

Gators' Burton hopes versatility will translate to NFL

Kevin O'Donnell - FOX 13 Sports

Posted: Apr 28, 2014
Updated: Jun 23, 2014



TAMPA (FOX 13) - The Gators' "Mr. Everything" is counting down the days to the NFL Draft.

Trey Burton is keeping busy getting a grasp on his game. He's been in training Tampa at Performance Compound since the beginning of the year, learning what it's going to take play at the next level.

His dream is within reach and he can't wait for his draft day to come.

"This experience has been awesome," said Burton. "It's truly been a dream. It's everything that I've ever wanted to do growing up, playing sports throughout my whole life. We've been extremely excited for the next phase in our life and we're really excited to go where ever God wants us to go."

Burton's stock is on the rise. A prospect that played five different positions at Florida. He left the NFL Combine with the fourth-best 40-yard dash time among tight ends and showed great hands in all situations.

Projecting when and where he'll go brings differing opinions. As long as his name gets called, mock drafts won't matter.

"No one knows what the owners and the GMs and coaches really want to do with their picks," continued Burton. "So I don't really follow that too much. I'm just sitting back and waiting for my chance."

Burton's versatility at Florida was a major asset. In the NFL, there are questions how that will transfer, but there are teams in the NFL that believe what Rays manager Joe Maddon believes -- versatility can be very cost effective.

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"Within the last five years, you've seen these players, ex-NFL quarterbacks and everything else. They're going out and playing wide receiver, safety, a lot of different positions because they are so athletic on the field."

"The reason I'm 230 [pounds] now is to be in the middle of all that. I can gain 10 to 15 pounds to be 245 and I can lose 10 to 15 pounds to 215 or 220. So I wanted to come into camp, come into the draft right at 230, and whatever team picks me, chooses me, and whatever position they want to see me at. I can gain weight or lose weight according to that, but I believe I'm a wide receiver."

Burton will leave Tampa next week to watch the draft in Atlanta along with his family.

"Right around about 50 people there, so it will be a big group. Huge," said Burton. "We're going to be jumping up and down. Just happy that's it's finally here. We finally get to know where to go."