

## **Jabari Walker vs. Arizona - Jan 13, 2022**

**1<sup>st</sup> Half Stats:** 0 PTS, 4 REB, 2 AST, 1 BLK, 2 TO, 0-3 FG

**2<sup>nd</sup> Half Stats:** 4 PTS, 1 REB, 1 STL, 0-2 3PT, 2-4 FG

**Final Stats:** 21 MIN, 4 PTS, 5 REB, 2 AST, 1 STL, 1 BLK, 4 TO, 28.6 FG%, 0 3PT%

### **Scout Report**

This was a tough outing for the Buffaloes leading scorer and rebounder. In a game against a conference rival and highly ranked competition Walker seemed overmatched and inefficient at times. First, his ball handling and ability to attack the basket seemed very shaky. Multiple times he would drive to the rim only to lose his dribble and travel or is forced to pick up the possession and attempt a difficult jump shot. This out-of-control play was on display at all levels of his game today. Walker is a physical player who constantly battled larger defenders for post position on offense but picked up an offensive foul for throwing a defender to the ground and didn't display proper footwork in attempting to seal defenders to one side of his body. Lastly, his three-point shot was a nonfactor as both of his catch and shoot attempts missed, one was an airball. For a player that shot 52% from three as a freshman, the large increase in volume this year has dragged his three-point percentage down to 26%. In fact all of his percentages are down across the board with the added scoring responsibility. Despite a tough game Walker still flashed some exciting potential. At one point he pulled down a rebound, took the ball the length of the court before jump stopping in the key and finding a trailing teammate for the easy jump shot. His length and athleticism flashed as well on chase down block that prevented a transition layup and multiple times he tipped away entry passes by jumping up and batting them away. Defensively, Walker has the mobility to switch on to guards and length to defend the post. Arizona's big frontcourt (6'11 and 7'1) did keep him off the glass while combining for 21 PTS and 17 REB.

### **Final Thoughts**

Walker clearly has the physical tools to operate as a stretch 4. He can handle the ball in transition, isn't afraid to shoot from three and can switch onto smaller players if need be. But, he will need to learn how to play smarter as his high energy lead to some great plays (chase down block, drawing fouls when attacking the rim) but also some costly ones (multiple traveling TOs, offensive fouls). For a player that was leading the Pac-12 in double-doubles coming into this game, not his best showing.