

Eli Apple

CB Ohio State Rs. So.

Height: 6'1" Weight: 199 Arms: 31.5"

Combine: **40 yd Dash:** 4.40 **3 Cone:** DNP **20 YD Shuttle:** DNP **Vert:** DNP"

Pros:

- Good size for an NFL corner
- Quick feet and loose hips
- Great speed
- Flashes in run game
- Very good in press and man coverage
- Can shadow a receiver exceptionally well

Cons:

- Struggles in off-man and zone coverage
- Doesn't plant and drive at ball
- Reaction time is slow
- Plays small, doesn't full talent
- Shies away from contact in the run game
- Doesn't have the numbers you'd like
- Needs to play with confidence

Eli Apple has almost everything you want in a press man corner, save an abundance of confidence. Apple is slow to diagnose plays in the run and the pass and doesn't trust his technique or his feet to get him to the ball. Instead he grabs and tries to play the man instead of the ball. If a team can correct this and get Apple to play with the size and skill he has, Apple will be a starting cornerback in the NFL. He's got the size, blazing speed, and man cover skills to be a starter early in career. The problem is that Apple plays small and doesn't use all the tools in his bag. He also struggles to plant his foot and drive on the ball in zone coverage. David Craig of Western Michigan abused him with several comeback routes during their game this past fall. Either he doesn't have the ability to recover, or he's not aware due to a lack of film study. Either way, he will have to correct this before he reaches his true potential. Zone teams might shy away from Apple because of that and that limits his options on draft day. Still a top 25 talent and will go in the 1st round.