



**UCExposure Prospect Evaluation | Cooper Smith**  
**Height/Position | 6'4 Playmaker**  
**Classification/School | 2024 Rockwall Heath**

**Date: September 4th, 2023**

**Lead Evaluator:** Coach V (21 Year College Recruiting Coordinator at the D1, D2, D3 & NAIA Levels)

**Secondary Evaluator:** NCAA D2 (Entering his 7th Season with D3 and D2 Experience as a Coordinator)  
The Prospect Evaluation is the first step in creating a Recruiting Game Plan for each individual Client

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**Projected Level | NCAA D3+**

**Potential Level | NAIA / NCAA D2 (Mid-March + Late D2 Steal)**

**UC Prospect Evaluation:** Active Defender on and off the ball who gets his hands on a lot of balls leading to steals/deflections, and tough matchup out of the high post area with his ability to drive it and shoot it from the perimeter. Skilled Passer out of the High Post who is very efficient on the offensive end, and plays to his strengths. The most college ready trait Coop showcases on game films is his activity on the Boards, pursues balls, gets the 50/50 balls in the paint, and effort plays on film always stand out to College Coaches. Needs the right FIT, but would be very good in a solid Man to Man Half Court System where they teach pack line principles and switch screens. Cooper excels as a help defender, rotates well, puts himself in the right position, and takes charges. Those are game changers and game winners. Great example of help D that stands out is 1:49 1st quarter Heath vs Rowlett. On

the ball he is effective when guarding forwards, but improve and prove he can keep a 2 or 3 in front of him to move onto scholarship level boards. Although he took home Offensive MVP as a Junior, he needs to attack more on Offense as a Senior. Little too unselfish at times, makes the easy play when he has multiple opportunities to make a play. Always catch looking to ATTACK first, prior to deferring and passing up open driving lanes or wide open shots. Check opportunities to attack on the catch to be more of a threat to score or draw 2nd line defenders like 0:25 1st quarter Heath vs Rowlett. Offensively, your biggest college ready strength that translates to college is your ability to shoot it off the catch at your size. (Continue to develop this and highlight catch and shoot 3s on your Highlight Video) Although, he can put the ball on the floor, he looks uncomfortable when pressured handling the ball. Does fine in straight line drive situations, but at your size you must be able to handle it like a  $\frac{2}{3}$  at the College Level. Keep working on this behind closed doors, as your recruitment will pick up if you can make more plays off the bounce that lead to baskets for you or a teammate Ex: 5:16 2nd Quarter Heath vs. Plano West = This is the potential for impact that Cooper Smith has on a game outside of just shooting and scoring Another Ex 3:18 3rd quarter Vs. Plano West = Needs to make more plays like this his Sr Season to show that he can handle pressure and is confident in his ability to put the ball on the floor and facilitate for others. Finally, continue to make the weight room important throughout so you can finish plays in traffic. No evidence on Game Films that you can finish through contact, and at your size that should be a strength not a weakness.

### **Initial Games to Upload to the Player Card:**

**Game #1** A great game to initially upload would be one where you score it at all 3 levels, and make the most plays from the perimeter or High Post Area. A 22 Point Game where you score 15 of them from catch and shoot situations, high post drives, or PnR Plays. Any high scoring game where most of your points come from plays on the perimeter.

**Game #2:** The other Game should highlight your ability to Rebound and your Help Defense! Think about Games where you score 15-18 points and grab 8+ Rebounds (Ones where you

Pursue and out battle more athletic forwards) and make 4-6 help defensive plays that are Game Winners (Steals, Charges, Rotate and Recover, etc.)

**Recruiting Game Plans** are tailored to each individual and designed to elevate performance, provide prospects insight on what stands out good and bad on game film, build your initial college lists, and showcase college ready games to the targeted levels using the Evaluation as our Guide to 'Gaining Interest' in the Fall. At Mid-Season Break we assess player progress, on court performance, and academic standing so we can begin matching our clients with the right FIT!

**College Ready Strengths to Showcase** | Skilled Passer, Scholarship Level Rebounder, Shooting off the Catch, and off ball Defense.

**Areas Exposed that must Improve** | Handling Pressure, On Ball Defense vs Guards, and Finishing in Traffic/Through Contact

### **Cooper Smith's Focus Points in the Fall**

-Continue to work on and develop your Perimeter skills outside of 3 dribble situations. You can play the 4 for your HS team, but college coaches will know if you could be a true 3 in College by how you handle it going downhill or when attacking the paint.

-Shooting off the Catch is your Scholarship Level Strength, so keep getting up reps shooting Game Shots from Game Spots at Game Speed in your weekly workouts. That is something I want to promote on your behalf and select Game Films where you knock down 7+ shots off the Catch (Mid-Range or 3's)

-Dig in and watch early game films focusing strictly on your On Ball Defense. Make it a point by the Spring that you can keep up a 2 or 3 in front of you when guarding on the perimeter.

### **Cooper's Highlight Video for Social Media Athlete Marketing**

**Length:** 1:30-2:00 Max | 20-25 Clips that will stand out to College Coaches

**College Ready Strengths to Highlight:** 15 Catch and Shoot 3s or Mid-Range Shots. Just select clips of you hitting shots coming off screens or cuts. Mix in 5 Plays of you creating and passing out of the HP Area. This highlights your scholarship level strength while showing you're a tough matchup on the Perimeter.

**Position Specific Winning Plays to Include:** 5 of your toughest offensive Rebounds where you finish or get fouled & 5 off ball steals that lead to transition baskets for your team. After every 4th Offensive Clip Mix in one board and one steal then 4 Offensive Clips etc. etc. until you have a 2:00 Minute Video Created.

### **Spring Semester | Targeting the Right FIT**

- Based on professional insight from an experienced recruiting coordinator or current college coach, our formula is proven when it comes to matching players with a FIT
  - **Offensive fit** | offensive system where he can play on the outside wings, or the high post extended to put himself in the best position to be successful with his skill set
  - **Defensive fit** | Fit best in half court man principles defense as well as zone press principles as he plays extremely well off ball defense and knows how to rotate on the defensive end extremely well.

UC Recruiting Game Plans provide ongoing insight through the lens of college coaches to accurately guide 'Top Prospects' on game films to upload, areas they must improve, and what strengths to showcase on their UC Recruits Player Cards as we continue to track progress. ***Our Formula is Proven and has led to 200+ Clients since 2020 Accepting Offers at the highest Potential Levels.***

### **Cooper Smith's Recruiting Game Plan**

**First Semester (Follow Your Game Plan): #1** Stat Goal for the Fall (8+ RPG 4 being on Offense) Lead Team in Charges taking. **#2** Build a 4 day a week routine focusing on plays off the bounce, ball-handling, getting to the paint, just get 55 minutes in that simulate making plays in areas Coach has you in the Offense. Don't do drills, simulate game situations when you put in work and that translates to progress. **#3** Watch Full Games and count straight line drives (This laser focusing all your effort on being a much better on ball defender) You stand out on Help D now make it a point not to be a liability when guarding the ball. You have the length and very deceptive athlete with a quick first step, so use that quick first step to keep 2's and 3's in front of you.