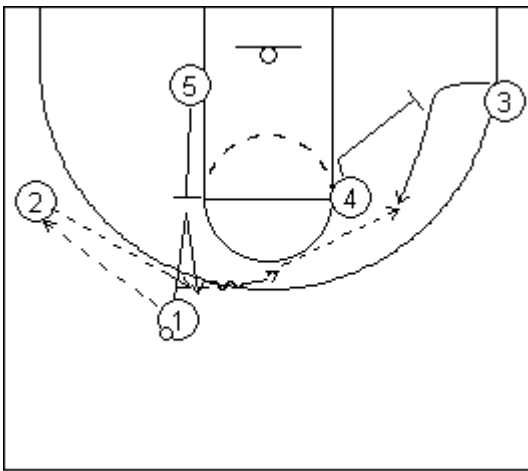


March 11, 2010 Chalkboard

Utah Jazz offensive action

The Utah Jazz have always been one of my favorite teams to watch because Sloan does such a good job getting them to execute their offense. Here are 2 actions I've picked up from Utah in their last 2 TV games (as you'll see, the Jazz love high curls to the elbow):

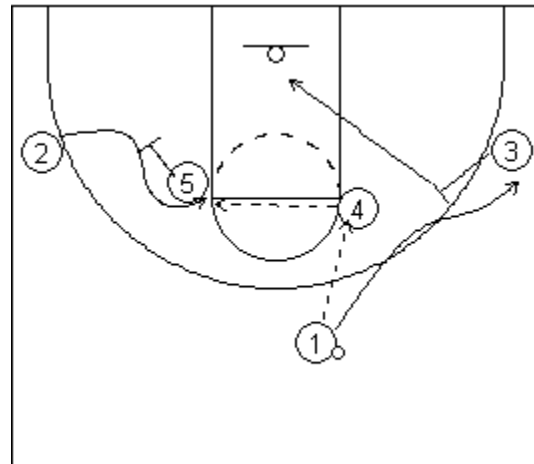
Fake the UCLA to create a 2 man game on the weak side



Deron Williams hitting the 2 and then running off 5's UCLA screen is Utah's most frequent offensive action. This tendency creates this opportunity as teams anticipate the UCLA cut and Deron Williams moves back to the perimeter for a catch. This action is all about timing as 3 should be coming off 4's screen right as 1 catches it and takes 1 dribble middle.

Occupy the help to create a high curl

Here, Williams hits Boozer (4) at the high post and runs his direction. Often, Utah will run Williams right into a handoff with Boozer, but here Williams veers to the three point line as the ball side wing (3) steps up to set a flare screen. As soon as 3 makes contact with x1, he dives hard to the rim. Utah isn't looking to really score on this so much as to occupy the weak side help because as soon as 3 dives, 4 turns over his right shoulder to the left



side of the floor where 5 is screening for 2. Again, this play is all about timing as 2 is waiting on his man (x2) to react to 3's dive.