

New York Giants Media Conference

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Malachi Fields

Draft Press Conference



Q. We didn't get a chance to talk with you. What was the moment like when you found out you were going to the Giants?

MALACHI FIELDS: It was super special, just taking it all in with my family and some friends back home. Just super special and a super blessed moment.

Q. How much did you maybe know that the Giants were a team that was interested in you?

MALACHI FIELDS: I just knew it was a 1 out of 32 chance. I wasn't too sure what team it was going to be, but just excited that my phone rang that night.

Q. What was your previous contact with them?

MALACHI FIELDS: Had a couple conversations at the Senior Bowl and at the Combine. It wasn't too heavy. Had some Zooms and stuff like that with Coach Hall.

Q. Does it mean more to you that they charged up to get you, like traded up the way they did?

MALACHI FIELDS: Definitely, it does mean more. They took a chance for me, trading up, investing in me like that. I just want to prove them right.

Q. They talk a lot about your catch radius. What does that mean to you?

MALACHI FIELDS: It means it's everything that I worked to do is being confident and being able to make those plays. It just shows my ability as a playmaker and just try to continue to build on that.

Q. Is there something with your size that you feel separates you from other receivers as far as like catch radius or they talked about building a basketball team and now they have their power forward, that kind of guy that goes up against it.

MALACHI FIELDS: I think just the ability to do that. Being a big dude and playing big is just something special.

Q. How much do you know about Jaxson Dart? Have you had a chance to speak to the guy from whom you'll be catching passes?

MALACHI FIELDS: I haven't talked to him yet. Word on the street is he's coming through. Heard a little bit about him, got to see him ball out last year, see him at Ole Miss. I'm excited to go compete with that dude.

Q. What does it take to be a go-to guy in the red zone? Obviously a lot of first downs, and lot of touchdowns for you the last few years.

MALACHI FIELDS: Definitely just consistency, showing up, building that trust with your quarterback. It starts in practice, after practice, having a relationship off the field as well. Just building that trust with the guy that's going to be throwing the route.

Q. Obviously you're a big guy. How much pride do you take in your blocking?

MALACHI FIELDS: Immense pride. It's a big part of my game. One of the strengths that I think going to cover a safety or an end, whatever it is, to get those guys, the running back in the end zone.

Q. When you look at John Harbaugh's teams, the Ravens, what stood out to you about them? What do you see in those teams?

MALACHI FIELDS: Just dudes that love to compete, love to win, have that winning mindset. They're going out to win. Just the success he's had with that franchise with the Ravens, and him wanting to do the same thing here and believing in me and having me here to do that.

Q. The Giants are a big, physical team, and you're a big, physical guy. Is that a good match for you?

MALACHI FIELDS: Absolutely. I think it's a perfect match.

Q. Do you think your ability to one-on-one can help an offense where Malik commands double-teams?

MALACHI FIELDS: I believe so. Take some pressure off the quarterback. When his go to guy might be double-teamed, he has another option. Just adds some depth to the room.

Q. John Harbaugh talked yesterday about your time speed and your play speed and the way you track. Your time speed, some people say, okay, that's not anything special. He said you played better than that time speed and you play faster than that time speed.

MALACHI FIELDS: I do. It's the difference between running a 40 and just running in football games. There's a difference to it when the ball's in the air and the bullets are flying. I think you can see as well on tape the play speed is a bit faster than the 40.

Q. Are there some receivers you've patterned your game after?

MALACHI FIELDS: I would say growing up I watched a lot of Julio Jones. More recently I've been watching like A.J. Brown, Keenan Allen, Mike Evans, just the bigger dudes that move well. They're the bigger guys but still can get in and out of routes and perfect their craft.

Q. You had your time at Notre Dame obviously, a storied college program. Curious first time in this building, I would imagine, you walk in and see those trophies, what are your feelings? Do you kind of take notice?

MALACHI FIELDS: Definitely. You just kind of look around and take it all in, like wow, you're really here. Just appreciate the moment and just be real thankful for where you are.

Q. A year ago did you consider coming out? What made you go to Notre Dame? What led to that decision?

MALACHI FIELDS: I did consider coming out, but getting grades back and hearing what scouts are saying and what I needed to work on and just being able to have a chance to go be a part of a winning culture, a winning program, be around guys who want to compete, be part of an established program like Notre Dame playing the best in the country.

It was just -- I thought it was the best decision I could have made to be able to go showcase what I can do on that stage and then go compete against the best. Then have a

chance to be a part of that winning culture.

Q. What were you working on last year, and what did you take from the process?

MALACHI FIELDS: Just having that dog mentality, being that playmaker, that big playmaker. That's what I was lacking back at Virginia. Just having that confidence instilled in me going to Notre Dame and being able to showcase that side of me.

Q. What do you know or expect from New York or New Jersey?

MALACHI FIELDS: I don't expect anything. Just kind of coming in trying to be a sponge, soak it all up, and just come in ready to work and try to make an impact on the team as best as I can.

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