A recent mistake that I have noticed by the Mariners is: leaping too hastily from bats in an unusually inhospitable hitting environment which is illustrated by trading Eugenio Suárez (Nov. 22, 2023) for Seby Zavala and Carlos Vargas, and then cycling through short-term position-player risks. T-Mobile Park is one of the pitcher-friendliest parks in MLB according to Statcast/FanGraphs park factors, especially for home runs, so new hitters are normally going to need actual adjustment and must be graded with park and contact-quality context, not raw outcomes (FanGraphs.com).

Suárez is a useful case example. After the trade to Arizona, he started slowly but finished strong (e.g., SI tracked a .307/.341/.602 run after June 27, 2024), including a three-homer performance on July 31, 2024 which is evidence that raw power potential still existed once context shifted. Seattle's action essentially sold low on an established 3B with plus power when their internal run environment depresses visible outcomes, and the return prioritized reliever/catcher profile over bankable offense. The method, discounting anticipated metrics (xwOBA/HH%) and park effects, is more mis-calibrated than the player choice alone (baseballsavant.com).

This pattern extends beyond Suárez. In 2023 the club DFA'd Kolten Wong in-season and traded away A.J. Pollock within months of a 1-year deal, while other one-year or one-season looks (e.g., Teoscar Hernández) came and went quickly. Some churn is healthy, but serial short leashes in the league's toughest offensive venue risk under-realizing talent you've already paid to acquire. The group would benefit more from longer window evaluations (e.g., 600 PA or year-round), straightforward application of park-adjusted wRC+ and projected statistics at decision points, and filter acquisitions favoring batted-ball profiles consistently seen at T-Mobile (line-drive percentage, power across the board) over straight-up slug (ESPN.com).

In short, the mistake isn't one name, but rather a process gap: keeping T-Mobile results as true talent and skill too early. A wiser, more context-aware, patience-balanced philosophy for bats would likely have preserved value (gained it in exchange) and lifted Seattle's run floor without adding much cost.