

**Name** Donald Brown  
**College** Connecticut  
**Position** RB

**Best Fit Scheme**  
**Year**  
**Final Grade**

**I Formation**  
**Senior**  
**6.4**

<b>GAMES VIEWED</b>	TEMPLE				<b>MEASURABLES</b>	Height	<b>5100</b>	Weight	<b>210</b>	40 Time	<b>4.51</b>	
						Bench	<b>N/A</b>	Vertical	<b>41.5</b>	Durability	<b>6.5</b>	
<b>INTANGIBLES</b>	Toughness	<b>7.0</b>	Smarts	<b>6.5</b>	Clutch	<b>6.5</b>	Quicks/Agility	<b>6.0</b>	Footwork	<b>6.0</b>	C.O.D.	<b>6.0</b>
	Instincts	<b>6.0</b>	Hustle	<b>6.5</b>	Versatility	<b>6.5</b>	Flexibility	<b>6.0</b>	Coordination	<b>6.5</b>	Balance	<b>7.0</b>

Donald Brown is the complete package. He has the toughness you need in a runner, the versatility you want with his ability to block and receive; and he has the hustle to make it all happen. He's also very intelligent. Several times during the season he would run the ball out-of-bounds to save time when his team was trying to score late in the game/half. Donald was the "go-to" guy for Connecticut in the red-zone, and was the true leader of that team.

The best part about Donald Brown's footwork is that his feet don't stop working. His feet are constantly moving both before and more importantly after contact is made. But he also has the quickness to move laterally, and change direction as needed. His balance is actually most evident in pass pro. Even though he's frequently locked-up against a large DE/LB, he keeps a wide-base/low pad level and is able to withstand the rush. Donald has good speed, the agility to avoid tacklers, and the coordination to use all of his talents effectively.

<b>RUNNING</b>	Explosion	<b>6.5</b>	Run Power	<b>7.0</b>	Play Speed	<b>6.5</b>	<b>RECEIVING</b>	Hands	<b>6.5</b>	Route Running	<b>6.5</b>	Initial Quicks	<b>6.5</b>
	Acceleration	<b>6.0</b>	Moves/Burst	<b>6.0</b>	Vision	<b>6.5</b>		Release	<b>6.0</b>	Concentration	<b>6.5</b>	Adjustment	<b>6.5</b>

Donald is a powerful back with great vision. One of his best attributes, is that he doesn't require a lot of "build-up" speed. Meaning he releases/accelerates out of his stance very quickly, and doesn't require 5 yards of running before he hits top speed. So, when he hits the hole, he's able to explode through at great speed, and with great force. Donald is not a player who is going to juke, or use fancy-footwork to try and beat you. He's far more likely to not slow down at all at the POA, and just use his strength and low center of gravity to run you over. Although he isn't the fastest runner, he does have another gear in the open-field. When he sees a crease he takes it. But another thing that's so impressive about him is that he has the patience to wait for his blockers to open the lane. He doesn't run up their backs. He let's his blockers open the lane, and then he shows his burst as he runs through. Donald has the ability to see the cutback lanes, plus the ability to change direction and exploit them. If there's a criticism of his running technique, it's that he carries the ball a little too low when he runs. Leaving him vulnerable to carry the ball high into his chest the way the Giants taught Tiki Barber to carry it.

Donald is by no means a "one-trick" player. He is a very good receiver in addition to being an excellent runner. When receiving out-of-the-backfield, he does a great job of hesitating just long enough to freeze the inside linebackers. Then quickly releases and gets himself open. When lined up in the slot he releases quickly, making the defender think he might be running a deep, or mid-range pattern. Then plants his inside foot and makes great cuts to the outside for short passes. All the while, doing his QB a huge favor by getting open quickly. Donald has good hands, and does a good job of tracking the ball through the air. Something he had to do especially well at Connecticut. Since he had a QB who was not very accurate. He adjusts his body to the flight of the ball, and makes sure he has secured the ball before turning up field.

<b>BLOCKING</b>	Play Strength	<b>6.5</b>	Pass Protection	<b>7.0</b>	Run Block	<b>6.5</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>					
	Block In-Space	<b>6.5</b>	Awareness	<b>6.5</b>	Reaction	<b>6.5</b>						

Donald is one of the best blocking running backs I have ever seen. Not just because of his skill or technique. But moreover, he's great because he blocks with the same kind of intensity he runs with. He continues looking for block even though he may have already taken his first defender out, and he fights to stay with his runner the whole time. Nor does he hang on the periphery either. When he's in pass pro, and a large lineman is bearing down on him, he squares up, and delivers the hit. Donald's athleticism gives him the ability to block-in-space, and he delivers every blow with attitude. Arguably the best blocking running back in this draft.

<b>BEST COMPARISON</b>	Derek Ward
<b>BEST DRAFT POSITION</b>	I had him at 25; Colts took him at 27
<b>WORST DRAFT POSITION</b>	33rd
<b>INJURY CONCERNS</b>	None
<b>RETURN ABILITY</b>	Did not see, don't believe he would be exceptional in that capacity
<b>BIG PLAY ABILITY</b>	Has the ability, but much more of a grinder
<b>KEY STATS</b>	Rushed for 2,083 yards his senior season

**SUMMARY**

Donald had a couple things working against him going into this year's draft. He played in a conference with relatively weak defenses, and some people doubted his speed. However, it should be noted that although this was not a particularly "fast" running back class. Donald's 4.51 time was actually fifth best among RB's. So he stacked-up well against his peers. But more importantly, I believe Donald may have been the most well rounded player in this draft. There simply wasn't anything he couldn't do. Whether it was running, receiving, or blocking, and he did them all at a very high level. I believe other teams, especially the Colts, saw this to and that's why he was taken late in the first round. I think Donald will play for a very long time, and may even get into a few record books before all is said and done.