

# THE SPORTIER

## The Bubble Awards

With the NBA finishing off its 8-game regular season within a bubble at Disney World in Orlando, it's time to look at the players who received recognition by the NBA for their outstanding performances through the final regular season games.

### NBA All-Bubble First Team:

Damian Lillard

- In addition to being selected to the All-Bubble First Team, Lillard, the Portland Trail Blazers superstar point guard, willed his team to the 8th seed in the playoffs by averaging 37.6 points and 9.6 assists per game and 43.6% shooting from behind the three point arc. With Lillard's last three seeding games in the bubble including 51, 61, and 42 point performances, it's no wonder why he was also unanimously voted the Bubble MVP.

Devin Booker

- Similar to Lillard, Booker propelled his Phoenix Suns into the best position they possibly could be in. The Suns, seen as a weak team that should not have been invited to the bubble, ended up going 8-0 in the seeding games, only missing the 8th seed by .5 games. This stretch was led by incredible performances by Booker, who averaged 30.5 points, 4.9 rebounds, and 6 assists per game, all the while playing 7 straight games against contending teams (Mavericks twice, Clippers, Pacers, Heat, 76ers, Thunder).

James Harden

- Harden may just have lost out on the Bubble MVP award simply because of how normalized his dominance is on the offensive end. Averaging 35.3 points, 9.2 rebounds, and 8.7 assists per game, with an exceptional 53.6% field goal percentage, Harden proved why his Rockets are an extreme threat to the top-dog Lakers.

Luka Dončić

- Luka, though only in his sophomore season, continued his greatness in the bubble. Though his Mavericks were already a lock into the playoffs, Dončić shined, averaging a near triple-double with 30 points, 10.1 rebounds, and 9.7 assists per game. Luka is a budding star that will no doubt be in contention for the regular-season MVP award in no time at all.

T.J. Warren

- Though we could have potentially predicted the spectacular performances from the players above, it may have been more difficult with T.J. Warren. Warren started the bubble off with a bang, scoring a career-high and 3rd highest single game total in Pacers history 53 points in an overtime win against the 76ers. Having averaged 31 points per game in the bubble, Warren was in heavy contention for the Bubble MVP award before a couple of poor performances against the Suns and Heat spoiled his run, though nothing will erase the potential that he displayed throughout the bubble.

### NBA All-Bubble Second Team:

Caris LeVert (25 points, 4.8 rebounds, and 6.7 assists per game)

Michael Porter Jr. (22 points, 8.6 rebounds, and 1.6 assists per game)

Kawhi Leonard (28.8 points, 4.8 rebounds, and 4.3 assists per game)

Giannis Antetokounmpo (27.8 points, 12.2 rebounds, and 4.2 assists per game)

Kristaps Porzingis (30.5 points, 9.5 rebounds, and 2.2 assists per game)



Clemson quarterback Trevor Lawrence

# BIG



# ACC

The Power Five Conferences

## College Football No More?

The world of sports has begun to crumble once again, this time from actions taken by many major collegiate athletic conferences: fall sports, including football, have been cancelled.

- Out of the 41 states that have at least one Division 1 FBS program, 17 states have cancelled all of their football programs, 15 have all of their programs running, and 9 have some programs playing.
- As of this past Thursday, there are 54 out of 130 Division 1 FBS programs that have cancelled their football season.
- Out of the Power Five conferences (Big Ten, Pac-12, ACC, Big 12, SEC), only the Big Ten and Pac-12 have postponed fall sports. The ACC plans for 10 conference and 1 non-conference game for all teams, the Big 12 has decided for all teams to play 9 conference and 1 non-conference game, and the SEC plans for 10 conference games for all teams as of now.
- Earlier this week, Nebraska had said that they still wanted to continue their football season regardless of what their conference, the Big Ten, decided. They said this because they projected \$100 million in losses to their athletic department if a football season was to not be played. At one point, in an effort to save their season and to mitigate their financial losses, Nebraska considered leaving the Big Ten to get games on the board. After facing backlash from the media, with many analysts angered by Nebraska's apparent disregard for the safety of their athletes, Nebraska announced that they would stay loyal to the Big Ten, and would not pursue a 2020 college football season.
- The repercussions of having a cancelled college football season could be massive. The Power Five conferences alone could see multiple billions of dollars lost without a season. In addition to the financial losses, the NFL Draft may be pushed back past February to allow for the potential of spring college football.

Sources: