Huskies in the Pros: Breaking down the start of the Huskies' February performances

by Tyler Pruneau
CAMPUS CORRESPONDENT
HE/HIM/HIS
tyler.pruneau@uconn.edu

Stephon Castle:

This should come as no surprise, but Castle has once again made history in just his second year in the NBA.

During the San Antonio Spurs' 138-125 victory over the Dallas Mavericks on Saturday, the 21-year-old became the youngest player to record 40 points, 12 rebounds and 12 assists.

He is the first player in the Spurs history to do this.

Not to mention, the former Husky constructed his incredible performance within 32 minutes. As of now, Castle is the first player to post 40-12-12 in under 38 minutes.

Throughout the game, the Georgia native thrived from the floor, splashing 12 of 14 (85.7%) shots, burying three of five (60%) triples and converting seven of 10 (70%) free throws.

To end the night, the guard registered a 75% field goal percentage, shooting 15-19. Currently, Castle is the first player to notch 40-12-12 while banking 75% from the field since Wilt Chamberlain in 1968.

Defensively, the rising star stole the ball three times, joining Luka Doncic and Larry Bird as the only players to drop 40 points, 12 boards, 12 assists and three takeaways.

Next up, the Spurs will travel to clash with the Los Angeles Lakers tonight on NBATV. Tipoff is scheduled for 10:30 p.m.

Donovan Clingan:

Similar to Castle, Clingan has become one of the league's best rebounders for the Portland Trail Blazers.

In the team's last four matches, the center snagged 10-plus boards.

While facing the Memphis Grizzlies on Saturday, the 21-year-old secured a double-double, producing 20 points, 19 rebounds and three assists. So far, this marks the Connecticut native's twentieth double-double of the 2025-2026 stretch.

Offensively, the former Husky swished six of nine (66.7%) shots from inside the perimeter, nailed two of six (33.3%) tries from deep and knocked down a pair of free throws.

Last night, the Trail Blazers flew to battle the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday at 8 p.m. Fans can tune into the matchup on KUNP 16.

Cam Spencer:

As the 2025-2026 run advances, Spencer continues to help the Grizzlies snag wins. In the franchise's previous three outings, the Maryland native accumulated 15-plus points.

In the squad's 129-125 triumph over the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday, Spencer stole the show. With less than 20 seconds remaining in the game, the 25-year-old netted a 3-pointer that robbed the Kings of the win.

Two days later, the former Husky was near perfect from all ranges while taking on the Trail Blazers.

Within 26 minutes, Spencer contributed 18 points and five assists. From the paint, the second-year player went 5-for-5, sank two of three (66.7%) from downtown and went 2-for-2 from the free-throw line.

The Grizzlies started a two-game road series last night versus the Golden State Warriors and will fly to face the Denver Nuggets tomorrow night. Fans can watch the contest on Altitude Sports with tipoff scheduled for 9 p.m.

Tristen Newton:

Before Newton prepares for his first Rising Star game on Friday, the Rio Grande Valley Vipers utilized him in their third consecutive victory. However, it was not all sunshine and rainbows.

In the Vipers' previous two faceoffs, the guard has faced challenges in landing his shots from the three-point line. In total, the 24-year-old hit three of 13 (23.1%) long-range shots.

Despite struggling from beyond the arc, the former Husky still finished the game with 18-plus points.

The Vipers will travel to face the Texas Legends in an in-state showdown on Thursday on ESPN+. Tipoff is scheduled for 8 p.m.

Liam McNeeley:

For the first time since Jan. 8, McNeeley took the court for the Charlotte Hornets against the Grizzlies on Wednesday, but only for six minutes.

Within his limited minutes, the rookie botched two shots from the field and grabbed a board.

Unlike the NBA, the 20-year-old looks stellar with the Greensboro Swarm G League team. In the squads 140-135 fall to the Cleveland Charge, McNeeley dropped 21 points, three rebounds and two assists.

Jordan Hawkins:

In the New Orleans Pelicans rotation, Hawkins lost his job due to poor performances. In the new year, the former Husky averaged slightly over 2.5 points, a little over two boards and less than an assist per meeting.

For the franchise's last nine matches, the team demoted him to a healthy scratch.

Andre Jackson Jr.:

Similar to Hawkins, not much has leaned in Jackson Jr.'s favor. In the month of February, the guard has so far produced less than a point, just over 1.5 rebounds and slightly over an assist per bout.

The UConn men's basketball team goes up against the Providence Friars tonight Jan. 31, 2024 in a gut wrenching game at Gampel Pavilion, The Huskies came out victors once again after a long game with a 9 point advantage, with Stephon Castle. FILE PHOTO



The UConn men's basketball team goes up against the UNH Wildcats at Gampel Pavilion in Storrs Conn. on Nov. 27, 2023. The Huskies created a brand new NCAA record with 24 straight non-conference wins. FILE PHOTO