

# Top 5 Athlete Rappers

With apologies to Tony Parker, Deion Sanders, Meta World Peace, Kobe Bryant and Charles Barkley...here are the top five athletes who have made rap albums.

5

*Kobe Bryant*, Retired NBA Player

This spot belongs to Kobe "Bean" Bryant mainly to embarrass him and shed some light on whatever this song is that he convinced Tyra Banks (?) to be on.

4

*John Cena*, WWE Wrestler

He has proven to be multi-dimensional by his seamless transition from wrestling, to reality TV, to now blockbuster movies - Daddy's Home 2 and Blockers.

Well, to my utter shock, he also is not the worst rapper. The highlight and by far his most popular song (multiple videos with millions of views) is the song also used as is WWE entrance music - The Time is Now.

3

*Damian Lillard* (Dame D.O.L.L.A.), NBA Player for the Portland Trailblazers.

While I wouldn't say I necessarily root or cheer for Damien Lillard the basketball player, or that I am surprised by his chosen rapper name - Dame D.O.L.L.A., his rapping skills were a pleasant surprise. He is a rare athlete, rapper or any kind of rapper who does not curse. His reasoning, "...I didn't want to have that type of impact on kids. A lot of kids are following me." This does not diminish his craft, and I use the word craft because you can tell this is more than a hobby for him. While his best song is probably Loyal to the Soil (ft. Lil' Wayne) it is arguably more impressive that he was invited on to Sway in the Morning.

2

*Shaquille O'Neal*, Retired NBA Player.

It would probably be a tie or even a slight advantage to Dame D.O.L.L.A. here without Shaq recently coming out of retirement and releasing not one but TWO diss tracks. One is aimed at the artist, Big Shaq who sings the song "man's not hot", and the other is aimed at the father of NBA player Lonzo Ball, Lavar. They are simply hilarious and so on brand with who he appears to be on TNT broadcasts. His long track record also makes him deserving but there is no real debate about the number one spot on this list.

1

### *Master P*

This distinction solely belongs to Percy Robert Miller, better known as Master P. Admittedly, this feels a bit like cheating but Master P did receive two NBA contracts, one from the Hornets and another from the Raptors. While he is the least accomplished athlete on this list, he is by far the most accomplished rapper. He gave us the song "Make 'Em Say Ugh", which introduced me to Mystical. He also gave us one of the best MTV Cribs episodes of all time.