



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2016 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Tyler J. Billings	Project Number 36452
Project Title Does College Help Basketball Players or Hold Them Back?	
Objectives/Goals The objective of this project, is to find out whether or not college helps basketball players perform better in the NBA. Abstract Methods/Materials Computer. Tested 140 NBA players. Players had to be drafted from 1995-2005, and within the first 14 picks. Placed all 140 players into six different groups: players who went straight from high school to the NBA, players who came to the NBA internationally, players who played one, two, three or four years in college. Conducted three different tests for each group: percentage of players who played ten or more years in the NBA, percentage of players with at least one NBA All Star appearance, and average NBA All Star appearances per player. Results The first test showed that high school players had the most NBA All Star appearances with 2.5 appearances per player. The second test showed that players with one year of college experience was the most consistent group with 44.4% of their players having an NBA All Star appearance. The final test had high school players having the best mark with 82.4% of their players having played ten or more years in the NBA. Overall the results showed the the players who cam straight from high school to the NBA were the most successful, finishing 1st, 2nd, and 1st in all of the test. Conclusions/Discussion The results revealed that high school players that were drafted within the first fourteen picks of the draft, were more successful then those who came from college, or internationally. Therefore, if a player is elite enough in high school to be a top 14 NBA draft pick they should go to NBA instead of college beforehand.	
Summary Statement High school players that were drafted within the first fourteen picks of the NBA draft, were more successful then those who came from college, or internationally.	
Help Received My father helped me refine the structure of my project.	