

Ja'Kobe Walter- Baylor Bears- 6 feet 4 inches-195 pounds- 19 years old- Freshman

Draft Intel Report- Conducted June 24, 2024

Source: Chase Barajas- Graduate Assistant Baylor Bears

The source was asked what is the most transferable skillset for Ja'Kobe Walter?

The source responded that the most transferable skillset for Walter is shooting off the dribble for sure like making reads in ball-screen situations on when or not to shoot the ball. He didn't do it a ton necessarily in games but it wasn't really their scheme. They put him in a lot of catch and shoot situations but he is really good off the dribble especially on unders on ball-screens. It is definitely one of them. He is good at taking what the defense gives him. He can lose body control and balance on his shot. He takes some tough off-balance mid-range shots. He definitely has a little bit of that in him. One of the things he was figuring out as he was adjusting to the next level is like should I take this shot or should I not. There were times that the source thinks they took away Walter's catch and shoot at such a high level. Opponents were closing out so high on him to keep him from taking that catch and shoot that they kind of needed him to get downhill and attack a little bit so that is kind of where this came from. Overall even catch and shoot, off the dribble, mid-range, and all of that stuff he was a much better shooter than the source thinks Walter got to show. The source doesn't think he would attribute this to nerves or anything. Sometimes it just didn't go down and that is what happens at certain times. He is definitely a better shooter than he gets credit for. The source likes that Walter has a quick release, fluid shooting mechanics, and deep range. He has an adjustable jumper so if he has got to get it through a tighter window and he has got to get it off quicker he can do that. When he had timed it he has got a great feel for whether or not he has time to really step into it and take his time and he can do it this way too. It is really a natural motion for him which is what the source would say he loves the most about it. He is not overthinking it. He is just putting the ball up however he can get it up. For the most part it is consistent but when it is not consistent it is because the situation kind of called for something different. He is good at making those adjustments. With his defense he can move his feet well on the defensive end. He has quick, strong, and active hands. He anticipates passes leading to deflections and steals. The source for sure sees this as a transferable skillset. This is something that Walter will need to grow more on. The source will say Walter improved on this significantly thorough out the season. Coming in he was a three and d guy. At the beginning he was a little bit discouraged but he kind of knew how to fight through that. He did a good job with doing this. By the end of it he was a much better defender than where they started. Taking on the challenge was something he was never afraid to do. He has got the attitude to keep improving on this end. Obviously he has got the body for it and the skills for it. He has got quick hands, good hands, and he is paying attention which is another big thing. He doesn't fall asleep on defense. If he has got his head turned it is not because he is not looking but it is because he might be looking in the wrong place. He has defensive

versatility. He is a strong guy and he is switchable in general. The only issues that they had with him on the perimeter was with smaller guard. At the NBA he is not going to see a lot of smaller guys. It is mostly a question of can he guard guys that are bigger than him and the source would say definitely yes for Walter. If his shot isn't falling he still finds other ways to impact the game. This is absolutely a skill that can translate. This is one of the things the source loves about Walter. You would think that with somebody with this kind of pressure on him in the way that people were saying he is falling and he is not the player they thought he was not people there but outside of their building. He didn't respond to that by taking bad shots and by forcing it when his shot wasn't going in. One thing he is great at that the source thinks went under the radar is taking contact off the ball on defense. The source would be surprised if Walter wasn't top 10 in the country in off-ball charges. He does a really good job of understanding physicality and knowing when to be where. He took a lot of charges in the late season of just say they are trailing him on a pindown if he knows the guy behind him is on a dead sprint he might stop to just get ran into and take that contact to get the whistle to blow because this is one way he can impact the game. Even as a ball mover there was times they got closeouts super high on him and he is not going to waste any time. He is getting rid of that ball if you closeout on him that high. He is making the right play and getting a guy in a position to score. It might not always convert but it is there on film for sure. He is a guy that is going to find some way to make a difference if his shot is not falling.

The source was asked how Walter was being defended at the college level compared to how he will be defended on the NBA level? The source responded that this is going to be the biggest difference for Walter. Whoever drafts him if they get him as late as the source heard Walter might go he is going to be a steal because in college he is one of the best catch and shoot guys in the country and he is one of the best shooters in the country. The game plan focused for a lot of teams to deny him a three-ball and not let him shoot. They tried to deny him and limit his catches off the ball. The source would say in terms of denying that was more on stuff like pindowns, flares, and situations like that where they don't want him to get a catch within an advantage. The rest of it was kind of where they would play a team like Houston that they were more used to them playing in the gaps and being closer kind of pulling in and putting a lot of pressure on the ball. They didn't gap as hard so they could stay closer to him and keep him from getting that catch and shoot three. This is another thing that may not show up in the stats but teams couldn't gap them as much because he is in the corner. You can't play the gaps that hard if you are going to give Walter catch and shoot threes. It is going in if you give him a catch and shoot three. They were physical with him, doubled teamed him, and made it hard for him to get around off-ball screens, pindowns, and flares. He got grabbed and held a lot. The source thinks this kind of played into Walter taking those charges. If he knew that they were going to try and run up and be physical with him he did a great job of taking that contact when he needed to and getting the whistle to blow. He was finding ways to discourage them from continuing to grab him and bump him. If they were getting away with it they would just keep doing it so he had to try and find a way to take advantage of it. He did a good job with that for sure. At the NBA level somebody the source would like to compare Walter with is the

guy he watched a lot when he was at Arkansas who is Isaiah Joe. Joe didn't do a whole lot of unbelievable things in college. He shot the ball well. In college he is being denied the ball in the three-point line whereas the NBA level he might be the fourth or fifth best scorer on the floor so when you space out with him at the NBA level he is going to get the ball a lot more open, he is going to get a lot better catch and shoot opportunities, and a lot more time. These will kind of do their work in showing how much better of a shooter Walter is than people think. He was the focus of a lot of the teams that they played. Defensively they are focused on not letting Walter shoot the ball. At the NBA they will be so focused on other guys that he is going to get better opportunities to score for sure. The source views Walter as a high level role player. This is exactly where the source would put Walter. The source doesn't think that is necessarily a bad label or like a scary label. There is a lot of guys in this draft that are like this. The source thinks there is a lot of guys that people want to be more than they are. This year there is going to be a lot of guys that are value picks for their role. Walter is one of those guys that just plays a valuable role that can add a body into a rotation and be a high level role player.

The source was asked about his thoughts about Walter's aggressiveness during games? The source responded that this is one thing that they never needed to ask more of Walter. Earlier in the season he was adjusting to playing college basketball and wanting to make the right play. Early in the season they sometimes had to tell him that they need him to shoot this contested catch and shoot or they need him to drive this closeout instead of making the extra pass. It was things like that. By the time he kind of got settled in it wasn't really a problem for them anymore. If there was a game where it looks he is not getting as many shots up as you would think most of the time it was either game plan related or they were guarding him a certain way and he did a good job at getting off the ball in those situations. He can defer to his teammates sometimes. He deferred to RayJ Dennis and Langston Love and let them do their thing on the ball. He was more like getting stagnant in one area watching them operate rather than moving off the ball. There were times that he would be this way. One of the big things with their system that they run is that they want the help to be where they know is going to be and so a lot of times they got a guy in the corner who is their best shooter. If they are running a high ball-screen set with Dennis or Love bringing the ball up or Jalen Bridges setting the screen they want that spacing to where they force the defense to make a decision. A lot of the times that is kind of what their game plan is where they tell him they need him to stay in this corner because they need to know if his guy is going to play that gap or not. If he does then Walter has got a three. If he doesn't then they get what they want out of the ball-screen and they can throw it down to the big and they are not going to pull it and tag it. There was times that the source thinks Walter could have been a little more aggressive but at the same time he did a good job showing that he is willing to play whatever role the coaches asked for him. The most aggressive version of Walter is that if you have a hand kind of up on a catch and shoot he is letting it go and it is going in. Once he sees 1 or 2 go in he is so good at driving closeouts when he has got that confidence. There were times that he showed that. The Auburn game sticks out. Some of their earlier Big 12 tournament games stick out of him just being able to catch in a position that is ready to shoot because his biggest threat is to catch and shoot

the ball. The source doesn't think this is a bad thing. When he is down ready to shoot it and you got a guy scrambling to get out to him if he is confident he is going to find a way to score. The source would say Walter is medium aggressiveness. It is right in the middle for sure. He is not a shot happy guy and he is not a guy that you are going to beg to shoot more. There is times where you have a little bit of each where you are like maybe he could have passed up this look or maybe we should have told him to take this. It is thing like this. For the most part he is pretty even-keeled across the board. The source would say it is where it needs to be especially for the pro game. As far as being a pro the first thing for him is going to be defense and being able to take advantage of scoring off the catch. The source thinks where Walter's game is at is a good point to build on from there because he is willing to be aggressive but he is not overly aggressive so you don't really have to tune him up or dial him back either way.

The source was asked how he feels about Walter's ability to perform under pressure and in big moments? The source responded that everybody saw the end of the season with the Clemson game. The source has been asked this question a few times about Walter like do you think pressure got to him and the source really doesn't. The source just thinks Walter's shot didn't go in and sometimes it doesn't. One thing about him is that he had a lot of pressure on him this season especially when they came out with the Auburn game and he scored almost 30 points something along those lines in his debut. From this moment on there was a spotlight on him so when he didn't score that much you had people saying whatever they wanted to say about him. He had certain games where his shot wasn't falling and people would continue. The source thinks almost the whole season Walter played under pressure. It is a sign that he can handle this. One thing the source loves about Walter is that even in his worst stretch of 5 games he didn't let this stuff affect the way he practiced, the way he talked to his teammates, and the way he listened to his coaches. He is a guy that the result isn't going to change his approach. He is going to come in and work the same way. He could have 50 points and he is still the same humble kid the next day or he could go 0 out of 20 and he has got the same confidence the next time he walks in the gym. He is not a loud guy about this. The source worked with Nick Smith Jr. at Arkansas which would be an example of a loud confident guy. He is going to tell you when he walks in the gym like you can't guard me. This is not Walter. He is a more humble kid but the inner conversations that he is having with himself is a confident one for sure. He is not letting this moment kind of be too big for him. The way he impacts the game late in games is that he is not afraid to get in there, throw his body, and get a rebound or draw contact for that matter. He is a physical guy. He is a little quicker than the source thinks Walter gets credit for. His kind of attitude and role in these kinds of situations is to just let the game come to him and he has done a good job at maturing in this sense. He doesn't have predetermined they are down 7, they need a bucket, and I am about to shoot it. He is going to let the game dictate it, make a decision, and then in any way that he can he is going to impact the game. If he has got to go get an offensive rebound he will go do it. If he has got to sprint back on defense and commit an intentional foul to stop a fast break he will do it. He is very adaptable which is the word the source likes to use for Walter. He is a very adaptable guy. Whatever the situation is he is always down to step

up for it. The source thinks there are some areas that Walter is going to need to keep developing. He will be the first to tell you that. Weight is one of them. He is still putting on weight. He has never been shy of the weight room but he has got to keep adding weight and adding to that frame. Other areas are those ball-screen threes. The people that the source has talked to have been surprised to see what Walter shot off the dribble in ball-screens. Off unders when he is getting a high ball-screen and they go under he is shooting 37 or 38 percent off the dribble from three. The source thinks there is a lot of areas where Walter is going to keep getting better. He might not necessarily be a year 1 impact guy but the source doesn't know that there are a lot of guys in this draft. He knows exactly what he does and he knows his role. This is valuable at the NBA level that he is not going to walk in and be the confident rookie that is talking too much. He is going to listen to everybody, he is going to be a sponge, and he is a great teammate. The source thinks this stuff is all super important. This impresses the source for a freshman coming in. It is not common and the source hasn't seen it often. The source would say the most adequate comparison of the freshman he has worked with would be Anthony Black. The source has worked with a good number of freshman in the last several years. He worked with a good number of 4 star and 5 star freshman. It is just the humility that Walter came in with is what the source would say impressed him. It is a balance of humility and confidence. He knows what he can do and he knows he is one of the best shooters in the world but he came in with an open ear. He wants to be coached, he wants to be taught, and he wants to be a good teammate. These are kind of the ways that Walter reminded the source of Black. The difference is that Black was lightyears ahead physically. He came in at 6 feet 8 inches and 225 to 230 pounds at Arkansas. He got on the floor for the Orlando Magic this year. He stepped in and looked like a pro from day 1 physically but attitude wise these 2 guys are both very humble and they are just guys that other players enjoy having around. The source would say this is the most similar. Walter's mindset definitely impressed the source as a freshman. The source thinks there are some stuff behind the scenes where Walter had a lot of family pressure coming in. He did a really good job at leaving that at the door which is hard. He didn't bring it into practice and he didn't bring it into team meetings. He just always did his best to just shake it off and come play. The source wouldn't say Walter is afraid of the moment at all. It is definitely not at all. He has like a healthy edge for the moment. Nobody is completely cool, calm, and collected except for a 10 year NBA veteran in this kind of moment. He has a healthy focus. It is like enough to keep him right on the edge where he is as focused as he can be but if things start to not go their way he is not the kind of guy that is going to fold under the pressure, freak out, and go like what are we going to do now or how is this going to impact my draft position. He was never this guy.

The source was asked how he feels about Walter's physicality and if he's ready to play at the next level? The source responded that physically he thinks Walter has a little room to grow. The source thinks Walter would admit this himself. His frame is great. He has added weight and added to that frame since he got there at a consistent rate. The source thinks this will keep going. The source wouldn't say day 1 Walter is ready to play minutes. The source doesn't think this is a bad thing to say. He is a guy that is going to need some practice and he is going to need a little summer in that system. He

will have 5 or 6 months to get ready before this kind of stuff starts up. The source thinks by Summer League Walter will be able to prove that he can hang with those guys that are right along with him and his class like first year and second year guys. He for sure belongs in this group. He doesn't shy away from contact and seeks out contact. When he drives he waits for the defender to get back in the play, gives them a bump, and then tries to get the foul. He loves to play through contact because his balance is so good. This is something that he works a lot on with Phil Beckner. This is something that Beckner has kind of instilled in him of like don't try to be great at what you are not the best at. His quickness isn't explicitly like something that you would say man this guy is lightning fast but he has great balance and he is really strong for his frame. He does a really good job at saying if he is not going to blow by this guy he can get an angle on him, bump him, and use his body and use his momentum against him. He does all this kind of stuff at a really high level. He definitely doesn't shy away from contact. He welcomes contact for sure. He is a tough dude. He is tough. He got a broke nose his first week there and kept practicing that day. Even on rebounds they see the physicality. This is kind of more of a program identity kind of thing. Coaches have a very heavy emphasis on physical rebounding and pushing guys under the basket. With Baylor guys specifically their rebounding numbers don't exactly translate to their rebounding impact because what you don't see is on a situation where their big man or Bridges might get the rebounds there is plays and there is situations where they only got that board because Walter put both his arms on a dudes chest and pushed him all the way under the basket. This is something that is going to pay dividends for him and that he will be ahead of his class in that rebounding and physicality. He is not being afraid to just run down and crack somebody. He is just throwing his body in there and making a play. He has always done a good job of this. As a freshman it always takes a little bit for these guys to realize kind of the difference in rebounding in college and rebounding in high school. In his case once he got a couple of weeks or a month to keep hearing those emphasis and keep repping those same drills they didn't have a problem with it. When he was on the floor they knew they would get a body on a body. There are no adjustments that the source would like to see Walter make to his body. He should just keep doing what he is doing. He has a good trajectory. The source is not sure exactly where other people project his role. Obviously the source loves the kid so he doesn't want to say anything that would take away. Walter is on a great trajectory to be a really good role player and the source thinks this is valuable. He just does the right things. An example of the opposite of him would be Jaden Hardy which is a player who has got all the talent in the world but just can't reel it back sometimes and you are like why did he take that shot or why didn't he pass that up. Walter is the kind of guy that at times in college you almost wished he was a little bit more aggressive but it comes from a place of wanting to make the right play. This attitude is going to serve him well for a long time of just knowing what the right play is and wanting to make it instead of just wanting to do something for himself. He wants to win the game. If he could choose to have 50 points and the highest scoring game Baylor has ever had and scoring 0 point while going 0 out of 10 and winning he would rather go 0 out of 10. He had those type of games before

and they still won them. In the Oklahoma State game the source doesn't think Walter played well in this game. He hit a couple corner threes for them but he missed several. He drew a bunch of contact, he got to the free-throw line, he made the right plays, and he made the right plays on defense. The source would say right around this point in the season is where the source would go if you are doing something along the lines of checking out how his defense improved. The source would look at before that Oklahoma State game versus after that game. This was when he started to realize he could get away with being a little more physical than he was in high school and he could get away with using his hands a little more. This is when he really kind of took the mantle of like now he is done with trying not to foul and get scored on. He is done with that and those guys aren't going to score on him anymore. He did a much better job from then on.

The source was asked what are Walter's motives to play the game at the next level? The source responded that Walter's motives to play at the next level is that he is one of those guys that just loves to play. It has only been 4 years but over the source's career he hasn't worked with a lot of guys that he would just say outright he is on the court because he loves to play. Walter is one of those guys that just loves to play. He loves to compete. For him family is a big motivator. He wants to do right by his parents and kind of the gifts he is given. The source knows Walter's faith is super important to him and doing right by God. There is a lot of motivations that aren't the ones you don't want to hear. He is not their for the money, parties, diamonds, and clothes. That being said as an 18 year old kid he loves to get nice clothes and he is not a guy that they ever had an issue with partying. The source is sure Walter has done it sometimes and goes and hangs out with friends and does what 18 to 20 year olds do but this is not his focal point. This is the important part. There is nothing that will bring him off track. The ways that Walter shows his love for the game are with just his enthusiasm if you watch his excitement when he makes a play or when a teammate makes a play. One thing the source loves about their whole team this year is when they are not having a good game and somebody that is in the game makes the right play they are jumping off the bench with no hesitation and clapping, screaming, and smiling. It is just the enthusiasm for winning and the enthusiasm for their teammates when their teammates make a play is the source's favorite part of the season. It was just their guys getting excited for each other and Walter is one of those guys too. He could be 0 out of 17 and if Bridges hits a corner three and Walter is on the bench behind him he is going to jump up and slap him on the butt or whatever. He just gets excited. He kind of showed that edge to him a couple of times in those better games that he had when he would stare a guy down or he would point at him. This is just the energy and excitement that he loves and diving for loose balls. He is a Baylor player for sure. It is kind of the identity of their program. He fits in this category. He just exudes an excitement for what they are doing.

The source was asked what kind of teammate Walter is? The source responded that out of 10 Walter is at least an 8. He is not the loudest guy on the planet. He is not a call you out kind of teammate per say. There is different kinds of support you can give your guys. He is the kind of guy that is just going to do the little things. For example if Bridges

is having a rough month and say he is not shooting the ball well Walter may not outwardly run up to him and clap and say let's go Bridges. He is going to do little things like if Bridges misses a shot he is going to slap him on the butt or tap him on the shoulder and say keep shooting. It is little stuff like this where his teammates know he is there for them but he is not doing it to show that he is doing it which the source views as an even better thing. He is not sprinting across the gym to pick a guy that fell over except for when the whole team does it but as soon as a guy needs him they know he is going to be there. He is putting everybody else above him. He is not going to put himself above his teammates which is exciting to see from a kid that is that young to have this kind of maturity and still be able to get excited for other people. He gives them that subtle encouragement is exactly how the source would put it. There is times that other guys you might see it on film and say this guy is a better teammate but there is a little bit of they know what they are doing when they do stuff like this. The source thinks that the guy that jumps up and gets the most excited on the bench isn't always necessarily their best teammate. Walter is the type of guy that is really there. He is not there just to show that he is there. If somebody showed up at his apartment at 1 in the morning and he is about to go to sleep he is the type of dude that he is opening his door and you could talk to him about whatever you need to talk to him about. The type interactions he has with his teammates are excitement. He is a very genuine guy. He is not going to fake anything. If he thinks you are bullshi*ing a couple of practices he is not going to go out of his way to say you are screwing around but he will look at a guy and clap and say come on. It is little stuff like this. When things get bad and when things get ugly when they are losing and when they are going on the run earlier in the season he had a tendency to kind of put his head down a little bit. As the season grew on and he kind of developed, got more mature, and they have been in more of those situations because for guys like him that played at a high level school like that one thing they are not used to is losing very much. He got there and obviously they had a successful season but early on they had some disappointing losses as you do in college basketball and it took a couple of those for him to learn and grow through this. After this kind of got over with there was game like at Texas Tech they went down big at the very beginning of the game and the source thought Walter was a great teammate in this game. He showed a lot of maturity and a lot of growth just being there for guys and not caring if it is him or somebody else that is scoring the ball. Maturity was the biggest improvement for him. A lot of it had to do with opening up to people and talking to people. The source wasn't one of these people. It was more with his teammates and his coaches. At the beginning of the season there was a lot of outward pressure for him and a lot of people telling him that Auburn game wasn't enough you got to do more then that or what happened to how you played at Auburn. There were people that were on him and on him. Through this process he just kind of grew out of caring too much what people outside of their building had to say about him. This was one of the coolest things for the source because it breaks his heart to see you are around these guys 40 to 50 hours a week and you see all the work that they put in and then a guy misses a couple of free-throws and there are comments of people saying you don't belong in the lottery, you suck, why are you at Baylor, and hit the transfer portal. Him going through this and to really just not care as

much anymore was really cool. Walter is a leader. He is leading by example. He leads with his actions for sure. There were sometimes that they had that streak of a couple of games in October and November that they had Michigan State and Duke. They lost a couple of big games in a row and they had some ugly practices where guys were diving on the floor for rebounds and chasing each other around and getting physical. He was one of those guys that wasn't necessarily going to be the loudest guy in the gym but if you are lined up against him you know you better bring it because he is going for that board. One thing the source would say is that Walter probably led their team in the number of times he hit the floor this season which is not from falling but sometimes taking contact, sometimes diving for loose balls, and sometimes he is just trying so hard to get through a screen that a little hit can knock him off-balance and he is on the floor. To the source it just showed that Walter was playing with his hair on fire and was willing to do whatever it took. There were times that those loose balls juiced other guys and got the other guys into the game. He is definitely a lead by example kind of guy.

The source was asked how is Walter's ego and if he is coachable? The source responded that Walter is very coachable. He has a very limited ego. Especially for a shooter and a shooter at his level it was rare to the source to have a guy that didn't let it impact the way he thought about things but at the same time it requires a level of confidence to keep shooting the ball the way that he was shooting it. Walter being able to walk that kind of tight rope without having an ego the source thought was impressive because he is not going to tell a teammate I am better than you. He is not walking in with that kind of attitude. With the shooting stuff he has been a premier shooter for years now for 4 or 5 years now. There were times he wasn't shooting the ball well. There was some footwork stuff that 1 or 2 of their staff members have been kind of working on that he wasn't normally comfortable with. It did change his jumper a little bit at the beginning of the season. If you divide out his shooting numbers when you look at that month where they tried to get him to work on this hop versus the one two if you eliminate that month of shooting he is a no brainer lottery pick. When it hit the fan and he was still working on exactly what they wanted him to work on he never wavered and came back to them and said this shi* isn't working I need to switch back. He trusted their coaches. The source doesn't know if this necessarily was for the best at the time. He knows better than anybody how he can shoot the ball. When Walter wasn't shooting well the source for one would have thought about going back the old way. He started shooting worse. He trusted their coaches through this whole process and let them tell him when it was time to go back to the old way. He is a very coachable guy. The source thinks being too coachable to a fault might have been a lesson learned for Walter. That being said he is also moving up a level. He knows and trusts people's expertise. If you sit him down as an organization and tell him we have people put in place who are going to help you get to where you need to get. The source doesn't think Walter can be coachable to a fault in this kind of conversation. One thing with him is controlling the information that gets to him. With a lot of guys this age they have coaches from elementary school to middle school to high school to AAU. These coaches are still in their lives and so who knows what a coach from outside looking in might be telling him watching him play. You wonder is that impacting him or is he telling him something

different. He is very transparent with this kind of stuff. Overall just from a coachability standpoint Walter is A plus to the source. The way Walter responds to criticism from the coaching staff goes to the maturity conversation. There were times at earlier on that he got inwardly frustrated and tried not to show it but did a little bit. As the season progressed his mentality to coaching and his approach to being coached just matured with him. It kind of grew, opened up, and he was asking the right questions. When he would think he is putting in 100 percent and somebody tells him he isn't he would take their word for it. He would say you are right, my fault, and let's do it again. It is not always the easiest thing to say or the easiest choice to make but he made it on a daily basis. 99 times out of 100 he would be in there to get better and not for 1 minute was he afraid of people telling him what he needed to hear instead of what he wanted to hear at certain times. He for sure holds himself accountable.

The source was asked how is Walter's work ethics and if he does more than what is required? The source responded that Walter gets his extra work. They work a lot there and he still got in extra work. There were times that the source would come in to workout at 7:00 or 8:00 at night and Walter is in there shooting on the ground. He is a hard worker for sure. The skills that he is working on when he is getting that extra work in and in workouts are that for him it was a lot of shooting on different kinds of balance and movement. He didn't get enough chances to shoot off pindowns and off flares because they needed different stuff from their offense. If they run a flare with Walter at the college level he is going to get denied the ball. If you run a flare with Walter at the NBA level and you have Naz Reid setting that screen you can't guard him the same way you can guard them. They just got a roller setting that screen and you can just pull and tag. The source thinks Walter is going to get chances to shoot and show off his footwork and the foundation of his balance and movement a lot more. This is one of the things that he worked on most and something that is a huge skill for him. This is a lot of his Beckner stuff. That guy works with him a bunch on different kinds of footwork, different kinds of movement, and finding balance. As the source has been on in kind of evaluating prospects every year the more he has realized you look at mechanics and it is not always the end all be all. For the source the most important thing with a shooter is can he find balance in different situations and with different footwork and can he find balance while still getting enough force and generating enough force to get the ball up. Walter is the type of guy that you can give him 10 different situations and he might shoot pretty similarly 60 to 70 percent with no defense in each of those situations. He is very adaptable feet wise and hands wise. His jumper is less of a same jumper every time than it is just the natural ability to put the ball in the basket. Walter is somewhere between middle and high intensity when he is getting extra work and in workouts. There was times that they were practicing a lot getting in a lot of work and so in practice he would give it 1000 percent. He might come in at night and he might be shooting at 65 or 70 percent intensity at night because he is getting extra work and he doesn't want to hurt himself. The source thinks this is also mature way to approach it where Walter doesn't need to put himself through hell* right now because he won't be able to go hard in practice tomorrow. He also did a good job of maintaining wherever he needed to be at for what they needed. It is more quality over quantity with him. He is definitely this kind

of guy. He is not going to come in and shoot 1000 threes in one day on the gun but he will go 350 out of 400 and go home. He is a guy that the source enjoys talking to people about because the source thinks Walter is going to surprise some people. He really is a world class shooter. He had some runs where his confidence kind of got to him a little bit and it wasn't falling but at the same time he never doubted that he was going to be able to figure it out. The source thinks that is the encouraging part of all this. The source had people call him and really all they want to ask him about is the free-throw at the end of the season and what happened with the free-throws is he scared of the moment. He played a full season. The story for him during the season was a lot of ups and downs. It was a lot of coming off a great game and then having a bad one or coming off a great week of practice and having a terrible game. This is normal for a freshman. It was just him growing. Through all the ups and downs his approach stayed the same which to the source is the plus. You rather have a guy that has been through some stuff and stayed even-keeled than a guy coming from University of Connecticut who never had trouble shooting the ball and played in an open offense and scored a bunch of points. He has a bunch of teammates that are getting guarded closely and that guy hasn't faced as much adversity as somebody like Walter who chose to play for them and chose to be the guy as mainly a spot-up and movement shooter. He chose to be the guy, have a hard path, and not have the easiest path to where he was going. The source thinks there is something to be said about that and the way that Walter kept his head on straight the entire time. Off the court they never had a problem with him. He was always a great teammate and showed up on time. This is one of the big things to the source which is engrained in his brain from working with Eric Musselman at Arkansas. This is just showing up on time and doing the tiny things like showing up on time, wearing the right practice jersey, wearing their team's colors, and getting your laundry looped to their managers on time. He was never a guy they had a problem with on any of this stuff.

The source was asked what is Walter's level of basketball IQ and if he can carry over the scouting report to the court? The source responded that this is definitely an area where Walter has some room to grow just because of positional. From what the source has been able to ascertain a lot of the kids that aren't point guards or secondary ball-handlers aren't really taught a lot of this stuff and kind of why they do certain things. This was another of these things that later on in the season he did a much better job of in terms of understanding and retaining scouting reports. With freshman it is easy to get a guy to recite information about the player he is guarding but can he do it in real time. While he is closing out and he is tired as hell* does he remember that this guy likes to drive left or does he only remember in their scouting meeting when he has got the paper right in front of him. This is an area that he grew a good amount and the source would like to see Walter grow some more in terms of just thinking the game. The difference between the start of the season compared to now and the reason that he grew in this area is that it was just his habits and the way that he would go into it. He is a competitor and so he doesn't want to give a guy a wide open three. They played Seton Hall and Seton Hall had a couple of guys that were really good at flooring the ball that couldn't shoot too well. This was an early season game and there was a couple of times that Walter would closeout pretty high on a guy that shot maybe 28 or 29 percent from three

that they weren't necessarily trying to take away the three ball. They didn't want him to get into the paint. There were times that Walter would play them high and have to recover, foul him, and get into foul trouble. He is not a blow by guy. He is not going to get blown by but he will put himself in a situation where he needs to commit a foul to keep himself from getting scored on. Later in the season he did a much better job at understanding his assignment. The Clemson game is a bad example because there were some guys that they weren't necessarily trying to take the three ball away from that hit threes at a pretty good clip in that game. Chase Hunter comes to the source's mind. He is not a guy that they are trying to aggressively deny a three ball and he hit 4 of them. Earlier in the year the Colgate game the source thinks Walter did a great job at understanding that scouting report. The reason this is important is because that was a little bit of a slower game. You play a more skilled based team that is going to run a lot of splits, a lot movement, and a lot of actions. Even though they are processing the game at a high level, their offense is complicated, and all these things the game itself is a little bit physically slower. In these games Walter did a much better job at the end of the season in showing exactly what they look at in scouting. As he gets older the NBA game is going to slow down for him a little bit and it is not going to feel as fast. In these kinds of situations once he gets his feet under him he is not going to have any kind of trouble making these reads, remembering scouting reports, and studying the scouting report. The further improvements and the aspects of the scouting report that the source would like to see Walter make are just from the scouting perspective of him understanding the scouting report for another player. For one the source would say drive directions. This is a hard thing to scout and to remember in real time. They had some issues with that with a lot of their guys this year of they know this guy likes to go right and they know when he goes left he is trying to spin back to his right so can they get a better angle with their hips to where you are not opening up for him to spin back to his right hand that he wanted to get to in the first place. It is this kind of thing. This is something he can improve on but like the source said the most important thing with him is that he is smart enough to do it, he wants to listen, and he wants to learn. With him that is the biggest thing that the source keeps telling people. The source just doesn't see a scenario where Walter doesn't figure it out and turn into a guy that can play bare minimum 10 to 15 minutes a game in a year or two. The scouting reports at Baylor at very detailed. They go over everything. Each player has a label for what they do on the other team. They have a set of labels that they choose from which kind of gives a generalized breakdown of the player. Under that they have his point per possession in different situations, what does he like to get to, how does he like to get to it, and how important is it to their scouting and to their game plan. The one big thing that helps it translate with their guys is that their scouts aren't the same every week. They are not going to guard every team the same way. The source believes that is something that maybe held their guys back a little bit moving to the pro level at Arkansas when he worked there. Their scouting report for pretty much every game was like they want to take away their 1 or 2 best players at any costs. They were going to try to switch nothing. They might switch a dribble handoff if they get really hit and they might switch a screen if they get really hit but for the most part they are going to play the same way

every game. They didn't do that here. Their game plan for each game was more up tuned and suited directly towards the team that they were playing. This is an adjustment for guys at first but the source thinks it is a benefit for them down the road. It is not just memorizing how they guard. It is memorizing how they are going to guard for that game. It might be different on Thursday than it was on Monday.

The source was asked how Walter responds to in game adjustments? The source responded that Walter did a great job with in game adjustments. This is one of his best attributes. Even if he is tired as hell* in a timeout he is going to listen, he is going to take in whatever they say, and he does a good job at doing it different. He is just a figure it out guy in a lot of ways. He does a good job of just figuring it out. With in game adjustments it is just kind of a facet of this. If they need him to figure something out and if they are like we have got to change what we are doing here then he is open to making suggestions, he knows why they would do one thing versus another, and he is really receptive to making those differences in game time even if he studied the game plan for a week. The types of in game adjustments that Walter had to respond to are a lot of times one big thing they changed a lot was they had 3 different defenses there. Their defense changes often. Sometimes they might think they are going to zone a team for quite some time and then if their zone offense looks crisp from the beginning and they hit 3 or 4 threes on them like Texas Tech did at the beginning of the game then they are just going to switch to man. One big thing is pindowns sometimes they chase them and sometimes they go under depending on the player, how often they shoot, and how they are shooting. This is a hard thing to switch in game when you practice going through a motion all week long and you don't know when that play is coming. It might be 5 minutes before you see that pindown again can you remember that they changed it in the timeout. He did a good job at remembering this kind of stuff. The Michigan State game was a good example. They talked about not going under their ball-screen for a week and right off the rip they went under a screen, got caught, he hit a 1 dribble pull-up, and they didn't have Walter on that guy. They tried to make this adjustment but they couldn't really get it done and they ended up killing them with the pindown all night long. This was a small guard. One thing Walter had trouble guarding was smaller guards. This was Tyson Walker at Michigan State. He is about 5 feet 8 inches or 5 feet 9 inches. He is a guy that loves to hit that little mid-range dribble pull-up and they aren't going to put their 6 feet 5 inches wing on him. There were times that the source wished they could have maybe used Walter a little more in these kinds of situations because he is so cerebral.

The source was asked what will be one reason Walter will be successful and one reason he will not be successful at the next level? The source responded that for starters a reason that Walter would be successful at the next level is his attitude and his approach to everything. He just doesn't let it all be too back for him. He is not going to come in with worldly expectations and want to come in and expect to play right out the gate 25 minutes a game in Summer League. He is not going to expect to check in every game and he is not going to expect to dominate in practice. He is going to show up and listen which is the biggest thing. He is not a guy that just shows up and wants to talk,

wants to tell you about himself, tell you what he is going to do, and how great he is. He is going to listen to what your message is for him and what are your goals for him. He is going to do his best to approach this with the kind of attitude that you want him to. For him one of the biggest reasons he is going to be successful is his ability to adjust and his ability to kind of adapt to whatever you need from him and play a role. If you told him that he needs to show up early to every practice for a month to go run with a big guy that is out of shape he is going to do it just to get your big guy 5 percent better so he can help the team. He is not a let me do whatever it takes to help the team as long as the ball is in my hands or as long as I get to shoot it. He is really a show up and do what you ask him to do kind of guy. The source thinks this is the biggest reason Walter will be successful. There is a way this conversation makes sense. If there was a reason he wouldn't be successful it would have to do with just the versatility of his offensive game. He is not a guy that is going to put you on an island and score every time on isolation. This being said this also speak to his ability to play that role that they had him playing. He is not going to do too much. In a lot of ways although this is a way that you may prefer another guy on the floor because if it gets late shot clock you might rather another guy take that shot if it is a bad situation. He is the type of guy that he is so good at what he does that it is going to be enough for him to stay on the floor in the league. He just does what he does at a really high level. You know exactly what you are going to get from him. The source would say that Walter can fit in any team system. The source would really think so. He is a great standstill shooter and he is a great movement shooter. He is a good to great free-throw shooter. He didn't work on his free-throws as much as they would like. He did it as much as everybody else but not more. With the result of the season and the way things turned out the source thinks this is something Walter will continue to improve on. He is just good at what he does. The source can't see Walter not fitting because of how many different situations he can shoot out of and how comfortable he is with his feet. He is going to find a way to make a difference no matter where he gets put.

The source was asked if Walter ever failed a drug test? The source responded that Walter has never failed a drug test to his knowledge.

The source was asked if there are any personal and social red flags for Walter? The source responded that there are no personal and social red flags for Walter. The source would say no. With him there is a lot of family pressure but he did a good job at learning how to tune this out and just focusing on the right things. By the end of the season it just didn't bother him anymore. The source would say no. Walter is just an easy guy. He is easy to have around. He is not going to do anything to put your team in danger, put another teammate in danger, or put himself above anybody else. The source knows it sounds idealistic because he just spent a year with Walter but he is a good kid. He is not going to do anything to put you in a bad place.

The source was asked how is Walter's competitive level in practice and does he push others? The source responded that Walter is definitely competitive. He pushes others with his effort not always his voice. Effort wise if you are screwing around in a rebounding drill he is just going to big boy you. If you are not trying hard enough he is

just going to win every rep. He is never a guy that they had to say we need you to go harder. This is never something they had to tell him so he is a leader in this sense for sure. The ways that he pushes others are just by being as physical and as aggressive and effort wise just doing everything they ask him to do. If there is a guy in a drill that is not putting the effort that Walter is putting in and he is going up against him he is not necessarily going to call that guy out and say we need more from you but he is just going to whoop his ass*. He leads with example and with effort. They never had an effort problem with him. He does what you ask him to do. He raises the competitive level in practice. The source would say so for sure. It is especially in drills where it is more of a one on one or two on two type scenario. He does a good job at separating himself. There is times that in five on five scenarios maybe they wanted him to be a little more aggressive but then when it comes to drills of one on one, two on two, and three on three he is just pushing guys and making other guys work harder. If you are running a drill next to Walter and your effort is not there it is obvious because Walter is going as hard as he possibly can. He gets on the floor for loose balls, winds up in the passing lane and deflects passes, and he talks. He has done a better job talking than he did when he got there of just being vocal and being a leader. It takes a while for this to come around for an 18 year old 9 times out of 10 and he adapted to it pretty quickly. The ways that Walter shows his competitiveness in practice are just with his effort and his energy. He likes winning. He loves winning so whether it is a rep, a drill, a practice in general, or a game he loves to win. This competitiveness comes out there. If he beats you and you were talking to him he is going to let you know in a good kind of way. He likes to win so this is where the competition kind of comes out. This is how he raises the level of competition. He is just competitive and wants to win everything. The way guys respond when he is pushing them in practice is positive for sure. It is a good sign that they know it is coming from the right place. When he pushes the guys they listen because he is not the first guy to speak up and he is not the loudest guy in the gym. When he says something or whenever he calls you out you feel it because you know it is coming from a good place. He wants you to be better and not just him. He wants to win with you. Guys just take it the right way because they know it is coming from a good place.

Report Completed by Layth Dahman (Manager of Basketball Intel and Basketball Scout)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/layth-dahman-a3366917b/>