



At what point did becoming a professional ball player become your goal, and what sacrifices did you have to make to achieve it?

I think around middle school is when it became a serious conversation, and I think the biggest sacrifice that I made was just choosing how to spend my time. For me, that meant being in the gym as much as possible and doing everything I could to become 'great' in that regard. Of course, I also made sure I was enjoying life as a kid, because you don't want to be burned out, either. But that was always the concern, continuing to keep working.

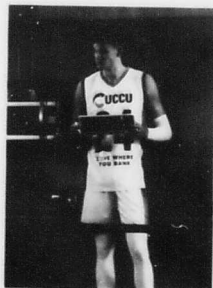
Utah's State slogan is "Life Elevated." How are you enjoying life elevated in Utah, now that you're in your second year?

I love it. The first week I couldn't breathe, but it's been great. The mountains are unbelievable, and the people are super friendly. The attitude definitely is a big advantage, just with being part of the team here. You know, I feel like everyone comes here, and some automatically just can't breathe. So being

able to play here in front of people, it's just a lot of fun.

Your partnership with UCCU has led you to star in some commercials, and do a little acting. How much fun did you have just cutting loose, and making those ads?

It was a blast. Fun fact about me, in seventh grade, I did theater. I played Santa Claus, and I won the theater award at the end of the year. So that was my first career. But you know, basketball works, too.



Finally, what's your favorite thing about Utah?

That's tough. I mean, it may sound naive, or silly, or "Midwest," but I think it's waking up every morning to those mountains. I live in a condo on the 24th floor, so I have a pretty good view of the mountains, and in the morning, when there's a golden hour, and the sun sets, and the skies are clear, you just can't beat it. For me, that's the best thing. And the people, and fans, of course!



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