

# LOS ANGELES LAKERS 2016-17 POTENTIAL DRAFT TARGETS

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# Beginning Notes:

The following reports were comprised for the Los Angeles Lakers, who are currently projected to have the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 33<sup>rd</sup> pick in the upcoming 2017 NBA Draft. This list is a collection of players that are projected to be in both the top-5, and 20-35, ranges. The report was done using NBA great Rick Barry's scouting format, which evaluates the following: scoring, defense, floor game, intangibles, and overall ability. After a minimum of two hours of film research on each player using Synergy, they were evaluated on a grade basis that has been explained below. All the ratings except for free throw shooting were subjective. Point guards had an additional rating for their playmaking, and big men had an additional rating for their shot blocking.

## Ratings

**AAA** – Top-of-the-line

**AA** – Big-time

**A** – First-rate

**B** – Middle-of-the-pack

**C** – Mediocre, at best

**D** – Suspect

## Free Throw Shooting Ratings

.880 and above – **AAA**

.879 to .840 – **AA**

.839 to .800 – **A**

.799 to .750 – **B**

.749 to .700 – **C**

.699 and below – **D**

Alives

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## Markelle Fultz



### Fultz's Ratings

Scoring: **AAA**  
Shooting: **AA**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **AAA**  
Playmaking: **AA**  
Passing: **AA**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **AAA**

**Birthdate:** May 29, 1998

**Height:** 6'4"

**Wingspan:** 6'10"

**Weight:** 195 lbs.

**College:** University of Washington

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** PG

**2016-2017 Per Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 26.0   **FG %** - 47.6%   **3PT %** - 41.3%   **FT %** - 64.9%   **REB/40 Mins** – 6.4

**A/40 Mins** – 6.6   **B/40 Mins** – 1.3   **S/40 Mins** – 1.7   **TO/40 Mins** – 3.6

**Three Point Field Goals:** 52-126   **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 52.9%

### Scoring

Fultz has a large repertoire of shots. He likes to mix up his shots both from long-range and mid-range, which is something that many guards his age do not do. He is more of a scorer than a pure shooter, as he knows how to create his own shot at an efficient rate. Fultz excels at starting fast break opportunities due to his size, speed, and ability to rebound however, he needs to improve at finishing in transition. Referring to his ability to finish in transition, he ranks in the 52nd percentile in the country, which is above average. The half court is where he really makes his mark, as he is one of the best pick and roll ball handlers in the nation, as well as a deadly spot up shooter. Fultz has the coveted ability to play both on and off the ball, which is something that can be very useful for a team looking to run him in a lineup with another point guard. He does not have the best shot selection, but part of that is due to his age. It is visible that he understands how to get a good shot, so that issue should be fixed as he matures. He had a great year scoring wise, averaging 26 points per 40 minutes, while keeping a solid consistency. Fultz only had one game in single figures, and that was against Western Kentucky, where he scored nine points off 3-14 shooting.

### Defense

With his size, athleticism, and 6'10" wingspan, Fultz has all the physical abilities to be an elite defender. He has an issue with staying down and on his feet, along with trouble staying attached to the man that he is defending. He is a better team defender than a one-on-one defender. Offensive players have been able to penetrate the paint at an easier rate with Fultz guarding

them. Fultz is good at stealing the ball. He averaged 1.7 steals per 40 minutes last season. Fultz has a high tendency to reach, both as his defender goes by him, and as he is digging on big men. The way he gets his steals will be a lot more challenging in the NBA, since he often takes advantage of weaker ball handlers. He is also skilled at using his wingspan to get blocks, as he averaged 1.3 per 40 minutes. Fultz is a very good defensive rebounder, as he averaged 4.9 per 40 minutes. His combination of good hands, along with his wingspan allows him to rebound easier than other guards and create fast breaks.

### The Floor Game

Fultz has excellent ball handling ability. He is a good passer who likes to catch his defenders off guard by doing no-look passes. His unexpected passes either lead to an open shot in rhythm for his teammate or a turnover because he tries to get too fancy with it. He is good at leading his teammates to where they will get an easy shot that they can make. Fultz had an assist to turnover ratio of 1.85 this past season, which is good for a player who handles the ball at his rate. Fultz moves well without the ball and is excellent at using screens off the ball to create space for a good shot. He is good at making his teammates better for a score-first point guard.

### Intangibles

Fultz is a good team player. He understood that Washington looked for him to score as the main option last year, which led to a high volume of shots however, he was a willing passer that excelled at finding open players. He does not seem to cause problems on his team. Fultz dealt with a sore knee issue that kept him out of some games toward the end of the season. He still played in 25 out of 31 games throughout the year. His leadership skills need to improve, as he does not seem to demand much out of his teammates, which were more than capable of performing better than they had over the past year.

### In Sum

Markelle Fultz is one of if not the best player capable of providing an offensive boost to an NBA team in this year's draft. He is an excellent shooter with a great passing ability. His wingspan permits him to really excel at rebounding, which he couples with his athleticism that allows him to start breaks easily. As he matures, Fultz can become an offensive star in the NBA. His issue comes with his defense, which he is more than capable of being great at. He often tends to let people blow by him, and has trouble staying both in a stance and on his feet. For an NBA team looking to get a player that can be their main scorer in the future, this score -first point guard is one that should not be passed up.

## Lonzo Ball



Scoring: **B+**  
Shooting: **AAA**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **AAA**  
Playmaking: **AAA**  
Passing: **AAA**

### Ball's Ratings

Defense: **B+**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B+**  
Overall: **AAA**

**Birthdate:** October 27, 1997

**Height:** 6'6"

**Wingspan:** 6'9"

**Weight:** 190 lbs.

**College:** University of California, Los Angeles

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** PG

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** - 16.7 **FG %** - 54.4% **3PT %** - 41% **FT %** - 68.1% **REB/40 Mins** - 7.0

**A/40 Mins** - 8.8 **B/40 Mins** - 0.9 **S/40 Mins** - 2.2 **TO/40 Mins** - 2.9

**Three Point Field Goals:** 73-178 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 65%

### Scoring

Ball tends to take a lot of shots from behind the arc. Over 56% of his shot attempts were from three. Ball is more of a shooter when it comes to his scoring ability, as opposed to an all-around scorer. He is in the top 95<sup>th</sup> percentile when it comes to players who can convert on spot up shots, which is remarkable. Ball has trouble creating his own shot. His high field goal percentage can be attributed to his shot selection, which are usually of high quality. He likes to get up his three-point attempt as soon as he notices any type of space given to him by the defense. UCLA looked for him to distribute the ball more than score last season. His consistency was fair in terms of scoring. Ball had five games that he scored in single digits, but he showed that he can have big games of 20+ points.

### Defense

Ball is a good defender. It seems like he enjoys playing defense and puts energy into it. His wingspan and height help him to contest shots at a more effective rate. Ball is a good on-ball defender and is excellent at defending jump shots. His improvement needs to come in staying in front of smaller, quicker, offensive point guards that drive to the basket. Ball has all the physical tools and athleticism to become better in that area. He is very good at reading the passing lanes and uses his length to intercept passes and get deflections, which are how he averages 2.2 steals per 40 minutes. His ability to perform as a team defender is more impressive than his individual defense now, but he can become a very dangerous one-on-one defender in the future. Ball's defensive rebounding ability is exceptional for his position. A big part of this is due to his size,

coupled with the fact that he chases after and anticipates where missed shots will go, possibly better than any other guard in the country. He averaged 5.7 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last year at UCLA.

### The Floor Game

Ball has very good hands for a point guard. This allows him to finish lobs off cuts, which he also excels at. His ability to cut and move without the ball helps him to find shots that he is comfortable taking. This also assists with shifting the defense so that he can find open teammates after people rotate. He is an extremely skilled passer and is exceptional at finding the open man in both transition and the half-court. Ball's ball handling skills are excellent. His assist to turnover ratio is 3.14, which is outstanding. One of Ball's best qualities is that he makes his teammates better. His ability to see the floor the way that he does, anticipate movement, and use his length to see over the defense, makes the game easier for the people he plays with.

### Intangibles

Ball is a very team-orientated player. It is easily visible that he enjoys getting his teammates set up more than scoring himself. He was really the motor for his team at UCLA last season. Any team would benefit from having a player as unselfish as Ball on their team. He is a good influence on other players around him, and his attitude is infectious. He played in all 33 of UCLA's games this year, so injuries have not been an issue. Ball exhibits good leadership skills, which can be seen through the way he communicates with his teammates on the court. He is very good at directing players on both offense and defense to help generate a higher quality possession. His attitude and effort are consistent from game to game. Helping his teammates succeed stays current as his mantra.

### In Sum

Lonzo Ball is one of the most interesting prospects in this year's draft. He has the best upside in terms of a two-way player out of anyone in the country at his position. Ball has trouble creating his own shot, but excels at catch and shoot opportunities, as well as moving without the ball. His passing ability and desire to set up teammates before he looks for his own shot makes him dangerous. On a team with shooters and strong finishing bigs, Ball could make all his teammates better than they really are. On the defensive end, he is very skilled at using his length and athleticism to intercept the passing lanes, contest shots at a high rate, and finish possessions by getting rebounds. A team that has good role players but are missing a piece that can utilize their talents and has potential to play defense at a high level, should be coveting Lonzo Ball.

## Josh Jackson



### Jackson's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **B**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**

Defense: **AAA**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **AA**

**Birthdate:** February 10, 1997

**Height:** 6'8"

**Wingspan:** 6'10"

**Weight:** 207 lbs.

**College:** University of Kansas

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** SG/SF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 21.3 **FG %** - 51.1% **3PT %** - 37.7% **FT %** - 55.9% **REB/40 Mins** – 9.4

**A/40 Mins** – 4.0 **B/40 Mins** – 1.4 **S/40 Mins** – 2.1 **TO/40 Mins** – 3.6

**Three Point Field Goals:** 29-77 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 54.9%

### Scoring

Most of Jackson's scoring comes from drives, spot up shots, and cuts to the basket. Jackson's jump shot from long range can be suspect at times. Only 20.2 percent of his total shots came from three last season. If stuck in the position where he would need to create his own shot, Jackson would be in trouble. If he gets the ball while in motion, he is very hard to stop due to his size. Jackson has good shot selection, as most of his shots come from him finding ways to get around the basket. He is an extremely skilled offensive rebounder, as he averaged three offensive rebounds per 40 minutes. In terms of finishing put backs after offensive rebounds, Jackson is one of the best in the country, as he is in the 86<sup>th</sup> percentile. His aggressiveness allowed him to have a good year scoring wise, averaging 21.3 points per 40 minutes. Jackson had a consistent year scoring the basketball. He only had three games all year that he scored in single digits, one of which he fouled out in 12 minutes. Kansas looked for him to score, as he was the primary option aside from the primary ball handler.

### Defense

Jackson takes the challenge of playing defense every play. He is continuously on his feet and moving. He is skilled at using his athleticism and size to make opposing players uncomfortable, both on the ball, and in help situations. He is a rare player that is very effective in both one-on-one, and team, defensive situations. Jackson is not only great at reading the passing lanes, but he also can strip players that he is matched up with. He is good at using his length and athleticism to



block shots if players are not careful laying the ball up around him. Jackson is aggressive and has a knack for chasing down rebounds at an excellent rate for a wing. He averaged 6.5 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last season. As soon as a shot goes up, he is looking for a way to make sure that he has the best position for the rebound. His size, athleticism, wingspan, and anticipation are all utilized by him when crashing the boards. When guarding NBA players, he could be like a Jaylen Brown, who is good at using his size and energy to disrupt perimeter threats.

### The Floor Game

Jackson has good hands and excels at catching the ball. He is a skilled passer for his position, and really likes to drive and kick to shooters. Jackson is dangerous as he can use his height to see over the defense and find passing angles that would be difficult for wing players to cover and react to. He is very good at finding open teammates on the weak side, specifically bigs, for an easy score. Jackson is a good ball handler for his size and is skilled at jump-stopping off a drive to find the open man. His assist to turnover ratio last season at Kansas was 1.1. It would be beneficial to have that number rise, but for a SG/SF in college, that is not terrible. Jackson is skilled at moving without the ball. He can do a lot of damage whether it is finding teammates, or scoring, after he catches the ball from 15 feet. His aggressiveness that he plays with helps to make his teammates better and provide a spark of energy to the people around him. He is a willing passer that will find his teammates that are open if a good shot does not exist for him or he has trouble getting to the basket.

### Intangibles

Jackson is not selfish and is more than willing to pass to the open man to get a possession that is best for his team. He went through some issues off the court this past season, one of which caused him to be suspended for a game. Aside from that, he played the rest of the games throughout the season. It is apparent throughout games that he communicates with his teammates well. The leadership abilities need to improve. The team at Kansas was led by senior Frank Mason III, so Jackson did not really showcase his leadership skills. It would have been more beneficial to see him step up as a more dominant leader than he was this past season. Jackson's ability to find his teammates and penetrate the paint helps to make his teammates better. The defense often gets occupied trying to contain Jackson, which leads for teammates who are being helped off to score. He averaged 3.9 fouls per 40 minutes, so worrying about his foul count might be a concern for the team that takes him. On that note, it also goes to show that he does not shy away from physicality, which is a major plus in the NBA. His effort and aggressiveness are consistent, which is something that will help him out at the next level.

### In Sum

Josh Jackson is a very good two-way player. On offense, he is skilled at driving to the basket and either finishing or finding open teammates. He has trouble creating his own shot and making shots from behind the arc at a high rate. His ability to see over a defense due to his size helps make the game easier for his teammates and creates high quality possessions. Defense is where Jackson really excels. His ability to guard the perimeter with his size and athleticism is amazing. He is good at both one-on-one, and team, defensive situations, while playing with an aggressiveness that is rare. It will be tough to find another wing in the draft that has the upside on both sides of the ball that Jackson does. He is a player that can come into the NBA and contribute to his team from the start of his rookie season. Teams looking for a wing that can penetrate the paint, find open teammates, and defend, should pick him up without hesitation.

## Jayson Tatum



### Tatum's Ratings

Scoring: **AA**  
Shooting: **C**  
Free Throw Shooting: **AA**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **C**

Defense: **AA**  
Defensive Rebounding: **A**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **A-**

**Birthdate:** March 3, 1998

**Height:** 6'8"

**Wingspan:** 6'11"

**Weight:** 205 lbs.

**College:** Duke University

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** SF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 20.3 **FG %** - 45.0% **3PT %** - 33.6% **FT %** - 85.4% **REB/40 Mins** – 9.0

**A/40 Mins** – 2.6 **B/40 Mins** – 1.4 **S/40 Mins** – 1.7 **TO/40 Mins** – 3.1

**Three Point Field Goals:** 38-113 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 50.0%

### Scoring

Tatum is good at mixing up his repertoire of shots. He is a very confident shooter and will take shots that are not necessarily the best for him if he feels like he has a good look. Tatum is very good at posting up and uses both his footwork and unique ability to change speeds to help him find shots. He is very strong and has good balance when finishing at the rim. He can create his own shot and get to the rim off the dribble. Tatum looks for isolation opportunities, as they are his second most efficient form of scoring. The jump shot however, does raise a concern. He can hit shots from long range, but due to his confidence and often poor shot selection from the perimeter, he converted on just over 33 percent from deep. Scoring wise he had a pretty good year, averaging over 20 points per 40 minutes on a Duke team that had many of offensive options. Tatum had a consistent year, only having three games where he scored in single digits, one of which he got in foul trouble against Wake Forest. His team looked for him to score after guard Luke Kennard. At 353 shots, Tatum took the second most shot attempts on his team over the course of the season.

### Defense

Tatum is a very versatile defender. He enjoys playing on the defensive end of the floor and stays engaged during possessions. Tatum takes up the challenge of guarding almost any player, including primary ball handlers, which is rare for someone with his 6'8" size. Sometimes his

lack of athleticism gives him trouble with smaller, quicker, offensive players. His patience, wingspan, and footwork all help aid his defensive versatility. He is extremely good at contesting jump shots. Tatum is good at both one-on-one and team situations. As a help defender he is very alert and is skilled at reading the offensive player. Tatum is very good at using his wingspan to get steals on and off the ball. He excels at using his hands actively, which often causes trouble for offensive players. This was how he got most of his steals and blocks over the season. He is very good at crashing the defensive boards. Over the course of the season, Tatum averaged 7.3 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes. He is scrappy, and pairs that with his length and anticipation to be a force on the boards every night.

### The Floor Game

Tatum does not have issues with his hands. He can catch the ball easily. His passing ability and playmaking for his teammates may be the weakest part of his game. He is a good ball handler, so for someone with his size and dribbling ability, he is more than capable of helping his teammates find their shot at a more efficient rate. His assist to turnover ratio was low at just 0.8. Part of the reason that his assist numbers were so low was due to his tendency to be in attack mode whenever he caught the ball. Tatum wants to score every time. He can put up large amounts of points but won't reach his full potential until he finds more efficient ways to utilize his teammates. His ability to move off the ball needs to improve. With his footwork, he can become a better scorer by finding more crevices in the defense and catching opponents off guard.

### Intangibles

Tatum does not exhibit any attitude issues on the court. He seems to be good at making sure that his teammates do what they need to do to get him the ball in situations where he might be dangerous. Tatum does not seem to cause problems for his coaching staff. He sprained his foot during Duke's pro day and was forced to miss the first eight games of the season until he was cleared to come back on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tatum has been in every game since and plays a high level of minutes every night. The injury does not seem to bother him anymore, which is good looking forward. It would be nice to see him provide more leadership to his team, but the energy and excitement that he provides is a positive. Tatum's effort and aggressiveness are consistent.

### In Sum

Jayson Tatum is a good two-way player. On offense, he likes to either play one-on-one, or create out of the post. He has very good footwork, and the ability to change speeds to assist with creating a shot for himself. Every time he gets the ball, Tatum is looking to score it. His mindset is always to be in attack mode when he gets the ball, he is not looking to set up his teammates. Tatum needs to improve on his range, as he shoots below 34 percent from deep. His form is fluid, and he can score more efficiently from long range if he improves his shot selection. Scoring the way that he does in college will be more challenging in the NBA, as he will be going up against more athletic and versatile defenders than he did in college. One-on-one scoring is the hardest offensive ability to translate to the next level. On the defensive end, the effort that he gives is very impressive. Tatum is not the most athletic player, but he takes up the challenge of guarding a variety of players on the opposing team. He is comfortable with guarding a ball handler, but will sometimes have trouble with the smaller, quicker players. His wingspan and footwork help him become more versatile on the defensive end. He is also a very efficient rebounder. Tatum can be a good player in the NBA. His ability to affect the game on both ends is something that should not be overlooked.

## De'Aaron Fox



### Fox's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **C**  
Free Throw Shooting: **C**  
Ball Handling: **A**  
Playmaking: **AA**  
Passing: **A**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **A**  
Intangibles: **A**  
Overall: **A-**

**Birthdate:** December 20, 1997

**Height:** 6'4"

**Wingspan:** 6'6"

**Weight:** 187 lbs.

**College:** University of Kentucky

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** PG

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 22.6 **FG %** - 47.8% **3PT %** - 24.6% **FT %** - 73.9% **REB/40 Mins** – 5.3

**A/40 Mins** – 6.2 **B/40 Mins** – 0.3 **S/40 Mins** – 2.0 **TO/40 Mins** – 3.3

**Three Point Field Goals:** 17-69 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 49.8%

### Scoring

In terms of scoring, Fox's repertoire of shots come from within the three-point line. He is good at running a pick and roll, along with isolation plays. Fox knows his strengths and does not like to take shots from behind the arc, which was reflected by his 69 total attempts on the year. He can disrupt a defense when he gets into the lane, where he is adept at using either his left-handed floater or mid-range pull up. Fox's most dangerous aspects are his speed and agility, which gives him the rare ability to outrun an entire defense in transition, much like John Wall. The speed, coupled with his desire to constantly attack the rim, helps him to not only get to the foul line but create easy layup opportunities as well. Fox's shot selection is decent but could be better.

Sometimes he will force up difficult, contested, shots from mid-range. Scoring wise he had a good year, averaging 22.6 points per 40 minutes. He is consistent offensively, as he only had four games all year that he scored single digits, three of which were blowouts in favor of his team. Kentucky looked for him to score throughout the year, along with freshman Malik Monk.

### Defense

Fox's good at keeping up with his man in one-on-one situations but struggles with team defense. In team defense situations, he will sometime be a count behind, which allows his man to find an opening. He struggles fighting through screens, which could be a cause for concern in the NBA. When matched up against other point guards, his size and speed are his most useful physical attributes. Fox averaged two steals per 40 minutes and likes to catch offensive players off guard

on defense. He is also a good defensive rebounder. Fox averaged 4.5 defensive rebounds per game last season. Due to his ability to create easy transition opportunities for he and his teammates, rebounding seems to be something that he enjoys doing.

### The Floor Game

Fox is a good passer and can see the floor well. He could have had higher assist numbers throughout the year, but he often would try passes that were too errant which led to turnovers. Fox is more than likely to pass the ball if he has trouble penetrating the defense, as he does not like to score from outside the three-point line. He had an impressive 1.8 assist to turnover ratio and was skilled at finding shooters in catch-and-shoot situations. His ball handling and ability to play in the open floor were big aspects to his game at Kentucky. Fox needs to improve his ability to move without the ball. Kentucky liked to put him in the middle of their zone offense to get him the ball at the free throw line. In situations like these, he was great at finding an open pocket to get the ball. Fox's ability to get inside the paint helps to make his teammates better, as it sucks in the defense. He could be better at finding his teammates in situations after the defense collapses on him.

### Intangibles

Fox is a team player. He seemed to work well with his teammates at Kentucky. A notable aspect of his game would have to be his energy and influence on his team. Due to his speed, his teammates knew that if they ran hard in transition, they would have an opportunity for an easy score, with the defense focused on stopping him from getting a layup. Fox is good at directing his teammates on offense and making sure that players are well spaced. Fox was consistent in terms of how many games he played throughout the year. He played in 36 out of Kentucky's 38 games. One absence was due to an illness, and the other was a result of him hitting his knee, causing it to bruise. Overall, he did not have any health issues that caused him to miss games during the year.

### In Sum

De'Aaron Fox is a good draft choice for a team that is looking to raise their tempo offensively if Ball and Fultz are off the board. His size, speed, and athleticism are all aspects of his game that allow him to effectively take advantage of transition opportunities. He has the most speed out of all the top draft prospects. Fox's jump shot from long range is suspect, but he is aware of that, and plays to his strengths, scoring from midrange and close to the basket. If he can develop a jump shot from long range, he has potential to be a poor-man's John Wall in terms of offensive ability. On the defensive end, he needs to improve. Fox has trouble guarding screens and playing team defense. This will more than likely be something that will cost him playing time at the next level. He is most impactful when he is guarding players in one-on-one situations, where utilizes his size and athleticism. Fox can become a really good player at the next level. He is young and will continue to get better. Due to his combination of size, speed, and ball handling ability, teams looking for a point guard that can run a break should have high consideration when it comes to drafting Fox.

## John Collins



### Collins' Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **D**  
Free Throw Shooting: **C**  
Ball Handling: **C**  
Passing: **C**  
Shot Blocking: **AA**

Defense: **B+**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **B+**

**Birthdate:** September 23, 1997

**Height:** 6'10"

**Wingspan:** 6'11"

**Weight:** 235 lbs.

**College:** Wake Forest University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** PF/C

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 28.8   **FG %** - 62.4%   **3PT %** - 0%   **FT %** - 74.5%   **REB/40 Mins** – 14.8

**A/40 Mins** – 0.8   **B/40 Mins** – 2.4   **S/40 Mins** – 1.0   **TO/40 Mins** – 2.7

**Three Point Field Goals:** 0-1   **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 61.6%

### Scoring

Collins mainly operates out of the low post. He likes to create angles when he posts up due to his limited ability to create his own shot with his back to the basket. A good majority of his points last year came off second chance opportunities. Collins averaged 5.6 offensive rebounds per game in his sophomore season at Wake Forest. His issue on offense comes when he must create an opportunity for himself further than ten feet away from the basket. This should be a concern for teams looking to draft a big man with a low post presence. Due to his size and athleticism, if he rolls toward the basket or has a full head of steam in transition, he can finish very hard. Collins' tendency to be aggressive and not shy away from contact assists him in getting to the foul line at a high rate, as he averaged 10.0 free throw attempts per 40 minutes last season. Wake Forest looked for him to score last year. He was consistent with his offensive outputs, only having two games in single digits. Wake Forest could count on him to produce, as he averaged 28.8 points per 40 minutes last season.

### Defense

On the defensive end, Collins is skilled at using his wingspan to get his arms up on shots, making scoring more challenging for low post players. He is a good one-on-one defender in the post. Collins had trouble guarding on the perimeter during the limited amount of time he was challenged to do so. He has bad reaction tendencies on the perimeter and is easy to take advantage of. Considering his size, he will most likely have to play the four at the next level, which could be an issue if he is tasked with guarding a Tobias Harris or Al-Farouq Aminu.

Collins' biggest strength on the defensive end is his ability to use his wingspan and athleticism to block shots. He averaged 2.4 blocks per 40 minutes last season. Rebounding wise, he chases down everything. Collins averaged 9.1 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last season. He is good at using his wingspan to grab the ball high in the air, above where his opponents can reach it, to secure the rebound. Collins tends to foul a lot, as he averaged 4.5 fouls per 40 minutes, which is something he will have to improve upon in the NBA if he wants to be depended on for a large share of minutes. Players in the NBA will be more aggressive, so he is more likely to accumulate more fouls, á la Marquese Chriss on defense.

### The Floor Game

Collins has good hands and is great at finishing lobs and securing the ball after rebounds. He is also very good at running the floor, which helps him to create transition opportunities. In terms of passing, he could pass out of the post if needed, but he looked to score whenever he got the ball. His assist to turnover ratio was 0.3 last year, which could have been better. He averaged 2.7 turnovers per 40 minutes last season. Collins is good at moving without the ball and looks to find the ball in a situation where he can finish directly at the basket.

### Intangibles

The effort and aggressiveness that Collins plays with is something that deserves to be coveted. He chases after every rebound and finishes every shot strong. He is also very quick off his second jump, which helps him finish put backs at a high rate. Collins does not seem to create problems on his team, which is good. In terms of injury and consistency, Collins played in all 33 of Wake Forest's games this season. The only thing that he needs to be cautious of is his foul count, which could limit his aggressiveness due to fear of fouling out.

### In Sum

John Collins is a very athletic and strong big man. He generates most of his points off post ups and put backs. Collins has a limited ability to score away from the basket at more than ten feet. He is aware of this, which is why he attempts to create angles whenever he posts up. If he gets in close to the basket, he is more than likely going to finish, which is how he ended up in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in terms of post-up points per possessions (1.024). In the NBA, he will struggle to score like that due to the size and composure of the big men on defense. Collins is also very good at running the floor and finishing in transition for his size. His athleticism and hands allow him to finish lobs at a high rate. On defense, he is good at guarding the interior, but struggles on the perimeter. That could cause an issue if he gets caught in a switch or must guard a forward that can handle the ball on the outside. Collins is a very good shot blocker and uses his wingspan to his advantage on defense. Collins has potential to be a good role player if he can expand his offensive repertoire and perimeter defense. His hustle and athleticism are his greatest qualities, and when he polishes up his fundamentals he could be very effective.



## Ivan Rabb



### Rabb's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **B**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **C**  
Passing: **C**  
Shot Blocking: **C**

Defense: **C**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **C**  
Overall: **C+**

**Birthdate:** February 4, 1997

**Height:** 6'11"

**Wingspan:** 7'2"

**Weight:** 220 lbs.

**College:** University of California, Berkley

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** PF/C

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 17.2   **FG %** - 48.4%   **3PT %** - 40.0%   **FT %** - 66.3%   **REB/40 Mins** – 12.8

**A/40 Mins** – 1.9   **B/40 Mins** – 1.2   **S/40 Mins** – 0.8   **TO/40 Mins** – 2.6

**Three Point Field Goals:** 8-20   **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 49.2%

### Scoring

Most of Rabb's scoring comes out of the post. He has exceptional footwork that allows him to get easier shot attempts when he utilizes it. Even though he can get easier shots, he will often take contested ones from midrange, which he is able to convert from about 12 feet out. Rabb has a good touch around the basket that helps him finish up-close however, sometimes he goes up recklessly, which causes him to be off target. His biggest concern on the offensive end at the next level would be his ability to stretch the floor. Rabb is too small and not athletic enough to create advantages inside against most NBA centers, so spacing will be huge for him. One area that he really excels in is offensive rebounding. Rabb averaged 3.7 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes last year at Cal. Cal looked for him to score, as he was second on the team in shot attempts after guards Jabari Bird and Charlie Moore. Consistency was an issue over the past year. Rabb had seven games in single digits and an extensive amount of games in the low teens, which was below his capability.

### Defense

On defense, Rabb is good at using his 7'2" wingspan to challenge post players. He has trouble guarding players on the perimeter, which could cause issues at the next level when guarding more mobile power forwards. Also, it will be hard for Rabb to contain the bigger, more athletic, centers that are abundant in the NBA due to his size and frame. Players like Andre Drummond or Jonas Valanciunas will take advantage of him, which could cause him to be a liability on the defensive end of the floor. For his wingspan and length, his 1.2 blocks and 0.8 steals per 40 minutes are subpar. Rabb's best quality on the defensive end is his rebounding. Last year, he



averaged 9.0 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes. He is very good at chasing after rebounds, which should translate over to the next level.

### The Floor Game

Rabb has good hands and does not have a problem when it comes to catching the ball. For a big man, Rabb is very good at finding his teammates. He is very skilled at making accurate passes out of a double team to the open man, which is an asset. Last season he averaged 1.9 assists per 40 minutes while having an assist to turnover ratio of 0.7. Rabb's passing ability was his biggest improvement from his freshman to sophomore year. Rabb can run the floor well, but will sometimes struggle, which limits the amount of easy points he can get in transition.

### Intangibles

Rabb can give more effort than typically exerts. Certain plays, such as running the floor in transition and using his length to protect the rim, are disappointing because he is capable of much more. Many NBA coaches will find it hard to trust him on the floor, as he will most likely get outplayed by his opponents on a nightly basis. This is a red flag when determining where he should be drafted. Due to a sprained toe, Rabb missed the first two games of the season. After healing from the toe injury, he was consistent in terms of his ability to play, appearing in Cal's remaining 31 games.

### In Sum

Ivan Rabb is an interesting draft prospect. He is a very good rebounder and has good footwork which will help him create scoring opportunities in the NBA. Where he will struggle is on the defensive end. Rabb is too small to guard the bigger, more athletic centers in the NBA, which will be an issue for him. He also is a terrible perimeter defender. It will be hard for coaches to trust him on the defensive end, as he will more than likely be considered a liability. His effort will also be questioned at the next level. Rabb could get away with not giving 100 percent at Cal, but he will more than likely have moments where he will be exposed against higher competition. The biggest issue that I have with Rabb is development that he has failed to show between his two years at Cal. His scoring per 40 minutes dropped from 17.5 to 17.2, along with his field goal percentage that plummeted from 61.5 to 48.4 percent. His ability to play without fouling and distribute the ball to his teammates improved in his sophomore year, but aside from those aspects he showed minimal growth. This raises questions regarding his overall ceiling, which seems to be very close to its cap.

## Justin Patton



### Patton's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **B**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**  
Shot Blocking: **AA**

Defense: **B+**  
Defensive Rebounding: **B**  
Intangibles: **B+**  
Overall: **B+**

**Birthdate:** June 14, 1997

**Height:** 7'0"

**Wingspan:** 7'3"

**Weight:** 230 lbs.

**College:** Creighton University

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** C

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 20.5   **FG %** - 67.6%   **3PT %** - 53.3%   **FT %** - 51.7%   **REB/40 Mins** – 9.8

**A/40 Mins** – 1.9   **B/40 Mins** – 2.3   **S/40 Mins** – 1.4   **TO/40 Mins** – 2.7

**Three Point Field Goals:** 8-15   **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 68.7%

### Scoring

Patton is an exceptional scorer that can hurt a defense many ways. He is excellent at catching the ball as the roller in pick-and-roll situations and finishing in contact. Patton is also good working out of the post and has a soft touch that aids his finishing ability. He has a reliable shot from midrange. Patton shed some light on his potential as a three-point shooter, but he limited himself with how many he took (15 on the season) due to his tendency to only look for and take smart shots. His shot selection was the main reason that his field goal percentage was so high, at nearly 68%. Patton had an effective year, scoring 20.5 points per 40 minutes at Creighton. The team looked for him to score off the ball after guards Marcus Foster, who took 532 shots on the year, and Khyri Thomas, who took 323 shots. Patton led the team in shot attempts after those two players, at 296. In terms of consistency, Patton was dependable in the range of 10-13 points per game last season in his 25 minutes per game at Creighton. He had seven games in single digits, but six of them were close to ten points, which was not too far off his average.

### Defense

Patton is a good defender. His wingspan, athleticism, and height all make him a very intriguing prospect on this end. He needs to improve on his reaction time. Patton can stay with bigger forwards on the perimeter, which is something that should not be overlooked for someone his size. He is a better team and help defender than one-on-one, but he is good at both. In post situations, he uses his length to make shots challenging for the offensive player and to disrupt their vision of the rim. Patton is good at using his wingspan to intercept passes to get steals,

which he averaged 1.4 per 40 minutes. He is exceptional when it comes to using his wingspan to get blocks and challenge offensive players at the rim. Patton averaged 2.3 blocks per 40 minutes last season. An area that he needs to improve upon to reach his full potential in the NBA would have to be his defensive rebounding. It is not bad but could be better. Patton was too big and athletic to have averaged 7.1 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last year at Creighton. It seemed that he lacked some of the instinctual and reaction skills of the more premier rebounders. His foul count is the last concern, as he averaged 4.3 fouls per 40 minutes, which was an issue.

### The Floor Game

Patton has great hands and a good feel for the ball. He is very skilled at catching lobbs from passes thrown from nearly anywhere in the half court. Patton is good at reading the defense and knowing when to cut for easy scoring opportunities. His passing is something that should not be overlooked. Patton, much like Anthony Davis, was playing the game as a 6'2" guard until he hit a major growth spurt in his early high school years. He showcases his high basketball IQ by his passing, ball handling, and cutting abilities which are all very impressive for a big man. Per 40 minutes, Patton averaged 1.9 assists per game. He had an assist to turnover ratio of 0.7, which was good for someone his position. Patton is also very good at handling the ball when necessary. If he gets a steal, he can push the ball in transition until a lead pass is appropriate. He also can get the ball at the three-point line or high post, and drive it to the basket, which helps everyone on his team offensively since it sucks the defense in.

### Intangibles

Patton plays hard. If a ball goes down around him, he will dive for it, which is something that many seven-footers will not do. He tries to finish around the rim as hard as he can every time, which will be an asset for him in terms of efficiency at the next level. Patton is also great at running the floor, which helps he and his teammates perform more effectively in transition. Patton played in every game for Creighton and had one instance where he came off the bench in a win versus St. John's. In my experience with college basketball, bringing a healthy player off the bench that has started the entire year is usually a disciplinary action. It may be something serious, such as defying a coach, or something small, such as running late to class or failing a test. A good sign though is that this was the only time that it happened. Aside from that, his game attendance was consistent.

### In Sum

Justin Patton should be considered one of the best big man prospects in the draft. He takes and looks for smart shots and can work very efficiently out of the pick-and-roll. Patton's history of playing the game as a guard has really helped to separate certain aspects of his game from other centers, such as his abilities to cut, pass, and handle the ball. His tendency to finish around the rim with force helps to not only make him more efficient but energize his team as well. On defense, he is very skilled at using his wingspan and length to get blocks and steals. Patton is also able to stay with bigger forwards on the perimeter, which can help him when guarding players like a Thaddeus Young or Julius Randle who like driving on their defender. His defensive rebounding and overall defensive reaction time need to improve, especially if he wants big minutes in the NBA. Coaches will admire the effort that he gives whether it is running in transition, or diving for a loose ball. Due to his high ceiling, Patton should not be overlooked if he is still on the board late in the first round.

## Tyler Lydon



### Lydon's Ratings

Scoring: **B**  
Shooting: **AA**  
Free Throw Shooting: **A**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**  
Shot Blocking: **C**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **A**  
Intangibles: **B+**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** April 9, 1996

**Height:** 6'9"

**Wingspan:** 7'0"

**Weight:** 223 lbs.

**College:** Syracuse University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** PF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 14.6 **FG %** - 47.2% **3PT %** - 39.2% **FT %** - 83.6% **REB/40 Mins** – 9.6

**A/40 Mins** – 2.3 **B/40 Mins** – 1.6 **S/40 Mins** – 1.1 **TO/40 Mins** – 1.9

**Three Point Field Goals:** 49-125 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 55.2%

### Scoring

Lydon is more of a shooter than a pure scorer. He is willing to take threes from NBA range without hesitation. Last season at Syracuse he averaged 4.1 three-point attempts per 40 minutes, which was 39 percent of his total shots. He can shoot threes both off the ball and on it, which was an asset for Syracuse. Lydon can operate out of the post. He has good footwork that helps him to create opportunities down low. His overall shot selection is good. He will continuously search for good looks, which is part of the reason his field goal percentage is so high for a shooter. Lydon is also a good offensive rebounder. He averaged 2.5 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes last year at Syracuse which is impressive for someone playing the four. He gives a lot of effort when crashing the offensive glass. Offensive consistency was an issue for Lydon last season. He had 11 games where he was in single digits, and they were random throughout the year. Lydon showed his offensive potential, scoring at least 15 points in 15 different games. Syracuse needed his scoring and looked for him to be one of their main offensive options, as he was second on the team in shot attempts at 319.

### Defense

It's difficult to determine Lydon's true defensive capabilities due to the amount of zone defense Syracuse played throughout the year. According to Synergy, Syracuse played zone defense 97.8 percent of the season. A noticeable aspect of his defense in the zone was his room for improvement when contesting shots as a help defender. Lydon has a long wingspan, and

impressive athleticism, which are good qualities to have on the defensive end. His footwork will also help him if he gets matched up with a smaller forward. He led his team in blocks last season with 49, and averaged 1.6 per 40 minutes. Lydon is a very good defensive rebounder. He has good instincts when crashing the defensive boards and uses his wingspan to assist him in getting to the ball before his opponents. Lydon averaged 7.0 defensive rebounds per game last season, which was impressive for someone in a zone who did not always play center.

### The Floor Game

Lydon has decent hands and does not exhibit many issues when it comes to catching the ball. His ability to catch the ball for lobs could improve since he is skilled at cutting toward the basket. He is a good passer and seems to enjoy seeing his teammates score. Lydon's court vision is impressive, and he can find the open man for a good shot if he gets doubled. His assist to turnover ratio was 1.2 last season at Syracuse. Lydon can run the floor well. His ball handling abilities are impressive for someone his size. Syracuse could run a set with him throughout the year where he was able to use a screen as a ball handler to free himself up for a shot.

### Intangibles

Lydon plays hard and is a positive influence on his team. His effort is impressive and is something that many coaches would like at the next level. When Lydon makes hustle plays or finishes strong, he will get noticeably excited, which feeds into the energy of his teammates. Lydon was consistent with his ability to stay on the floor. He played and started in all 34 of Syracuse's games while averaging the second highest number of minutes on his team at 36.1 per game. His stamina and ability to play for long periods of time is noteworthy.

### In Sum

Tyler Lydon is an athletic stretch four, with above average guard skills for someone his size. He is most dangerous in catch-and-shoot three situations, which is where most of his offense comes from. Lydon also has good footwork that helps him create shots in the post when necessary. His man defense is a bit of a mystery due to the amount of zone defense that Syracuse plays. However, in the zone he was good at blocking shots and excelled at defensive rebounding no matter what position he played. The effort that he gives and the energy that he helps to exert in certain situations would be his best qualities aside from his shooting. His value in the NBA will come as someone who can force big men out of their comfort zone by drawing them away from the basket. He has a future as a role player in the NBA, and teams looking for a stretch four should consider Lydon late in the first round.

## Dwayne Bacon



### Bacon's Ratings

Scoring: **AA**  
Shooting: **B**  
Free Throw Shooting: **B**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **C**

Defense: **C**  
Defensive Rebounding: **A**  
Intangibles: **C**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** August 30, 1995

**Height:** 6'7"

**Wingspan:** 6'10"

**Weight:** 221 lbs.

**College:** Florida State University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** SG/SF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 23.9 **FG %** - 45.2% **3PT %** - 33.3% **FT %** - 75.4% **REB/40 Mins** – 5.8

**A/40 Mins** – 2.4 **B/40 Mins** – 0.2 **S/40 Mins** – 1.4 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.8

**Three Point Field Goals:** 57-171 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 51.0%

### Scoring

Bacon's points will more than likely come from spot up shots and transition opportunities. 35 percent of his overall shots this past season came from three-point range. He can create his own shot and will often be content with taking bad ones. Bacon took 489 shots on the year, which is a staggering number. Even though his shot selection can sometimes be poor, Bacon is what many people call a "tough shot maker" and will find a way to convert. Bacon is also efficient at using on-ball screens to help him find the shot that he wants. When he would get the ball, it was expected that he would try to score it every time. This was reflected in his shot attempts which were 193 more than the second leading shot taker. In terms of consistency, Bacon scored in double digits in all but one game, in which he was held scoreless on the road against Pitt. His field goal percentage was usually good, but he would have some games where it would be lower than usual, and he would be off. Due to the confidence in his shot, he would continue shooting regardless and attempt to score his points.

### Defense

Bacon does not stand out on defense. Often, it seems like he will hold back on defense to conserve some of his energy for the offensive end. He has the height, wingspan, and athleticism to become an elite wing defender, but he would need to make a commitment to doing so. Bacon will sometimes struggle to stay in front of the ball and be causal on defense, which can be a cause for concern. He averaged 1.4 steals per 40 minutes, which was not too special, but decent. In terms of defensive rebounding, he is good for a guard. Bacon averaged 4.4 defensive rebounds

per 40 minutes. His size is one of his biggest assets when it comes to rebounding. His 6'7", 221-pound frame helps him to not only outrebound guards but be effective getting a rebound down low with big men if he has the opportunity.

### The Floor Game

Bacon can pass the ball well but will often choose not to. When he gets the ball, he is looking to do one thing, score. He averaged 2.4 assists per 40 minutes, which is relatively low for a guard that gets the ball as much as he does. Bacon's assist to turnover ratio was also low at .86. He has good hands and is capable of catching lobs. In terms of handling the ball, Bacon is skilled. His ball handling skills are best displayed in transition, where he will often run his own break and use a variety of dribble moves to get to the rim and past defenders. Bacon can move well without the ball. He helps to give his teammates someone that is a go to scorer and an easy target in transition, but it is hard to say that he makes them better. He has the potential to set his teammates up for good shots more than he shows, which is something that he should aim to improve upon.

### Intangibles

Bacon plays extremely hard on the offensive end. He is always in attack mode and shoots the ball strong, with confidence, almost every time he receives it. Bacon needs to work harder on displaying that effort on both sides of the ball. In the NBA, if he does not work harder on defense, many guards will burn him and he will become a liability, which is something that many teams cannot afford to have on the perimeter. His game attendance was consistent throughout the year. He started in all 35 of Florida State's games, averaging the most minutes on the team per game at 28.8. His ability to play a high level of minutes while taking the amount of shots that he took per game was a testament to his good conditioning.

### In Sum

Dwayne Bacon is a big-time scorer. He can hurt a team off the dribble, and from the three-point line. His high level of confidence is something that should not be overlooked. Whether he is 0-5 or 3-4, Bacon will always continue to get shots up. Last year at Florida State, he averaged 19.4 shot attempts per 40 minutes. His rebounding numbers took a dip this year, which may have been in part due to the play of more efficient big men. His defense is the area of his game that he needs to improve on. Bacon has the physical tools to become an elite defender but does not give the effort that he should. Part of this is most likely a result of the amount of energy he expends on offense. If Bacon can find a way to balance both, he has potential to be very good in the NBA due to his size and skillset. Teams looking to add more scoring depth on the wing should look at Bacon.

## Caleb Swanigan



### Swanigan's Ratings

Scoring: **AA**  
Shooting: **A**  
Free Throw Shooting: **B**  
Ball Handling: **C**  
Passing: **A**  
Shot Blocking: **C**

Defense: **C**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** April 18, 1997

**Height:** 6'9"

**Wingspan:** 7'3.5"

**Weight:** 250 lbs.

**College:** Purdue University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** PF/C

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 22.7 **FG %** - 52.7% **3PT %** - 44.7% **FT %** - 78.1% **REB/40 Mins** – 15.3

**A/40 Mins** – 3.7 **B/40 Mins** – 1.0 **S/40 Mins** – 0.5 **TO/40 Mins** – 4.1

**Three Point Field Goals:** 38-85 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 57.8%

### Scoring

Swanigan has a large offensive arsenal that helps him with scoring the basketball. Most of his points come from getting good position in the low post. He likes to use his 250-pound body to get good positioning and create a good shot from close to the basket. Swanigan has good footwork and a soft touch that he uses inside. He is also very skilled at pick-and-pop situations. His ability to stretch the floor is an asset since it drags big men away from the basket. He can knock down shots from long range at nearly 45 percent, so he keeps the defense honest.

Swanigan rarely takes bad shots. If he does not have a good look, he will keep moving the ball until he gets one. Swanigan is a good offensive rebounder. He averaged 3.3 per 40 minutes last year and was efficient in scoring second chance opportunities for his team. He had a good year scoring wise. He raised his scoring by nearly 7 points per 40 minutes compared to his freshman campaign. His scoring stayed consistent throughout the year. Swanigan only had one game where he scored in single digits this past season. It was in a blowout win against Arizona State, in a game where he fouled out.

### Defense

Swanigan's best physical tool on defense is his long 7'3.5" wingspan, which he uses to help contest jump shots. His athleticism is questionable. His block numbers were affected by this, and if he could gain more lift off the ground, they would have been higher. He also has trouble staying in front of smaller, quicker, players on the perimeter. Bigger post players can back him down, which is odd for his weight. The area on defense that separates him is his defensive rebounding. He averaged the second highest number of rebounds per game in the nation, while



pulling down a staggering 11.9 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes. As soon as a shot goes up, Swanigan will chase after it and use his wingspan to pull it down. He has very good instincts for knowing where missed shots will go and getting to them before anyone else. His rebounding ability will translate to the next level.

### The Floor Game

Swanigan is skilled at reading the defense with his back to the basket, which allows him to make smart passes and find his open teammates. For a big man, he is very skilled at making a play for a teammate, as he averaged 3.7 assists per 40 minutes. Due to his high turnover numbers, 4.1 per 40 minutes, his assist to turnover ratio was low at 0.86. Sometimes his passes from the perimeter will be off and result in turnovers. He moves well without the ball and can find a good shot from beyond the arc to help expand his game. Swanigan is also good at running the floor. There were concerns last season regarding his conditioning. He seems to have worked hard in the offseason to get in shape and improve his stamina, as he averaged 32.5 minutes per game which was nearly seven more minutes than his freshman campaign.

### Intangibles

Swanigan is a good team player. He rarely forces shots and will keep the ball moving if he does not have an opportunity to score. He does not mind letting his teammates score if it will help his team succeed. It helps playing with a big man that can score, read the defense, and is willing to set people up, because it provides a lot of opportunities for other players on the floor. Swanigan's game attendance was consistent throughout the year. He played and started in all 35 of Purdue's games, leading his team to an NCAA Tournament appearance, while winning the Big Ten Player of the Year award.

### In Sum

Caleb Swanigan is a very efficient basketball player. On offense, he can stretch the floor which helps to create opportunities for both he and his teammates. He has good footwork and is great at using his big body to get good position in the low post for an easy score. Swanigan is also very good at reading the defense to find his open teammates. His high assist numbers per 40 minutes were offset by his high turnover numbers, which was what led him to an assist to turnover ratio of only 0.86. On defense, where he stands out is rebounding. Swanigan can use his long 7'3.5" reach to secure rebounds before anyone else on the court. He has a knack for knowing where the ball will go, and uses that to his advantage, which was how he averaged 11.9 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes. Swanigan's other defensive qualities do not spark any areas of interest. He is an average low post defender and has trouble guarding quicker players on the perimeter. A team looking for a low post presence that can provide quality minutes on the offensive end, and can rebound at a very high rate, should consider taking Swanigan. His conditioning does not seem to be an issue like it was in the past, and he has potential to be a good player in the NBA.

## Johnathan Motley



### Motley's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **C**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **C**  
Passing: **B**  
Shot Blocking: **B**

Defense: **A**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **A**  
Overall: **B+**

**Birthdate:** May 4, 1995

**Height:** 6'10"

**Wingspan:** 7'3.5"

**Weight:** 230 lbs.

**College:** Baylor University

**Previous Class:** Junior

**Position:** PF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 22.7 **FG %** - 52.2% **3PT %** - 28.1% **FT %** - 69.9% **REB/40 Mins** – 12.9

**A/40 Mins** – 3.1 **B/40 Mins** – 1.4 **S/40 Mins** – 0.5 **TO/40 Mins** – 3.9

**Three Point Field Goals:** 9-32 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 52.9%

### Scoring

Most of Motley's scoring comes from the low post, where he uses his strength, athleticism, and length to his advantage. Motley is very good at creating angles that help him get to the basket at an easier rate. He is a very strong finisher, and if he gets momentum going toward the rim, a defender will be in trouble. Motley is skilled at using his long wingspan to get the ball as close to the rim as possible to raise his field goal percentage. He is comfortable shooting a shot from beyond the arc however, he only does it if he is wide-open as it is not his strong suit. Typically, Motley plays to his strengths, which is reflected by his selection of high quality shots. Offensive rebounding may be Motley's best quality. Last season at Baylor he averaged 4.8 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes at Baylor. According to Synergy, he was in the 87<sup>th</sup> percentile in scoring off offensive rebounds. Scoring wise he had a very good year. Motley had four games in which he scored in single digits. Two of those games were not too concerning since they were nearly 30-point blowouts. The other two games were more interesting though, as one was in a 23-point loss to West Virginia, and the other was in a win against Kansas State, a game where he played only 19 minutes and fouled out. The two games were consecutive, so there may have been an undisclosed reason as to why his play was wayward those games. Baylor looked for him to score, as he took 434 shots on the season, which was 131 more than the next leading shot taker.

## Defense

Baylor ran man defense 52.7 percent of the time that Motley was on the floor. The other 47.3 percent they would run a zone. In man defense situations Motley is very effective. His athleticism and wingspan help him to contest shots at a high rate and are his biggest tools on the defensive end. For a team that plays zone as much as Baylor does, his 1.4 blocks per game was about average for a player of his physical capabilities. He can stay with players on the perimeter better than most forwards his size. Defensive rebounding is one of Motley's stand out qualities. Last season at Baylor he averaged 8.0 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes, which was very impressive for a four man. He uses his length and athleticism to his advantage regarding outrebounding his opponents.

## The Floor Game

Motley does not have issues when it comes to catching the ball. He is a good passer out of the post and can find the open man out of a double team. Motley can take players off the dribble and drive to the basket, which he likes to do, but sometimes it can tend to be excessive. His high turnover rate came in large part due to him either losing the ball or fouling off the dribble. Due to his size, players do not like to get in his way when he drives, but the ones that are able to challenge him have found some success by not letting him force his way to the basket. Motley's assist to turnover ratio was 0.79 last season, which was relatively low. His speed and conditioning are outstanding. He is one of the rare big men that happens to have more speed than most people on the floor, which he uses to his advantage in transition.

## Intangibles

Motley plays extremely hard and has a motor that is unmatched by most players. His relentless effort on the boards is a testament to his outstanding work ethic. He seems to be a good influence on his team and has good leadership qualities that demand more out of his teammates. Motley is a player that has respect for the game and the people who play it. If he knocks a player down, he will help them up regardless of what team they are on, which is a good reflection on his character. Many coaches would love the opportunity to coach someone who plays as hard as he does with the character that he has. Motley's game attendance was consistent. Due to a suspension handed down by the NCAA for playing in a summer league game, he missed the season opener, but played in Baylor's remaining 34 games. He tore his MCL in Baylor's last game against South Carolina but has had surgery and is looking to recover within six weeks.

## In Sum

Johnathan Motley is a very good two-way player. On offense, he scores with efficiency, and takes smart shots. He uses his athleticism and length to help him find easy opportunities in the post. Motley is a strong finisher and will more than likely embarrass a defender that gets in his way when he has momentum toward the basket. He is good at reading the defense and finding the open man when he gets doubled. Turnovers and his ability to stretch the floor have been his biggest areas for improvement on the offensive end. Defensively, his athleticism and 7'3.5" wingspan allow him to be very versatile. He can guard inside the paint and is able to stay with perimeter players at a higher rate than other four men. Rebounding on both the offensive and defensive end are his most impressive qualities. Motley will chase after rebounds on both sides of the ball and uses a combination of effort and intuition to track down missed shots. Assuming he comes back from his MCL injury healthy, a team that is looking for an athletic four that can finish strong, play both ends, and can rebound at a high rate should not pass on Motley late in the first round.

## Donovan Mitchell



### Mitchell's Ratings

Scoring: **B**  
Shooting: **A**  
Free Throw Shooting: **A**  
Ball Handling: **A**  
Passing: **B**

Defense: **AA**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AA**  
Intangibles: **A**  
Overall: **B+**

**Birthdate:** September 7, 1996

**Height:** 6'3"

**Wingspan:** 6'10"

**Weight:** 210 lbs.

**College:** Louisville University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** SG

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 19.3 **FG %** - 40.8% **3PT %** - 35.4% **FT %** - 80.6% **REB/40 Mins** – 6.0

**A/40 Mins** – 3.4 **B/40 Mins** – 0.6 **S/40 Mins** – 2.6 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.0

**Three Point Field Goals:** 80-226 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 49.3%

### Scoring

Mitchell's shots typically either come from beyond the three-point line or right at the rim. What makes him so dangerous on the offensive end is the fact that he is primarily a shooter but has impressive ball handling capabilities that allow him to get to the rim effectively. 50 percent of his total shots last season came from long range. According to Synergy, Mitchell was in the 87<sup>th</sup> percentile of the country in catch and shoot situations. He is not only able to thrive off catch and shoot situations but can create his own shots as well. Mitchell's shot selection is usually good but has room for improvement. If he gets even the slightest space from a defender, he is going to let the shot fly. Sometimes he will get a little too confident and take shots that are highly contested early in the shot clock, which can typically be expected from high volume shooters. Scoring wise, he had a good year at Louisville, averaging 19.3 points per 40 minutes. The team looked for him to score, as he took 444 total shots on the year, which was 110 more than the second leading shot taker. In terms of consistency, he needs to improve. Mitchell had many random off nights throughout the year where he would shoot a low percentage, which would affect his scoring output. This can be reflected in his 10 games where he scored in single digits where he only connected on 26.7 percent of his total shots.

### Defense

Mitchell is one of the best perimeter defenders in this year's draft class. He is continuously active and applying pressure to the ball. He has good instincts for predicting the play before it happens, which helps him to react to ball movement quicker than most players. Mitchell has a

long wingspan that helps him to contest shots and get steals. His steal rate per 40 minutes last season was 2.6, which was very good. He uses his quickness and athleticism to his advantage which helps him keep up with players on the perimeter laterally. Mitchell averaged 4.6 defensive rebounds per game last season, which was impressive for a player of his height and position. His ability to utilize his wingspan and instincts are what makes him such an efficient offensive rebounder.

### The Floor Game

Mitchell is a willing passer. He will find the open man if they are in position to score and likes to make simple passes. His assist average per 40 minutes last season was 3.4, which was good since he took 16.2 shots per 40 minutes. Mitchell's assist to turnover ratio of 1.6 should not be ignored. For someone that scores the ball like he does, it is impressive that he can also find teammates without turning the ball over. His turnover rate of 2.0 per 40 minutes was good for someone who had the ball as much as he did. Mitchell is quick when moving off the ball and can cut hard, but needs to be better at reacting to the help when he uses off-ball screens. Usually he will shoot the shot as soon as he catches it. A simple pump fake after he catches the ball at the three-point line will help him to get a better look or penetrate the lane. Mitchell was good at handling the ball. This was often showcased by his ability to split a hedge to get into the lane, much like Manu Ginobili has done most of his career.

### Intangibles

The passion that Mitchell exhibits throughout each game is admirable. He provides energy for his teammates and will make plays that help to decide the momentum of a game. His effort is also very noticeable. Mitchell always plays hard and is aggressive on both ends of the floor. Coaches will like his defensive intensity and ability to guard at a high level. He exhibits good leadership qualities and looks to rally his teammates to perform their best on a game to game basis. Mitchell started in every game except one for Louisville. During the game that he came off the bench, he scored 25 points and Louisville beat Indiana by 15, which means the benching was probably a result of disciplinary actions, as he seemed healthy.

### In Sum

Donovan Mitchell is one of the best two-way perimeter players in this year's draft class. He takes a high volume of three-point attempts per 40 minutes (8.2) and will let his shot fly if he gets any type of open look. His ball handling ability lets him penetrate the paint effectively, which makes him more dangerous than the average shooter. He likes to split hedges when in a pick and roll, much like Manu Ginobili has been successful doing. He will need to raise his field goal percentage from deep if he wants to be a legitimate offensive threat at the next level. The defensive end is the area where Mitchell shines. He was one of the best perimeter defenders in the country last season, as Synergy had him ranked in the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile in the country in points allowed per possession. He was very skilled at using his wingspan and anticipation to be one step ahead of the defense, which helped him not only get stops, but steals as well. For a 6'3" guard, Mitchell rebounded very well on the defensive end. He averaged 4.6 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last year, which was very good. Teams that are looking for a two-way energy player on the perimeter should consider taking Mitchell with their late first round pick. His effort and defense will help him see efficient minutes at the next level.

## Justin Jackson



### Jackson's Ratings

Scoring: **A**  
Shooting: **A**  
Free Throw Shooting: **C**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **C**  
Intangibles: **A**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** March 28, 1995

**Height:** 6'8"

**Wingspan:** 6'11"

**Weight:** 210 lbs.

**College:** The University of North Carolina

**Previous Class:** Junior

**Position:** SF

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 22.8 **FG %** - 44.3% **3PT %** - 37.0% **FT %** - 74.8% **REB/40 Mins** – 5.8

**A/40 Mins** – 3.5 **B/40 Mins** – 0.3 **S/40 Mins** – 1.0 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.2

**Three Point Field Goals:** 105-284 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 53.0%

### Scoring

Most of Jackson's shots come from beyond the arc. Last season, Jackson was 13<sup>th</sup> in the country in three-point attempts at 284 threes. His shots from long range accounted for was 47.6 percent of his total shots attempted. He was very good at catch and shoot situations, and ranked in the 88<sup>th</sup> percentile in the country when it came to scoring off spot up shots. Jackson has the quickness to get into the lane. When he penetrates the paint, he looks to create a shot from midrange instead of getting all the way to the rim. He can convert those shots, but with the length of help defenders in the NBA they will be much more challenged and tougher to make. Jackson's scoring consistency was good throughout the year as he only had three games where he scored in single digits. Jackson seemed to be more of a streaky shooter. Either he was very hot, or he was cold. Regardless, even on his cold nights, he would get up enough shots to put his points on the board.

### Defense

He was a decent defender for North Carolina last season. Jackson's best qualities on the defensive end are his length and toughness. His wingspan helps him to contest shots at a high rate. He does not shy away from contact, and is willing to get rough with the player he is guarding, which will help him at the next level. The areas that he will need to improve on are his lateral quickness and reaction time. They are not terrible, but he has potential to be a very good defender at the next level, and those are the two things that he will struggle with against better offensive players. Jackson's rebounding numbers are not as impressive as they should be. He

only averaged 3.9 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes, which was well below his capabilities. With his aggressiveness and wingspan, he should be averaging close to six defensive rebounds per 40 minutes.

### The Floor Game

Jackson is a good passer. When he sees an advantage for a teammate he will willingly pass it to them for the score. He likes to use his height advantage to see over the defense and create opportunities for other people on his team. For his position, his assists per 40 minutes (3.5) and his assist to turnover ratio (1.72) were impressive. Jackson has decent ball handling abilities and can bring the ball up the floor, but he is better working without it. He moves well without the ball, as the second most amount of points that he scored last season came from him using screens off the ball. Jackson can run the floor well, which is a must for wing players in the NBA to get easy opportunities in transition.

### Intangibles

Jackson, the ACC Player of the Year, is a good team player. He noticeably works well with others on his team, which was part of the reason he was so crucial in North Carolina's postseason run. Jackson does not shy away from contact, which is great. He also took on a leadership role for his team. Even though he has a quiet demeanor, he is the one who rallies his team and demands the best out of them. Jackson started in every game for North Carolina except for senior night, which he came off the bench and still played 30 minutes. His conditioning seemed improved, as he could log 32 minutes a game this year, which was four more than the previous season, while taking four more shots per 40 minutes.

### In Sum

Justin Jackson is a high-volume shooter. Last season at North Carolina, he took nearly 600 shots, which had him at 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation. Most of his points come from him scoring off the ball, mainly from three, where 47.6 percent of his total shot attempts came from. He can penetrate the lane, and when he does, he likes to create from the midrange area. In the NBA, it will be tougher for him to convert these shots due to the length and size of the help defenders he will face. It would benefit him if he could find ways to get to the rim for layups or dunks at a more efficient rate. He was decent this past season on the defensive end for North Carolina. Jackson's ceiling on the defensive end is higher than that on the offensive end due to his wingspan and toughness, which he used to his advantage at North Carolina. As he develops and gains NBA experience, his defense will improve. Most NBA teams can use a three-and-d player, even if they come off the bench for quality minutes. Jackson has the potential to become a Matt Barnes like player on both ends of the floor.

## Jordan Bell



### Bell's Ratings

Scoring: **C**  
Shooting: **C**  
Free Throw Shooting: **C**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **C**  
Shot Blocking: **AAA**

Defense: **AAA**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **A**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** January 7, 1995

**Height:** 6'9"

**Wingspan:** 6'11"

**Weight:** 225 lbs.

**College:** The University of Oregon

**Previous Class:** Junior

**Position:** PF/C

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 15.2 **FG %** - 63.6% **3PT %** - 21.4% **FT %** - 70.1% **REB/40 Mins** – 12.2

**A/40 Mins** – 2.5 **B/40 Mins** – 3.1 **S/40 Mins** – 1.7 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.7

**Three Point Field Goals:** 3-14 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 64.1%

### Scoring

Bell played a lot out of the post last season. He has extraordinary quickness for a four man, which he would use to his advantage when trying to get to the rim instead of backing down his defender. Bell's first step on his baseline spin is a tough cover for opponents at the college level. He also tends to favor a right-hand hook when he can get deep position near the midline. Bell is a high-level offensive rebounder. He averaged 3.9 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes on the floor, which was huge. He was also very good at rewarding his efforts crashing the glass by converting a high number of put backs. Bell generated 81 points off second chance opportunities last season. His points per possession off offensive put backs was in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile in the country. Bell's scoring consistency needs to improve tremendously. Some games he would have 15 points, then randomly the next game he would have close to nothing. His team could not depend on him to score, as he had 18 games in single digits. This was mainly due to his limited offensive repertoire, which will hurt him at the next level.

### Defense

Bell is a very good defensive player. He is a great athlete with long arms that knows how to use his physical tools to his advantage. He is good in both one-on-one and team defensive situations. Bell thrives for filling up the stat sheet on the defensive end. Per 40 minutes he averaged 3.1 blocks and 1.7 steals. These numbers are both outstanding. He never gives up on a play, and his effort is noticeable. Bell constantly uses his wingspan and athleticism, along with good anticipation, to make a play. He is also a very impressive defensive rebounder. Bell averaged 8.1



defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last season, which was amazing. He has a knack for chasing after the ball and using his athleticism to his advantage when retrieving them. Bell has good hands and uses them to his advantage when rebounding. He does not have the greatest size when matched up against other big men but will often rebound his matchup.

### The Floor Game

Bell uses his speed and athleticism to help create easy transition opportunities. He runs the floor very well. What makes him such a scary threat in the open floor, is that he can handle the ball after a missed shot. If he sees an opening, Bell is not shy taking the ball coast to coast. He is good at moving without the ball and finding pockets to catch the ball and score it in motion. Bell's passing ability is average. What he is good at, is making quick passes to the open man. Unfortunately, those opportunities only show themselves when the defense is late on rotations, which is not too often. He needs to work on his ability to set players up at a higher rate without turning the ball over. Bell's assist to turnover ratio was 0.97 last season, which was subpar. In the NBA, he will have an even tougher time scoring than he did in college, so helping to find open teammates will give his coaches a reason to trust him on the offensive end.

### Intangibles

Bell makes all the effort plays for his team that many players would easily give up on. Whether hunting every rebound, or chasing after opponent's shots, he is always there. Bell is one of the hardest playing forwards in this year's draft class. Due to his game being based off how hard he plays, he would be able to fit in on most teams. He is the type of player that doesn't need a play called for him to be effective. He was good at directing his teammates and communicating on defense, which was a result of his leadership. Bell started in 38 of Oregon's 39 games. He came off the bench against Western Oregon and played 18 minutes but missed no games throughout the year.

### In Sum

Jordan Bell is a great defensive player. He makes all the hustle plays for his team while utilizing his athleticism and ability to anticipate offensive plays. Bell posted a staggering 3.1 blocks per 40 minutes last season at Oregon. His 1.7 steals per 40 minutes is something that needs to be noticed as well. Bell's effort and 6'11" wingspan help him be an elite rebounder on both the offensive and defensive end. His offensive game needs to improve if he is going to be more than a rebounder and hustle player in the NBA. Bell has a decent post game, but the tricks that he used to score in college will not be as effective against quicker, more agile defenders. It is an asset having a player that will not need plays called for them since all they do is hustle. This will help him in the NBA, because he is the type of player that can fit in on almost any team for energy minutes.

## Sindarius Thornwell



### Thornwell's Ratings

Scoring: **AAA**  
Shooting: **A**  
Free Throw Shooting: **A**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **C**

Defense: **AAA**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **B+**

**Birthdate:** November 15, 1994

**Height:** 6'5"

**Wingspan:** 6'9"

**Weight:** 215 lbs.

**College:** The University of South Carolina

**Previous Class:** Senior

**Position:** SG

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 25.2 **FG %** - 44.5% **3PT %** - 39.5% **FT %** - 83.0% **REB/40 Mins** – 8.4

**A/40 Mins** – 3.3 **B/40 Mins** – 1.1 **S/40 Mins** – 2.5 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.9

**Three Point Field Goals:** 58-147 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 51.0%

### Scoring

Thornwell is an elite level scorer that can hurt a defense in a lot of ways. He is a good spot up shooter both from three and midrange. Thornwell took 147 threes last year and converted on 39.5 percent of them. He is patient outside the three-point line and takes smart shots when he is open. He is more likely to take a contested shot from midrange than three. Thornwell constantly looks for contact and wants to get to the foul line as much as possible. His aggressiveness when he attacked the basket helped him average 9.9 free throw attempts per 40 minutes. He will sometimes stick his leg out on a three, like Reggie Miller, to get hit and get to the line. In a loss against Alabama, he was 25-33 from the free throw line en route to 44 points. Thornwell has an impressive post-up game for a guard. He is skilled at using his strength to back down defenders who are smaller than him, as well as utilizing his quickness against bigger opponents. Thornwell is a great offensive rebounder. Last season at South Carolina he averaged 2.9 per 40 minutes, which was very impressive for a guard. Scoring wise he had a very good year, averaging 25.2 points per 40 minutes. Thornwell scored in double digits in every game that he played last season and was consistent throughout the year.

### Defense

As talented as he is on the offensive end, defense is where Thornwell exerts most of his effort. He is very good at fighting over screens and staying with his man, which will help him succeed at the next level. Thornwell likes to apply lots of pressure to the player he is guarding and makes sure that they feel his presence, no matter where they are on the court. His peskiness makes

players work harder than they are used to when trying score, which will often throw them off their rhythm. He uses his wingspan to challenge shots effectively and disrupt the passing lanes. Thornwell averaged an astonishing 2.5 steals and 1.1 blocks per 40 minutes last season which were in large part due to his ability to read the offense, along with utilizing his wingspan. His effort helps him intercept most passes that defenders typically will not even attempt to steal. Thornwell's defensive rebounding is also impressive, as he averaged 5.4 per 40 minutes. He is very good in transition, which explains why he attempts to crash the boards with the aggressiveness that he exhibits. His size and effort are the keys to his rebounding.

### The Floor Game

Thornwell is a willing passer. He can find the open man but would much rather use a possession scoring or getting to the line himself. If he has trouble finding a smart shot, he will move the ball. For how much he attempts to score, Thornwell's 3.3 assists per 40 minutes was good. His turnover rate on the other hand was high at 2.9 per 40 minutes. Thornwell had the ability to post higher than the 1.17 assist to turnover ratio that he showcased in his senior season at South Carolina. Thornwell is not the most explosive athlete, but he is well conditioned and runs the floor very well. He has a lot of speed and thrives at getting to the rim in the open floor. Thornwell is also very good at moving without the ball to find an open shot. He knows where will be easiest for his teammates to pass him the ball and is great at getting to that spot before the defense realizes where he is.

### Intangibles

Thornwell is a great leader. This was showcased by the way that he took charge of his team on both the offensive and defensive end. His maturity from staying four years in college is apparent, and he seemed to be comfortable working well in a team setting. His leadership was a large part of how South Carolina could make the postseason run that they did. An area of concern would have to be the six-game suspension that he served throughout December. The reason as to why he missed those six games was listed as "violation of athletic department policy" but was likely related to an arrest that he had in May regarding a suspended license and marijuana in his vehicle. Other than the suspension, he started in all 31 games that he played for South Carolina and went on to win the SEC Player of the Year.

### In Sum

Sindarius Thornwell is a very good two-way guard. On offense, he is a good spot up shooter. Thornwell thrives on aggressiveness and finding ways to get to the free throw line, which was how he averaged 9.9 free throw attempts per 40 minutes. For a guard, he has a good post-up game that helps him with getting to the line. He is an extremely good defender. Thornwell exerts most of his energy on this side of the floor. He is pesky and will do whatever is necessary to make the man he is guarding feel uncomfortable. Last season he averaged 2.5 steals and 1.1 blocks per 40 minutes, which were a result of his long wingspan and anticipation. Thornwell is a very good rebounder on both sides of the ball due to the effort he plays with. A red flag with Thornwell would have to be his arrest that dealt with marijuana and most likely led to his suspension. If he has an addiction issue, another incident like this would be bad press for an NBA team, which is something to consider. Aside from that he is a very good player that should be able to contribute to teams as early as next year.

## Edmond Sumner



### Sumner's Ratings

Scoring: **B**  
Shooting: **D**  
Free Throw Shooting: **C**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**  
Playmaking: **A**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AA**  
Intangibles: **C**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** December 13, 1995

**Height:** 6'6"

**Wingspan:** 6'8"

**Weight:** 186 lbs.

**College:** Xavier University

**Previous Class:** Sophomore

**Position:** PG/SG

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 18.1 **FG %** - 47.9% **3PT %** - 27.3% **FT %** - 73.7% **REB/40 Mins** – 5.3

**A/40 Mins** – 6.0 **B/40 Mins** – 0.9 **S/40 Mins** – 1.5 **TO/40 Mins** – 3.3

**Three Point Field Goals:** 12-44 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 50.7%

### Scoring

Most of Sumner's shots come from inside the paint. He struggles to shoot the ball from three but has great ball handling abilities that allow him to penetrate the lane with either hand. Sumner exhibits good shot selection and plays to his strengths. He knows that shooting is his weak point and does not force too many threes. Only 20 percent of his total shots last season came from behind the arc, which averaged out to be 2.5 attempts per 40 minutes. Scoring wise he had a good year before he tore his ACL. He was the second option on his team in shot attempts after Trevon Bluiett. Xavier needed his ability to aggressively use his size to penetrate the rim and free up his teammates. When he was healthy, Sumner was consistent and only had two games where he scored in single digits. One was in a 30-point blowout against North Dakota State where he only took four shots, and the other was in a loss against Cincinnati where he shot the ball 1-7.

### Defense

Sumner does not stand out on defense. His effort will often be less than he is capable of exerting. Sumner is good at using his length to contest shots. His wingspan helps him to intercept passes, as his steal rate per 40 minutes is good, but not great, at 1.5. His shot blocking numbers were impressive for a guard, as he averaged 0.9 blocks per 40 minutes. Sumner was very good at rebounding as a guard for Xavier. Last season he averaged 4.6 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes. His size and athleticism help him to contribute with crashing the boards. Sumner has potential to be a good defender at the NBA level primarily due to his physical tools. He has good

lateral quickness that will help him to stay with professional guards. If he can improve on his effort, Sumner can become a scary defensive threat.

### The Floor Game

Sumner is skilled at setting his teammates up in a position to score. He is great at driving to the rim and collapsing the defense to find shooters, which was how he averaged 6.0 assists per 40 minutes. His turnovers were an issue last season as he averaged 3.3 per 40 minutes. He would often try to make passes that were too complicated and was penalized by the defense for them. Sumner's assist to turnover ratio of 1.81 could have been higher and will need to improve if he plans on initiating an NBA offense. If he could learn to simplify his passes, he has a chance to become a dependable playmaker at the next level due to his size and ability to penetrate the paint. Sumner likes to play in transition and has good speed and handles that he uses to his advantage. According to Synergy, the majority of his scoring throughout the year was in transition. He ranked in the 79<sup>th</sup> percentile in the country in transition points per possession.

### Intangibles

Sumner is a good team player and likes to see his teammates succeed. He is comfortable making offensive decisions as the primary ball handler which was very helpful for Xavier. The biggest issue with Sumner is his injuries. His first year at Xavier he only played six games after being shut down for undisclosed medical reasons and was forced to redshirt. Last year he was hit hard on a drive to the basket and needed to be taken to the hospital on a stretcher. This injury kept him out for two weeks. This past season at Xavier, Sumner tore his ACL in a game against St. John's, which prematurely ended his season on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Coming back from an ACL injury is tough, and there is no guarantee that the speed and quickness he possessed will still be there after he rehabs. Injuries seem to be a major issue for him, as he was unable to get through a full college season without getting hurt.

### In Sum

Edmond Sumner is a very efficient point guard with great size. He struggles to shoot the ball but can make up for that with his ability to penetrate the lane using both hands. He is a willing passer who likes to set his teammates up for an easy score. Sumner's issue, with respect to passing, is his tendency to attempt flashy passes that will result in turnovers. If he can lower his 3.3 turnovers per 40 minutes, he will be able to make an impact at the next level as a playmaker. On defense Sumner has the tools to become a great defender. He is quick and long, which will help him stay with guards in the NBA. His issue comes with his effort on the defensive end and will need to improve if he wants to reach his potential. The biggest concern with Sumner would have to be his injury history. He has yet to play one full season in college and is entering the draft off a season ending ACL injury. There is no guarantee that the speed and quickness that he possessed will return after he is done rehabbing. More importantly, the injuries have been year after year. Teams with a good point guard rotation that can sustain themselves if he gets injured may want to look at him as a potential project.

## Kyle Kuzma



### Kuzma's Ratings

Scoring: **B**  
Shooting: **C**  
Free Throw Shooting: **D**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **C**  
Shot Blocking: **D**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **AAA**  
Intangibles: **B**  
Overall: **C+**

**Birthdate:** July 24, 1995

**Height:** 6'9"

**Wingspan:** 7'1"

**Weight:** 221 lbs.

**College:** The University of Utah

**Previous Class:** Junior

**Position:** PF

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 21.3 **FG %** - 50.4% **3PT %** - 32.1% **FT %** - 66.9% **REB/40 Mins** – 12.1

**A/40 Mins** – 3.2 **B/40 Mins** – 0.6 **S/40 Mins** – 0.8 **TO/40 Mins** – 2.8

**Three Point Field Goals:** 27-84 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 53.7%

### Scoring

Kuzma is a very versatile offensive player. He has size and skill that helps him when posting up. He also displays good guard skills and ball handling which are rare for someone with his 6'9" 221-pound frame. Kuzma is at his best using his size and ball handling ability to get to the rim which was reflected by his success in transition. He is a confident three-point shooter but needs to improve on his ability to knock long range shots down at a higher rate. His 32.1 percent that he exhibited from three last year will limit his effectiveness on the offensive end in the NBA. Defenses will have a hard time respecting his jump shot which will eliminate some of his opportunities to get to the basket or find teammates. Kuzma was a very good offensive rebounder last season. He averaged 3.6 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes, which was very impressive. According to Synergy, Kuzma's best offensive quality was his ability to finish second chance opportunities and put backs, which he scored 86 points on last season. His points per possession off offensive rebounds was 1.303, which put him in the 82<sup>nd</sup> percentile in the country. In terms of consistency, Kuzma was good throughout the year. He only had three games that he scored in single digits, one of which he only played one minute before injuring his ankle.

### Defense

Defensively, Kuzma guards his man well. He is better than most fours at guarding players on the perimeter. He is a good post defender as well. Kuzma has suitable length which he uses to contest shots at a high rate. His steal and block numbers per 40 minutes were disappointing last season at 0.8 and 0.6 respectively. He is a good athlete and can improve in those categories. His

statistics do not reflect his defensive capabilities. Kuzma is good at communicating with his teammates and knowing when it is appropriate to switch in certain situations, which his versatility allows him to do. He is an extremely efficient defensive rebounder. Kuzma averaged 8.5 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last season, which was very impressive. He has good patience when rebounding and is quick off his feet. Kuzma's athleticism and wingspan also help him efficiently crash the defensive boards.

### The Floor Game

Kuzma has good guard skills for a four man. His passing ability is above average, and he uses his height to find open teammates. He had a good assist to turnover ratio of 1.15 last season. Kuzma averaged 3.2 assists per 40 minutes last year which was noteworthy for a big man. Kuzma's ball handling ability is also impressive. He likes to take the ball down the court in transition, which he can do effectively. He is athletic and able to run the floor well. His ability to handle the ball, and move without it, helps to make his teammates better. Kuzma sets good screens and is skilled at creating space to catch the ball after a pick. He needs to improve on his ability to convert shots as a roll man. Kuzma has good hands that help him with his rebounding on both ends of the floor.

### Intangibles

Kuzma gives good effort on both ends of the floor and plays hard. His rebounding helps to create second chance opportunities for both he and his teammates, which makes him someone that a lot of players would enjoy playing with. He is not a selfish player and is a willing passer. As far as injuries go, he was bothered by his ankle which he badly hurt in a game against San Francisco midway through the year. That injury initially forced him to leave the game after only playing one minute, he then sat out the following two games recovering. During conference season, he reagravated his ankle in practice which held him out of a big game against Oregon. It was apparent that Utah missed his scoring and rebounding, as they were the subject of an 18-point loss.

### In Sum

Kyle Kuzma's biggest asset is his versatility on both ends of the floor. Kuzma not only handles the ball well for a forward but is able to play effectively out of the post. His shooting needs to improve if he wants to be considered an offensive threat at the next level. He will be too small to bang in the post in the NBA, so his strength will have to come from his ability to drive to the basket. If he does not improve on his jump shot, teams will back off him and prepare for his drive, which will limit the effectiveness on the court. Kuzma is a good passer and is skilled at using his size to see over a defense. Rebounding is his best quality. Kuzma is a very good rebounder on both ends of the floor and has exceptional patience that helps him create second chance and transition opportunities for his team. Defensively he can guard both the perimeter and the post. The NBA will be harder for him on the defensive end due to the quickness of the guards and the size of the big men. Although he is versatile, it is hard to see Kuzma doing much in the NBA aside from rebounding. If he can improve his jump shot, he has the potential to be a good role player for a team.

## Tony Bradley



### Bradley's Ratings

Scoring: C  
Shooting: D  
Free Throw Shooting: D  
Ball Handling: C  
Passing: C  
Shot Blocking: A

Defense: AAA  
Defensive Rebounding: AA  
Intangibles: B  
Overall: C+

**Birthdate:** January 8, 1998

**Height:** 6'11"

**Wingspan:** 7'4"

**Weight:** 240 lbs.

**College:** The University of North Carolina

**Previous Class:** Freshman

**Position:** C

**2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats**

**PTS/40 Mins** – 19.5 **FG %** - 57.3% **3PT %** - 0% **FT %** - 61.9% **REB/40 Mins** – 14.1

**A/40 Mins** – 1.7 **B/40 Mins** – 1.6 **S/40 Mins** – 0.7 **TO/40 Mins** – 1.8

**Three Point Field Goals:** 0-0 **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 57.3%

### Scoring

All of Bradley's points come from the rim. He has neither a developed post game nor a jump shot. Bradley is strong and has a good finishing ability around the rim. Bradley needs to improve on utilizing that strength to power through a defense around the rim. He could be extremely dangerous if he improves on his aggressiveness. He is long, athletic, and quick off his feet, which helps him get offensive rebounds. Per 40 minutes, Bradley averaged a staggering 7.0 offensive rebounds. He plays hard and continuously pursues missed shots. He is a good screener and uses his 6'11", 240-pound, frame to help create opportunities for both he and his teammates. Scoring wise his per 40 minutes was good, as he averaged 19.5 points. In terms of actual points per game, his totals were low as he only averaged 7.1 in 14.6 minutes.

### Defense

Bradley shines on the defensive end. In terms of points allowed per possession, Bradley is in the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile, at only 0.5. He is great at using his impressively long wingspan and length to challenge players and protect the rim. He is a decent shot blocker for his size and athleticism. Bradley averaged 1.6 blocks per 40 minutes last season for North Carolina. He was decent at stealing the ball for his position, as he averaged 0.7 steals per 40 minutes. Bradley is a good defensive rebounder. His length and athleticism are his biggest asset when rebounding. He averaged 7.0 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes, which was impressive. He is also very mobile for his size, which helps him to box out his man easier than most players his size. Bradley needs



to improve on his ability to play defense without fouling. Last season he averaged 5.0 fouls per 40 minutes, which was not good. Teams will have a hard time depending on him if he is constantly in foul trouble.

### The Floor Game

Bradley has good hands. He is good at catching the ball in stride, which helps his finishing. His hands also help him with his offensive rebounding, which he is one of the best players in the nation at doing because of his physical tools and mobility. He is very good at running the floor in transition. His speed and mobility help to give his teammates a great target to hit in both the open floor and half court. There were times that Bradley showed flashes of an impressive passing ability, even though he only averaged 1.7 assists per 40 minutes, with an assist to turnover ratio of 0.91. It will be important for him to continue developing that passing ability, as it could be an asset to him in the NBA.

### Intangibles

Bradley played hard on both ends of the floor for the limited minutes he received last year. He only saw the floor for 14.6 minutes per game. His effort was noticeable by how hard he ran the floor and rebounded. It was rare that he gave up on a play. Bradley was a good team player. Players like playing with big men who do not demand the ball and are able to be effective by making hustle plays, which is what Bradley does.

### In Sum

Tony Bradley is an athletic and long big man. Offensive rebounding is his most impressive quality. Bradley averaged an astonishing 7.0 offensive rebounds per 40 minutes. He lacks skill that many people would look for in a young prospect, but he makes up for it with his high-level athleticism. He has good hands that allow him to catch the ball in motion and finish hard. Bradley needs to improve on his aggressiveness if he wants to be as effective in the NBA as he was in college. If he does that, he could be a Ryan Hollins type player, or better. On defense, he is very good and was one of the best players in the country in points allowed per possession. He ranked in the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile, which was amazing. Bradley has a wingspan that stands out at 7'4". His length allows him to challenge shots and rebound at an efficient rate on the defensive end. Bradley needs more development but has the physical tools and athleticism to become a very effective big man in the NBA.

## Grayson Allen



### Allen's Ratings

Scoring: **B**  
Shooting: **A**  
Free Throw Shooting: **A**  
Ball Handling: **B**  
Passing: **B**

Defense: **B**  
Defensive Rebounding: **A**  
Intangibles: **D**  
Overall: **B**

**Birthdate:** October 8, 1995

**Height:** 6'5"

**Wingspan:** 6'6.5"

**Weight:** 202 lbs.

**College:** Duke University

**Previous Class:** Junior

**Position:** SG

#### 2016-2017 Per 40 Minute Stats

**PTS/40 Mins** – 19.5   **FG %** - 39.6%   **3PT %** - 36.5%   **FT %** - 81.1%   **REB/40 Mins** – 5.0

**A/40 Mins** – 4.7   **B/40 Mins** – 0.1   **S/40 Mins** – 1.0   **TO/40 Mins** – 2.9

**Three Point Field Goals:** 81-222   **Adjusted Field Goal Percentage:** 51.0%

### Scoring

In terms of scoring, Allen is mainly a three-point shooter. 62.3 percent of his total shots last season came from behind the arc. His shot selection is not terrible but can use improvement. He worked hard to get open looks and had teammates that would help to set him up. He is good at using screens off the ball to find an open shot. His percentage from deep last season was low and will need to improve if he wants to make shots at a high rate in the NBA. For a shooter, he has an impressive ability running the pick and roll. He will make smart decisions and knows when it is best to accept or reject a screen to get an open look. Allen is not the best at creating his own shot. He needs help from his teammates to find a look that he likes, whether he is on the ball or off it. In terms of consistency, Allen had a lot of nights where he would be cold, but still get up enough shots to put up points. He would have random games where he would shoot as low as 18 percent, and others where he would shoot 60 percent. He had nine games where he scored in single digits which was not good.

### Defense

Allen is not an elite defender. He is limited with his size and mediocre wingspan which will work against his favor in the NBA. Allen does give a good effort on the defensive end when guarding his man. He chases hard off screens and tries his best to apply pressure to the ball with active hands. Quickness also is also a good quality for him on the defensive end, as he can keep up with most players he matches up with. Allen needs to get better at stealing the ball. Part of the reason his steals per 40 minutes was so low at 1.0, for his activeness on defense, was due to his wingspan. He should improve on his ability to anticipate the passing lanes, which would help

him out a lot with starting breaks at the professional level. He is quick and aggressive, so the more transition opportunities he can create, the better. Allen is a good defensive rebounder. He averaged 4.1 defensive rebounds per 40 minutes last season at Duke, which was good for his position.

### The Floor Game

Allen is a willing passer. He led his team in assists this past season at 119, while averaging 4.7 per 40 minutes. Allen had an assist to turnover ratio of 1.61 last season. His turnover rate needs to decrease, as he averaged 2.9 turnovers per 40 minutes, usually off simple mistakes. He is skilled at leading his teammates to an easy score and seeing the play before it happens. Allen is very good at seeing the floor and always knows where his teammates are. His vision is one of the most impressive aspects of his game. He can use screens and move off the ball well, which is great for someone who shoots the ball as much as he does.

### Intangibles

Allen is a very emotional player. He has a strong reaction to a plethora of plays, good and bad. His reactions can help his teammates because his emotions can generate energy that other players can feed off. It can also hurt his team because he will let too many things bother him and disrupt his concentration, which is something that can be seen often with players as emotional as Allen. Allen is also very tough and has little regard for his opponents. This can be seen in his tendency to try and hurt players when he gets irritated. This cost him a one game suspension against Virginia Tech, as he was caught trying to trip a player. Duke went on to lose that game, which ended a 10-game win streak. Due to the publicity that he received from multiple tripping incidents, Allen will be under a microscope regarding NBA referees, which will more than likely work against his favor. As far as injuries and games went, he was consistent. Allen had two games, at separate times throughout the year, that he sat out due to an ankle injury. Aside from those two games and the suspension, he played in the remaining 34 games for Duke.

### In Sum

Grayson Allen is a good player at the college level. His ability to perform at the NBA level will be challenged. On offense, he is skilled at moving without the ball and running a pick and roll. Allen shoots a decent percentage from three but will need to be able to convert on more of his shots from long range if he wants to make an impact at the next level. He is also a skilled passer that is willing to set his teammates up and is great at seeing the play before it happens. On defense, Allen is tough and moves well. His size and wingspan limit his defensive ceiling. He will have trouble guarding and contesting bigger guards at the next level, which can be an issue. Allen is a very emotional player and will let that dictate his actions, which is not good. In the NBA, you need to be in control of your emotions, due to the limited availability for mistakes that they may lead to. Allen may be good for a team looking for an energy player off the bench but is a big risk in terms of his mentality and composure.