

D'Marcus Simonds (Ga State) 6'4 180 lbs PG/SG (Live 11-26-17 vs Tulane)

The relentlessness at which he attacks the basket was impressive to watch and a daunting task for the defense/defenders to deal with. He didn't seem to be very active off the ball, appeared to watch and wait for it to get swung to him and if that didn't happen quick enough he would go rogue and get the ball from whoever had it at the top. He wants the ball in his hand all of the time, he seemed to be in the face of the rebounders demanding the outlet so he could put pressure on the defense. You have to find him in transition or he will run it up your back! He gives a sly smile after he finishes a left-hand layup through traffic for GSU second basket of the game cuts Tulane's lead 5-4. His persistence to put pressure on the defense got him in trouble a few times, he led the team with three TO's for the game. Makes a 3PT shot from the left wing (Catch and shoot) to put GSU up 25-23 with about 50 seconds to go in the first half, his second made FG of the game. He never really got into a groove offensively this game but again he was consistent with his attack on the basket.

D'Marcus is about 6'4 with shoes on I believe, he has a solid build not physically imposing but not slight of frame either. Not very athletic but does possess a good first step, which I believe his biggest asset. He has this herky-jerky style with the ball in his hands, which gets defenders off balance and allows him to get in the lane. In transition, he is all down hill, fast with the ball in his hands and likes to change directions at the last possible moment to throw the defense off. His jump shot form is solid but does not equate to makes. He is only shooting 20% from the 3PT line for the season (5-25) he shot 35% last season while only taking 45, safe to say he is making it a point to get them up this year.

Offensively, his repertoire is limited to attacking the basket on either side and finishing with either hand. He will throw a pull-up jumper in there from time to time to keep the defense honest, if he starts making that pull-up with any accuracy, he could be a real problem. I would like to see him in the PnR more; I believe it would give him more opportunities in the half court to go downhill and attack slower defenders when switches occur. Getting into the PnR would also allow him the chance to get some drive and kick assist opportunities, he has the perfect game to suck the defense in and kick out for wide-open 3PT shots. He still needs to work on his decision-making; he puts himself in bad spot attacking to score all the time. He needs to continue to strengthen his ball handling, can be a little loose with the ball.

Defensively, he is decent, GSU plays a zone primarily but he does have the physical attributes (size/strength/foot speed) to be a good defender. He showed the ability to stay in front of people as they tried to attack the zone. I think it is more of an effort thing for him, when he is engaged on the defensive end he can guard on the ball and cover a lot of ground to help his teammate out. He does gamble for steals a little more than I like but he is averaging 1.8 steals a game right now.

He is definitely not a finished product yet but I think that if he continues to get better on both ends, improve his jump shot and wants to guard people by the time he graduates he will be a solid prospect with tons of game experience being the focal point of a team. He could come into the league as a 13-15 or 2way player with the ability to work his way into the rotation.