Reece Beekman vs Memphis 12/19/2023 - Film

Offensively, Beekman shot the ball well from the field and was one of only a few players on Virginia that was close to productive on that end. He got downhill and created for himself and others and shot the ball well from beyond the arc. For a large portion of the game though, he was being face-guarded full court, double-teamed, denied around the perimeter, and pressured everywhere he caught the ball. Beekman ended the match with five turnovers, but for the most part, he showed composure dealing with the suffocating Memphis defense and maintained production offensively with the attention he received. A play that stood out to me was at the 12:22 mark when he got a big switched onto him at the top of the key, broke him down, created separation with a crossover stepback, and drained the three. Another play that stood out to me in the first half was when Beekman got downhill in transition, did an in-and-out crossover dribble, and quickly dished it off to his cutting big leading to an and-one.

Defensively, Beekman did a solid job pressuring the ball handler and making shots difficult whether it was on jumpers or at the rim. He fought through screens and played the gaps well too. For example, at the 15:33 mark, Beekman was in the gap and was split, but instead of giving up on the play, he swiped at the ball from behind which led to a steal that his teammate recovered. On another play, he stopped dribble penetration in the gap, got back to his man and slid his feet and stopped another dribble drive, and contested the shot attempt well which ended in a miss. His off-ball defense has gotten better, but he can still improve on it because he lost his man on a backdoor.

Beekman found success primarily in the half-court and although he was being face-guarded and pressured wherever he caught the ball, he still was able to be productive offensively. His intensity on defense and ball pressure made it difficult for his matchups to be comfortable and get easy shots. One area of improvement for Beekman still is his jump shot and the ability to consistently hit them from the three.