

**MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THIS ABOUT ME:**  
I don't have any piercings

**WHAT I LOVE MOST ABOUT BROOMBALL IS:**  
Hitting people with brooms

**I DESCRIBE MY STYLE BEST AS:**  
Aggressive and strategic

**FAVORITE ATHLETE TO WATCH IN ANOTHER SPORT:**  
Miles Austin

**MY DREAM VACATION:**  
Bora Bora in Tahiti

**ACTOR THAT WOULD PLAY ME ON THE BIG SCREEN:**  
Sandra Bullock

**MY FAVORITE SONG IS:**  
"A Woman Like You," by Lee Brice

**ONE THING I COULDN'T IMAGINE LIVING WITHOUT:**  
My cell phone and Erika Miller

## EMILY MILLER



# SOUTHVIEW ALLSTARS



**MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW THIS ABOUT ME:**  
Born and raised in London, England

**WHAT I LOVE MOST ABOUT BASKETBALL IS:**  
I never miss

**I DESCRIBE MY STYLE BEST AS:**  
Oh yeah (Marvin Gaye voice)

**FAVORITE ATHLETE TO WATCH IN ANOTHER SPORT:**  
Anderson Silva(UFC)

**MY DREAM VACATION:**  
Hawaii

**ACTOR THAT WOULD PLAY ME ON THE BIG SCREEN:**  
Morgan Freeman

**MY FAVORITE SONG IS:**  
"P" by Tyler the Creator ft. Hodgy Beats

**ONE THING I COULDN'T IMAGINE LIVING WITHOUT:**  
The Goon Squad

## MIKEY "flock" RANALLO

# KEEPING IT COMPETITIVE



LEBRON JAMES



DWIGHT HOWARD



XAVIER NADY



LEXI THOMPSON

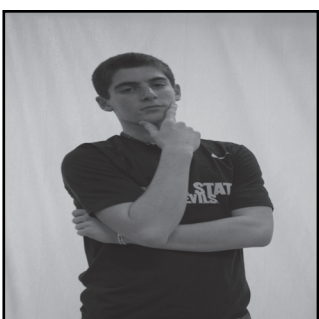


AMARE STOUDEMIRE



KOBE BRYANT

## COLLEGE FIRST?



IAN SEGALL  
Staff Writer

Sports teams constantly search for the next young, bright star player that can bring championships to their franchise. Some sports offer young players contracts as early as 16 years old while others cannot until they reach 19. Throughout sporting history, contract eligibility has always changed according to what that current society believed at the time. The main question among sporting fans is how young can a player be before a team can sign them? Is it ethical to draft athletes straight from high school? That method seems too dangerous and damaging in the end for athletes. Up until 2005, high school basketball players could enter the NBA draft straight out of high school. Famous players

such as Kobe Bryant, LeBron James, and Dwight Howard have all taken this approach. Although these athletes are among the league's elite, many others have suffered from this decision.

Several factors contribute to a high school basketball player's lack of readiness for the NBA. First, NBA players are significantly stronger than high schoolers and these strong professionals would easily dominate the star high school players. If one placed a player such as LeBron James up against any local basketball player, James would easily outman the player and physically dominate them. Secondly, an older player's mind is far more developed. The brain is constantly developing and an extra year of growth and experience can do wonders for the brain's development. If a high schooler, who is used to a 20-25 game season, is thrown directly into the NBA, with an 82 game season, the player would almost surely be emotionally exhausted. The player's brain may not be able to handle the constant wear and tear of the physical and fast paced NBA season.

A college education can do wonders for any athlete. College offers a wonderful learning experience both on the court and in the classroom. Athletes can

adjust to a faster paced game and a longer season, a perfect transition between high school and the NBA. The player would be able to further develop their skills against much tougher competition and be able to compete at a national level. The players would gain experience in playing in front of national television and become used to it before entering the famed NBA. Furthermore, athletes would gain a valuable education that offers the athlete a fallback if their basketball careers do not go as planned. If a player went from high school directly into the NBA and they failed in the NBA where would the athlete go from there? They have no college education and their basketball careers would be over. By going to college, however, the athlete could earn another job if needed and possibly succeed in their new occupation.

While entering the professional levels straight from high school may seem like a wonderful idea, the truth is that it will only end up harming the athlete. The athletes leave themselves without a fallback and their bodies and minds would almost surely experience significant wear and tear. College is extremely valuable, and all athletes should be required to attend at least one year on a campus.



MICHAEL JENNINGS  
Staff Writer

Considering that the fountain of youth does not exist, sports teams are always looking for youthful stars to learn and develop in their own system.

Players as young as fourteen are scouted and recruited by many professional teams worldwide.

In fact, Barcelona have recently signed an eight year old to its youth academy. One can imagine that this bright young boy who is literally growing up as a Barcelona prospect will do well for himself. The boy will be constantly surrounded by soccer experts and will reach a level of knowledge of the game and physical fitness far beyond that of many twenty-year-olds by the time he is sixteen and eligible for Barcelona's first team roster.

My opponent mentioned that players such as Kobe Bryant, LeBron James and Dwight Howard entered the NBA after high school. Now it seems to me that these three are among the very best players in the NBA if not history.

These stars were allowed to enter at a young age and learn the game to the point of mastery by the time many other players would be at the rear end of their career. In the cases of Bryant, James, and Howard, these three dominated in high school and would have done the same in college. Instead they went straight to the NBA and remained dominant. If they had gone to college, the risk of career ending injury would increase dramatically. Instead of risking dominating for another four years the three phenoms took the shortcut. Now they make millions of dollars and will live comfortable lives instead of a possible torn ACL and in search of job out of college.

Major League Baseball is the epitome of pooling high school talent. The league has an entire system subordinate to every team to develop players into Major League stars.

A team may have up to eight affiliates whose only purpose is to develop players to work their way up the majors. In addition to

the affiliate teams, spring training is as much a showcase of young talent as a warm-up period before the season. Players that have impressed during spring training are usually awarded for their efforts and move up the ranks, closer to the majors.

For many young baseball players from counties such as the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico, baseball is their only opportunity to rise above poverty.

Many of today's stars would not be in the league if it required them to finish college.

In the end, what matters most is whether or not a player is skilled enough to enter professional sports. If a player has the skill set, why make them wait up to four years before their chance to make it on the big stage? Taking time and money to play in college only increases the risk for career ending injuries.

Also, many players choose to skip college because they simply cannot afford it. Even if the player has full ride scholarship offers, he may need money now to help support his family and rise from poverty.