

High school football: Brush's Tyrone Chambers switches from Minnesota to Toledo

Brush's Tyrone Chambers

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Brush's Tyrone Chambers is congratulated after signing with Toledo on Feb. 2. [Mark Podolski](#) — *The News-Herald*
Brush's Tyrone Chambers had a change of heart, and his heart and head told him the University of Toledo.

Chambers' choice of college on Feb. 1 came full circle. As a sophomore, the 300-pound defensive tackle verbally committed to the Rockets.

[>> National signing day photos from around the area](#)

Since then, it's been a back-and-forth as Chambers searched to find a college home, and a coach. The reasons were based on coaching decisions — all by the coaches themselves.

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"I've always committed to the coach," said Chambers after signing his national letter of intent Feb. 1.

About a year after Chambers originally verballed to Toledo, Coach Matt Campbell left for Iowa State.

That prompted Chambers to look elsewhere. He later verballed to Cincinnati, but Coach Tommy Tuberville eventually retired.

Then Chambers committed to Western Michigan and Coach P.J. Fleck, who last month took the job at Minnesota. Chambers [agreed to follow Fleck to the Twin Cities](#).

However, Chambers said he disagreed with the academic requirements from Fleck, and that set up a last-week change he called “hectic.”

He visited Toledo beginning on Jan. 27, and by Jan. 29 committed to Coach Jason Candle. He didn’t make his decision public until Feb. 1.

“Toledo has always been in the picture,” said Chambers.

That doesn’t mean his decision wasn’t a shock to many. On the morning of national signing day, Chambers said he received a flood of messages asking, “Why?”

“For me, I was just trying to find a home,” he said. “(The recruiting process) was frustrating because I was committing to the coach, and things kept happening.”

During a ceremony at Brush with four other student-athletes signing their letters of intent, Chambers made it official by putting on a Toledo Rockets winter cap. The big guy was having fun, but he also looked relieved.

Now that it’s over, Chambers said it’s time to play football. He received 12 offers from FBS schools, including seven from the Mid-American Conference.

Chambers was an honorable mention All-Ohio pick, and a first-team All-News-Herald selection. He’s the 15th Arcs football player since 2001 to receive an FBS scholarship.

Brush coach Jeff Fink was glad to see Chambers come to a decision best-suited for him.

“When he got on campus, he said he could see his future there,” said Fink.

Chambers said he expects to contend for playing time as a defensive tackle immediately.

He even got some inspiration watching [Kareem Hunt of Willoughby South run wild for Toledo](#) that last four seasons.

“Watching a player like him, someone who’s from just down the road from here, was great,” said Chambers. “And knowing he’s getting ready to be drafted. You start thinking, ‘That could be me one day.’”

Also signing their letters of intent for Brush were running back Christian Wright (Garden City Community College in Kansas), linebacker James Kalan (Notre Dame College) and defensive back Coleyone Brown (Hiram).

Soccer player Ben Bollinger signed with Findlay.