

Armstrong Jr.		Dorance		Kansas		DL	D 7.5
LAST NAME		FIRST NAME		COLLEGE		POSITION	FINAL GRADE
6035 C	257 C	4.87 C	10 C	34 3/4 C	83 C		
HEIGHT	WEIGHT	40 TIME	HAND SIZE	ARM	WINGSPAN		

<b>ATHLETIC ABILITY</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>8.0</b>
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Armstrong is a superb athlete and talented rusher. He has the coveted initial burst and explosiveness off the LOS to get to the passer consistently, set the edge against the run, and finish/close in on the play. His rare QAB ability and flexibility, combined with his COD skills, help him penetrate the backfield, putting him in a position to get sacks, TFLs, and turnovers. However, Armstrong occasionally struggles with his overall long speed and can be slower tracking plays in the open field. Although he is lighter than a traditional 4-3 DE, Armstrong has a solid and wide frame to hold his own in the trenches.

<b>PASS RUSH - INITIAL QUICKNESS / HAND-USE / PASS RUSH MOVES</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>7.5</b>
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Armstrong has a lightning-fast first step and is typically the first or second player off the LOS. Hence, he is always a threat to beat tackles outside and take the edge with a speed rush. Not only can he win with his initial quickness, but he has physical/forceful/violent/swift/active hands that help him beat guys with speed rip and chop moves. In addition, Armstrong uses his wide frame and fierce hands, along with his ability to drop his pads, to create leverage and attack using a standard bull rush or push-pull-swim technique. He also has a few spin moves he will use to switch things up and keep guys guessing.

<b>AGAINST THE RUN - BOTH AT HIM AND IN PURSUIT</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>7.0</b>
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Armstrong's length and solid frame help him clog up runs in his direction. His physical hands help him latch off/shed blockers while he uses his long arms to wrap up the runner or to punch the ball out. On runs away from him, he has the agility/speed to get down the LOS while working in traffic to cut off and pounce on ball carriers. The only concern is Armstrong sometimes will get jolted around when anchoring due to double teams or heavier offensive lineman because of his lighter body weight.

<b>INSTINCTS / AWARENESS</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>7.5</b>
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He has grown tremendously in this area since entering the NFL in 2018. He has superb instincts in reacting and getting to the ball. He has the awareness to look past blockers and knows how to read the play and the quarterback's eyes. Thus, leading to an abundance of batted-down balls and sometimes a few interceptions. Armstrong has become a much smarter player over the years.

<b>COMPETITIVENESS / TOUGHNESS / PLAYING STRENGTH</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>8.0</b>
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His competitiveness and toughness are off the charts. He plays with the same high motor and aggressiveness all game long. He never gives up on a play and is always the last player to stop. His effort and drive will get him far. Armstrong is a rare breed that gives 100% or more each time he is on the field. Needless to say, Armstrong plays with more physicalness and strength than someone typically his weight and can handle himself amongst the biggest lineman.

<b>LEADERSHIP / INTANGIBLES / CHARACTER / FOOTBALL INTELLIGENCE</b>	<b>SECTION GRADE:</b>	<b>8.0</b>
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Armstrong is a great role model and leader for younger and even older players. He does all the right things on the field and gives his best no matter what. His football intelligence shows just by watching how he attacks the game, and his teammates can learn something from watching him. One thing for sure is he has had to work hard and fight for a right to earn a spot on the team each year.

GDE	CATEGORY	COMMENTS / DESCRIPTION	GAMES VIEWED	COMBINE RESULTS
7.5	READ & REACT	He knows how to read the play and the quarterback's eyes and has natural instincts.	Rams (10/9/2022)	VERT JUMP - 30
8.0	INITIAL QUICKS	He has a lightning-fast first step and explodes off the LOS to set the edge and get in the backfield.	Titans (12/29/2022)	BROAD JUMP - 9'8"
7.0	PLAY STRENGTH	For a player of his weight, he plays stronger and more physical than most and can typically handle the heavier o-lineman.		20 SHUTTLE - 4.23
7.5	USE OF HANDS	He has physical/forceful/violent/swift/active hands that he uses with different moves to win at the line.		60 SHUTTLE - 11.82
7.5	SHED BLOCKER	He combines his instincts with his strong hands to detach from blocks at the right time to disrupt plays.		3 CONE - 7.12
7.0	RUN AT HIM	Armstrong's massive wingspan and solid frame help him clog up runs in his direction.		BENCH PRESS - 20 (225 lb)
7.0	PURSUIT/RANGE	His initial speed helps him with short pursuits, but he is slow at pursuing players further away from him.		
7.5	TACKLING	He maintains a low pad level and delivers forceful blows while using his long arms to wrap up guys.		
7.5	CLOSING BURST	Armstrong knows how to turn it on when closing in to make a hit and has the explosion to leap/pounce on players.	SIZE - 8	INITIAL QUICKS - 8
7.5	INSTINCTS/MENTAL	Over the years, Armstrong has grown to be more instinctive and make intelligent plays.	PLAY STRENGTH - 7	COMPETES - 8.5
8.0	ERRORS	Armstrong is well-disciplined and rarely makes any mistakes or gets called for penalties.	PLAYING SPEED - 7.5	INSTINCTS - 7.5

**STRONG POINTS**

He has an excellent burst/explosion, QAB, and COD right out of the jump, which lets him seal the edge and make plays in the backfield using speed rushes. He is agile and flexible in the hips allowing him to get low and win using leverage. His hands are quick and violent, plus he has a solid muscular frame to win with power. He has a humungous 83-inch wingspan and long arms to stop the run and has enough short area speed/agility to cut off runs away from him or rip the ball loose. Armstrong also has developed natural instincts and awareness to read the quarterback and make the play. He plays with the same high-effort level all game long and is the first off the line and the last to stop playing.

**WEAKNESSES**

He can struggle with man coverage as a 3-4 OLB because he lacks the overall long speed needed to cover greater distances. Out in open space, he periodically over-extends when he runs, causing him to lose control. He also can have problems with his contact balance when going up against bigger o-lines because of his weight. Hence, he might not always stay on his feet and sometimes could end up on the ground more than preferred. Armstrong will sometimes lean more on his physical ability to rush rather than implementing his moves and focusing on technique. Thus, occasionally making it easier on the o-line to predict what he is about to do. His aggression might sometimes lead him too far in the backfield, leaving his gap open for the runner to go right through. Therefore, for these reasons, he might not be an every-down player depending on the scheme, but he is a fantastic rotational piece for any defense.

**SUMMARY / BOTTOM LINE**

Armstrong is an elite pass rusher who thrives as a traditional 1-gap 4-3 DE and gives opposing teams nightmares on critical passing downs. He is also a solid starter as a 3-4 OLB because he can drop in coverage if needed or rush. He can even fill in as a 2-gapper for a couple of plays due to his strength. This positional flexibility, combined with his gifted athletic traits, makes him a potential legitimate pro bowl caliber player who will only keep improving. He is a perfect fit for Dan Quinn's base 4-3 defense and is a guy that Quinn can use all over when he switches it up periodically to a 3-4.