



NFL Draft 2020 Scouting Report: DE Curtis Weaver, Boise State

**Our DL grades can and will change as more information comes in from Pro Day workouts, leaked Wonderlic test results, etc. We will update ratings as new info becomes available.*

I went into this study thinking **Curtis Weaver** was a very solid edge prospect, and that the only question to be answered was whether we would 'deem' him an 'A' or 'B' grade prospect.

Our computer models started flashing warnings of a 'C' grade or worse prospect. Then I watched the tape and looked at more data on his performance numbers (more on that in a moment), and I was quickly hopping off board the **Curtis Weaver** train.

It's a 1-2 punch of problems I see, one with the tape and one with the numbers/production side in college for Weaver...

#1) The Tape...

For context, I had just watched/studied **Chase Young** and then **K'Lavon Chaisson** right before working on Weaver – and watching them in consecutive order...you just can't speak about Weaver in the same breath.

I thought he might be able to hang with those guys, and potentially be a sleeper...but I'm running from that thought. I was watching him against better opponents like Florida State and Washington and I'm kinda wondering what all the fuss was about...like, what is wrong with this picture – how can a guy who is the all-time Mountain West Conference sack leader look so tame on tape?

There's a difference in being really great on an NFL level and just being MWC great...and I think Weaver is more mid-major conference college great/good. He has some NFL size and tools, but he's not a dominator...not against legit D1 blockers/teams.

Weaver has good feet for his size...he's very nimble. He can stop-start, shuffle by some blockers using agility – the nice 7.00 three-cone at the Combine wasn't lying. He's just not that straight line fast, more of a lumbering runner (from a top prospect viewpoint) and just not that powerful for his size. He's a big dude, but he wasn't blowing back D1 major conference blockers...and that's a worry that he'll be gobbled up by NFL blockers and rendered a backup level pass rusher/D-end in the pros.



#2) The Production at Boise State...

Sure, Weaver's tape and numbers look sweet against Portland State – in 2019, Weaver logged nearly 30% of his season's total sacks against a hapless FCS opponent...4.0 TFLs and 4.0 sacks in a blowout game.

Even scarier in his production – he also logged a 3.0 TFL with 3.0 sacks game in a beatdown of MWC weakling UNLV. Take the Portland State and UNLV game away and Weaver loses over 50% of his sack counts for 2019 and over a third of his TFLs from just those two games alone.

When I look at his tape compared to the top edge prospects and then see the trouble in his production numbers...I'm led to believe that Weaver is more of an 'average' prospect than a surprising top guy contender.

Curtis Weaver, Through the Lens of Our DE Scouting Algorithm:

Weaver's best game in 2018 was another beat-up-the-weak moment...2.5 TFLs and 2.5 sacks – it came against (3-9) Colorado State.

Against Florida State and Washington in 2019: 2.5 tackles, 0.75 TFLs, 0.50 sacks per game.

Against the top MWC teams he faced in 2019 (Hawaii and Air Force): 2.5 tackles, 0.75 TFLs, 0.0 sacks per game.

In his four toughest opponent games of 2019 (Fla St., Wash., Hawaii, A. Force)...1.0 sack total.

Weaver's MWC career was overrated and built on dominant Boise State roughing up most opponents, as they typically do.

When you ignore his Portland State and UNLV aberrations in 2019 (7.0 TFLs and 7.0 sacks in two games), Weaver has just 6.5 sacks over his final 14 college games.

Judging him as a 'DE' prospect and comparing him to those prospects who went to the NFL Combine, Weaver would have had the fastest shuttle time (4.27) and 2nd-best three-cone (7.00) – all of Weaver's hopes lie in his higher-end agility for his size.



Curtis Weaver, Through the Lens of Our DE Scouting Algorithm:

Weaver's best game in 2018 was another beat-up-the-weak moment...2.5 TFLs and 2.5 sacks – it came against (3-9) Colorado State.

Against Florida State and Washington in 2019: 2.5 tackles, 0.75 TFLs, 0.50 sacks per game.

Against the top MWC teams he faced in 2019 (Hawaii and Air Force): 2.5 tackles, 0.75 TFLs, 0.0 sacks per game.

In his four toughest opponent games of 2019 (Fla St., Wash., Hawaii, A. Force)...1.0 sack total.

Weaver's MWC career was overrated and built on dominant Boise State roughing up most opponents, as they typically do.

When you ignore his Portland State and UNLV aberrations in 2019 (7.0 TFLs and 7.0 sacks in two games), Weaver has just 6.5 sacks over his final 14 college games.

Judging him as a 'DE' prospect and comparing him to those prospects who went to the NFL Combine, Weaver would have had the fastest shuttle time (4.27) and 2nd-best three-cone (7.00) – all of Weaver's hopes lie in is higher-end agility at his size.

2020 NFL Combine Data:

6'2.3"/265, 10" hands, 32 3/8" arms

No 40-time, bench

4.27 shuttle, 7.00 three-cone

32.5" vertical, 9'8" broad jump

The Historical DE Prospects to Whom Curtis Weaver Most Compares Within Our System:

I'm frightened by the comps for Weaver.



The positive side to them is that **Sam Hubbard** outplayed his poor speed/nice agility pre-Draft numbers. Still, Weaver has too many comps to mediocre NFL'ers to get me excited about his prospects.

<u>DE Score</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Tackle, Strngth Metric</u>	<u>Speed, Agility Metric</u>	<u>Pass Rush Metric</u>	<u>Tackle Metric</u>
6.646	Weaver	Curtis	2020	Boise St.	6	2.3	265	6.36	6.72	7.82	4.71
2.605	Hubbard	Sam	2018	Ohio State	6	5.3	270	6.40	6.64	6.94	4.77
2.355	Young	Trevon	2018	Louisville	6	3.7	258	7.92	7.91	5.87	5.52
2.914	Tollefson	Dave	2006	NW Mo St	6	4.2	255	7.73	6.80	7.38	5.81
4.273	Neill	Jason	2016	UTSA	3	2.0	266	7.83	4.20	6.24	5.15
2.641	Basham	Tarell	2017	Ohio	6	3.6	269	7.76	4.28	5.32	4.06

**A score of 8.00+ is where we see a stronger correlation of DEs going on to become NFL good/great/elite. A score of 10.00+ is more rarefied air in our system and indicates a greater probability of becoming an elite NFL DE.*

All of the DE ratings are based on a 0–10 scale, but a player can score negative, or above a 10.0 in certain instances.

Power-Strength Metrics = A combination of several measurements. An attempt to classify the DE prospect as more of a battle-in-the-trenches type of DE, a 'bull-rusher', and/or a DE prospect who has some DT capabilities.

Speed-Agility Metrics = A combination of several speed, agility, size measurements. A unique measuring system to look for DEs who profile more as speed-rush, stand-up DEs, and/or possible OLBs.

Pass-Rusher Rating = A combination of physical measurables, and college performance, graded historically for future NFL profiling. In the simplest of terms, this is an attempt to classify whether a particular DE is likely to achieve high sack totals in the NFL. We know the 'system'/scheme the DE goes on to play in has a part in future success...but so do the player's skills and performance history. "You can't keep a good man/DE down," we'd like to think.

Tackling Rating = A combination of physical measurables, and college performance, graded historically for future NFL profiling. In the simplest of terms, this is an attempt to classify the DE as one more likely to be involved in a heavy amount of tackles, tackles for a loss, and forced fumbles. Lower-scoring DEs in this subcategory tend to be more pure pass-rushers/specialists. This is also our attempt to quantify, if it's possible, the 'toughness' of a player.

