

Massey follows in brother's footsteps

U-M tight end holds hope for shot in NFL

Q&A

BY KEVIN RYAN
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Mike Massey is confident about his future, whatever it holds.

The University of Michigan tight end, a fifth-year senior, aspires to play in the NFL next year when his college career ends. The Brecksville, Ohio, native's favorite team is the Cleveland Browns. But, he said he'll gladly play for any team that wants him.

If that doesn't work out, he has designs on a career in the corporate world, maybe in sales.

Massey, who has a marketing concentration in his general studies major, talked earlier this week about his future on and off the football field and about his unique playing experience at Michigan — older brother and former defensive lineman Pat Massey (a team co-captain in 2005) was a teammate of his for two seasons.

Q: So what's your brother up to these days?

A: My brother is working for (Cleveland-based) KeyBank in investment banking, in M&A — merger and acquisitions portion — of investment banking.

Q: How often do you get to talk or see him?

A: I talk to him probably multiple times a week, every other day or every day. He comes up for games. Every time he comes up for games, I see him.

Q: Do you trash talk to each other?

A: Uh, yeah, I mean, you know how brothers are. It's all light-hearted. ... Whenever that opportunity comes up, we always criticize each other, just like how any other brothers would be.

Q: You played two seasons together at Michigan. Did he take you under his wing, or did he try to push you off and make you find your own niche?

A: I think it was a really easy transition, and really easy for him to adapt to it just as much as it was for me, because we both knew what we like and what we don't like in different situations. He helped me out when I needed help, but he gave me advice he thought would help me, but at the same time, I



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Tight end Mike Massey is the lone senior on the Michigan offense. After the 2008 season ends, he plans on giving the NFL his best shot.

figured out a lot of stuff."

Q: You ever try to one-up each other?

A: No, no. If anything, I think I'd lose that one. He had a great career. If anything, it was just talking about the one or two or three times we went up against each other in practice."

Q: Who won?

A: (laughing) He did.

Q: Where do you go after college football?

A: I'm gonna see what I can do in the NFL. I got a lot of stuff lined up with connections and other stuff and corporate America and all that deal. So, I'm not too worried about it. But I've worked too hard to give the NFL up, so we'll see where that takes me.

Q: Have you had any internships?

A: Yeah, I had an internship at a marketing firm — Eiler Marketing

in Ann Arbor with Larry Eiler. He's a great businessman. I did that two summers ago.

Q: What did that entail?

A: I was a basic intern. I did some press releases and some pretty basic stuff like that. They're mostly PR.

Q: Did you have to get people coffee?

A: Yeah, I had to get people coffee. But it was a real small company, so they all took me in and helped me out. I learned a lot from them. I learned stuff I'll take with me for the rest of my life.

Q: Any interest in doing sports marketing or agent work?

A: No, no, no.

Q: Is it NFL or bust?

A: Yeah, pretty much, pretty much.

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