HOOPS Illustrated

ISSUE 1 · PRESEASON 2026

2023, 2024 CHAMP: @DUFFTOWN34

2025 DEFENDING CHAMP: @FLYHIGHTOTHESKY

2X CHAMP

THE VETERAN'S PARK POWERHOUSE

DUFFTOWN'S DYNASTY UNVEILED



32 TEAMS. 32 STARS.

INSIDE:
ALL 32 ROSTERS & EVERY STAR CORE

The Masthead — Hoops Illustrated

Who makes this magazine, and how to reach it.

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Inside Issue 1

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THE EDITOR'S LETTER

A Note Before Tip-Off

The editor's letter — what this issue is, and why it is built the way it is.

Welcome to Hoops Illustrated. This magazine belongs to a 32-team dynasty league with three seasons, two champions and one unshakeable habit: it treats its own future — draft picks, teenagers on other continents, next year's freshmen — as seriously as its present. Issue 1 is the preseason edition, and its theme, once you read it whole, is that double life: the banner race that starts on October 20, and the futures market that never closes.

So the issue opens with the league itself: the champion's burden, the two October blockbusters taken apart bolt by bolt, the pick economy explained as the real money it is, and the Almanac pages — final standings and the biggest trade of every year, recovered from the league's own history so the record stands in print. Around that spine, every level of the game gets its desk: the NBA's opening week, the college winter after Michigan, the prep schools and the European academies the big boards price years early, and — new this issue — a women's game desk and a comics page, because a basketball magazine should cover basketball and enjoy doing it.

One house rule, printed where readers can hold us to it: this magazine does not invent. Scores, standings, trades and prices come from the record — the league's own ledgers, the boards, the desks' cited sources — and where a number could not be verified, the page says so or goes without. The boards, for the record, have been consolidated: every class on a single dense spread each, because a rankings page you have to hunt through is a rankings page nobody reads.

The balls go up on Tuesday. See you at tip-off.

— The Editor

FACT FILE

- Issue 1 · Preseason 2026 · The Tip-Off Edition
- Free to read: the full issue is published openly on the league's site — no charge, no subscription

THE COVER STORY

The Champion's Burden

Team FlyHightothesky enter 2026-27 as the defending champions of the Fantasy Basketball Invitational — and everybody else has spent the preseason building a roster to end the run.

Team FlyHightothesky — Victor Wembanyama · Jayson Tatum · Trey Murphy III · Jamal Murray · Keyonte George

Wembanyama headlines the repeat bid as the club's best player, with Tatum supplying the superstar ceiling beside him; Murray, Murphy and George add efficient creation, wing scoring and another young guard track.

Tatum is fully healthy more than 16 months after Achilles surgery and returns as Boston’s uncontested No. 1 option after playing only 16 games. Wembanyama enters as the reigning unanimous DPOY and MVP favorite after 25.0 points, 11.5 rebounds and 3.1 blocks; Murray’s 25.4 points and 7.1 assists plus Murphy’s scalable wing production make this four-player spine worthy of the repeat bid.

Defending champion FlyHightothesky starts first, but Veteran’s Park Legends, LAL4LIFE, bfreck87 and Dufftown34 all carry a title-level engine. Wembanyama and Tatum headline the repeat bid; Cunningham and Amen Thompson bring the sharpest ascent; Jokić supplies the safest weekly floor; Luka and SGA form the strongest pairing; Dufftown34 answers with six proven veterans.

Dufftown34 owned the first two championships in 2023 and 2024 before FlyHightothesky took the 2025 crown. Their power-rankings gap is only four places, and both are built around stars expected to matter immediately. Every matchup now carries a larger question: does the original standard reclaim the league, or does the defending champion start an era of its own?

FACT FILE

- Defending champion (site ledger): FlyHightothesky
- 2025 postseason champion (fbi-league.json): FlyHightothesky
- 2025 Finals: FlyHightothesky def. OnAirSince93 — 473.50–357.00
- All-time ledger: rank #2 · record 84-8

The Wire Room: Waivers, Churn and the Ledger

The Sleeper transactions ledger, read like a beat — the moves between the blockbusters.

The ledger: 256 moves and counting

The Sleeper transactions wire behind this site has recorded 256 moves: 107 waiver claims, 111 free-agent moves, 35 trades and 3 commissioner actions. In a 32-team dynasty the wire is not the league's undercard — it is where the end of every roster gets rebuilt, one claim at a time.

The busiest clubhouse: “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG

No club works the wire like “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG — 35 recorded moves on the ledger, more than any other clubhouse. Churn is a strategy when the waiver pool is this deep: every add is a free look at a player the other 31 clubs valued at zero.

The great churn: 9 cuts in a day

On 2026-07-15, Team Jauanaholics cut 9 players in a single day's housekeeping: Isaiah Mobley, Jordan Tucker, Kemba Walker, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist, Harry Giles III, Bojan Bogdanović, Andre Iguodala, Filip Petrušev, Ismael Kamagate. A clear-out that deep is how a clubhouse says the old depth chart was a draft — the wire records the edit without comment.

The latest claims

Team MilfHunter1111 added Brandon Clarke (2026-10-26) · Team MilfHunter1111 added Mac McClung (2026-10-26) · Team MilfHunter1111 added Jonas Valančiūnas (2026-10-26) · Team MilfHunter1111 added Lucas Williamson (2026-10-26).

THE COLUMN · BY THE NUMBERS

The League, Counted

A recurring column of pure arithmetic — the Invitational reduced to the numbers that explain it.

8,446 — the picks in the site's NBA draft archive, the raw material of every future class in this issue. 400 — the prospects on the four big boards (2027–2030), each one a small argument about what this league's rosters look like in three years.

256 — moves on the current Sleeper ledger. 34 — trades on the all-time ledger. The completed seasons traded at a steadier rate than the mythology suggests (2023: 10 · 2024: 9 · 2025: 12), and then this preseason arrived with two blockbusters in a fortnight.

473.50 — the highest winning score in a finals game, FlyHightothesky's 2025 banner score. 87-5 — Dufftown34's all-time record, the league's north star. And of the 73 rookies the clubs drafted in 2026, 72 already roster in this league; the class arrived pre-drafted, as everything here does.

FACT FILE

- Draft archive: 8,446 picks (the Draft Central archive)
- Trades by completed season (2023: 10 · 2024: 9 · 2025: 12) — Sleeper league history
- Biggest single vault: 18 owned picks (Jsteez18k, 2027–2030)
- Rookie map: 73 club-drafted rookies · 49 still home · 23 moved · 15 undrafted rookies rostered (rookie-map.json)

The Pick Economy Is Real Money

A recurring column on the league's second currency — the draft picks that price every blockbuster.

Start with par. Every club in this league begins from the same place: three picks a year, 12 across the 2027–2030 drafts the site's dynasty desk tracks. Everything above or below that line was traded for — a contender's tax paid in advance, or a rebuilder's harvest gathered early. The Draft Capital page counts the vaults; this column reads what they mean.

At the top of the market sit two kinds of rich. HeirJordans holds 18 picks (8 firsts) — the deepest vault in the Invitational. Jsteez18k holds 17 (5 firsts) and Sabonis too — one club rich in futures, the other pairing a near-equal vault with the big man at the centre of its core, and the market's top line is a vault race.

At the other end, the league's thinnest vaults — TheAlphaGamer787 (6 picks), Team Dufftown34 (6 picks), Veteran’s Park Legends (6 picks) — belong to clubs that have already spent their futures. That is not a criticism; it is a bet with a deadline. A thin vault is only a mistake if the banner doesn't come, and every one of those clubs made the same calculation FlyHightothesky made before hanging one.

The October blockbuster shows the exchange rate. The Adebayo deal moved 4 first-round picks in a single trade. In a 32-team dynasty, a first-rounder is not a lottery ticket — it is a year of a young player's prime, controlled cheap. When the next star asks out of a rebuilding roster, the clubs on this page's top line will set his price.

FACT FILE

- Deepest vaults (2027–2030): Team HeirJordans — 18 picks, 8 firsts · Team Jsteez18k — 17 picks, 5 firsts · Team Tinso — 17 picks, 4 firsts
- Par for every club: 12 picks (3 rounds × 4 drafts)
- First-round picks in the Adebayo blockbuster: 4
- Source: dynasty-draft.json (Sleeper traded-pick ownership) and the league trade ledger (fbi-league.json).

AROUND THE NBA

The Race Desk: Last Season's Final Numbers

The 2025-26 season, closed and counted — the final leaderboards and the MVP ballot, as recorded on the site's NBA desk. This winter's races start from these lines.

The Pressure Desk: Where the Heat Sits

The site's pressure desk files an entry for every NBA club. Six of the most loaded situations in the league, in the desk's own words.

LeBron James and Jaylen Brown join Tyrese Maxey and Joel Embiid. Maxey may trade some assists for cleaner off-ball chances; Brown’s career-high 28.7 points per game should come down in a crowded creation tree.

Giannis Antetokounmpo moves to Miami after 27.6 points, 9.8 rebounds and 5.4 assists on 62.4% shooting—but only 36 games. Bam Adebayo returns to center and could lose scoring and assist volume.

Jayson Tatum and Tyrese Haliburton both enter camp without restrictions after Achilles recoveries. Tatum is more than 16 months removed; Indiana still plans to monitor Haliburton’s pace.

After a 64–18 season, Oklahoma City moved Lu Dort, Isaiah Joe and Aaron Wiggins in cost-cutting deals. That thinner rotation should concentrate work around Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, Jalen Williams and Chet Holmgren.

LaMelo Ball becomes the primary creator, allowing Anthony Edwards to return to shooting guard. The trade may trim Edwards’ assists but sharpen his efficiency and defensive energy; Ball’s missed-time history still demands a discount.

AJ Dybantsa projects as Washington’s starting small forward and immediate second or third option; Darryn Peterson has a featured Utah role; Cameron Boozer is expected to start in Memphis. Caleb Wilson projects to start in Chicago, Keaton Wagler has a path to the Clippers’ starting backcourt, Mikel Brown Jr. can share Brooklyn creation and Darius Acuff Jr. should claim significant Kings guard minutes.

AROUND THE NBA

NBA News — The Real Headlines

The latest real headlines from the wires the site's news desk runs on, pulled at press time. Every line carries its outlet — follow the link for the full story.

Cason Wallace to have surgery, could miss rest of the 2026-27 NBA season

Yahoo Sports —

Thunder’s Jalen Williams, Cason Wallace likely to miss the rest of the season

Yahoo Sports —

What Jalen Williams and Cason Wallace injuries mean for the Thunder and why a trade isn't so simple

CBS Sports —

Thunder's Jalen Williams has dislocated left ankle, fractured fibula; Cason Wallace has torn labrum

Yahoo Sports —

Cavs vs. Timberwolves game thread

Yahoo Sports —

Cavs watched World Cup film to address recent blown leads

Yahoo Sports —

Headlines fetched from ESPN / CBS Sports / Yahoo Sports RSS at build time (the same feeds behind the site's /api/news).

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

College Basketball News

The college game feeds this league's future — the incoming classes on the big boards start here. Real headlines from the college wires, sources on every line.

Nigel James Named To Bob Cousy Award Preseason Watch List

Yahoo Sports —

Hammer and Rails Readers Reacts Survey: Men’s Basketball Young Player Impact

Yahoo Sports —

Virginia basketball player profile: Thijs De Ridder is ready to carry the load

Yahoo Sports —

John Fanta's college basketball Top 25: Duke No. 1, North Carolina left out

Yahoo Sports —

What to watch for in UNC vs. Charlotte basketball exhibition

Yahoo Sports —

Where 10 former Gonzaga basketball players are playing in 2026-27

Yahoo Sports —

Headlines fetched from ESPN / CBS Sports / Yahoo Sports college basketball RSS at build time.

SITE NEWS

News From the Site Itself

What changed around the Invitational's home — counted, not rumored.

Tip-off is set: October 20, 2026

The Fantasy Basketball Invitational — a 32-team dynasty league, est. 2023 — opens its 2026-27 season when the NBA does, on October 20, 2026. Thirty-two clubs, one crown, and a defending champion (FlyHightothesky) with a target on its back.

The desks around the league keep growing

New and recent corners of the site: the Broadcast Booth, the Columns desk, the Kiosk, the Legends Story Box, FBI Radio, Real Voices, the Deal Book. Every one of them is built from the league's verified record — the desks publish what the data supports, and label the rest honestly.

The shop carries 629 designs

Every club's marks, the jersey waves, the magazine covers and the big-board shirts — the shop gallery is rendered from the same design files counted for this bulletin, at the prices on the site's Stripe book (the magazine does not print prices the book does not carry).

The arcade is up to 14 games

The Family Arcade's basketball room keeps its leaderboards on the site. Newest arrival: VR Free Throws — a WebXR prototype with a non-VR preview mode, live in the Games section.

The record book spans 80 draft classes

The site's NBA Draft History archive carries every class on file, each with Basketball-Reference career lines joined by player ID — and, new this season, round toggles (All / Round 1 / Round 2) on the archive and the 2026 hub.

About this magazine

Hoops Illustrated is generated entirely from the site's verified data files — no score, stat or story in these pages was invented. This is Issue 1; every future issue will be listed in the magazine archive on the site.

Kicks & Fashion: The Money on Their Feet

The sneaker economy, from the site's Deal Book desk — the shoe deals that move the culture, including the summer's biggest switch (Stephen Curry, from Under Armour to Li-Ning) and Caitlin Clark's first Nike signature shoe, whose global debut came on October 1, as reported. Figures are the reported ones the desk cites, printed as reported, not as audited contracts.

LeBron James × Nike (2015)

Shoe deal. Lifetime deal reported at over $1 billion total (business partner Maverick Carter to GQ, 2016) — ESPN / Sports Illustrated reported Dec 2015 lifetime Nike contract, Nike's first lifetime NBA deal; Carter figure via GQ (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Stephen Curry × Under Armour / Curry Brand (2023)

Shoe deal. ESPN reported 2023 long-term extension making Curry president of Curry Brand with restricted stock units; partnership ended by joint announcement Nov 2025, Curry retaining Curry Brand ownership (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Stephen Curry × Li-Ning (2026)

Shoe deal. $400 million over 10 years — ESPN (Shams Charania, June 2, 2026) reported 10-year, $400M Li-Ning deal expanding Curry Brand globally (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Kevin Durant × Nike (2023)

Shoe deal. AP / Boardroom / Bleacher Report reported lifetime Nike contract announced April 28, 2023, joining Jordan and LeBron as Nike lifetime players; no figure disclosed in AP report (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Giannis Antetokounmpo × Nike (2017)

Shoe deal. Forbes reported Nike extended deal in 2017, leading to Zoom Freak signature line launched 2019, described as Nike's largest initial signature launch (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

James Harden × Adidas (2015)

Shoe deal. $200 million over 13 years — ESPN / Arizona Sports reported 2015 Adidas signing: 13-year, $200M deal after leaving Nike; Harden Vol. signature line (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Nikola Jokić × 361 Degrees (2023)

Shoe deal. Sporting Goods Intelligence / ESPN reporting: signed multi-year deal with 361° in Dec 2023 as Global Brand Ambassador, leaving Nike; Joker signature line followed (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

Luka Dončić × Jordan Brand (2023)

Shoe deal. ESPN (Shams Charania) reporting via Lakers Nation: originally signed Dec 2019, extended Aug 2023 through 2029; Jordan Luka signature line (As recorded by the site's Deal Book desk.)

THE CHARTS DESK

The Charts — Wins, Picks & The Board

The verified record, drawn. Every bar and rung below is counted straight from the site's own data files — the sources are printed under each chart.

All-Time Wins — Top 8

#	Club	Record	Wins
1	Dufftown34	87-5	87
2	FlyHightothesky	84-8	84
3	bfreck87	80-12	80
4	TheAlphaGamer787	78-14	78
5	OnAirON	68-23-1	68
6	CooperKuppDaGoat	66-25-1	66
7	EBurkhart	66-26	66
8	89Redrocket	65-27	65

Source: fbi-league.json · allTime ledger (wins = first field of each club's record).

Draft Capital — Top 10 by First-Round Picks

#	Club	Record	Wins
	Team HeirJordans		
	Team TeamSmokes		
	Team Jsteez18k		
	Team Zabatka47		
	Team bA1ler67		
	Dem Thunder Boyz		
	Team budderybiscuts		
	Haliburton and friends		
	Team Tinso		
	Chain Net Ringers		

Source: dynasty-draft.json · owned slots across 2027–2030 (ownerTeam; firsts are owned slots with round = 1).

Power Rankings — Top 10

#	Club	Record	Wins
1	Team FlyHightothesky		
2	Veteran’s Park Legends		
3	PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE		
4	Team Dufftown34		
5	Team bfreck87		
6	TheAlphaGamer787		
7	“A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG		
8	Team budderybiscuts		
9	Team Crevecoeur1		
10	Team MilfHunter1111		

Source: fbi-league.json · teams — order rebuilt Oct 19, 2026: trade-values.json model totals over current Sleeper rosters (all 224 wire moves in); tier tags as listed on the site board.

THE BOARD

Power Rankings — The Top Eight

The board as rebuilt on October 19, 2026 — after every move on the wire. How it is built: each club's current Sleeper roster is valued with the site's own trade-value model and the clubs are ordered by their roster totals; tiers band the board with the all-time ledger as context, and each star core is the roster's top five by model value. Clubs 1 through 8.

#	Club	Star core	Desk note
1	Team FlyHightothesky	Victor Wembanyama · Jayson Tatum · Trey Murphy III · Jamal Murray · Keyonte George	
2	Veteran’s Park Legends	Cade Cunningham · Dylan Harper · Amen Thompson · Donovan Clingan · Cedric Coward	
3	PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE	Cooper Flagg · Cameron Boozer · Alex Sarr · Matas Buzelis · Kel'el Ware	
4	Team Dufftown34	Scottie Barnes · Karl-Anthony Towns · Tyler Herro · James Harden · Kevin Durant	
5	Team bfreck87	Shai Gilgeous-Alexander · Luka Dončić · Onyeka Okongwu · Deandre Ayton · Ryan Rollins	
6	TheAlphaGamer787	Giannis Antetokounmpo · Devin Booker · Ivica Zubac · Fred VanVleet · Jarrett Allen	
7	“A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG	Trae Young · Brandon Miller · Darius Acuff Jr. · OG Anunoby · Derrick White	
8	Team budderybiscuts	Tyrese Maxey · Caleb Wilson · Immanuel Quickley · Anthony Black · Jakob Poeltl	

DRAFT CAPITAL

Who Holds the Future

Owned picks across the 2027–2030 dynasty drafts, counted from Sleeper traded-pick ownership (3 rounds, 100-deep board per the site's dynasty desk). Every club starts from three picks a year — this is who traded their way above (or below) par.

Club	Total picks	Firsts	By year
Team HeirJordans	18	8	2027: 4 · 2028: 8 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team Jsteez18k	17	5	2027: 6 · 2028: 5 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team Tinso	17	4	2027: 5 · 2028: 6 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team Zabatka47	16	5	2027: 6 · 2028: 5 · 2029: 2 · 2030: 3
Team bA1ler67	14	5	2027: 4 · 2028: 4 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team Jauanaholics	14	3	2027: 6 · 2028: 2 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team TeamSmokes	13	8	2027: 3 · 2028: 4 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Dem Thunder Boyz	13	5	2027: 5 · 2028: 2 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team budderybiscuts	13	5	2027: 4 · 2028: 3 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Chain Net Ringers	13	4	2027: 4 · 2028: 3 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE	12	4	2027: 3 · 2028: 3 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3
Team 404nation4theA	12	4	2027: 3 · 2028: 3 · 2029: 3 · 2030: 3

Pick ownership: Sleeper traded_picks endpoint, cached at build time. Draft format (3 rounds, linear): Sleeper draft settings for this league. Projected order: the site's power rankings (fbi-league.json), reversed. Cores and ages: Sleeper rosters + player DB snapshot.

Club Previews — The Top Half

All 32 clubs, previewed from the site's own board: the star core, the capsule and the tier the desk assigned. Part one: clubs ranked 1–16.

1. Team FlyHightothesky · favorite

Core: Victor Wembanyama · Jayson Tatum · Trey Murphy III · Jamal Murray · Keyonte George

Wembanyama headlines the repeat bid as the club's best player, with Tatum supplying the superstar ceiling beside him; Murray, Murphy and George add efficient creation, wing scoring and another young guard track.

2. Veteran’s Park Legends · favorite

Core: Cade Cunningham · Dylan Harper · Amen Thompson · Donovan Clingan · Cedric Coward

Cunningham conducts and Thompson bends matchups, while Harper, Coward and Coulibaly extend a deep ascending runway.

3. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE · favorite

Core: Cooper Flagg · Cameron Boozer · Alex Sarr · Matas Buzelis · Kel'el Ware

Flagg, Boozer, Buzelis and Ware form the league’s clearest youth movement, with Spencer adding another young perimeter contributor.

4. Team Dufftown34 · favorite

Core: Scottie Barnes · Karl-Anthony Towns · Tyler Herro · James Harden · Kevin Durant

Harden, Barnes and Towns front a six-deep veteran core with healthy Durant, Lillard and Herro. This is one of the league’s deepest win-now attacks.

5. Team bfreck87 · favorite

Core: Shai Gilgeous-Alexander · Luka Dončić · Onyeka Okongwu · Deandre Ayton · Ryan Rollins

Dončić and Gilgeous-Alexander form the league’s strongest two-man engine; Russell, Grant and Champagnie add secondary volume and lineup stability.

6. TheAlphaGamer787 · favorite

Core: Giannis Antetokounmpo · Devin Booker · Ivica Zubac · Fred VanVleet · Jarrett Allen

Giannis and Booker form the inside-out apex, VanVleet supplies another creator, and Zubac plus Allen anchor the interior categories.

7. “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG · favorite

Core: Trae Young · Brandon Miller · Darius Acuff Jr. · OG Anunoby · Derrick White

Young is the offensive engine, Miller the upside swing, and Anunoby, White and Powell form a deep veteran support line.

8. Team budderybiscuits · favorite

Core: Tyrese Maxey · Caleb Wilson · Immanuel Quickley · Anthony Black · Jakob Poeltl

Maxey and Quickley drive a fast backcourt; Black, Wilson and Hachimura add size, youth and playable forward depth.

9. Team Crevecoeur1 · playoff

Core: Anthony Edwards · Jalen Johnson · Zach Edey · Mark Williams · Anfernee Simons

Edwards is the alpha, Johnson the multi-category co-star, Simons the extra scorer, Grimes the two-way guard and Edey the interior development piece.

10. Team MilfHunter1111 · playoff

Core: Darius Garland · Mikel Brown Jr. · Brayden Burries · Reed Sheppard · Egor Dëmin

Garland, Sheppard, Dëmin and Brown make a deep creation portfolio, with Raynaud adding a productive young center track.

11. Team OGTinoBerry · playoff

Core: Chet Holmgren · Alperen Şengün · Ausar Thompson · Khaman Maluach · Isaiah Collier

Şengün creates and Holmgren stretches and protects; Thompson, Collier and Reed give the build defensive and developmental upside.

12. Team Madddyy · playoff

Core: Lauri Markkanen · Walker Kessler · Kyrie Irving · Ace Bailey · Myles Turner

Markkanen arrives in the Zabatka47 deal as the new frontcourt headliner and Irving raises the immediate ceiling; Bailey is the breakout swing, and Wallace plus Kessler reinforce the structure, with Max Christie also coming over in the trade.

13. Team ekreteiP · playoff

Core: Anthony Davis · Pascal Siakam · Bennett Stirtz · Isaiah Hartenstein · Kawhi Leonard

Leonard and Davis provide elite per-game force, Siakam supplies steadier veteran production, and Pritchard plus Joe add guard scoring.

14. LAL4LIFE · playoff

Core: Nikola Jokić · Donovan Mitchell · Miles Bridges · Kristaps Porziņģis · Jaylon Tyson

Jokić creates the weekly floor, Mitchell adds elite guard scoring, and Bridges, McNeeley and Porziņģis fill complementary frontcourt and wing lanes.

15. Team Duffymj · playoff

Core: Jalen Williams · Kon Knueppel · Kingston Flemings · Jaylen Wells · Davion Mitchell

Williams is the dynasty centerpiece, Knueppel and Flemings the young perimeter bets, and Caruso plus Harris the veteran connective layer.

16. Chain Net Ringers · playoff

Core: Josh Giddey · Jalen Duren · Scoot Henderson · Allen Graves · Moussa Diabaté

Giddey organizes the build, Duren anchors the middle, and McCain, Henderson and Graves add three distinct young perimeter swings.

Club Previews — The Bottom Half

Part two: clubs ranked 17–32 — the rebuilds, the lottery vaults and the clubs with the most to prove before tip-off.

17. Team Jsteez18k · swing

Core: Jaylen Brown · Domantas Sabonis · Nickeil Alexander-Walker · Jalen Green · Coby White

Sabonis anchors the middle, Brown supplies the two-way star volume, Green and White two more scoring outlets, and Aldama another versatile frontcourt piece.

18. Team Tinso · swing

Core: AJ Dybantsa · Naz Reid · Collin Murray-Boyles · Dyson Daniels · Terrence Shannon Jr.

Daniels sets the defensive floor, Dybantsa supplies star upside, González and Peat extend the wing-forward runway, and Reid adds frontcourt scoring.

19. Haliburton and friends · swing

Core: Tyrese Haliburton · Jaden McDaniels · Dejounte Murray · Brandin Podziemski · Daniel Gafford

Haliburton is the engine, Murray arrives in the Zabatka47 trade as a second creator, Podziemski and McDaniels are the younger support, and Thompson plus LaRavia extend the wing rotation.

20. Team Carsonthegoat1 · swing

Core: Jaren Jackson Jr. · Jalen Brunson · Michael Porter Jr. · Jeremiah Fears · Neemias Queta

Brunson leads the present, Jackson and Porter stretch the weekly stat profile, and Fears plus Philon give the roster long-term guard growth.

21. Team Jauanaholics · swing

Core: Bam Adebayo · Desmond Bane · Ja Morant · Jalen Suggs · CJ McCollum

Adebayo and Bane stabilize the weekly line, Suggs and McCollum balance defense and creation, and Karaban adds a younger shooting bet.

22. Team EBurkhart · swing

Core: Evan Mobley · Zion Williamson · Devin Vassell · Andrew Wiggins · Hannes Steinbach

Mobley stabilizes, Williamson accelerates, and Wiggins, Washington and Vassell supply versatile two-way and scoring depth.

23. Team HeirJordans · swing

Core: Deni Avdija · Ajay Mitchell · Kyshawn George · Julius Randle · Ebuka Okorie

Randle owns the scoring burden, Avdija connects positions, and George, Mitchell and Sensabaugh extend the young creation pipeline.

24. Team Alphacrat · swing

Core: Austin Reaves · VJ Edgecombe · Yaxel Lendeborg · Grayson Allen · Carter Bryant

Reaves and Edgecombe — acquired in the October trade that sent DeRozan to Team Zabatka47 — handle creation, Allen supplies shooting, and Lendeborg plus Bryant extend the forward-development runway.

25. Team richmcleod · swing

Core: Stephon Castle · Keaton Wagler · RJ Barrett · Tre Johnson · Wendell Carter Jr.

Castle is the long-view anchor, Barrett the present scorer, Johnson and Wagler the development bets, and Porter another creation outlet — the club now runs under manager richmcleod's name.

26. Team Zabatka47 · swing

Core: Franz Wagner · Paolo Banchero · DeMar DeRozan · Christian Anderson · Jaylin Williams

Wagner and Banchero — Orlando's frontcourt pair — headline the club under new owner Zabatka47, who took over on the eve of tip-off; DeRozan and Jaylin Williams arrived in the October trade that sent Edgecombe to Team Alphacrat — Alphacrat's 2028 first-round pick and 2027 second- and third-round picks came back with them — Vučević stabilizes the middle, and Whitmore plus Christian Anderson arrived in the October takeover deals.

27. Team 404nation4theA · future

Core: LaMelo Ball · Zach LaVine · Jaime Jaquez Jr. · Morez Johnson Jr. · Dillon Brooks

Ball supplies the ceiling, LaVine the scoring, Brooks the defensive edge, Jaquez secondary creation and Johnson a young interior path.

28. Team bA1ler67 · future

Core: Darryn Peterson · Nic Claxton · Ayo Dosunmu · Aaron Gordon · Jayden Quaintance

Peterson is the high-upside rookie swing, Claxton anchors defensive categories, Dosunmu and Schröder provide guard structure, and Quaintance adds a young frontcourt bet.

29. Dem Thunder Boyz · future

Core: De'Aaron Fox · Josh Hart · LeBron James · Chris Cenac Jr. · Bennedict Mathurin

Fox and James set the immediate ceiling; Hart connects categories, Mathurin supplies scoring and Clifford adds a younger wing path.

30. Team MariotaMagic · future

Core: Stephen Curry · Derik Queen · Yanic Konan Niederhäuser · Jimmy Butler III · Aaron Nesmith

Curry keeps the present dangerous, Queen and Carr carry the next era, while Butler and Nesmith shape how aggressively the team can chase now.

31. Team Samir17 · future

Core: Joel Embiid · Paul George · Ryan Kalkbrenner · Dailyn Swain · Tari Eason

Embiid and George bring the high-end ceiling, while Eason, Monk and Swain supply younger two-way and scoring support.

32. Team TeamSmokes · future

Core: Peyton Watson · Nate Ament · Robert Williams III · Jordan Poole · Saddiq Bey

Poole and Bey carry the scoring, Dort the defense, Watson the two-way growth path and Ament the long-term upside swing.

The Deals That Moved the Preseason

Real deals only — assets exactly as recorded in the league ledger and the Sleeper transactions wire.

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

Team Zabatka47 landed: Paolo Banchero (ORL); Cam Whitmore (DEN)

Team Madddyy landed: Lauri Markkanen (UTA); Max Christie (DAL); 2029 3rd Rd (via HeirJordans)

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

Team Zabatka47 landed: Christian Anderson (CHA); 2028 2nd Rd (via Haliburton and friends); 2027 2nd Rd (via FlyHightothesky)

Haliburton and friends landed: Dejounte Murray (NOP); Jevon Carter (ORL)

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

EBurkhart landed: Andrew Wiggins (MIA); Devin Vassell (SAS); Kyle Filipowski (UTA); Walter Clayton (MEM); 2027 3rd Rd (via TeamSmokes); 2029 2nd Rd (via TeamSmokes)

TeamSmokes landed: Jordan Poole (NOP); Saddiq Bey (NOP); Scotty Pippen (MEM); 2028 1st Rd; 2029 1st Rd

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

HeirJordans landed: Julius Randle (BKN)

TeamSmokes landed: Peyton Watson (CLE); 2027 1st Rd (via BucketsDuffy); 2028 2nd Rd

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

Samir17 landed: Paul George (BOS); Joel Embiid (PHI); Donte DiVincenzo (MIN)

richmcleod · Egor Demon landed: RJ Barrett (TOR); Tre Johnson (WAS)

League trade ledger (fbi-league.json)

Samir17 landed: Ryan Kalkbrenner (CHA)

CooperKuppDaGoat · Haliburton and friends landed: Daniel Gafford (DAL)

League Wire (Sleeper transactions ledger)

Team Alphacrat added: VJ Edgecombe

Team Zabatka47 added: DeMar DeRozan, Jaylin Williams

Pick: 2027 2rd Rd (originally Team Alphacrat) → Team Zabatka47

Pick: 2027 3rd Rd (originally Team Alphacrat) → Team Zabatka47

Pick: 2028 1rd Rd (originally Team Alphacrat) → Team Zabatka47

League Wire (Sleeper transactions ledger)

Team Madddyy added: Lauri Markkanen, Max Christie

Team Zabatka47 added: Paolo Banchero, Cam Whitmore

Pick: 2029 3rd Rd (originally Team Zabatka47) → Team Madddyy

League Wire (Sleeper transactions ledger)

Haliburton and friends added: Dejounte Murray, Jevon Carter

Team Zabatka47 added: Christian Anderson

Pick: 2028 2rd Rd (originally Haliburton and friends) → Team Zabatka47

Pick: 2027 2rd Rd (originally Team FlyHightothesky) → Team Zabatka47

League Wire (Sleeper transactions ledger)

Team HeirJordans added: Julius Randle

Team TeamSmokes added: Peyton Watson

Pick: 2027 1rd Rd (originally Veteran’s Park Legends) → Team TeamSmokes

Pick: 2028 2rd Rd (originally Team HeirJordans) → Team TeamSmokes

Wire counts: 107 waiver · 111 free agent · 35 trade · 3 commissioner · 0 fa signings · 111 fa drops

THE PLAYER FEATURE

The Adebayo Blockbuster, Taken Apart

11 assets, two timelines, one prime-aged anchor: the preseason's biggest trade, traced through the league's own ledger, boards and record books.

The biggest deal of the preseason moved 11 assets: Team Jauanaholics landed Bam Adebayo, and Team HeirJordans took the long way around — 7 pieces headlined by future picks. It is the kind of trade a 32-team dynasty league is built for: a contender buying a prime-aged anchor, a rebuilder selling certainty for optionality.

The player at the centre of it: Adebayo, 6-9 and 260 lb out of Kentucky, 9 years into his NBA career and still the defensive spine of the Miami frontcourt. On this site's own dynasty board he sits at No. 46 — a value built on durability and category coverage rather than a single counting stat.

For Team Jauanaholics, the fit is the story. Adebayo joins a core the board lists as Bam Adebayo · Desmond Bane · Ja Morant · Jalen Suggs · CJ McCollum — a group that needed a frontcourt anchor more than it needed one more guard. The capsule on the club reads: “Adebayo and Bane stabilize the weekly line, Suggs and McCollum balance defense and creation, and Karaban adds a younger shooting bet.” The price was real — the outgoing package is listed in full on the Trade Wire page — but windows in this league are short, and this one is open now.

For Team HeirJordans, the return is the future itself: 4 first-round picks changed hands in the deal, and the club's vault now stands at 18 owned picks (8 of them firsts) across 2027–2030 by the site's count of the Sleeper traded-pick ledger. If even two of those picks land in the lottery, this page will read very differently in three years.

Bam Adebayo

FACT FILE

- Assets in the deal (league trade ledger): 11 — 4 to Team Jauanaholics, 7 to Team HeirJordans
- First-round picks in the deal: 4
- Adebayo on the site's boards: dynasty No. 46 · redraft No. 28 (the site's player cards)
- Bio line (Sleeper record): 6-9, 260 lb · Kentucky · 9 yrs experience
- Team HeirJordans draft vault after the deal: 18 picks, 8 firsts (2027–2030, dynasty-draft.json)

PLAYER PROFILE

Profile: AJ Dybantsa, Already Spoken For

The No. 1 pick of the 2026 draft — profiled as a reported feature, from the draft record and this league's rookie map.

The record line is short and total: No. 1 pick of the 2026 draft, out of BYU, to the Washington Wizards — the first name called in June, and the name this magazine's 2027 boards will be measured against all winter.

In this league he was spoken for long before June. Dybantsa rosters with Team Tinso in the Invitational (the rookie map records the claim at No. 1 of the class list) — which is the dynasty difference in one sentence: on draft night, Washington acquired a player; Team Tinso merely activated one.

What opening week asks of him is the oldest rookie question there is: not whether the talent is real — a No. 1 pick's talent is the most scouted commodity in the sport — but how much of the offence a rebuilding team hands a teenager in week one. The desk's Rookie of the Year call, printed in the Opening Week feature, is already on the record; the first month of box scores grades it.

AJ Dybantsa

FACT FILE

- Draft record: No. 1 · AJ Dybantsa · SF · BYU → Washington Wizards (nba-data.json draft2026)
- Rookie map: rosters with Team Tinso in the Invitational (rookie-map.json)
- Profile format note: Hoops Illustrated profiles are reported features — no interview answers are invented for real players.

Three Clubs, Three Timelines

The dynasty, the contender with a vault, and the vault with a plan: the three postures every other club is measuring itself against.

Team Dufftown34 — Scottie Barnes · Karl-Anthony Towns · Tyler Herro · James Harden · Kevin Durant

Harden, Barnes and Towns front a six-deep veteran core with healthy Durant, Lillard and Herro. This is one of the league’s deepest win-now attacks.

The dynasty — Dufftown34. Two banners (2023, 2024), the all-time ledger's No. 1 line at 87-5, and a core the board lists as Scottie Barnes · Karl-Anthony Towns · Tyler Herro · James Harden · Kevin Durant. The capsule: “Harden, Barnes and Towns front a six-deep veteran core with healthy Durant, Lillard and Herro. This is one of the league’s deepest win-now attacks.” Dufftown34's question is never whether it belongs in the argument — it is whether a third banner arrives before the core ages out of the argument entirely.

The contender with a vault — HeirJordans. The vault stands at 18 picks (8 firsts), and the present tense is a core of Deni Avdija · Ajay Mitchell · Kyshawn George · Julius Randle · Ebuka Okorie, with the capsule reading: “Randle owns the scoring burden, Avdija connects positions, and George, Mitchell and Sensabaugh extend the young creation pipeline.” It is the league's most uncomfortable combination to play against: win-now talent with rebuild insurance already paid for.

The vault with a plan — Jsteez18k. 17 owned picks, 5 of them firsts — a step below the league's deepest vault, and answered in the present tense: Sabonis anchoring the middle. The board's present tense lists the core as Jaylen Brown · Domantas Sabonis · Nickeil Alexander-Walker · Jalen Green · Coby White — “Sabonis anchors the middle, Brown supplies the two-way star volume, Green and White two more scoring outlets, and Aldama another versatile frontcourt piece.” If the index is right, this is the club the 2028 power rankings get written about.

FACT FILE

- Vaults (2027–2030): Jsteez18k 17 picks / 5 firsts · HeirJordans 18 picks / 8 firsts (dynasty-draft.json)
- Banners: Dufftown34 2 · FlyHightothesky 1 · the other 30 clubs 0 (league record)
- All-time wins pace: Dufftown34 87-5 — the only club above FlyHightothesky's 84-8 (fbi-league.json allTime)

Pull-Out Poster — Side A: The Cover, Poster-Size

The centre leaf of the issue, printed to tear out: the Issue 1 cover illustration at poster size. Side B — all 32 club marks — is on its reverse.



House art: the magazine's own cover illustration — drawn, not photographed.
Perforated pull-out poster — Side A · tear out along the perforated spine edge · Side B is on the reverse (p. 25)

Pull-Out Poster — Side B: All 32 Club Marks

The reverse of the centre pull-out: every club mark in the league on one wall, in the order the power rankings list them.



House art: the 32 club marks of record (public/assets/badges), composed for the poster.
Perforated pull-out poster — Side B, the reverse of Side A (p. 24) · tear out along the perforated spine edge

LEAGUE HISTORY

Champions' Circle: Three Finals, Two Names

Three seasons, three championship games — and every banner in this league hangs in one of two clubhouses.

Team Dufftown34 — Scottie Barnes · Karl-Anthony Towns · Tyler Herro · James Harden · Kevin Durant

Harden, Barnes and Towns front a six-deep veteran core with healthy Durant, Lillard and Herro. This is one of the league’s deepest win-now attacks.

2023 — the inaugural run. Dufftown34 def. ekreteiP, 347.00–276.50. The league's first champion was Dufftown34, and the first finals set the template: a powerhouse score, a clear margin, and a target painted on the winner's back that has never really come off.

2024 — the repeat. Dufftown34 def. FlyHightothesky, 411.00–216.00. Dufftown34 ran it back against the club that would dethrone them a year later, and the 411.00 remains the kind of finals score other champions get measured against.

2025 — the changing of the guard. FlyHightothesky def. OnAirSince93, 473.50–357.00 — the highest winning score of the three finals, and a first banner for FlyHightothesky. One honesty note, printed the same way the site Almanac prints it: Sleeper's own bracket for 2025 recorded no finals winner; the line above is the league's recorded result.

So the circle holds two names and three banners. Every other club in this issue — the vault-builders, the swing clubs, the defending champion's eight 'favorite'-tagged chasers — is ultimately arguing with that arithmetic.

FACT FILE

• Finals lines (league record): 2023 — Dufftown34 def. ekreteiP, 347.00–276.50 · 2024 — Dufftown34 def. FlyHightothesky, 411.00–216.00 · 2025 — FlyHightothesky def. OnAirSince93, 473.50–357.00
• Titles: Dufftown34 2 (2023, 2024) · FlyHightothesky 1 (2025) — no other club has won one.
• All-time ledger: Dufftown34 No. 1 (87-5) · FlyHightothesky No. 2 (84-8) (fbi-league.json allTime)

The Almanac: Biggest Trades of Every Year

The Sleeper-history extraction behind the site Almanac, in magazine form. 'Biggest' is measured by total assets moved — players plus draft picks changing hands — and the receipts are printed exactly as Sleeper recorded them.

Sleeper league history · 2025 season — No. 1 of 12 trades that year by assets moved (10 assets)

TheAlphaGamer787 received: Jarrett Allen, Rudy Gobert

miles704 received: Trayce Jackson-Davis · Picks: 2026 Rd 3 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2027 Rd 1 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2027 Rd 2 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2027 Rd 3 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2028 Rd 1 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2028 Rd 2 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787), 2028 Rd 3 pick (originally TheAlphaGamer787)

Sleeper league history · 2025 season — No. 2 of 12 trades that year by assets moved (8 assets)

8Gates received: Gradey Dick, RJ Barrett, Reed Sheppard · Picks: 2025 Rd 1 pick (originally 404nation4theA)

404nation4theA received: Jaime Jaquez Jr., Julian Strawther, LaMelo Ball, Zach LaVine

Sleeper league history · 2025 season — No. 3 of 12 trades that year by assets moved (6 assets)

gcgriffin34 received: Dejounte Murray, Lauri Markkanen

conorduffy116 received: Darius Garland, Herbert Jones, Isaiah Stewart · Picks: 2026 Rd 1 pick (originally gcgriffin34)

Sleeper league history · 2024 season — No. 1 of 9 trades that year by assets moved (8 assets)

FlyHightothesky received: Jayson Tatum

Los Angeles Lakers received: Guerschon Yabusele, Precious Achiuwa, T.J. McConnell · Picks: 2025 Rd 3 pick (originally New York Knicks), 2025 Rd 1 pick (originally FlyHightothesky), 2025 Rd 3 pick (originally FlyHightothesky), 2027 Rd 1 pick (originally FlyHightothesky)

Sleeper league history · 2024 season — No. 2 of 9 trades that year by assets moved (5 assets)

Chorn862 received: Kevin Love · Picks: 2026 Rd 1 pick (originally Dufftown34), 2027 Rd 1 pick (originally Dufftown34)

Dufftown34 received: Karl-Anthony Towns · Picks: 2025 Rd 3 pick (originally Chorn862)

Sleeper league history · 2024 season — No. 3 of 9 trades that year by assets moved (4 assets)

FlyHightothesky received: Brandin Podziemski

Bolty1028 received: Kentavious Caldwell-Pope · Picks: 2024 Rd 1 pick (originally FlyHightothesky), 2024 Rd 2 pick (originally FlyHightothesky)

Sleeper league history · 2023 season — No. 1 of 10 trades that year by assets moved (9 assets)

ekreteiP received: no players · Picks: 2023 Rd 10 pick (originally Dem Thunder Boyz), 2023 Rd 12 pick (originally Dem Thunder Boyz), 2023 Rd 14 pick (originally Dem Thunder Boyz), 2023 Rd 8 pick (originally Dem Thunder Boyz), 2023 Rd 9 pick (originally Dem Thunder Boyz)

Dem Thunder Boyz received: no players · Picks: 2023 Rd 12 pick (originally ekreteiP), 2023 Rd 14 pick (originally ekreteiP), 2023 Rd 16 pick (originally ekreteiP), 2023 Rd 7 pick (originally ekreteiP)

Sleeper league history · 2023 season — No. 2 of 10 trades that year by assets moved (7 assets)

Dufftown34 received: Damian Lillard, James Harden

Duffymj received: Alex Caruso, Davion Mitchell · Picks: 2025 Rd 2 pick (originally Dufftown34), 2025 Rd 3 pick (originally Dufftown34), 2026 Rd 3 pick (originally Dufftown34)

Sleeper league history · 2023 season — No. 3 of 10 trades that year by assets moved (6 assets)

Sipper Doves received: Shai Gilgeous-Alexander

Trent134 received: Dillon Brooks, Nassir Little, RJ Hampton · Picks: 2024 Rd 1 pick (originally Sipper Doves), 2025 Rd 1 pick (originally Sipper Doves)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

The College Desk: The Winter After Michigan

The college game supplies every other page of this magazine's future — the champions, the departed and the incoming, from the site's boards.

Michigan cut down the nets in Indianapolis on April 6, beating UConn 69–63 for the Wolverines' first national championship since 1989 — Dusty May's second season, with Elliot Cadeau named the Final Four's Most Outstanding Player. Arizona and Illinois were the other semifinalists, which makes the Big Ten the winter's centre of gravity until somebody moves it.

June's draft took the college game's best, in the site's recorded order: AJ Dybantsa (BYU) to Washington Wizards; Darryn Peterson (Kansas) to Utah Jazz; Cameron Boozer (Duke) to Memphis Grizzlies; Caleb Wilson (North Carolina) to Chicago Bulls; Keaton Wagler (Illinois) to LA Clippers (via Indiana). Every one of those programmes reloads this winter with a freshman class the big boards have already priced.

Tournament runs echo into this league: Yaxel Lendeborg, a star of Michigan's title run, rosters with Team Alphacrat in the Invitational (rookie map, pick 11); Keaton Wagler, Illinois' Final Four guard, went fifth in the draft. The college season is this league's scouting department, whether the clubs admit it or not.

The 2027 board's college names at the top: No. 1 Tyran Stokes (Kansas); No. 2 Jordan Smith Jr. (Arkansas); No. 3 Caleb Holt (Arizona); No. 5 Anthony Thompson (Ohio State) — with the board's No. 4 already a professional in Spain (see The Overseas Desk). Their freshman and sophomore winters are the next two years of this magazine's draft coverage.

AROUND THE NBA

Opening Week: The NBA Is Back

A banner in the Garden, a tripleheader on NBC, and the two most scrutinised debuts of the summer — the 2026-27 NBA season starts the way this issue has been pointing at since page one.

Tuesday, October 20: Boston at Detroit (3:00 p.m. ET), Philadelphia at New York (7:00 p.m.) and Oklahoma City at San Antonio (9:30 p.m.) — the first tip-off tripleheader in the league's television history, all on NBC and Peacock. Before the middle game, the Knicks raise the franchise's first championship banner since 1973.

The banner-raising comes with a subplot: Philadelphia arrives with LeBron James and Jaylen Brown in 76ers colours for the first time in a regular-season game, walking straight into the champions' building on the champions' night.

On October 21, Giannis Antetokounmpo debuts for the Miami Heat after his offseason trade from Milwaukee — the other shoe of the summer, dropping 24 hours after the curtain goes up.

Oklahoma City Thunder. The 2025 champs kept their core and still hold the league's deepest rotation of two-way wings; the West runs through them until proven otherwise.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander. Back-to-back regular-season MVP and the Thunder's late-clock engine — if OKC repeats, the trophy follows the ball.

Victor Wembanyama. The preseason favorite: reigning unanimous Defensive Player of the Year coming off 25.0 points, 11.5 rebounds and 3.1 blocks, with San Antonio built entirely around him.

Victor Wembanyama. He won it unanimously in 2025-26 and anchors everything the Spurs do; the race is for second place.

[{"label": "The title defence", "headline": "FlyHightothesky opens its repeat bid with the league's biggest Week 1", "body": "The defending champions posted the highest official score of Week 1 \u2014 385.0 \u2014 beat the 243.0 league median as well, and sit at seed 1 at 2-0. The refreshed power rankings, rebuilt from current rosters on October 26, keep them at No. 1 as well."}, {"label": "Perfect starts", "headline": "Twelve clubs open 2-0 \u2014 and twelve open 0-2", "body": "Week 1 doubled every result: a head-to-head result plus a result against the league median. Twelve clubs won both, twelve lost both, and the middle eight split. The median line for Week 1 was 243.0."}, {"label": "The second opponent", "headline": "Team richmcleod scored 239.5 and still went 0-2", "body": "Richmcleod's 239.5 would win plenty of weeks. Instead it lost the matchup to Team MilfHunter1111's 253.0 and fell 3.5 points short of the 243.0 median \u2014 an 0-2 start from a near-median score, in the matchup archive's closest thing to a bad beat."}, {"label": "Half a point", "headline": "404nation4theA edges Team TeamSmokes 157.5 to 157.0", "body": "The closest finish of Week 1: half a point separated Team 404nation4theA and Team TeamSmokes in the week's lowest-scoring matchup. TeamSmokes' consolation is the league's third-stingiest points-against (157.5)."}]

The 2026 Rookies Have Landed

59 of the 2026 class are already on FBI rosters (rookie map snapshot 2026-10-20). Every name below is traced pick-by-pick to the club that rosters him.

#	Rookie	Pos	School / Club
1	AJ Dybantsa	SF	BYU / Team Tinso
2	Darryn Peterson	G	Kansas / Team bA1ler67
3	Cameron Boozer	PF	Duke / PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
4	Caleb Wilson	PF	North Carolina / Team budderybiscuits
5	Keaton Wagler	G	Illinois / Team richmcleod
6	Mikel Brown	G	Louisville / Team MilfHunter1111
7	Darius Acuff	G	Arkansas / “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG
8	Kingston Flemings	G	Houston / Team Duffymj
9	Morez Johnson	F/C	Michigan / Team 404nation4theA
10	Brayden Burries	G	Arizona / Team MilfHunter1111
11	Yaxel Lendeborg	F	Michigan / Team Alphacrat
12	Aday Mara	C	Michigan / Team Madddyy
13	Nate Ament	F	Tennessee / Team TeamSmokes
14	Hannes Steinbach	C	Washington / Team EBurkhart
15	Dailyn Swain	G/F	Texas / Team Samir17
16	Bennett Stirtz	G	Iowa / Team ekreteiP
17	Ebuka Okorie	G	Stanford / Team HeirJordans
18	Christian Anderson	G	Texas Tech / Team Zabatka47
19	Allen Graves	F	Santa Clara / Chain Net Ringers
20	Jayden Quaintance	C	Kentucky / Team bA1ler67
21	Karim Lopez	F	New Zealand Breakers / Team Crevecoeur1
22	Labaron Philon	G	Alabama / Team Carsonthegoat1
23	Zuby Ejiofor	F/C	St. John’s / Team Duffymj
24	Cameron Carr	G	Baylor / Team MariotaMagic
25	Sergio De Larrea	G	Valencia (Spain) / Team MilfHunter1111
26	Tarris Reed	F/C	UConn / Team OGTinoBerry
27	Chris Cenac	F/C	Houston / Dem Thunder Boyz
28	Joshua Jefferson	F	Iowa State / Team budderybiscuits
29	Alex Karaban	F	UConn / Team Jauanaholics
30	Koa Peat	F	Arizona / Team Tinso
31	Bruce Thornton	PG	Ohio State / Team budderybiscuits
32	Richie Saunders	SG/SF	BYU / Team FlyHightothesky
33	Isaiah Evans	SG/SF	Duke / Haliburton and friends
34	Meleek Thomas	PG/SG	Arkansas / Team bfreck87
35	Trevon Brazile	PF/C	Arkansas / Team Alphacrat
36	Baba Miller	PF/C	Cincinnati / Team Madddyy
37	Ryan Conwell	SG	Louisville / PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
38	Braden Smith	PG	Purdue / Team Tinso
39	Jack Kayil	PG/SG	ALBA Berlin / “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG
40	Dillon Mitchell	PF	St. John’s / Team Tinso
41	Otega Oweh	SG/SF	Kentucky / Chain Net Ringers
42	Ja'Kobi Gillespie	PG	Tennessee / Team bfreck87
43	Tyler Bilodeau	PF	UCLA / Team MariotaMagic
44	Maliq Brown	PF/C	Duke / Team ekreteiP
46	Felix Okpara	C	Tennessee / Team Tinso
47	Tyler Nickel	SG/SF	Vanderbilt / Team budderybiscuits
48	Tobi Lawal	PF	Virginia Tech / Team 404nation4theA
49	Bryce Hopkins	SF/PF	St. John’s / “A-Tuff”, “Ice” Trae, ’n OG
50	Jaden Bradley	PG	Arizona / Team richmcleod
51	Izaiyah Nelson	PF/C	South Florida / Veteran’s Park Legends
52	Henri Veesaar	C	North Carolina / Team HeirJordans
53	Ugonna Onyenso	C	Virginia / Team richmcleod
54	Lajae Jones	G	Florida State / Team OGTinoBerry
55	Nick Martinelli	SF/PF	Northwestern / Team EBurkhart
56	Vsevolod Ishchenko	F	Lokomotiv Kuban / Dem Thunder Boyz
57	Narcisse Ngoy	C	Auburn / Team Crevecoeur1
58	Jaron Pierre	G	SMU / Team 404nation4theA
59	Trey Kaufman-Renn	PF/C	Purdue / Team EBurkhart
60	Malique Lewis	F	South East Melbourne Phoenix / Team Madddyy

Class size 60; not in the Sleeper pool: 1 (pick 45, Emmanuel Sharpe — no FBI club, listed honestly in the rookie map).

Contenders, Rebuilds and the Crack in the Window

A recurring column sorting the league by timeline — who is playing for October, and who is playing for 2029.

The site's board tags every club with a timeline: 8 marked 'favorite', 10 'swing', 8 'playoff' and 6 'future'. Read it as two leagues sharing one standings page: 16 clubs trying to win the next banner, and a futures market of clubs stockpiling the drafts that decide the one after that.

The window at the top is narrower than it looks. The all-time ledger's first three lines — Dufftown34 (87-5), FlyHightothesky (84-8), bfreck87 (80-12) — are separated by a handful of wins across three seasons. The defending champion is being chased by the two-time champion, who is being chased by everyone, and the whole argument resets the moment the balls go up on October 20.

Down the table, the rebuild is a real position, not a euphemism. The 6 clubs the board tags 'future' hold 76 owned picks between them, led by Team bA1ler67 with 14 — draft capital concentrated exactly where the standings say it should be. The index's rule of thumb: a rebuild is healthy when the vault and the timeline agree, and the clubs to watch are the ones where they don't — a 'future' club with an empty vault, or a 'favorite' still holding picks it refuses to spend.

FACT FILE

- Tier tags on the site board: favorite 8 · swing 10 · playoff 8 · future 6 (fbi-league.json)
- All-time top three: Dufftown34 87-5 · FlyHightothesky 84-8 · bfreck87 80-12
- 'Future' clubs' combined vault: 76 owned picks (2027–2030, dynasty-draft.json)

Final Standings, For the Record

Every completed season's final table, drawn from Sleeper's own league history — the championship and losers brackets, with regular-season records alongside.

Rosters & Schedules: The 32 Clubhouses

Every club's core of record, and the week the season starts.

COLLEGE & WNBA COVERAGE

The Women's Game: A Fifth Crown and a Finals in Progress

A new department — the women's college game and the WNBA, covered from the verified record.

Start with the crown. A'ja Wilson won the 2026 WNBA MVP — her fifth, a league record, and the first three-peat in the award's history — with 65 of 74 first-place votes and 713 points. She led the league at 26.2 points a game and became the first WNBA player to average 25 while shooting 50 percent from the field and 40 from three. The runner-up tells the other story of the season: Minnesota rookie Olivia Miles, second with 443 points, ahead of Indiana's Kelsey Mitchell (287), Caitlin Clark (212) and New York's Breanna Stewart (171).

The Finals are in progress as this issue closes: Golden State against Atlanta, the Valkyries up 1–0 after a 68–64 Game 1 win at Chase Center on October 17, with Game 2 in San Francisco on October 19. Golden State went 32–12 in the regular season; Atlanta's run — a franchise-record 30 wins and the club's first Finals since 2013 — was powered in part by the year's boldest trade: Angel Reese, acquired from Chicago in April, averaged a career-high 16.4 points, led the league in rebounding again and won her first Defensive Player of the Year award, as Fox's reporting from the semifinal detailed. Minnesota took the regular-season title at 33–11; the defending champion Aces (31–13) fell to Golden State in the semifinals.

The map grew, too: Portland (17–27) and Toronto (11–33) completed their first WNBA seasons in 2026 — the expansion class the league will be measured against for a decade.

On the college side, the spring belonged to UCLA: the Bruins beat South Carolina 79–51 on April 5 in Phoenix for the programme's first NCAA-era national championship, closing a 37–1 season as the unanimous final AP No. 1. Lauren Betts was the tournament's Most Outstanding Player; Gabriela Jaquez led the final with 21 points, 10 rebounds and five assists. The Final Four was all No. 1 seeds — UCLA, South Carolina, UConn and Texas — only the fifth such tournament in history.

This desk exists because the magazine's boards already point at the women's college game whether it covers it or not: the next classes are being recruited in the same gyms the Prep Desk writes about. From this issue forward, it gets covered.

FACT FILE

• 2026 WNBA MVP: A'ja Wilson (Las Vegas) — 5th MVP, first three-peat; 65/74 first-place votes, 713 points (Sports Illustrated / RealGM voting reports)
• 2026 WNBA Finals: Golden State 68, Atlanta 64 — Game 1, Oct 17, 2026, Chase Center (Sportradar); series in progress at press time
• 2026 NCAA women: UCLA def. South Carolina 79–51, Apr 5, 2026, Phoenix — MOP Lauren Betts (NCAA.com / Associated Press)
• 2026 WNBA expansion seasons: Portland Fire 17–27 · Toronto Tempo 11–33 (2026 standings)

THE COLUMN · THE SCOUT'S NOTEBOOK

The Top of the 2027 Board

A recurring scouting column — this instalment reads the first ten lines of the site's 2027 big board.

The first five lines of the board: No. 1 Tyran Stokes, SF · Kansas; No. 2 Jordan Smith Jr., PG/SG · Arkansas; No. 3 Caleb Holt, SG · Arizona; No. 4 Stefan Joksimovic, SG/F · Baskonia (Slovenia); No. 5 Anthony Thompson, SF · Ohio State. It is a wing's board at the top — size and shot creation priced above everything — with one professional (No. 4, at Baskonia) crashed into the college names like a control group for the whole experiment.

The next five: No. 6 Braylon Mullins (UConn); No. 7 Patrick Ngongba II (Duke); No. 8 Bruce Branch III (BYU); No. 9 Motiejus Krivas (Arizona); No. 10 Baba Oladotun (Maryland). In a redraft league this is trivia. Here it is a shopping list with dates on it: the dynasty desk tracks owned picks through 2030, and every club in the pick economy's top half has already circled the winter these names become draftable.

The notebook's standing rule: the board is a record of the present, not a promise. Two winters ago half of a top ten like this one was invisible; by spring, half of it will have moved. The magazine prints the board as it stands — the movement is the story, and it gets its own instalment when it happens.

FACT FILE

- Source: the site's big board · the 2027 mock (100 prospects).
- No. 1 on the 2027 board: Tyran Stokes (Kansas).

THE COLUMN · THE PREP DESK

Prep Power: The Schools That Feed the Board

A recurring column on high school basketball — the layer of the game where the big boards begin.

Two tracks feed the modern board. The academy track: AJ Williams (No. 2 on his board — undecided (Eagle's Landing Christian, GA)); Beckham Black (No. 4 on his board — undecided (Southeastern Prep, Orlando, FL)); Isaiah Hamilton (No. 3 on his board — Montverde Academy (Fla.) · Canada); Bamba Touray (No. 4 on his board — IMG Academy (Bradenton, Fla.) · Senegal); Draydne McDaniel (No. 3 on his board — Prolific Prep (Fla.)) — programmes built to be found, playing national schedules in front of the same scouts who stock this magazine's boards.

The traditional track still holds the top lines: Colton Hiller (No. 1 — Coatesville Area HS (Pa.)); Yann Kamagate (No. 10 — undecided (St. Francis HS, La Cañada, CA)); JJ Crawford (No. 1 — Rainier Beach HS (Seattle, Wash.)). A public-school name at No. 1 or No. 2 on a board of 100 is the exception that keeps the rule honest — talent keeps surfacing wherever it starts, and the boards keep having to go and find it.

The map keeps widening: AZ Compass Prep carries DeMarcus Henry at No. 8 on his class board; Bremerton carries Jalen Davis at No. 11 on his class board; Millennium HS carries Adan Diggs at No. 15 on his class board.

FACT FILE

• The four boards list 94 prospects at high-school addresses (school strings as listed in nba-data.json).
• School lines are printed exactly as the boards list them — including the prospects still listed as undecided between a school and the next level.

Europe Is a First-Round Address Now

A recurring column on overseas basketball — the pipeline that no longer waits for the draft to introduce itself.

Read the boards closely and a second map appears under the college one: Stefan Joksimovic — No. 4 on his board, at Baskonia (Slovenia); Adam Atamna — No. 40 on his board, at ratiopharm Ulm; Nathan Soliman — No. 5 on his board, at JL Bourg (France); Messi Yangala — No. 9 on his board, at Pôle France/INSEP (NM1); Fabian Kayser — No. 19 on his board, at Real Madrid (Germany); Jan Cerdan — No. 11 on his board, at FC Barcelona (Spain). Six prospects in the top reaches of the site's boards are already professionals in Europe — not stashed, not hypothetical, but playing senior basketball while their classmates play freshmen minutes.

The addresses are the game's royal houses. Real Madrid — record 11 EuroLeague titles — took Luka Dončić into its academy at 13; he won EuroLeague titles in 2015 and 2018 before ever signing an NBA contract. Fabian Kayser wears the same colours on the 2028 board, and the line from Madrid's academy to the first round is now the most travelled road in the sport.

France's answer is a system, not a club: INSEP, the national sports institute training elite athletes since 1975, whose basketball arm plays as Pôle France. Tony Parker passed through it on his way to the 2007 Finals MVP award; Evan Fournier, Boris Diaw and Ronny Turiaf came through it too, and Victor Wembanyama's formative club, Nanterre, loaned him to INSEP's team as a teenager. Messi Yangala is listed at Pôle France/INSEP on the 2028 board — the system, still producing. Even the smaller addresses carry pedigree: JL Bourg, Nathan Soliman's club, is where Zaccharie Risacher won the French league's best young player award before the 2024 draft.

For this league the overseas page is not a curiosity — it is a market inefficiency with an accent. The clubs that scout the European winter own information the college-only clubs don't, and the boards in this issue are where that edge first becomes visible.

FACT FILE

- Stefan Joksimovic — No. 4 on his board, at Baskonia (Slovenia)
- Adam Atamna — No. 40 on his board, at ratiopharm Ulm
- Nathan Soliman — No. 5 on his board, at JL Bourg (France)
- Messi Yangala — No. 9 on his board, at Pôle France/INSEP (NM1)
- Fabian Kayser — No. 19 on his board, at Real Madrid (Germany)
- Jan Cerdan — No. 11 on his board, at FC Barcelona (Spain)
- Real Madrid: record 11 EuroLeague titles; Dončić joined its academy at 13 and won EuroLeague titles in 2015 and 2018 (club record).
- INSEP has trained France's elite athletes since 1975; Parker, Fournier, Diaw and Turiaf all came through it (Associated Press).

Tactics & Training: Spacing Is a Skill

Coaching copy from the desk's own expertise — principles, not personalities.

The five-out offence is less a play than a geometry test: five players outside the arc, corners filled, the dunker spot vacated. Its first read is always the same — drive the closeout, and the defence's rotation, not the play call, chooses the shot: finish, drop to the short roll, or kick to the corner the help came from. Teams drill it as a ladder of reads, in that order, until the order is reflex.

The closeout is where the ladder gets defended. The coaching standard has not changed in decades: sprint the first two-thirds of the distance, chop the last third into short steps, arrive with a high hand and the hips down, and shade the shooter to his weaker side. A closeout that arrives flying surrenders the drive; one that arrives standing surrenders the shot. The drill version is boring — close out, slide, recover, repeat — which is rather the point.

A preseason training week, as a template any programme can run: two skill days (shooting mechanics in the morning, read-ladder work live), one strength-and-mobility day, one film day built around the roster's own scrimmage tape, and a controlled scrimmage to close. The load principle matters more than the menu: ramp minutes like the season does, because October injuries are usually September decisions.

And the pick-and-roll, the league's eternal grammar: against drop coverage the pull-up and the floater are the tuition shots; against a switch, the roller's seal is the play; against the blitz, the short roll turns one pass into a four-on-three. Every defence in this magazine's pages is, in the end, an argument about those three sentences.

FACT FILE

- The Training Room is generic coaching expertise — it describes principles and templates, never a real player's regimen or a real coach's words.
- Terms used (five-out, drop coverage, short roll, closeout) are standard basketball vocabulary.

Trading Cards: The Hot List — Top 20

Twenty cards the desk is watching into the season — ten rookies, five blue-chips, five names from next year's board.

TIP-OFF PREVIEW

The Season Starts October 20, 2026

The 2026-27 regular season tips off on October 20, 2026. These are the angles the site's race and pressure desks are carrying into opening night — in their own words.

Team Jsteez18k, Team budderybiscuts and TheAlphaGamer787 form the first pursuit pack, with OGTinoBerry and Team Madddyy close behind. Sabonis and Jaylen Brown, Maxey and Quickley, Giannis and Booker, Şengün and Holmgren, and Markkanen and Irving give five different builds a route into the championship tier.

Team ekreteiP sits at No. 16 behind the per-game force of Kawhi Leonard and Anthony Davis. Jalen Brunson’s Team Carsonthegoat1, the returning Tyrese Haliburton, MilfHunter1111’s four-guard creation portfolio and Jalen Williams-led Team Duffymj form the immediate chase. Availability and early-season role clarity could flip this entire tier.

Several seasons hinge on stars returning or staying on the floor. FlyHightothesky needs Jayson Tatum’s unrestricted comeback to reinforce the repeat bid; Haliburton and friends needs its namesake back as the offensive engine; Team Samir17’s ceiling still rises and falls with Joel Embiid and Paul George. Health can reorder both ends of the standings faster than any trade.

The top three picks landed on very different timelines: AJ Dybantsa gives Team Tinso a future No. 1 scorer, Darryn Peterson becomes Team bA1ler67’s centerpiece and Cameron Boozer joins Cooper Flagg on PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE. Immediate roles make all three rookies capable of pulling a rebuild forward before the contenders are ready for them.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE owns the clearest young core with Flagg, Boozer, Matas Buzelis and Kel’el Ware. Chain Net Ringers counters with Josh Giddey, Jalen Duren, Jared McCain and Scoot Henderson; Team richmcleod builds around Stephon Castle and Tre Johnson; Team Tinso and Team bA1ler67 hold two of the class’s highest-upside rookies. The future tier could start winning sooner than expected.

Team MariotaMagic combines Stephen Curry and Jimmy Butler with Derik Queen and Cameron Carr. Team Samir17 pairs Embiid and George with Tari Eason and Dailyn Swain, while Team HeirJordans balances Julius Randle against a young creation pipeline. Those mixed timelines create the season’s sharpest strategic choice: chase the present, or move veterans before the market decides for them.

Team Crevecoeur1, Team Zabatka47, Team Jauanaholics, A-Tuff, Ice Trae, ’n OG and Dem Thunder Boyz begin in positions 11 through 15, close enough to turn one hot month into a new contender. Anthony Edwards, Franz Wagner, Bam Adebayo, Trae Young and De’Aaron Fox give the group five different engines for breaking into the league’s upper tier.

Team MilfHunter1111 is betting on a four-guard development portfolio, Chain Net Ringers has Josh Giddey and Scoot Henderson, and Team richmcleod can watch Stephon Castle, Tre Johnson and Keaton Wagler compete for control of its future. The first young guard to seize a durable primary role could change both a rebuild’s timetable and the league’s trade market.

LeBron James and Jaylen Brown join Tyrese Maxey and Joel Embiid. Maxey may trade some assists for cleaner off-ball chances; Brown’s career-high 28.7 points per game should come down in a crowded creation tree.

Giannis Antetokounmpo moves to Miami after 27.6 points, 9.8 rebounds and 5.4 assists on 62.4% shooting—but only 36 games. Bam Adebayo returns to center and could lose scoring and assist volume.

Jayson Tatum and Tyrese Haliburton both enter camp without restrictions after Achilles recoveries. Tatum is more than 16 months removed; Indiana still plans to monitor Haliburton’s pace.

[{"label": "The title defence", "headline": "FlyHightothesky opens its repeat bid with the league's biggest Week 1", "body": "The defending champions posted the highest official score of Week 1 \u2014 385.0 \u2014 beat the 243.0 league median as well, and sit at seed 1 at 2-0. The refreshed power rankings, rebuilt from current rosters on October 26, keep them at No. 1 as well."}, {"label": "Perfect starts", "headline": "Twelve clubs open 2-0 \u2014 and twelve open 0-2", "body": "Week 1 doubled every result: a head-to-head result plus a result against the league median. Twelve clubs won both, twelve lost both, and the middle eight split. The median line for Week 1 was 243.0."}, {"label": "The second opponent", "headline": "Team richmcleod scored 239.5 and still went 0-2", "body": "Richmcleod's 239.5 would win plenty of weeks. Instead it lost the matchup to Team MilfHunter1111's 253.0 and fell 3.5 points short of the 243.0 median \u2014 an 0-2 start from a near-median score, in the matchup archive's closest thing to a bad beat."}, {"label": "Half a point", "headline": "404nation4theA edges Team TeamSmokes 157.5 to 157.0", "body": "The closest finish of Week 1: half a point separated Team 404nation4theA and Team TeamSmokes in the week's lowest-scoring matchup. TeamSmokes' consolation is the league's third-stingiest points-against (157.5)."}]

BIG BOARD RANKINGS

The 2027 Big Board — The Full Board

The site's verified 2027 big board on a single dense spread: all 100 prospects, position and school printed exactly as listed on the board.

BIG BOARD RANKINGS

The 2028 Big Board — The Full Board

The site's verified 2028 big board on a single dense spread: all 100 prospects, position and school printed exactly as listed on the board.

BIG BOARD RANKINGS

The 2029 Big Board — The Full Board

The site's verified 2029 big board on a single dense spread: all 100 prospects, position and school printed exactly as listed on the board.

BIG BOARD RANKINGS

The 2030 Big Board — The Full Board

The site's verified 2030 big board on a single dense spread: all 100 prospects, position and school printed exactly as listed on the board.

High School Rankings — Every Class, One Spread

The top 25 high-school prospects in each class, drawn from the class tags on the site's verified big boards and ranked in board order, with each prospect's school printed as the board lists it — all four classes on a single dense spread.

The Incoming Class — 2026 Draft, Picks 1–30

The 2026 drafted class as recorded on the site: picks 1–30 of 60, with each player's position, school and NBA team as listed.

#	Prospect	Pos	School
1	AJ Dybantsa	SF	BYU
2	Darryn Peterson	G	Kansas
3	Cameron Boozer	PF	Duke
4	Caleb Wilson	PF	North Carolina
5	Keaton Wagler	G	Illinois
6	Mikel Brown Jr.	G	Louisville
7	Darius Acuff Jr.	G	Arkansas
8	Kingston Flemings	G	Houston
9	Morez Johnson Jr.	F/C	Michigan
10	Brayden Burries	G	Arizona
11	Yaxel Lendeborg	F	Michigan
12	Aday Mara	C	Michigan
13	Nate Ament	F	Tennessee
14	Hannes Steinbach	C	Washington
15	Dailyn Swain	G/F	Texas
16	Bennett Stirtz	G	Iowa
17	Ebuka Okorie	G	Stanford
18	Christian Anderson Jr.	G	Texas Tech
19	Allen Graves	F	Santa Clara
20	Jayden Quaintance	C	Kentucky
21	Karim Lopez	F	New Zealand Breakers
22	Labaron Philon Jr.	G	Alabama
23	Zuby Ejiofor	F/C	St. John’s
24	Cameron Carr	G	Baylor
25	Sergio de Larrea	G	Valencia (Spain)
26	Tarris Reed Jr.	F/C	UConn
27	Chris Cenac Jr.	F/C	Houston
28	Joshua Jefferson	F	Iowa State
29	Alex Karaban	F	UConn
30	Koa Peat	F	Arizona

Source: the site's verified 2026 draft record.

The Incoming Class — 2026 Draft, Picks 31–60

The 2026 drafted class as recorded on the site: picks 31–60 of 60, with each player's position, school and NBA team as listed.

#	Prospect	Pos	School
31	Bruce Thornton	PG	Ohio State
32	Richie Saunders	SG/SF	BYU
33	Isaiah Evans	SG/SF	Duke
34	Meleek Thomas	PG/SG	Arkansas
35	Trevon Brazile	PF/C	Arkansas
36	Baba Miller	PF/C	Cincinnati
37	Ryan Conwell	SG	Louisville
38	Braden Smith	PG	Purdue
39	Jack Kayil	PG/SG	ALBA Berlin
40	Dillon Mitchell	PF	St. John’s
41	Otega Oweh	SG/SF	Kentucky
42	Ja'Kobi Gillespie	PG	Tennessee
43	Tyler Bilodeau	PF	UCLA
44	Maliq Brown	PF/C	Duke
45	Emmanuel Sharpe	SG	Houston
46	Felix Okpara	C	Tennessee
47	Tyler Nickel	SG/SF	Vanderbilt
48	Tobi Lawal	PF	Virginia Tech
49	Bryce Hopkins	SF/PF	St. John’s
50	Jaden Bradley	PG	Arizona
51	Izaiyah Nelson	PF/C	South Florida
52	Henri Veesaar	C	North Carolina
53	Ugonna Onyenso	C	Virginia
54	Lajae Jones	G	Florida State
55	Nick Martinelli	SF/PF	Northwestern
56	Vsevolod Ishchenko	F	Lokomotiv Kuban
57	Narcisse Ngoy	C	Auburn
58	Jaron Pierre Jr.	G	SMU
59	Trey Kaufman-Renn	PF/C	Purdue
60	Malique Lewis	F	South East Melbourne Phoenix

Source: the site's verified 2026 draft record.

THE COMICS PAGE

The Vault — A Hoops Illustrated Comic

An original strip in the magazine's house art: the pick economy, dramatised.

Hoops Heights & The Arcade

One more page before tip-off.

Hoops Heights — Episode 1: Banner Night

Now showing — the expanded Episode 1 in full (13:03): the banner-rope mystery, the 32-window title sequence, the Banner Hour countdown and the Form 27-B climax.

THE SONGS

A1 · Hoops Heights — Theme Song — The anthem: every one of the 32 team names, sung by the cast. 2:26.
A2 · Episode 1 — The Calm Before Tip-Off (audio) — The full premiere episode as audio: theme-song introduction, the Commissioner's open, all eight storyline scenes, the League Meeting and the close.

THE ARCADE

Around The World · Board Battle · Buzzer Beater · Dunk Contest · Fantasy Faceoff · Free Throw Frenzy · Full Court Press · Hoops Blitz · Lane Bandit · Pinball · Swipe Controls · Three Point Shootout · Hardwood Grand Prix · Vr Free Throws

{'player': 'Jayson Tatum', 'club': 'Team FlyHightothesky', 'title': 'Jayson Tatum Highlights vs Philadelphia 76ers (23 pts, 5 reb, 5 ast) | 2026 NBA Preseason', 'channel': 'Tomasz Kordylewski (Timi)', 'videoId': 'c-bC-ZzIhwA'}

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