"Nothing But Net" League History

1977: "Nothing But Net" Awards



MVP – Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)
Defensive POY – Elvin Hayes (Houston Rockets)
Sixth Man – Billy Knight (Houston Rockets)
All-Star MVP – Brian Taylor (Cleveland Cavaliers)
Rookie of the Year – Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
Finals MVP – Brian Taylor (Cleveland Cavaliers)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
SF George Gervin (Cleveland Cavaliers)
PF Bobby Jones (San Antonio Spurs)
C Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)
SG David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
PG Brian Taylor (Cleveland Cavaliers)

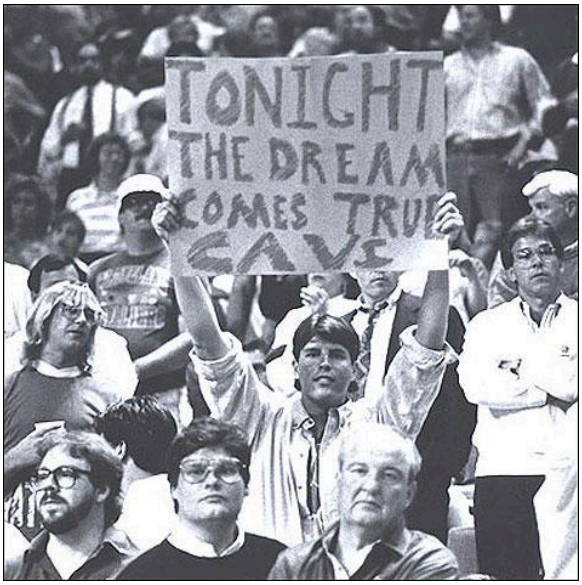
ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
SF Julius Erving (Detroit Pistons)
PF Elvin Hayes (Houston Rockets)
C Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)
SG David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
PG Don Buse (Detroit Pistons)

ALL – Rookie Team
SF Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
PF Lonnie Shelton (Seattle SuperSonics)
C Mitch Kupchak (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG John Lucas (Utah Jazz)
PG Ron Lee (Boston Celtics)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Philadelphia 76ers
Central Division Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Midwest Division Champs – Indiana Pacers
Pacific Division Champs – Seattle SuperSonics

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Western Conference Champs – Indiana Pacers

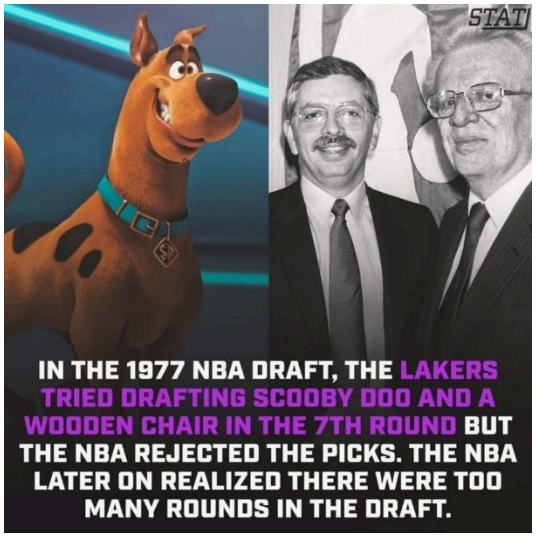
1977: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Cleveland Cavaliers



1977: “Nothing But Net” Draft

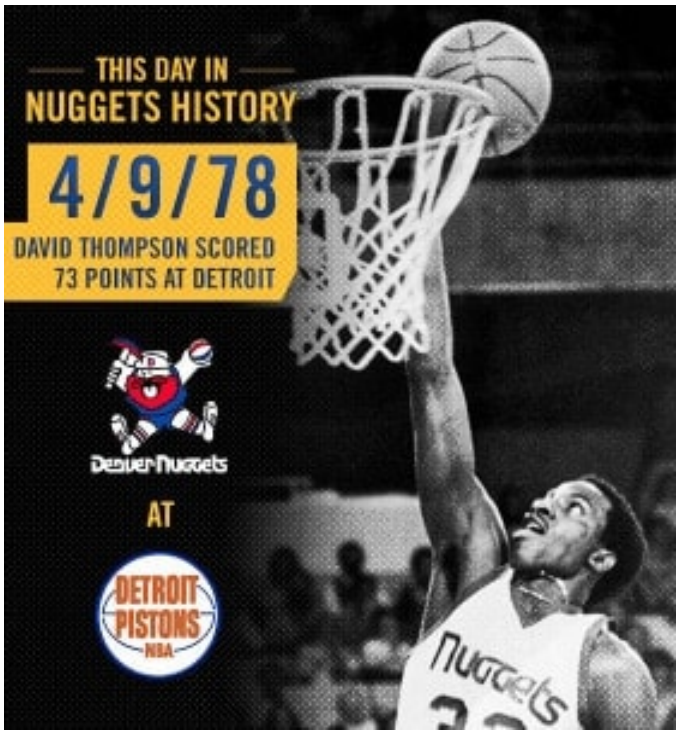


The 1977 NBA draft was the 31st annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA). The draft was held on June 10, 1977, before the 1977–78 season. In this draft, 22 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players. The first two picks in the draft belonged to the teams that finished last in each conference, with the order determined by a coin flip. Kent Benson from Indiana University was selected first overall by the Milwaukee Bucks. Walter Davis from the University of North Carolina, who went on to win the Rookie of the Year Award in his first season, was selected fifth by the Phoenix Suns. Davis was also selected to both the All-NBA Team and the All-Star Game in his first season. He collected a total of six All-NBA Team selections and two All-Star Game selections. Three other players from this draft, second pick Otis Birdsong, third pick Marques Johnson and seventh pick Bernard King, were also selected to both the All-NBA Team and the All-Star Game. Birdsong was selected to four All-NBA Teams and one All-Star Game; Johnson was selected to five All-NBA Teams and three All-Star Games; and King was selected to four All-NBA Teams and four All-Star Games. Jack Sikma, the eighth pick, won the NBA championship with the Seattle SuperSonics in 1979 and was selected to seven consecutive All-Star Games.



The Milwaukee Bucks selected Marques Johnson with the overall #1 pick in the 1977: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Golden State Warriors selected Tree Rollins.

1978: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
Defensive POY – Marvin Webster (San Antonio Spurs)
Sixth Man – David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
All-Star MVP – Artis Gilmore (Detroit Pistons)
Rookie of the Year – Walter Davis (Chicago Bulls)
Finals MVP – Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Kevin Porter (Portland Trail Blazers)
SG David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
SF Rick Barry (Kansas City Kings)
PF Bobby Jones (San Antonio Spurs)
C Artis Gilmore (Detroit Pistons)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Don Buse (Detroit Pistons)
SG George Gervin (Cleveland Cavaliers)
SF Rick Barry (Kansas City Kings)
PF Elvin Hayes (Houston Rockets)
C Marvin Webster (San Antonio Spurs)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Norm Nixon (San Antonio Spurs)
SG Otis Birdsong (Buffalo Braves)
SF Walter Davis (Chicago Bulls)
PF Wilson Washington (Kansas City Kings)
C Jack Sikma (Denver Nuggets)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Philadelphia 76ers
Central Division Champs – Washington Bullets
Midwest Division Champs – Indiana Pacers
Pacific Division Champs – Seattle SuperSonics

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Boston Celtics
Western Conference Champs – Seattle SuperSonics

1978: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Seattle SuperSonics

1978: “Nothing But Net” Draft



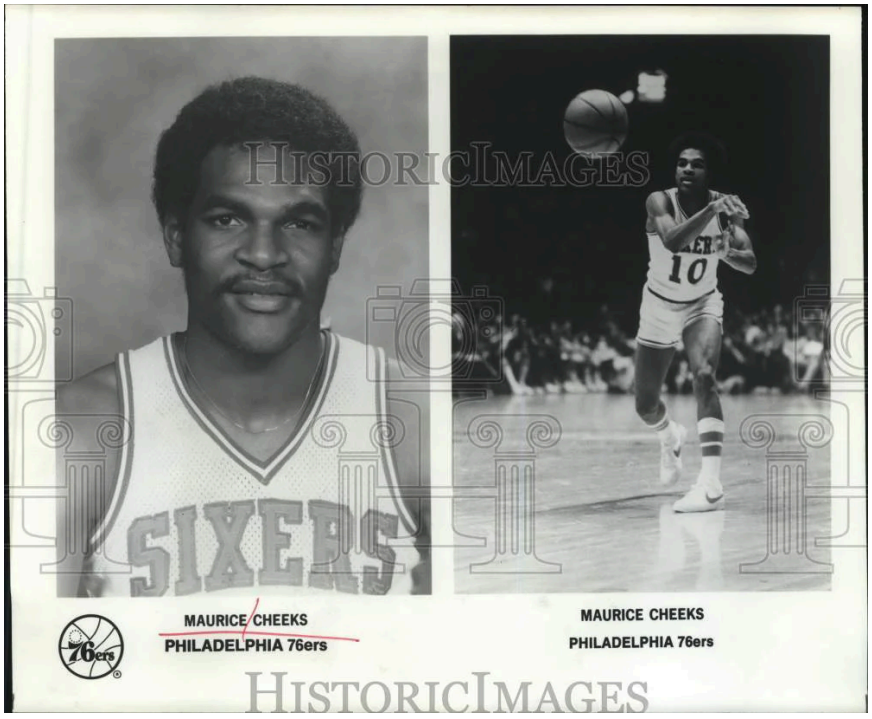
The 1978 NBA draft was the 32nd annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA). The draft was held on June 9, 1978, at the Plaza Hotel in New York City, New York, before the 1978–79 season. In this draft, 22 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players. The first two picks in the draft belonged to the teams that finished last in each conference, with the order determined by a coin flip.

The Indiana Pacers won the coin flip and were awarded the first overall pick, while the Kansas City Kings, who obtained the New Jersey Nets' first-round pick in a trade, were awarded the second pick. The Pacers then traded the first pick to the Portland Trail Blazers before the draft. The remaining first-round picks and the subsequent rounds were assigned to teams in reverse order of their win–loss record in the previous season.

Mychal Thompson from the University of Minnesota was selected first overall by the Portland Trail Blazers. Thompson, who was born in the Bahamas, became the first foreign-born player to be drafted first overall. Phil Ford from the University of North Carolina was selected second by the Kansas City Kings. He went on to win the Rookie of the Year Award and was also selected to the All-NBA Second Team in his rookie season. A college underclassman from Indiana State

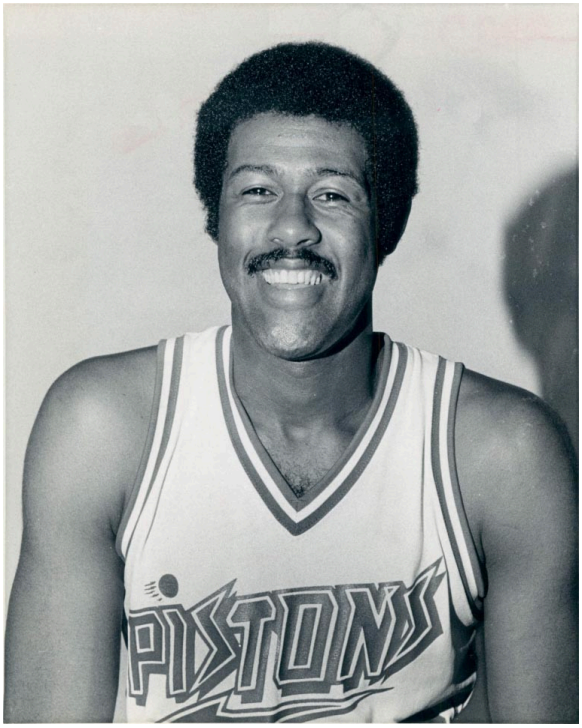
University, Larry Bird, was selected sixth by the Boston Celtics. However, he opted to return to Indiana State for his senior season before entering the league in 1979. He won the Rookie of the Year Award and was also selected to both the All-NBA First Team and the All-Star Game in his rookie season. Bird spent his entire 13-year career with the Celtics and won three NBA championships. He also won three consecutive Most Valuable Player Awards and two Finals Most Valuable Player Awards. He was also selected to ten All-NBA Teams and thirteen consecutive All-Star Games. For his achievements, he has been inducted to the Basketball Hall of Fame. Bird was also named to the list of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History announced at the league's 50th anniversary in 1996. After retiring as a player, Bird went on to have a coaching career. He coached the Indiana Pacers for three seasons, leading them to an NBA Finals appearance. He also won the Coach of the Year Award in 1998.

Maurice Cheeks, the 36th pick, was selected to four All-Star Games and five consecutive All-Defensive Teams. After retiring as a player, he coached the Portland Trail Blazers and the Philadelphia 76ers for four and a half seasons each. He then coached the Detroit Pistons for the first portion of the 2013/14 NBA season but was fired before finishing his first season with the team. Micheal Ray Richardson, the fourth pick, Larry Bird, the sixth pick, Reggie Theus, the ninth pick, and Mike Mitchell, the fifteenth pick, are the only other players from this draft who were selected to an All-Star Game. Michael Cooper, the 60th pick, won the Defensive Player of the Year Award in 1987 and was selected to eight consecutive All-Defensive Teams. He spent his entire 12-year career with the Los Angeles Lakers and won five NBA championships.



The Kansas City Kings selected PG Maurice Cheeks with the overall #1 pick in the 1978: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Atlanta Hawks selected C Mychal Thompson.

1979: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – M.L. Carr (Cleveland Cavaliers)
Defensive POY – Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)
Sixth Man – David Thompson (Boston Celtics)
All-Star MVP – Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)
Rookie of the Year – Phil Ford (New York Nets)
Finals MVP – Bob Dandridge (Golden State Warriors)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG World B Free (New Orleans Jazz)
SG Paul Westphal (New York Nets)
SF M.L. Carr (Cleveland Cavaliers)
PF Elvin Hayes (Houston Rockets)
C Artis Gilmore (Detroit Pistons)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Norm Nixon (San Antonio Spurs)
SG Dennis Johnson (Los Angeles Lakers)
SF Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
PF Elvin Hayes (Houston Rockets)
C Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Phil Ford (New York Nets)
SG John Long (Golden State Warriors)
SF Jeff Judkins (Washington Bullets)
PF George Johnson (Detroit Pistons)
C Mychal Thompson (Atlanta Hawks)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Buffalo Braves
Central Division Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Midwest Division Champs – Milwaukee Bucks
Pacific Division Champs – Golden State Warriors

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Buffalo Braves
Western Conference Champs – Golden State Warriors

1979: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Golden State Warriors

1979: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1979 NBA draft was the 33rd annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA), held at the Plaza Hotel in New York City on Monday, June 25. In this draft, the 22 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players; it went ten rounds and selected 202 players.

The first two picks in the draft belonged to the teams that finished last in each conference, with the order determined by a coin flip. The Los Angeles Lakers, who obtained the New Orleans Jazz' first-round pick in a trade, won the coin flip and were awarded the first overall pick, while the Chicago Bulls were awarded the second pick. The remaining first-round picks and the subsequent rounds were assigned to teams in reverse order of their win–loss record in the previous season. A player who had finished his four-year college eligibility was eligible for selection.

If a player left college early, he would not be eligible for selection until his college class graduated. Larry Bird would have been eligible to join this draft class because his "junior eligible" draft status from being taken by Boston in 1978 would expire the minute the 1979 draft began, but Bird and the Celtics agreed on a five-year contract on June 8 to avoid that. Before the draft, five college underclassmen were declared eligible for selection under the "hardship" rule. These players had applied and given evidence of financial hardship to the league, which granted them the right to start earning their living by starting their professional careers earlier. Prior to the draft, the Jazz relocated from New Orleans to Salt Lake City and became the Utah Jazz.

Magic Johnson from NCAA champion Michigan State University, one of the "hardship" players, was selected first overall by the Los Angeles Lakers. Johnson, who had just finished his sophomore season in college, became the first underclassman to be drafted first overall. He went on to win the NBA championship with the Lakers in his rookie season. He also won the Finals Most Valuable Player Award, becoming the first rookie ever to win the award. He spent his entire 13-year career with the Lakers and won five NBA championships. He also won three Most Valuable Player Awards, three Finals Most Valuable Player Awards, ten consecutive All-NBA Team selections and twelve All-Star Game selections. For his achievements, he has been inducted to the Basketball Hall of Fame. He was also named to the list of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History announced at the league's 50th anniversary in 1996. After retiring as a player, Johnson went on to have a brief coaching career as an interim head coach of the Lakers in 1994.

Sidney Moncrief, the fifth pick, won two Defensive Player of the Year Awards and was selected to five consecutive All-NBA Teams, five consecutive All-Defensive Teams and five consecutive All-Star Games. In "The Book of Basketball", Bill Simmons noted that then-Lakers head coach Jerry West had actually wanted to trade down from the #1 pick and use it to get Moncrief along with more players and picks, but Jerry Buss vetoed West's plans because Buss wanted Magic to be the new face of the team he was just finishing his full purchase of. Jim Paxson, the twelfth pick, was selected to one All-NBA Team and two All-Star Games. Bill Cartwright, the third pick, won three consecutive NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls from 1991 through 1993. He also had one All-Star Game selection, which occurred in his rookie season. He then became the Bulls' head coach for three seasons. Bill Laimbeer, the 65th pick, won two NBA championships with the Detroit Pistons in 1989 and 1990 and was selected to four All-Star Games.

The Phoenix Suns selected PF Larry Bird with the overall #1 pick in the 1979: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Atlanta Hawks selected SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson.



1980: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
Defensive POY – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
Sixth Man – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
All-Star MVP – Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)
Rookie of the Year – Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
Finals MVP – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Gus Williams (Chicago Bulls)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Gus Williams (Chicago Bulls)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Kareen Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL – Rookie Team



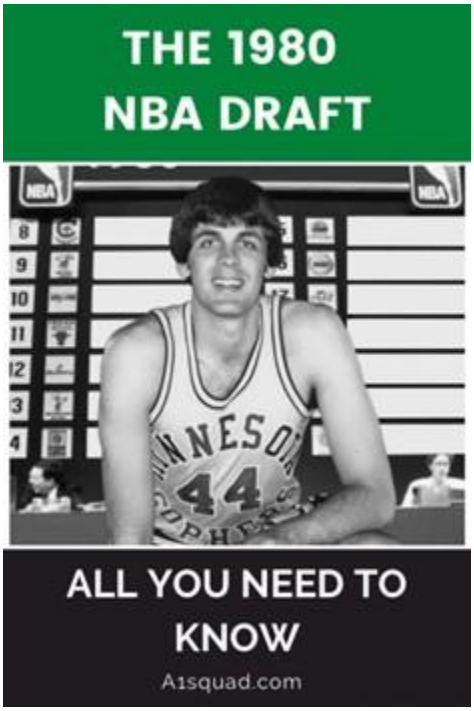
PG Allen Leavell (Philadelphia 76ers)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Calvin Natt (Boston Celtics)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Bill Cartwright (New York Knicks)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Boston Celtics
Central Division Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Denver Nuggets
Pacific Division Champs – Golden State Warriors

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Boston Celtics
Western Conference Champs – Denver Nuggets

1980: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Boston Celtics

1980: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1980 NBA draft was the 34th annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA). The draft was held on June 10, 1980, at the Sheraton Centre Hotel & Towers, before the 1980–81 season. In this draft, 23 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players. The first two picks in the draft belonged to the teams that finished last in each conference, with the order determined by a coin flip. The Boston Celtics, who obtained the Detroit Pistons' first-round pick in a trade, won the coin flip and were awarded the first overall pick, while the Utah Jazz were awarded the second pick. The Celtics then traded the first pick to the Golden State Warriors before the draft. The remaining first-round picks and the subsequent rounds were assigned to teams in reverse order of their win–loss record in the previous season. An expansion franchise, the Dallas Mavericks, took part in the NBA Draft for the first time and were assigned the eleventh pick in each round. A player who had finished his four-year college eligibility was automatically eligible for selection. Before the draft, five college underclassmen announced that they would leave college early and would be eligible for selection. The draft consisted of 10 rounds comprising the selection of 214 players. This draft has the distinction of being the first NBA Draft to be televised.

Joe Barry Carroll from Purdue University was selected first overall by the Golden State Warriors. Darrell Griffith from the University of Louisville was selected second by the Utah Jazz. He went on to win the Rookie of the Year Award in his first season. Kevin McHale from the University of Minnesota was selected third by the Boston Celtics. McHale spent his entire 13-year career with the Celtics and won three NBA championships. He also won two consecutive Sixth Man of the Year Award and was also selected to one All-NBA Team, seven All Star Games and six All-Defensive Teams. For his achievements, he has been inducted to the Basketball Hall of Fame. McHale was also named to the list of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History announced at the league's 50th anniversary in 1996. Carroll, 8th pick Andrew Toney, 11th pick Kiki Vandeweghe and 25th pick Jeff Ruland are the only other players from this draft who were selected to an All-Star Game.

Nine players drafted went on to have a coaching career in the NBA. Kevin McHale served as the interim head coach for the Timberwolves in 2005 and in the 2008–2009 season before working as head coach of the Houston Rockets for four and a half seasons. Mike Woodson, the 12th pick, coached the Atlanta Hawks for six seasons. Larry Drew, the 17th pick, worked as Woodson's assistant before he was promoted to the head coaching position in 2010. Bill Hanzlik, the 20th pick, coached the Denver Nuggets in the 1997–1998 season, compiling an 11–71 record, the worst full-season record for a rookie coach in NBA history. Butch Carter, the 37th pick, coached the Toronto Raptors for two and a half seasons. Terry Stotts, the 38th pick, coached both the Atlanta Hawks and Milwaukee Bucks for two seasons, and the Portland Trail Blazers for nine seasons. Kurt Rambis, the 58th pick, who played nine years for the Los Angeles Lakers, served as the team's interim head coach in 1999. After working as the Lakers assistant coach for seven years, Rambis received his first permanent head coaching position with the Minnesota Timberwolves in 2009. Two other players, Kiki Vandeweghe and Kenny Natt, had brief spells as interim head coaches in the NBA, each of which lasted less than one season. Woodson would later go on to be the first person in NBA history to become head coach of the team that drafted him when he took over as head coach of the New York Knicks on an interim basis in March 2012.



The Kansas City Kings selected PF Kevin McHale with the overall #1 pick in the 1980: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the New York Knicks selected C Bill Laimbeer.

1981: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
Defensive POY – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
Sixth Man – Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)

All-Star MVP – Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)
Rookie of the Year – Vinnie Johnson (Los Angeles Lakers)
Finals MVP – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Marice Cheeks (Kansas City Kings)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Dennis Johnson (Indiana Pacers)
SG Michael Ray Richardson (Chicago Bulls)
SF Julius Erving (Boston Celtics)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Jack Sikma (Denver Nuggets

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Vinnie Johnson (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG Darrell Griffith (Detroit Pistons)
SF Michael Brooks (Cleveland Cavaliers)
PF Larry Smith (Boston Celtics)
C Joe Barry Carroll (New York Nets)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Boston Celtics
Central Division Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Milwaukee Bucks
Pacific Division Champs – Phoenix Suns

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Western Conference Champs – Phoenix Suns

1981: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Phoenix Suns



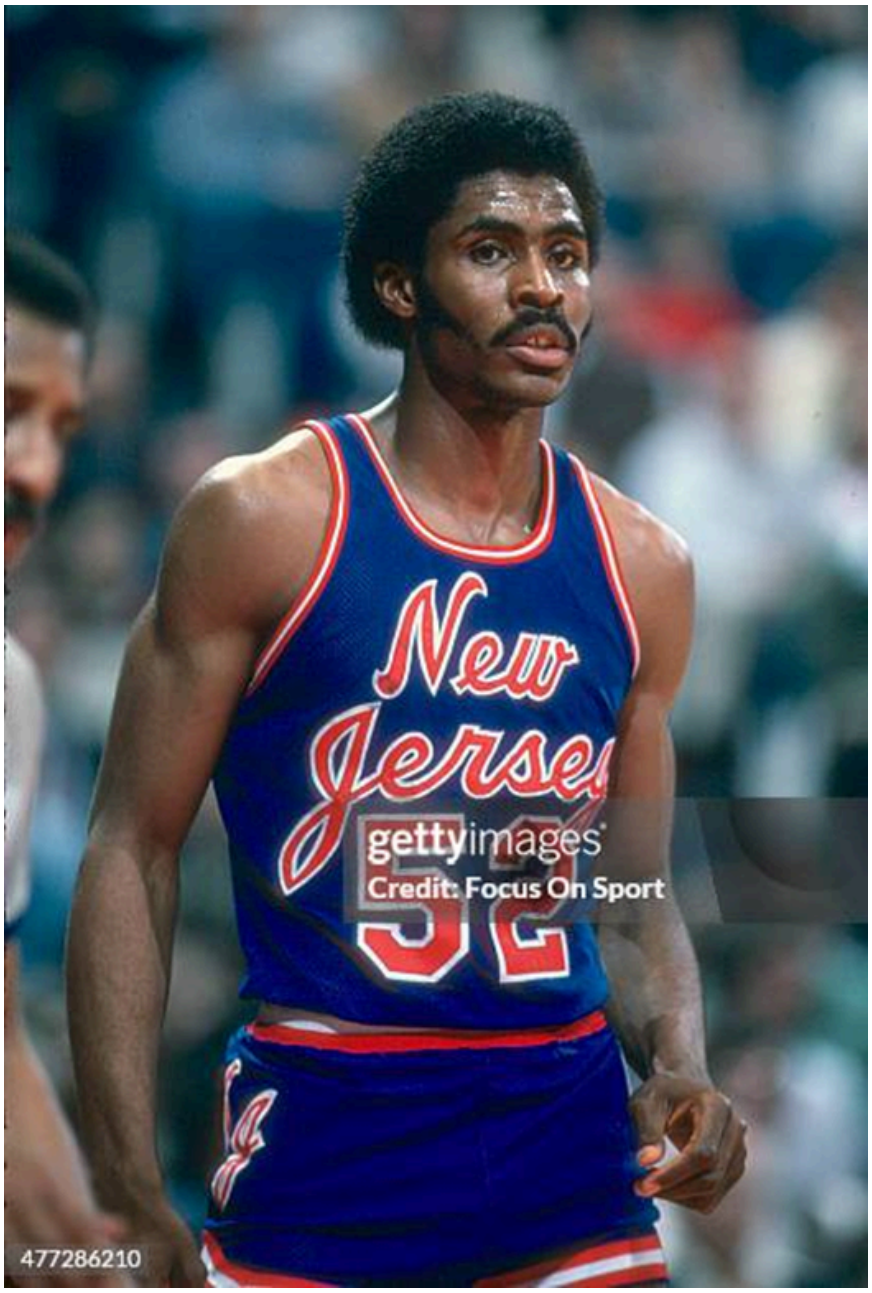
1981: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1981 NBA draft was the 35th annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA). The draft was held on June 9, 1981, before the 1981–82 season. The draft was broadcast in the United States on the USA Network. In this draft, 23 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players. The first two picks in the draft belonged to the teams that finished last in each conference, with the order determined by a coin flip. The Dallas Mavericks won the coin flip and were awarded the first overall pick, while the Detroit Pistons were awarded the second pick. The remaining first-round picks and the subsequent rounds were assigned to teams in reverse order of their win–loss record in the previous season. A player who had finished his four-year college eligibility was automatically eligible for selection. Before the draft, five college underclassmen announced that they would leave college early and would be eligible for selection. The draft consisted of 10 rounds comprising the selection of 223 players.

The Dallas Mavericks used their first pick to draft 1980 Naismith College Player of the Year Mark Aguirre from DePaul University. Aguirre, who had just finished his junior season in college, became the second underclassman to be drafted first overall, after Magic Johnson in 1979. The Detroit Pistons used the second overall pick to draft Isiah Thomas, a sophomore guard from Indiana University. Thomas had just won the 1981 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship with Indiana and was named as the tournament's Most Outstanding Player. The New Jersey Nets used the third pick to draft another underclassman, Buck Williams, from the University of Maryland. Williams went on to win the Rookie of the Year Award and was

also selected to the All-Star Game in his rookie season. This draft marked the first time that the first three selections were college underclassmen. Danny Ainge, the 1981 Wooden College Player of the Year, was selected in the second round with the 31st pick by the Boston Celtics. Ainge had been playing professional baseball since 1979 with the Toronto Blue Jays in the Major League Baseball (MLB) while also playing college basketball at Brigham Young University. He reportedly preferred to continue his baseball career, but the Celtics successfully persuaded him to play basketball instead. He is one of only twelve athletes who have played in both the NBA and MLB.





The Philadelphia 76ers selected Buck Williams with the overall #1 pick in the 1981: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Los Angeles Lakers selected PG Isiah Thomas.

1982: “Nothing But Net” Awards

MVP – Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
Defensive POY – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Sixth Man – Alex English (Golden State Warriors)
All-Star MVP – Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Seattle SuperSonics)
Rookie of the Year – Kelly Tripucka (New York Nets)
Finals MVP – Julius Erving (Chicago Bulls)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Gus Williams (Chicago Bulls)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Julius Erving (Chicago Bulls)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Gus Williams (Chicago Bulls)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Julius Erving (Chicago Bulls)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Jack Sikma (Denver Nuggets)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Lowes Moore (Phoenix Suns)
SG Rolando Blackman (Seattle SuperSonics)
SF Kelly Tripucka (New York Nets)

PF Buck Williams (Philadelphia 76ers)
C Jeff Ruland (Cleveland Cavaliers)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Philadelphia 76ers
Central Division Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Chicago Bulls
Pacific Division Champs – Phoenix Suns

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Western Conference Champs – Chicago Bulls

1982: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Chicago Bulls



1982: “Nothing But Net” Draft

The 1982 NBA draft took place on June 29, 1982, at the Felt Forum at Madison Square Garden in New York City, New York. The #1 selection from this year's draft, James Worthy, was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers despite them being one of the best teams in the NBA the previous season. Their selection at #1 this year related to a previous trade that the Lakers made with the Cleveland Cavaliers, which had them trading their first round pick for Don Ford back in 1979. Worthy would help the Lakers turn the Showtime Lakers into a dynasty for the 1980s decade.

Meanwhile, continued first round trade considerations that the Cavaliers' owner at the time, Ted Stepien, led to the NBA stopping any further trades with him and the team's draft picks before he traded selections throughout the entire decade, as well as led to the creation of the Ted Stepien Rule forbidding teams of trading first round draft picks in back-to-back years unless a team had a different first round pick that they kept during that time.





The Houston Rockets selected Dominique Wilkins with the overall #1 pick in the 1982: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the New York Knicks selected James Worthy.

1983: “Nothing But Net” Awards

MVP – Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
Defensive POY – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Sixth Man – Alex English (Golden State Warriors)
All-Star MVP – Alex English (Golden State Warriors)
Rookie of the Year – Clark Kellogg (Washington Bullets)
Finals MVP – Artis Gilmore (Chicago Bulls)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Isiah Thomas (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Alex English (Golden State Warriors)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Isiah Thomas (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SF Greg Ballard (Phoenix Suns)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Tree Rollins (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Fat Lever (Utah Jazz)
SG Paul Pressey (Buffalo Braves)
SF James Worthy (New York Knicks)
PF Clark Kellogg (Washington Bullets)
C Chuck Nevitt (Washington Bullets)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Buffalo Braves
Central Division Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Chicago Bulls
Pacific Division Champs – Phoenix Suns

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Philadelphia 76ers
Western Conference Champs – Chicago Bulls

1983: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Chicago Bulls

CHICAGO BULLS

1983: “Nothing But Net” Draft

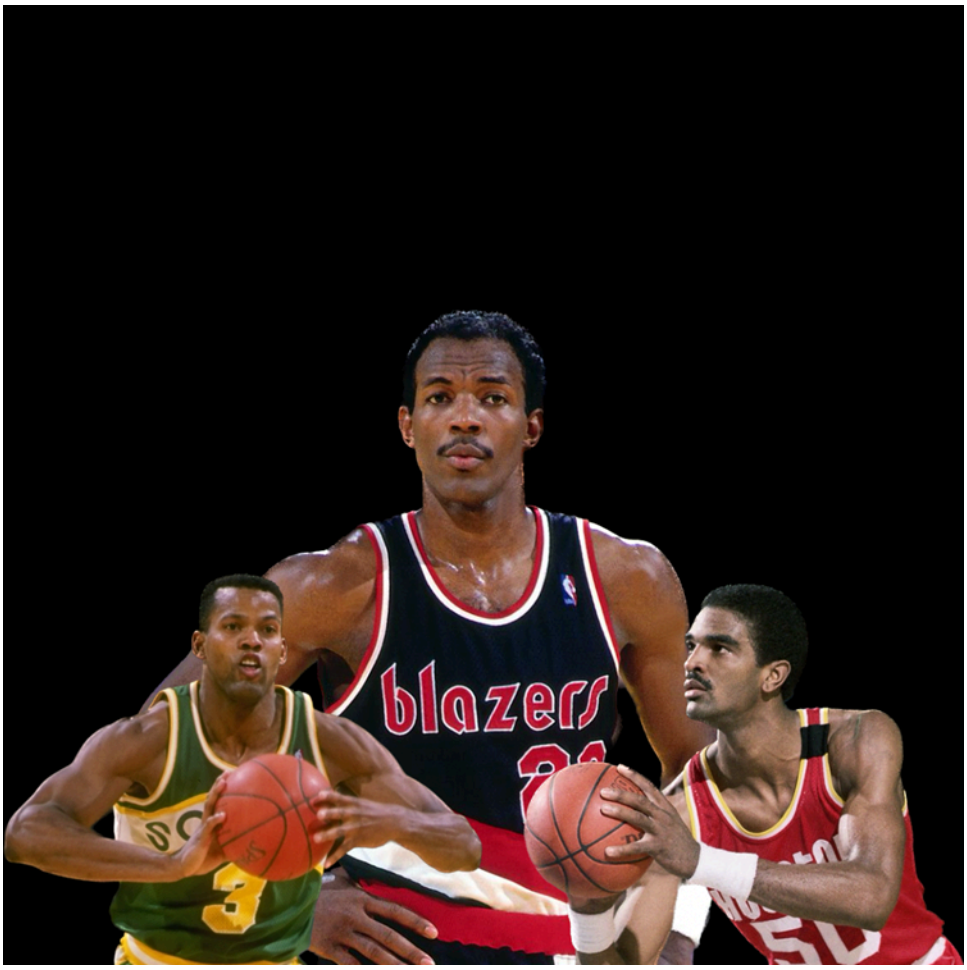
The 1983 NBA draft took place on June 28, 1983, in New York City. A total of 226 players were selected over 10 rounds by the league's 23 teams. The first overall pick of this draft was 7’4” center Ralph Sampson, predicted as an NBA superstar since high school. The three-time College Player of the Year had spent all four years of his college career at the University of Virginia and was taken first by the Houston Rockets. Displaying his graceful above-the-rim game and ability to run the court like a guard, he got off to a certain Hall of Fame bound start as an NBA All-Star and NBA Rookie of the Year before injuries derailed his career.

Sampson was joined in the Hall by University of Houston Cougars standout Clyde “The Glide” Drexler, taken number 14 by the Portland Trail Blazers. Despite there being only 23 teams at the time of the draft, the Cleveland Cavaliers were awarded the 24th pick out of courtesy. Then-owner Ted Stepien was infamous for repeatedly trading first-round picks in the late 1970s and early 1980s, which, considering Cleveland's morose records in that time period, eventually culminated in the NBA creating a rule banning teams from dealing all of their first-round picks in consecutive years.

Four players from the 1983 draft later served or now serve as coaches—Doc Rivers for the Philadelphia 76ers, Randy Wittman for the Washington Wizards, Byron Scott for the Los Angeles Lakers from 2014 to 2016, and point guard of the 1983 NCAA championship North Carolina State Wolfpack Sidney Lowe. While Scott won the Coach of the Year award in 2008, Rivers won an NBA Championship with the Celtics in that same year.

7’7” Manute Bol was selected in the 5th round by the Clippers, but the NBA rejected the pick on technicalities. Manute had never filed draft paperwork, and his passport listed him at 19 (at the time, 19 years was too young to be drafted). Florida State star Mitchell Wiggins, father of future No. 1 overall draft pick Andrew Wiggins, was drafted 23rd by the Indiana Pacers.





The Boston Celtics selected SG Clyde Drexler with the overall #1 pick in the 1983: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the New Orleans Jazz selected SF Dale Ellis.

1984: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Defensive POY – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Sixth Man – Bernard King (Boston Celtics)
All-Star MVP – Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
Rookie of the Year – Sleepy Floyd (Milwaukee Bucks)
Finals MVP – George Gervin (Cleveland Cavaliers)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SG Rolando Blackman (Seattle SuperSonics)
SF Adrian Dantley (Denver Nuggets)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Jeff Ruland (Cleveland Cavaliers)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Earvin "Magic" Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SG Ray Williams (New York Nets)
SF Julius Erving (Chicago Bulls)
PF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
C Jack Sikma (Denver Nuggets)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Sleepy Floyd (Milwaukee Bucks)
SG Clyde Drexler (Boston Celtics)
SF Rodney McCray (San Antonio Spurs)
PF Thurl Bailey (Milwaukee Bucks)
C Steve Stipanovich (Boston Celtics)

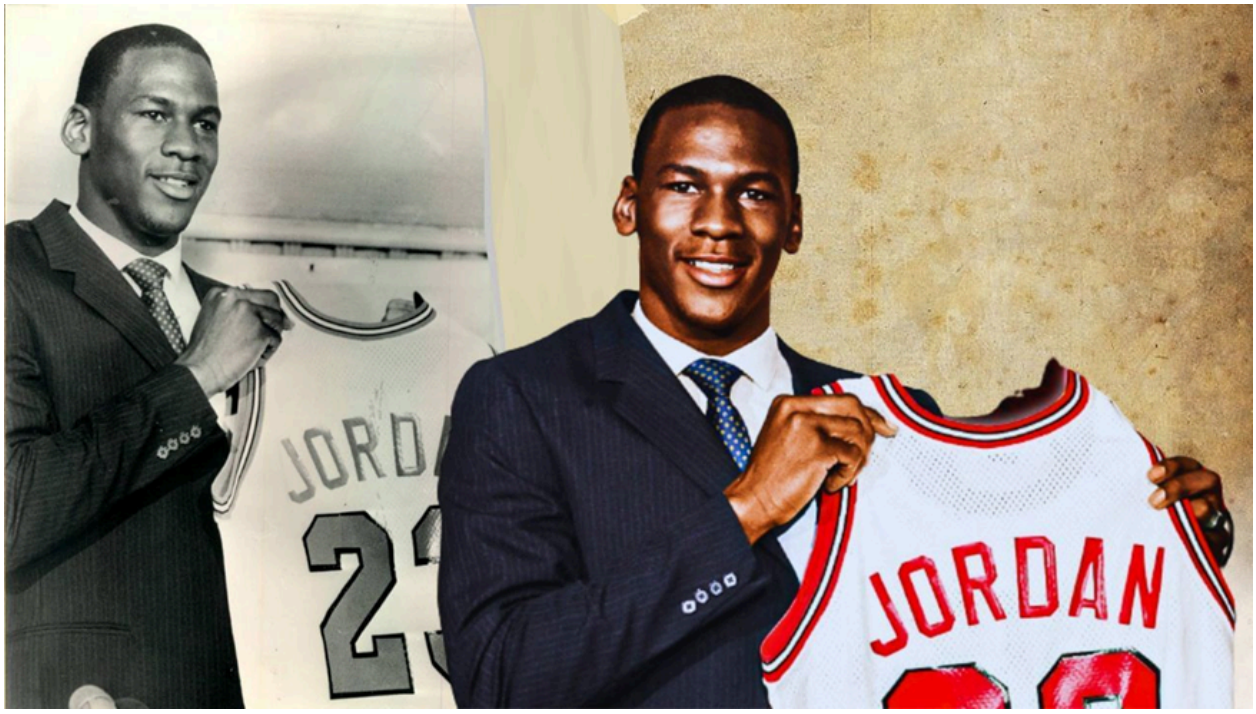
Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Philadelphia 76ers
Central Division Champs – Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Kansas City Kings
Pacific Division Champs – Phoenix Suns

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Western Conference Champs – Phoenix Suns

1984: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Cleveland Cavaliers



1984: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1984 NBA draft was the 37th annual draft of the National Basketball Association (NBA). It was held at the Felt Forum at Madison Square Garden in New York City, New York, on June 19, 1984, before the 1984–85 season. The draft is generally considered to be one of the greatest, if not the greatest, in NBA history, with four players who would go on to be Hall of Famers being drafted in the first sixteen picks and five overall. It included first pick Akeem Olajuwon, Michael Jordan, Charles Barkley, and John Stockton. The draft was broadcast in the United States on the USA Network. This draft would be the last NBA draft to be aired nationally on the USA Network; starting with the 1985 NBA draft year, the NBA would have increased national coverage by first airing the event on TBS and then on TNT before airing the event on ESPN as of 2003.

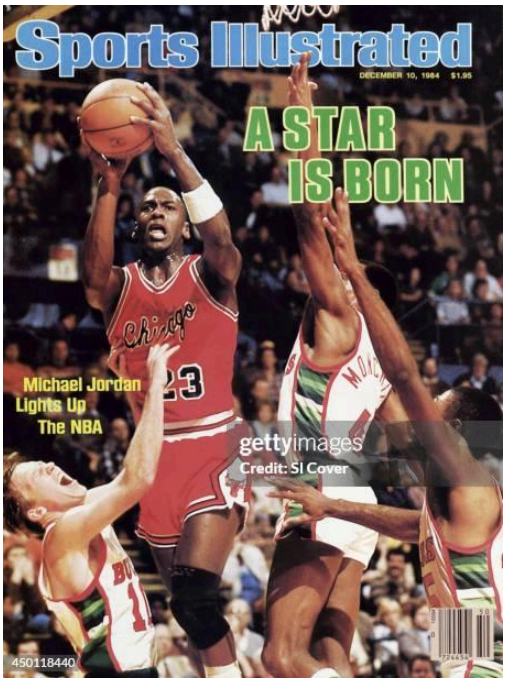
In this draft, 23 NBA teams took turns selecting amateur U.S. college basketball players and other eligible players, including international players. The Houston Rockets won the coin flip and were awarded the first overall pick, while the Portland Trail Blazers, who obtained the Indiana Pacers' first-round pick in a trade, were awarded the second pick. The remaining first round picks and the subsequent rounds were assigned to teams in reverse order of their win–loss record in the previous season. The Cleveland Cavaliers were awarded an extra first-round draft pick as compensation for the draft picks traded away by their previous owner, Ted Stepien. A player who had finished his four-year college eligibility was automatically eligible for selection. Before the draft, five college underclassmen announced that they would leave college early and would be eligible for selection. Prior to the draft, the San Diego Clippers relocated to Los Angeles and became the Los Angeles Clippers. The draft consisted of 10 rounds comprising the selection of 228 players. This draft was the last to be held before the creation of the draft lottery in 1985. It was the first NBA draft to be overseen by David Stern, who continued as the commissioner of the league for the following 30 years.





The New Orleans Jazz selected SG Michael Jordan with the overall #1 pick in the 1984: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Golden State Warriors have selected C Hakeem Olajuwon.

1985: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Mark Eaton (Boston Celtics)
Sixth Man – Bernard King (Boston Celtics)
Rookie of the Year – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
All-Star MVP – Tom Chambers (Houston Rockets)
Finals MVP – Micheal Ray Richardson (Chicago Bulls)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Isiah Thomas (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Calvin Natt (Chicago Bulls)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Micheal Ray Richardson (Chicago Bulls)
SG Darrell Griffith (Detroit Pistons)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Terry Cummings (Detroit Pistons)
C Mark Eaton (Boston Celtics)

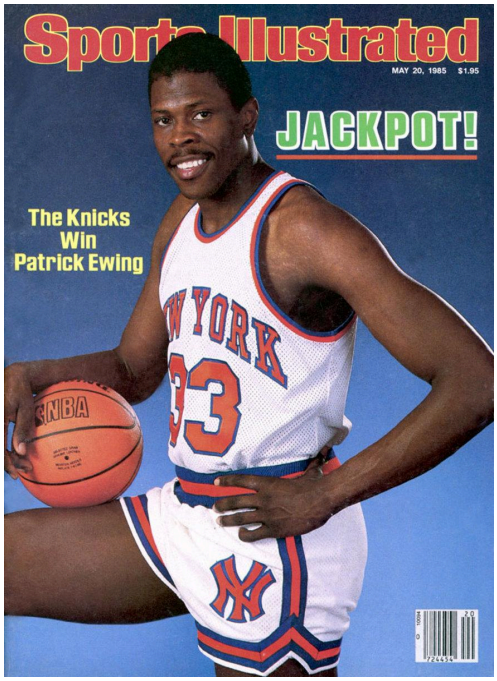
ALL – Rookie Team
PG Vern Fleming (Buffalo Braves)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Tony Brown (Portland Trail Blazers
PF Sam Perkins (New York Nets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – Boston Celtics
Central Division Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Midwest Division Champs – Chicago Bulls
Pacific Division Champs – Golden State Warriors

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Western Conference Champs – Chicago Bulls

1985: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Chicago Bulls

1985: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1985 NBA draft took place on June 18, 1985. It was also the first NBA draft of the "lottery" era. It was also around this time where the league decreased the amount of rounds the draft spent, with the previous few years lasting up to 10 rounds total. A total of 162 players were selected over seven rounds by the league's 23 teams.

The New York Knicks were awarded the first overall pick by winning the first-ever NBA draft

lottery, which was held in May of that year. The Knicks used it on Georgetown's Patrick Ewing. In addition to Ewing, this draft also resulted in several Hall of Famers, including Karl Malone taken by the Utah Jazz at pick 13.



The Washington Bullets selected PF Karl Malone with the overall #1 pick in the 1985: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Los Angeles Lakers have selected C Patrick Ewing.

1986: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Defensive POY – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Sixth Man – Dominique Wilkins (Houston Rockets)
Rookie of the Year – Xavier McDaniel (New York Nets)
All-Star MVP – Alvin Robertson (Boston Celtics)
Finals MVP – Alvin Robertson (Boston Celtics)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SG Alvin Robertson (Boston Celtics)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Charles Barkley (New York Knicks)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Atlanta Hawks)
SG Alvin Robertson (Boston Celtics)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Charles Barkley (New York Knicks)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Spud Webb (Atlanta Hawks)
SG Joe Dumars (Portland Trail Blazers)
SF Xavier McDaniel (New York Nets)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Patrick Ewing (Los Angeles Lakers)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champs – New York Knicks
Central Division Co-Champs – San Antonio Spurs & Atlanta Hawks
Midwest Division Champs – Kansas City Kings
Pacific Division Champs – Phoenix Suns

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Boston Celtics
Western Conference Champs – Golden State Warriors

1986: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Boston Celtics



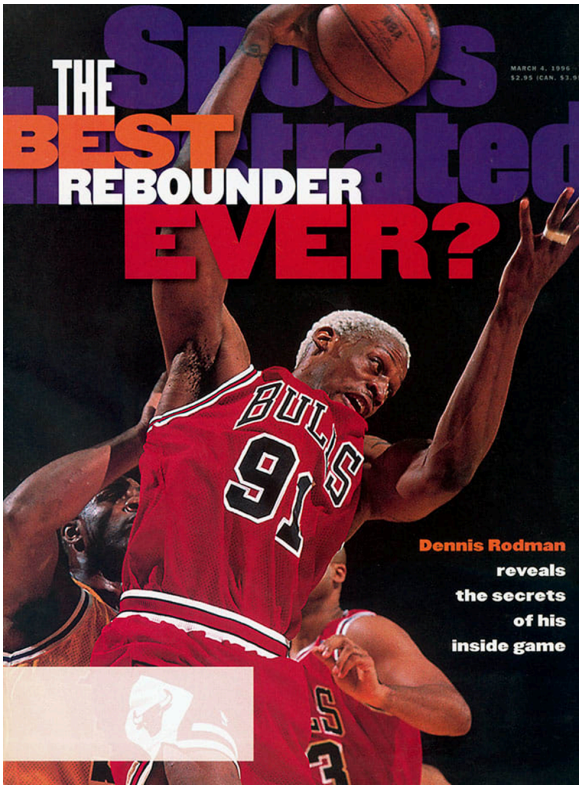
1986: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1986 NBA draft took place on June 17, 1986. The 1986 Draft holds the record for the most players (out of prospects chosen) who later debuted in the NBA, with 66. There were various drug-related problems that plagued players in the 1986 NBA draft. Most notable was the death of highly touted Len Bias. Bias died less than two days after being selected second overall by the defending champion Boston Celtics. His death was ruled an overdose that resulted from taking the drug cocaine. Other problems involving drugs hampered the careers of Chris Washburn, Roy Tarpley, and William Bedford.

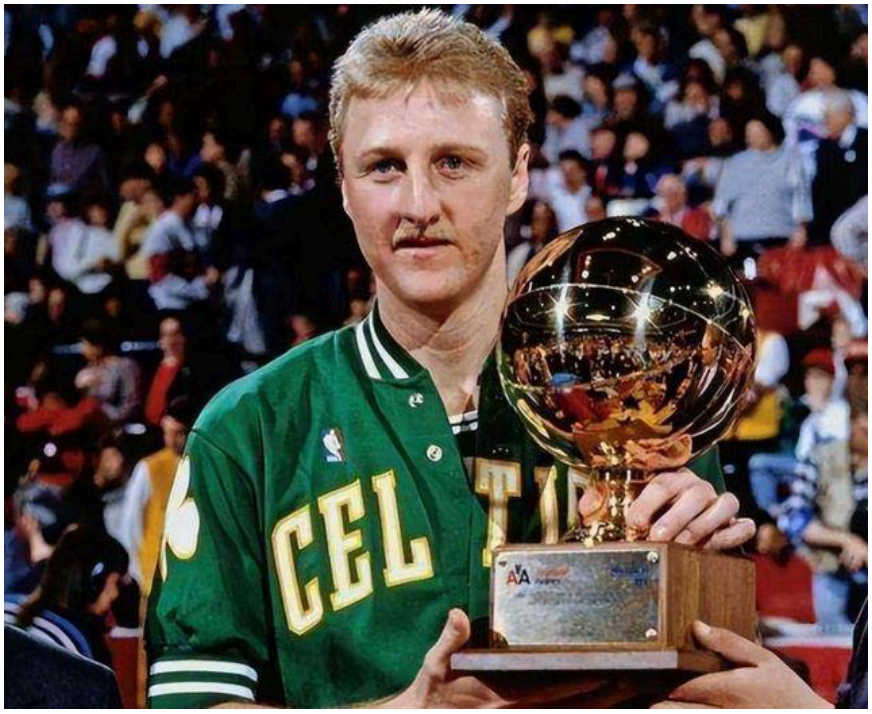
While a number of first-round selections were unable to make an impact in the league, this draft did feature several talented second-round selections. Dennis Rodman, who became one of the leading defenders and rebounders in NBA history, was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in August 2011. Mark Price, Kevin Duckworth, and Jeff Hornacek also went on to have successful careers, and each made the NBA All-Star Game. Three others – Johnny Newman, Nate McMillan, and David Wingate – had long, productive careers as role players. This draft contained two exceptional international players, both of whom had shortened careers for unusual reasons. Third-round selection Dražen Petrović was coming off an All-Star caliber fourth season when he was killed in an automobile accident in 1993. He has since been elected to both the Naismith Hall of Fame and the FIBA Hall of Fame. The other, Arvydas Sabonis, was not permitted to play in the United States because of the dangerous political climate in the Soviet Union. He won two Olympic medals before his arrival in the NBA—a gold in 1988 with the USSR, and a bronze in 1992 with Lithuania.





The Cleveland Cavaliers selected X with the overall #1 pick in the 1986: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Milwaukee Bucks selected X.

1987: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
Defensive POY – Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)
Sixth Man – Alex English (Golden State Warriors)
Rookie of the Year – Ron Harper (Los Angeles Lakers)
All-Star MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Finals MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Houston Rockets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Kevin McHale (Kansas City Kings)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Fat Lever (New Orleans Jazz)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Nate McMillian (Philadelphia 76ers)
SG Ron Harper (Los Angeles Lakers)
SF Chuck Person (Detroit Pistons)
PF Hot Rod Williams (Washington Bullets)
C Brad Daugherty (Denver Nuggets)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – Boston Celtics
Central Division Champion – New Orleans Jazz
Midwest Division Champion – Detroit Pistons
Pacific Division Champion – Golden State Warriors

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Western Conference Champs – Kansas City Kings

1987: “Nothing But Net” Champions – New Orleans Jazz



1987: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1987 NBA draft was held on June 22, 1987, in New York City. This draft included two future members of the NBA 50 Greatest Players list, David Robinson and Scottie Pippen, as well as fellow Hall of Famer Reggie Miller, who was named to the NBA 75th Anniversary Team. Other notable selections include Kevin Johnson, Kenny Smith, Horace Grant, Reggie Lewis, Muggsy Bogues, Mark Jackson, and Šarūnas Marčiulionis. Also in this draft was former Florida Gators men's basketball head coach Billy Donovan (drafted 68th by the Utah Jazz), who led that program to NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championships in 2006 and in 2007.

David Robinson did not join the NBA until the 1989–90 season due to his service commitment with the United States Navy. This was the last NBA draft to go over three rounds, as it was reduced to three next year and later to two since 1989.



The Chicago Bulls selected SF Scottie Pippen with the overall #1 pick in the 1987: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Denver Nuggets selected SG Reggie Miller.

1988: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
Sixth Man – Frank Brickowski (San Antonio Spurs)
Rookie of the Year – Mark Jackson (Phoenix Suns)
All-Star MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Finals MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Houston Rockets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Larry Bird (Phoenix Suns)
PF Charles Barkley (New York Knicks)
C Moses Malone (Buffalo Braves)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG Mark Jackson (Phoenix Suns)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Thurl Bailey (Milwaukee Bucks)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Mark Jackson (Phoenix Suns)
PG Winston Garland (Washington Bullets)
SG Otis Smith (Denver Nuggets)
SF Harold Pressley (Los Angeles Lakers)
PF Armen Gilliam (Atlanta Hawks)
C Joe Wolf (Portland Trail Blazers)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – Buffalo Braves
Central Division Champion – New Orleans Jazz
Midwest Division Champion – Indiana Pacers
Pacific Division Champion – Golden State Warriors

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Western Conference Champs – Indiana Pacers

1988: “Nothing But Net” Champions – New Orleans Jazz



1988: “Nothing But Net” Draft

The 1988 NBA draft took place on June 28, 1988, in New York City, New York. The length was reduced from seven rounds in the previous year to three rounds. This was also the first draft for the Charlotte Hornets and Miami Heat, prior to their inaugural season. Danny Manning was picked first overall by the Los Angeles Clippers and later became a two-time All-Star and a Sixth Man of the Year winner. However, injuries prevented him from fulfilling his potential, despite playing 15 seasons. Mitch Richmond, the fifth pick, went on to earn six All-Star and five All-NBA team selections, while also winning Rookie of the Year. Other notable selections include All-Stars Rik Smits, Hersey Hawkins and Dan Majerle, as well as nine-time NBA champion Steve Kerr, who achieved championship success as a player (five championships) and as a coach (four championships).



The San Antonio Spurs selected PG Rod Strickland with the overall #1 pick in the 1988: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Cleveland Cavaliers selected SG Mitch Richmond.

1989: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)
Sixth Man – Alvin Robertson (Boston Celtics)
Rookie of the Year – Mitch Richmond (Cleveland Cavaliers)
All-Star MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Finals MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Houston Rockets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Chris Mullin (Milwaukee Bucks)
PF Charles Barkley (New York Knicks)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG John Stockton (Indiana Pacers)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Chris Mullin (Milwaukee Bucks)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Kenny Smith (Philadelphia 76ers)
SG Mitch Richmond (Cleveland Cavaliers)
SF Reggie Lewis (Los Angeles Lakers)
PF Charles Smith (Philadelphia 76ers)
C Benoit Benjamin (New York Knicks)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – Buffalo Braves
Central Division Champion – New Orleans Jazz

Midwest Division Champion – Indiana Pacers
Pacific Division Champion – Los Angeles Lakers

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Western Conference Champs – Indiana Pacers

1989: “Nothing But Net” Champions – New Orleans Jazz



1989: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1989 NBA draft took place on June 27, 1989, in New York City. Despite eight of the top ten picks being considered busts, including the first two picks Pervis Ellison and Danny Ferry, the draft produced many talented players such as Shawn Kemp, Glen Rice, Sean Elliott, Nick Anderson, Dana Barros, Tim Hardaway, Vlade Divac, Clifford Robinson, B. J. Armstrong and Mookie Blaylock.

The draft was reduced from three rounds in the previous year to the two-round format that is still in use to the present day. As a result, NBA drafts from this season until 1995 produced the lowest number of total draft picks selected at 54 overall selections. This was the first draft for the Minnesota Timberwolves and Orlando Magic, prior to their inaugural season. This was also the first draft televised prime time on U.S. national television.

David Robinson was selected as the first overall pick in the 1988 NBA Draft by the San Antonio Spurs. However, he did not join the team immediately due to a two-year commitment to the United States Navy. After completing his service, he made his NBA debut in the 1989-1990 season, significantly impacting the Spurs and the league thereafter.





The Seattle SuperSonics selected C David Robinson with the overall #1 pick in the 1989: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Phoenix Suns selected PF Shawn Kemp.

1990: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)
Sixth Man – Magic Johnson (Houston Rockets)
Rookie of the Year – David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)
All-Star MVP – David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)
Finals MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Magic Johnson (Houston Rockets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Charles Barkley (New York Knicks)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG John Stockton (Indiana Pacers)
SG Clyde Drexler (Indiana Pacers)
SF Larry Bird (Vancouver Grizzlies)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Sherman Douglas (New York Knicks)
SG Nick Anderson (New York Nets)
SF Sean Elliott (Washington Bullets)
PF Sam Mitchell (Phoenix Suns)
C David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – New York Knicks
Central Division Champion – New Orleans Jazz

Midwest Division Champion – Indiana Pacers
Pacific Division Champion – Seattle SuperSonics

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – New Orleans Jazz
Western Conference Champs – Indiana Pacers

1990: “Nothing But Net” Champions – New Orleans Jazz

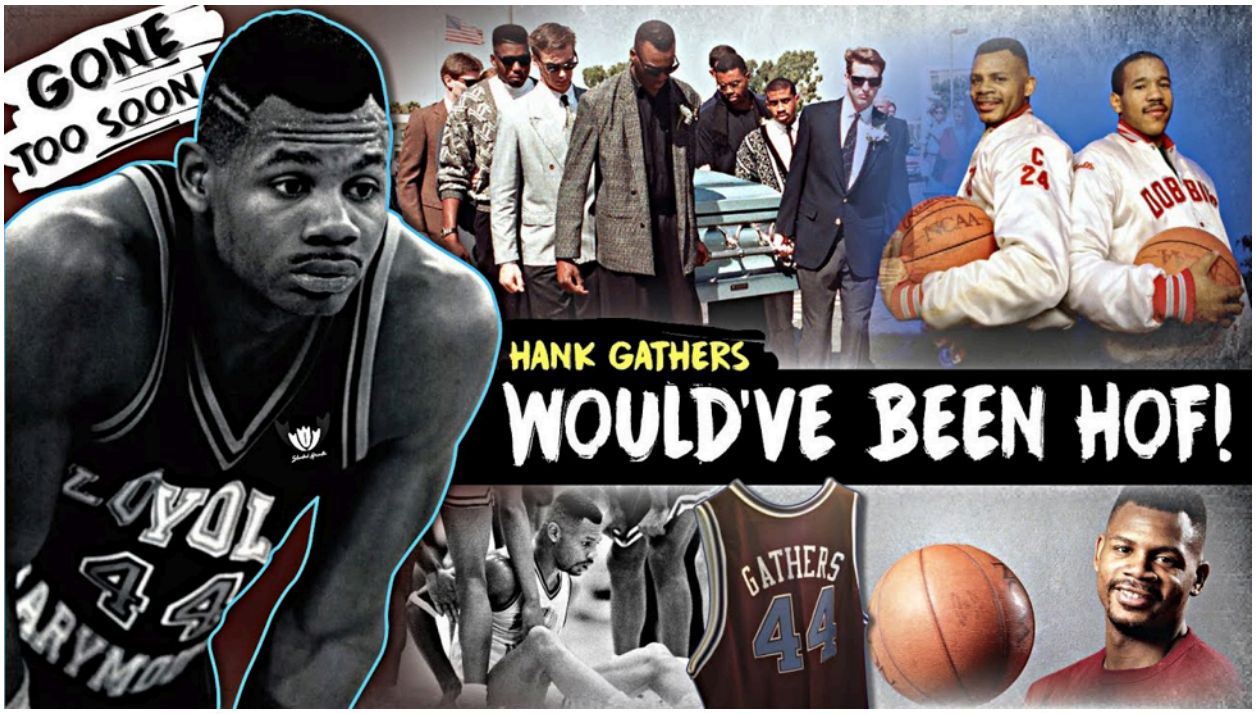


1990: “Nothing But Net” Draft



The 1990 NBA draft took place on June 27, 1990, in New York City, New York. One of the standouts of this draft is Basketball Hall of Famer Gary Payton. He became a nine-time All-Star, achieved the NBA Defensive Player of the Year award in 1996, won an NBA Championship with the Miami Heat in 2006, holds many statistical records during his tenure with the since rebranded and relocated Seattle SuperSonics, and was inducted in the Hall of Fame in 2013.

The top pick of the draft was Syracuse's Derrick Coleman who was selected by the New Jersey Nets. In total, 52 of the 54 players selected went on to play at least one competitive game in the NBA, and six players were at some point of their career selected to play in the NBA All-Star Game. One player who had been projected to be a lottery pick as well as possibly the number one by media outlets and draft analysts was Loyola Marymount's Hank Gathers, who died of a heart condition in March 1990 after collapsing during a game.





The San Antonio Spurs selected PG Gary Payton with the overall #1 pick in the 1990: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Atlanta Hawks selected C Elden Campbell.

1991: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)
Sixth Man – Dominique Wilkins (Houston Rockets)
Rookie of the Year – Derrick Coleman (Phoenix Suns)
All-Star MVP – Kevin Johnson (New York Nets)
Finals MVP – Michael Adams (Vancouver Grizzlies)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Kevin Johnson (New York Nets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Chris Mullin (Milwaukee Bucks)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG John Stockton (Indiana Pacers)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Scottie Pippen (Chicago Bulls)
PF Karl Malone (Washington Bullets)
C Hakeem Olajuwon (Golden State Warriors)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Dee Brown (Los Angeles Lakers)
SG Kendall Gill (Detroit Pistons)
SF Willie Burton (Phoenix Suns)
PF Derrick Coleman (Phoenix Suns)
C Pervis Ellison (Indiana Pacers)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – Philadelphia 76ers
Central Division Champion – Cleveland Cavaliers
Midwest Division Champion – Vancouver Grizzlies
Pacific Division Champion – Seattle SuperSonics

Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Western Conference Champs – Vancouver Grizzlies

1991: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Vancouver Grizzlies

1991: “Nothing But Net” Draft

The 1991 NBA draft took place on June 26, 1991, in New York City, New York. Larry Johnson was selected first overall; he won the 1992 NBA Rookie of the Year award and as a two-time All-Star, was the first player to represent the Charlotte Hornets franchise at an All-Star game. Dikembe Mutombo was selected fourth overall, and became one of the greatest defensive centers in the history of the league. He was a four-time NBA Defensive Player of the Year award winner and an eight-time All-Star, and played in the league for 18 seasons. Other notable picks include Kenny Anderson, Steve Smith, Terrell Brandon, Dale Davis and Chris Gatling, who all made All-Star appearances, but with the exception of Brandon at two, each only appeared once.

The remaining picks in the first round failed to make an impact. Billy Owens was selected by the Sacramento Kings but refused to sign with them. He was traded to the Golden State Warriors in exchange for high-scoring guard Mitch Richmond. Owens was solid but unspectacular in his career, while Richmond was a six-time All-Star and was the 1989 NBA Rookie of the Year. Luc Longley was a three-time NBA Championship winner with the Chicago Bulls and held the record for playing the most NBA games by an Australian (broken by Andrew Bogut during the 2015–16 season). This was the last draft held in New York City until 2001.



The Buffalo Braves selected C Dikembe Mutombo with the overall #1 pick in the 1991: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Golden State Warriors selected PG Dale Davis.

1992: “Nothing But Net” Awards



MVP – Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
Defensive POY – Patrick Ewing (Los Angeles Lakers)
Sixth Man – Stacey Augmon (San Antonio Spurs)
Rookie of the Year – Larry Johnson (Los Angeles Lakers)
All-Star MVP – John Stockton (Indiana Pacers)
Finals MVP – David Robinson (Seattle SuperSonics)

ALL-NBA Team (MVP Points)
PG Kevin Johnson (New York Nets)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Chris Mullin (Milwaukee Bucks)
PF Detlef Schrempf (Cleveland Cavaliers)
C Patrick Ewing (Los Angeles Lakers)

ALL-Defensive Team (DOY Points)
PG John Stockton (Indiana Pacers)
SG Michael Jordan (New Orleans Jazz)
SF Jerome Kersey (Seattle SuperSonics)
PF Dennis Rodman (Cleveland Cavaliers)
C Patrick Ewing (Los Angeles Lakers)

ALL – Rookie Team
PG Kevin Pritchard (Washington Bullets)
SG Stacey Augmon (San Antonio Spurs)
SF Rick Fox (Detroit Pistons)
PF Larry Johnson (Los Angeles Lakers)
C Dikembe Mutombo (Buffalo Braves)

Division Winners
Atlantic Division Champion – New York Nets
Central Division Champion – Cleveland Cavaliers
Midwest Division Champion – Vancouver Grizzlies
Pacific Division Champion – Seattle SuperSonics

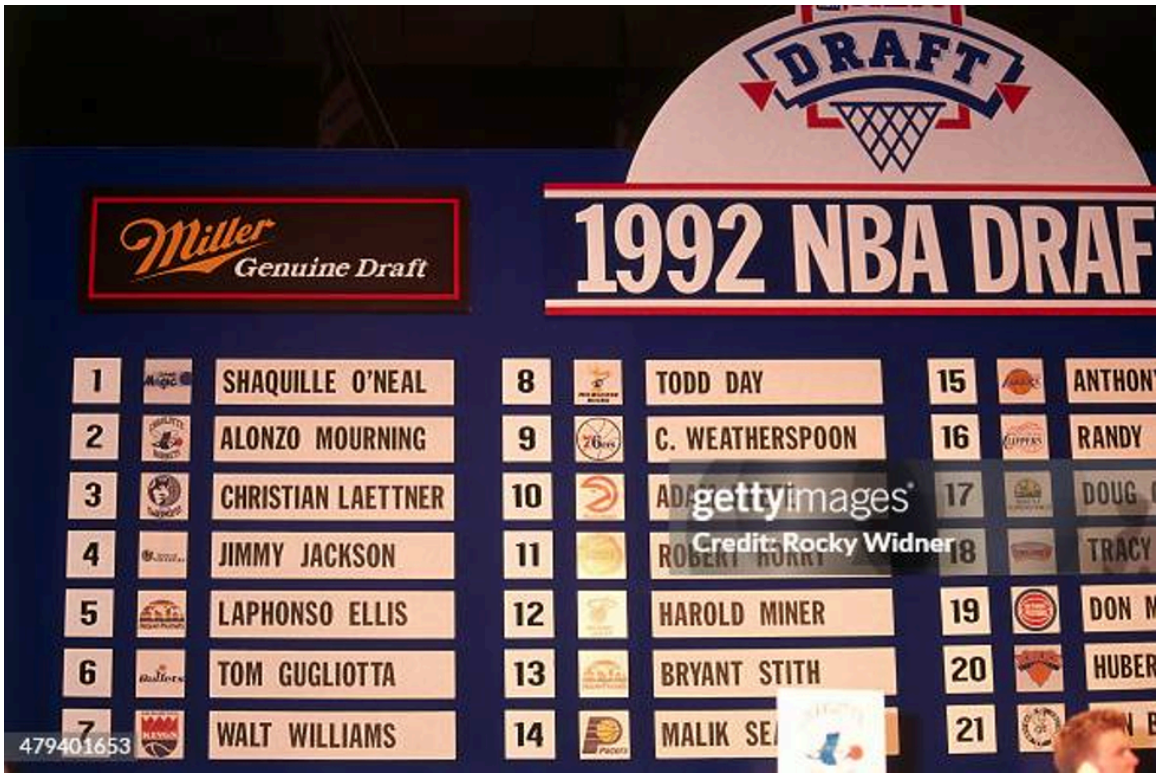
Conference Winners
Eastern Conference Champs – Cleveland Cavaliers
Western Conference Champs – Seattle SuperSonics

1992: “Nothing But Net” Champions – Seattle SuperSonics

1992: “Nothing But Net” Draft

The 1992 NBA draft took place on June 24, 1992, at Memorial Coliseum in Portland, Oregon. This was the first time the NBA draft was held outside of New York. It is the only draft where the first three picks were centers. The 1992 NBA draft is one of the deepest in NBA history. The top three picks (Shaquille O'Neal, Alonzo Mourning, Christian Laettner) were considered can't-miss prospects. All three are Hall of Famers (Naismith & FIBA); O'Neal and Mourning are (individual) player-inducted, whereas Laettner is team-inducted. Laettner made one All-Star game in his career and was an Olympic Gold Medalist on the 1992 Dream Team but did not live up to the lofty expectations set for him.

The trio would end up playing together on the 2005 Miami Heat. Two other players went on to become All-Stars (Tom Gugliotta once, Latrell Sprewell four times) and several others had solid careers (Jimmy Jackson, Robert Horry, Doug Christie, P.J. Brown, LaPhonso Ellis, Jon Barry, Walt Williams, Anthony Peeler, and Clarence Weatherspoon). Harold Miner, who was given the nickname "Baby Jordan" because of his similarities to Michael Jordan, slipped to number 12 and, other than winning two slam dunk contests, only had a brief, uneventful, and injury prone four-year career.





The Houston Rockets selected X with the overall #1 pick in the 1992: “Nothing But Net” Draft. With the #2 pick, the Golden State Warriors selected Y.

1993: “Nothing But Net” Awards

1993: “Nothing But Net” Draft

