

Xavier Johnson (Pittsburgh) 6'3" 200 CG (Film 12/16/20 vs. Miami)

A very quick guard that is the starting point guard for Pitt. He has solid size and length for the point guard position. He has the speed and quickness of an NBA level guard.

On offense the thing that stood out to me most was his shot. It is not one of the prettier shots and I question if he will be able to shoot the ball off the dribble at all and how good of a shooter he is. Miami went under most screens so he had open looks. His misses were not really close and shot 0/3 in the game. Statistically he is not a bad shooter but not great. He shoots over 34% from three and 73% from the free throw line. This is not great but better than I thought it would be. Outside of that, he pushes the ball in transition and is a crafty guard. He carries almost every time he dribbles and gets called on one in the first half. Johnson does a good job at beating his man off the dribble and getting into the lane. He is then able to finish through contact, as he did a couple times. He had 5 turnovers, with the majority of them being unforced and just bad decisions.

On defense Xavier uses his quickness to move his feet and stay in-front of the offensive player on most drives. He is also active with his hands as he had two steals in this game and has over one a game. He should be able to stay with most guards in the ACC and he is not too small so he will not get bullied down low easily. He had 4 rebounds and loved to push the break after getting them.

Xavier Johnson played only 21 minutes due to foul trouble in this one. The junior is one of Pittsburgh's three best players and is averaging 14.4 ppg, 5.1 apg, and 4.3 rpg. I do not trust him as a shooter yet and he needs to improve on that before anything else.