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# Chargers Profile: LA's New Fearsome Tandem

*(Photo cred.) Isaiah J. Downing-USA TODAY Sports*

By  
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There are a lot of great pass rushing duos in the NFL...Jadeveon Clowney and JJ Watt, Olivier Vernon and Jason Pierre-Paul, Von Miller and Shane Ray and Khalil Mack and Bruce Irvin. These players all have something in common; they win.

Joey Bosa and Melvin Ingram may be the next great pass-rushing duo in the NFL, and winning is within their reach. Bosa and Ingram combined for 18.5 sacks during the 2016-2017 NFL season. That doesn't seem like much, but Bosa was a rookie last year who sat out 4 games. On top of that, Ingram has 26 career sacks and approximately 29 quarterback hurries last season. This tandem has the potential to be an elite pass rushing duo. In the first game of the 2017 NFL season, Ingram and Bosa had 3 combined sacks and put a lot of pressure on Broncos starting quarterback Trevor Siemian. With Gus Bradley changing the defense from a 3-4 to a 4-3, Bosa and Ingram are expected to improve all around. With Ingram and Bosa sticking their hands in the ground for a majority of the game, the tandem will be able to be much more aggressive and get up the field, rather than dropping back into coverage.



Oct 30, 2016; Denver, CO, USA; San Diego Chargers outside linebacker Melvin Ingram (54) during the second quarter against the Denver Broncos at Sports Authority Field at Mile High. Mandatory Credit: Ron Chenoy-USA TODAY Sports

Ingram has grown into a high quality pass rusher over the last few years. Coming out of South Carolina, Ingram was a jack-of-all-trades. He could play the inside technique, rush

with his hand in the ground and play standing up. His versatility and athleticism really jumps off of the screen. The Chargers took Ingram with the 12th overall pick and his career started off slowly. Ingram only totaled 6 sacks in his first three seasons in the NFL, but has accumulated 18.5 in the last two seasons. It was only a matter of time before Ingram flipped the switch and found his niche in the NFL. With Gus Bradley's help, Ingram can be considered an elite pass rusher and put up the numbers to prove it.

Ingram's teammate, Joey Bosa has established himself as an up and coming star. Bosa was a highly touted player coming out of Ohio State University. Bosa was one of the best players coming out of OSU after winning a national championship with them in 2015. Bosa totaled 26 sacks and 51 tackles in his career at OSU. The Chargers saw the potential in Bosa and selected him with the third overall pick in the 2016 NFL draft. Like Ingram, Bosa's skills jump off of the screen. He has as good of a first step off the ball as anyone in the NFL and his IQ is rare for a player his age. Bosa is only 22, which makes his play even more impressive. Bosa won the defensive rookie of the year in only 12 games during the 2016 NFL season. He accumulated 10.5 sacks, 17 tackles and one forced fumble. His rookie season was one of the most impressive by a Chargers rookie since LaDarian Tomlinson. Unfortunately for the Chargers, it didn't translate into wins. However, that could change due to the revamped defense and this explosive duo.



Oct 30, 2016; Denver, CO,

USA; San Diego Chargers defensive end Joey Bosa (99) in the first quarter against the Denver Broncos at Sports Authority Field at Mile High. Mandatory Credit: Isaiah J.

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With Ingram and Bosa having another year across from each other, they should be able to dominate opposing offenses. While they started off slow against The Broncos, the two really livened up the backfield when they put it all together. It will be tough to continue that success against the Oakland Raiders and the Kansas City Chiefs, who both have good offensive lines and great head coaches. It will be interesting to see how Bosa and Ingram can adapt to the rest of the NFL, but for right now the sky is the limit.

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