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Charlotte decided to work on their rebuilding phase after dealing away one of their top players in Gerald Wallace by the trade deadline for draft selections. Head Coach Larry Brown was replaced by Paul Silas in December and they ended with a regular season mark of 34-48, just three victories short of the eighth seed won by the Indiana Pacers.

The Bobcats also chose to let go of Stephen Jackson, Kwame Brown and Shaun Livingston. Jackson was the team's leading scorer with 18.5 points/game but was more of a headache as he played selfish basketball for the Bobcats last season.

The Bobcats seemed to have a successful night at the draft when they traded for the 7th pick which turned out to be Bismack Biyombo. He has the makings of a Ben Wallace type and all he needs to do is to get adjusted to the NBA game. They also drafted Kemba Walker, who has a winner's mentality after leading the Connecticut Huskies to a National Championship last year.

Biyombo probably will not get much floor time as he needs to be adjusted to the NBA style, but PG Kemba Walker should see a lot of court time from the start. Walker may begin the year coming off the pine, but don't be shocked if he winds up taking the starting point guard spot from D.J. Augustin. While Augustin put up 16 points and 6 assists, he was a big disaster on defense.

Gerald Henderson will begin the season as the starting shooting guard as their free agent pick-up Reggie Williams will be out 6-8 weeks with an injury. The Bobcats dealt for Corey Maggette in the hopes that he can offer offense to a team needing a true scorer. Although he put up just 12 points for Milwaukee last season, he just started 18 times and will look to have the starting SF spot for Charlotte this season. He averaged nearly 20 a night the previous three years in Golden State.

Boris Diaw and Tyrus Thomas will have the starting spot at the center and power forward slot respectively. They have also added some nice depth by getting big man Bryon Mullens through trade. They also have D.J. White as the backup PF.

Pick: 5th in the East's Southeast Division – Our [best NBA handicapper](#) thinks the Bobcats are clearly going in the right direction, they still have a long way to go to contend night in and night out with the rest of their conference. While this squad will be good on the defensive end, they will struggle to regularly score enough to win games. The main goal for Charlotte this season will be to develop their young guys and get them the right pieces in place to make a serious run next year. They might still be able to make the postseason this season in the East, but for that to happen, Kemba Walker will have to be a superstar from the start.

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