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ZANE DURANT

BORN: May 6, 2004 | HT: 6-1 | WT: 290 | Rookie

COLLEGE: Penn State

ACQUIRED: Draft (2026, R5)

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FIRST-AND-10

ZANE DURANT was selected by the Bills in the fifth round in 2026 out of Penn State. A three-time All-Big Ten honorable mention, Durant is the first Nittany Lion drafted by the Bills since Daequan Hardy in 2024.

SHOUTOUTS

- A four-year defensive lineman for the Nittany Lions (2022-25) who has played in 54 games. Ended his career with 89 tackles, 22 tackles for loss, 10 sacks, three pass breakups and one interception.
- Picked up All-Big Ten honorable mention accolades from the coaches and media in 2024 and 2025 and the media in 2023.
- A 2025 team captain, started in 12 games on the season and totaled 25 tackles, including 4.5 for loss and 4 sacks, two pass breakups and his first career interception.
- Recorded first career interception against Nevada (8/30/25) in season opener.
- In 2024 he started all 16 games at defensive tackle and finished with 42 tackles (22 solo), 11 tackles for loss, three sacks and a pass breakup.
- Appeared in all 13 games of the 2023 season, making 11 starts. Finished with 17 tackles to go along with 5.5 tackles for loss, two sacks, a fumble recovery and a quarterback hurry.

PERSONAL

Full name is Zane Marquis Alexander Durant. Is the son of Rojina and Marcus Durant. Has three sisters, Arielle, Gabrielle and Danielle. Father, Marcus, played football at Florida A&M University (1990-95). Sister, Arielle, played basketball at FIU (2010-14). Sister, Gabrielle, ran track and field at UCF (2014-19). Enjoys fishing and gaming in his free time. Attended Lake Nona HS in Lake Nona, Florida where he also lettered in track and field, throwing shot put, and participated in weightlifting. Owns the school record for the shot put.

IF YOU HAVEN'T HERD

CAPTAIN ZANE

Zane Durant has become known for his ever-growing ability to lift up teammates, and break them down, whenever needed most. It's Durant's team captainship, which he earned this summer, that may prove even more valuable at times.

Fellow defensive tackle Alonzo Ford described offseason cookouts in which Durant performs expert grill work on ribs while mentoring younger teammates. Center Nick Dawkins said he willingly engages in difficult conversations with those who need guidance.

"He's not afraid to call things as he sees it. He's got a unique voice," Dawkins said. "When he speaks, there's no confusing about who just said what was said."

It fits well, then, how Durant began this ever-anticipated season by delivering another signature moment. One more how-did-he-do-that highlight amid an otherwise overlooked afternoon of paralyzing blockers.

On the second possession of the Nevada victory, Durant stalked the quarterback, wisely anticipating a hurried screen pass. The former schoolboy running back held his ground, then softly cradled the interception and began rumbling toward the goal line. He was stopped only 6 yards short. He was almost simultaneously razed and applauded by teammates for coming up just short of a touchdown on such a wondrous effort.

"I read (the quarterback's) eyes, so I wasn't really surprised (I got the ball)," Durant told reporters after the game, smiling the entire time – always thinking of ways to do what he does better.

"But I should have ran like I knew it was coming to me."

(Frank Bodani, [ydr.com](https://www.ydr.com), Sept 5, 2025)

THE STAMPEDE

Favorite movie: Cars

Favorite gas station snack: Life Savers Gummies

Hobbies: Golfing & grilling

Bucket list item: Travel to Japan