

Phoenix Suns NBA Draft 2013 Preview: Victor Oladipo and Ricky Ledo

Written by
Sunday, 23 June 2013 09:00 -



5th Pick: [Victor Oladipo](#) (SG)

Measurables:

Height: 6' 4.25"

Weight: 213

Wingspan: 6' 9.25"

BF%: 6.6

Verticle (Max): 42"

Stats:

Totals:

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Per Game:

Advanced:

Videos:

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Combine Interview (courtesy of Draft Express)

Draft Scouting Video with in-depth analysis (courtesy of Draft Express)

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And if his playing alone isn't reason enough to draft him, which it most certainly is, he could also fill in as the half-time entertainment on any given night if need be. The man can sing!

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Potential Draft Range: 2-5

While it's anyone's guess who the Suns will actually end up drafting with the 5th pick this Thursday, I feel comfortable saying with relative certainty that if Oladipo is still available by the time the Suns' make their selection that he will be their guy.

Summary:

I've been on the Oladipo bandwagon all year long, and have made no secret of my love for his game. He was without a doubt my favorite college player this past season, and I am convinced he is one of the top three prospects in this draft. In my opinion, it would be a great value if the Suns end up drafting Oladipo with the 5th pick in the draft. The Suns can only hope that they are fortunate enough to do so. There have been rumors surfacing lately that the Orlando Magic like Oladipo better than McLemore now, and could select him as high as the 2nd pick. In order for Phoenix to draft Oladipo, they need either [Trey Burke](#) or [Alex Len](#) to crack the top 4. If either of these scenarios happen, the Suns' chances of drafting Oladipo increases significantly.

30th Pick: Ricardo Ledo (SG)

Measurables:

Height: 6' 6"

Weight: 197

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Wingspan: 6' 7.25"

BF%: 10.25

Verticle (Max): 33.5"

Stats:

N/A

Ledo was one of the top guard prospects in the nation (ranked as high as #6 overall by Rivals.com) and a McDonald's All-American coming out of high school last year, but was declared academically ineligible last season at Providence and didn't play a single game in college.

Videos:

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Combine Interview (courtesy of Draft Express)

Draft Workout Preparation(courtesy of SLAM Magazine)

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Potential Draft Range: 16-35

Summary:

Ledo is without question one of the biggest question marks in this year's draft. On one hand he could be the same player who was ranked ahead of top prospects like [Anthony Bennett](#) , [Marcus Smart](#) , and [Glenn Robinson III](#) just last year (according to Rivals.com); or he could be an unproven high school phenom who fails to make the transition to the NBA after missing out on the experience of playing in the NCAA.

[Ricky Ledo](#) is without question a very talented young prospect who was one of the best scorers out of the entire class of 2012. In addition to his ability to get to the hoop and score from nearly anywhere on the court, he has incredible handles, a knack for creating off the dribble, and the skills of a combo guard with the ability to create for teammates with very good court vision and passing.

So why isn't he a lottery pick?

Well, there are a couple major red flags.

In addition to missing his only NCAA season due to academic ineligibility, and the lack of game tape with which to evaluate him, there are some legit character concerns as well.

He has built the reputation of being a locker room cancer in the past; so much so that one anonymous coach of his was reportedly [quoted](#) as saying that Ledo was, " the single worst human being I'd ever been associated with on a basketball court" and a "program killer."

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However, other coaches of his have had much better things to say about Ledo, and by all accounts he has had very impressive interviews and workouts with the teams he has visited, including Phoenix.

Ledo has eased many of the on-court concerns with his showing at the combine as well as with teams workouts. His biggest obstacle will be overcoming those character concerns. Still, most analysts claim that Ledo's stock is rising fast, so once again, Phoenix will likely need a little luck if they plan on drafting him.

So is Ledo really worth the risk? Absolutely. If Ledo is still available at #30 when the Suns pick, they shouldn't hesitate to make him their selection. He has top prospect potential and ability, and in my opinion, would be an absolute steal at the end of the first round.