

# Urban headlines Canadian talent eligible for NFL Draft

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It seems as though Mississauga's Brent Urban could be the first Canadian selected in this weekend's NFL Draft in New York City.

The 6-foot-7, 295-pound defensive lineman established himself as a major threat to opposing offences in his final season at the University of Virginia last season.

Although the Lorne Park Secondary School graduate suffered a high ankle sprain that forced him to miss the final stretch of last sea-

son, he's expected to be a mid to late-round pick over the weekend.

In eight games with Virginia, he led all NCAA defensive linemen with nine pass knock-downs and also registered 11.5 tackles for losses.

The 23-year-old realizes he'll have to take more of a pass rush mentality if he makes it to the NFL.

"In our defence at Virginia, a lot of the times I'd be the spy for the defensive end," Urban told *The Toronto Sun*.

"So I didn't get too much of an opportunity to pin my ears back and

just drive upfield in a 1-on-1 pass rush. I know that's definitely something I need to work on at the next level."

Urban is comparable to Houston Texans star defensive end J.J. Watt in more ways than one. Not only do they both wear the number 99, but they're also similar in stature.

Like Watt, Urban also balanced football with competitive hockey before dedicating himself entirely to the former.

Urban played with the Mississauga IceDogs AAA team up until his bantam year.

Mississauga native Brent Urban is projected to be the top Canadian picked in this weekend's NFL Draft.

