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By [Jorden Hampton](#) September 18, 2022 [No Comments](#) 2 Mins Read



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Colts general manager Chris Ballard has been committed to improving his team's defense. Ballard has drafted and acquired multiple defensive players who have made a splash. Players like Darius Leonard, Kenny Moore, Julian Blackmon, and Bobby Okereke. Ballard drafted safety Nick Cross in the third round of the 2022 NFL draft. Colts fans and teammates hope Cross can be a versatile piece in Indianapolis.

How Cross can help the Colt's defense

The Colt's defense prides themselves on being fast and physical. Nick Cross is a fast and physical player who was highly productive at the University of Maryland. Cross

recorded 88 tackles, 5.5 tackles for loss, 4 sacks, and 5 interceptions in 3 seasons. Cross can use his instincts to stuff the run, cover receivers, blitz the quarterback, and cover the deep portion of the field.

Takeaways help defenses win games. Nick Cross can help Colt's defense generate more takeaways. Last season the Colts finished the season ranked second in takeaways. Indianapolis recorded 33 takeaways in 2021. Cross can use his playmaking ability and instincts to take the ball away.

Responsibility

Playing safety in the NFL is demanding and a lot is required from safeties. Nick Cross has a lot on his plate from the safety and leadership position. Cross has to learn how to be a leader for Indy. Former safety Khari Willis retired during the offseason so Cross will be expected to make up for his production. The Colts draft players with high character. Indy believes Cross's character will help him blossom during his rookie season.

Who Cross can lean on during his rookie season





Nov 5, 2017; Philadelphia, PA, USA; Philadelphia Eagles free safety Rodney McLeod (23) returns an interception against the Denver Broncos at Lincoln Financial Field. Mandatory Credit: Eric Hartline-USA TODAY Sports.

Indianapolis has a lot of experienced defensive backs Cross can learn from. Kenny Moore has established himself as one of the best slot corners in the NFL. Stephon Gilmore has been a great corner who has won defensive player of the year. Rodney McLeod has made game-changing plays during his career. Julian Blackmon has experience and can help Cross navigate throughout the season.