

MALIK HOOKER

OHIO STATE

Height: ""

Weight:

Arms:

Combine:

40 yd Dash:

3 Cone:

20 yd Shuttle:

Vert:

<u>Pros:</u>	<u>Cons:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smooth athlete, great size for free safety - Good job cleaning up plays as last line of D - Hard hitter with punishing mentality - Great acceleration to the ball, looks easy - Agility and easy movement in space - Great timing to the football - Natural instincts in zone and man coverage - Six picks, three for TD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor angles to the ball and bad tackler - Hot and cold player, incredibly inconsistent - Bites hard on play fakes, - Undisciplined and raw, bites on play fakes - Lets players behind him in zone coverage - ducks his head on contact - Incredibly raw, one year starter

Summary: If you're looking for upside, redshirt sophomore Malik Hooker has it. The incredibly raw safety started a total of one season at Ohio State but was named to the AP All-American team and was near the top of the country with six interceptions. Hooker added 76 tackles to that and was a reliable last line of defense for the Buckeye's defense. Hooker has good speed but makes it look easy with fluid movement through space and great acceleration. However, Hooker is incredibly raw. The one season starter likes to come downhill and hit, but is a poor tackler who doesn't wrap up and throws shoulders. He's still learning how to make it to the football and be in a football position as well. He missed 17 tackles last season because he over-runs plays and ducks his head before contact. Hooker really shines in coverage, especially in zone. The New Castle native is instinctual and has an ability to arrive at the same time as the football better than most safeties. Hooker puts himself in good position before the ball is thrown and nabs any rebounds or overthrown passes near him. He doesn't force a lot of picks as much as he makes quarterbacks pay for their mistakes. Once he has the ball, he's a dangerous return man who returned three picks for scores and gained 187 yards on his six interceptions this year. The bottom line is that Hooker will not be very good his first year in the league. He is still learning the position of safety and may be a bit of a one year wonder. If he can continue to grow physically and mature mentally, he will be the best coverage safety in this draft. He's got the size, speed and instincts to be an all-pro. I'd draft him in the later stages of the first round but he's likely a top 10 pick based on his potential.