

Good-Jones feels good about Cyclones

Written by Jim Ecker
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Iowa State football coach Paul Rhoads offered Julian Good-Jones a scholarship on March 8, but the big offensive lineman from Cedar Rapids Washington did not want to rush into things before making a final decision.

Good-Jones also received offers from Kansas State and Oregon State, so he delayed making his choice until he could carefully analyze all three schools.

"I just wanted to see the other schools that were interested in me," he said Saturday afternoon. "I got a chance to visit all the schools that were going to offer before my senior season. That's when I wanted to get it done by."

Good-Jones, a 6-foot-6, 275-pound offensive tackle, ended the suspense Friday while touring the ISU facilities in Ames. He wanted a chance to tell Rhoads in person that he's accepted the offer and is excited about becoming a Cyclone.

"It feels really good," he said. "I feel like Ames is a home for me and I feel really good about the whole program and the direction it's going."

Cedar Rapids Prairie lineman Bryce Meeker also has committed to the Cyclones for the Class of 2015, giving Iowa State two of the top offensive linemen from the Metro area.

"He and I are pretty close," said Good-Jones. "I told him I was going to commit."

Good-Jones began playing for the Washington varsity as a sophomore. He made second team all-Metro and second team all-Mississippi Valley Conference last season as a junior when the Warriors finished 6-4, upset No.1 Xavier and made the playoffs.

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Washington Coach Paul James thinks Iowa State will be getting a good player. James said Good-Jones has "good feet" and moves well for a big man.

"He's a hard worker in the weight room. So he's got good strength," said James. "He's a smart kid. He's a real prospect, I think. He's got a lot of different tools.

"And I think he's got a big upside, in that he's going to keep getting better and better."

James said Good-Jones probably will play left tackle for Washington this season and see some time at defensive end. Good-Jones said Iowa State sees him as an offensive tackle as well.

Good-Jones said he wanted to make his college decision prior to the start of training camp in August. "Now I can just focus entirely on my senior year of football and not have recruiting cluttering my thoughts or anything," he said.

He thinks Washington can have a really good season this year with experience on both sides of the ball.

"I think that we have a really good chance at winning the state championship," he said. "I think we have a really strong team this year.

"I'm biased, but everybody on the team has been improving so much. I think the sky's the limit for us."