

### **Kel'el Ware vs Penn State 3/14/2024**

Offensively, Ware has the complete arsenal with his length and height. He is excellent at scoring on the low block and shooting difficult fadeaway shots. His shot mechanics are very fluid and consistent on his jump shots and free throws. He also shows he can find open teammates and put passing right on the mark. If the shot doesn't go in, Ware will grab the rebound and dunk it with force. There was an incredible sequence where Reanue was in the post and just threw the ball near the rim and Ware caught it one-handed and punched it down seemingly effortlessly. He also makes quick, fluid decisions in the post, utilizing his size and strength to get his desired finish. Ware was also aware when Penn State started trapping the ball handler on pick and rolls, and he caught the ball and dumped it to a teammate as the defense overcommitted on him. The three-point stroke didn't fall tonight, but it is coming along and shows great promise.

Defensively, Ware's length and verticality affected almost every shot taken near the basket. His only noticeable area of opportunity is learning not to leave his feet when the offensive player pumps fakes. Due to his lengthy and wide base, he can play multiple coverages defensively. He pins almost all shots in his arena near the rim directly off the glass. His best defensive sequence this game against Penn State was when he was active in gaps, forcing a steal and feeding a shooter in transition for three.

Overall, Ware had a large impact on both ends in this game versus Penn State, as he does on most nights. Penn State's bigs clearly couldn't guard Ware, Reneau, or Mgbako in the post. The game became close in the second half because Indiana was giving up threes to Penn State, and Indiana wasn't hitting their looks. Ware finished his opportunities at the line in a close game that Indiana barely survived. The larger area to note about Kel'el Ware is his body language and demeanor around his teammates and coaches. He doesn't engage much on the floor with his teammates and appears to carry an attitude slightly. Regardless, his impressive build and skill set on both ends is nothing that can be ignored.