

# Kings easily dispatch tired Mavericks

**Keith Whitmire**

The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

DALLAS — The only rust on the Kings might have flaked off the rim after one of their many made baskets.

Sacramento had five days between games after dispatching Utah early. Their time off was well-spent.

The Kings hit the American Airlines Center floor running. They hit 8 of their first 13 shots to lead 20-10 with 6:20 remaining in the first quarter.

"I really felt that tonight we were really focused," Kings coach Rick Adelman said. "You could feel it in the locker room. You never really know until you step out on the floor, but I felt we were really focused."

It wasn't just that the Kings were sharp, but that so many of them never skipped a beat from the Utah series.

Six players scored in double figures. The only starter who didn't, point guard Mike Bibby, had seven points, but he had seven assists.

"We really had a flow going," Adelman said. "We had different guys coming in shooting the ball well. It makes it hard to guard us when it's that way."

The Kings finished the first quarter with a 33-24 lead, a similar start to their three regular season wins over the Mavericks. In those three games, Sacramento finished the first quarter with an average lead of 10 points.

"I think we did a really good job of preparing them for what they were going to go through once we were done with Utah," Adelman said. "I think it's the maturity of the

team that they understand that."

Even after the Mavs had a chance to regroup at halftime, it was the Kings who roared out of the locker room in the second half. The Kings outscored the Mavericks 12-4 to start the third quarter and eventually pushed their lead to 28 points.

The key to the Kings' aggressive starts was the work done during the layoff. Rather than rest tired bodies, the Kings went at each other.

"He worked us good," guard Doug Christie said of Adelman's off-day workouts. "We went through a lot of stuff. Everyone was really attacking each other in practice."

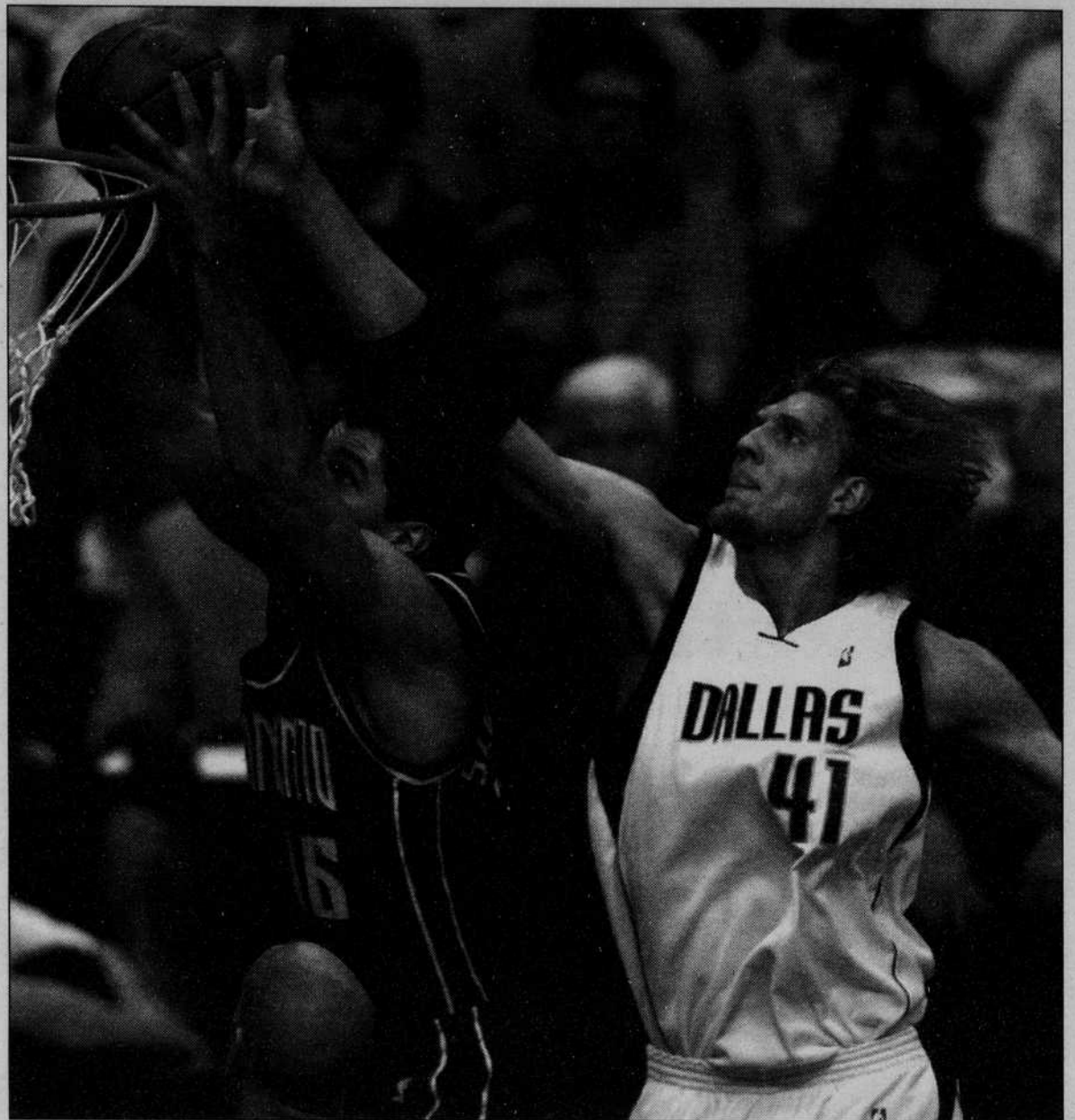
The only one who wasn't attacking, forward Chris Webber, finished with 24 points, six rebounds and nine assists. Webber rested his sore knees and ankle while the rest of his teammates went at it.

"I think it was different for different guys," Webber said. "Coach really worked hard in practice. I haven't been able to practice since we beat Utah. For the other guys, they were tired of practicing against each other, and they were wanting to get some fresh meat."

The Mavericks may have been meat for the Kings, but they certainly weren't fresh after having finished a seven-game series with Portland on Sunday. The Mavs didn't appear tired, but they certainly played like it compared to the high-speed Kings.

"Maybe a bit," Christie said. "They were still pushing the ball. They really tried to attack us."

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Ron Jenkins Fort Worth Star-Telegram (KRT)

Peja Stojakovic (16) and the rested Kings took care of Dirk Nowitzki and the tired Mavericks in Dallas on Tuesday night.

## Tennis

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"I'm really happy," Panova said. "I think it's awesome that I won."

Panova was 30-14 overall during the regular season and 17-7 against ranked opponents. She has a 17-4 tournament record from both conference championships and a quarterfinal appearance at the National Indoor Championships.

In nine Pac-10 tournament matches indoors and outdoors,

Panova lost only one set.

Nagle is 17-15 in singles play with a 5-5 record against ranked opponents. Nagle spent most of the season playing at the No. 2 position on the women's squad.

In doubles play, the tandem has a 16-11 record, including three wins against top-15 opponents.

Kost earned a 15-13 overall singles record during the regular season, despite sitting out the first month of dual matches because of an abdominal injury. When he re-

turned to play, Kost won his first five matches.

"That's a big recognition for him," men's head coach Chris Russell said. "To make that team, you have to be one of the better players in the country. I think it's a great tribute to where he is as a player and to where he is going to be in the future."

Kost played in the ITA All-American Championships in the fall.

During the regular season, Kost defeated then-No. 10 Alex Vlaski of Washington and then-No. 12

David Martin of Stanford in straight sets. He teamed with freshman Thomas Bieri for most doubles matches. The pair earned a 12-9 season record.

Kost was named an All-Pac-10 honorable mention after the 2002 season. He will be the first Duck to compete in the men's NCAA Championships since 2000.

The three Ducks have just less than two weeks before they begin NCAA Championships competition. Panova and Nagle, ranked No. 33

in the country, will play in the doubles bracket, while No. 15 Panova will also enter the singles bracket. Nagle, ranked No. 54, is listed as the second alternate for the singles bracket. The women's national tournament begins May 19 in Gainesville, Fla.

No. 51 Kost will travel to Athens, Ga., for the men's NCAA Championships on May 21.

Contact the sports reporter at [mindirice@dailymerald.com](mailto:mindirice@dailymerald.com).

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### Horoscope by Linda C. Black

**Today's Birthday** (May 7). A dynamic inspirational leader presents you with a challenge. Can you learn fast enough to keep up? Sure you can!  
To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.  
**Aries** (March 21-April 19) \_ Today is a 5 \_ Education has been on your mind, so do something about it. Take a class, or teach one, or both.  
**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) \_ Today is an 8 \_ You can live on practically nothing, so take advantage of a good deal by stocking up. Buy a lot of something you'll use for years and years.  
**Gemini** (May 21-June 21) \_ Today is a 6 \_ You're anxious to take action, but caution is advised. One of the things you've been worried about could mess up your plans.  
**Cancer** (June 22-July 22) \_ Today is an 8 \_ The spotlight is on you, and they're asking if you really can do the job. Of course you can! You and your friends will make it look easy.  
**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) \_ Today is a 5 \_ Misunderstandings are much easier to instigate than to clean up, as you probably know. Be extra sensitive, since many of those around you will be.  
**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \_ Today is a 9 \_ Your friends will be glad to help you with an ongoing transformation. You

know you can count on them for support, because they know they can count on you.  
**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \_ Today is a 5 \_ The more responsibilities you take on, the more you'll get to learn. Lesson No. 1: choose the most important thing, then do it!  
**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \_ Today is a 9 \_ To communicate, you may not need to say a word. The person you care about most is on the same wavelength.  
**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \_ Today is a 5 \_ Sagittarius is the sign of the gambler, and you're often lucky. Minimize your risk by using your brains as well as your luck.  
**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \_ Today is an 8 \_ Private information could give you a distinct advantage. Share what you learn with your partner, but realize that you don't have to reveal where you got the information.  
**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \_ Today is a 6 \_ A friend's coaching can help you shift your perspective just a little. That's all you'll need in order to do the job more quickly and effectively. Hone in on your target.  
**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) \_ Today is an 8 \_ You're smart and good-looking, so move yourself ahead. Give yourself an extra push and float right to the top.

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