

Suh sees potential dominance in Los Angeles Rams

By **GREG BEACHAM**
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Ndamukong Suh had his pick of teams when the Miami Dolphins released him last month. The dominating defensive lineman chose the Los Angeles Rams, who have suddenly become a desirable destination.

Whether it's the proximity to great weather, smart coaches or Super Bowl contention, NFL stars have been eager to land in LA during the Rams' intriguing offseason. The 300-pound Suh is the biggest one yet, in every way.

"I think everybody looks at everything on paper, and I would say we're in pretty good shape on paper," Suh said Friday.

“But we have a lot of things to prove, and really myself. I always play with a chip on my shoulder, and my focus is to come in here and put in a lot of work and prove my worth. ... There were a lot of other great teams that I had offers from, but I think this was the best fit for me.”

Rams coach Sean McVay and general manager Les Snead formally introduced Suh, who agreed to a one-year, \$14 million deal to team up with AP Defensive Player of the Year Aaron Donald on a potentially ferocious defensive line in Los Angeles.



Los Angeles Rams new defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh, center, poses for a photo after a news conference with head coach Sean McVay, right, and general manager Les Snead, left, at the team's practice facility in Thousand Oaks, Calif., Friday.

Donald was “definitely a plus” in his decision, since it’s almost certain to prevent opponents from constantly double-teaming either star. But Suh was equally excited by the presence of defensive coordinator Wade Phillips, whose ability to put talent in positions to succeed has been a major attraction since his

arrival last year.

“Being able to be fortunate enough to watch film with the coaches on my visit was important for me,” Suh said. “Each place I took a visit to, I (would) watch film and talk to the coaches and see how they see me fitting in.”

Suh will be the Rams' nose tackle in their base 3-4

defense, and he sounded excited about trying a new primary position. Phillips will move around Suh, Donald and Michael Brockers to create trouble for offensive lines, and Suh was attracted to the challenge of forming new skills in his ninth NFL season.

“Over the last five years

or so, between Miami and Detroit, to get me out of double teams and kind of being in the trash, I've played every single position, every single technique that's really possible," Suh said.

The entire NFL watched last season when McVay and Phillips transformed a team that hadn't had a winning

season since 2003 into an 11-5 champion of the NFC West. The Rams' offense went from 32nd to first in the NFL in points, while the defense became exciting and effective despite lacking ideal personnel for some of Phillips' schemes.

The Rams have addressed those personnel issues aggressively with the additions of Suh and elite cornerbacks Marcus Peters and Aqib Talib. While Suh's contract is a financial splash, McVay and Snead felt the expense was worth it for a player of Suh's extraordinary ability.

The Rams released cornerback Kayvon Webster to make room for Suh's contract under the salary cap. Although Los Angeles is interested in re-signing Webster, who started 11 games last season, he might not be ready for the new season after undergoing surgery on his torn Achilles tendon.

Donald still hasn't been given a long-term contract by the Rams, but Suh is eager to begin the process of building teamwork during their offseason workout program. Suh has never reached a Super Bowl, but he joined the Rams knowing they intend to contend immediately.

"They had a very successful year last year in the regular season," Suh said. "And I believe I can be of help to get them over some of the humps."

MASTERS: Spieth credited a par save at No. 9 with turning around his day



Jordan Spieth reacts to a bad tee shot on four during the second round of the Masters golf tournament at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., Friday.

Continued from 1B

overly frustrated.

The rough start probably should have been expected given what Spieth endured at Augusta National just two years ago.

Spith had a commanding lead at the turn in 2016 before stumbling on Nos. 10 and 11, both par 4s. He bogeyed both, and really unraveled at the par-3 12th.

Spith's tee shot came up short, landed on a downslope and hopped into Rae's Creek. He then took a drop and hit a fat wedge that also splashed. Spith settled for a quadruple-bogey 7 and lost his lead to Danny Willett.

Spieth recovered with by making two birdies over the last six holes, but it wasn't enough. He finished

second, three shots back of Willett.

Compared to that, this was nothing.

"I'm not going to downgrade my skill level, but I'm also not going to downgrade my ability to take punches and fight back on this course," he said. "Good starts are really nice out here. Bad starts are tough to come back from. If I look at it one way, I mean, in 2016, I went bogey, bogey, quad and then was able to rebound from that.

"So what's the first couple holes on a Friday start mean? It doesn't really mean much to me. It means let's figure out what was wrong and fix it. But it's not going to affect the outcome of this tournament off of those two holes. I'm still in a great position."

Spieth credited a par save at No. 9 with turning around his day.

After his tee shot landed in a foot in the right rough, he flew the green with his second shot. He putted from the fringe to 6 feet and then drained it, flashing the kind of putter prowess that carried him (10 putts) on the back nine in the opening round Thursday.

"I thought that my two-putt save on No. 9 was really, really big," he said. "When that went in, I thought, 'OK, forget about everything that's happened here. Let's try and shoot 2 under on the back nine.' And that was the goal, and, you know, I almost did one better there."

Spieth's 15-foot birdie putt on No. 18 burned the edge.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BASEBALL				
Saturday				
Union at Weston-McEwen (DH), 11 a.m.				
Mac-Hi at Baker (DH), 12 p.m.				
Pilot Rock at Elgin (DH), 1 p.m.				
Monday				
No local games scheduled.				
Tuesday				
Irrigon at Stanfield/Echo, 4 p.m.				
Union/Cove at Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii, 4 p.m.				
Weston-McEwen at Sherman/Arlington, 4 p.m.				
Pendleton at La Grande, 4:30 p.m.				
PREP SOFTBALL				
Saturday				
Heppner at Grant Union (DH), 11 a.m.				
Enterprise at Echo (DH), 11 a.m.				
Mac-Hi at Baker (DH), 12 p.m.				
Hermiston at Central Catholic (DH), 12:30 p.m.				
Monday				
No local games scheduled.				
Tuesday				
Hermiston at La Grande (DH), 3 p.m.				
Irrigon at Riverside/Arlington, 4 p.m.				
Weston-McEwen/Helix at Umatilla, 4 p.m.				
Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii at Grant Union, 4 p.m.				
Mac-Hi at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.				
PREP TRACK & FIELD				
Saturday				
Hermiston at Davis (WA) Invitational, 10 a.m.				
Pendleton, Mac-Hi, Umatilla, Riverside, Weston-McEwen, Pilot Rock, Helix at Mac-Hi Carnival of Speed, 11 a.m.				
PREP GOLF				
Saturday				
No local matches scheduled.				
Monday				
Hermiston (boys) vs. Bend, 10 a.m.				
Pendleton (boys) vs. Hood River (Indian Creek Golf Course), 10 a.m.				
Tuesday				
Pendleton (girls) vs. La Grande (La Grande Country Club), 1 p.m.				
PREP TENNIS				
Saturday				
Riverside at Helix, 12 p.m.				
Monday				
No local matches scheduled.				
Tuesday				
Stanfield/Echo (boys) vs. Weston-McEwen (at Stanfield), 3:30 p.m.				
Mac-Hi (girls) at The Dalles, 4 p.m.				
Hermiston (girls) at Hood River Valley, 4 p.m.				
COLLEGE BASEBALL				
Saturday				
BMCC at Walla Walla CC (DH), 1 p.m.				
COLLEGE SOFTBALL				
Saturday				
EOU at Northwest (DH), 10 a.m.				
Columbia Basin at BMCC (DH), 12 p.m.				

Basketball

NBA				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Toronto	57	22	.722	—
x-Boston	54	25	.684	3
x-Philadelphia	49	30	.620	8

New York	28	51	354	29
Brooklyn	26	53	329	31
Southeast Division				
x-Miami	43	37	538	—
x-Washington	42	38	525	1
Charlotte	35	45	438	8
Orlando	24	55	304	18½
Atlanta	23	57	285	20
Central Division				
x-Cleveland	49	31	613	—
x-Indiana	47	33	588	2
x-Milwaukee	42	37	532	6½
Detroit	38	41	481	10½
Chicago	27	52	342	21½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
z-Houston	64	15	810	—
San Antonio	45	34	570	19
New Orleans	45	34	570	19
Dallas	24	56	300	40½
Memphis	21	58	266	43
Northwest Division				
x-Portland	48	31	608	—
Utah	46	33	582	2
Oklahoma City	45	35	570	3
Minnesota	44	35	563	3½
Denver	44	35	557	4
Pacific Division				
y-Golden State	57	22	722	—
L.A. Clippers	42	37	532	15
L.A. Lakers	34	45	430	23
Sacramento	26	54	325	31½
Phoenix	20	60	250	37½
x-clinched playoff spot				
y-clinched division				
z-clinched conference				
Friday's Games				
Atlanta 103, Washington 97				
Charlotte 137, Orlando 100				
Detroit 113, Dallas 106, OT				
Philadelphia 132, Cleveland 130				
Boston 111, Chicago 104				
New York 122, Miami 98				
Toronto 92, Indiana 73				
Sacramento 94, Memphis 93				
New Orleans 122, Phoenix 96				
Minnesota 113, L.A. Lakers 96				
Saturday's Games				
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 12:30 p.m.				
Milwaukee at New York, 4:30 p.m.				
Brooklyn at Chicago, 5 p.m.				
New Orleans at Golden State, 5:30 p.m.				
Oklahoma City at Houston, 5:30 p.m.				
Portland at San Antonio, 6 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Atlanta at Boston, 10 a.m.				
Dallas at Philadelphia, 10 a.m.				
Indiana at Charlotte, 10 a.m.				
Detroit at Memphis, 12:30 p.m.				
Orlando at Toronto, 3 p.m.				
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 3 p.m.				
Golden State at Phoenix, 6 p.m.				
Monday's Games				
Toronto at Detroit, 4 p.m.				
Chicago at Brooklyn, 4:30 p.m.				
Cleveland at New York, 4:30 p.m.				
Oklahoma City at Miami, 4:30 p.m.				
Memphis at Minnesota, 5 p.m.				
Orlando at Milwaukee, 5 p.m.				
Sacramento at San Antonio, 5:30 p.m.				
Portland at Denver, 6 p.m.				
New Orleans at L.A. Clippers, 7:30 p.m.				

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT Pts	GF	GA	
x-Tampa Bay	81	54	23	4	112	294	233
x-Boston	80	49	19	12	110	263	208
x-Toronto	81	48	26	7	103	273	230
Florida	80	42	30	8	92	240	241
Detroit	81	30	39	12	72	214	251
Montreal	81	29	39	13	71	207	260
Ottawa	81	29	42	11	67	219	286
Buffalo	81	25	44	12	62	196	276

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT Pts	GF	GA	
y-Washington	81	48	26	7	103	254	236
x-Pittsburgh	82	47	29	6	100	272	250
x-Columbus	81	45	29	7	97	245	243
x-New Jersey	81	44	28	9	97	245	249
Philadelphia	81	41	26	14	96	246	243
N.Y. Islanders	81	35	35	11	81	225	254
C.R. Rangers	81	34	37	10	78	260	293
Carolina	81	34	38	9	77	231	263

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT Pts	GF	GA	
z-Nashville	81	52	18	11	115	263	209
x-Winnipeg	81	51	20	10	112	273	217
x-Minnesota	81	44	26	11	99	247	229
St. Louis	81	44	31	6	94	224	217
Colorado	81	42	30	9	93	252	235
Dallas	81	41	32	8	90	231	223
Chicago	81	33	38	10	76	228	252

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT Pts	GF	GA	
y-Vegas	81	51	23	7	109	271	221
x-San Jose	81	45	26	10	100	249	223
x-Anaheim	81	43	25	13	99	232	216
x-Los Angeles	81	45	28	8	98	237	249
Calgary	81	36	35	10	82	211	197
Edmonton	81	35	40	6	76	231	261
Vancouver	81	31	40	12	72	216	261
Arizona	81	29	40	12	70	208	253

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

x-clinched playoff spot

y-clinched division

z-clinched conference

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh @ , Ottawa @

Tampa Bay @ , Buffalo @

St. Louis @ , Chicago @

Nashville @ , Dallas @

Saturday's Games

N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia, 12 p.m.

N.Y. Islanders at Detroit, 4 p.m.

New Jersey at Washington, 4 p.m.

Chicago at Winnipeg, 4 p.m.

Tampa Bay at Carolina, 4 p.m.

Ottawa at Boston, 4 p.m.

Montreal at Toronto, 4 p.m.

Buffalo at Florida, 4 p.m.

Columbus at Nashville, 5 p.m.

St. Louis at Colorado, 6 p.m.

Anaheim at Arizona, 6 p.m.

Vancouver at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

Vegas at Calgary, 7 p.m.

Dallas at Los Angeles, 7:30 p.m.

Minnesota at San Jose, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Florida at Boston, 4:30 p.m.

Monday's Games

No games scheduled.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	6	1	.857	-
Toronto	5	3	.625	1½
New York	4	4	.500	2½
Baltimore	3	5	.375	3½
Tampa Bay	1	6	.143	5

Central Division				
Minnesota	4	2.667	—	
Chicago	3	3.500	1	
Cleveland	3	4.429	1½	
Detroit	2	4.333	2	
Kansas City	1	4.200	2½	
West Division				
Houston	6	2.750	—	
Los Angeles	6	2.950	—	
Seattle	3	3.500	2	
Oakland	3	6.333	3½	
Texas	3	6.333	3½	
Friday's Games				
Cleveland 3, Kansas City 2				
Baltimore 7, N.Y. Yankees 3, 14 innings				
Toronto 8, Texas 5				
San Diego 4, Houston 1				
L.A. Angels 13, Oakland 9				
Saturday's Games				
Baltimore (Timeout 0-1) at N.Y. Yankees				
Gray 0-0, 10:05 a.m.				
Tampa Bay (Faria 0-0) at Boston (Porcello 0-1), 10:05 a.m.				
Detroit (Fulmer 0-1) at Chicago White Sox (Giolito 0-0), 11:10 a.m.				
Seattle (Leake 1-0) at Minnesota (Berrios 0-1), 11:10 a.m.				
Kansas City (Kennedy 0-0) at Cleveland (Bauer 0-0), 1:10 p.m.				
San Diego (Mitchell 0-1) at Houston (Cole 0-1), 4:10 p.m.				
Toronto (Stroman 0-0) at Texas (Minor 0-1), 5:05 p.m.				
Oakland (Triggs 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Ramirez 0-1), 6:07 p.m.				
Sunday's Games				
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, 10:05 a.m.				
Tampa Bay at Boston, 10:05 a.m.				
Kansas City at Cleveland, 10:10 a.m.				
Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 11:10 a.m.				
San Diego at Houston, 11:10 a.m.				
Seattle at Minnesota, 11:10 a.m.				
Toronto at Texas, 12:05 p.m.				
Oakland at L.A. Angels, 1:07 p.m.				
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
New York	5	1.733	—	
Atlanta	5	2.814	½	
Washington	4	3.571	1½	
Philadelphia	2	4.333	3	
Miami	2	5.286	3½	
Central Division				
Pittsburgh	6	1.857	—	
Milwaukee	5	3.625	1½	
Chicago	3	4.429	3	
St. Louis	3	4.293	3	
Cincinnati	1	5.167	4½	
West Division				
Arizona	6	1.857	—	
Colorado	4	4.500	2½	
San Francisco	3	3.500	2½	
Los Angeles	2	5.286	4	
San Diego	2	6.250	4½	
Friday's Games				
L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco, ppd.				
Atlanta 8, Colorado 3				
Pittsburgh 14, Cincinnati 3				
Milwaukee 5, Chicago Cubs 4				
San Diego 4, Houston 1				
Saturday's Games				
N.Y. Mets (Matz 0-0) at Washington				
Gonzalez 1-0, 10:05 a.m.				
Arizona (Greinke 0-0) at St. Louis (Wacha 0-1), 11:15 a.m.				
Chicago Cubs (Darvish 0-0) at Milwaukee (Davies 0-1), 1:05 p.m.				

A. Dodgers (Hill 1-0) at San Francisco
Stratton 0-1), 3:05 p.m.

Miami (Peters 1-0) at Philadelphia (Velasquez 0-1), 3:05 p.m.

Cincinnati (Romano 0-1) at Pittsburgh
Kuhl 1-0), 4:05 p.m.

San Diego (Mitchell 0-1) at Houston (Cole 0-1), 4:10 p.m.

Atlanta (Newcomb 0-1) at Colorado (Bettis 0-1), 5:10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 10:35 a.m.

Miami at Philadelphia, 10:35 a.m.

Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, 11:10 a.m.

San Diego at Houston, 11:10 a.m.

Arizona at St. Louis, 11:15 a.m.

Atlanta at Colorado, 12:10 p.m.

L.A. Dodgers at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m.

N.Y. Mets at Washington, 5:08 p.m.

Soccer

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

W

L

T

Pts

GF

GA

New York City FC40113104

New England 31110105

Columbus 3111095

Atlanta United FC310986

New York 22206105

Montreal 230659

Philadelphia 111423

Orlando City 121468

Toronto FC 1220334

D.C. United 0322510

Chicago 0221168

WESTERN CONFERENCE

W

L

T

Pts

GF

GA

Sporting Kansas City313101010

Vancouver 3111077

A. Galaxy 211176

Los Angeles FC 210695

Minnesota United230669

FC Dallas 102552

Colorado 111464

Houston 1221476

Real Salt Lake121449

San Jose 1220367

Portland 022249

Seattle 030005

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday's Games

New England 4, Montreal 0

Saturday's Games

Los Angeles FC at Atlanta United FC, p.m.

San Jose at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

Colorado at FC Dallas, 8 p.m.

Columbus at Colorado, 8:30 p.m.

Vancouver at Real Salt Lake, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Portland at Orlando City, 4 p.m.

Sporting Kansas City at LA Galaxy, 9 p.m.

Golf

PGA TOUR

The Masters

Friday

At Augusta National Golf Club

Augusta, Ga

Purse: \$161 million (in 2017)

Yardage: 7435; Par 72

Second Round

a-denotes amateur

Patrick Reed69-66-135-9

Mark Leishman70-67-137-7

Henrik Stenson69-70-139-5

Rory McIlroy69-71-140-4

Jordan Spieth66-74-140-4

Justin Johnson	73-68—141	-3
Justin Thomas	74-67—141	-3
Tony Finau	68-74—142	-2
Rickie Fowler	70-72—142	-2
Louis Oosthuizen	71-71—142	-2
Justin Rose	72-70—142	-2
Barbara Watson	73-69—142	-2
Charley Hoffman	69-73—142	-2
Samuel R. Smith	73-69—142	-1
Matt Kuchar	68-75—143	-1
Jon Rahm	75-68—143	-1
Bernard Wiesberger	70-73—143	-1
Jimmy Walker	73-71—144	E
Hideki Matsuyama	73-71—144	E
Zach Johnson	70-74—144	E
Tommy Fleetwood	72-72—144	E
Adam Hadwin	69-75—144	E
Haotong Li	69—74—145	+1
Russell Henley	73-72—145	+1
David G. Bellore	73-72—145	+1
Satoshi Kodaira	71—74—145	+1
Vijay Singh	71-74—145	+1
Fred Couples	72-74—146	+2
Ryan Moore	74-72—146	+2
Jhonattan Vegas	77-69—146	+2
Francesco Molinari	72-74—146	+2
Kyle Stanley	72-74—146	+2
Branden Grace	73-73—146	+2
Jason Day	75-71—146	+2
Chaz Reavie	76-71—147	+3
Kevin Kisner	73-74—147	+3
Brian Harman	73-74—147	+3
Daniel Berger	72-74—147	+3
Martin Kaymer	74-73—147	+3
a-Doug Ghim	72-76—148	+4
Si Woo Kim	75-73—148	+4
Bernhard Langer	74-74—148	+4
Adam Scott	75-73—148	+4
Bryson DeChambeau	74-74—148	+4
Tiger Woods	73-75—148	+4
Lin Poulter	74-75—148	+5
Heath Slocum	73-76—149	+5
Xander Schauffele	71-78—149	+5
Tyrell Hatton	74-75—149	+5
Phil Mickelson	70-79—149	+5
Matthew Fitzpatrick	75-74—149	+5
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	79-70—149	+5
Paul Casey	74-75—149	+5
Failed to make the cut		
Sandy Lyle	74-76—150	+6
Jose Maria Olazabal	72-78—150	+6
Charles Schwartz	74-76—150	+6
Charl Hoot	74-76—150	+6
Patrice Cantlay	75-76—151	+7
Shubhankar Sharma	77-74—151	+7
Thomas Pieters	73-78—151	+7
Ted Potter, Jr.	73-78—151	+7
Branden Steele	76-75—151	+7
Dylan Frittelli	77-74—151	+7
Danny Willett	75-76—151	+7
Ross Fisher	78-74—152	+8
Wesley Bryan	74-78—152	+8
Pat Perez	73-79—152	+8
Tadashi Uozumi	77-75—152	+8
Trevor Immelman	78-75—153	+9
a-Joaquin Niemann	77-77—153	+9
Yuta Ikeda	76-77—153	+9
Alex Noren	74-79—153	+9
Kevin Chappell	77-76—153	+9
a-Doc Redman	76-77—153	+9
Yusaku Miyazato	77-77—154	+10
Greg Woodland	78-76—154	+10
Austin Cook	74-80—154	+10
Billy Horschel	76-79—155	+11
Sam Norman	77-79—155	+11
Mike Weir	76-79—155	+11
Larry Mize	76-80—156	+12
Angel Cabrera	76-83—159	+15
a-Yuxin Lin	79-80—159	+15
Mark O'Meara	78-81—159	+15
Sergio Garcia	81-78—159	+15
a-Matt Parziale	81-79—160	+16
a-Harry Ellis	86-80—166	+22