

Sports

Pistons post Dome win



PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — Adrian Dantley scored 19 of his 25 points in the wild first half and the Detroit Pistons defeated defending champion Los Angeles 104-94 Thursday night, putting them on the verge of their first NBA title.

Standing in the way of that championship, however, are two games at the Forum, the Lakers' home court. L.A. can become the first repeat winner in 19 years with two victories there. Game 6 will be on Sunday and Game 7, if necessary, on Tuesday night.

The Lakers, who are in the NBA finals for the seventh time in the last nine years, are trying to become the first team since the 1968-69 Boston Celtics to repeat as champions.

Defensive specialist Joe Dumars added 19 points, making nine of his first 12 shots, reserve guard Vinnie Johnson added 16 for the Pistons and Isiah Thomas had 15 points and eight assists.

Forty-one-year-old Kareem Ab-

dul-Jabbar was brilliant in defeat, scoring 26 points, one short of his high for the entire season. Magic Johnson added 15 points and 17 assists for the Lakers.

The game had an NBA playoff attendance record crowd of 41,732.

Los Angeles trailed only 59-50 at halftime despite being outscored 52-26 in a span of 16:38 in the first and second quarters.

The Lakers opened a 15-2 lead at the start of the game, but 18 points by Dantley fueled Detroit's big rally,

which turned the 13-point deficit into the same lead — 54-41.

James Worthy, who played only eight minutes because of foul trouble and scored just two points in the first half, had eight points as the Lakers outscored Detroit 17-10 to start the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 69-67. The Pistons led 81-75 after three quarters.

A jumper by Vinnie Johnson gave the Pistons a 90-79 lead with 7:44 left in the game, but a basket by Worthy and a 3-pointer by Byron Scott got the Lakers within six.

Detroit came back with six straight points, including two baskets by Thomas, for a 96-84 advantage with 4:21 to go, and the Lakers got no closer than seven the rest of the way.

The Lakers, who scored only 35 points in the second half of Tuesday's 25-point defeat, took a 15-2 lead 4:19 into the game, giving it the look of a blowout as Detroit turned the ball over on six of its first eight possessions.

Putting propels Lyle into 1st at 88th Open

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — Masters champion Sandy Lyle coaxed a hard-fought 68 out of difficult conditions on Thursday and gained a place in a three-way tie for the lead in the first round of the 88th U.S. Open Golf Championship.

"I squeezed about as much out of it as I could," said Lyle, a Scot who ranks as the outstanding figure on the PGA Tour this season, leading the earnings list while being the only three-time winner.

"I can't believe I shot 68 playing the way I did," Lyle said. "I missed a lot of greens and I missed the fairway about 10 times."

But he scrambled when he had to, chipped in from about 25 yards for a birdie and finished in a rush, dropping

an 18-20 foot birdie putt on the 16th hole, then gaining a share of the lead with a 15-footer on the final hole.

That put him in a tie for the lead with a couple of long-struggling Americans, Bob Gilder and Mike Nicolette.

Seve Ballesteros of Spain, twice a winner of the Masters and a two-time British Open winner who gained some confidence in his putter with a playoff victory at Westchester last week, led a group at 69.

He was tied with Scott Simpson, the defending Open champion, former Masters champion Larry Mize, Dick Mast and Paul Azinger, the 1987 Player of the Year.

Davis, Scott end Reds' win streak

CINCINNATI (AP) — Glenn Davis hit a pair of two-run homers and Mike Scott allowed five hits before leaving with a leg injury in the eighth inning Thursday night as the Houston Astros defeated the Cincinnati Reds 7-4.

Scott, 8-2, strained his left hamstring when he slipped coming off the mound after Chris Sabo hit a run-scoring grounder to third. Scott will be examined Friday to determine the severity of the injury. Dave Smith, the third Houston pitcher, came in with two outs and a runner on first in the ninth and earned his 12th save.

Scott lost his shutout in the sixth inning when Kal Daniels doubled with two out and Eric Davis hit his 10th homer. Davis homered again in the ninth. Scott struck out six to pass teammate Nolan Ryan for the National League lead with 102.

Glenn Davis hit both his homers off Mario Soto, 3-7, who has lost his last five starts. Soto gave up six hits and

a pair of walks over five innings.

The four RBI moved Davis into a tie with Pittsburgh's Bobby Bonilla for the NL lead with 52. He has 15 homers, one shy of the league lead by San Francisco's Will Clark and Montreal's Andres Galarraga.

Bill Doran drew a two-out walk in the first inning ahead of Davis' homer to left. Doran also scored on Davis' third-inning homer to left.

Billy Hatcher contributed three hits and the Astros' fifth run when he doubled to the gap in left center in the seventh inning and scored on Eric Davis' throwing error on the play. Davis cut the ball off as it reached the wall and tried to flip it to Daniels, but the ball flew past the left fielder for an error as Hatcher circled the bases.

Houston scored twice in the eighth on Kevin Bass' RBI double and Scott's run-scoring single.

The Astros snapped Cincinnati's season-high winning streak at four games and moved to within a game of first-place Los Angeles in the National League West.

NCAA reduces UT's probation

MISSION, Kan. (AP) — A two-year probationary period imposed on the University of Texas at Austin football program for violations was reduced to one year, the National Collegiate Athletic Association said Thursday.

The original penalties included a provision for the university to submit a report after one year indicating the status of 13 corrective actions ordered by the university's president, William H. Cunningham.

The NCAA Committee on Infractions reviewed the report last month and recommended the probationary period expire Friday.

Other sanctions imposed in June 1987 relating to recruiting and grants-in-aid in the football program were not affected by the decision, the NCAA said.

Earlier this month, Texas compliance officer Butch Worley said the university implemented 13 changes ordered by UT President William Cunningham.

On June 13, 1987, the NCAA handed down penalties against the school for 38 rules violations.

Some of the violations Texas was cited for were for the sale of complimentary football tickets by 10 players.

Texas sends starter down

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers optioned struggling outfielder Oddibe McDowell to their AAA club in Oklahoma City and promoted former Detroit Tigers outfielder Barbaro Garbey, the team announced Thursday.

McDowell, 25, a career .246 hitter, slumped this season, batting .205 with 3 home runs and 14 RBI in 52 games.

Garbey, a 30-year-old outfielder and designated hitter who spent much of the past two years in the Mexican League, hit .308 with 5 home runs and 41 RBI in Oklahoma City this season.

Garbey, signed by the Rangers as a free agent Dec. 13, played two full seasons with the Detroit Tigers and was traded to the Oakland A's for Dave Collins in November 1985. The A's released him in early 1986.

Garbey has major league career totals of .275 with 11 home runs and 81 RBI.

Angels blank Rangers 3-0

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Kirk McCaskill pitched a three-hitter Thursday as the California Angels blanked the Texas Rangers 3-0.

The Angels gave McCaskill a quick 1-0 lead when Brian Downing started the bottom of the first by drawing a walk off lefthander Paul Kilgus, 6-5. Downing stole second and scored on Wally Joyner's one-out single.

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