

# NBA Draft

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Brooklyn, New York, USA

## Jarace Walker



**Q. What was the whole uncertainty like with the pre-draft process and what's your reaction to the team you're joining now?**

JARACE WALKER: You said "uncertainty"?

**Q. Of where you were going to end up and trading and all that stuff?**

JARACE WALKER: In terms of certainty, it's not really something I pay much mind to. I knew at the end of the day I had no control over it. My workouts, I was just going out there hooping, just working out. I didn't overthink it. I felt like it was just another workout to me. So I was just out there doing what I do.

**Q. What do you feel you bring to the table for the Pacers as that team tries to grow?**

JARACE WALKER: I would say a hard worker and a versatile defender and just a versatile all-around defender as well. There's a lot of things I can do on the basketball court. They'll see that when I get to the team, with practices and just more games under my belt once I start getting more comfortable.

**Q. Your defense certainly popped off the tape in college. On offense, you have a lot of skills. Do you envision a certain role or succeeding in one particular skill on that end or are you going to wait and see what the coaching staff and where you fit with Indiana?**

JARACE WALKER: Yeah, I've got no clue how they want to -- I mean, I have an idea, but I feel like that's just up to the coach, how he wants to use me, what spots he wants to put me in. He's a very smart coach. He'll be able to figure that out.

**Q. I know that you spent a lot of time at the Jr. NBA. If your 2018 self could see you now, what do you think he would say?**

JARACE WALKER: I don't think he would believe it, honestly. I honestly didn't expect myself to get to this point. Like, it's not something at a younger age I really thought about. Basketball is just what I like to do. So I just

continue to work hard, just put in effort and then it kind of just came to fruition.

**Q. One of the more notable teammates you'll be teaming up with is Tyrese Haliburton, one of the best playmakers. How exciting is it to play with a player like that and what's your familiarity with him overall?**

JARACE WALKER: Yeah, super excited. High-level player, high-level passer, high-IQ guy, very unselfish. It's the perfect guy you want to play with. So I'm excited to get out there and just get a good connection with him.

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