

## **Jabari Smith Jr. (November 24, 2021, vs Connecticut Huskies)**

In this game against the Connecticut Huskies Jabari Smith Jr. struggled in the first half on the offensive end. He was taking tough contested shots. He was able to get to the rim on straight line drives but couldn't finish around the rim. He was lacking poise and body control when attacking the rim in the first half. Smith was also taking tough turnaround jumpers in the post. He was not able to get deep post positioning for a high percentage shot. When he was attempting turnaround jumpers, he was forced into a tough off balance shot away from the basket.

In the second half on the offensive end, he played more under control and wasn't forcing shots. He took more high-quality open shots. When Smith Jr. attacked the rim in the second half, he had more body control and played with more poise making him a better finisher at the rim on straight line drives. Even though Smith struggled in the first half on the offensive end he was still aggressive and looked to attack the rim in the second half. Smith aggressiveness resulted in a lot of opportunities at the free throw line, and he was able to convert all his free throws.

During the game Smith Jr. was playing defense at a high level. He didn't let his offensive struggles and frustration in the game take away his defensive efforts. He showed versatility and was able to guard multiple positions. He was able to guard the interior and the perimeter. When opponents were driving to the rim, he was able to jump vertically and use his length to contest or alter the shot. Smith was also able to contest and force his defensive assignment into a tough contested mid-range or three-point shot. With 6:46 and 6:24 minutes left in the first half on consecutive possessions he was able to close out on Tyrese Martin and Tyler Polley three-point shots and force them into a tough contested shot without fouling on the closeout. He was also a good help defender and was able to come with key timely switches.