Scouting SAC · from Phoenix's side

Sacramento Kings

2026-27: 13 games (Oct 21 @ LAC · Oct 23 vs POR · Oct 25 vs MEM · Oct 27 @ SAS · Oct 29 @ NOP · Oct 31 @ MEM · Nov 2 @ DAL · Nov 4 vs LAL · Nov 6 vs SAS · Nov 8 vs MIA · Nov 10 vs ORL · Nov 13 vs POR · Nov 15 vs OKC) · baseline 2025-26 regular season

PHX @ SAC
Wed Nov 18, 2026 · 10:00 PM ET
Game 0022600269

INJURY REPORT & SCHEDULE · official report of 2026-11-18, read 2026-11-19 01:49 UTC; statuses as listed, no reasons

SAC Ben Simmons: Out · Jonathan Mogbo: Out · Maxime Raynaud: Out · Sean Pedulla: Out

PHX Mark Williams: Out

SAC: 2 days of rest, previous game Nov 15 vs OKC.

IN TEN SECONDS

1. **Last season: 3rd-fewest rim attempts (25%), 7th-least transition (10%), lowest 3PA share (34%), 3rd-worst rim protection (70%). Through 13 games the profile has moved: 3PA share 34% → 42%; above-the-break-3 share 26% → 33% (1116 trials; each clears the flag rule).**
2. **Scoring last season: Z. LaVine 19.2/g (21.4 so far), D. Sabonis 15.8/g (14.2 so far), K. Murray 14.0/g (9.5 so far).**

TEAM KEYS

- Also moved through 13 games (1116 trials): above-the-break-3 share 26% → 33%. Small sample, but each clears the flag rule.
- Paint team last season: 50% paint attempts (9th most); 25% at the rim (3rd fewest); 34% 3PA share (30th of 30). Through 13 games: 3PA share 34% → 42%. Chase LaVine 39%, Monk 40%; wall up on Sabonis, Achiuwa, Cardwell.
- 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.

STARTERS · LAST GAME

5 Darius Acuff Jr. G · 6-2 · age 20 · rookie STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 13 GP · 36.8 MPG · 25.5 pts · 3.5 reb · 7.1 ast · 32% 3P on 9.5 3PA

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 12 GP · 34.0 MPG · 14.2 pts · 13.2 reb · 5.6 ast · 3/10 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; 35 TO in 12 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- Non-shooter (1.4 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.
- Poor finisher: 62% at the rim (below average, 25th pct) on 134 attempts. Meet him at the rim; verticality, no fouls.

0 Malik Monk G · 6-3 · age 28 · 9 yrs STARTED LAST GAME

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 12 GP · 16.8 MPG · 8.2 pts · 1.2 reb · 3.9 ast · 29% 3P on 3.5 3PA

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.

13 Keegan Murray F · 6-8 · age 26 · 4 yrs STARTED 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 6 GP · 27.0 MPG · 9.5 pts · 2.8 reb · 1.3 ast · 25% 3P on 4.0 3PA

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.

32 Dylan Cardwell C · 6-10 · age 24 · 1 yrs STARTED LAST GAME FOUL TARGET

25-26 SAC · 44 GP · 20.6 MPG · 5.4 pts · 7.5 reb · 1.4 ast · 50.0% 3P on 0.1 3PA · 51% FT
26-27 6 GP · 17.9 MPG · 5.7 pts · 6.2 reb · 2.0 ast · 0/1 3P

Rim FG% **excellent**

- Elite finisher: 72% at the rim (84th pct) on 101 attempts, 56% of his shots. No free runs; build the wall early.
- Non-shooter (0.1 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.
- Crashes the glass (5.8 OREB per 36): hit him first, then go get it.
- Foul-prone: 6.4 PF per 36 (2025-26 regular season). Attack him early; get him to two.

BENCH

8 Zach LaVine
G · 6-5 · age 31 · 12 yrs · STARTED 12 OF 12 · DID NOT PLAY 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 12 GP · 33.0 MPG · 21.4 pts · 3.2 reb · 2.8 ast · 39% 3P on 7.2 3PA

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

- 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.
- Pull-up shooter: 34% of his shots are pull-ups (85th pct, 38%). Stay attached over screens; contest without fouling.

15 De'Andre Hunter
F-G · 6-7 · age 28 · 7 yrs · STARTED 11 OF 11 · DID NOT PLAY 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 11 GP · 32.4 MPG · 14.3 pts · 4.6 reb · 1.4 ast · 37% 3P on 5.6 3PA

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

- New this season: assisted share of made FGs up, 73% -> 92% (52 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- 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.

9 Precious Achiuwa
F · 6-8 · age 27 · 6 yrs · STARTED 9 OF 11 · DID NOT PLAY 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 11 GP · 26.2 MPG · 10.4 pts · 6.4 reb · 1.1 ast · 4/11 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% -> 45% (92 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.

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

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 13 GP · 17.6 MPG · 4.9 pts · 1.2 reb · 0.7 ast · 37% 3P on 2.9 3PA

19 Leaky Black
F · 6-7 · age 27 · 2 yrs · STARTED 1 OF 8 · NEW · WAS LAST SEASON

25-26 WAS · 15 GP · 28.9 MPG · 7.1 pts · 5.0 reb · 1.5 ast · 34.5% 3P on 3.7 3PA · 88% FT
26-27 9 GP · 21.8 MPG · 5.2 pts · 3.3 reb · 1.4 ast · 47% 3P on 3.3 3PA

- New this season: 3PA share of FGA up, 53% -> 83% (36 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Capable 3: 34.5% on 3.7/g. Closeout under control, contest every one.

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 10 GP · 11.4 MPG · 3.4 pts · 1.0 reb · 0.3 ast · 7/19 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.

33 Alex Karaban
F · 6-7 · age 24 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 6 GP · 13.0 MPG · 1.2 pts · 1.5 reb · 0.5 ast · 2/8 3P

22 Jonathan Mogbo
F · 6-7 · age 25 · 2 yrs · Out · DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME · 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 5 GP · 14.3 MPG · 3.0 pts · 2.2 reb · 0.8 ast · 1/6 3P

- New this season: 3PA share of FGA up, 2% -> 35% (17 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Non-shooter (0.0 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.

10 Nique Clifford
DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

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 8 GP · 6.2 MPG · 1.6 pts · 0.9 reb · 1.0 ast · 1/8 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; 5 TO in 8 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- Capable 3: 33.3% on 3.1/g (30th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

Also seen: M. Plumlee (#45 F-C, 5.4 min). Not seen yet: M. Raynaud (#42 C, SAC 26.6 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

- **D. Cardwell** — 6.4 PF per 36 (2025-26 regular season). Attack him early; get him to two

SHOT PROFILE · ZONES AND DIET

SHOT ZONES · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Restricted area	25%	68%	21%	67%
Paint (non-RA)	25%	46%	25%	49%
Mid-range	16%	42%	12%	40%
Corner 3	8%	35%	9%	35%
Above the break 3	26%	34%	33%	34%

SHOT DIET · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Pull-ups	20%	38%	25%	35%
Drives	26%	55%	29%	55%
Finishes	10%	70%	8%	68%
Catch-and-shoot 3s	24%	35%	24%	36%
Other shots	21%	48%	15%	46%

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.

11 player rates flagged as changed from last season (bullets starting 'New this season'); 2 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
5	D. Acuff Jr.	478.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
11	D. Sabonis	408.1	29.7	11.6	12%	18.5%	61%	62%	73%	0%	21%	100%	69%	16.7	0.35	4.2	3.6	0
8	Z. LaVine	396.1	31.4	14.0	46%	39.0%	24%	69%	88%	34%	29%	49%	65%	10.8	0.26	2.4	2.5	0
15	D. Hunter	356.3	26.2	11.2	49%	30.9%	16%	62%	86%	23%	24%	69%	73%	11.7	0.28	3.5	3.0	1
9	P. Achiuwa	288.3	23.9	8.2	16%	27.8%	50%	66%	55%	2%	36%	96%	58%	9.0	0.23	2.5	1.5	3
34	E. Sharp	228.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
0	M. Monk	201.9	22.0	10.2	50%	39.5%	16%	66%	88%	30%	30%	50%	61%	11.8	0.17	2.6	1.5	0
19	L. Black	174.5	28.9	6.9	53%	34.5%	16%	44%	88%	26%	13%	84%	75%	11.6	0.08	3.3	0.5	3
13	K. Murray	161.9	34.5	13.0	37%	27.7%	13%	75%	78%	22%	25%	72%	64%	7.8	0.16	1.9	1.6	0
29	D. Plowden	114.0	26.4	8.7	67%	33.3%	20%	82%	86%	5%	20%	87%	85%	8.0	0.18	3.3	1.3	0
32	D. Cardwell	107.6	20.6	4.1	2%	50.0%	56%	72%	51%	0%	12%	100%	72%	16.2	0.28	6.4	1.2	0
33	A. Karaban	78.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
22	J. Mogbo	71.7	6.2	1.1	2%	0.0%	70%	58%	64%	0%	25%	100%	73%	21.8	0.32	3.8	0.3	4
10	N. Clifford	49.7	25.1	8.0	39%	33.3%	21%	65%	72%	22%	33%	64%	67%	15.4	0.16	3.0	1.0	0
45	M. Plumlee	5.4	8.6	0.7	0%	–	93%	85%	64%	0%	21%	–	82%	37.3	1.00	3.6	0.8	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 (13 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 2026-11-19; report built 2026-11-19 01:49 UTC.