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FANTASY
CLICKS

BY TOM CARPENTER

Recent Fantasy Clicks

Millsap, Boozer or Both?


Carlos Boozer and Paul Millsap: Kevork Djansezian/Getty Images

Jazz CEO **Greg Miller** doled out a little info to KSL-TV about what the club might do this offseason, and the end results will have major fantasy ramifications.

Of veteran **Carlos Boozer**, who has until June 30 to opt out of the final year of his contract (at \$12.7 million) and become a free agent, Miller said: "We'd love to have Carlos here. Carlos is a very talented player. I think he would be one who would be considered a marquee player, but I do have concerns about Carlos' defense and I have some concerns about his ability to lead the team."

Those last two comments are pretty important, especially when combined with what Miller said about the younger **Paul Millsap**, who will be a restricted free agent: "I just love what I see in him. I love his aggression. I love his hustle. He always just seems to be in the right place at the right time. I think he could have a bright future with the Utah Jazz."

Perhaps more importantly, Miller added that they'd be willing to pay the salary-cap tax to keep Millsap in town.

If Boozer leaves Utah, Millsap would become a fantasy force. If they both stay, it will be interesting to see whether coach **Jerry Sloan** leans more on Millsap than Boozer, or if the club moves Boozer during the season. Regardless, if they have to battle for minutes, we won't see either max out their fantasy value next season.

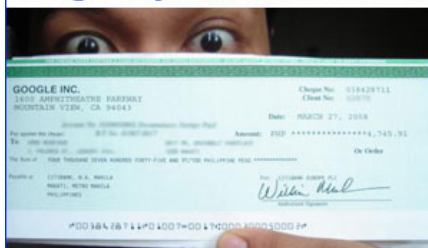
Maroney's No Phony

Laurence Maroney's '08 campaign was a complete disaster. He played in the first two games, missed Week 3, rested during the Pats' Week 4 bye and suited up for Week 5 before going on IR.

The tight-lipped Patriots only said it was a shoulder injury at the time, but Maroney told the *Boston Globe* this week that he actually had a broken bone in the joint.

"I had a broken bone and I was trying to play with it," said Maroney. "It's kind of hard to sit here and

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play and not tell people what is going on. Everybody is going to think one way because they don't really know what's going on. I dare anybody in this crowd to play football with a broken bone in your shoulder and you tell me how long you're going to last out there."

He sustained the injury in Week 2 and tried to tough it out in Week 4, so he should get some credit for trying.

But any hopes of Maroney developing into a franchise-type back or even a reliable fantasy option are about nil in New England. That has less to do with his propensity for injury and more to do with the ever-present RBBC approach that coach **Bill Belichick** uses. And the offseason addition of **Fred Taylor** is only going to make it more difficult for Maroney to thrive.



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Does a Curve Really Break?

My good friend **Nick Addison** passed along a [really interesting link](#) about whether a curveball really breaks.

Arthur Shapiro, Zhong-Lin Lu, Emily Knight and **Robert Ennis** created an optical illusion to show how the human eye may be tricked into seeing the ball break, when in reality it doesn't:

In baseball, a curveball creates a physical effect and a perceptual puzzle. The physical effect (the curve) arises because the ball's rotation leads to a deflection in the ball's path. The perceptual puzzle arises because the deflection is actually gradual but is often perceived as an abrupt change in direction (the break).

Our illusions suggest that the perceived "break" may be caused by the transition from the central visual system to the peripheral visual system. Like a curveball, the spinning disks in the illusions appear to abruptly change direction when an observer switches from foveal to peripheral viewing.

Take a minute, follow the directions and try out the illusion.

Retro Roto



Wayman Tisdale: NBA Photo Library/Sports Illustrated

I've been considering returning to a regular section I've done from time to time over the years call "Retro Roto". Readers always seem to enjoy the chance to take a stroll down Memory Lane and reminisce about ballers who helped them win a title many years ago or players who racked up serious stats before fantasy sports even began.

For all the wrong reasons, this week seems apropos for me to return to my roots. My first fantasy hoops season was the '06-07 campaign, which also happened to be **Wayman Tisdale**'s final run in the Association. Unfortunately, Wayman [passed away last week](#) after a two-year battle with cancer.

He averaged 25.6 points and 10.1 rebounds in his three collegiate years with Oklahoma and was named Big Eight Conference Player of the Year and first-team All-American each season. And last month, he was selected for the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

As a pro, Wayman wasn't a huge fantasy asset. His best campaign was '89-90, when he averaged 22.3 points and 7.5 rebounds. Most seasons, though, you could count on him for 16-17 points and 7+ boards and 50 percent from the field.

Of course, if there was a lot more to Wayman than his fantasy game: specifically, an infectious smile and some serious skills as a bassist. Be sure to check out both his grin and his bass chops in [this video](#).