.

[ESPN.com: New York Jets](#)[\[Print without images\]](#)

Saturday, April 30, 2011

Buddy system: Sanchez, McKnight

By Rich Cimini

No, **Mark Sanchez** didn't phone the Jets' draft room Saturday and lobby for his close friend, Colorado wide receiver **Scotty McKnight**. That would've been a no-no, considering players aren't allowed to speak with their teams during the lockout. But know this: Sanchez dropped plenty of hints last season, according to **Rex Ryan**.

So with their final pick in the draft (seventh round, 227 overall), the Jets chose the undersized, but ultra-productive McKnight. Fittingly, he was with his best friend -- Sanchez -- when the call came from the Jets.

"He's in my house, his whole family is over here," McKnight said in a conference call with reporters. "Our two families are celebrating together and it's a cool experience. It's something that I always hoped would happen, but with how unsure the draft is, I didn't want to get my hopes up. I'm obviously ecstatic right now."

McKnight (5-11, 185) wasn't expected to be drafted, which is amazing when you look at his résumé. He's Colorado's all-time leading receiver, one of only 10 players in NCAA history to catch at least one pass in every college game he played.

McKnight received a boost in exposure from his good buddy. At his Pro Day in March, McKnight caught passes from Sanchez, whose presence on the Colorado campus created a buzz and got McKnight's name into some headlines. Prospects are allowed to have their own personal quarterbacks at on-campus workouts for scouts.

McKnight caught everything at the workout and he ran an impressive 4.49 in the 40. Evidently, that was good enough for the Jets.

"We knew him well," GM **Mike Tannenbaum** said. "He's a self-made guy, a former walk-on."

McKnight and Sanchez grew up in the Mission Viejo, Calif., area and have been friends since they were eight years old. They never played on the same team, but they developed a chemistry from countless hours of training together, quarterback and receiver.

It's an all-in-the-family kind of deal, right down to the business stuff. McKnight is represented by Mark's older brother, **Nick**, and **David Dunn** -- also Mark's agents.

Next week, McKnight will participate in Sanchez's "Jets West" camp in California, along with several other Jets skill-position players. McKnight was planning to go anyway even if he hadn't been drafted by the Jets.

"This just means I'll be able to sit in and watch some film and learn the playbook," McKnight said. "I know a bunch of those guys, so it'll be cool to get to know them during a workout."



Posted on Sat, Apr. 30, 2011

Chiefs fill some more holes in final four rounds of draft

By ADAM TEICHER
The Kansas City Star

The Chiefs covered some additional ground in the final four rounds of the draft on Saturday, adding five more players to the mix at mostly bare roster spots.

Normally, by the conclusion of the draft, the Chiefs' roster would be shaping up for training camp. Not so in this most unusual of years. Because of the lockout, the Chiefs haven't been able to re-sign their players without contracts, acquire free agents or even sign undrafted rookies, as they normally scramble to do in the wake of the draft.

So they, like the NFL's other 31 teams, will have a considerable amount of roster work to do when the lockout ends. Still, they have reason to feel good about what they got done in the draft.

A look at the five players drafted on Saturday and where they might make their impact:

•**Jalil Brown, cornerback from Colorado, fourth round:** Corner wasn't one of the Chiefs' biggest needs entering the draft, but still one where they needed a capable body. One starter, Brandon Carr, has no contract for 2011, and the other, Brandon Flowers, has a contract that expires after this season. Also, the Chiefs don't have a true backup corner they seem comfortable with. Javier Arenas is a nickel back, not a corner. When injuries struck last year, they had to go with the untested Jackie Bates at corner. Brown could be that third corner, and the Chiefs like his special teams skills.

•**Ricky Stanzi, quarterback from Iowa, fifth round:** The Chiefs now have a developmental quarterback. Stanzi won't be asked to play any time soon but could sometime challenge Matt Cassel for the starting spot or at least become a serviceable backup.

•**Gabe Miller, outside linebacker from Oregon State, fifth round:** Miller is a converted tight end who is still learning the position, so he is mostly a developmental prospect. But the Chiefs might look at him as a tight end as well.

•**Jerrell Powe, nose tackle from Mississippi, sixth round:** The two incumbents at his position, Ron Edwards and Shaun Smith, are without contracts for 2011. So the opportunity will be there for the 335-pound Powe to prove he can be a run-stuffer.

•**Shane Bannon, fullback from Yale, seventh round:** Bannon could be the lead blocker for Jamaal Charles and Thomas Jones that the Chiefs searched for unsuccessfully last year.

Bannon will also be asked to help on special teams.

In the draft's first four rounds, the Chiefs filled other holes by selecting a wide receiver (Pittsburgh's Jonathan Baldwin), an interior offensive lineman (Florida State's Rodney Hudson), a pass rushing outside linebacker (Georgia's Justin Houston) and a defensive lineman (Miami's Allen Bailey).

General manager Scott Pioli indicated he didn't feel secure about the state of the roster despite what the Chiefs accomplished in the draft.

"I always feel we have needs because the minute you feel you've filled all your needs ... We still need to keep getting better," Pioli said.

"We were knocked out of the first round of the playoffs, so we have a lot of needs and a lot of ways to get better. So did we feel every need? Absolutely not.

"We've gotten better at a number of those places but we're still so far away. We'll reassess the roster when this whole thing starts."



Chiefs Select Colorado DB Jalil Brown In 4th Round

By PR Staff

Posted Apr 30, 2011

Jalil Brown player bio

JALIL BROWN

DEFENSIVE BACK

COLORADO

6-1, 204

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

OVERVIEW

Brown has just two seasons of cornerback experience under his belt, seeing action in the nickel package and at free safety during his first two campaigns for the Buffaloes. Playing alongside Jimmy Smith at Colorado, another top 2011 NFL Draft prospect, Colorado had one of the most talented tandems in college football.

In the spring of 2010, Brown won the Iron Buffalo Award for all the defensive backs. The award is presented for hard work, dedication, toughness and total poundage lifted in the weight room. He had three of the four lifting bests among the team's secondary, including a 383-pound bench press and a 375-pound power clean, which was fifth best on the team.

Brown recorded 167 tackles for the Buffaloes. He also finished 28th in Colorado annals with six interceptions and 12th with 24 pass deflections. While most young professionals will usually see playing time on special teams, Brown made a real impact with the coverage units. His 65 special team points rank fourth in school history, as his 24 tackles ranked 11th.

Brown was a standout free safety and running back during his three varsity seasons at South Mountain High School, but also saw action on special teams and at quarterback. The three-time All-Metro Region choice earned All-State honors in his final campaign.

During his sophomore season, Brown began the year as a running back before taking over the quarterback duties when injuries depleted the depth at that position. He scored 12 times and gained over 900 yards rushing, adding over 1,000 aerial yards that included 12 scoring strikes in 2003.

Brown added All-State and All-Metro honors on both sides of the ball as a junior. He rushed for more than 1,200 yards, scoring 18 times on the ground as a tailback, as the team struggled through a 5-6 season. He also intercepted four passes from the free safety position.

Brown earned All-State and All-Metro accolades as a two-way performer during his senior year. On offense, he collected 1,910 rushing yards and 29 touchdowns on the ground, with 15 receptions for 400 yards and three more scores by air. Defensively, he made 30 tackles, five for loss including 4.0 quarterback sacks. He also had three fumble recoveries, a forced fumble, 12 passes broken up and had one interception. He saw spot duty as a return specialist, but excelled when called upon as he had an 80-yard punt return and a 90-yard kickoff return for touchdowns.

His top game and most memorable moment as a prep was as a senior, when he rushed for a state record 412 yards on 30 carries with five touchdowns vs. Central High, a mark previously held by Terrell Suggs (now a linebacker with the Baltimore Ravens). He also caught four passes, including one for a score on a diving catch in the back of the end zone in the close loss.

Brown also lettered twice in basketball as a small forward. He added two letters in track, running the 100, 200 (21.9), 400-meter dashes (49.0), in addition to being a member of the 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams. He finished first in the 100-meters in the Metro Region Finals. His time of 10.87 in the 100 was the fastest time in the state entering the state championships.

Brown spent the 2006 season performing on the scout team while adjusting to playing cornerback. In 2007, he appeared in three games on defense, making three tackles in 27 plays of action. He made his mark on special teams, leading Colorado with 31 special team points that included 13 tackles (10 solos).

Brown started six times at nickel back and appeared in 12 contests as the free safety in 2008, appearing in 461 plays. He recorded 52 tackles (40 solos) with three stops for loss. His first interception came when he picked off a pass by Colt McCoy of Texas, returning the ball 57 yards. He also broke up four throws and added six tackles (four solos) on special teams.

Brown shifted to cornerback as a junior, starting 10 games while participating in 699 snaps. The All-Colorado second-team and All-Big Twelve Conference honorable mention was named one of the team's four captains. He delivered a career-high 66 tackles (44 solo) and recovered two fumbles. He led the team with 17 passes defended and had two interceptions.

As a senior, Brown started all 12 games at left cornerback, earning All Big Twelve Conference honorable mention. He broke up five passes, led the Buffaloes with three interceptions and recovered a pair of fumbles. The team co-captain was on the field for 799 plays, recording 46 tackles (28 solos) that included two stops behind the line of scrimmage.

CAREER NOTES

Appeared in a total of 49 games, including 39 on defense...Started 28 contests – 22 at left cornerback and six at nickel back...Ranks 89th in school history with 167 tackles (113 solos), making five stops for a loss of 9 yards, along with three QB pressures...Had four fumble recoveries...Deflected 24 passes, tying Victor Scott (1980-83) and Gerett Burl (2004-05) for 12th place on the school career-record list...Ranks 28th in Colorado annals with six interceptions for 90 yards in returns (15.0 avg)...Recorded 65 points on special teams, ranking fourth in Colorado history behind Ryan Sutter (123; 1994-97), Darren Fisk (86: 1995-97) and Ryan Black (68; 1994-97)...His 24 tackles for that unit tied Greg Biekert (1989-92), Dave Brown (1987-90) and John Minardi (1998-2001) for 11th on the school career-record chart...Led the special team unit in points as a freshman (31) and sophomore (25), joining Ryan Suter (31 in 1995 and 53 in 1996) and Terry Washington (16 in 2005; 20 in 2006) as the only players to lead the special teams in points more than once in a career.

2010 SEASON

The team co-captain earned second-team All-Colorado honors from the state's chapter of the National Football Foundation...All-Big Twelve Conference honorable mention pick by the league's coaches... Participated in 799 plays, starting all 12 games at left cornerback...Recorded 46 tackles (28 solos) with two stops for losses of five yards and one QB pressure on defense, adding three solo tackles and four points on special teams...Had five pass deflections while leading the Buffs with three interceptions...Also recovered a pair of fumbles.

2009 SEASON

All-Big Twelve Conference first-team selection by NFL Draft Report, adding honorable mention from the league's coaches and the Associated Press...Second-team All-Colorado choice by the state's chapter of the National Football Foundation...Recipient of the coaches' Gold Group Commitment Award (for excellence on and off the field) and the Dick Anderson Award (for outstanding toughness) for the second-straight year...Took over left cornerback duties, started 10 games while coming off the bench vs. Colorado State and Toledo...Finished sixth on the team with 66 tackles (44 solo), adding two pressures while also registering a team-best eight touchdown saves, eight third-down stops, two tackles on fourth-down and two fumble recoveries...Added two interceptions for 33 yards in returns and paced the Big Twelve with 15 pass deflections...His 17 passes defended (1.42 pg) ranked second in the nation... Earned Player of the Game honors vs. Wyoming and Kansas...Added two solo tackles on special teams.

2008 SEASON

Recipient of the coaches' Gold Group Commitment Award, as the staff also selected him for the Dick Anderson Award (for outstanding toughness)...Played in all 12 games...Listed as a reserve free safety, he started at nickel back vs. Eastern Washington, West Virginia, Texas, Kansas, Kansas State and Missouri, finishing with 52 tackles (40 solo) that included three stops for losses of four yards...Deflected four passes and had a 57-yard interception return...Led the special team units for the second-straight year with 25 points, on the strength of six tackles (four solos, one inside-the-20), two forced fumbles, three knockdown blocks, one first downfield to alter a return and a school record 12 forced fair catches... Was named CU's Special Teams Player of the Week for the Iowa State game.

2007 SEASON

Brown earned the Iron Buffalo Award for the defensive backs, an honor bestowed on the player at each position who represents hard work, dedication, toughness and total poundage in the weight room... Appeared in all 13 games with the special team units and in three contests on defense...Led the special teams with 31 points, on the strength of 13 tackles (10 solo, three assisted, two inside-the-20), seven knockdown blocks, five forced fair catches, two first downfield credits that altered returns, a forced fumble and a downed punt...Had 12 of the tackles over the second half of the season, and he made 11 points in the Missouri game alone, as he was the coaches' choice for the special teams player of the game vs. Texas Tech...Participated in 27 defensive snaps, recording three tackles (one solo).

2006 SEASON

Red-shirted as a freshman, practicing all fall at cornerback on the scout team.

HIGH SCHOOL

Attended South Mountain (Phoenix, Az.) High School, playing football for head coach David Grace... Standout free safety and running back during his three varsity seasons, but also saw action on special teams and at quarterback...The three-time All-Metro Region choice earned All-State honors in his final

campaign...During his sophomore season, Brown began the year as a running back before taking over quarterback duties when injuries depleted the depth at that unit...Scored 12 times and gained over 900 yards rushing, adding over 1,000 aerial yards that included twelve scoring strikes in 2003...Added All-State and All-Metro honors on both sides of the ball as a junior...Rushed for over 1,200 yards, scoring 18 times on the ground as a tailback, as the team struggled through a 5-6 season...Also intercepted four passes from the free safety position...Earned All-State and All-Metro accolades as a two-way performer during his senior year...On offense, he ran for 1,910 yards and 29 touchdowns, adding 15 receptions for 400 yards and three more scores by air...Defensively, he made 30 tackles, five for loss including four quarterback sacks, as he had three fumble recoveries, a forced fumble, 12 passes broken up and had one interception...Also saw spot duty as a return specialist, but excelled when called upon as he had an 80-yard punt return and a 90-yard kickoff return for touchdowns...Lettered twice in basketball, as a small forward...Added two letters in track, running the 100, 200 (21.9), 400-meter dashes (49.0), in addition to being a member of the 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams...Finished first in the 100-meters in the Metro Region Finals.

PERSONAL

Graduated in December, 2010 with a double major in Business Management and Sociology...Brown was home schooled as a prep by his mother and he has aspirations of starting his own business after completing college...Cousin, Kenny Brown, played football at Texas-El Paso (1990-92), where he led the team in rushing with 454 yards on 77 carries in 1991...Born 10/14/87 in Phoenix, Arizona.

URL: <http://www.kcchiefs.com/news/article-2/Chiefs-Select-Colorado-DB-Jalil-Brown-In-4th-Round/c6e158eb-4f84-4127-ae96-15ac89b655cf>

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Draft Exclusive: One-on-One with Jalil Brown

By Josh Looney

Posted Apr 30, 2011

KCChiefs.com went one-on-one with Chiefs 4th round pick Jalil Brown Saturday afternoon



Q: How are you doing Jalil?

BROWN: "Pretty good, how are you doing?"

Q: Great, first off congratulations.

BROWN: "Thanks a lot, I appreciate it, I'm very excited right now."

Q: Tell us a little bit about what you were asked to do at Colorado, it seems that you kind of played multiple positions there, obviously you were a big contributor on special teams as well.

BROWN: "I started off on special teams going in as a freshman. I was actually special team's Player of the Year my freshman year. From that point on I moved on to kind of a nickel role, a little bit of safety and then I evolved into my role of playing cornerback the last few years of my career at Colorado."

Q: It seems that you're a pretty physical guy, special team's gunner obviously, playing safety, do you take that approach when you play cornerback as well?

BROWN: "Yes, it will definitely help a lot, I feel like with special teams, that's just a position where it is kind of about who has the most tenacity and the most 'go get it,' and that's something that I have. I think that attitude helps me when it comes to playing cornerback too, being physical and playing the way I do."

Q: Tell me a little bit about this Iron Buffalo Award you won for the DBs last season?

BROWN: "That's actually an award given to different positions on the team, a few on defense and a few on offense. It's kind of the guy who puts the most dedication and hard work inside of the weight room, and working hard on and off the field you know, developing as a player, and I was the player on defense who was selected to have that award given."

Q: And your background as a high schooler, you were home-schooled, is that correct?

BROWN: "Yes, it is correct, I was homeschooled by my parents early on in middle school and part of high school, kind of helped me a lot and prepared me a lot to make the transition to college and learning and motivated me to push myself to get better."

Q: So while you were home schooled how did you play high school football? Did you get to play at a local high school?

BROWN: "it's actually kind of a big thing – homeschooling – around the world today and you're actually allowed to play sports at a high school in your district and I was able to go play football at the local high school which was South Mountain High School."

Q: Was it difficult not going to school with a lot of those teammates and then showing up to play football or did you fit right in with the team?

BROWN: "Not at all. I actually fit right in because I actually played multiple sports growing up, I ran track and played basketball as well so I kind of knew a lot of the kids in the area and then going to the school, a lot of the faces I saw, I knew them and also, I feel like I'm easy to talk to and I'm very talkative when it comes to people. I'm easy to get to know."

Q: Was it a surprise today when the Chiefs drafted you? How many conversations did you have with them leading up to the draft?

BROWN "I didn't have too many. I kind of was surprised but I'm definitely excited to play for Coach (Todd) Haley and the Hunt Family."

Q: What did they tell you when they congratulated you on the phone?

BROWN: "they just told me that they're excited to have me come there, I told them I was excited to come there and I'm excited to play in Arrowhead Stadium. I know they have a ton of great fans and this is terrific for me."


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With final pick, Jets draft WR Scotty McKnight, best friend of Mark Sanchez

Published: Saturday, April 30, 2011, 6:29 PM Updated: Saturday, April 30, 2011, 10:06 PM



By [Jenny Vrentas/The Star-Ledger](#)

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QB Mark Sanchez might be locked out, along with the rest of the players in the NFL, but his team did him a solid with their final draft pick.

With pick No. 227 in the seventh round, the Jets selected Colorado receiver Scotty McKnight — Sanchez's best childhood friend from Southern California.

"I feel so grateful just to be drafted," said McKnight, who was at a draft party with Sanchez and his family. "But deep down, I was hoping I would go to the Jets."



Byron Hetzler/US Presswire

WR Scotty McKnight is Colorado's career leader in receptions and receiving touchdowns.

McKnight called it a "dream come true." He had met most of the Jets organization personally as Sanchez's friend, but got to speak to GM Mike Tannenbaum and coach Rex Ryan on a professional basis this evening.

The pair has been friends since elementary school, but have never played on the same team. Sanchez helped out McKnight by throwing to him at Colorado's Pro Day, and Sanchez's representation — Athletes First, along with Sanchez's older brother, Nick Sanchez — also signed McKnight.

On the field, McKnight finished his college career as Colorado's all-time leader in receptions (215) and receiving touchdowns (22), and third all-time in receiving yards (2,521 yards). He is a smaller receiver, at 5-foot-11 and 185 pounds.

When the Jets coaches called McKnight, they told him they need him to contribute on special teams. This is not the first time the team has signed one of Sanchez's preferred receivers: last fall, they claimed WR Patrick Turner, Sanchez's former teammate at USC, who spent the season on and off the practice squad.

McKnight has been training in California with Sanchez and Turner — and while he planned to be at next week's Jets West either way, was ecstatic that he can now watch film and learn the playbook with the group.

But McKnight warned that Sanchez should be careful with any form of rookie hazing.

"We've been buddies since we were 8 years old," McKnight said. "I've got a lot of ammo in case he does want to haze me."

For more Jets coverage, follow Jenny Vrentas on Twitter at twitter.com/Jennyvrentas

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