

### **Texas 5 tramples still-winless New York 5 by 28 point blowout**

Texas 5 made sure New York 5 remained with a goose egg in the win column with a dominant 77 to 49 victory Friday at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

The Texas 5 came into the game as a whopping 14-point underdog, according to BetOnline.AG. The spread was the highest the tournament has seen so far, and they went on to double the number for good measure with a 28-point win.

The threesome of David Hawkins, William McDonald and Alex Scales scored a combined 60 points and carried the team to its third victory of The 5 Tournament.

Texas 5 got out in front early with an 8-0 lead and never surrendered it. The rim was unforgiving for New York 5 early on as they missed their first six shots, but they quickly rebounded to score evenly the rest of the quarter, which finished 19-11 in favor of the team from the Lone Star State.

As bad as New York 5 looked, they still kept themselves in the game. They clawed and scratched in the second quarter and kept the game close, as it was 30-23 in favor of Texas 5.

Hawkins and McDonald led Texas 5 with 12 points apiece at halftime.

Hawkins, a three-time international champion, Temple's No. 3 all-time leading scorer and a former member of the Houston Rockets, continued the scoring in the third quarter, immediately making a three-pointer.

The bucket got his team going, and Texas 5 pulled away in the third quarter by outscoring their counterparts 24 to 11 in the frame. Hawkins added another 8 points, bringing his total 20, a figure that he finished with for the game along with a team-high 12 rebounds.

The fourth quarter was equally unkind for New York 5, who just can't seem to find their footing in the tourney. They were outscored 23 to 15 to end the game.

Former Lakers player and two-time NBA champion Josh Powell was the lone bright spot for New York 5, leading the team with 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Former first-round picks Qyntel Woods and Dermarr Johnson were ice cold for the game, shooting a combined 6 of 26 for 13 points.

Alex Scales, who's played in 12 different countries overseas and is 2008 FIBA WorldCup All-Star, scored 21 and added 8 rebounds. McDonald finished with 19 points and 7 rebounds.

The contest was the fourth 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.

Texas 5 (3-1) will next play Chicago 5 (1-2) on Saturday in the fifth and final game of the first round for the round-robin The 5 Tournament, while New York 5 (0-4) will take on Sacramento 5 (3-0), also on Saturday.

All of the basketball action is available live via cable, satellite and digital pay per view. For more information, go to [www.The5Tournament.com](http://www.The5Tournament.com).

**Miami 5 pulls off complete team performance, barely edges Sacramento 5 with one-point win in battle between The 5 Tournament powerhouses.**

Through three games of The 5 Tournament, Miami 5 and Sacramento 5 proved to be the two top teams of the bunch.

In what was potentially a Championship Game preview come Wednesday, Miami 5 barely beat the tourney's only unbeaten 89-88 Friday at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Friday.

Corsley Edwards, a 2002 NEC Player of the Year, led Miami 5 with 23 points. Chalmers, a former Heat starting point guard and two-time NBA champion, had 22 points.

Both powerhouses started the game playing with playoff-like intensity. A competitive first quarter left very little room for separation as Sacramento 5 held on to a 22-21 lead.

Chalmers hit his third-buzzer beater of the tournament with a floater from the paint to finish the first quarter. Fresh off a tournament-high 50-point performance on Thursday, Chalmers finished the first quarter with 9 points.

With top tournament seeding on the line — the winner would be in first place heading into the final round — both sides were getting equal contributions from each player on its roster, as Sacramento 5 lengthened its one-possession lead to 44-41 at the half.

Jermaine Taylor, the all-time leader in points scored in a season at UCF, continued doing what he does best by going off for a team-leading 19 points and 7 rebounds, including 5 three-pointers. He had just six more points in the second half. Donte Greene, a former 2008 first-round pick, had 14 points at the half as well and finished the game with a team-high 30 points.

Dahntay Jones, a 13-year NBA veteran and former champion, and Chalmers, who had 14 through two quarters, got into a heated exchange just as the quarter ended, as the intensity continued picking up for both teams.

The energy immediately carried over, as a determined Chalmers drove down the lane in the opening possession of the third quarter for a basket. Carlos Arroyo, a three-time international MVP and nine-year NBA player, immediately followed up as well with a jumper. Another Arroyo basket gave Miami 5 a 49-48 lead, and the team really started rolling after that.

The quarter continued to be tit for tat, but it was Miami 5 who looked more rejuvenated and pulled away by outscoring their counterparts 35 to 23. They also converted from 4 three-pointers and all of their whopping 11 free-throw attempts in a foul-filled quarter to end up with a nine-point lead, 76-67, heading into the fourth.

Sacramento 5 recovered immediately and showed their prowess on the heels of a 10-2 run. Miami 5 was held without a field goal for over three minutes at the midway through the quarter, as Sacramento 5 made 5 of 6 field goals. Sacramento 5 brought the lead down to three with 55 seconds to play.

Jones, who had 21 for the game, stole the inbounds pass, but his team couldn't convert. A shot-clock violation by Miami 5 gave Sacramento 5 new hope, as team captain Mike Bibby drew up a play in the huddle during a timeout with 31 seconds to play. It worked to perfection, as Greene converted on a contested jumper from the right wing with 25 seconds left.

After a missed Miami 5 free throw, with the game hanging in the balance, Sacramento 5 had a chance to win the game when Taylor drove the ball to the paint. He was fouled with three seconds to go, but missed the one-and-one, and that's all she wrote, as Miami 5 barely hung on for a one-point win.

The Miami 5 came into the game as a 3.5 favor, according to BetOnline.AG, following their dominating 29-point win Wednesday over New York 5.

The contest was the third 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.

Miami 5 (3-1) will next play Toronto 5 (1-2) on Saturday in the fifth and final game of the first round for the round-robin The 5 Tournament, while Sacramento 5 (3-1) will take on New York 5 (0-4), also on Saturday.

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## **Toronto 5 clinches playoff berth against short-handed and scrappy Chicago 5**

It was win-or-go-home for Chicago 5 and Toronto 5 on Friday, as the victor would be clinching the fourth and final playoff spot of The 5 Tournament.

The game featured the most prolific scorers so far in Nate Robinson for Chitown and Mike Taylor for the Canadian outfit.

Apparently only one of the players got the memo on the magnitude the game carried, as Taylor scored 19 points in the first quarter. Meanwhile, Robinson continued showcasing combustible behavior, as he berated officials over a non-call from the sidelines, gaining two technical fouls and being ejected from the game in the final seconds of the opening frame.

Toronto 5 held off the shorthanded and persistent team from the Windy City in the final seconds, winning 98-96 at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Friday.

Chicago 5 came into the game as a slight 1 ½ favorite, according to BetOnline.AG, despite suffering back-to-back losses since winning the tournament opener. Even without Robinson, they never went away and surprisingly kept themselves in the game, trailing just 48-46 at halftime.

Derrick Byars, a 2007 SEC Player of the Year for Vanderbilt who played in 7 countries overseas, carried the load in Robinson's absence in the first half, scoring 21 points. He had 36 for the game along with 10 rebounds.

Toronto 5 came storming right back with a 12-2 run on the back of Alan Anderson, an eight-year NBA vet and overseas star, who scored 10 in the quarter.

Chris Johnson, the 2011 NBA G League Defensive Player of The Year, helped Byars with 10 points in the quarter and tied the game at one point at 68 with seconds to play.

Toronto 5 immediately took notice and made back-to-back three-pointers, one from Taylor, and one from Julian Wright, a former first-round pick, at the buzzer for a 74-68 lead.

The momentum carried in the fourth, as Toronto 5 capitalized on a string of bad breaks to open an 80-70 lead.

Chicago 5 found newfound life with less than five minutes to play, cutting the lead to 82-81 — and then Johnson nailed a three-pointer for a two-point lead.

Neither team had more than a one-point possession lead for the remainder of the contest, as Taylor answered right back with a jump hook at the 3:44 mark, tying the game at 84.

After both teams traded field goals, Johnson proved he simply couldn't miss, hitting yet another three-pointer. He was 7 of 12 from beyond the arc and stuffed the stat sheet with a game-high 41 points, 15 rebounds along with 6 assists.

Anderson answered with a triple of his own, and the game was tied at 89. He had 31 points, 12 rebounds and 8 assists on the night.

It felt like neither team could miss in the final two minutes, as they were tied again at 96 until Taylor made a running jumper with 25.3 seconds. It proved to be the game-winner.

Chicago 5 had a chance to tie the game, but missed two consecutive attempts, and never had the ball in their hands again.

Taylor, who'd delivered performances of 42, 34 and 23 points in his first three games, ended up with a team-high 34. He's now the tournament's top scorer through four games.

Robinson's ejection was the second of the tournament. On Tuesday, he was expelled for kicking the ball into the stands in the final seconds of a one-possession game, an eventual loss to Sacramento 5.

Robinson, the three-time Slam Dunk Contest winner and a former first-round pick from Washington, will probably be best served to save his pent-up energy for the boxing ring. On Thursday, he announced he would be fighting YouTuber Jake Paul on the undercard of the Mike Tyson vs. Roy Jones Jr. exhibition match Sept. 12 in Carson, Calif.

The contest was the third 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.

Chicago 5 (1-3) will next play Texas 5 (3-1) on Saturday in the fifth and final game of the first round for the round-robin The 5 Tournament, while Toronto 5 (2 -2) will take on Miami 5 (3-1), also on Saturday.

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