

NetScouts Basketball - Player Report

DATE: 1-5-18, 1-15-18

GAME: Bucknell (83) @ Army (66), Bucknell (63) @ Colgate (51)

SCOUT: Mike Duffy

NAME: Zach Thomas #23 HT: 6-7 WT: 228
POS: F CLASS: Senior SCHOOL: Bucknell

Athleticism/Body:

Good size, big body, wide shoulders, thick frame. Has the weight and strength to bang inside with larger 4's. Questionable athleticism everywhere else. Slow footed, lack of explosiveness. Below average vertical, limited ability to get off the ground on drives.

Shooting:

Very good shooter. Smooth shooting stroke, good alignment, high consistent follow through, quick release. Stays close to the ground on 3 point shot. Best off the catch and shoot/pick and pop. Majority of his jump shots come from beyond the arc, doesn't take many mid ranges. Shooting 43.4% on 4.7 3PA per game. Good looking form from the free throw line as well, but would like to see a little better efficiency. Shooting 75.9% on 9.3 FTA per game.

Position Offense:

Operates mostly at the 4. In addition to his ability to space the floor with his shooting, Thomas can play with his back to the basket. Likes to get the ball in both the mid post and low post. Patient with the ball, and above average court vision when making his move. Keeps head up and likes to find the open man when defense collapses, good passer for big. Creative finisher around the basket, but his lack of athleticism limits his ability to convert some shots at the rim. Very good offensive rebounder of own misses, lots of his points come off of put backs. Has a decent handle, able to initiate the offense at times. Likes to pump fake and attack close outs, drives to his left frequently. Again, lack of athleticism lowers his FG% at the rim a bit. However, Thomas has an incredible knack for getting to the foul line. He's deceptive with the ball and uses his size well to draw contact. Leads the entire NCAA in total free throws attempted.

Defense/Rebounding:

Defense is the weakest area of Thomas' game. Able to hold his own somewhat when guarding on ball, but occasionally struggles moving laterally. Very below average off ball. Often upright, Thomas needs to work on improving his defensive stance and get lower to the ground, helping him to change angles more quickly. Thomas shows poor footwork and poor awareness off ball, often taking bad angles and allowing his man to float away from him. Often looks tentative and noncommittal on D. Poor defensive rotations, often causing miscommunication and freeing up open shooters. Although Thomas manages to corral a high number of rebounds, he displayed poor effort on defensive box outs, allowing his man to get inside position easily. Unsure if his poor defense is due to a lack of athleticism, awareness, or effort. Regardless, Thomas needs to greatly improve as a defender, especially off ball, to play at a high level professionally.

Miscellaneous:

Overall, Thomas is a versatile offensive threat who can score at different levels. He's a great three point shooter who can also play inside and get to the line at will. Smart offensive player who would play well in many different systems. However, he needs to address his defensive inefficiencies to be successful at next level.

Rank:

5 - Second level Europe, Asia, Puerto Rico/South America
