

April 30, 2022

OL Chris Paul

On getting drafted by Washington:

"I'm feeling all the emotions. Just grateful and blessed to have such an amazing opportunity. I didn't know, no one does what any of this is going to look like but getting that call from Virginia, I had an idea when that showed up on the caller ID. Man, what an opportunity."

On the draft party:

"I had a fairly large party. Probably 80-plus people in attendance. That is just really a testament to the relationships I've built here in Tulsa so I have had a really amazing support system that I am forever grateful for. It was a pretty big party."

On having the same name as Phoenix Suns point guard Chris Paul:

"There might be another name Chris Paul. I think he plays basketball, I am not sure."

On if he knows the other Coby Bryant:

"I've played the other Coby Bryant the last three years with him being at Cincinnati."

On what he owes his versatility to:

"Yes, I'd say I owe that versatility to Tulsa football. Our program and our amazing coaches as well. I remember I was recruited to Tulsa as a tackle if you will. And then four days before my first ever start, my position coach calls me in and says, 'Hey, you're gonna be right guard.' And so I jumped right into that. And then I played left guard the year after and then over a right tackle. And I've played games at left tackle as well. And so I think that versatility would be extremely beneficial."

On looking most comfortable at guard:

"If you put me on the spot and said, 'Chris, you can only choose one.' I would choose guard, but obviously, and we know how this league is, anywhere that I can assist the team is where I'll be."

On his ambitions off the field:

"Yes, absolutely. So, one of the things I'll say to that is that one of the things I love about football is the many, one, opportunities that's provided for me on and off the field. And so, football has kind of been a catalyst for really where I am today on and off the field. And it's just like, you mentioned time management and juggling all of that. Well, when you're doing things that you love, you don't really look at it as something to juggle or something that you needs a balance. And so, all of those things that you mentioned off the field, right? Like think of football, like this nucleus that has different kinds of branches coming out on either sides and being able to provide you opportunities to do other things as well."

On his music interests:

"Yes, absolutely. And so you mentioned music interests. So, when I first started music has always been a

part of my life. I would always hum as a baby and my parents would ask the doctors, why is he humming? And the doctor said, well, he must be musically inclined. And certainly, I ended up being musically inclined. And so, I started really pouring into music and actually like making a vault in tracks and releasing them really in March of 2020. This is right before COVID hit with a former teammate of mine in Corey Taylor, he played running back at Tulsa and also had a stint with the Cleveland Browns as well. And he is my executive producer and he has a label that he's called resonant sound and he is just extremely talented. And he taught me about the writing process and taught me about the idea of writing two tracks. And so, I really think of music as like an outlet in a way for me to express myself in a different way."

On the release of his project the other day:

"Absolutely. And so, I did release a single and a music video and it's been received really, really, really well. It's kind of able to showcase me in a light that no one has ever seen before. And so that's one of the most powerful things about music. And then with the project as a whole taking something that might be darker, that might be different and really turning it into something beautiful."

On the seventh and where it comes from:

"That's a great question. And so the seventh, in music you have lots of different chords. You've got thirds, you've got fifths, you know, everything down in between. My favorite music chord is the dominant seventh. And that is where my name, stage name of D seventh is derived from."