



Chicago 5 stars Nate Robinson, Derrick Byars combust in final seconds, kick balls into stands as Sacramento 5 sneaks by with win

Basketball turned into kickball in Sacramento 5's entertaining 90 to 87 win over Chicago 5 at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Tuesday.

In the final minute of The 5 Tournament with the game still in the balance after Chicago 5 cut an eight-point deficit down to one in the closing seconds, Chicago 5 stars Nate Robinson and Derrick Byars lost their composure and kicked the basketball into the stands in back-to-back sequences after being disgusted with calls that went against their team's way.

The intensity and energy equated to costly mental mistakes for both, as Sacramento 5 converted technical fouls from the charity stripe and never looked back en route to a victory to remain unbeaten after Round 2.

Robinson was pivotal to bringing his team back to have a chance in the first place, scoring a game-high 41 points. His conduct — and Byars' — however, proved to be the team's undoing.

Sacramento 5 was led with a consistent and unified scoring attack as all 5 members scored in double digits. Donte Greene and Dahntay Jones had 23 points apiece, Mike Bibby had 18 and Amir Johnson had 14 points and 11 rebounds while Jermain Taylor contributed with 12 points.

Playing as a cohesive unit for the first time on Sunday helped both teams start their respective second contests smoothly. In the first quarter, both squads came out firing on all cylinders, never letting a lead grow past more than one possession.

Sacramento 5 took a 24 to 23 lead into the second quarter.

Robinson had the play of the first half midway through the second quarter, putting Johnson in the popcorn machine with a stutter-step crossover and layup that even got the attention of five-time NBA All-Star and color commentator Tim Hardaway. The athletic Robinson followed up his highlight-reel play with a one-footed jumper just inside the three-point line from the top of the key.

Chicago 5 gathered its largest lead of the game to that point at 41 to 35, prompting Sacramento 5 to call a timeout. Team captain Bibby gave the team a spirited pep talk, which led to two consecutive and-one conversions, and they never looked back.

The scrappy Sacramento 5 grew their lead to four by halftime at 47-43.

Chris Johnson of the Chicago 5 had 11 points through halftime and finished with 17 for the game; Byars had 14 points at the break including four triples and finished with 19.

In the third, Bibby and Johnson connected for a highlight-reel alley-oop that mirrored their heyday in the closing seconds of the quarter as the big man delivered with a two-handed flush to keep Sacramento 5 up 71 to 66 to end the third quarter.

Robinson had 27 through three **and** fought and clawed by dropping 14 points in the fourth quarter until he lost his cool. Robison brought Chicago 5 to within one at 86-85 after converting an and-one but cost his team right after by kicking the basketball to the rafters. Byars apparently was motivated to do the same as well.

Sacramento 5 pulled away in the final two minutes, growing its lead to 9 and never looking back.

Sacramento 5 (2-0) will next play Texas 5 (2-0) on Wednesday in a battle between unbeaten, **while Chicago 5 (0-2) will take on Miami 5 (1-1).**

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



Texas 5 almost blows 19-point lead, sneaks past Toronto 5 in final minutes

A dominant first half almost led to a disastrous finish, but Texas 5 did just enough to hold off Toronto 5 at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Tuesday in Round Two of The 5 Tournament.

Up by 19 points at one point, Toronto 5 star player Mike Taylor put the team on his back with a 22-point third-quarter barrage. *With newfound confidence*, Toronto 5 even regained the lead in the fourth quarter, but Texas 5 quickly put the fire out in the final minutes to pull off an 84 to 72 win.

The second game of The 5 Tournament got off to a slow start for Toronto 5, as they were down 12-3 to begin the game and 20-10 by the end of the first quarter. It was a low-scoring affair, but Texas 5 quickly worked off the rust to hold their own ground.

The second quarter was not much better for Toronto 5, as Texas 5's lead ballooned to 19 at one point, and they comfortably went into halftime with a 39 to 25 lead.

Taylor was just 2 of 11 from the field and had 6 points at halftime. It was a far cry from his 42-point scoring effort in the opening game Sunday in a losing cause to Sacramento 5.

If the axiom good things come in thirds is true, the third quarter was just what the doctor ordered for Taylor, who scorched Texas 5 with 22 points in the frame, including at one point four-consecutive three-point buckets.

With a complementary onslaught inside the arc as well, the piping-red hot Taylor brought his team all the way back to be down by just three at 60 to 57.

Momentum clearly was in the Toronto 5's corner, as they came out in the fourth quarter to take the lead 66-65 at the 5:44 mark of the final stanza. The miraculous turnaround compelled Texas 5 to take a timeout and rethink its strategy.

With the game on the line, both teams tightened their defensive efforts and started exchanging buckets and the lead as Taylor and Texas 5 Captain David Hawkins continuously jawed at each other after each seesaw possession.

Texas 5 grew its lead to five points twice in the final minute, and after a pair of free throws, to 7. Another bucket after that turned the advantage into 9 ... and a triple later it was 12 ... and bam, the clock saved them from perhaps blowing another lead.

Taylor finished with a game-high 34 points and 10 rebounds, but he didn't receive much offensive input from his teammates. Former high-flying Raptors player Jamarion Moon came in with 12 points.

On the flipside, Texas 5 had a unified scoring effort, led by David Hawkins' 25 points. James White had 21 points and Alex Scales had 19. TBT Champion Mo Charlo (13) and Will McDonald (6) rounded out the scoring.

Texas 5 led for over 30:22 minutes during the game, compared to the 2:52 from Toronto 5.

Texas 5 (2-0) will next play Sacramento 5 (2-0) on Wednesday in the Round 3 of The 5 Tournament in a battle between unbeaten teams, while Toronto 5 (0-2) will take on New York 5 (0-2) with both teams looking for their first win.

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Mario Chalmers, Miami 5 hold off New York 5 to win first game in The 5 Tournament

The New York 5 were snake bitten with injury in their opening game loss to Chicago 5 on Sunday and made new additions via four-year NBA veterans Yakhoubu Diawara and Tony Wroten to take on Miami 5 at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas on Tuesday.

The new infusion of talent did not help the team from the Big Apple, however, as Miami 5 cruised to a 77-69 victory thanks to 26 points and 7 rebounds from Corseley Edwards, and 22 points from Mario Chalmers, who also added a team-high 11 rebounds and 5 assists.

New York 5 led 2-0 at the start but it quickly crumbled from thereafter. New York 5 immediately was down 9 to 2 to begin the game. After trading baskets for much of the first quarter, two-time NBA champion **Chalmers** had the final word by hitting a buzzer-beating three-pointer to end the first frame, helping Miami 5 to a 22 to 16 lead.

The injury bug reared its ugly head again for New York 5 as Wroten momentarily was sidelined with a lower-body injury. Miami 5 leveraged their opposition's lack of depth to quickly build a lead with the help of Chalmers and nine-year NBA veteran Carlos Arroyo, comfortably resting at 41 to 29 at *halftime*.

Arroyo finished the game with 13 points, while six-year NBA vet Craig Smith contributed with 11.

The third quarter was not much better for New York 5, who had a lackluster shooting night as a team, going 27 of 66 overall. They weren't any better from the free-throw line either, going 11 of 21 for the game.

The missed shots helped Miami 5 maintain its 12-point lead through the end of three at 61 to 49.

Qyntel Woods had the two best plays of the quarter, including a dunk and a buzzer-beating three-pointer from near half-court. The former first-round pick and 2010 Polish League MVP finished the game with 17 points, good for second-best on the team.

Dermarr Johnson, a former No. 6 overall pick, led the way for New York 5 with 18 points and 14 rebounds, and Darnell Jackson, 2008 NCAA Champion and three-year NBA vet, had a double-double as well with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Diawara had 13 points while Warton contributed just 4.

New York 5 carried the momentum Woods provided immediately into the fourth, stringing an 8-0 run to pull within five points with just under five minutes remaining. In just two minutes, however,

the lead was back to 13, and Miami 5 mostly ran the clock from that point to secure its first win in The 5 Tournament.

Chalmers made sure everyone went home with Pinkbox Doughnuts with another buzzer-beater, only this time by hitting a long ball from a specially marked part on the floor over 30 feet away.

Miami 5 (1-1) will next play Chicago 5 (1-1) on Wednesday in the round-robin tournament, while New York 5 (0-2) will take on Toronto 5 (0-2).

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