

Texas 5 improves to 4-1 thanks to James White's 42, Chicago 5 suffers fourth straight loss, early exit from The 5 Tournament

Texas 5 was playing for seeding with a trip to the postseason already punched.

Chicago 5 was playing to save face after starting The 5 Tournament with a win and fizzling with three straight losses and an earlier than anticipated trip back home.

With the help of James White's team-leading 42 points, 10 rebounds and 4 assists, Texas 5 toppled Chicago 5 94-90 Saturday at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

Texas 5 got off to 7-0 start in the first quarter, but Chitown answered right back and tied the game at 17. James White got into a rhythm early and scored 13 points in the period, giving Texas a 27 to 26 lead into the second quarter.

Derrick Byars, a 2007 SEC Player of the Year for Vanderbilt, gave Chicago 5 a 31-29 lead when he hit a three-pointer.

The team from the Lone Star State answered with a 8-0 run to take a 41 to 33 lead, prompting the opposition to take a timeout. White added another 16 in the second quarter, giving him 29 points at the half. Three-time international champion David Hawkins scored 16 points in total for the first half to help Texas 5 take a 52-49 lead into the half.

Chicago 5 took a 57-55 lead with over five minutes left in the third quarter when Nate Robinson drilled a three-pointer. The rest of the period was a back and forth battle trading baskets, with the lead never ballooning past one possession for either side as the game was tied at 67.

After being ejected in the first quarter the night before, a seemingly fresh and more focused Robinson showed up to play Saturday. He scored 22 points in the first half and 35 for the game.

Texas ended the quarter on an 8-0 run to take a 75-67 lead into the final period with the help of Alex Scales' buzzer-beating three-pointer.

Chicago 5 stormed back in the fourth and tied the game at 79 with 4:09 to play. The game was tied again at 84 at the two-minute mark.

The red hot White made his fourth three-pointer of the game with 1:25 left to play for his 40th point. Hawkins, who had 27 points, followed with a triple, his seventh of the game, of his own after a Robinson turnover to make it 90-84, a lead they never relinquished.

Byars scored 25 for the game and 9 out of the team's last 15 points, but it wasn't enough for the team from the Windy City.

Texas 5 finished the tournament with a record of 4-1, and Chicago 5 dropped to 1-4.

The contest was the fifth and final game of the first round for the inaugural round-robin The 5 Tournament, which is being broadcast daily through July 29 on pay per view through Dish Network, DirecTV and Fite TV. The playoffs begin Monday.

All of the basketball action is available live via cable, satellite and digital pay per view. For more information, go to www.The5Tournament.com.

Toronto 5 leads by as many as 37, dominates Miami 5 in possible The 5 Tournament playoff preview

With playoff spots already secured for The 5 Tournament, Toronto 5 and Miami 5 met Saturday only playing for seeding in bragging rights.

In what could be a possible postseason preview next week, Toronto 5 dominated and trampled Miami 5 95 to 69 at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Saturday.

Both teams finished the tourney with a 3-2 record. Toronto 5 will be the No. 3 seed and Miami 5 gets the No. 4 seed.

Toronto 5 was physically the bigger team and they used size and mismatches in their favor the entire night, especially inside the paint.

Toronto 5 got off to its best start of the tourney, playing a complete first quarter to the tune of a 26 to 13 lead and never looked back.

They made 11 of 15 field goals and outrebounded Miami 5 12 to 4 in the frame. Top tournament scorer Mike Taylor led the way with 9 points and got a busted lip for his efforts when Mario Chalmers' elbow connected with his face on a follow-through.

A 21 to 4 run by Toronto 5 in the first and second quarter blew the game open at 34 to 15. Another 19-0 run generated a 32-point lead at one point in the period.

Thanks to Miami 5's ice-cold night shooting of 28.1% in the first half, they trailed 53-24 at halftime. On the flip side, Toronto 5 connected at a clip of 56.8% on field goals.

The Iowa State product and former Clippers contributor Taylor scored 19 through two periods. Taylor, who'd delivered performances of 42, 34, 23 and 34 points in his first four games, ended with a team-high 30 and also had 12 rebounds. He finished as the tournament's top scorer.

The second half was not much better for Mario Chalmers and Co. Toronto 5 led by as many 37 at one point. Miami 5 mustered off some momentum to bring the lead back down to 28 at the end of the third quarter, 48 to 76.

A 6-0 run to start the final quarter trimmed the lead to 22, but that's as low as it got from there.

Other than the two-time NBA champion Chalmers' 27 points, Miami 5 could not muster much other offense.

They ended up shooting 7 of 36 from the three-point line trying to play catch up the entire night.

Toronto 5 got consistent contributions from all of its players.

Jamario Moon, once a high-flying NBA Slam Dunk Contest competitor and a Harlem Globetrotters alum, stuffed the stat sheet with 20 points, 15 rebounds and 7 assists.

Patrick O'Bryant, the former No. 9 overall pick in the NBA Draft and four-year NBA player, scored 21 points and had 9 rebounds.

Alan Anderson, an eight-year NBA vet and overseas star, scored 18 and had 7 rebounds

The contest was the fifth and final game of the first round for the inaugural round-robin The 5 Tournament, which is being broadcast daily through July 29 on pay per view through Dish Network, DirecTV and Fite TV. The playoffs begin Monday.

All of the basketball action is available live via cable, satellite and digital pay per view. For more information, go to www.The5Tournament.com.

Sacramento 5 secures No. 1 seed in The 5 Tournament with victory over winless New York 5

Arguably the most stacked team of The 5 Tournament controlled their own destiny heading into their matchup against New York 5. A win and Sacramento 5 would secure the No. 1 seed.

The unknown is now certain — the top-seeded Sacramento 5 will be playing Miami 5, the lone team they lost to, in the semifinals on Monday after a 93-81 win Saturday at The Orleans Hotel & Casino.

New York 5 will be leaving Las Vegas without a single victory, as they dropped their fifth and Final game.

New York 5 kept it close and competitive to kick off the game, even taking its first lead 22-21. The first quarter ended with the team from the Big Apple up 24-21.

Sacramento 5 regained the lead 37-36, however, and never relinquished it from there. They immediately pushed it to a 47-40 advantage by the end of the quarter thanks to a 13-0 run.

Former second overall pick and Kings mainstay Mike Bibby single-handedly brought Sacramento 5 back in the second quarter with 13 points. He didn't score the rest of the way.

Dahntay Jones, a 13-year NBA veteran and former NBA champion, took it from there, scoring 12 points in the third quarter. A 9-0 run in the third quarter by Sacramento 5 made the lead balloon to 58-46. By the end of the quarter it was 77-58.

Jones finished the game with a sharp shooting night with 13 of 16 in field goals for a game-high 35 points and 10 rebounds.

All players from the Northern California team scored in double figures. Amir Johnson, Donte Greene, Jermaine Taylor each had 15 points.

Dermarr Johnson, a former No. 6 overall pick and seven-year NBA player, led New York 5 with 20 points and 6 assists. Solomon Jones scored 18. Darnell Jackson and Yakhoubu Diawara each scored 17 points.

The other two teams to make the playoffs and reach semifinals in The 5 Tournament will be the No. 2 seed Texas 5 and the No. 3 seed Toronto 5. They'll also be playing each other on Monday.

Sacramento 5 finished the tournament with a 4-1 record. So did Texas 5, but Sacramento 5 held the head to head tiebreaker thanks to their 89-73 win on Wednesday.

The contest was the fifth and final game of the first round for the inaugural round-robin The 5 Tournament, which is being broadcast daily through July 29 on pay per view through Dish Network, DirecTV and Fite TV. The playoffs begin Monday.

All of the basketball action is available live via cable, satellite and digital pay per view. For more information, go to www.The5Tournament.com.

