

**Kofi Cockburn** (Illinois) 7'0" 285 C (Film 2/12/21 vs. Nebraska)

Kofi Cockburn is a ginormous human being, and I am not sure if there is another way to put it. In terms of size, he is comparable to Shaq in the later parts of his career. He moves pretty well up and down the court as he runs the floor. I do have concerns with his quickness laterally. He is strong and uses his size and strength to his advantage as much as he can.

On offense his game is pretty simple. He is used in the PnR as a rim running big to catch lobs. Then he is often posting up around the rim drawing attention from multiple defenders. He got fronted for the majority of the game in the post and Nebraska was showing help from the weakside defenders. This led to a couple baskets just because of how much attention he drew. When he did catch the ball in the post he often got fouled or had a drop step into a dunk/post hook. He shot 7/12 from the free throw line but is shooting just 58% on the season from the line. He often got fouled late when he caught the ball because Nebraska was taking their chances with him at the line. I do not believe he will ever be capable of stretching the floor at the next level and he does not pose much play making/passing ability.

Defensively, Kofi rarely left the paint. He was usually guarding non-shooters and played in drop PnR coverages. He did a good job at forcing tougher floaters or contesting shots when they got into his chest. Kofi had 4 blocks and altered many more shots. I have concerns about how well he can move laterally. I also do not know what he would do at the next level against bigs that can stretch the floor as I do not trust his perimeter defense. His defensive versatility is limited.

Kofi is someone that would need his strengths to outweigh his weaknesses because he does things no one else can physically do but also struggles with a lot of things. I personally do not love the idea that he does not really play defense outside of the paint. He is limited on both sides of the ball, but it is possible he is someone who comes in and is effective in short periods throughout games.