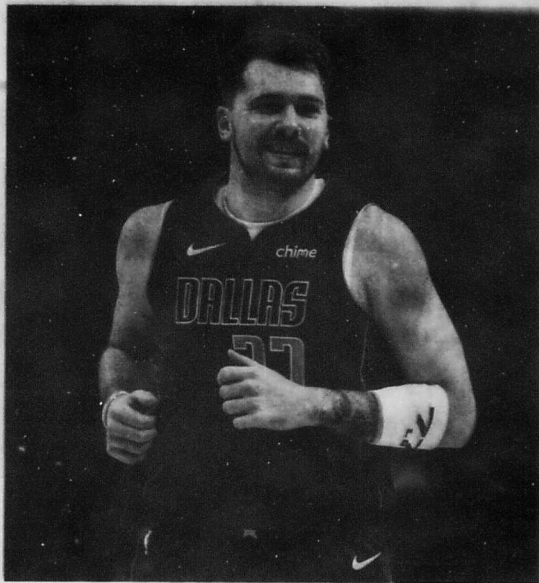


SPORTS

Utah's NHL team may get nickname for first season

After saying that Utah's NHL team would likely play its first season without a nickname, owner Ryan Smith changes his stance on the issue. **C4**

INSIDE » GRANGER HIGH'S MATY BAMBA HITS HER STRIDE • C4 | KENTUCKY COACH MARK POPE WENT EXTRA MILE TO LAND RECRUIT • C7



Utah Jazz fans recently responded to a Tribune poll regarding potential trades. The Dallas Mavericks' Luka Dončić, left, topped Jazz fans' wish lists. Other popular selections were, from top right to bottom, the Boston Celtics' Jaylen Brown, the Phoenix Suns' Devin Booker, and the Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid.

Wishing upon a star

Utah Jazz fans vote on which players the team should trade for.

Utah Jazz CEO Danny Ainge said his team is "ready to go big game hunting" this offseason — looking for stars of the NBA to join his team.

Are Jazz fans looking for the same? To find out, I took to the internet, leveraging our Jazz following to poll fans about various stars around the NBA. The Jazz's trade assets primarily



ANDY LARSEN

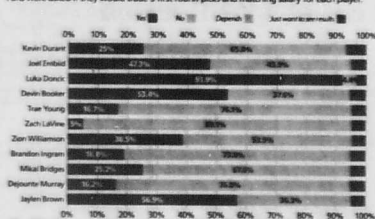
come in the form of a boatload of draft picks from the Rudy Gobert and Donovan Mitchell trades two offseasons ago. So the question I asked, for 11 different potentially available NBA stars, was this: "Would you trade three first-round

picks and matching salary" for each player?

Why three first-round picks? That's probably the basement price for a lot of these players on the open market. In the last two years, teams have been more likely to trade large quantities of first-round picks for players they want. Mitchell and Gobert trades received a total seven picks and three pick swaps, Kevin Durant received four picks and a pick swap.

Even James Harden, a distressed asset on the market after vowing never to play for Sixers vice president Daryl Morey

Fans were asked if they would trade 3 first round picks and matching salary for each player.



Source: Jazz, CB

GRAPHIC BY CHRISTOPHER CHAMBERLAIN



GORDON MONSON

Ryan Smith never met Larry Miller, never spoke with the man, not once.

Whether the two business titans/team owners would have been friends is

anybody's guess. This much is certain: They were, are distinct, different individuals. One example: Larry, as a matter of routine, wouldn't have conducted business wearing a baseball cap backward, as a means of reminding him of his own imperfections, that he might be a billionaire, but he's still just a dude.

The things they had/have in common, though, are evidenced

in what they do, in what they said, say they want to do, in what they did, in what they've done.

Asked once how he wanted to be remembered, Miller said, "As a man who loved Utah."

Asked what his greatest talent was, Miller said, "My vision. I see things others don't see."

Asked what he wanted to

accomplish as a team owner, Miller said: "Win."

Yeah, well, a triple-shot of bingo there for Smith.

Bingo, bingo and bingo, again.

The young visionary who went on to eventually buy Miller's NBA team — the one Larry and Gail, by way of that purchase, previously swooned from moving out of state — a little over a decade after Miller's

passing, and who now has gone on to buy and bring an NHL team to the state, loves Utah, too.

When Smith and his wife, Ashley, first addressed the Coyotes in Arizona, after news of their acquisition of the franchise had just begun to sink in, they filled a group of stitched-up, leathery-tough and slightly-confused hockey players

Photo by MONSON, CA



Join the celebration!

The Utah Lake Tribune will honor the 2024 Top Workplaces next year. Be a part of something special. Nominate your company.

