

Ex-Saint drafted third overall in CFL Draft to Lions

By Jake Courtepatte

A familiar face on the St. Andrew's football front line may be heading to British Columbia.

A three-year offensive lineman for the Saints varsity program, Peter Godber was selected third overall by the BC Lions in Saturday's CFL entry draft.

The 6-foot-four, close to 300-pound Godber was watched by six CFL teams on his combine day, eventually selected by a Lions squad in need of some size up front.

Though like many high-end prospects, Godber is hoping to use leverage to gain a chance at an NFL start.

"I've got to go in with the right mindset," Godber said. "I set high goals. In college I wanted to be a four-year starter and I started for three years. I'm going to BC with high goals again, but everything is earned, nothing is given."

Godber will be competing for a starting spot on the Lions' line, when training camp opens in a couple of weeks.

He was instrumental in bringing the Saints the CISAA title at Rogers Centre in Toronto in 2012, being named a city and provincial all-star as a senior. Ranked as the number-two player in the nation in his final year as a Saint, he also represented St. Andrews on the World Team in the 2012 IFAF International Bowl in Austin, Texas.

Majoring in sport management and kinesiology, Godber joined the Owls in 2013 after a heavy recruitment process, choosing the smaller Rice University over the larger, more prominent football system at Baylor.

He started in 39 games for the Rice University Owls, mostly at the guard position.

"It's kind of a surreal moment for me, to get a call from (Lions general manager) Ed Hervey and to say they really liked me. They made that clear before the draft."

"They made it clear that if I was there, they were going to take me, and they did. I'm really excited. They have great coaches there, and a great staff."

Hoping to make an impact on the field from day one, Godber said, "I believe in myself."

"I definitely know what I bring to the table as an offensive lineman. I think it shows in my film, as well as my numbers on pro day."

"At the end of the day, the teams are going to pick the best football players that are going to help them win games, so that was my mindset."

Saints coach Len Gurr tweeted his congratulations, saying "huge congrats to our boy Peter! Great moment for (St. Andrew's) football!"