

BARRETT PICKED 3RD OVERALL BY NEW YORK KNICKS IN NBA DRAFT

HIGHEST CANADIAN SELECTED SINCE 2014

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RJ Barrett's pro basketball career is about to begin in one of the NBA's biggest markets.

The Mississauga native was selected third overall by the New York Knicks in the NBA Draft, which took place in New York

City.

"I'm just ready for this," he said in an interview on ESPN after he was selected. "I want to embrace the city, embrace the team and everything. I'm ready to go."

Barrett stood out for Duke University and was named a consensus first-team All-American in his lone NCAA season. Leading up to the draft, it was highly expected Barrett would be picked by the Knicks after Duke

teammate Zion Williamson, the first overall pick by the New Orleans Pelicans, and Ja Morant, who went second overall to the Memphis Grizzlies.

Barrett is the highest Canadian picked since Vaughan's Andrew Wiggins was drafted first overall by the Cleveland Cavaliers in 2014. The year before, Brampton's Anthony Bennett became the first ever Canadian to be picked first overall, again by Cleveland.

Last season, he averaged 22.6 points, 7.6 rebounds and 4.3 assists per game and help Duke win the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) championship and reach the NCAA's Elite Eight.



Torstar file photo

Mississauga's RJ Barrett was chosen third overall by the New York Knicks in the 2019 NBA Draft.

Peel Bio. BARRETT, RJ

MN June 27, 2019