- 00:02 Congrats on 11 seasons with the Patriots.
- 00:06 Does it feel like
- 00:06 just yesterday that you were drafted
- 00:08 and that you had your first season,
- 00:10 or does it feel like a lifetime ago to you?
- 00:13 It does, it goes by fast.
- 00:14 I actually just had a conversation
- 00:17 with a guy named Cliff Marshall
- 00:18 who trained me coming out of college.
- 00:21 He sent me a post from his Facebook 11 years ago this day,
- 00:26 and I was like, "Man, it feels like that just happened."
- 00:28 And I remember coming in as a rookie
- 00:30 and they took us over to the Patriots Hall of Fame
- 00:33 and Myra Kraft, Mr. Kraft's wife, spoke to us.
- 00:37 And she talked about a big reason why she supported him
- 00:40 buying the team was because she saw the bigger picture
- 00:43 of what the team could be
- 00:44 and what the team could do in the community.
- 00:46 I think I just felt like this area has given me so much.
- 00:52 You graduate and you just move straight to a new city
- 00:55 and it's just like, "Go ahead, be you.
- 00:58 You know, find out who you are as an adult."
- 01:00 And I think, for me, so much of my growth as an adult
- 01:03 happened right there.
- 01:04 You, the Patriots and the Kraft organization
- 01:07 have a reputation for excellence.
- 01:08 What do you think is the secret?
- 01:11 I think it's like all organizations,
- 01:13 it starts at the top
- 01:15 and you can't have someone running the show
- 01:18 who's not good.
- 01:19 You can't have bad leaders and think
- 01:21 that something's still gonna go as planned
- 01:24 or have a great team of something.
- 01:26 So, I would say it starts with RKK.
- 01:29 Mr. Kraft obviously knows
- 01:31 how to run a business the right way.
- 01:32 But I think his ability to connect people
- 01:35 and do those different things
- 01:36 and then, obviously hiring, Bill as a head coach.
- 01:41 He does what's best for the team.
- 01:43 Never, never gives you anything else
- 01:45 other than that hard decision,
- 01:48 really tough calls that he has to make
- 01:50 and I think that trickles down to everybody else.
- 01:53 Thank you to the Smith brothers.
- 01:54 We all know them, Larry and Michael Smith,
- 01:56 for all that they do to support Suffolk
- 01:58 and the Athletics program
- 02:00 and because of their generosity,
- 02:01 the Athletics program has grown
- 02:02 and facilities have significantly improved.

- 02:05 Thank you to Lennie Samia and the Samia family
- 02:09 whose philanthropy has given
- 02:10 hundreds of Massachusetts residents with financial need
- 02:14 the opportunity to attend and learn at Suffolk.
- 02:16 The Smith brothers and Mr. Samia came from humble beginnings
- 02:19 and started giving small amounts to Suffolk
- 02:22 because they were so thankful
- 02:23 for the education they received here.
- 02:25 First, I just want to say that's awesome.
- 02:27 You know, I'm very thankful for people like that
- 02:30 because I think people don't understand how
- 02:31 that inspires other people
- 02:34 who are going to come through programs
- 02:35 and it's all about paying it forward.
- 02:37 And to just hear their stories:
- 02:39 coming from humble beginnings,
- 02:40 you go to a school and I think for a lot of us
- 02:42 you feel like,
- 02:43 "Man, that time there changed my life."
- 02:45 It gave me opportunities
- 02:47 that I didn't really think I would have.
- 02:49 But give to Suffolk, because Suffolk gave to you
- 02:52 and pay it forward for the next students.
- 02:54 Boston and New England
- 02:55 is a huge area for kids
- 02:58 who are first time graduates in their families,
- 03:01 English as a second language.
- 03:02 So many kids who have been through a lot
- 03:05 will benefit from this gift you give.
- 03:08 So, I really encourage everyone to go on there today,
- 03:12 giving, try to make your class
- 03:15 the top class- (Jacob laughs)
- 03:16 Make it competitive.
- 03:17 Don't just give because you're like,
- 03:19 "Oh, Devin McCourty said..."
- 03:20 Go out there and win the Day of Giving
- 03:23 and be the best.
- 03:24 I think it's awesome to give
- 03:25 and to be able to watch Suffolk grow
- 03:28 for all you alumni, and see the difference that you're making
- 03:32 because you're helping build the resources.
- 03:34 You're helping brighten a future
- 03:36 for some young men and women.
- 03:38 I really hope you guys take advantage of it
- 03:40 because it really is a blessing.