
New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/05/27 11:05

http://sports.espn.go.com/nba/draft2008/columns/story?columnist=ford_chad&page=MockDraft-080527

Plaisted checks in with the last pick of the first round, going to who else but Danny's team.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/05/27 11:13

gmj81 wrote:

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Plaisted checks in with the last pick of the first round, going to who else but Danny's team.

Interesting scenario. Danny Ainge saw Trent play a lot last year. In the eyes of some (like myself) that gives Trent a better chance but in the eyes of others this is unfortunate for Trent because he has been "exposed." If the Celtics really do pick him, I think this would prove a lot of us right who believe Trent has potential. The Celtics wouldn't be picking in the dark on this one.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/05/27 11:19

My only question is would Danny think he would go before their second round pick? If he could get another solid pick with his first round and then draft Trent in the second based on his potential, I could see that happening. As much as I love him and wanted him to come back I just don't see Trent as a 1st rounder yet.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/27 11:25

The real question is if Chad Ford has even talked to Danny Ainge, or if he is just pulling names and scenarios out of hats.

This mock draft doesn't show us what Danny Ainge is thinking. It tells us Chad Ford thinks "Boston needs some depth at the 4-5 spot, and there's this BYU guy around, Danny Ainge went to BYU, heh...that'll make an interesting story line--I'll go with that."

I honestly think that is about the extent of thought that Chad Ford put into the later picks in the first round. Hibbert to Utah??? How the hell does Hibbert fit into a Jerry Sloan system, especially with Fez knocking on the door. The point being, mock drafts are crapshoots, and the farther down the list you get, the more crap that gets shot.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by gmj81 - 2008/05/27 11:42

Haha, no doubt. As I said, I don't know that Trent will be taken in the 1st but I think either the Celtics or Jazz could chance a 2nd on him; depending on how he does in Orlando maybe other teams as well.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/27 12:54

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I think Ford is just making an assumption because of the BYU connection. The reason I think that is the case is because when you click on Trent's name it takes you to a pic and info about Ante Tomic who is listed as #30, not Trent at #30. Something is a bit fishy here... :unsure:

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by Gunk - 2008/05/27 13:11

I'd be shocked if Trent goes in the first round. I doubt there is any truth to the mock draft, and I hope Danny doesn't pick up Trent. Last thing BYU needs is a BYU alumni picking someone from BYU and the player turning out to be a dud. I can just imagine all the stories we'd see of Trent being picked in the first round only because he went to BYU.

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/05/27 13:32

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Of course we all know a football player wouldn't get drafted higher than he should just because he played for USC or ND or LSU... Oh, wait a minute. I forgot. That's different. :huh:

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/05/27 13:43

I think until the pre-NBA draft camp is complete this is fairly meaningless. I think Trent could break into the first round with a great performance but since Danny Ainge and Chad Ford are both mormon I wouldn't put a whole lot of weight on it yet. Of course at the same time since they are both mormon maybe Chad has some insights into what Danny is planning.

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by lovelldog - 2008/05/27 13:46

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Tomic is already shown going at #26.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by Hengst - 2008/05/27 14:26

lovelldog wrote:

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Chad ford is IDS? really? where did you hear that, just out of curiosity?

=====

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by TimO - 2008/05/27 14:27

its because that bald loud guy loves him baby. But that won't mean an nba team will. Enjoy the bench...or in russian vechectame mushta bisa

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by SenorCougar - 2008/05/27 14:45

These guys are never right..... especially after #10. All this proves is that Boston will NOT take Plaisted....

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by shakeNbake - 2008/05/27 15:15

Hengst wrote:

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Chad is LDS - I know his brother in law - saw him yesterday in fact. Chad and his family currently reside in Hawai'i - from what I understand he still does some work for BYU-Hawai'i. He is a BYU-Hawai'i guy with a degree from Georgetown I believe (I think that is the other school he attended). He is most definitely LDS, so the conclusions drawn may be a result of the church connection - or like Lovell mentioned - he could know something that has some merit through a BYU connection.

Either way, Plaisted has some serious work to do to be an effect NBA big man.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by rblack - 2008/05/27 15:21

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There is alot of interesting information on wikipedia. No outright verification of the religion of Chad Ford, but it's not hard to do the math.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chad_Ford

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chad_Ford

That's cool, I never knew anything about that.

on a side note, my favorite quote from the wiki is this

"Billionaire Dallas Mavericks' owner Mark Cuban once called him an "idiot" after Ford criticized him for not re-signing point guard Steve Nash"

lol, 2 MVP's later, I wonder who the idiot really is :-).

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by shakeNbake - 2008/05/27 15:30

rblack wrote:

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chad_Ford

According to his BIL, he is a pretty level-headed guy and pretty down to earth. It's fairly obvious that he's no dummy based on his academic credentials.

Who knows? He may be right...but I still don't think that the Jazz end up with Hibbert or that Plaisted goes in the first round.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by timmyboy - 2008/05/27 16:20

snoscythe wrote:

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I don't understand the Hibbert thing either, but there are A LOT of people that think he will be coming to Utah. This has been floating around for weeks. Just google it. So, maybe this guy didn't just pull it out of a hat.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/27 16:33

timmyboy wrote:

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Most of it stems from the fact that Jazz GM Kevin O'Connor traveled to the Big East Conference Tournament to evaluate

talent in anticipation of the upcoming draft, and Hibbert was the biggest attraction there. However, there were also these prospects he could have been evaluating, each of whom is a better fit for a Jerry Sloan offense and defense than an immobile 5: David Padgett, Louisville; Brian Laing, Seton Hall; Kentrell Gransberry, USF; Joe Alexander, West Virginia; and Draelon Burns, DePaul. The Jazz are not a team who drafts players that don't fit the system in hopes of developing them and shopping them later. That's what the Clippers do. The Jazz can't do much in free agency, so they draft where they have a need, and they draft players that fit in their system.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by craigscarson - 2008/05/28 12:37

I'm not a Utah resident, and I'm hardly close enough to the Jazz to know how they operate and draft; in fact I always thought that Deron Williams was one trip to Chuckarama away from being too slow to play in the NBA-so what do I know?

But I'm not sure how if Greg Ostertag and Mark Easton can play in Jerry Sloan systems, that Roy Hibbert can't. The fact that Hibbert would come cheap compared to Ostertag is no laughing matter either. (I will always believe that the Ostertag contract was the single biggest obstacle to Stockton and Malone getting a well deserved ring).

Hibbert is a big 7'2", 280 lb cerebral player that can actually shoot the ball, was considered a lottery pick last year after his performance in the NCAAs, he passes the ball very well for a big man, and can be a presence on defense with his size and shot blocking ability.

He's not fleet of foot and I don't see him as a potential all-pro (he's not Olajuwon or Ewing), but he's also not just a big oaf (He's not Olden Polynice/Felton Spencer/Yinka Dare..all lottery picks) . The fact that he can shoot the ball (particularly free throws), face the basket and pass the ball reduce the "liability" factor when he's on the court. He has game changing size in the post and has played with and against the best college players in the country (and beaten most). I honestly think he's the victim of past overhype; but he's still a viable NBA player.

There was a time in the past that NBA execs bought into the "you can't teach size" argument and drafts followed that train of thought. Now all of a sudden, everyone wants the next Chris Paul... so small guards get price inflations while height and size take a dive. 20-15-10-5 years ago, Hibbert wouldn't have escaped the lottery; if he does fall far enough for the Jazz to take him this year, I don't see how they're getting bad value for him.

The majority of sites have Hibbert being gone before pick #23 anyhow

<http://www.nbadraft.net/>

Again, if Mark Eaton and Greg Ostertag can play in Jerry Sloans system, I doubt there isn't room for Hibbert; especially during the 80+ game grind that is the NBA regular season.

Other than the home run pick of Deron Williams and a solid pick in Kirilenko, I'm not sure any other guys were fabulous draft picks and for nearly every other pick that Utah had at #20+, I see Roy Hibbert being a better option than what they got

I can think of much worse picks by the Jazz:

25. Utah Morris Almond 6-6 214 SG

14. Utah Ronnie Brewer 6-7 223 SG Arkansas - verdict still out

2005 = Jackpot with Deron Williams (in a bad draft it was a no-brainer between Williams and Paul when Bogut and Marvin Williams came off the board)

14. Utah Kris Humphries 6-9 238 PF Minnesota --2004

16. Utah Kirk Snyder 6-7 228 SG Nevada -- 2004

(could have moved up with 2 picks but Josh and JR Smith went after both picks, as did Kevin Martin, Al Jefferson)

19. Utah Aleksandar Pavlovic 6-7 207 SG/SF Serbia

(Josh Howard went #29) --2003

19. Utah Ryan Humphrey 6-7 223 SF/PF Notre Dame

(Tayshaun Prince went #23) --2002

24. Utah Raul Lopez 6-0 PG Real Madrid -- 2001

(2002 was a bad year to be wrong, Tony Parker, Samuel Dalembert, Gilbert Arenas, Gerald Wallace and Jamaal Tinsley all went after Lopez)

23. Utah DeShawn Stevenson Union HS SG 6-5 210 --2000

24 Utah Andrei Kirilenko 6-9 205 SF Russia -1999

29. Utah Nazr Mohammed Kentucky -- 1998

27. Utah Jacques Vaughn Kansas -- 1997

25. Utah (b) Martin Muursepp Europe -- 1996
28. Utah Greg Ostertag Kansas -- 1995
no 1st rd pick 94
18. Utah Luther Wright Seton Hall -- 1993
no 1st rd pick 92
21. Utah Eric Murdock Providence -- 1991
no 1st rd pick 90
17 Utah Eric Leckner Wyoming -- 1988
15 Utah Jose Ortiz Oregon State --1987

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/28 15:13

Why is a slow, big center suddenly a liability??

The no-contact zone beneath the basket. When the NBA put that rule in the book, they basically neutralized the big man in the game. The real contenders now are the teams with a #5 who either a--has range to play away from the basket or b--is just another power forward.

Since the inception of the no-contact zone, the league has become a point guard/power forward league. To contend, you need stars at those two positions. A slow, flat-footed center still works in the NCAA, but they are dinosaurs in today's NBA.

Yes, Greg Ostertag and Eaton worked for the Jazz, but that was a different game--not just in style, but by the rules of the game.

As for your draft history, I think you have proven the point that if Hibbert really is as good as you think he is, the Jazz will likely not pick him up. They have a history--as shown by your post--of drafting role players to fill a need, and the #5 spot is not their position of greatest need at this point. They have Memo, who played all-pro caliber ball the second half of this season, and they also have one of the top 4 young prospects in Fesenko. Their need continues to be outside range and defense to start the #2 spot, and that is where the Jazz will be drafting again this year.

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by craigocarson - 2008/05/28 16:04

It seems to me they have a history of drafting players that stink regardless of need. You can argue that in 20+ years of the draft, that they blew it on all but 2-3 picks.
In fact aside from Deron Williams, they've really wiffed on picks.

If big slow guys are so lowly valued then why are we seeing guys like Brook Lopez, Kevin Love, and DeAndre Jordan (gasp) being considered lottery picks?

In fact of those guys just named, Roy Hibbert has most shooting range. Hibbert can shoot the ball, can pass on the perimeter and won't be pushed around in the post.

I'm not saying that Hibbert is a potential allstar but I don't see him as a liability. Considering that the Jazz took Kris Humphries at 14, I can't imagine that having a guy like Hibbert come off the bench at pick 23 would be a liability.

I get it if a Joe Alexander, Chase Budinger, or even CDR or Brandon Rush were there at #23 that the Jazz would have to consider them; but I don't see how you can' consider Hibbert as a game changer off the bench with his size and shooting range at such a late 1st round pick. At least they might draft a guy that would be on their roster for more than a couple years.

I do get the Fesenko argument if he's really going to be a game changer.

I don't get dismissing Hibbert though based on where the Jazz are drafting; especially if he's there and the 2-3 guys like Alexander, Budinger or CDR aren't.

Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/05/28 16:38

craigoscarson wrote:

Brook Lopez, Kevin Love, and DeAndre Jordan.

First off, Lopez and Love are not entering the draft as true centers. They are both natural fours who have played out of position at the college level. That lends to the new NBA where instead of a 4 and a 5 you have a 4 and a bigger 4.

DeAndre Jordan is far and away a better athletic specimen than Hibbert. Jordan has the lateral speed to guard the quicker, but shorter players and to follow a 4 on the dribble. Hibbert does not have that quickness.

Yes, Hibbert might be the best center left when the Jazz pick, but with Memo and Fez, why would the Jazz draft him when they have a more pressing need at the 2 spot in a draft that is deeper at the 2 than any other draft?

The Jazz will not draft Hibbert for two reasons:

- 1) They have other needs more pressing than Hibbert and
- 2) Hibbert is too slow for Jerry Sloan's defense post-no-contact-zone.

In fact of those guys just named, Roy Hibbert has most shooting range.

Uh....are you kidding?? Hibbert has more range than Kevin Love???? What MTN channel have you been getting information from??

He does this at EVERY pregame warm-up:

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=1z2sFmrR7bc>

I give Hibbert more range than Jordan and maybe even Lopez, but to even intimate he has more range than Love is hoops sacrilege.

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Re:New ESPN mock draft fresh off the presses...

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/06/05 14:23

<http://deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,700231988,00.html>

Might just be lip service to throw off the other teams but it would seem that Hibbert is still a possibility based on that article.

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