



Settling the Debate: 1996 Bulls Vs. 2016 Warriors

By: Connor McShane, Jesse Chambers, Tyler Edwards, Sean Gallagher,
Owen Murphy and Andrew Rice



Scenario

What?

- Analysis of the 73 win '15-'16 Golden State Warriors in comparison to the 72 win '95-'96 Chicago Bulls.

Why?

- Both teams are known as the best teams ever assembled in NBA history and is widely debated.

How?

- Advanced team statistics used to compare each teams dominance in their respective league year.
- Advanced player statistics used to represent how good each individual player was compared to all other NBA players.

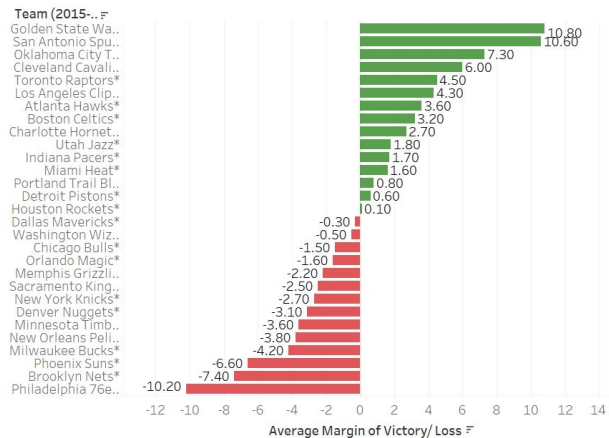


Data Used

- Key Elements
 - SRS: Rating taking into account average point differential and strength of schedule
 - Win/ Loss Percentage: Wins / Total Games Played
 - Average Margin of Victory/ Loss: Average point differential
 - Value Over Replacement: Statistic takes into account players' value
 - Defensive Win Share: Defensive contribution that resulted in wins
 - Player Efficiency Rating: per minute production for the team
- Basketball Reference
 - Open Data

Team Data Graphs

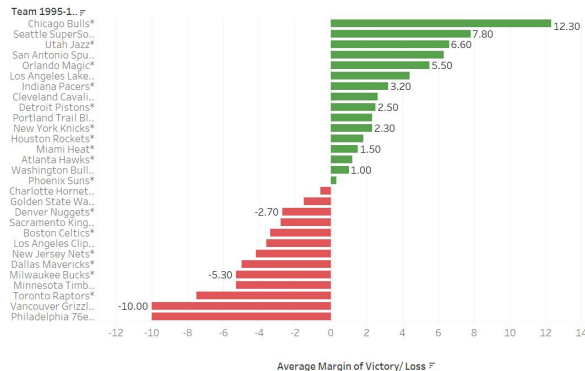
Win Or Loss? 15-16



Win or Loss?

Loss
Win

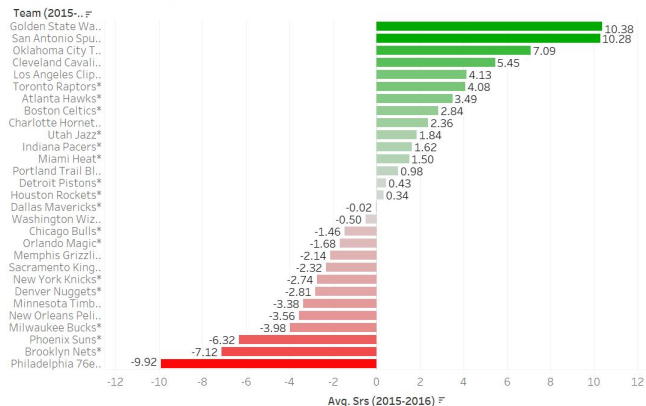
Win Or Loss? 95-96



W or L

Loss
Win

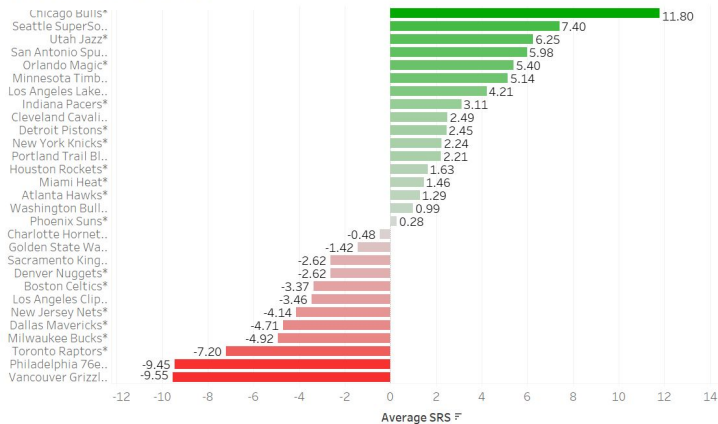
SRS 2015-2016



AVG(Srs (2015-2016))

-9.92 10.38

SRS 1995-1996



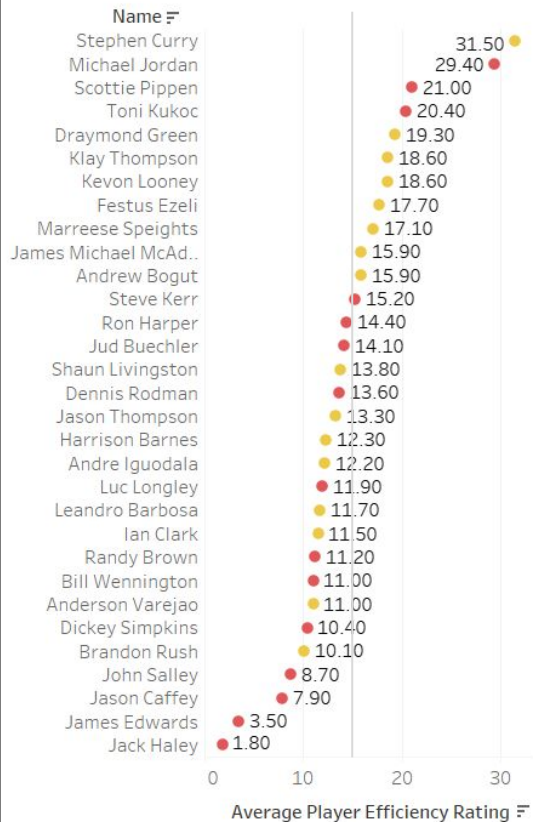
AVG(SRS)

-9.55 11.80

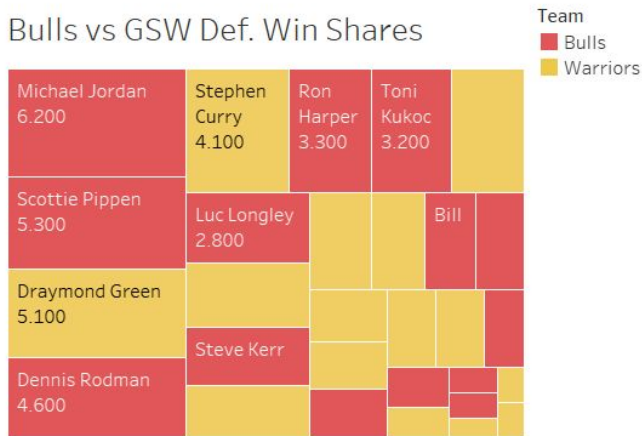
Advanced Player Stat Comparison Dashboard

Player Comparisons

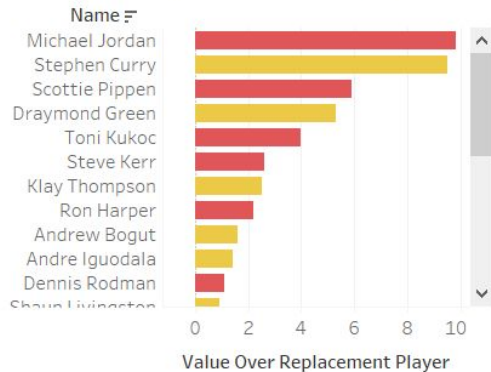
Bulls vs GSW Average PER



Bulls vs GSW Def. Win Shares



Value Over Replacement Player





Conclusion

- The '95-'96 Bulls team had an overall more dominant season
 - Higher point differential
 - Relatively the same Strength of Schedule
- The '15-'16 Warriors had a better roster of individual players
 - Warriors had 8 players above league average PER
 - Bulls had only 4 players above league average PER



Sources

<https://www.basketball-reference.com/teams/GSW/2016.html> - Golden State Warriors
2015-2016 Stats

<https://www.basketball-reference.com/teams/CHI/1996.html> - Chicago Bulls 1995-1996
Stats