Scouting CHI · from Cleveland's side

Chicago Bulls

2026-27: 16 games (Oct 21 @ TOR · Oct 23 @ MIL · Oct 24 vs WAS · Oct 26 @ BOS · Oct 28 vs NYK · Oct 30 @ BOS · Nov 2 @ PHI · Nov 4 @ NYK · Nov 8 vs PHI · Nov 11 vs SAS · Nov 13 vs ATL · Nov 14 @ MIN · Nov 16 @ CLE · Nov 18 @ BKN · Nov 20 vs WAS · Nov 22 vs DEN) · baseline 2025-26 regular season

CLE @ CHI
Mon Nov 23, 2026 · 8:00 PM ET
Game 0022600292

INJURY REPORT & SCHEDULE · official report of 2026-11-23, read 2026-11-23 23:48 UTC; statuses as listed, no reasons

CHI Caleb Wilson: Out · Norman Powell: Out · Nic Claxton: Questionable · Jalen Smith: Probable

CLE Ernest Udeh Jr.: Out · Evan Mobley: Out · Khalifa Diop: Out · Nae'Qwan Tomlin: Out · Zack Austin: Out · Jaylon Tyson: Probable

CHI: second night of a back-to-back, 3 games in 4 nights, previous game Nov 22 vs DEN.

IN TEN SECONDS

1. **Last season: 3rd-most rim attempts (36%), 5th-worst offensive rebounding (28.0%), 2nd-fewest turnovers forced (12.8/100), 8th-fewest fouls (19.0/g).**
2. **Scoring last season: J. Giddey 17.0/g (10.8 so far), M. Buzelis 16.3/g (15.1 so far), T. Jones 14.1/g (10.8 so far).**

TEAM KEYS

- Paint team last season: 51% paint attempts (7th most); 36% at the rim (3rd most); 44% 3PA share (8th of 30). Chase Giddey 36%, Smith 37%, Collins 43%; wall up on Jones, Miller, Claxton.
- Soft rim protection: get 34% of their shots there (3rd most). Get downhill; finish at the rim.
- Poor finishers: 62.2% at the rim (1st worst). Meet them at the rim; verticality.
- They don't force turnovers: 12.8 per 100 (2nd fewest). Move the ball freely.
- Pace: 101.3 possessions per game (4th fastest).
- They run: 13% of FGA in transition (5th most). Sprint back, build the wall early, no leak-outs.

STARTERS · LAST GAME

3 Josh Giddey

G · 6-8 · age 24 · 5 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 CHI · 54 GP · 32.1 MPG · 17.0 pts · 8.3 reb · 9.2 ast · 36.4% 3P on 5.2 3PA · 76% FT

26-27 16 GP · 28.6 MPG · 10.8 pts · 6.4 reb · 9.2 ast · 32% 3P on 3.8 3PA

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

- Pressure him: 19.4 TO per 100 usage (bad, 3rd pct), 52% of them bad passes; 54 TO in 16 games so far. Hands in the lanes; 9.2 AST/g, so stay home on shooters when he drives.
- Poor finisher: 56% at the rim (bad, 7th pct) on 226 attempts. Meet him at the rim; verticality, no fouls.
- Capable 3: 36.4% on 5.2/g (56th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

14 Matas Buzelis

F · 6-9 · age 22 · 2 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 CHI · 77 GP · 29.2 MPG · 16.3 pts · 5.8 reb · 2.0 ast · 34.9% 3P on 6.4 3PA · 79% FT

26-27 16 GP · 27.9 MPG · 15.1 pts · 4.8 reb · 2.0 ast · 36% 3P on 5.9 3PA

3P% **average** · Rim FG% **below average** · FT% **average** · Ball security **below average** · Gets to line **above average**

- Capable 3: 34.9% on 6.4/g (42nd pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

35 Isaac Okoro

F-G · 6-6 · age 25 · 6 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 CHI · 63 GP · 26.9 MPG · 9.3 pts · 2.8 reb · 1.6 ast · 33.2% 3P on 3.5 3PA · 80% FT

26-27 16 GP · 24.4 MPG · 7.6 pts · 2.6 reb · 1.8 ast · 28% 3P on 3.3 3PA

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

- Doesn't turn it over: 8.3 TO per 100 usage (90th pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- Capable 3: 33.2% on 3.5/g (27th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.
- Downhill driver: 35% of his shots are drives at 55% (74th pct). Show early help, wall up, make him pass.

25 Jalen Smith

F-C · 6-9 · age 26 · 6 yrs · Probable · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 CHI · 53 GP · 20.7 MPG · 10.2 pts · 6.7 reb · 1.2 ast · 37.3% 3P on 4.2 3PA · 74% FT

26-27 14 GP · 25.3 MPG · 14.3 pts · 7.6 reb · 2.1 ast · 41% 3P on 5.2 3PA

3P% **good** · Rim FG% **good** · FT% **below average** · Ball security **good** · Gets to line **average**

- Knockdown 3: 37.3% on 4.2/g (64th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Crashes the glass (3.2 OREB per 36): hit him first, then go get it.

7 Buddy Hield

G · 6-5 · age 33 · 10 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME · NEW · ATL/GSW LAST SEASON

25-26 ATL/GSW · 52 GP · 16.1 MPG · 7.5 pts · 2.2 reb · 1.4 ast · 34.9% 3P on 4.1 3PA · 81% FT

26-27 14 GP · 17.9 MPG · 9.9 pts · 2.6 reb · 2.0 ast · 44% 3P on 4.9 3PA

3P% **average** · Ball security **average** · Gets to line **bad**

- Capable 3: 34.9% on 4.1/g (42nd pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

BENCH

24 Norman Powell
G · 6-4 · age 33 · 11 yrs — Out — STARTED 13 OF 13 — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME — NEW · MIA LAST SEASON

25-26 MIA · 58 GP · 29.6 MPG · 21.7 pts · 3.5 reb · 2.5 ast · 38.0% 3P on 7.1 3PA · 83% FT
26-27 13 GP · 29.5 MPG · 20.8 pts · 2.9 reb · 2.4 ast · 34% 3P on 6.8 3PA

3P% good · Rim FG% below average · FT% good · Ball security excellent · Gets to line excellent

- Lives at the line: 0.35 FTA per FGA (excellent, 83rd pct), 3.9 fouls drawn/g, 83% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- Knockdown 3: 38.0% on 7.1/g (70th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Run him off the line into the help: 57% on 364 drives but only 27% of his shots at the rim (below average, 32nd pct). Closeout short and high-hand; stay down on the fake.

8 Caleb Wilson
F · 6-10 · age 20 · rookie — Out — STARTED 10 OF 10 — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 10 GP · 30.8 MPG · 18.9 pts · 6.2 reb · 1.9 ast · 32% 3P on 7.1 3PA

30 Tre Jones
G · 6-1 · age 26 · 6 yrs

25-26 CHI · 65 GP · 27.0 MPG · 14.1 pts · 3.1 reb · 5.4 ast · 31.5% 3P on 2.0 3PA · 84% FT
26-27 16 GP · 19.0 MPG · 10.8 pts · 2.1 reb · 3.7 ast · 5/18 3P

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

- Lives at the line: 0.37 FTA per FGA (excellent, 86th pct), 2.9 fouls drawn/g, 84% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- Low-volume, 31.5% from 3 (2.0/g): help off him in the gaps.
- Lives at the rim: 55% of his shots in the restricted area, 68% there. Build the wall, no straight-line drives.

2 Noa Essengue
F · 6-9 · age 19 · 1 yrs

25-26 CHI · 2 GP · 3.0 MPG · 0.0 pts · 0.0 reb · 0.0 ast · 0.0% 3P on 1.0 3PA · – FT
26-27 15 GP · 12.9 MPG · 5.2 pts · 3.1 reb · 0.5 ast · 27% 3P on 2.0 3PA

44 Patrick Williams
F · 6-7 · age 25 · 6 yrs

25-26 CHI · 72 GP · 20.5 MPG · 7.0 pts · 3.0 reb · 1.5 ast · 34.7% 3P on 3.8 3PA · 72% FT
26-27 9 GP · 20.9 MPG · 6.4 pts · 2.9 reb · 1.7 ast · 29% 3P on 2.7 3PA

3P% average · Rim FG% bad · FT% bad · Ball security below average · Gets to line bad

- Capable 3: 34.7% on 3.8/g (40th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

11 Leonard Miller
F · 6-10 · age 22 · 3 yrs — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 CHI/MIN · 46 GP · 15.6 MPG · 7.8 pts · 3.9 reb · 0.9 ast · 32.3% 3P on 2.1 3PA · 74% FT
26-27 12 GP · 14.0 MPG · 5.4 pts · 3.2 reb · 1.0 ast · 17% 3P on 2.4 3PA

Rim FG% excellent · Ball security above average

- Elite finisher: 74% at the rim (90th pct) on 142 attempts, 54% of his shots. No free runs; build the wall early.
- Low-volume, 32.3% from 3 (2.1/g): help off him in the gaps.

12 Zach Collins
F-C · 6-9 · age 29 · 9 yrs — STARTED 1 OF 11

25-26 CHI · 10 GP · 18.4 MPG · 9.7 pts · 5.6 reb · 1.5 ast · 42.9% 3P on 2.1 3PA · 70% FT
26-27 11 GP · 11.5 MPG · 3.0 pts · 2.4 reb · 1.2 ast · 2/15 3P

- Takes 2.1 3s/g at 42.9%: respect it, closeout.
- Crashes the glass (3.1 OREB per 36): hit him first, then go get it.

9 Nic Claxton
C · 6-11 · age 27 · 7 yrs — Questionable — STARTED 1 OF 6 — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME — NEW · BKN LAST SEASON

25-26 BKN · 69 GP · 27.8 MPG · 11.7 pts · 6.9 reb · 3.7 ast · 15.8% 3P on 0.3 3PA · 62% FT
26-27 6 GP · 20.4 MPG · 9.3 pts · 4.8 reb · 1.7 ast · 0/0 3P

Rim FG% good · FT% bad · Ball security average · Gets to line excellent

- Lives at the line: 0.39 FTA per FGA (excellent, 88th pct), 3.5 fouls drawn/g, 62% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- Non-shooter (0.3 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.
- Make him take the floater: 38% on 163 non-RA paint shots (28% of his FGA).

15 Jordan Hawkins
G · 6-4 · age 24 · 3 yrs — NEW · NOP LAST SEASON

25-26 NOP · 51 GP · 13.6 MPG · 5.1 pts · 1.7 reb · 0.8 ast · 34.8% 3P on 2.6 3PA · 85% FT
26-27 8 GP · 10.1 MPG · 3.8 pts · 0.9 reb · 0.6 ast · 4/19 3P

3P% average · Ball security above average

- 2.6 3PA/g at 34.8%: contest, don't over-help.

22 Jaylin Sellers
G · 6-4 · age 23 · rookie — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 6 GP · 8.0 MPG · 4.3 pts · 0.7 reb · 1.3 ast · 7/17 3P

19 Tobe Awaka
F · 6-8 · age 22 · rookie — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 4 GP · 10.2 MPG · 2.0 pts · 5.2 reb · 0.8 ast · 0/0 3P

5 Dailyn Swain
F · 6-6 · age 21 · rookie — DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 4 GP · 6.7 MPG · 1.8 pts · 1.2 reb · 0.8 ast · 0/4 3P

Not seen yet: O. Robinson (#7 C, ORL 6.2 MPG last season).

GAME PLAN BOXES

FOUL HIM LATE (FT)

- **N. Claxton** — 62% FT (229 FTA, 6th pct)
- **P. Williams** — 72% FT (75 FTA, 22nd pct)
- **J. Smith** — 74% FT (93 FTA, 29th pct)
- Don't foul: T. Jones 84% 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	36%	62%	–	–
Paint (non-RA)	15%	45%	–	–
Mid-range	5%	41%	–	–
Corner 3	12%	37%	–	–
Above the break 3	32%	35%	–	–

SHOT DIET · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

	25-26	FG%	26-27	FG%
Pull-ups	10%	36%	–	–
Drives	34%	55%	–	–
Finishes	9%	68%	–	–
Catch-and-shoot 3s	33%	36%	–	–
Other shots	13%	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. This season's play-by-play is not available yet: its columns read –.

No change flags yet: this season's play-by-play is not available (16 games, box scores only), so no rate is compared with last season.

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
3	J. Giddey	457.2	32.1	13.3	40%	36.4%	32%	56%	76%	16%	45%	65%	48%	19.4	0.32	1.9	2.9	–
14	M. Buzelis	446.0	29.2	12.5	51%	34.9%	37%	64%	79%	11%	33%	74%	70%	13.0	0.25	2.8	2.6	–
35	I. Okoro	391.0	26.9	7.3	48%	33.2%	45%	62%	80%	5%	35%	83%	77%	8.3	0.24	3.4	1.7	–
24	N. Powell	383.0	29.6	15.4	46%	38.0%	27%	63%	83%	26%	41%	46%	68%	9.7	0.35	2.7	3.9	–
25	J. Smith	354.1	20.7	7.6	55%	37.3%	37%	68%	74%	2%	17%	91%	87%	10.7	0.23	3.6	1.8	–
8	C. Wilson	308.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
30	T. Jones	303.7	27.0	9.5	21%	31.5%	55%	68%	84%	8%	66%	74%	53%	11.4	0.37	1.9	2.9	–
7	B. Hield	251.3	16.1	6.3	65%	34.9%	22%	75%	81%	21%	18%	63%	77%	12.3	0.11	2.5	0.3	–
2	N. Essengue	194.1	3.0	1.5	67%	0.0%	33%	0%	–	0%	0%	50%	–	0.0	0.00	5.9	0.0	–
44	P. Williams	188.3	20.5	6.6	57%	34.7%	23%	48%	72%	11%	23%	80%	68%	12.8	0.16	2.3	0.9	–
11	L. Miller	168.2	15.6	5.7	38%	32.3%	54%	74%	74%	5%	35%	88%	75%	11.2	0.20	3.3	0.9	–
12	Z. Collins	126.4	18.4	6.4	33%	42.9%	45%	76%	70%	0%	11%	100%	86%	12.1	0.31	3.5	1.9	–
9	N. Claxton	122.5	27.8	8.4	3%	15.8%	64%	68%	62%	2%	42%	79%	62%	12.3	0.39	3.0	3.5	–
15	J. Hawkins	80.9	13.6	5.0	52%	34.8%	13%	58%	85%	37%	12%	61%	74%	11.2	0.10	1.6	0.6	–
22	J. Sellers	48.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
19	T. Awaka	40.9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5	D. Swain	26.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

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 (16 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 2026-11-23; report built 2026-11-23 23:48 UTC.