

POSTERIZES

POWERED BY BASKETBALL FOREVER

2015/16 NBA
PREVIEW

ANTHONY
DAVIS

LAMAR
ODOM
TIM
DUNCAN



RUDY GOBERT

RUDE AWAKENING

COVER ART BY PUREHOOP



NEWSPAPER

POSTERIZES
THE MAGAZINE



ARTWORK BY JENNIFER HYNDS

INSIDE THE MAG

4.

TIM DUNCAN:
QUEST FOR SIXTH

12.

LAMAR ODOM:
THE GOODS, THE BAD
AND THE UGLY

14.

RUDY GOBERT:
VERTICAL LIMIT

28.

2015/16 NBA
SEASON PREVIEW

44.

ANTHONY DAVIS:
REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

52.

CONSCIOUS

59.

ARTIST INTERVIEW:
MATT SANOIAN

64.

YOUR ROOKIE PICK
D'ANGELO RUSSELL

66.

THE TEAM

POSTERIZES

TYSON BECK

Editor In Chief

DESIGNERS & ARTISTS

PureHoop // Melvin Rodas // Matt Sanoian //
BamBamBam! // Tak Wong // Kwang //
Dariusz Ejkiwicz // Collection by VC //
Daniel Goldfarb // Gabriela Bury //
Markkó Hellát // Chad Gersky // Gary Chen //
Jennifer Hynds // Nathan Lee //
Ishaan Mishra // BounceX3 // Karmo Ruusma

ART DIRECTOR

Tyson Beck

FEATURED WRITERS



**ZAC
DAY**



**TOM
ATKINSON**



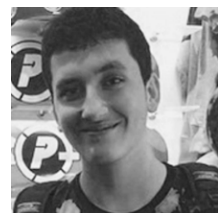
**MATT
LEONARDO**



**MJ
STEPHENS**



**NICK
JUNGFER**



**KENAN
SINAN**

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES

editor@posterizes.com

POWERED BY BASKETBALL FOREVER



© Posterizes // Forever Network Pty Ltd.
Artwork is the ownership of the original
Artist / Designer, and is protected by creative commons 4.0.
Any commercial use, distribution or alteration without the express
written consent of Posterizes is prohibited.

Posterizes does not represent the NBA or any of its teams or
sponsors. All photography, logos and assets are copyrighted to their
original owners. Photos credit // Getty Images.



POSTERIZES



REQUEST FOR SIXTH

TIM DUNCAN'S LEGACY



98-99



02-03



04-05



06-07



13-14



15-16

ARTWORK BY **DARIUSZ EJKEWICZ**
GABRIELA BURY
WORDS BY **MJ STEPHENS**

T

he “Twin Towers.” A term synonymous with basketball greatness. The term was originally coined for a pair of dominate Houston Rockets big men in the 80s you may have heard of by the names of Ralph Sampson and Hakeem (then Akeem) Olajuwon. This duo peaked in 1986 when they went all the way to the NBA Finals only to lose to the Larry “Legend” Bird led Boston Celtics. As the story goes, Olajuwon would go on to win back-to-back championships in the 90s and Sampson would fade into the limelight. Despite the memorable accomplishments of these two highly acclaimed 7-footers, the term “Twin Towers” has become synonymous with another duo of basketball legends, David Robinson and Tim Duncan.

This master and apprentice relationship started in 1997 when the San Antonio Spurs drafted Duncan with the first overall pick. Coming off a tumultuous season due to the back and foot injuries of star David Robinson, the Spurs had declined rapidly to the point of high lottery pick. After acquiring Duncan, the Spurs luck would continue with the healthy return of Robinson the next season. Possibly more importantly than this was the bond formed between the two big men. The well-documented relationship between Robinson and Duncan would be crucial in Duncan’s development into Mr. Fundamental and one of the greatest power forwards of all time. As the David Robinson and Tim Duncan relationship flourished, the “Twin Towers” enjoyed early success winning the 1998-99 NBA Championship. The celebration wouldn’t last long though.

ART BY SEAN REILY





With an aging Robinson, the Spurs struggled to make it back to the NBA Finals. Relief would come in 2001, in the form of newly drafted Paris Basketball Racing team Frenchman (I kid you not), Tony Parker, and in the subsequent year a young Argentinian you may have heard of, Manu Ginobili. With Duncan at the helm, this new trio joined a fraternity of famous (and infamous) big threes in basketball history. Together they would win four more NBA titles and carve out a place in NBA history.

While the big three started to age, the Spurs would defy the odds one more time. They would go on to win the 2014 NBA Finals against the Miami Heat seven years post their previous championship. Their success against the Heat was in no small part due to youthful additions, such as the small forward Kawhi Leonard. What may have seemed like a nightcap to the great careers of Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, and Manu Ginobili (who are certainly in the twilight of their careers in this point in time) proved the big three's tank wasn't empty, nor their ambition.

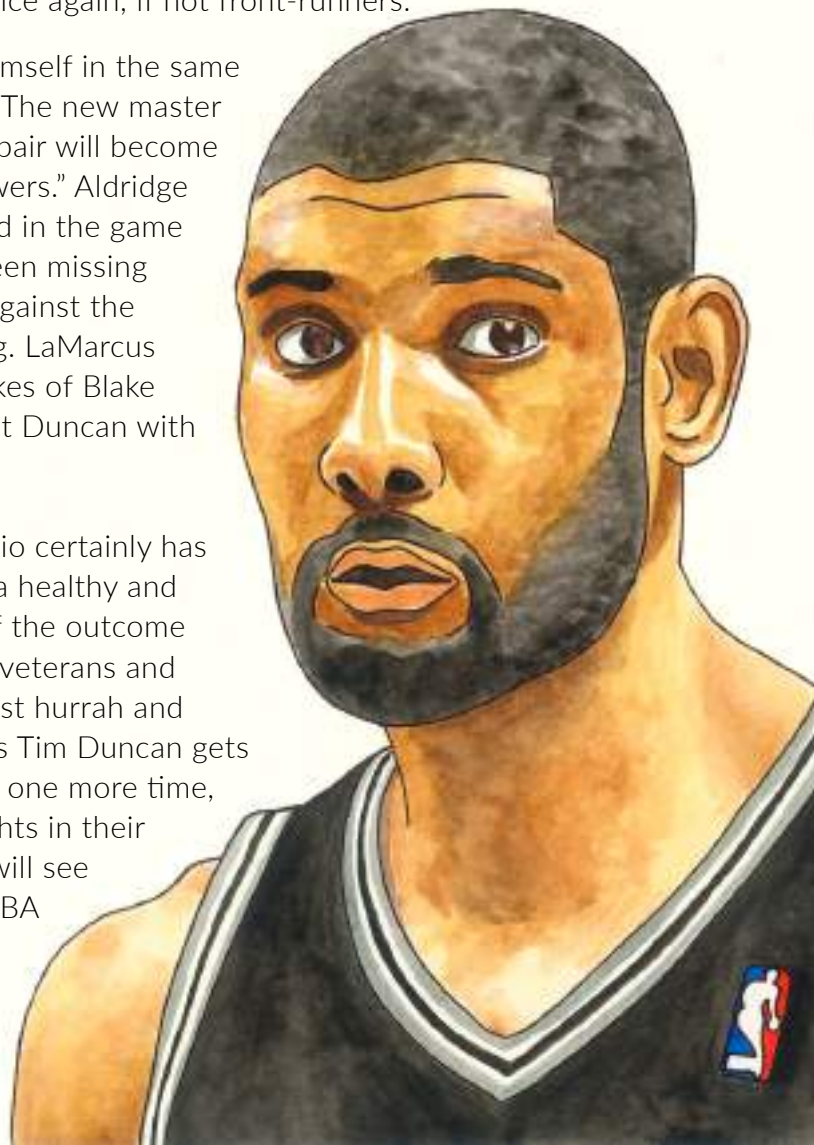
Despite the aging of this iron man trio, no retirements have officially been planned, though seemingly imminent. The 2015-16 season is rumored to be Ginobili's last and surely Duncan is soon to follow. If the Ginobili rumors are to be true this makes the 2015-16 season the "last dance" for the big three. A last hurrah for a group that may not have ever one back-to-back titles but unquestionably earned a place among the NBA dynasties with their longevity and ring count.

Perhaps Manu Ginobili's motivation to play one more season in a black and silver uniform came after the blockbuster acquisition of LaMarcus Aldridge. Combining the youthful Aldridge with the lockdown defense of 2014 NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard equates to a deadly foundation for the Spurs future post the big three era. In the immediate future the Spurs become that much more unstoppable, having two key pieces that will be able to relieve the big three when necessary. Oh and did I forget to mention the signing of David West? The Spurs off-season moves and returning vets all add up to the San Antonio Spurs at the top of the NBA ladder once again, if not front-runners.

Thus we come full circle. Tim Duncan now finds himself in the same role as David Robinson so many years before him. The new master to his apprentice LaMarcus Aldridge, perhaps this pair will become a second version, the remix of the Spurs "Twin Towers." Aldridge gets to learn from arguably the best power forward in the game and Duncan gets the relief in the middle he has been missing the last few seasons. A potential playoff rematch against the Los Angeles Clippers just got a lot more interesting. LaMarcus Aldridge will add a level playing field against the likes of Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan who capitalized against Duncan with the struggling Tiago Splitter last season.

While the Spurs future is uncertain and San Antonio certainly has been prone to injuries in the past, it's hard to see a healthy and retooled Spurs losing in the playoffs. Regardless of the outcome next season, fans will get to enjoy a deadly mix of veterans and young talent as the Spurs veterans push for one last hurrah and the young guns push to prove their worth. Perhaps Tim Duncan gets number six, perhaps the big three goes out on top one more time, and perhaps Duncan propels Aldridge to new heights in their newly formed relationship. If so, Duncan's legacy will see a final chapter as the new "Twin Towers" soar to NBA Greatness. - **MARK STEPHENS**

ART BY NATHAN LEE





Get Topps KICK® for **FREE** on iPhone, iPad, and Android



All Bundesliga club logos and DFL logos are protected trademarks of the respective clubs/organisations and are used with the kind permission of the respective owners. Manufactured under license from the DFL/Ligaverband in sole responsibility of Topps Deutschland GmbH. TOPPS® AND TOPPS KICK® ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE TOPPS COMPANY, INC. Apple, the Apple logo, iPad, and iPhone are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.



ART BY PUREHOOP



[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)

EVERYDAY
VALUE

PINEAPPLE 799





THE GOODS,
THE BAD AND THE
UGLY

WORDS BY ART BY
ALEX SUMSKY TYSON BECK

“Death always seems to be around me,” Odom told the Los Angeles Times in 2011 “I’ve been burying people for a long time.”

Unconscious in a brothel is not where fans thought they’d find Lamar Odom 4 years on.

Odom’s presence had been felt throughout the NBA for a career spanning 14 seasons. A man that every NBA fan and player alike, knew and respected. A man that had offered his service to USA Basketball during the summer of 2010, serving as a co-captain and a key veteran presence on the FIBA World Championship gold-medal winning team in Turkey. A man who’d won back to back NBA championships with one of the most storied franchises in sports history in 09 and 10. He’d gone on to be a hands down choice for 6th Man of the Year and was a potential All-Star reserve in 2011.

The events that transpired from that point onwards began the ripple effect that sparked Odom’s soul crushing fall from grace. Lamar, who’d had an illustrious career, a player that could truly do it all on the court, would soon find himself on his death bed just a few short years later. Lamar Odom has spent the last 2 weeks transitioning from knocking on death’s door to slowly rehabilitating himself. With 4 organ failures, and such a severe loss of oxygen to the brain, it seemed like a miracle that he’d survived what can only be described as 72 hours of debauchery.

From an outsiders perspective and the wider media, it’s very easy to throw shade at Lamar who appears to have thrown away his career, but it’s important to delve a little deeper into the trials and tribulations of the former Laker, husband and father to truly understand what he was battling.

He was only 12 years old when his mother, Cathy, died of colon cancer. His father was never a major presence in his life so his grandmother, Mildred Mercer, raised him as a teenager before passing away in 2003. Lamar was suspended twice by the league for violating its anti-drug program before confessing tearfully to reporters that he was using marijuana. Only three years after the passing of his grandmother, a grief-stricken Odom found himself in a hospital cradling his 6-month-old son,

Jayden, who had died in his crib of sudden infant death syndrome.

For most of his NBA career, Odom was with longtime girlfriend Liza Morales, who he met in high school. But by 2009, the relationship was over after Morales said she learned Odom was having an affair. Then came Khloe Kardashian who he married a month after meeting her on “Keeping Up With the Kardashians.” Odom was again accused of infidelity and Khloe Kardashian filed for divorce in 2013.

Lamar Odom left the Lakers for the Dallas Mavericks after discovering the organisation’s plans to trade him. Odom played a lack lustre season before then ending up back on the Clippers where he retired in 2013. His departure from the league deprived him of the stability that came with being an NBA player.

He went on to pleading no contest to a DUI, stemming from a fragile state after the death of a close childhood friend as well as a cousin of his. Lamar launched several business ventures including a clothing line, none of which took off.

Odom’s life wasn’t as smooth sailing as you’d think watching his rise to stardom on the court. He endured a great deal of suffering that led to a perpetual drug habit. He was taken advantage of and degraded by the media. He was a man that needed help and not many people left in his life willing to reach out.

Unconscious in a brothel is not where fans thought they’d find Lamar Odom, but seems to be exactly where friends, family and teammates feared he’d end up. The league has learnt a lesson these past few weeks that they shan’t forget quickly. Rather than dragging players down, the league and the media should be lifting them up. Every player deals with off-court issues, some more severe than others.

Lets invest in our athletes and put them in a position to succeed so that we can continue to enjoy their talent night in & night out.

- ALEX SUMSKY

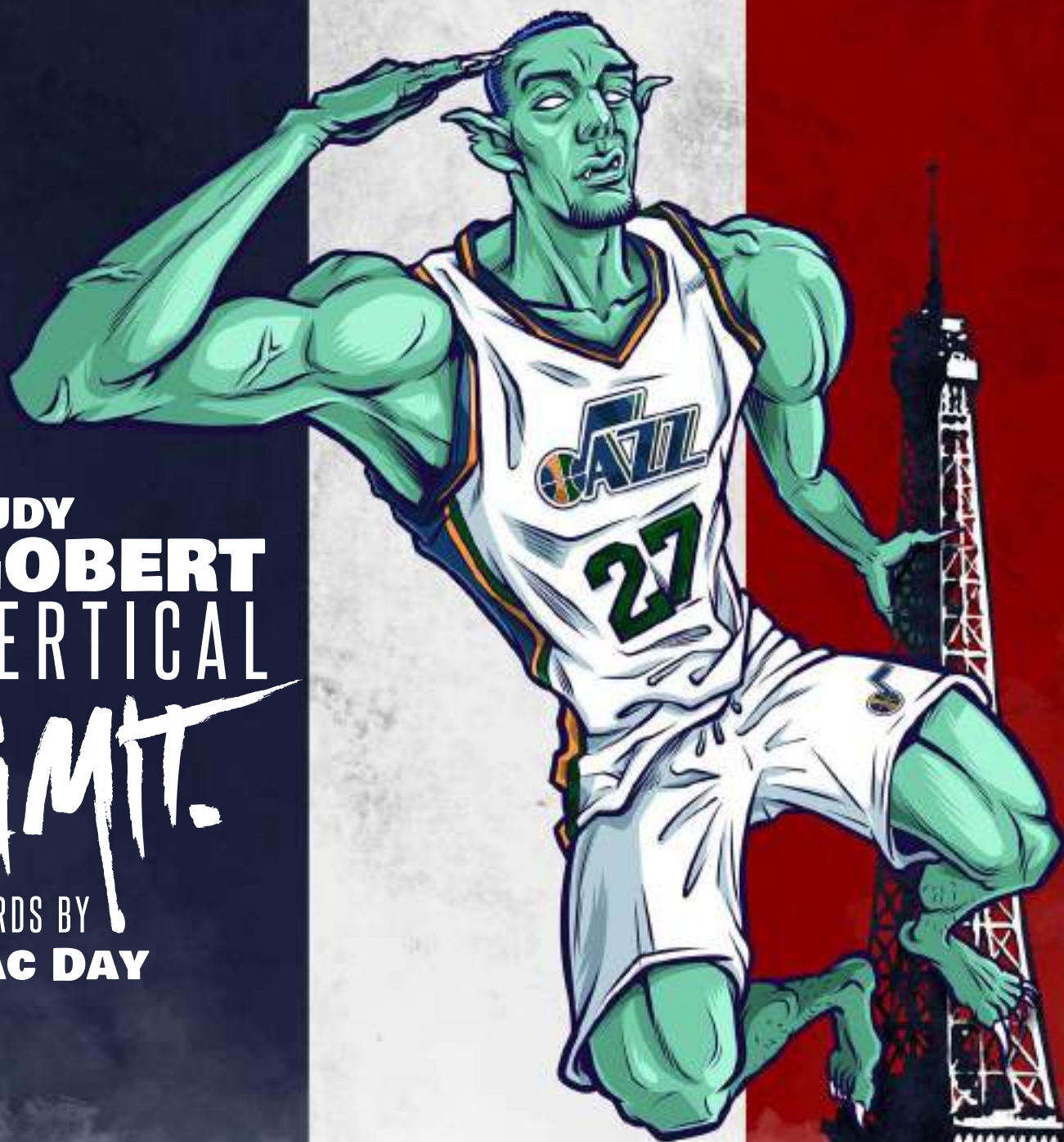
POSTERIZES

**RUDY
GOBERT**
VERTICAL

LIMIT.

WORDS BY
ZAC DAY

ART BY
BAMBAMBAM!



LABELED A

'PROJECT'

**TWO YEARS AGO, UTAH JAZZ
CENTER**

RUDY GOBERT

**HAS QUICKLY BECOME
THE NBA'S PREEMINENT
DEFENSIVE PLAYER.**

Time is running out. You set up base camp some time ago and have attempted to reach the summit on a few occasions already. You have failed on each. Supplies are running low, and your energy is dwindling, but it's now or never and the apex is so alluring that you rally your squad for one last hurrah. This is what you've come for. Life or death. There's a hurtling storm hissing at you from every angle above; you're in foreign territory, but you can't go back now. Gradually, you move onward, crossing over and over, avoiding the trees until you see it. A path. It's a tight fit between two converging boulders, but you think you can make it so you charge ahead. Hearts pound as you drive, but no one's got time to notice, not now while you're so close to the peak. You launch yourself into rare air; you're right there you can feel it, so close you can taste it. Victory seems destined as you cock the flag and try to slam it home. But it doesn't stick. The pole caroms back, *hard*, and you lose your grip. You fall. The storm continues, the wind stronger than ever, whistling it's own melodic tune: sweet jazz. You have just met Rudy Gobert. And he will have none of your nonsense.

**" I
WANT
TO BE THE
BEST
DEFENSIVE
PLAYER IN THE
LEAGUE
"**

Drafted 27th overall in 2013 by Denver and traded on the same night to Utah for 46th pick Eric Green and cash, Rudy Gobert was not meant to have *this* sort of an impact in the NBA. Labeled a project coming into the league, Gobert was sent back and forth between the Jazz and D-League affiliate the Bakersfield Jam, ultimately seeing court time in just 45 games as a rookie. Then last year happened and, as if epochs of orogeny were rapidly condensed into a year, a mountain was born, one whose reach was interminable, and whose continued ascension would not be denied.

Following an impressive showing at the 2014 Summer League, Gobert earned backup duty behind Enes Kanter and began making waves in the regular season, increasing his court time and productivity with every month. In fact, Gobert was so good – and his impact so extensive – that Utah traded Kanter (who'd go on to sign a \$70 million dollar contract with Oklahoma City) for a used washing machine and the right to waive Kendrick Perkins. Gobert more than justified the trade, putting up monster lines on the regular: 15 points and 24 rebounds against All-NBA first teamer Marc Gasol (while holding him to 40% shooting), 19, 22, and 4 blocks against Houston, and another 20, 17 and 3 against Dallas. These were playoff teams, folks. Oh, and they were all wins. For the year, the Stifle Tower averaged 8.4ppg, 9.5rpg, and 2.3bpg in *just* 26 minutes, but those numbers don't tell half the story, as the Jazz transformed into the league's best defensive team after the All-Star break. Finishing fifth in last year's Defensive Player of the Year voting and third in the Most Improved Player category, Rudy Gobert has certainly put the Association on notice. This year, he may just take the Jazz into the playoffs.



ZD: Congratulations on your bronze medal at Eurobasket. Obviously representing your country and bringing home a medal is something every athlete dreams of. What did that experience mean for you?

RG: Umm, it's always a great experience, you know, especially when you win a medal. We were a little disappointing for not, you know, not going to the final and getting the qualifications for Rio, but we're very motivated to come back next summer and get the qualification and go get a medal in the Olympics.

ZD: Individually, you have to be pleased with your performance. How do you feel about the way that you performed on the international stage?

RG: Ah, I wouldn't say 'pleased' but I was feeling good, you know? So, I learnt a lot and I've still got a lot to get better, better at, but I feel like I'm getting better every competition so it's good.

ZD: Rudy, your father played basketball professionally and for France as well. How much did he influence your development as a player?

RG: Yeah he played in college and played in France and for the French national team also. [So] a lot, you know when your dad is a professional it makes you always want to be like him. I wouldn't say an example, but he was something to follow, you know, and that gives you motivation.

ZD: I read that he had a very short cameo role in Eddie Murphy's *Coming to America*. Is there any chance that we will see you on the big screen?

RG: (Laughs). Ah, maybe. When I was a kid, you know, I wasn't gonna play basketball, but my mum showed me the movie and it was fun to see him. So of course, it would be fun. It would be fun.

**"OF COURSE I'M
GOING TO PROBABLY
WIN SOME AWARDS
IN MY CAREER AND
I HOPE SO"**



ZD: Speaking of influences, are there any current or former NBA players you've aspired to be or tried to model your game after?

RG: There's been a lot of players, you know, I watch and I try to learn off. Um, I'm still watching a lot of games, you know, and try to learn from every player. Just generally, you know, some players that are very good defensively – but I like to watch, you know, like post moves and some players that are great defensively.

ZD: Are there any opponents that you get specifically excited to play against?

RG: Ah, there's always some, you know – the good players, the stars; some players that you are always motivated to play against them. But not really, not one in particular.

ZD: Do you have any rivalries with anyone in particular?

RG: Not yet (laughs), but I hope in a few years. This year we are going to be a rivalry with some teams in the playoffs. It's going to be fun.

ZD: Individually, Rudy, who's your most difficult match up in the league?

RG: Um, I don't really have one, you know? I mean the bigs who can pop and shoot threes are just, you know, different for me because I can't help like I'm helping when I've got a big that don't shoot threes, so it's just a different way to play. But I don't have that big that I say that I can't stop; just sometimes you've got to play differently.

ZD: Speaking of that, obviously shooting and spacing is becoming more and more prominent in the NBA and the modern game has been coined the 'golden age' for point guards. How do you manage switching from guarding players like Dwight Howard and Demarcus Cousins underneath the basket to point guards like Chris Paul and Steph Curry?

RG: I mean it depends what kind of defense you want to play. Like for us, we don't really switch with the five, but of course if I have to switch it's pretty tough for me to guard. I won't say stop, but Steph Curry's a great shooter, so I'll try to make him drive and try to make him hit a tough shot, a tough layup, or make him pass the ball – that would be the best solution.

ZD: Rudy, I first saw you playing in the Summer League a few years ago and remember thinking to myself, *wow, this guy just completely shuts down the basket area*. I was almost afraid for players that would try and drive inside against you! Was there a specific moment that realized you belonged in the NBA?

RG: Ah, I will say when I was like, probably thirteen, my goal was to play in the NBA and then when I kept getting better and getting older I was more and more and more motivated to go there.

ZD: Once you won the starting job for Utah last season the team's identity changed entirely. You went from one of the worst defensive teams in the first half of the year to the number one ranked team in the second half of the year. How did you manage that change, going from a rookie seeing limited court time, to a key reserve, to being *the* starting centre and defensive anchor?

RG: Just learning, you know? Just learning every day. And I think we just got better. I think of course the fact that I started changed it a little bit, but I think we just got better as a team throughout the season and did what the coaches asked us and I think everybody took pride, really, to play defense during the season and it worked out pretty well.

ZD: Definitely – you guys finished the season so strongly after the All-Star break.

RG: Yeah, we were the first team after the All-Star break in terms of defense. I mean that's great, that was great because all [the coaches] asked us in the season paid off at the end and we saw that, you know? That's great that we trusted what we was doing . . . and we want to start the season the same way we finished off the last one.

POSTERIZES



ART BY MELVIN RODAS

ZD: You finished last year's Defensive Player of the Year award in fifth place, which is a fantastic achievement for anyone, let alone a sophomore who only started roughly half of the games for their team. As a result, many including me have pegged you as a front-runner for the award this year. How much emphasis do you put into awards like this?

RG: I mean, of course it's a goal of my career to be Defensive Player of the Year. If you did the best, I want to be the best defensive player in the league. It's great. It's great to see that now I'm in the conversation and it really motivates me to do more every year.

ZD: Speaking of achievement, what are your personal goals for this season?

RG: Personal goals, I would say the playoffs. I think it's the only thing that I want to do this season. And if I play good, you know, I think I'm going to make the team better and give us more chances to make the playoffs.

ZD: Your focus and identity is based on defense. Are you looking to expand your offensive role?

RG: Of course, of course. That's the main thing for me this year – keep getting better offensively and keeping the same, if not better, defense.

ZD: Has there been anything specific offensively that you've been working on in the off-season that we can expect to see on the court this coming year?

RG: Ah, I can improve my jump shot and of course my post moves, you know being more aggressive. I think it's more mental. The problem with me was that sometimes I wasn't enough aggressive, wasn't aggressive enough, and that's the main thing that I need to do – be aggressive and when I get the ball think about scoring, not just think about passing. When I'm under the basket think about scoring, 'cause I can really score. That's a goal for me this year.



ZD: And with your length and size inside it's going to be pretty hard for people to stop that.

RG: Of course. And that's the main thing; I've gotten a lot stronger this summer and the more stronger I get the better it's going to be for me in the post and the stronger I'm going to be with the ball.

ZD: Last season you ranked near the top of the league in a number of individual statistical categories, including leading the league block percentage (7.0%) and having the lowest opponents' field goal percentage at the rim (40.4%). Do you follow the league's trend towards relying on advanced stats?

RG: Um, I think I saw it a bit. You know, some people tweeted me about the rim protection and I think I took pride to make sure nobody scored when I'm in the paint. But it just comes naturally when you don't want people to score on you. It just gets easier and that was the main goal for me last season when I came on the court – make sure I protect the paint. You gotta be smart.

27

ZD: Long term, Rudy, what's your ceiling as a player – are we talking an All Star? Are we talking All-NBA potentially? Do you have any of those goals in mind?

RG: Of course I have those in mind. I don't really know what my ceiling is. As long as I keep getting better and keep winning that's the main thing. I want to win and if I keep getting better then the team is going to get better. That's my goal. Of course I'm going to probably win some awards in my career and I hope so.

ZD: Now they say that earning a nickname is the mark of a player who's made it and you've already got some unique nicknames. 'The Stifle Tower' is one that was thrown around, as well as the 'The French Rejection'. I read that you didn't like 'The Stifle Tower' when you first heard it. Is this correct or have your thoughts changed?

RG: I wouldn't say that I didn't like it; I didn't understand it (laughs).

ZD: As it seemingly always is, the West looks stacked again this year. As you said, you guys finished off the last season with a really good record after the All-Star break. How do you see the upcoming season playing out?

RG: I think we've got a great group of guys and we've still got the same coaching staff, but we really want to start, you know, on the same path and getting better from how we finished last year. I think last year showed us how great we can be defensively and I think teams are going to respect us more this year, so we will keep getting better and working, also offensively, and to learn how to pick up our defense even more.

ZD: You just mentioned improving as a team. Where does that improvement come from because you didn't have many roster changes?

RG: First, I think we all got better individually this summer, but just learning to play with each other and trust each other. I think we've got the same core this year and last year had to learn to trust

each other a lot more. And that's the only way to do it: trust each other, know each other, and play with each other for many years. That's what it will be soon enough.

ZD: Do you think there any other pieces that you guys need to add in order to compete in the playoffs?

RG: I mean you can always say you need this and this, but I think we've got the right team for it. That's the only thing. How we play and the way we defend and the way we play together I think we've got enough talent to be in the playoffs.

ZD: Rudy, you recently tweeted an image of you from NBA Live with the humorous caption 'who did this to me?'. Is connecting with fans on social media something that you really try to do?

RG: Yeah, of course. I try to not take myself too seriously. On social media I'm very careful with what I say and sometimes I just be myself.

ZD: And away from basketball how do you spend your down time? Do you have any hobbies or interests, in particular?

RG: Yeah, video games and just going to the movies. In the summer time I like to try something different, you know like, I did some hiking in Utah. I like to do a lot of stuff, regular stuff.

“ I DON'T
REALLY
KNOW
WHAT MY
CEILING IS ”

ZD: Obviously, the NBA must be a dream come true, but being from France and living internationally for a large portion of the year must be difficult and on top of that you've got the struggle of an 82 game schedule and all the flying that comes with that. How do you mentally survive that grind?

RG: Ah, just being motivated, you know? Just thinking . . . in your off time enjoy every day and be happy with what you do; I think it helps you a lot. If you just think about game, game, game – and that's what I do – but when I'm on my off time I'm trying to have some time just to relax and enjoy. And I enjoy playing basketball, so it goes pretty fast.

ZD: If we were to flash-forward thirty years, how would you want people to remember Rudy Gobert as a basketball player?

RG: Um, one of the best ever. A winner, a winner.

ZD: Finally, Rudy, I have to ask – you have two Australians on your team in Joe Ingles and Dante Exum. Is there any chance that you will visit Australia in the near future?

RG: Ah, I mean would like to, I would like to. Australia is really just very far, so I need a lot of time, but of course I'm going to go sooner or later.

ZD: And when you're out here if you ever need a pick up game you can always join our team.

RG: (Laughs). No problem! (Laughs).

ZD: I'll hold you to that! Lastly, is there anything you'd like to say to your fans?

RG: To my fans, just thanks for the support. It's only the beginning.

- ZAC DAY

“

**I THINK
LAST YEAR
SHOWED US
HOW GREAT
WE CAN BE
DEFENSIVELY**

”



FREE VERSE: RUDY TELLS IT HOW IT IS

WHO WOULD YOU NEVER LET CHOOSE THE MUSIC PLAYLIST ON THE TEAM BUS OR PLANE?

Ah, I don't know, maybe Gordon, Gordon Hayward (laughs).

WHICH TEAMMATE SPENDS THE MOST TIME IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR?

Um, probably the same guy (laughs).

WHICH TEAMMATE CAN NEVER BEAT YOU ON NBA 2K?

I'm more a FIFA guy. The Australian guy, Dante Exum [he can't beat me]. Nobody can beat me though. Elijah Millsap can't beat me. Gordon beat me a couple of times, but now he can't beat me no more. Nobody. Nobody can beat me (laughs).

WHO'S ALWAYS THE LAST TO LEAVE THE BUFFET? Ah, maybe me (laughs).

WHO'S GOT THE STRANGEST HABIT?

The strangest habit? I don't know, I don't know. Nobody's really got strange habits; I didn't see nobody with any strange habits.

WE'VE HEARD OF DIRK NOWITZKI PLAYING THE SAXOPHONE AND DESMOND MASON, A FORMER NBA PLAYER, HAS BECOME A RENOWNED ARTIST. DO YOU HAVE A SECRET TALENT?

Maybe, but I don't know yet (laughs). I don't think. There's nothing I do - I don't paint, I don't play music - I just like to play video games and do regular stuff. I don't think I've got [any other] talents. I mean great talents, like a great music player. I think you've just got to practice, just practice and get better. That's what it is.

GAUTIER & Rudy Gobert

Made in France conquers the world

Gautier, the French contemporary furniture manufacturer with stores in over 65 countries across the world, and Rudy Gobert, the Utah Jazz center, are living proof that French manufacturing has succeeded abroad. Both ambitious, audacious and with high standards, it was only natural for them to join forces in order to aim higher than ever before. "The word impossible is not French".



GAUTIER
Stylish French Living

FRENCH MANUFACTURER
WWW.GAUTIER.FR

230 Adelaide Street East - ON M5A 1M9 - TORONTO

+1 416 777 9494 - E-mail: toronto@gautier-shops.com

WANT TO JOIN THE TEAM?

SEND YOUR WORK/PORTFOLIO TO
EDITOR@POSTERIZES.COM

POSTERIZES

ART BY ISHAAN MISHRA



SHOP NOW

**25% OFF. USE CODE
POSTERIZES AT CHECKOUT**

**VALID UNTIL
12/1/2015**



LevelWear

WHERE LIFE AND STYLE BECOME ONE



BASKETBALL FOREVER

BASKETBALLFOREVER.COM



THE
FUTURE
IS NOW



ARTICLES, BREAKING NEWS, VIDEO, ONLINE GAMES
POSTERIZES MAGAZINE, WALLPAPERS, MERCHANDISE
FAN SUBMITTED CONTENT AND MORE!



POSTERIZES

ART BY TYSON BECK

POSTERIZES

NBA
2015
2016
FREE
VIEW



CONSCIOUS



ART BY
KWANG

ATLANTIC DIVISION

BY TOM ATKINSON

Another dismal year is on the horizon for the 76ers, with only around \$3 million worth of signings added to the roster. The most notable acquisitions from the stagnant offseason are Kendall Marshall and Nik Stauskas, along with the new draftee Jahlil Okafor, who slipped to the third pick in the draft. All three players pose exciting prospects for coach Brett Brown and compliment the development of Nerlens Noel, as well as providing some sort of relief for the injured Joel Embiid, who is set to miss his second straight NBA season. "We all want to make Playoffs," Okafor said on Media Day, however, deep down, everyone including himself knows that winning more than 20 games will be a success for the continually rebuilding franchise.



[19 - 63]

Coming off a 17-win season is not easy, especially for the proud New York Knicks, who have never suffered such an unsuccessful season. However, they still have one of the game's biggest superstars on their roster in the form of Carmelo Anthony (who you have to keep in mind only played 40 games last season). Phil Jackson made some bold offseason moves, including drafting Kristaps Porzingis with the fourth pick in the draft as well as filling key roles with questionable players yet to prove their true worth. However, the moves did impress the notorious Knicks critic Charles Barkley, who said last year they "shouldn't even be on TV." Don't be expecting a disaster like their previous campaign, but also don't be expecting a Playoff birth, even in the East.



[29 - 63]

It's 50 – 50 between the Nets and Knicks when it comes to who will get the better (or worse) record. The Nets have established their franchise corner piece as Brook Lopez, who inked a \$63 million deal over the summer, whom they will aim to rebuild around for the next handful of seasons. Former marquee signing Deron Williams had his contract bought out, as well as Mason Plumlee (Phoenix) and Mirza Teletovic (Portland) finding new homes. It will be tough for Brooklyn to register wins this season, but given their unpredictable line up you can't count them out of a seventh or eighth seed in the East. Realistically however, Joe Johnson, Andrea Bargnani and Jarrett Jack aren't going to cut it, even with prospects like Thomas Robinson and Shane Larkin being welcomed to the squad.



[32 - 50]

The Boston Celtics easily have the biggest upside in the Atlantic, and we saw why towards the end of last season as they pushed into the Eastern Conference Playoffs, even though they were still two games off a winning record. With a young roster and a young coach, the addition of seasoned veterans Amir Johnson and David Lee in the offseason provides the Celtics with great depth, as we now see the likes of Jared Sullinger fighting for court time. Perhaps the most vital aspect of the C's season is going to be the performance of their backcourt, with the likes of Allen and Rondo all but a distant memory, Marcus Smart and 6th man candidate Isaiah Thomas spearhead the rebuilt roster. An impressive season and a large amount of cap space (predicted around \$50 million) could lure a big name signing next offseason.



[42 - 40]

The Raptors will have high hopes coming into this season, not only because of their summer transfers, but also because of star guard Kyle Lowry's extremely impressive preseason. It may only be preseason, but there are promising signs nevertheless, as DeMar DeRozan is also playing for a new contract. Toronto appears to have plenty to be excited for, as after a \$90 million pay out during the offseason they got their men – DeMarre Carroll and Cory Joseph. Both are an upgrade on all departing players and will compliment Dwane Casey's plans both offensively and defensively. In a low key, yet exciting signing, they also welcomed number one pick Anthony Bennett, who returns home to Canada to hopefully launch a respectable NBA career. The Raptors are the Atlantic's only true hope, so we can expect them to get at least past the first round of the Playoffs.



[51 - 31]

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

BY KENAN SINAN

After the Atlanta Hawks surprised the NBA last year with their excellent performance, they are poised for another great season under NBA coach of the year Mike Budenholzer. Even though the team was hit by defensive standout Demarre Carroll's departure, expect a 50+ win season from the Hawks. The addition of Tiago Splitter, who worked under Budenholzer in San Antonio, brings Atlanta the extremely rare European type of play that many teams adore. Splitter's crafty play and his ability to stretch the floor, with his eagerness to shoot outside the paint will prove helpful for the Hawks. However, with a bench that lacks depth and the fact that Thabo Sefolosha and Kyle Korver are almost well past their primes, the Hawks are still one or two pieces away from being considered legitimate title contenders and thus will not produce as good of a season that they produced last year.



[53 - 29]

Regressing a bit last year, expect the Hornets to improve this upcoming 2015-2016 season. Unlike last year, the Hornets now have a healthy Al Jefferson and lack Lance Stephenson, who played terrible in his short stint with the team. The Hornets heavily improved their bench in all aspects, with the additions of Jeremy Lin, Frank Kaminsky, Spencer Hawes, and Tyler Hansbrough. Many of the teams in the Eastern conference improved as well, so it will be a challenge for the Hornets to get to the playoffs, however it is certainly possible.

As of now, I see the Hornets grabbing the 10th seed in the east, barely missing the playoffs.



[37 - 45]

After barely missing the playoffs last year, I can almost guarantee that the Miami Heat are set to secure a nice spot in next year's playoffs, for a few reasons. First, this year, Chris Bosh is coming back 100% healthy, after missing a huge chunk of last season. Bosh stretches the floor nicely for Hassan Whiteside, with his ability to shoot outside the paint ironically better than most guards. Second, not only were the Heat able to resign Dwyane Wade and Goran Dragic, but they were also able to bring depth with players such as Justise Winslow, Amare Stoudemire, and Gerald Green. Justice Winslow has huge upside, many comparing him to Houston Rocket superstar, James Harden. The burning question however is whether the Heat can stay healthy throughout the season. The Heat are one of the oldest teams in the NBA and contain many injury prone players, hopefully they can stay healthy.



[49 - 33]

At some point, a franchise that is in its rebuilding stage has to eventually start progressing. Fortunately, for the Magic I feel this is the year for them. Nikola Vucevic is probably one of the most underrated centers in the game. Victor Oladipo's explosiveness, with his ability to attack the rim and improvement over the years shows that he has something special. Elfrid Payton, who many thought was picked early in the 2014 draft, made great improvements throughout last year. Not to mention, the Magic did re-sign Tobias Harris, who is almost their go to guy when it really counts. The only problem is while the Magic are improving, so are the rest of the East and I find it really hard for the Magic to outplay teams in their division such as the Heat and Wizards. I feel like they are still a few years away from playing with the big boys in the playoffs.



[30 - 52]

The Wizards made it to the 2nd round of the postseason last year, and they are in store for another great year. Losing Paul Pierce is unfortunate, however the additions of Jared Dudley, Alan Anderson, and Gary Neal will prove beneficial. Not to mention, Otto Porter, who many considered a draft bust, is showing great signs in the preseason. However, with a stronger coming Eastern Conference, I just do not see the Wizards winning as much this year. Many teams improved tremendously, which will cause a problem for the Wizards.

Don't get me wrong I still have them making the playoffs easily, however they for sure will have to grind harder than last year.



[43 - 39]

CENTRAL DIVISION

BY ZAC DAY

Fresh off a finals loss, the Cleveland Cavaliers will win their first NBA championship this year. After a sluggish, if not entirely unexpected, start to last season the Cavs' retooled roster got things together and finished the regular season as the league's hottest team, going 34-9 down the stretch.

Simply, there is just too much talent on this team for them not to waltz through the Eastern Conference again and when they reach the Finals they'll be too fresh for a beaten-up Western Conference foe. Tristan Thompson's contract dispute wasn't ideal, but after a disappointing first season in Cleveland, Kevin Love will remind everyone why he's the league's premier stretch four.

Coming off a fractured kneecap, Kyrie Irving will look to build on his best season yet, but until he returns Mo Williams (a poor man's Kyrie) and Matthew Dellavedova will hold down the point. Of course, it's all about health for this roster and some added wing depth would help too, but don't be fooled, this team is *stacked*. Oh and they have that Lebron guy too, I hear he's pretty good. Get ready to celebrate.



[55 - 27]

Boom or bust. Rookie head coach Fred Hoiberg has inherited a Bulls squad that has been on the cusp for years now, but can they ever get over the hump, or will this team forever be to Lebron what Webb and co. were to Kobe and Shaq? Despite what Derrick Rose claims, Jimmy Butler will continue to emerge as the team's best player and leader. Flanked by perhaps the best frontcourt rotation in the league – Pau, Joakim, Taj, and Nikola (not to mention neophyte Bobby 'Crazy Eyes' Portis) – Butler is primed to continue his ascension into the NBA's upper echelon. Look for Chi-town to offer a little more splash on offense this year, with Hoiberg set to run a lot more quick action and showcase underutilized shooters like Doug McDermott and Tony Snell. Unfortunately, while the Bulls may have finally found the water to cool off the heat of years past, their biggest roadblock is now settled back in his original kingdom.



[48 - 34]

Talk about a makeover! Wes Edens and Marc Lasry have done *everything* right since purchasing the Milwaukee Bucks, rebranding the franchise into a young and exciting team that just may come through on its claim to 'own the future'. Greg Monroe was a huge free agent get, both literally and figuratively, and will prove invaluable to a team that didn't have an offensive post presence last season, but the Bucks' improvement hinges on its two prized forwards, Giannis Antetokounmpo and Jabari Parker, and whether they develop into outside threats. If this happens, the league might as well play Kenny Smith's signature call at the 2000 Slam Dunk Contest on repeat. As it is, the resigned Khris 'Khash Money' Middleton is the team's only reliable perimeter shooter. That, coupled with the loss of key veterans Jared Dudley and Zaza Pachulia, will ultimately restrict the Bucks from progressing much in the standings this year. Make no mistake, though, this herd is coming.



[43 - 39]

If Myles Turner can live up to the hype; if Monta Ellis has finally found his perfect backcourt mate in George Hill; and, most importantly, if Paul George returns as his dominant self, then the 2015-16 Indiana Pacers could well and truly make noise in the East. But that's a lot of ifs. A throwback team that bullied opponents with its size and strength in recent years, the Pacers have officially surrendered to the league's transition to small-ball. This will do wonders for them offensively and aesthetically, but will undoubtedly come at the expense of their once vaunted defense. The playoffs are certainly within reach if these Pacers play their cards right, and if Larry Bird comes to his senses and realizes PG-13 is a better three than four and swings an in-season trade for a proven big (see Morris, Markieff) they might even win a series. If, if, if . . .



[40 - 42]

Get a physically dominant center, a floor-spacing four, and an All-Star caliber playmaker, surround them with shooting, and an Eastern Conference playoff spot is yours. Right? Unfortunately for Stan Van Gundy, these Detroit Pistons aren't the 2009 Orlando Magic and their shooters outside of Jodie Meeks – Kentavious Caldwell-Pope, Marcus Morris, and Ersan Ilyasova – aren't exactly pure. This lends itself well to Drummond claiming his first rebounding crown (and with more looks inside potentially his first All-Star birth), but that might be the peak of Detroit's success this season. Steve Blake will be a nice mentor for \$80 million dollar man Reggie Jackson, who's sure to rack up numbers, and rookie Stanley Johnson will challenge for ROY honors, but this team will struggle to stop anyone and doesn't have the elite scorers needed to overcome that. See you at the lottery.



[33 - 49]

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

BY NICK JUNGFER

While Anthony Davis was undeniably exceptional for the Pelicans last season, he was something of a caged bird under Monty Williams. Williams' system didn't put enough emphasis on getting AD the ball, and his offences were about as slow as the opening scenes of *The Book Of Eli*. New head coach Alvin Gentry will ensure AD gets the rock early and often, and Davis will thrive in Gentry's up and down offence with shooters around him. The Pelicans have brought back all of the main characters from last year's cast, including lumbering defensive specialist Omer Asik – somewhat surprising given Gentry's up-tempo style. In an ideal world, floor general Jrue Holiday would be the wind beneath the Pelicans' wings, but he'll be on a minutes restriction until January. Holiday's injury problems continue to linger like a bad smell, and he'll need to clear the air with a fresh bill of health if New Orleans is to realise its full potential.



[52 - 30]

Dallas chased Deron, Dwight and DJ over the past three summers and missed out on all three. They finally got D-Will this offseason, but only once his game had fallen off a cliff. After missing out on DeAndre over the summer, Dallas' primary big men next to Dirk are Zaza Pachulia, Samuel Dalembert and JaVale McGee. The Mavs have made a habit of asking the hottest girl in school to the formal, only to end up taking their mum instead. With Wes Matthews likely out until Christmas, and Chandler Parsons possibly missing the start of the season, the Mavs' lack of depth will be exposed right away. Dallas fans are hoping for a hometown revival from Deron Williams. Despite being a shell of his former self, Williams still has the chance to be a serviceable player when he's engaged. The Mavs have a solid top four, but each guy has question marks hovering over them, and little to no bench behind them. Dallas has missed the playoffs just once over the last 15 seasons, but will have a tough time making it this year.



[36 - 46]

Last season Houston lost Patrick Beverly, Donatas Motiejunas and KJ McDaniels to season-ending injuries before the playoffs began. To make matters worse, Dwight Howard missed half of the regular season and played through a torn MCL during the Western Conference Finals. Despite experiencing more interruptions than a Fox News debate, the Rockets still won 56 games, inconceivably came back from a 3-1 deficit against the Clippers in the second round, and made it as far as the Western Conference Finals. Houston has since added speedy point guard Ty Lawson, who will be a huge upgrade at their greatest position of need, assuming he's past his off court problems. James Harden will have another MVP calibre season, and Trevor Ariza will continue to develop his relatively new-found ability to excel outside of contract years. The maturity and leadership ability of Houston's two brightest stars is somewhat questionable, but if the Rockets remain healthy – the eternal asterisk looming over any title run – they'll be in the mix for championship contention.



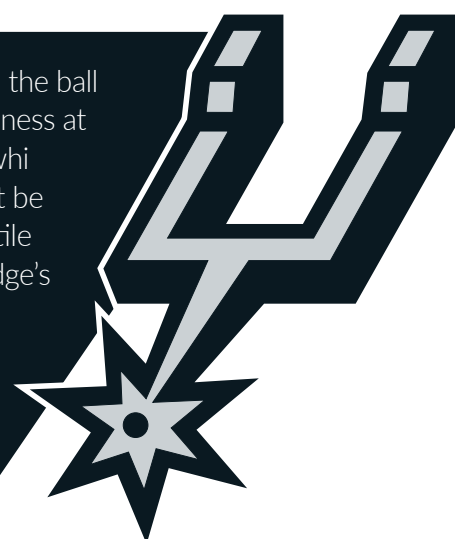
[60 - 22]

Playing a slow, grinding game in the paint with limited outside shooting is something of an old-school approach in the modern, pace and space NBA. However, there's something to be said for having an identity as strong as the Grizzlies'. They've perfected their 'wear you down' style over half a decade with the same core in place. They know exactly who they are, and their players know each other inside out. Continuity is as valuable as it is overlooked. After adding Matt Barnes to its already bruising core of Marc Gasol, Zach Randolph, Tony Allen and Mike Conley, Memphis is undoubtedly the team most folks would least like to play against and/or encounter in a dark alley. Despite most of those guys lacking the athleticism required to jump over a hockey puck, they'll get more physical than a middle aged mum during her weekly Zumba workout. Memphis' most glaring weakness, as always, is outside shooting. Courtney Lee was the Grizzlies' only rotation player to shoot above 40% from deep last season. Regardless, Memphis remains a genuine threat to make the Western Conference Finals, and still belongs amongst the West's elite.



[54 - 28]

Much has been made of LaMarcus Aldridge's un-Spurs-like tendencies. He holds the ball and cares about stats, and yet, it won't matter. The Spurs are the best in the business at fitting players into their system, and adjusting the system to fit their players. Kawhi Leonard will go to another level this season and borderline MVP candidacy won't be out the question in years to come, while David West is exactly the type of versatile offensive weapon the Spurs routinely drool over. Leonard's continued rise, Aldridge's extensive offensive repertoire and West's smarts should combine to spark a noticeable difference from last season. San Antonio did lose some depth, which may leave them vulnerable should injury strike their ageing squad. Speaking of health, the Spurs' chances of winning it all remain contingent on the physical wellbeing of Tony Parker, the engine who drives San Antonio's ridiculously well oiled machine. Parker has declined statistically for two straight seasons and wasn't himself during last season's playoffs, admittedly hindered by an ankle injury. TP has bounced back before, but as he enters his 15th year, this will be his toughest challenge yet.



[62 - 20]

NORTHWEST DIVISION

BY MJ STEPHENS

With steeper competition in the Western Conference, it's hard to see the Denver Nuggets going anywhere but down. While there are bright spots in the likes of Jameer Nelson and Kenneth Faried, it doesn't look to be enough to compete for a playoff spot with the many powerhouses in the West. The real intriguing storyline is their 7th overall pick, the young (19) Emmanuel Mudiay. While I'm not one to rely on draft picks to make the team better right now, international players commonly play pro a few years before making the jump to the NBA. In Mudiay's case he played in China. Losing Ty Lawson hurts on a team that desperately needs a star, and while players like the *Manimal* Kenneth Faried are no scrubs, I don't see any instant franchise players. Perhaps Denver's biggest mistake was letting the talented Timofey Mozgov go to Cleveland via trade.



[22 - 60]

If one team had unlimited potential it would be the Timberwolves. Ironic for a team finishing with the worst regular season record last year. We know what other teams can bring to the table, but the skies the limit for the Timberwolves and their young talent. Returning Rookie of the Year, Andrew Wiggins, leads the way and having drafted former Kentucky standout and potential Rookie of the Year candidate for this year, Karl-Anthony Towns, the Timberwolves have the foundation for a lot of growth and possibly playoff contention down the road. Kevin Garnett's veteran leadership should play an essential role in developing these young players' talents as well as the likes of Tayshaun Prince and Andre Miller. Ricky Rubio and Kevin Martin are nothing to sniff at either. This should make for an exciting season.



[26 - 56]

The Thunder remain out with a vengeance with the healthy return of Kevin Durant. Russell Westbrook is also coming off an MVP-like season as well. To lead the troops they're betting on University of Florida's NCAA Championship coach, Billy Donovan, to assist this NBA franchise with turning the corner and finally winning a title. Whether he rises to the occasion or follows the ill-fate of other college-to-pro coaches is yet to be seen. Player wise, Dion Waiters is a young talent dripping with potential and Serge Ibaka can be great when he stays in the paint and away from the three-point line. Did I mention Russell Westbrook played out of his mind this season?



[52 - 30]

After the loss of LaMarcus Aldridge, the Trail Blazers will most likely go from a great to average Western Conference team. With Damian Lillard locked down for the long haul, there's always potential though. Lillard will keep the Blazers exciting and should push his young teammates to maintain the franchise's competitive nature. If one thing is for sure this year, the roster will look different. Whether or not the change from last year's playoff core will be beneficial is yet to be seen. The Blazers' additional loss in veteran leadership will be compensated with the likes of Mason Plumlee and Gerald Henderson, who look to fill the gap. Perhaps the biggest stake in the heart was Robin Lopez signing with New York Knicks, making the loss of Aldridge that much more painful. It's hard to see this new core living up to the previous seasons' accomplishments.



[37 - 45]

The Utah Jazz have a talented young core with potential as a solid regular season team. A second half surge in the previous season is often contributed to the trade of Enes Kanter to the Oklahoma City Thunder. This may prove to be fool's gold as the West doesn't look to get any easier this year. The wins they did get last year in the West will come at a higher price as teams like the Los Angeles Lakers and Sacramento Kings have improved. Perhaps the biggest move of the offseason was drafting Kentucky's Trey Lyles at 12th overall. This Kentucky talent will likely need a few years to bud, meaning that what we will get this season should be reminiscent of the second half of last season. I gave the Jazz a few less wins as only time will tell how this young core blooms.



[35 - 47]

PACIFIC

DIVISION

BY MATT LEONARDO

The Golden State Warriors have effectively started their dynasty. They are led by the best player last season, point guard Stephen Curry. The weapons around Curry have, for the most part, been kept in Golden State, with the exception of David Lee (traded to Boston). The Warriors have made their mark from the 3 point land. They were first in 3-point percentage with 39.8% and 2nd in 3-pointers made per game with 10.8 (Houston led with 11.4). This helped the Warriors out score their opponents by an average of 10.1 points each game. Still young with Steph Curry, Harrison Barnes, Klay Thompson, and Draymond Green all being the age of 27 or younger, Golden State still reigns superior in the Pacific.



[62 - 20]

The Clippers made some good offseason moves for some backcourt help by getting SF Paul Pierce and SG Lance Stephenson, along with adding veteran Josh Smith. They retained DeAndre Jordan after all of that drama played out. The Clippers made their team 8-10 guys deep, which helps, but they are getting older, as Chris Paul, JJ Redick, Paul Pierce, and Jamal Crawford are all over the age of 30.

Nonetheless, the team looks very deep and should remain a contender and a threat in not just the Pacific, but the whole league.



[54 - 28]



The Suns were a lot different last year than this season. At one point, they had 3 starting point guards on the team at the same time (Bledsoe, Thomas, Dragic) and now none of them are playing point guard for the Phoenix Suns. The team was 25th in the league in rebound differential and total rebound percentage, so I love the addition of Tyson Chandler to the mix. I like the Devin Booker pick, as it gives the team a good three point option, but his youth could hurt him and lead him to unnecessary shots. The rest of the bench isn't special, and that's what I think separates this team from the higher teams in the division. The Suns overall team is a very good core, but that is about it, leaving them tired in the fourth quarter when it matters.

[41 - 41]



Yes, Rajon Rondo makes this team extremely better than last season. Cousins is an absolute beast, picking up rebounds and putting them back in the hoop. I also love the Willey Cauly-Stein pick in the draft, because his body presence will be noticed. My problem with the Kings is the perimeter shooting. There is nothing besides Ben McLemore and Rudy Gay, and I don't believe that is the right combo. The highest 3-point percentage of anyone on the Kings last year with more than 8 points per game was Darren Collinson at 37.7%, and now he backs up Rondo. Without perimeter shooting, I cannot see the Kings being anything but a mediocre team.

[39 - 43]



The Lakers have an odd team composed into 2 groups. You have the inexperienced youth (D'Angelo Russell, Jordan Clarkson, Julius Randle) and then the aged veterans (Kobe Bryant, Roy Hibbert, Nick Young, Brandon Bass) and then there is just Lou Williams. It is not time for the Lakers. The connection between all of the new pieces, whether it was due to the draft, trade, or injury, is no where to be found. I don't see a month of training camp fixing that huge problem. I love that Kobe can mentor players like Russell and Clarkson, so I expect the Lakers to be able to get somewhere in the future, but it looks like another rebuilding year in the city of Los Angeles.

[32 - 50]

SEASON 2015-16 AWARDS

TOM ATKINSON	KENAN SINAN	ZAC DAY
		
CHAMPIONS	CHAMPIONS	CHAMPIONS
 	 	 
NBA FINALS	NBA FINALS	NBA FINALS
ANTHONY DAVIS	ANTHONY DAVIS	ANTHONY DAVIS
MVP	MVP	MVP
EMANUEL MUDIAY	STANLEY JOHNSON	KARL ANTHONY-TOWNS
ROY	ROY	ROY
DRAYMOND GREEN	SERGE IBAKA	RUDY GOBERT
DPOY	DPOY	DPOY
ISIAH THOMAS	ANDRE IGUODALA	ISIAH THOMAS
SIXTH MAN	SIXTH MAN	SIXTH MAN
OTTO PORTER JNR.	OTTO PORTER JNR.	C.J. MCCULLOM
MIP	MIP	MIP
ALVIN GENTRY	STAN VAN GUNDY	BILLY DONOVAN
COY	COY	COY
STEPHEN CURRY JAMES HARDEN LEBRON JAMES ANTHONY DAVIS DEANDRE JORDAN	CHRIS PAUL JAMES HARDEN LEBRON JAMES PAUL GEORGE ANTHONY DAVIS	RUSSELL WESTBROOK JAMES HARDEN KEVIN DURANT LEBRON JAMES ANTHONY DAVIS
ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM	ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM	ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM
JAMES HARDEN	JAMES HARDEN	ANTHONY DAVIS
SCORING CHAMP	SCORING CHAMP	SCORING CHAMP
DEANDRE JORDAN	HASSAN WHITESIDE	ANDRE DRUMMOND
REBOUND LEADER	REBOUND LEADER	REBOUND LEADER
JOHN WALL	CHRIS PAUL	CHRIS PAUL
ASSIST LEADER	ASSIST LEADER	ASSIST LEADER

NICK JUNGFER	MJ STEPHENS	MATT LEONARDO	TYSON BECK
			
CHAMPIONS	CHAMPIONS	CHAMPIONS	CHAMPIONS
 	 	 	 
NBA FINALS	NBA FINALS	NBA FINALS	NBA FINALS
ANTHONY DAVIS	STEPHEN CURRY	LEBRON JAMES	JAMES HARDEN
MVP	MVP	MVP	MVP
JAHLIL OKAFOR	KARL ANTHONY-TOWNS	STANLEY JOHNSON	JAHLIL OKAFOR
ROY	ROY	ROY	ROY
KAWHI LEONARD	DRAYMOND GREEN	TONY ALLEN	RUDY GOBERT
DPOY	DPOY	DPOY	DPOY
ANDRE IGUODALA	JOSH SMITH	ANDRE IGUODALA	COREY BREWER
SIXTH MAN	SIXTH MAN	SIXTH MAN	SIXTH MAN
GIANNIS ANTETOKOUNMPO	C.J. MCCOLLUM	ERIC BLEDSOE	OTTO PORTER JNR.
MIP	MIP	MIP	MIP
BILLY DONOVAN	ALVIN GENTRY	GREGG POPOVICH	ALVIN GENTRY
COY	COY	COY	COY
CHRIS PAUL JAMES HARDEN LEBRON JAMES ANTHONY DAVIS MARC GASOL	STEPHEN CURRY JAMES HARDEN KEVIN DURANT LEBRON JAMES ANTHONY DAVIS	STEPHEN CURRY RUSSELL WESTBROOK LEBRON JAMES LAMARCUS ALDRIDGE MARC GASOL	RUSSELL WESTBROOK JAMES HARDEN KEVIN DURANT LEBRON JAMES ANTHONY DAVIS
ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM	ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM	ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM	ALL-NBA 1ST TEAM
JAMES HARDEN	KEVIN DURANT	LEBRON JAMES	JAMES HARDEN
SCORING CHAMP	SCORING CHAMP	SCORING CHAMP	SCORING CHAMP
DEANDRE JORDAN	DEANDRE JORDAN	MARC GASOL	DEANDRE JORDAN
REBOUND LEADER	REBOUND LEADER	REBOUND LEADER	REBOUND LEADER
CHRIS PAUL	CHRIS PAUL	CHRIS PAUL	JOHN WALL
ASSIST LEADER	ASSIST LEADER	ASSIST LEADER	ASSIST LEADER



ANTHONY DAVIS

REACHING
NEW HEIGHTS

ART BY
TAK WONG

WORDS BY
TOM ATKINSON

POSTERIZES

A

clean sweep in the first round of the Playoffs was no way Anthony Davis wished to end his spectacular 2014–15 campaign, even if it was at the hands of the eventual champions of the Larry O'Brien Trophy, the Golden State Warriors. 'AD' joined an elite group of Playoff performers, as he averaged 31.5 points, 11 rebounds and 3 blocks over a span of four losing contests. Davis exited the Game 4 press conference with promising final words, despite being down by as much as 24 points in a feeble attempt to avoid elimination, as the franchise reached the postseason for the first time since Chris Paul's departure.

**"LOVE ALL THEM GUYS
IN THE LOCKER ROOM
AND WE ARE GOING TO KEEP
FIGHTING AND GETTING READY
FOR NEXT SEASON,"** Davis said,

and he certainly wasn't lying, as a multitude of photos and videos confirmed Davis' offseason grind.

Sure enough, he arrived at the 2015 New Orleans Pelicans Media Day determined, and showcasing a new look; sporting a sharp new tattoo which is dedicated to his late grandfather. However, that wasn't the only thing noticeably different about Davis since we last saw him go down the tunnel of the Smoothie King Center back in April. The fresh ink was bulging from an additional 15 pounds gained to his already dominant body frame, which left the Pelicans staff having to collectively down play any loss in Davis' abnormal athletic ability, which is the core of his success and the basis of his fan appeal. This may be the pivotal difference Davis is looking for, who is entering his fourth season since being snapped up by the Pelicans with the number one pick in 2012, following a record-breaking season with the National Champions, the Kentucky Wildcats. It had been a busy off-season for the potential 2015–16 MVP, who, apart from the obvious muscle gain, after spending eight weeks with the Pelicans new strength and conditioning coach Jason Sumerlin, signed a five-year, \$145 million contract extension with a team full of potential and promise.

23

Davis ended the regular season averaging a monstrous 24.4 points, 10.2 rebounds and 2.9 blocks to go along with 2.2 assists and 1.5 steals, all while shooting 53.5% from the field. Clearly deserving of the new contract, such numbers are surely those worthy of MVP status, however, Davis only finished fifth in the voting for the prestigious award, despite having the highest Player Efficiency Rating across the league, which has told the tale of the MVP five of the past six seasons. It is one thing to remain statistically dominant, but what can Anthony Davis do to reach new heights? First and foremost, the Pelicans must win ball games. Perhaps the most significant figure in Davis' most important season yet, will be newly appointed coach Alvin Gentry, who is best known for his stint as coach of the Phoenix Suns from 2008–2013, in which he led the Suns to the Western Conference Finals in the 2009–10 season.

Coming off a Championship with the Warriors as an assistant, in April it was Gentry's job to shut Davis down, but now he aims to develop AD into a true superstar of the league, which will be a vital part of his success as Head Coach of the Pelicans. Gentry will be bringing his experience from the Nash and Stoudemire pick-and-roll days, as well as his perfectly executed offensive principles from the Warriors, in an attempt to exploit Davis' athletic fundamentals. One can comparatively reflect back to the dominant Stoudemire of almost a decade ago and add a pinch more athleticism, a truck load more defence and a natural knack for scoring both inside and outside the keyway. Now THAT is terrifying, and THAT is Anthony Davis. The most notable aspect of AD's game that Gentry has been looking to develop is the three ball, which isn't all that unfamiliar for Davis being a 6 foot guard in high school, known for shooting the corner three before a rapid growth spurt. Already in the preseason we have seen AD exploring with his shooting range, which is promising signs for the Pelicans and a source of excitement for basketball fans in general.





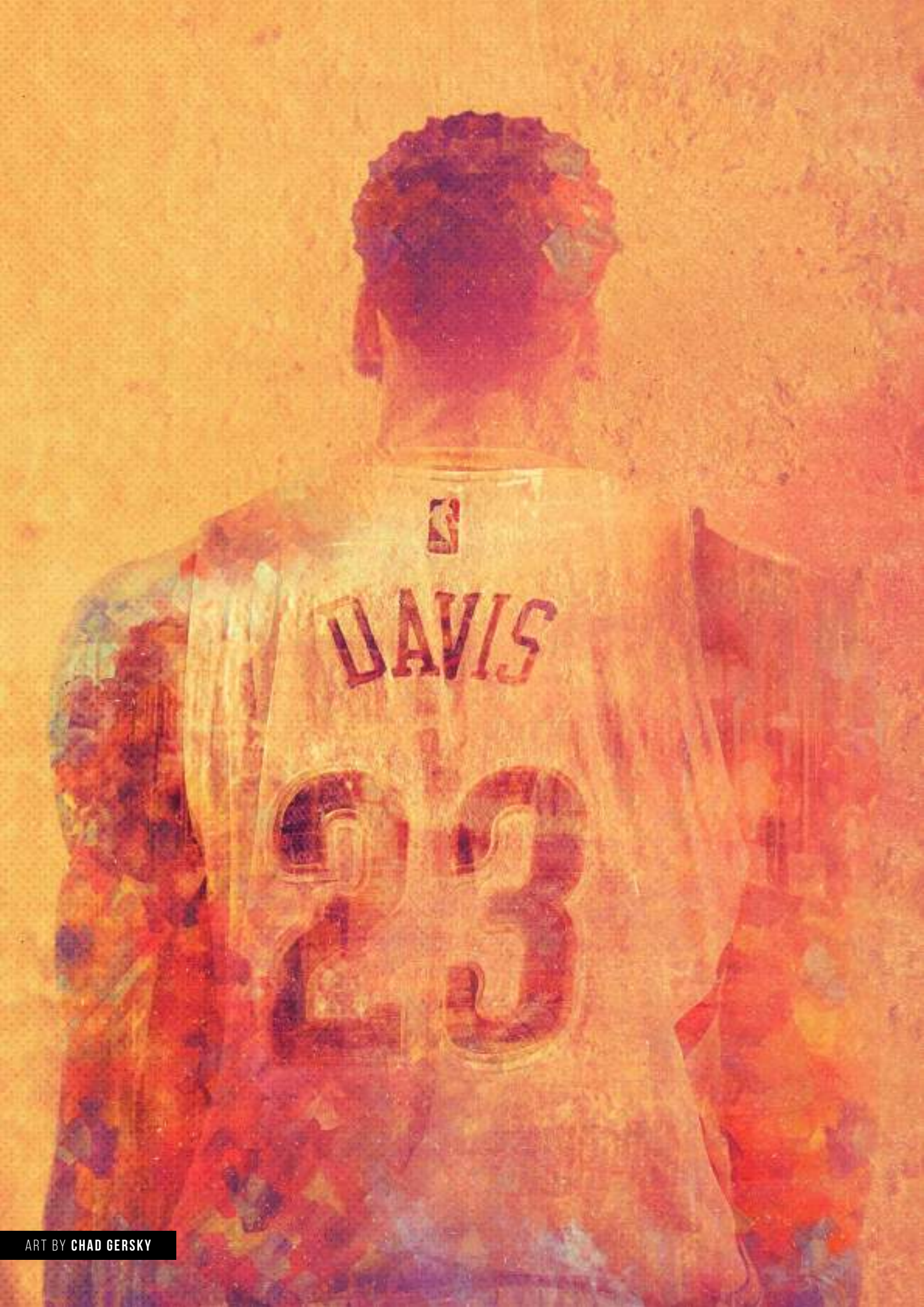
Early on the Pelicans will struggle, with injury hampering many key players of the Pelicans attack. Veteran Nate Robinson has already been added to the roster to relieve the aching backcourt of Jrue Holiday (leg, minute restriction), Quincy Pondexter (knee surgery) and Norris Cole (ankle). Additionally, Omer Asik (calf) and Alexis Ajinca (hamstring) are in doubt for the season tip-off, which is conveniently scheduled against none other than the Golden State Warriors, on their Championship ring evening. However, it's what happens in March and April that counts, according to Gentry. "We'll play with who we have, compete like crazy and take the results," he said, "at some stage when we get everyone back, we're going to be a very good basketball team." It's hard not to agree, especially with Davis as the cornerstone of the franchise.

Already stuffing the stat sheet night in and night out, Davis must strike fear into opponent's hearts when he presents himself with such confidence, "I feel great right now. Even just working out, I feel explosive. I feel quick." He will play his 200th regular season game out of a possible 246 in the season opener against the Warriors, where he will also look to kick off his MVP campaign in style. Last season, Davis recorded one of the most impressive opening nights stat lines of all time with 26 points, 17 rebounds, 9 blocks, 3 steals and 2 assists, and don't be surprised if history repeats itself. Davis is a legitimate contender, just as the Pelicans are for a possible seventh or even sixth seed in the West. This season marks the turning of a new leaf for the city of New Orleans and, with the salary cap expected to leap dramatically by the 2017-18 NBA season, the Pelicans have perfectly executed their plan to sign a max player at the very least when the time comes. We can certainly expect to be discussing the Pelicans as Championship contenders in two seasons time, and we can also expect Anthony Davis to be an established MVP by then too.

- TOM ATKINSON



ART BY MARKKÓ HELLÁT



OUT OF BOUNDS

COOL STUFF WORTH CHECKING OUT!



BOYDZ N THE HOOD

BROTHERS JONATHAN AND LEIGHTON COVER THE AFL (AUSTRALIAN RULES) AND NBA. THEY BRING A UNIQUE CROSSOVER WITH AFL PLAYERS TALKING BALL AND NBA PLAYERS CHATTING CHECKSIDES.

GAIN THE UPPER HAND WITH THEIR FOOTY TIPPING GUIDE TO GET (AND KEEP!) YOU AT THE TOP OF YOUR COMPETITION LADDER. ALSO NBA FANTASY AND AFL SUPERCOACH ADVICE TO HELP YOU GET THE EDGE OVER YOUR MATES.



BOYDZNTHEHOOD.COM



@BOYDZNTHEHOOD

LevelWear

WHERE LIFE AND STYLE BECOME ONE



SAVE TODAY

25% OFF. USE CODE
POSTERIZES AT CHECKOUT

VALID UNTIL
12/1/2015



OFFICIALLY LICENSED
NBA MERCHANDISE

CONSCIOUS



@CONSCIOUSBASKETBALL



AND 1!

SMI...

SMoFA

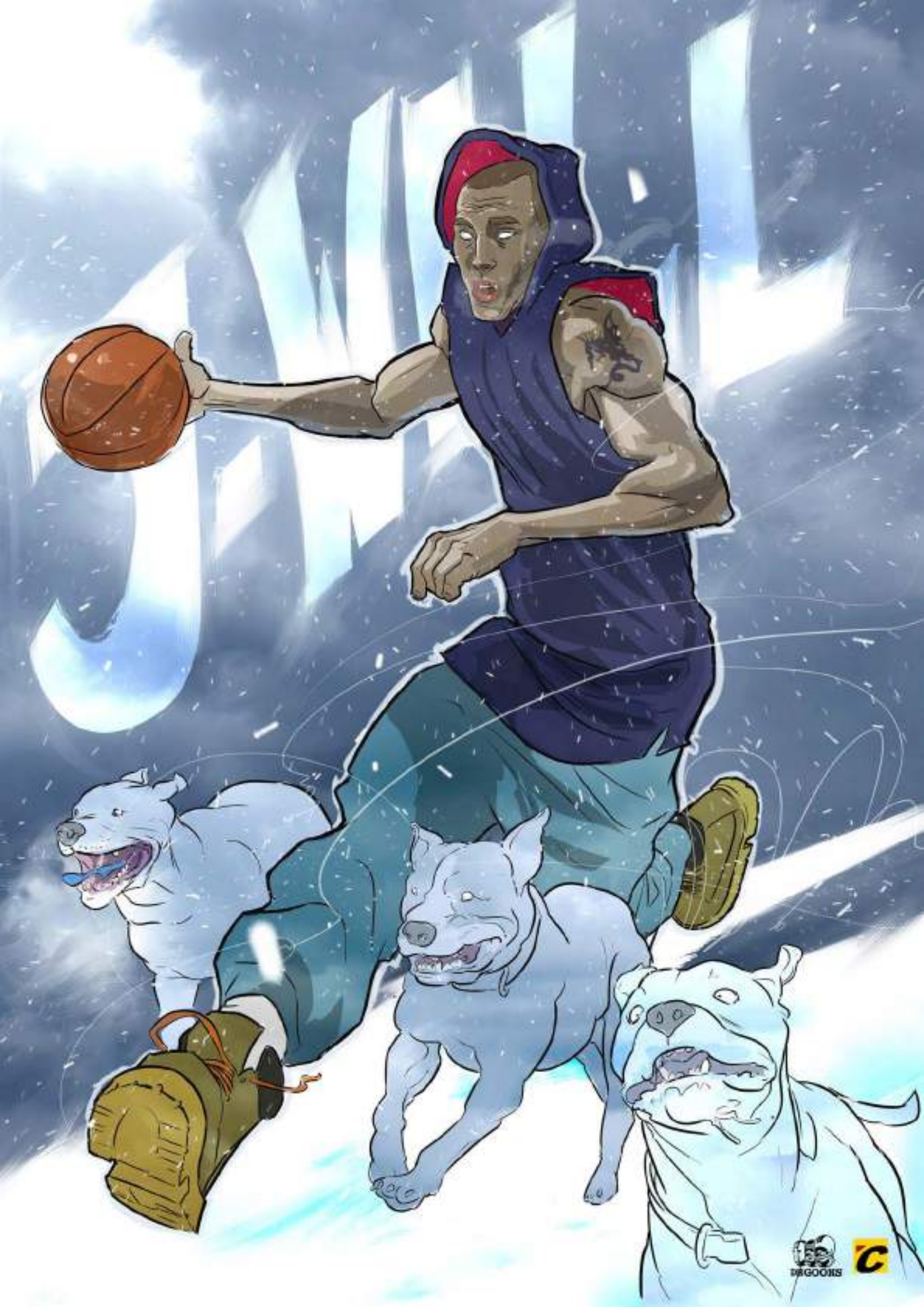
Basta



COLLECTION BY VC







POSTERIZES

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE?

EMAIL US AT
SOCIAL@
POSTERIZES.COM

ART BY DANIEL GOLDFARB



Get Topps KICK® for **FREE** on iPhone, iPad, and Android



Erhältlich im
App Store



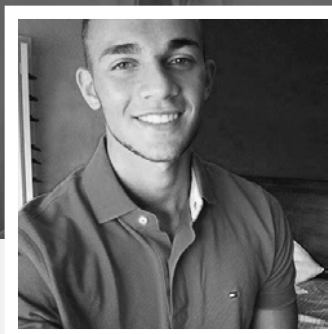
GET IT ON
Google play

All Bundesliga club logos and DFL logos are protected trademarks of the respective clubs/organisations and are used with the kind permission of the respective owners. Manufactured under license from the DFL/Ligaverband in sole responsibility of Topps Deutschland GmbH. TOPPS® AND TOPPS KICK® ARE TRADEMARKS OF THE TOPPS COMPANY, INC. Apple, the Apple logo, iPad, and iPhone are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

POSTERIZES FEATURED INTERVIEW

MATT SANDOIAN

INTERVIEW BY TYSON BECK



TYSON

Tell us about how you originally started out as a designer and what made you choose to be one?

MATT

When I first started, I was designing graphics for competitive gamers. My passion for design really sparked once I took interest to basketball in the 8th grade. I couldn't find decent Knicks wallpapers for my computer online, so I decided that I could probably make one myself. And that's basically what started it all for me. I realized later on that I loved what I was doing, so why not make a profession of it?

TYSON

Outside of design, is sport your biggest hobby and interest?

MATT

Sports will always be my biggest interest, there's no doubt about that. In regards to sports being my biggest hobby, I would say yes without question if I were still in high school because I actually had the time for them. Art and design pretty much consumes all of my free time now.





TYSON

I understand that you currently are studying in college towards a design degree, could you explain how that is all going?

MATT

My first year has been going great so far. It's been hard to keep up on my personal work because I try to focus most of my free time on freelance thanks to New York City and it's overpriced food vacuuming out my wallet.

TYSON

Are you choosing to study design for the qualification, enabling more full-time work opportunities or are you there purely to enhance your skillset and knowledge?

MATT

I think that I'm here more for the qualification that will open a gate of opportunities. Especially being in the big apple, I think there will be a lot more opportunities for me to take advantage of. All of my professors are working professionals, too. I've heard from alumni that it isn't unusual for a professor to offer or recommend you for an internship if you put out extraordinary work in class.

TYSON

How much has being a designer for Posterizes helped you along your career so far?

MATT

I really can't stress how much it's been a blessing. There are definitely connections that I would not have made had it not been for Posterizes. You've passed on numerous amazing opportunities to me too, so thank you for that, Tyson.



TYSON

What are your goals and plans moving forward in the future?

MATT

As far as college goes, I think I'm going to double major next year and pick up graphic design too. I don't have a definitive plan yet for when I graduate, so I'll probably capitalize on any opportunities that come my way during my four years here and go from there.

TYSON

In a lot of your work you have a strong consistent style, what are your thoughts on the pro's and con's of having a distinctive style of work as a designer?

MATT

Well one person's cons might be another person's pros. I prefer to have a distinct style because going through the same processes over and over again help embed them in my head and once I have them down pat, I'm able to learn new techniques and slowly incorporate them into my work. People start to learn your work if you have a distinct style. I can usually point out the work of Ethan J, Caroline Blanchet, and you without credit even being given, so that's a pro to me. Some people might have a distinct style because they're afraid to expand their horizons and that would definitely be the only legitimate con I could think of.

TYSON

Your work has become quite popular on Instagram, a lot of up and coming creatives look to you as a source for inspiration, how does that make you feel?

MATT

It has always been a great feeling. Knowing that my work has the power to inspire others is inspiring to me.



TYSON

When did you realize there were careers and a life to be made as a sports designer? Many people don't understand how huge the sports design profession is.

MATT

It wasn't until about my senior year in high school that I realized how huge the profession is. I know that it is extremely competitive too, so that's just motivation to learn more and more.

TYSON

You have an awesome balance between client work and personal work, I strongly believe personal work is required and a must for creative, no matter how busy or title of job you have. In your opinion why do you think personal work is so important?

MATT

For me, personal work is therapeutic in some ways. So there could be importance in it there for others, too. Otherwise, personal work is important because it gives you time to develop the certain skill sets that you want to thrive off of. Those skill sets will translate over to client work.

TYSON

At your age, you're quite new to the business side of design and client work, could you explain any insights to young creatives?

MATT

If there's anything I've come to learn, clients love quick and quality turnarounds. Oh and they don't accept app edits.

TYSON

When I was your age designing I would constantly have businesses and clients undermine me and try to get everything done for free or dirt-cheap, is this a struggle you've gone through at all? I go through this over and over again.



MATT

Most recently, a local food spot contacted me about designing a logo for them. Once I named my rate they started rambling on about how I didn't have a degree and that once I did, then they would pay me what I was asking. I hope I'm not the only one that sees how much is wrong with that.

TYSON

One thing I like to do each year is to look back at my previous years work, which often leads me to no longer liking the work. I believe that's a good way to step back and track improvement, is this a method you use at all? If not do you have any other tips?

MATT

That's definitely something that I do. It actually only takes me about a week or two before I start disliking the last thing I've made.



FAVORITES

ATHLETE? RAY LEWIS

SPORTS TEAM? KNICKS

SPORTS APPAREL BRAND? NIKE

HOLIDAY DESTINATION? HOME SWEET HOME

FOOD? FETTUCCINE ALFREDO

SOCIAL MEDIA SITE? TWITTER

ATHLETE TO CREATE ART OF? RUSSELL WESTBROOK

NBA JERSEY? 1990S BUCKS DEER HEAD ALTERNATE UNIFORM

NBA TEAM LOGO? '97 PISTONS

THING TO DO OUTSIDE OF WORK? EXPLORE NYC



THE
FUTURE
LAKERS
IS
COMING

POSTERIZES

ART BY ISHAAN MISHRA



LAKERS

MADRID



TYSON BECK

- @TYSONBECK
- @TYSONBECKDESIGN
- /TYSONBECK



ISHAAN MISHRA

- @SOURCE24
- @SOURCE24DESIGNS
- /SOURCE24DESIGNS



MELVIN RODAS

- @MELVINJOHNRODAS
- @MELVINRODAS
- /MELVINJOHNRODAS



COLLECTION BY VC

- @COLLECTIONBYVCX
- @COLLECTIONBYVC
- /COLLECTIONBYVC



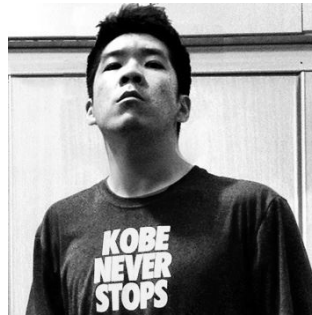
RYAN HURST

- @RYAN_HURST
- @RHURSTDESIGNS
- /RYANHURSTDESIGNS



MATT SANOIAN

- @SANOIANDESIGNS
- @SANOIANDESIGNS
- /SANOIANDESIGNS



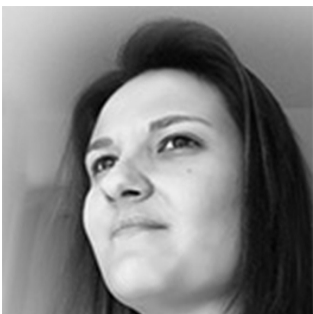
TAK WONG

- @WONGYIHTAK
- @WONGYIHTAK



CHAD GERSKY

- @DESIGNSBYCHAD
- @DESIGNSBYCHAD
- /DESIGNSBYCHAD



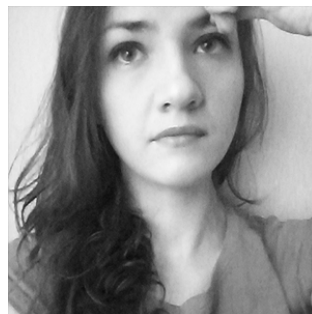
CAROLINE BLANCHETT

- @PTITECAO
- @PTITECAO
- /PTITECAO



DARIUSZ EJKIEWICZ

- @D_EJKIEWICZ
- @EJKIEWICZ_COM
- /DARIUSZEJKIEWICZDESIGNS



GABRIELA BURY

- /GBINDIS



BARTEK BANASZCZYK

- @BARTB_DSGN
- @BARTBANAS
- /BARTBDESIGNS



**SAIMONAS
LUKOŠIUS**

@SLUK_DESIGNS

@DOCTORPRODUCT

/DOCTORPRODUCT



**KENTON
HESSLER**

@HESSLERSTUDIOS

@HESSLERSTUDIOS

@HESSLERSTUDIOS



**MARKKÓ
HELLÁT**

@MARKKOHELLAT

@MARKKODESIGNS

/MARKKODESIGNS



**DANIEL
GOLDFARB**

@DEGARTS

@DEGARTS

/DANIELELIARTS



**MAXIM
DENISENKO**

@DESIGNFROMMAXIM

/MAXIMDENISENKO



**HDFX
CREATIVE**

@HDFXCREATIVE



**JENNIFER
HYNDS**

JENSBALLART.COM

@PANTHABEAR57



BAMBAMBAM!

/BAMBAMBAM99

@B.A.M_99

DESIGNERS AND ARTISTS

POSTERIZES

REDEFINING THE
GAME OF BASKETBALL
THROUGH ART & DESIGN

CONSCIOUS



COLLECTION BY VC

 COLLECTIONBYVC.COM

 [@COLLECTIONBYVCX](https://www.instagram.com/collectionbyvcx)

 [/COLLECTIONBYVC](https://www.facebook.com/collectionbyvc)

M E E T T H E T E A M



JERRELL CONNER

 JERRELL-CONNER.COM

 [@THEREDR](https://www.instagram.com/theredr)

 [/THE-RED-R](https://www.facebook.com/theredr)



ROGER HUANG

 ROGERSPACE.BLOGSPOT.COM

 [@ROGERSPACETW](https://www.instagram.com/rogerspacetw)

 [/ROGERSPACE](https://www.facebook.com/rogerspace)



GARY CHEN

 GARY210801.PIXNET.NET

 [@GARYCOMIC](https://www.instagram.com/garycomic)

 [/GARYCOMIC](https://www.facebook.com/garycomic)



BOUNCEX3

 JOAPPLEGATE.COM

 [@JOABX3](https://www.instagram.com/joabx3)

 [/BOUNCEX3COM](https://www.facebook.com/joabx3)



JIAN

 [/JIAN0309](https://www.behance.net/jian0309)

 [/NBAXFILE](https://www.facebook.com/nbaxfile)

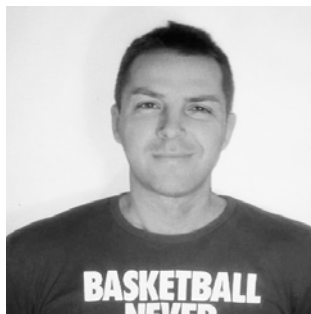


PUREHOOP

 PUREHOOP.BIGCARTEL.COM

 [@PUREHOOP](https://www.instagram.com/purehoop)

 [/PUREHOOPDESIGN](https://www.facebook.com/purehoopdesign)



KARMO RUUSMA

 THEGOONS.EU

 [@KARMORUU](https://www.instagram.com/karmoruu)

 [/THEGOONS](https://www.facebook.com/thegoons)



KWANG

 INTHEKWANGKI.COM

 [@INTHEKWANGKI](https://www.instagram.com/inthekwangki)

 [/NBAILLUSTRATION](https://www.facebook.com/nbailustration)

POSTERIZES

ARTWORK BY DANIEL GOLDFARB



**WANT TO JOIN
THE TEAM?**

**SUBMIT YOUR PORTFOLIO TO
EDITOR@POSTERIZES.COM**

POSTERIZES

WWW.POSTERIZES.COM

REDEFINING THE
GAME OF BASKETBALL
THROUGH ART & DESIGN



ISSUE 2 | NOVEMBER 2015 | **POSTERIZES**