

# Lakers stop Orlando's home streak

Los Angeles was red-hot from beyond the arc, connecting on 11-of-18 three-point attempts in the win.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers not only shattered Orlando's 40-game home winning streak, they buried it.

Nick Van Exel scored 22 points and the Lakers went 11-of-18 on 3-point shots to beat the Magic 113-91 Tuesday night and end the second-longest home regular-season winning streak in NBA history.

Eddie Jones was 3-for-3 from beyond the arc and had 18 points, while Magic Johnson and Elden Campbell each scored 14 for the Lakers. Los Angeles also got a boost from Cedric Ceballos' 15 points in his first game since returning from a four-day unexcused absence.

Orlando lost a regular season game at home for the first time since March 14, 1995, leaving Chicago (34-0) as the only team with an unblemished record on its home court.

The Magic had won 33 straight at Orlando Arena this season and were trying to keep pace with the Bulls, who have won a league-record 41 consecutive regular-season home games dating back to last spring.

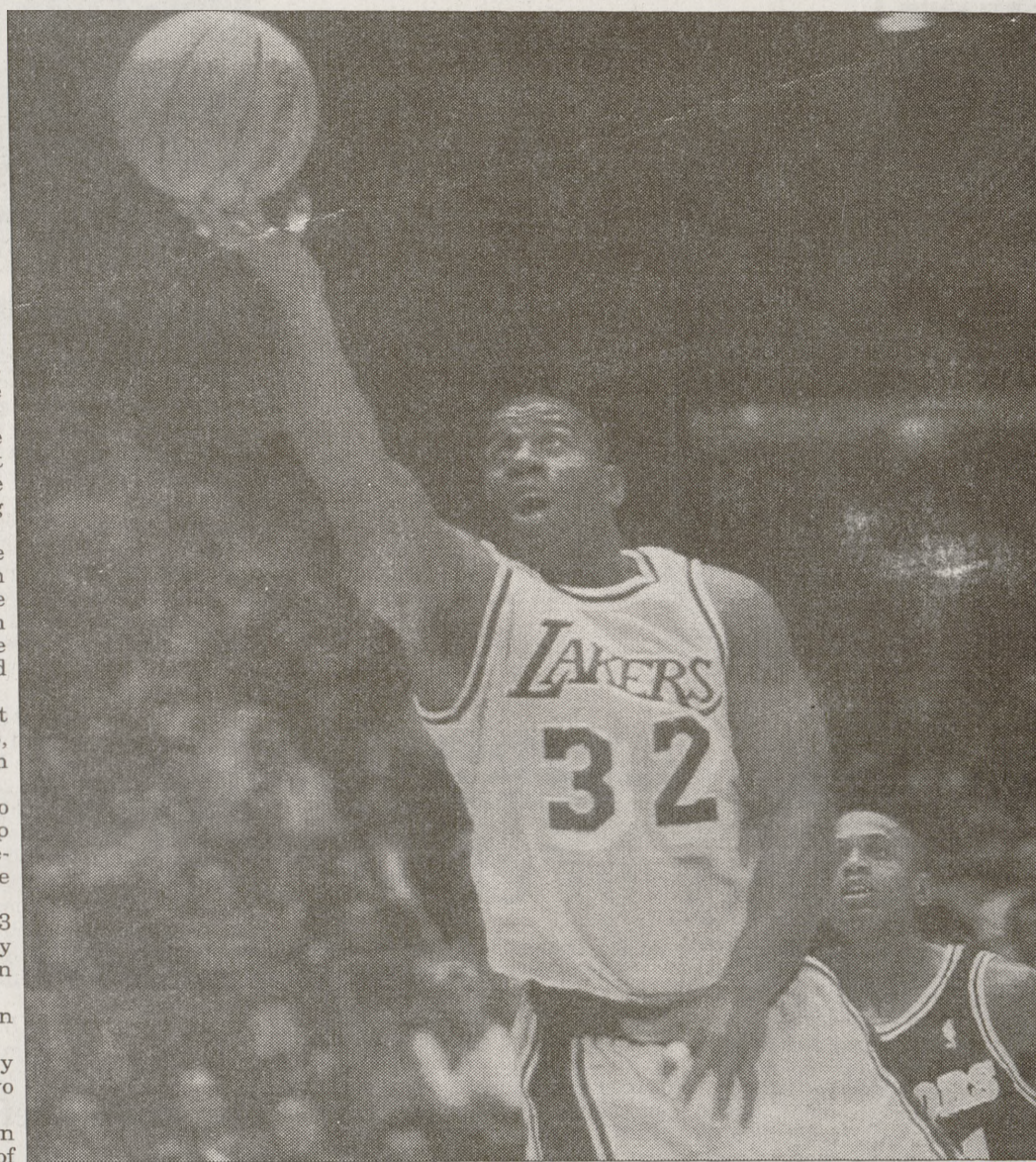
Shaquille O'Neal led Orlando with 23 points and 10 rebounds. Anfernee Hardaway finished with 21 points and Nick Anderson added 16 for Orlando.

The Lakers' win sets up a showdown tonight between Riley vs. Magic.

That phrase rings off-key for anybody who's followed pro basketball for the last two decades.

Together, Pat Riley and Magic Johnson led the Los Angeles Lakers to dominance of the NBA during the 1980s.

Now they provide the glue for two teams battling for a shot in the playoffs.



Los Angeles Lakers forward Magic Johnson spearheaded the team's upset win over the Orlando Magic Tuesday night, snapping Orlando's 40-game home winning streak.

# Knicks stumble by injury-wasted Rockets

Starters Clyde Drexler, Robert Horry and Hakeem Olajuwon did not play.

HOUSTON (AP) — John Starks scored 21 points and the New York Knicks withstood a startling third-quarter comeback by Houston's injury-depleted lineup for a 83-74 victory Tuesday night.

The Knicks almost blew a 22-point halftime lead as the makeshift Rockets pulled within three points with 8:25 left in the game before finally succumbing.

Houston starters Hakeem Olajuwon and Robert Horry missed the game with knee tendinitis. Mario Elie, Sam Cassell and Clyde Drexler already were out because of injuries.

It was the fifth consecutive loss for Houston, all at home.

After falling behind 52-30 at the half, Houston went on a 24-6 tear to start the third quarter, cutting New York's lead to 58-54 with 3:39 left in the period.

Sam Mack, scoreless in the first half, led the rally with 11 points and Houston trailed 65-59 to start the final quarter.

Kenny Smith drilled a 3-point basket with 8:25 to play to cut the deficit to 69-

66, but that was as close as the determined Rockets could get.

Derek Harper hit 18 points for the Knicks, Patrick Ewing had 17 and Anthony Mason had 13 points and 17 rebounds. Charles Oakley returned to New York's lineup after missing 19 games with a broken thumb. He played 21 minutes and scored two points.

Chucky Brown and Kenny Smith scored 16 points apiece for the Rockets.

Houston's ailing lineup couldn't get rolling in the first half. The Knicks took charge from the opening tip and started pulling away to their halftime lead, led by Harper's 13 first-quarter points.

The Rockets were especially sluggish in the second quarter, hitting only four of 25 shots (16 percent).

The Rockets had no available Tuesday night who averages double figures.

The combined scoring average of Houston's starters was 41.4 points per game with Tracy Moore the group's top scorer, averaging 9.0 points in five games with the Rockets.

The Knicks had been out-rebounded in 15 of their last 18 games but had a 50-39 edge against the Rockets.

The Rockets will have a chance to end their streak tonight against the Mavericks.



Olajuwon

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