

Ken,

I've developed more pros at the center position than any other position. 10 of the 26 players I've sent to the NBL were big men. All of them had something in common; none were five stars. They all had to work for their big break.

It doesn't matter what school I coach at, scouts know my system, and know that I develop players for the next level. Center Marcus Brown and his two teammates to make the jump, Malachi Ivey and Brandon Sperling, are the three most successful Ohio State alumni in the NBL since the outstanding Fred Guest heard his name called. Center RJ Jackson and fellow big Marko Savovic are part of the most successful group of professionals out of Kentucky in decades.

And already at Wake Forest you can see the same thing. After a first team all-american season, Antoine Block is a Charlotte Hornet. Isiah will likely follow him next year. I've got two more on the roster that could hear their names called as well. Milenko Balaban and Ivo Meyer. After that, you're up.

You're exactly the same type of player that fits this blueprint. RJ Jackson and Marcus Brown are the clearest examples I can give you. Both four stars, RJ ranked 45th in his class out of high school, and Marcus 85th. Both ended their collegiate careers in the exact same position. At a table on draft night. First round draft picks. Now tearing it up in the NBL, over \$100M made in salary, a big chunk of the **\$1.3 Billion** my players have earned. And that's not carried by a few headliners either. My average/median pro plays 8 years in the league, and makes \$47M/\$39M.

You're a better player than both Jackson and Brown were entering college, and when it's all said and done in Winston-Salem, you will be a first round draft pick.

It all starts with time on the court, and you'll feature in our starting lineup on day one. I know Seton Hall is pitching you the exact same thing, with the fact that you're the only center on their team. Unfortunately, that's just untrue with the commitment of JUCO senior Bart Elmer.

Regardless of a starting spot now, you'll be sharing the frontcourt. Coach Fallen at Arkansas doesn't mention minutes once when talking about playing time.

White, you won't be the only center on the roster, you'll be the only scholarship center. And the only one in the starting five. Walk-ons Tyler Lloyd and Gerald Krainiak are not ready for this level yet. In terms of minutes, you will play **30 minutes a night**. It may seem outlandish to you, but I have a history of making [outlandish promises](#) and then turning around and [keeping them](#).

In terms of system fit, and our offensive identity, we look to run in transition frequently, and running the floor will get you easy buckets. In our half-court though, for next year I want to focus on slowing it down, and getting a post entry into you. Either you're going to rain dropstep layups all night, or you're going to put lasers in our shooter's hands the minute you see a defender even glance your way. Previously mentioned Milenko Balaban and Ivo Meyer are threats from beyond the arc, and teams will know that. They'll be slow to double, and after you make their center jump at a ghost on a dream shake for your third straight bucket, they'll realize their scouting report isn't quite as updated as it should be. Defensively, I plan to play a lot of full and three-quarter court pressure; I want teams to have to set up their offense deep out near half court, and more importantly, late in the shot clock.

And this is all without mentioning graduate transfer Otis Scott. He has an elite understanding of the game on the offensive side of the ball; he'll know what you're going to do before you even do. You'll pick a part defenses like you're in your 5th year in this offense.

The lineup I see us trotting out the most has sophomore Malerick McKenzie at the one, and Scott at the two. Meyer and Balaban at the three and four, and obviously you'll be the five. Overall, it's a somewhat smaller lineup, but I like that for us. You have the potential to be a real three level scorer, and I would be stupid not to use that.

On a national level, we haven't been relevant in a long time. Regular season success never translated to the bright lights in march. Since expansion, we've been a moot point in the

state of North Carolina. Not anymore. We sprung a surprise on rival, and overwhelming favorite NC State in the Conference Tournament last year, and rolled back to the NT. This year, though, we have another tough road. Entering recruiting with only 5 guys on the roster, it looked like we would regress again. I'm determined not to let that be the case. GT Otis Scott, who I mentioned earlier, is going to be a force to be reckoned with. I've brought in tons of depth through walk-ons, and the best of the bunch on that front will join us on the roster after cuts. In addition to the one I'm giving you, we have one more scholarship to spend, and we're going to surprise some teams. Right now, middle of the pack in prestige, is not somewhere we'll be in 3 years. We'll be competing for the NT next year, and we'll be doing it with you on the floor at the start of every game.

Off the court, you'll love Winston-Salem. The Wake Forest wellbeing center functions as the hub of campus life. I know the team really enjoys the various rock walls, although I'd say with some of their height and wingspans, it really feels like they're cheating. Wilderness to Wake, is the University's largest first-year program, and I've yet to hear a single negative thing about it. You'll have five days prior to orientation to make friends amongst your fellow first-years, and get a head start on the college experience.

While I know this will be a long way away, with your decade-long professional career ahead of you, we won't shirk your growth on the academic front either. Founded in 1834, we're ranked very well in nearly every category across the board. The university is home to six schools: the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, the School of Divinity, the School of Law, the School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. I know that last one doesn't apply to you yet, but you never know what you'll want to do with all that downtime after retiring from the league.

Wake Forest offers over 45 different majors and 60 different minors to choose from, and I know you'll find something you love. We graduate an astounding 88% of our students, compared with the much lower national average of 63%. We're ranked #29 out of 443 National

Universities. Your time spent in the classroom will help propel you to new heights after basketball. Don't worry about falling behind between basketball and your coursework. We have more personal tutoring plans and schedules just for athletes.

The feeling of seeing your name on the whiteboard at the five slot for our home opener is going to be priceless. I'm letting you know right now I'll get into the locker room just a bit early so I can see that ear-to-ear grin that you won't be able to keep off your face.

Can't wait to hear your name on draft night, Ken!

- Coach Natro