## San Antonio slips past Utah

Avery Johnson hit a free throw with 43 seconds left to seal the 92-91 victory.

Avery Johnson hit one of two free throws with 43 seconds left and San Antonio escaped 11 apiece. Utah, which made just 1 of 15 3-pointers, lost for the fifth time in six games. left and San Antonio escaped with a 92-91 Monday night when Utah's David Benoit misfired on a 3-pointer in the final second.

Sean Elliot led the Spurs with 21 points, and Johnson added 17 as San Antonio moved four games ahead of second-place Utah in the Mid-

San Antonio center David Robinson was limited to just three field goal attempts, but made 10 of 14 free throws to finish with 14 points. He added 12 rebounds.

Karl Malone led the Jazz with 21 points and Jeff Hor-

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — nacek and Antoine Carr added



Chuck Person's 3-pointer with 3:41 remaining gave the Spurs a 91-85 lead, but Adam Keefe dunked and Chris Morris hit a 15-foot jumper to bring the Jazz within two with

2:09 remaining.
But Malone and Morris

Johnson, fouled by Malor hit his free throw to make

John Stockton's 17-foole with 26 seconds left made; 92-91, and after Person missa a 3-pointer, Morris grabbe the rebound and called time with 1.4 seconds remaining.

Benoit took the cross-cou inbounds pass from Keefe, b shot long at the buzzer.

Hornacek collided with B liott with 1:10 remaining at needed stitches to close a on his forehead. Elliot was al cut, but stayed in the game a ter getting his wound ba

San Antonio took the season series 3-1. Johnson had eight assists. The Spurs outscored the Jazz 32-19 in the third quarter. Spurs forward Charles Smith sat out with

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## Gregg takes leave of absence to lose weight

The 325-pound umpire said he has been influenced by the death of John McSherry

to the death of John McSherry, baseball officials gave a leave of absence to umpire Eric Gregg on Monday so he can lose weight and get in shape

Gregg, listed at 325 pounds but visibly heavier, has long been an example used by critics of overweight umpires. The decision to give him a leave was made following a Sunday night meeting among AL president Gene Budig, NL president Len Coleman and umpires union head Richie Phillips.

"In light of recent events, I feel this is the right time to take a serious look at my weight and conditioning," said Gregg, an NL umpire since 1975. "My goal is to be a major league umpire for many years to come, and to accomplish that I need to take a closer look at my overall health.

During Sunday night's meeting, Phillips asked for training machines such as treadmills and Stairmasters to be installed for umpires at each major league ballpark. He also would like umpires to remain in a single city each week, rather than rotate af-

tive and far ranging," Colema said in St. Louis before the Ca dinals' opener. "We will be meeting again shortly."

McSherry, whose weight ha gone up to nearly 400 pounds times, had a heart attack an collapsed behind home plate of April 1 seven pitches into the season opener in Cincinnati. He died about an hour later.

Baseball officials have pushed for weight restrictions but the umpires' association has resisted.

Gregg also took a leave of at sence from April 4-May 23, 199 and league officials sent him to weight-loss program at Duke. "It is in his best interest an

the best interest of his family take this constructive action for his health," Coleman said. Phillips could not immediate

ly be reached. Also, the NL chose Ed Mi tague to replace McSherry as a crew chief. Montague, 47, spoke at a memorial service for Mosh

erry last Friday. He became a regular NL m pire in 1976, and umpired in the World Series in 1986 and 1991.

### Bulls feel Hornets' sting as 44-game home streak ends

Charlotte temporarily sidelined the Bulls' quest for a 70-win season — the first ever in NBA history

Chicago Bulls' 44-game regular-season home winning streak ended Monday as the team they embarrassed just four nights earlier, the Charlotte Hornets, rallied for a 98-97 victory

The Bulls hadn't lost at the United Center since March 24, 1995 — Michael Jordan's first home game after coming out of retirement. Jordan had 40 points and 11 rebounds Monday but missed a tip-in in the closing seconds.

Dell Curry made two free throws with 19.4 seconds to go

in the fourth quarter as t Hornets avenged Friday's 12 92 home loss to Chicago. that game, Charlotte trail 20-0 after four minutes and seemed to quit.

After Curry's free throws, Bulls had four shots to win b missed them all: a spinning drive by Toni Kukoc, a tip by Scott Pippen, Jordan's putback try another tip by Pippen.

Kenny Anderson scored points and Matt Geiger 14 fort Hornets, who trailed 67-56 wi five minutes left in the thir



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