

Nets' Jalen Wilson ready for summer-league encore after Vegas success as rookie

BY GARY BEDORE
gbedore@kcstar.com

As a second-round draft pick who was a bit older than the usual NBA rookie, 23-year-old University of Kansas graduate Jalen Wilson entered the 2023-24 season with one major goal in mind.

"I just wanted to get the most experience, the most time playing in high-stakes games," said Wilson, who after earning second-team all-NBA Summer League honors emerged as an immediate factor in his initial campaign with the Brooklyn Nets.

Wilson spoke with reporters after a 2024 summer-league practice on Tuesday in Brooklyn, New York.

"One of the first games we had ... we had the Mavericks and Boston the same week," he recalled. "Both were close games. I just wanted to get the experience to play against those superstars of the league."

The 6-foot-6, 220-pound native of Denton, Texas scored 10 points in 18 minutes against the Western Conference champion Dallas Mavericks on Feb. 6, then went for nine points and four rebounds in 23 minutes against the world champion Boston Celtics on Feb. 13.

The next night, against the same Celtics team, Wilson had four points and two assists in 19 minutes. The Nets lost all three games.

"I feel I was able to get out there, get minutes and I feel that's the main thing with young players coming in," Wilson said. "You just want to be able to play against those guys."

Wilson was a starter on KU's 2022 NCAA title team. He was selected 51st overall by Brooklyn in the 2023 Draft.

"I'm on the same court as them now, playing against them now," Wilson said of the likes of Luka Dončić of the Mavs and Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown, Jrue Holiday, Derrick White and Al Horford of the Celtics.

"(Against elite players) I've got to rebound," he said. "I've got to get a bucket to build that confidence. If I can do that with them on the court I should be able to play (against others in the league). That's the biggest thing for me, to get experience and be able to play."

Wilson started 11 games in 2023-24 for the Long Island Nets of the NBA G League. He also played in 43 games — making three starts — for the parent club Nets.

Now he is gearing up for his second go-round in summer-league ball, which starts with a game

against former KU wing Johnny Furphy's Indiana Pacers on Friday night in Las Vegas.

Wilson made good use of his extensive playing time in 2023-24, averaging 35 minutes per game in the G League and 15.4 in the NBA games in which he participated.

In March, the Nets tore up Wilson's two-way contract and signed him to a three-year deal worth \$4,963,534, including \$925,000 guaranteed and an average annual salary of \$1,654,511. In 2024-25, Wilson will earn a base salary of \$1,891,857.

This season he'll make \$1,891,857, the contract becoming fully guaranteed if he's still with the team on Jan 10, 2025.

Suffice to say Wilson is totally satisfied with the way things have gone for him in the pros so far. As a rookie, he averaged 5.0 points, 3.0 rebounds and 1.0 assists in 15.4 minutes per game for the Nets. He hit 79 of 179 shots for 42.5% including 24 of 74 from 3-point range for 32.4%.

In the 11 G League games he averaged 19.1 points, 7.6 rebounds and 2.4 assists in 35.0 minutes per outing. He hit 70 of 140 shots for 50%. He was 23 of 51 from 3-point range for 45.1%.

Wilson had a lot of momentum entering the regular season after av-

eraging 17.6 points and 7.8 rebounds in five 2023 summer-league games. The Nets went 3-2 in summer league, tying for sixth-best record.

Now he's returning to Vegas to play for a Nets team that's rebuilding after the recent trade of Mikal Bridges. Wilson will be a summer teammate of fellow second-year players Noah Clowney and Dariq Whitehead plus Jaylen Martin, Zylanb Cheatham and others.

"You always want to come out and show you are ready to play," Wilson said. "Summer league's going to be ups and downs as well. It's not going to be perfect. You need to show you are mentally locked in and ready for the season."

Wilson realizes he hasn't yet locked up a spot in the Nets' regular rotation.

"I have had people hate on me or whatever you want to call it my entire life, so I just go out and block out the noise and play my game," he said. "I feel when it's time to play, you've got to play."

"I feel I'm able to go out there, play hard and show what I can do every single time. I feel like someone's always going to have something to say so it doesn't really matter."

Of his summer-league goals, Wilson said: "I definitely want to win. We were so close to winning it last time. That's the definite priority."

Also ... "just being a leader," he said. "I felt we all got to do it last year, growing from that and showing we've gotten better from last summer and we're ready to play."

Evan Barnes of News-

day wrote Wednesday what fans should watch for from Wilson in the Nets' five summer-league games.

"For Wilson, summer league should be about showing leadership and proving he's too good for the competition," Barnes wrote. "He should continue to be assertive not just on the court but as a rebounder and taking charge of situations. Last summer also showed Wilson's improved jump shot. Fans should keep an eye on that this summer since that'll help Wilson stay on the floor next season besides his IQ and rebounding. Wilson could be the classic second-year guy who looks too good for summer league. That'll be a plus for him and Nets

fans who hope that he can compete for a bigger role."

Wilson is hoping he becomes a fixture in Brooklyn. He likes everything about his NBA home.

"I've grown to love it every single day," he said. "Coming from Texas, New York is always a new awakening to everybody."

And Wilson once again showed his KU loyalty during Tuesday's interview. Asked if he watched some of his new Nets teammates play in college, he smiled and said: "If it ain't KU, I ain't really watching. I can't lie."

Gary Bedore:
816-234-4068,
@garybedore

Classified

classifieds.kansascity.com

816.234.4636

Legals

To whom it may concern: Notice is hereby given that by an order of the Circuit Court of the County of Jackson, Missouri, Division No. 30, Case No. 2416-FC03343 made entered on the record on June 27, 2024, the name of Lillian Marie Earl was changed to Charlie Earl. IPL0181400 Jun 28, Jul 5, 12 2024

Notice of Bid

Bids for Replace Fire Alarm System, Infrastructure at Chillicothe Correctional Center, Project No. C2326-01, will be received by FMDC, State of MO, UNTIL 1:30 PM, August 8, 2024 via MissouriBUYS. Bidders must be registered to bid. Project information available at: <http://oa.mo.gov/facilities> IPL0181969 Jul 8-12, 14-18 2024

BIDS ACCEPTED

The City of KCMO will receive Bids by 2:00 PM, on 7/31/2024 at Parks and Recreation for Project: SMR2025 - SWOPE MEMORIAL GOLF COURSE RENOVATION 2025. Please Log into the KCMO Planroom using www.kcmoplanroom.org for more info. IPL0182837 Jul 9-12, 14-19 2024

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Sealed bids for Gladstone Community Center Roof Repair/Replacement, Project CC2551 will be received by the City of Gladstone, MO at City Hall, 7010 N. Holmes, until 10:30 AM, Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All bids must be submitted in accordance with forms and conditions set forth in the Bidding Documents. Project consists of the replacement of the SW section of the Community Center roof, approximately 2,846 sq.ft. Pursuant to Section 292.675, RSMO, the Contractor shall provide a ten-hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) construction safety program for all on-site employees. Complete sets of Bidding Documents and Plans will be available for review and purchase for \$25.00, at the front desk of Gladstone City Hall, City of Gladstone, 7010 N. Holmes, Gladstone, MO IPL0183336 Jul 12 2024

Request for Proposals ATKINS-JOHNSON FARM AND MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENT VENUE

Project CP2454
The City of Gladstone is requesting proposals from qualified firms to furnish and deliver a materials kit for the construction of an event center to be located at the Atkins-Johnson Farm and Museum. Bids will be accepted at City Hall until 10:00 AM Tuesday, July 30, 2024. If interested, please submit a sealed proposal to City Hall, City of Gladstone, 7010 N. Holmes, Gladstone, MO 64118, Attn: Glen Whitten. Additional information can be found at www.gladstone.mo.us/documents/rfp/. Direct questions to johnh1@gladstone.mo.us. IPL0183342 Jul 12 2024

Notice to sell/dispose arising from eviction

Personal property belonging to Donald B Cooper and Dorothy A Voorhees formerly located at 10185 Monticello Rd, Lenexa, KS will be sold/disposed on 7/24/24. IPL0183496 Jul 12 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED 2025 FISCAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LEAWOOD, JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Governing Body of the City of Leawood, Kansas, shall meet for the purpose of holding a public hearing in the City Council Chambers at Leawood City Hall, 4800 Town Center Drive, Leawood, KS, 66211, at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, on September 3, 2024, to consider the proposed 2025 Fiscal Budget for the City of Leawood, Kansas. The proposed tax rate is 23.500 and the Revenue Neutral Rate is 22.298. The hearing may be adjourned from time to time, as deemed necessary by the Governing Body. All persons desiring to be heard with reference to the proposed 2025 Fiscal Budget will be heard at said time.

/s/ STEPHEN E. POWELL, MMC
CITY CLERK
IPL0183602
Jul 12 2024

Auctions

Auctions

399 Coin Auction
Sat. July 20, 10 am 2931 W. 24th Ave Emporia, KS Silver, Gold, Books, More For a copy go to swiftnsureauctions.com or call 620-366-0729

TOY POODLE PUPPIES!
Shots Wormed Parents on site
816-455-1721

ESPYS are tonight, but 'Best NFL Player' has already been announced (He wears No. 15)

BY BLAIR KERKHOFF
bkerkhoff@kcstar.com

Even before the ESPYs were broadcast Thursday night, at least one prominent award had already been announced: Patrick Mahomes was selected Best NFL Player.

The announcement was made by ESPN on Wednesday.

Mahomes was one of four nominees for the

award along with Cleveland Browns defensive end Myles Garrett, Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson and San Francisco 49ers running back Christian McCaffrey.

Jackson was voted NFL MVP by The Associated Press.

Mahomes led the Chiefs to a second straight Super Bowl triumph and third in five years. They did it the

hard way, winning road games against Buffalo and Baltimore before downing the 49ers 25-22 in overtime in Super Bowl LVIII, with Mahomes capping the game-winning drive with a 3-yard touchdown pass to Mecole Hardman.

The performance gained Mahomes his third Super Bowl MVP.

Mahomes is up for another ESPY, Best Athlete in Men's Sports,

along with Shohei Ohtani of the Los Angeles Dodgers, golfer's Scottie Scheffler, and Connor McDavid of the Edmonton Oilers.

Mahomes won both awards at last year's ESPYs, and the Chiefs were named Best Team. The Chiefs are up for that award this year.

Blair Kerkhoff:
816-234-4730,
@BlairKerkhoff



MITCH STRINGER USA TODAY NETWORK

Cubs pitcher Shota Imanaga delivers in the first inning against the host Orioles.

MLB

Cubs blank O's in battle of All-Star pitchers

Field Level Media

Shota Imanaga threw six shutout innings and the Chicago Cubs prevailed in a showdown featuring All-Star pitchers, defeating the host Baltimore Orioles 4-0 on Wednesday.

Imanaga, pitching for the first time in a week, outdueled Baltimore's Corbin Burnes. Both were picked for the All-Star Game, which will be held Tuesday night.

Imanaga (8-2) gave up

six hits, walked one and struck out six in picking up his first victory since June 15. Burnes (9-4) went six innings, giving up three runs on nine hits while striking out five.

Phillies 4, Dodgers 3: Kyle Schwarber hit a solo home run, Christopher Sanchez threw six solid innings and host Philadelphia defeated Los Angeles. Sanchez (7-4) gave up five hits and two runs.

Mariners 2, Padres 0: Bryce Miller fired six innings of shutout ball and Seattle earned its first

series win in nearly a month by blanking host San Diego. Miller (7-7) allowed five hits and walked none, striking out one in an 80-pitch outing.

Brewers 9, Pirates 0: Rookie Tobias Myers allowed four hits over eight scoreless innings to pace Milwaukee to a victory over visiting Pittsburgh. Myers (6-3) struck out six and walked one for his sixth win in his past seven decisions.

Yankees 2, Rays 1: Trent Grisham drove in two runs to lift the visitors in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Royals 6, Cardinals 4, G1: Salvador Perez homered and added an RBI single as visiting Kansas City rallied in the first half of a split doubleheader.

Royals 8, Cardinals 5, G2: Salvador Perez homered and drove in two runs to help the visitors complete a day-night sweep.

White Sox 3, Twins 1, G1: Luis Robert Jr. smacked a two-run home run and Erick Fedde pitched five shutout innings to lift Chicago to a win against visiting Minnesota. Fedde (7-3) allowed four hits and two walks while striking out five.

Twins 3, White Sox 2, G2: Brooks Lee and Carlos Correa hit back-to-back solo homers in the sixth inning and Ryan Jeffers drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh as Minnesota split the doubleheader.

Mets 6, Nationals 2: Luis Severino tossed 6 1/3 solid innings and combined with three relievers on a five-hitter for host New York.

Diamondbacks 7, Braves 5: Eugenio Suarez homered and had three RBIs to lead the hosts to a win.

Angels 7, Rangers 2: Zach Neto had three hits in a home win, including a two-run homer.

Astros 9, Marlins 1: Framber Valdez tossed seven strong innings, striking out a season-high 10 batters to lead the hosts. Valdez (8-5) allowed one run on six hits and one walk.

Athletics 5, Red Sox 2: Lawrence Butler and Max Schuemann each had two hits to lead the visitors to a win.

Tigers 5, Guardians 4: Matt Vierling homered and drove in three runs in a home win.

Rockies 6, Reds 5: Sam Hilliard belted two homers and drove in three while Kyle Freeland allowed two runs over 6 2/3 innings in a road win.

Freeland (1-3) held the Reds to two runs on eight hits, striking out a season-high nine and walking one.

Blue Jays 10, Giants 6: Ernie Clement drove in a career-high four runs as Toronto bombed All-Star Logan Webb en route to a victory over host San Francisco.

BONUS: Subscribers will find coverage of yesterday's MLB games in the eEdition at kansascity.com/edition/xtrageday.

Animals

Dogs

Mini Bernedoodle & Cockapoo
Puppies for sale! 816-383-0489
Midwestdoodleranch.com \$800+

AKC/ACA Pomeranian Puppies
\$500-\$1000
Breeding stock available.
Independence Kansas
620-714-0295

Golden Retriever Puppies
AKC 1 male and 5 females with Health Warranty and Vet Records. Ready 7-19 Deposit of \$200 holds until pick up. \$800 Call 573-619-3357

AKC GREAT DANE PUPPIES! BIG AND BEAUTIFUL!
Registered Great Dane pups from bloodlines known for exceptional size and personalities. Male/Females, Harlequins, Blues, Black, Silver Merles, Reverse Brindles available.

Our pups are family raised, socialized, are super sweet, smart, and absolutely beautiful. We can offer a range of colors with this litter and an exceptional quality pup for you.

Ready to go August 6th

For questions, photos, or to reserve your pup
CALL
CEDARWOOD DANES 785 250-7464



Ivy Acres Goldadors for Sale!
5 male and female puppies for sale! Both parents are AKC registered! Contact: (816)683-9930 or ivyacresgoldadors@gmail.com



Bernese/Pyrrenee Mix, hand raised & socialized. Therapy animals great-berneseofkc.com

Pure Bred Maltese 1 male and 2 females available now for their forever homes! 816-648-5908

Shetland Sheepdog (F) puppies
10 weeks 300-350 cash 785 418 1387

Long haired Dachshund puppy
10 weeks 350 cash 785 418 1387

Adorable American Bullies
Registered American Bullies 3-female 4-males. Highly socialized. Mom and Dad on site. Vet checked, UTD on shots, dewormed, will be ready for their forever homes July 28. Call/text Ashley 816-261-2598 for more info.

AKC Mini Dachshund 11wks male,
current vacs/worming, 600, call/text for more info/pics, 660-334-0228

Goldendoodle Puppies
Goldendoodles F1 & F1B, Reds & Cremes. Family Raised. UTD on Health, Microchipped, Great Personalities. Can meet. 641.344.5166

Merchandise

Want to Buy

Certified buyer looking for R11, R12, R22 & more! Call Xiomara at 312-697-1976.

Service Directory

Concrete

Residential driveways, walkways, steps. Licensed and insured for 40+ years. 913-262-4265

Lawn/Garden/Landscaping/Trees

SHRUB REMOVAL
Tim 913-620-1092

Painting

House Painting Deck Staining
High Quality House Painting And Deck Stain/Seal Voted #1 In House Painting and Deck Staining KC 913-486-9040 Michael

KANSASCITY.COM