

SPORTS

LeBron and Bronny James Share the Court

Father-Son
Duo Make
NBA History

(AP) LeBron James grew up without a father, and the top scorer in NBA history has often said he savors every moment and milestone he can experience with his own three children.

When he stepped onto a court Sunday night to play alongside his son, Bronny, for the Los Angeles Lakers, this moment was more than basketball history to him.

It was the realization of a family dream.

LeBron and Bronny became the first father and son to play in any NBA game together during the first half of the Lakers' preseason contest against Phoenix, playing just over four minutes side-by-side in the second quarter.

"It's pretty cool for the both of us, and especially for our family," LeBron said. "It's definitely a moment that I will never forget."



Los Angeles Lakers guard Bronny James (9), right, steps onto the court with Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (23) during the first half of a preseason NBA basketball game Sunday, October 6, 2024, in Palm Desert, Calif. (AP Photo/William Liang)

The James family's remarkable moment coincidentally happened on Bronny's 20th birthday, and it felt like a celebration for the 39-year-old LeBron, who has

spoken about his desire for this opportunity since Bronny was in high school.

Although LeBron knows they'll get more chances to play

together in the Lakers' upcoming season, the first time on court together in uniform felt "not real" to the four-time NBA champion and 20-time All-Star.

"For a father, it means everything," LeBron said. "For someone who didn't have that growing up, to be able to have that influence on your kids and have that influence on your son, be able to have moments with your son — and the ultimate, to be able to work with your son — that's one of the greatest things that a father could ever hope for or wish for."

Bronny James entered the preseason game as a substitute to begin the second quarter, joining his father on court at Acrisure Arena in the Coachella Valley. Bronny was told by coach JJ Redick before the game that he would be playing alongside LeBron, but the rookie maintained his usual cool demeanor both before and after the moment.

"I was pretty psyched for that," Bronny said.

Although he's much less vocal about the whole situation than LeBron, Bronny is still learning how to navigate an on-court relationship with his father, who has repeatedly insisted that his

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