

SPORTS

CART Budweiser/G.I. Joe's 200 Results

Gil de Ferran won Sunday's 98-lap CART Budweiser/G.I. Joe's 200 at Portland International Raceway in Portland, Oregon.

The following are the results:

1. Gil de Ferran (5), Reynard-Honda, 98 laps, running
2. Juan Montoya (4), Reynard-Honda, 98, running
3. Dario Franchitti (27), Reynard-Honda, 98, running
4. Adrian Fernandez (40) Reynard-Ford, 98, running
5. Paul Tracy (26), Reynard-Honda, 98, running
6. Bryan Herta (8), Reynard-Ford, 98, running
7. Roberto Moreno (18), Reynard-Ford, 98, running
8. Max Papis (7), Reynard-Ford, 98, running
9. Patrick Carpentier (33), Reynard-Mercedes, 98, running
10. Cristiano da Matta (25), Reynard-Toyota, 98, running
11. Jimmy Vasser (12), Reynard-Honda, 98, running
12. Michael Andretti (6), Swift-Ford, 98, running
13. Greg Moore (99), Reynard-Mercedes, 98, running
14. Christian Fittipaldi (11), Swift-Ford, 98, running
15. Tony Kanaan (44), Reynard-Honda, 98, running
16. Al Unser Jr. (2), Penske-Mercedes, 98, running
17. Robby Gordon (22), Reynard-Toyota, 98, running
18. Taro Marques (3), Penske-Mercedes, 97, running
19. Memo Gidley (15), Reynard-Honda, 97, running
20. Michel Jourdain Jr. (19), Lola-Ford, 96, running
21. P.J. Jones (20), Reynard-Ford, 95, running
22. Richie Hearn (10), Swift-Toyota, 95, running
23. Luiz Garcia Jr. (71), Reynard-Ford, 95, running
24. Scott Pruett (24), Reynard-Toyota, engine
25. Mauricio Gugelmin (17), Reynard-Mercedes, turbo
26. Helio Castro-Neves (9), Lola-Mercedes, electrical
27. Gualter Salles (36), Lola-Ford, transmission
28. Shigeaki Hattori (16), Reynard-Mercedes, drive retired

Average Speed: 107.457 miles per hour

Time of Race: 1 hour, 47 minutes, 44.560 seconds



Knicks Dig Deep to Stay Alive

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
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NEW YORK - The NBA Finals aren't boring anymore, and the San Antonio Spurs no longer look invincible.

Behind 34 points from Allan Houston in one of the best games of his career, the New York Knicks defeated San Antonio 89-81 Monday night in Game 3, cutting their deficit to 2-1 in the best-of-7 series and handing the Spurs their first loss in 41 days.

The Knicks never trailed, never let the Spurs' numerous comebacks rattle them and played what was easily their best all-around basketball of the series in the comfort zone of Madison Square Garden.

"Our true character was tested tonight, because this is first time in the playoffs that we lost the opener on the road and lost two in a row," Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "You saw

the true character of the Knicks. We hung in there when they were making runs and we were very resilient."

It was San Antonio's first loss since Game 2 of the first round back on May 11, and it ended the Spurs' NBA-record postseason winning streak at 12 games.

Game 4 is Wednesday night, and another victory by New York could make this once-lethargic, low-rated series as compelling as any.

To do so, the Knicks will need another night like the one they got from Houston — an inspired display of clutch shooting on jumpers, drives and foul shots.

"Allan really had it rolling tonight," Van Gundy said. "He has shown an ability to make critical shots. He has made several critical shots down the stretch, and that is a rare quality in this league."

Houston shot 10-for-24 from the field and 12-for-12 from the line as he tied his career playoff high. Latrell Sprewell added 24 and Larry Johnson had 16 for the Knicks, who have played their best all season just when things have looked most bleak.

Nothing would have been as daunting as facing a 3-0 deficit, and the Knicks played like they knew Game 3 was their only chance to give themselves an opportunity to win the series.

New York came out fired up, opening a 14-point lead in a first quarter in which they debuted yet another new starting lineup, replacing Chris Dudley with

Marcus Camby.

"We wanted to get off to great start. In San Antonio, we were always trailing," Houston said. "We just wanted to stay aggressive. We got to the free-throw line tonight. We knew the shots would fall for us."

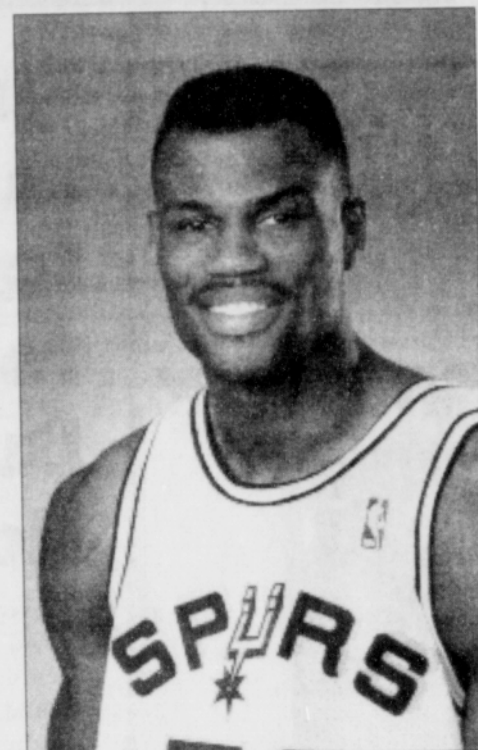
Added Sprewell: "We just came out with a lot of energy. ... If you can't come out with a big effort and poise, then you don't need to be out here."

The Spurs quickly cut into their first-half deficit and finally tied the game midway through the third quarter, but Houston answered with several clutch shots to restore the Knicks' lead.

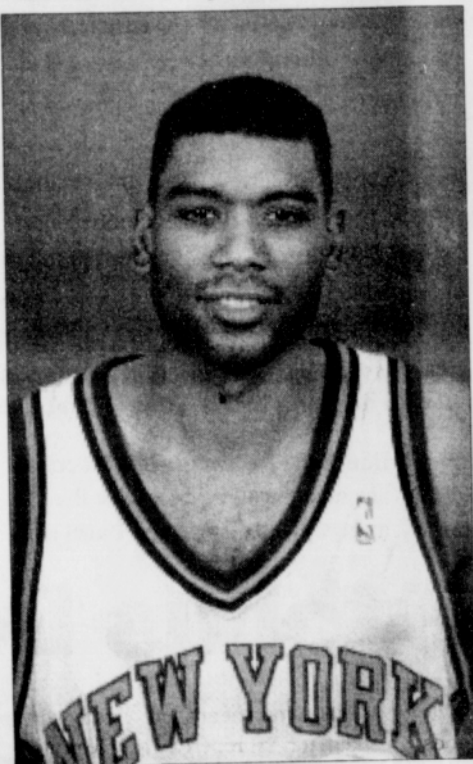
San Antonio made one final charge in the fourth, but never got closer than four. One big reason was the lack of production from Tim Duncan, who was scoreless in the fourth as he missed all four of his shots.

"(Larry Johnson) did a great job, between him, Kurt Thomas and Chris Dudley they

didn't give me the shots I can usually turn and make," Duncan said. "They did a great job throughout."



David Robinson



Allan Houston

Holmes Wins Legends of Boxing Heavyweight Title

By ELIZABETH A. DAVIS

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FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) - Larry Holmes had barely towed off from his victory over James "Bonecrusher" Smith when he declared George Foreman his next opponent.

Holmes stopped Smith in the eighth round Friday night, giving him the first heavyweight title on the Legends of Boxing series.

But less than an hour after the fight, the 49-year-old Holmes said he was not boxing for trophies, but for a chance

to face the 50-year-old Foreman.

"My goal is to get that big guy George Foreman," Holmes said. "If you pay me, I'll fight Foreman. I don't care about trophies anymore."

A Holmes-Foreman bout was planned for an undetermined date between January and March of this year, but it never happened. Now there is talk of a match between Foreman and Mike Tyson.

"It will put me on the back burner," Holmes said.

Fight promoter Cozell McQueen said his next step in the future of the

Legends series is to get Foreman in the ring with Holmes.

"That's the dream matchup," said McQueen, a former basketball star at North Carolina State.

Holmes, 49, who said he was not happy with his performance after a two-year layoff, used powerful jabs to drive the 46-year-old Smith into his corner early in the decisive round. Smith escaped the corner, but Holmes trapped him again against the ropes in a neutral corner before Smith motioned to his trainer to stop the fight.

How Sweet It Is

By DOUG FERGUSON

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PINEHURST, N.C. — The putt was only for par. The distance was just 15 feet, a slight bend to the right.

Given what was at stake, and the history of the man on the green, it might go down as one of the most memorable shots in a major championship.

"When I looked up, it was about 2 feet away from the hole and breaking right into the center of the cup," Payne Stewart said after capturing the U.S. Open on Sunday. "I couldn't believe my eyes. I couldn't believe I had accomplished my dream."

And now that putt on the 18th green at Pinehurst No. 2 — made under the most excruciating pressure golf can offer — takes its place in the game's lore.

Right there with Tom Watson's chip-in for a birdie in the 1982 Open at Pebble Beach. Right there with Gene Sarazen's double eagle in the 1935 Masters. Right there with Ben Hogan's 1-iron into the eighth green at Merion in the 1950 Open.

This was the first time in the 99-year history of the Open that the tournament was won by a putt that long on the 72nd hole.

In knocking in that putt, Stewart avoided an 18-hole playoff the next day with Phil Mickelson and provided the Open with one of its most riveting finishes.

"To question his toughness, I don't think would be fair. ... He's going to represent the United States well as our national champion," Mickelson said.

Stewart became only the 13th player to win the U.S. Open at least twice. It

also was his third major championship — he won the 1989 PGA Championship and the 1991 U.S. Open. That's one more than Greg Norman, just as many as Hale Irwin and Nick Price.

"Where it puts me in the golf world is, I'm a pretty good and accomplished player," Stewart said. "Nobody can ever take that away from me, no matter what's been written about me."

Lately, what had been written about Stewart had to do with failure.

Never mind that he won 1991 U.S. Open at Hazeltine by making up two strokes over the last three holes against Scott Simpson, first to get into a playoff, then to win the next day. He failed to put enough pressure on an inexperienced Lee Janzen in 1993. He blew a four-stroke lead against Janzen last year at Olympic Club.

No other player in the history of the U.S. Open — not Hogan, not Bobby Jones, not Jack Nicklaus — had led after any of the first three rounds as much as Stewart. All he had to show for it was one U.S. Open title.

His only victories since then were the Houston Open in 1995, where Scott Hoch virtually handed him the tournament, and in February at Pebble Beach, where the tournament was called after 54 holes because of rain.

Stewart said then he wanted to prove he could win over 72 holes. No one can question that now, and Stewart for once doesn't have to answer to anybody.

"What happened last year at the U.S. Open... all my friends came up and said, 'Boy, you sure tried. It was a great effort. You're a great competitor,'" Stewart said. "I didn't want to hear that, and that motivated me."

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