



Yuri Covington

Class of 2020 / CG

National Christian Academy

DMV Stags

Height: listed at 6'1"

Weight: ~175 lbs.

Left-Handed

Recently Committed to William & Mary

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Summary

- Aggressive, score-first combo guard with an upward trajectory overall. A good 3-point shooter with a quick trigger and a relentless pursuit for buckets. Potentially explosive scorer.
- Quick, tight handle with a nice burst to get his head and shoulders by the defender. Good speed with the ball and a strong finisher in the open court.
- Gives consistent effort and energy on both ends. Plays with a lot of toughness. A capable passer who shows flashes, but struggles with accuracy and decision making.
- Skilled penetrator. Still developing his decision making and game in the paint and around the basket. Attacks the rim with great aggression. Strong motor.
- Transferred from Clarksburg High School in Montgomery County to National Christian, where he competed at a high level against a national schedule.

Statistical sampling from the 2019-2020 high school season. Note the national competition.

Opponent	Points	Asts	Rebs	Stls	TOs	FGM	FGA	3PM	3PA	FTM	FTA	FG%	3P%	FT%
Westtown (PA)	21	1	7	0	4	9	22	3	11	0	2	32.9%	36.6%	57.1%
Gill St. Bernard's (NJ)	14	0	4	0	4	4	12	3	6	3	5			
Legacy Charter (PA)	19	1	4	0	3	7	13	5	6	0	0			
Montverde (FL)	9	3	2	1	7	3	13	2	6	1	2			
Hillcrest Prep (AZ)	8	1	4	0	1	2	13	2	8	2	3			
Rock Creek Christian	6	0	3	0	2	2	9	0	4	2	2			
Total	77	6	24	1	21	27	82	15	41	8	14			
Average	12.8	1.0	4.0	0.2	3.5	4.5	13.7	2.5	6.8	1.3	2.3			



Physical/Athleticism

- Good overall athlete
- Athletic build
- Fast muscle twitch fibers
- Sufficient strength
- ~6'3" wingspan
- Blow-by acceleration and has a nice burst of speed
 - Can get from the perimeter to the basket in very quickly
- Undersized for a combo guard
- Terrific endurance
- Sharp, forceful movements
- Very good hand-eye coordination
- Solid body control

Offensive Qualities

- Score-first guard with a quick trigger
- Potentially explosive scorer who is capable of putting up 30+ points
- Very aggressive; seldomly falls out of attack mode
- Attacks the rim with intensity; a very capable penetrator
 - Gets into the lane with frequent success
 - Prefers to go left, but may to force it at times
 - Capable of going and finishing right, but often comes back to the left
 - Has a tendency to get himself in trouble when driving to the basket without a plan
 - Runs into the bigs after leaving his feet and must force a low-quality shot
 - Will benefit from developing a consistent floater/runner
- A capable finisher in the open court
- Very comfortable operating in transition
 - Focuses predominantly on the basket and not as much on the whole floor
- Able to finish in traffic and with some contact depending on the size of the defender
 - Should continue to improve his understanding on how to use his body to draw the foul, which will enhance his efficiency as a scorer
- While not showing much playmaking ability in terms of creating for his teammates, he is certainly capable and will benefit from playing with more shooters and better finishers
- Can struggle to create space for quality shots against longer athletic defenders
 - Will benefit from developing a step back to couple with his ability to get his head and shoulders past the defender
- Does not command the offense, but can learn to improve greatly in this area
 - Will benefit from learning to be more effective at different paces
 - Prefers to play fast



- Functions more in a one-on-one setting; does not utilize the pick & roll as often
 - Adding this to his game will only give him another weapon to an already stockpiling offensive arsenal
- Improving overall offensive skillset; his best ball is ahead of him

Shooting

- Although his percentages don't support it, he is a good shooter who will continue to improve, as should his shot selection
 - **Important to note** – undoubtedly would shoot a better overall percentage with an improved shot selection
- Displays excellent catch and shoot abilities when he has time and can set his feet
- Shoots it well from 3 (see points above for more context)
 - 36.6% on almost 7 attempts per game in the 6 games stats were taken
- Has very good range; will shoot it from *deep* with confidence
- Maintains solid concentration on the target
- Form/mechanics: left-handed shooter
 - Has a nice, compact shot *without* a whole lot of movement; has it “grooved”
 - Elbow is less than 90-degrees, but keeps it well tucked in
 - Slightly unsquared to the basket
 - Right shoulder hanging out just a bit
 - Both feet marginally pointed to the right
 - Shoots a set shot when he has the time, especially from 3, but will shoot a jumper when necessary
 - Release is from the chin/mouth level; motion begins more from his chest
 - Nice follow through
- Shot selection – overall, not the best. However, the selection should improve within a more structured setting
 - Vast majority of his shots come from behind the arc or around the basket
 - Half of his shot attempts (41 out of 82) were from 3 in the 6 games examined
 - Will shoot from all around the arc
 - Mixes in an occasional 15-foot pull up
 - Likes to stop and pop from 3 in semi-transition situations, keeping the D off balance
 - Shoots this shot pretty comfortably but, this being one of the more difficult shots in basketball, he will need to work on consistency
 - Takes some ill-advised 3s
 - Tends to force shots at the basket



Dribbling

- Has a strong, tight handle; quick with the ball
- Dominant left-handed ballhandler
- Quick first step and effective moves that allow him get by his defender on the perimeter
 - Good change of pace and a nice studder step
- Shows the ability to pat it in the middle of traffic with quick low dribbles using his fingertips to avoid reaching hands
 - Also pats it well in the backcourt against pressure
- Good speed with the ball; maintains good control at top speed
- Occasionally gets dribble happy in the half court setting
- Stays low with the ball
- Handles man-to-man full court pressure well
- Good ballhandler in the open court who, at times, makes defenders look like dribbling cones

Passing

- Shows potential as a passer through:
 - Deceptive look-offs and threads through traffic
 - Finding shooters in cross-court positions
 - Occasional drive and kicks
- Passes predominantly with his strong hand
- Can struggle against trapping pressure
- Puts good zip on the pass
- A bit inaccurate with placement and delivery off the dribble
- Needs to work on this aspect of his game as a guard who has the ball in his hands in the half court and spearheads the transition game

Defense

- Team plays more zone than man
- Plays harder on the defensive end when guarding man-to-man
 - Like most, tends to relax a bit when playing zone
- Solid, energetic man-to-man defender
 - Plays up in your face, nearly body on body, depending on his man's abilities
 - Defends with his feet, often without fouling
 - Keeps his man in front
- Not always willing to step in with his body and take a charge around the basket
- Decent rebounding guard



Basketball IQ

- Uses sharp, tight angles off the dribble
- Has natural scoring instincts
- Subpar court awareness
 - Tends to unsuccessfully attempt to dribble through the defense
 - Does not always see the entire court
 - Puts himself in difficult positions against trapping pressure
 - But *does* feel his defender well with the ball in his hands
- Still maturing in his decision-making
- Shows a lot of promise with moving without the ball, but needs to be in an offense that supports such movement

Disposition/Presence

- Plays with confidence
- Really like his toughness
- His demeanor says, "I'm going to keep coming"
 - Persistently aggressive
- Good energy; plays hard on both ends
- Encourages teammates
- Communicates on both ends of the court
- Has a competitive edge to his game; a go-getter