

Rockets face Mavs at home

HOUSTON (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks and Houston Rockets bring their NBA playoff series to the Summit Tuesday night, where the Mavericks won on their last two visits during the regular season.

But that was the regular season, and the Mavericks have a different kind of streak to worry about now that their playoff series has been knotted at 1-1 in the first two games at Dallas.

The Mavericks have a 2-12 road record in playoff games, and they have lost five of them in a row — including last year's first-round fizzle against Seattle.

Now it's another road situation for the Mavericks after Houston won Saturday's game at Reunion Arena 119-108 on a 42-point performance from Sleepy Floyd and 41 points from Akeem Olajuwon.

"We knew we were going to have to win on the road, anyway," Mavericks guard Rolando Blackman said.

"Now we're back to this situation on the road."

The Rockets also will host the series Thursday night. A fifth game, if necessary, would return to Dallas on Saturday.

But the Rockets aren't anticipating a continuation of the inside-outside antics of Olajuwon and Floyd.

"We certainly can't count on two guys scoring 40 points," Rockets forward Jim Petersen said. "It's very important that we don't get complacent in thinking that kind of thing is going to happen again."

The Rockets have managed to shut down Blackman and Mark Aguirre in the first two games. The Mavericks won the series opener 120-110 despite off shooting nights for Aguirre and Blackman.

"People like myself, Purvis (Short) and Rodney McCray have been focusing on the defense because we realize how explosive Blackman and Aguirre can be," Rockets guard Rob-

ert Reid said. "But we can help provide more balanced scoring if that's what it takes to win Game 3."

Floyd's performance was a bad dream for new Mavericks Coach John MacLeod, who came to Dallas from Phoenix.

"I have seen Sleepy Floyd play great games when I was at Phoenix," MacLeod said. "But he had a tremendous game. Sleepy pitched two different games. One game was not so good (first playoff) and the other was."

The Mavericks were unable to match the Rockets in the closing minutes of Saturday's game after it was tied at 101.

"From then on, it was just a matter of who was going to make the big plays down the stretch," Dallas center James Donaldson said. "It was a game we never controlled. When it came down to the wire, they made all the great plays. We're in some trouble now."

Robertson: Spurs can win

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Alvin Robertson insists the Los Angeles Lakers' number is about to come up.

But the San Antonio Spurs guard's prediction doesn't necessarily mean the Lakers are quaking in their Nikes as their Western Conference first-round NBA playoffs move to the Spurs' home court Tuesday night.

The defending world champions have already trounced the Spurs twice — a 130-112 victory Sunday and a 122-110 decision Friday — and a third win in the best-of-five series would send the Lakers into the next round.

"They've been to battle before," Robertson said of the Lakers, who hold a 7-0 record against the Spurs. "They know how to win games. We've got to play a perfect game to beat them on their home court."

But "their number is ready to come up in San Antonio," he added. "We're going to beat them. We play

much better at home."

The Spurs have played the Lakers close in the early minutes, and Los Angeles Coach Pat Riley said his veteran team has had to adjust to that.

"It was not a case of us not coming ready to play," Riley said. "It was a case of the Spurs playing at the top of their game. I don't know if we were flat as much as they were great."

It is a failure to maintain the pace that is killing the Spurs. Sunday, for instance, the Spurs scored the first eight points of the game, then went on a 9-0 surge midway through the opening period to go up 19-6. But Los Angeles went on a 9-2 run at the end of the period to cut the deficit to seven.

"We've just got to buckle down," Spurs Coach Bob Weiss said. "We can't let down. We've got to get one game at a time."

The Lakers connected on 56.2 percent of its field-goal attempts

Sunday, compared to 47.1 for the Spurs. The Lakers also won the battle of the boards 51-41.

The Spurs had tried to stop the Lakers' Kurt Rambis, who devastated the Spurs Friday, but only scored four points Sunday. Consequently, former Spur Mychal Thompson scored 29 points on his old teammates.

"Thompson was great," Weiss said. "I guess we spent too much time in practice trying to stop Kurt Rambis."

Robertson wound up leading the Spurs in scoring for the second consecutive game, finishing with 28.

Weiss said the Spurs must capitalize during the close contests: "We've got to win the close ones because they win most of the blowouts."

A fourth game, if necessary, will be played in San Antonio, after which the series would move to the Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

Celtics, Lakers, Jordan living up to expectations in 1st-round action

From the Associated Press

Three teams are doing the expected in the NBA playoffs: the Boston Celtics, Los Angeles Lakers and Michael Jordan.

As the first-round series switch sites this week, the Celtics and Lakers are right on schedule for the final meeting, each with a 2-0 lead in their first-round best-of-five series. Boston leads the New York Knicks; the Lakers lead San Antonio.

And Jordan, the first player to score more than 50 points in two straight playoff games, is on schedule to single-handedly carry the Chicago Bulls past the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Jordan had 55 Sunday, more than half his team's total output in their 106-101 win as the Bulls took a 2-0 lead in the series that now switches to the Cleveland Coliseum.

The first round resumed Monday with Detroit at Washington trying to

wrap up its series. There are four more games tonight.

Chicago is at Cleveland and the Lakers at San Antonio in games that could end their series. Dallas is at Houston, and Denver at Seattle in two series tied at 1-1.

Wednesday the Celtics are at the Knicks, Atlanta takes a 2-0 lead to Milwaukee, and Portland visits Utah, tied 1-1.

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Chicago (2-0) at Cleveland (0-2)
The Cavaliers, who split the season series with the Bulls 3-3, remain confident despite the deficit. They were up by a point with a minute to go Sunday before Jordan hit a jumper and added two free throws.

Los Angeles Lakers (2-0) at San Antonio (0-2)
The Lakers breezed 130-112 Sunday and 122-110 Friday after sweeping the regular season's series 7-0.

Dallas (1-1) at Houston (1-1)
The battle of Texas heads for Houston after Sleepy Floyd had 42 points and Akeem Olajuwon 41 as the Rockets evened the series with a 119-108 victory in Dallas Saturday.

Denver (1-1) at Seattle (1-1)
The Nuggets, the league's highest-scoring team during the regular season with a per-game average of 116.7, shot just 32 percent in Sunday's 111-91 loss at home. And they barely won the first game, 126-123.

Bruin about-face earns berth in second round

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Bruins have shifted their attention from the most successful franchise in NHL history to one of the least successful — unless you count the last two months.

Having eliminated the Montreal Canadiens, who have won 22 Stanley Cups, in the Adams Division final, the Bruins looked ahead to New Jersey, their opponent in Monday night's opener of the best-of-seven Cup semifinals.

"They've come a lot further than anyone expected," Boston coach Terry O'Reilly said of the New Jersey Devils. "They've shown they're a very serious hockey club."

Before this season, the Devils' franchise made the playoffs just once in 13 years while playing in

Kansas City, Colorado and New Jersey. The team got in this year by going 8-1-1 in their last 10 games to finish fourth in the Patrick Division.

The roll continued with playoff conquests of the New York Islanders and Washington Capitals, who finished first and second in the division.

Goalie Sean Burke is the major reason for New Jersey's success. He had a 10-1 regular-season record after joining the Devils from the Canadian Olympic team and was in goal for the clinching 3-2 victory Saturday night in Washington.

He handles comparisons to former Montreal goalie Ken Dryden with the same composure with which he handles opponents' shots.

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FATAL ATTRACTION PG-13 8:15
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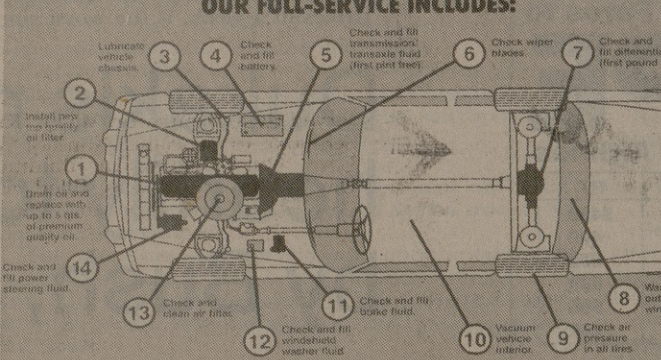
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71 pts.	1,395 ⁰⁰	2,700 ⁰⁰
71 pts.	1,050 ⁰⁰	2,500 ⁰⁰
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1.07 cts.	1,275 ⁰⁰	790 ⁰⁰
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1.07 cts.	1,400 ⁰⁰	1,185 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,600 ⁰⁰	1,095 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,300 ⁰⁰	1,225 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,250 ⁰⁰	315 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	2,000 ⁰⁰	105 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,250 ⁰⁰	695 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,300 ⁰⁰	650 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,600 ⁰⁰	795 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,400 ⁰⁰	695 ⁰⁰
1.07 cts.	1,590 ⁰⁰	1,395 ⁰⁰
90 pts.	1,590 ⁰⁰	3,250 ⁰⁰
89 pts.	1,750 ⁰⁰	2,600 ⁰⁰
89 pts.	1,300 ⁰⁰	2,600 ⁰⁰

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110 ⁰⁰	200 ⁰⁰

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2,295 ⁰⁰	4,300 ⁰⁰
2,435 ⁰⁰	4,800 ⁰⁰
2,675 ⁰⁰	5,200 ⁰⁰
2,250 ⁰⁰	3,900 ⁰⁰
2,095 ⁰⁰	3,700 ⁰⁰
1,095 ⁰⁰	1,750 ⁰⁰
1,495 ⁰⁰	2,800 ⁰⁰
1,150 ⁰⁰	2,200 ⁰⁰
995 ⁰⁰	1,525 ⁰⁰
665 ⁰⁰	1,200 ⁰⁰
325 ⁰⁰	600 ⁰⁰
95 ⁰⁰	200 ⁰⁰

Correction

In Friday's 12th Man Scoreboard, Missy Waschka was incorrectly identified as Missy Washka. She placed second in saber, third in epee and fourth in foil instead of fourth in all three events. She qualifies for the national championships in saber and epee, and she is an alternate in foil.

Monday's story about the Texas A&M-Texas Christian series inaccurately gave the loss in the first Saturday game to John Briscoe. The loser was Kerry Knox, who fell to 5-5 on the season.

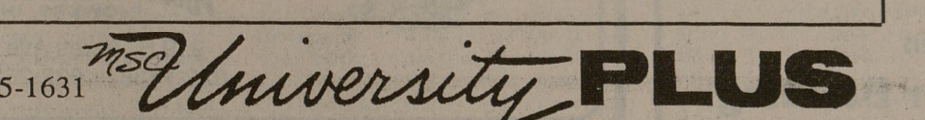
The Battalion regrets the errors.

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