Scouting SAC · from New Orleans's side

Sacramento Kings

2026-27: 4 games (Oct 21 @ LAC · Oct 23 vs POR · Oct 25 vs MEM · Oct 27 @ SAS) · baseline 2025-26 regular season

SAC @ NOP
Thu Oct 29, 2026 · 8:00 PM ET
Game 0022600145

INJURY REPORT & SCHEDULE · official report of 2026-10-29, read 2026-10-29 22:46 UTC; statuses as listed, no reasons

SAC	Ben Simmons: Out	Dylan Cardwell: Out	Keegan Murray: Out	Maxime Raynaud: Out	Sean Pedulla: Out
NOP	Dejounte Murray: Out	Jaron Pierre Jr.: Out	Jordan Poole: Out	Malik Dia: Out	Yves Missi: Out

SAC: one day of rest, previous game Oct 27 @ SAS.

IN TEN SECONDS

1. **Last season: 3rd-fewest rim attempts (25%), 7th-least transition (10%), lowest 3PA share (34%), 3rd-worst rim protection (70%).**
2. **Scoring last season: Z. LaVine 19.2/g (27.2 so far), D. Sabonis 15.8/g (19.0 so far), D. Hunter 13.8/g (10.2 so far).**

TEAM KEYS

- Paint team last season: 50% paint attempts (9th most); 25% at the rim (3rd fewest); 34% 3PA share (30th of 30). Chase LaVine 39%, Monk 40%; wall up on Sabonis, Achiuwa, Mogbo.
- Soft rim protection: opponents shoot 70% at the rim (3rd worst) and get 26% of their shots there (2nd fewest). Get downhill; finish at the rim.
- Inefficient offense: eFG% 52.5% (2nd worst). Make them take contested twos.
- They finish: 67.6% at the rim (6th best). No free runs; wall up early.
- Half-court team: 10% of FGA in transition (7th fewest). Pressure the ball; they don't run.
- Soft on the defensive glass: DREB% 68.5% (8th worst). Send two to the offensive boards.

STARTERS · LAST GAME

8 Zach LaVine

G · 6-5 · age 31 · 12 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 SAC · 39 GP · 31.4 MPG · 19.2 pts · 2.8 reb · 2.3 ast · 39.0% 3P on 6.5 3PA · 88% FT
26-27 4 GP · 36.1 MPG · 27.2 pts · 3.5 reb · 3.2 ast · 38% 3P on 8.0 3PA

3P% **excellent** Rim FG% **good** FT% **elite** Ball security **good** Gets to line **above average**

- New this season: pull-up family share of FGA up, 34% -> 49% (69 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Knockdown 3: 39.0% on 6.5/g (80th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Corner specialist: 46% from the corners (54 att), 37% above the break (200). No help off the corners; help off him on top.

11 Domantas Sabonis

F-C · 6-10 · age 30 · 10 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 SAC · 19 GP · 29.7 MPG · 15.8 pts · 11.4 reb · 4.1 ast · 18.5% 3P on 1.4 3PA · 73% FT
26-27 4 GP · 36.0 MPG · 19.0 pts · 16.5 reb · 7.2 ast · 1/1 3P

Rim FG% **below average** FT% **bad** Ball security **bad**

- Pressure him: 16.7 TO per 100 usage (bad, 9th pct), 20% of them bad passes; 14 TO in 4 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- New this season: share of FGA from In The Paint (Non-RA) up, 23% -> 40% (42 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Non-shooter (1.4 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.

5 Darius Acuff Jr.

G · 6-2 · age 19 · rookie · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 4 GP · 35.3 MPG · 21.5 pts · 2.8 reb · 4.8 ast · 21% 3P on 8.5 3PA

9 Precious Achiuwa

F · 6-8 · age 27 · 6 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 SAC · 73 GP · 23.9 MPG · 10.1 pts · 6.7 reb · 1.4 ast · 27.8% 3P on 1.3 3PA · 55% FT
26-27 4 GP · 26.8 MPG · 11.2 pts · 5.5 reb · 0.8 ast · 1/3 3P

Rim FG% **above average** FT% **bad** Ball security **excellent** Gets to line **average**

- New this season: share of FGA from In The Paint (Non-RA) up, 29% -> 60% (38 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Doesn't turn it over: 9.0 TO per 100 usage (84th pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- Non-shooter (1.3 3PA/g, 28% from 3): go under screens, help off him.

15 De'Andre Hunter

F-G · 6-7 · age 28 · 7 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 CLE/SAC · 44 GP · 26.2 MPG · 13.8 pts · 4.1 reb · 2.0 ast · 30.9% 3P on 5.5 3PA · 86% FT
26-27 4 GP · 26.6 MPG · 10.2 pts · 5.5 reb · 1.2 ast · 9/17 3P

3P% **bad** FT% **excellent** Ball security **above average** Gets to line **good**

- Volume 3s at 30.9%, 5.5/g (11th pct): make him shoot contested, no fly-bys.
- Corner specialist: 38% from the corners (58 att), 29% above the break (185). No help off the corners; help off him on top.

BENCH

29 Daeqwon Plowden G-F · 6-4 · age 28 · 2 yrs

25-26 SAC · 32 GP · 26.4 MPG · 10.8 pts · 3.0 reb · 1.3 ast · 33.3% 3P on 5.8 3PA · 86% FT
26-27 4 GP · 16.7 MPG · 2.5 pts · 1.8 reb · 0.5 ast · 2/6 3P
3P% **below average** Ball security **elite**

- Doesn't turn it over: 8.0 TO per 100 usage (93rd pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- Capable 3: 33.3% on 5.8/g (30th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

34 Emanuel Sharp G · 6-3 · age 22 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 4 GP · 16.5 MPG · 5.2 pts · 0.5 reb · 0.8 ast · 5/11 3P

13 Keegan Murray F · 6-8 · age 26 · 4 yrs Out STARTED 2 OF 2 DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 SAC · 23 GP · 34.5 MPG · 14.0 pts · 5.7 reb · 1.6 ast · 27.7% 3P on 4.9 3PA · 78% FT
26-27 2 GP · 27.2 MPG · 7.0 pts · 3.0 reb · 0.5 ast · 0/7 3P
3P% **bad** Ball security **elite** Gets to line **bad**

- Doesn't turn it over: 7.8 TO per 100 usage (94th pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- Volume 3s at 27.7%, 4.9/g (4th pct): make him shoot contested, no fly-bys.

22 Jonathan Mogbo F · 6-7 · age 24 · 2 yrs NEW · TOR LAST SEASON

25-26 TOR · 40 GP · 6.2 MPG · 1.5 pts · 1.7 reb · 0.6 ast · 0.0% 3P on 0.0 3PA · 64% FT
26-27 3 GP · 14.9 MPG · 3.0 pts · 2.7 reb · 0.3 ast · 1/6 3P

- Non-shooter (0.0 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.

0 Malik Monk G · 6-3 · age 28 · 9 yrs

25-26 SAC · 62 GP · 22.0 MPG · 12.4 pts · 1.9 reb · 3.0 ast · 39.5% 3P on 5.1 3PA · 88% FT
26-27 3 GP · 12.5 MPG · 3.0 pts · 1.3 reb · 3.3 ast · 1/8 3P
3P% **excellent** FT% **excellent** Ball security **above average** Gets to line **bad**

- Knockdown 3: 39.5% on 5.1/g (84th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Make him take the floater: 39% on 154 non-RA paint shots (24% of his FGA).
- Pull-up shooter: 30% of his shots are pull-ups (78th pct, 37%). Stay attached over screens; contest without fouling.

10 Nique Clifford G · 6-5 · age 24 · 1 yrs

25-26 SAC · 75 GP · 25.1 MPG · 8.6 pts · 3.8 reb · 2.4 ast · 33.3% 3P on 3.1 3PA · 72% FT
26-27 3 GP · 7.9 MPG · 2.7 pts · 0.3 reb · 1.0 ast · 0/3 3P
3P% **below average** Rim FG% **average** FT% **bad** Ball security **bad** Gets to line **bad**

- Pressure him: 15.4 TO per 100 usage (bad, 14th pct), 42% of them bad passes; 3 TO in 3 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- Capable 3: 33.3% on 3.1/g (30th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

33 Alex Karaban F · 6-7 · age 23 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 2 GP · 7.9 MPG · 0.5 pts · 1.0 reb · 0.5 ast · 0/0 3P

Also seen: L. Black (#19 F, 8.2 min). Not seen yet: M. Raynaud (#42 C, SAC 26.6 MPG last season), D. Cardwell (#32 C, SAC 20.6 MPG last season), S. Pedulla (#3 G, LAC 4.4 MPG last season), B. Simmons (#25 G-F).

GAME PLAN BOXES

FOUL HIM LATE (FT)

- **P. Achiuwa** — 55% FT (139 FTA, 2nd pct)
- **N. Clifford** — 72% FT (97 FTA, 23rd pct)
- **D. Sabonis** — 73% FT (77 FTA, 25th pct)
- Don't foul: Z. LaVine 88% FT; M. Monk 88% FT; D. Hunter 86% FT

FOUL TROUBLE

- Nobody over 4.5 fouls per 36 last season.

SHOT PROFILE · ZONES AND DIET

SHOT ZONES · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Restricted area	25%	68%	24%	62%
Paint (non-RA)	25%	46%	28%	48%
Mid-range	16%	42%	12%	44%
Corner 3	8%	35%	10%	24%
Above the break 3	26%	34%	26%	32%

SHOT DIET · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Pull-ups	20%	38%	26%	35%
Drives	26%	55%	30%	49%
Finishes	10%	70%	8%	71%
Catch-and-shoot 3s	24%	35%	21%	29%
Other shots	21%	48%	14%	59%

Zones from the play-by-play (corner 3s merged), FG% on those attempts. Diet from the shot descriptors: pull-ups (pull-ups and step-backs), drives (2s driving or on the run), finishes (cuts, putbacks, alley-oops, tips), catch-and-shoot 3s (3s with no descriptor: a proxy, the feed records no touch time), other shots (turnarounds, fadeaways, floaters and every other move, and 2s with no descriptor). Bars: last season's share of FGA.

4 player rates flagged as changed from last season (bullets starting 'New this season'); 0 team-level (under Team keys).

ROTATION · LAST SEASON RATES

#	PLAYER	MIN 26-27	MPG 25-26	FGA/G	3PA SHARE	3P%	RA SHARE	RA FG%	FT%	PULL-UP SHARE	DRIVE SHARE	C&S 3 SHARE	AST'D SHARE	TO/100 USAGE	FTA/FGA	PF/36	FOULS DRAWN/G	FLAGS
8	Z. LaVine	144.4	31.4	14.0	46%	39.0%	24%	69%	88%	34%	29%	49%	65%	10.8	0.26	2.4	2.5	1
11	D. Sabonis	144.1	29.7	11.6	12%	18.5%	61%	62%	73%	0%	21%	100%	69%	16.7	0.35	4.2	3.6	1
5	D. Acuff Jr.	141.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
9	P. Achiuwa	107.2	23.9	8.2	16%	27.8%	50%	66%	55%	2%	36%	96%	58%	9.0	0.23	2.5	1.5	2
15	D. Hunter	106.5	26.2	11.2	49%	30.9%	16%	62%	86%	23%	24%	69%	73%	11.7	0.28	3.5	3.0	0
29	D. Plowden	66.7	26.4	8.7	67%	33.3%	20%	82%	86%	5%	20%	87%	85%	8.0	0.18	3.3	1.3	0
34	E. Sharp	65.8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
13	K. Murray	54.4	34.5	13.0	37%	27.7%	13%	75%	78%	22%	25%	72%	64%	7.8	0.16	1.9	1.6	0
22	J. Mogbo	44.6	6.2	1.1	2%	0.0%	70%	58%	64%	0%	25%	100%	73%	21.8	0.32	3.8	0.3	0
0	M. Monk	37.4	22.0	10.2	50%	39.5%	16%	66%	88%	30%	30%	50%	61%	11.8	0.17	2.6	1.5	0
10	N. Clifford	23.6	25.1	8.0	39%	33.3%	21%	65%	72%	22%	33%	64%	67%	15.4	0.16	3.0	1.0	0
33	A. Karaban	15.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
19	L. Black	8.2	28.9	6.9	53%	34.5%	16%	44%	88%	26%	13%	84%	75%	11.6	0.08	3.3	0.5	0

HOW TO READ IT

Baseline = 2025-26 regular season (82 games; a player's baseline covers every game he played, with any team). Recent = 2026-27 (4 games). For each rate, shrink the recent proportion toward the baseline with a Beta prior of strength m (empirical-Bayes flavour): p1_shrunk = (k1 + m*p0)/(n1 + m), with m = 60 for shot-diet / zone / assisted shares, m = 250 for FG%-type rates (rim FG%, 3P%; 3P% needs ~750 attempts to stabilize, so a 10-game 3P% is almost never flaggable by design), m = 60 for turnover rate. FLAG when |p1_shrunk - p0| >= 0.06 AND |z| >= 2.0 where z = (k1/n1 - p0)/sqrt(p0*(1-p0)/n1) (raw recent proportion against the baseline proportion, SE from p0) AND n1 >= 15 recent trials. Here the windows are disjoint.

Grades are words on one scale: elite ≥ 90th percentile, excellent 75–89, good 60–74, above average 50–59, average 40–49, below average 25–39, bad < 25. Shooting and ball-security percentiles are computed from the play-by-play among qualified players (3P% 100+ 3PA, rim FG% 100+ restricted-area attempts, FT% 75+ FTA, rates per FGA 300+ FGA, ball security 300+ usage events). Starters are the players who started the team's last game. Statuses are the official injury report's, as listed, with the report's date and the time it was read, never a reason; a carded player listed at either of the two most serious statuses keeps his card but leaves the free-throw and foul boxes. Every sentence above is produced from these numbers by fixed templates.

Computed by NightlyHoops from play-by-play and box scores of regular-season games, and the league's official injury report (statuses only). Data collected 2026-10-29; report built 2026-10-29 22:46 UTC.