

Former Cougar Football Player Picked Up In First Round Of The 2010 NFL Draft

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. – Former College of the Canyons defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul was picked in the first round of the 2010 National Football League Draft by New York Giants with the 15th pick. Pierre-Paul becomes the highest drafted player in COC football history.

“I am very excited for Jason and hoping the best for him and his family,” College of the Canyons head football coach Garrett Tujague said. “He has been waiting and working to get better each day in preparation for this day. For those who don’t know much about Jason, they will learn quickly about the talent he possesses.”

Pierre-Paul spent his freshman year with COC where he tallied 49 tackles, 42 solo, a team-high 14 sacks for a loss of 101 yards and an interception. For his efforts he was named first-team all-conference.

He then transferred to Fort Scott Community College and spent one year with them and earned second-team All-America honors.

The Deerfield Beach, Fla., native moved his way back east his junior year, signing with the University of South Florida. With the Bulls, he turned in 45 tackles, 16.5 tackles for a loss, 6.5 sacks, and a team-high seven hurries. After the conclusion of his junior season, he declared for the NFL Draft on Jan. 6, giving up his senior year of eligibility with the Bulls.

The Giants finished with a 8-8 overall record last season. They are coached by Tom Coughlin.

College of the Canyons currently has six former players that are on active rosters in the NFL – Troy Nolan (Houston Texans, COC 2004-2005), Justin Tryon (Washington Redskins, COC 2004-2005), Domata Peko (Cincinnati Bengals, COC 2002-2003), JJ Arrington (Denver Broncos, COC 2001-2002), Jonathan Fanene (Cincinnati Bengals, COC 2000-2001), and Isaac Sopoaga (San Francisco 49ers, COC 2000-2001).