



JBBL Top4 2011: Player review

May 24th, 2011

This post talks about: Gavin Schilling

One week ago, the German U16 Championship came to its highlight of the season with the Top4 that was played in Ludwigsburg. We take a look at the main prospects of the event but limiting our analysis as most of these players have still a long way to go physically. Compared to South-European competitions in this age category, most of the German players look rather young from a physical point of view which makes the overall potential rather difficult to judge as it is not clear how much growth is left. Nevertheless, let's check who impressed the most during the two days in Southern Germany.

Gavin Schilling – 2m04 – C/PF – 1995 – ALBA Urspring

Gavin Schilling was clearly the most impressive prospect of the JBBL weekend. The Urspring big guy had no counterpart in terms of size and explosiveness and easily dominated the paint in the two games. His team used him mainly in the low post. When he received the ball, he went either for the jump hook or did several times some kind of baseline move to go around his defender with quite quick feet. He has good hands to finish around the basket on finger rolls or lay-backs and showed some good positioning which was though mainly the result of his physical power. In the Final when he had to play against a more physical defender, he struggled sometimes to get open or find the right spot and got called for several offensive fouls.

Schilling can also knock down some shots from around the key but his mechanics are rather slow in the execution. He struggled badly from the free-throw line in the semi-finals as his shot is not really regular. When facing the basket, he sometimes attacks the rim with the dribble but mainly uses his right hand, even if the defense opens him the left side. While his upper body is very well developed, he might have some progress possible in his legs. His jumping ability is excellent and he has great explosiveness around the rim to finish plays with explosive dunks rarely seen in this age category in Germany. Schilling needs to develop though more of an outside game in the next years as he does not look to grow a lot anymore. With his size, or even a few additional centimeters, he will not be able to play the Center position on the professional level and should improve his ball handling and penetration skills in order to move to the PF in the next years. Being NCAA eligible in 2013, he has two more years to do so in Urspring and he is already being recruited high-major programs right now.