



DERRICK ALEXANDER

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Derrick Alexander was once cut from the junior varsity football team, but eventually became the first athlete at legendary Raines High to letter in five sports.

Alexander signed with FSU in 1991 and redshirted before playing in 10 games as a redshirt freshman in 1992. His explosive pass rush became evident his sophomore year as he finished the 1993 season second on the team in total tackles with 100 as well as second with eight tackles for loss and five quarterback sacks. He dominated the national championship game against Nebraska with 11 tackles and was named to four All-America teams.

As a junior in 1994, Alexander was one of the top players in the country and one of the preseason favorites for both the Lombardi and Outland Trophies. He was named the ACC Player of the Year following the season and was a consensus All-America selection earning first-team honors on all seven All-America squads.

He entered the NFL draft following his junior season and was the 11th overall selection of the first round by the Minnesota Vikings. He spent three seasons with Minnesota and then one year with the Cleveland Browns where, in 1999, he received the Ed Block Courage Award given to an NFL player who has the courage to play with injuries at a high level and displays team leadership and service to his community. After retiring as a player, Alexander moved to the Browns front office for two years before entering private business.