Big Z pitches real estate to Carmelo Anthony from the bench

By Kelly Dwyer

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In Sunday's loss to the New York Knicks, Miami Heat center Zydrunas Ilgauskas played zero minutes. He didn't take a shot, pull in a rebound, or even take the warm-ups off. For his troubles, Big Z (who is making the NBA's minimum salary this season) earned himself a cool \$16,490. And he may have found a nice way to augment that.

Because during halftime of that game Ilgauskas introduced new Knick forward Carmelo Anthony to the news that Big Z rents out a spacious New York City townhouse (that he purchased in 2006 for \$6.95 million) for the totally do-able price of \$37,500 a month. And Carmelo, after being uprooted from Denver after playing in that city for 7 1/2 years, is considering turning Big Z into the Big Landlord.

Ilgauskas' in-game pitch? "It's awesome, with five bedrooms."

The New York Post has the story:

Carmelo Anthony agreed to walk through Zydrunas Ilgauskas' \$37,500-a-month townhouse at 24 Thompson St., after Ilgauskas, who plays for the Miami Heat, pitched it to Melo during a recent

Knicks' victory. The five-bedroom townhouse, represented by Josh Fields of Spire Group, is 5,000 square feet and has hoopster-friendly 15-foot ceilings.

I had no interest in a Carmelo Anthony-themed reality show until now.

The thought of Zydrunas Ilgauskas strolling in to collect the rent, or to change the air filters on the heater? To see if Carmelo and LaLa Vasquez bought a new cat? To relay the complaints that the incorrigible neighbor Mrs. Foxton has about "all the noise"?

This is ratings gold, Carmelo. Run with it.

For pictures of Anthony's potential rental, click the jump:

The living room:



The kitchen:



The sitting room:



The bedroom:



The bathrooom, and rustic kitchen:



Another bedroom, and a study:



Another of the five bedrooms, and a hallway that you don't typically see in NYC:

