

Lebron James declared for the 2003 draft, just as the media had speculated, before his senior year in high school. He was taken with the first pick of the first round by his home state team the Cleveland Cavaliers. James was quick to criticize himself, as he thought that his game wasn't where it needed to be but his coach assured him that his game was far better than anything James was thinking about himself. James scored 25 in his first regular-season game against the Sacramento Kings, which was a record for a player straight out of high school. Lebron James won the "Rookie of the Year Award" and despite his team not making it to the playoffs that season, James led the Cavs to improve their record from the season prior, winning 18 more games than they had before. Lebron James is quick to be booted from the conversation of "Greatest Of All Time" merely because he has fewer rings than Jordan as well as his less than perfect finals record, as Jordan has. Lebron James is the possible GOAT because of his overall dominance of the game, making plays that others can't make and at times, simply defying all odds to take home a W. James might not be the greatest at everything, but when compared to Michael Jordan, he possesses a higher career number of assists, rebounds, and blocks. He also boasts a higher career field goal percentage. Lebron James may not have the rings that Jordan does but he has held his own against the most elite players to date and he has the competitive drive that was once seen in Jordan that many people thought they'd never see again.

These three players, having completely different upbringings but all made it to the league nonetheless, cementing their legacies as some of the greatest to play the game. Though it may be easy to compare statistics and championships, choosing who the greatest player might be in the game is subjective. Every person is entitled to their opinions but to prove which people are right and which are wrong is impossible to do. This is why I believe there is no such thing as a GOAT and why there will never be one.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jordan
<https://www.nba.com/history/legends/profiles/michael-jordan>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LeBron_James
https://www.nba.com/player/2544/lebron_james
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Russell
<https://www.nba.com/history/legends/profiles/bill-russell>