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## Stern is a dictator

Posted by njcoug - 2007/05/15 17:27

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Stern the dictator once again has served his own brand of justice. Horry gets a 2 game suspension and Stoudemire and Diaw both get a one game suspension for getting off the bench.

<http://sports.espn.go.com/nba/playoffs2007/news/story?id=2871615>

But look who doesn't get a one game suspension: Tim Duncan. After a hard foul in the 2nd quarter, Duncan got off of the bench and was inside the three point line ON THE COURT If Stern is going to suspend guys for getting off the bench, Duncan should have been the first suspended.

I am first and foremost a Blazer's fan and will cheer against anyone who plays the Spurs but this is just ridiculous. Stern has been giving out punishments how he sees fit. That's not his job and his discipline doesn't resemble following a precedent or holding everyone to the same standard. He has become a dictator and if Detroit and S.A. end up in the finals, I will not watch a game.

Stern has gone too far this time!!!

Post edited by: njcoug, at: 2007/05/15 17:43

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by ABYUFAN - 2007/05/15 17:30

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I don't care what kind of 'tater you think he is...I'm just glad the Jazz keep winning!

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by Detmer - 2007/05/15 17:35

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any word on Baron Davis? is he going to be suspended for cheapshotting fisher?

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by njcoug - 2007/05/15 17:38

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Detmer wrote:

any word on Baron Davis? is he going to be suspended for cheapshotting fisher?

No suspension. Again this doesn't make any sense. He will next require at the beginning of the game for everyone to salute him. [http://www.cougarblue.com/components/com\\_fireboard/uploaded/images/New\\_Stern.jpg](http://www.cougarblue.com/components/com_fireboard/uploaded/images/New_Stern.jpg)

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by Detmer - 2007/05/15 17:40

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unbelievable. that was as blatent a cheap shot as any.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by sunsfrk - 2007/05/15 17:56

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This is deplorable...what an absolute crock...one team sends out a hitman and the other team gets punished...what a friggin JOKE!!!!

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by BYUstud... - 2007/05/15 19:03

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I sat with an NBA owner at an event during the NBA All-star game in Las Vegas a couple of months ago and he did not have kind words to say regarding Stern. He viewed Stern as a complete idiot wielding way too much power.

I don't know Stern, but to continue to ride the WNBA train to Nowheresville I don't doubt that he is in fact idiotic.

Post edited by: BYUstud..., at: 2007/05/15 19:04

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by caveman\_cougar - 2007/05/16 08:33

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I read Diaw barely left the bench, then knew he shouldn't leave, then went back and didn't do anything. IS that true? Doesn't seem like it if he's suspended. If you break the rules, you should be punished. It's a rule enforced so fights/brawls don't get worse. It's a rule where you need to learn self-control, and if you figure you need to help your friend, even if you get suspended, you should get suspended. Rules aren't made to be broken. Horry for sure deserves it! Can't stand the guy, but he got away with too much and I'm glad to see him out.

Didn't Bigelow get punished for leaving the bench while playing NM a few years back? Granted it was in celebration, but I recall him getting on the court ended up being bad for BYU.

There are rules for leaving the bench, and though they are small, they are still rules. You may not agree with the rule, but if it's there, it should be followed.

If Stern was just following the rule, then that's good. If he was doing it for his power and glory, that is bad. If he didn't do anything, people would be mad. If he did, people would be mad. You're danged if you do, and danged if you don't. Presidents of this country understand this.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by imuakahuku - 2007/05/16 09:03

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caveman\_cougar wrote:

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I think the point is that he is selectively enforcing the rule(s)(i.e. Horry is suspended while Duncan is not.) A trademark of a dictator.

Post edited by: imuakahuku, at: 2007/05/16 09:04

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

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I would have no problem with this ruling if 1-Barron Davis had been suspended for game 5 with the Jazz, and 2-if Tim Duncan and Bruce Bowen had been suspended for leaving the "bench area".

In a way, though, this is counter to what Stern has done for years, which is to pander to TV networks and the popularity of the teams involved. I guarantee more people would watch the Western Conference Playoffs if Phoenix was moving on (a perfect example of this type of posture is in the non-suspension of Davis).

I still think Phoenix wins tonight, and probably wins game 6. Sure they don't have anybody that can stop Duncan, but they really didn't before either. Fact is, as good as he is, Tim Duncan cannot beat the Suns on his own. He is not as good as he used to be. If the Suns play good defense on the other 4 players of San Antonio, and let Tim get his, then they will be just fine. Another thing that will happen tonight is that the game will be officiated very closely, which helps the Suns because they don't play as physical. Look for Nash to have a monster game, with help from Barbosa and Bell.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by JaredLloyd - 2007/05/16 09:30

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Here's my take on the suspensions, over in the community news/blog section:

<http://www.cougarblue.com/content/view/5642/93/>

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/05/16 09:33

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Wow, I have to disagree somewhat. Tim Duncan to me is at his prime and still dominates the floor tonight. It's hard to make up for it when you lose someone like Amare Stoudemaire - 9.6 RPG 20.4 PPG - I mean Duncan only averages 10.6 RPG and 20 PPG.

Who will make the difference tonight? (Suns Roster)

NUM	PLAYER	POS	HT	WT	DOB	FROM	YRS
2	Marcus Banks	G	6-2	200	11/19/1981	Nevada-Las Vegas	3
10	Leandro Barbosa	G	6-3	188	11/28/1982	Brazil	3
19	Raja Bell	G	6-5	210	09/19/1976	Florida International	6
11	Pat Burke	C-F	6-11	250	12/14/1973	Auburn	2
3	Boris Diaw	F	6-8	230	04/16/1982	France	3
22	James Jones	F	6-8	220	10/04/1980	Miami (Fla.)	3
20	Jumaine Jones	F	6-8	230	02/10/1979	Georgia	7
31	Shawn Marion	C F	6-7	228	05/07/1978	UNLV	7
4	Sean Marks	F-C	6-10	250	08/23/1975	California	6
13	Steve Nash	C G	6-3	195	02/07/1974	Santa Clara	10

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52 Eric Piatkowski G-F 6-7 215 09/30/1970 Nebraska 12  
8 Jalen Rose G-F 6-8 215 01/30/1973 Michigan 12  
1 Amare Stoudemire C 6-10 245 11/16/1982 Cypress Creek (Orlando, FL) 4  
40 Kurt Thomas - C F-C 6-9 235 10/04/1972 Texas Christian 11

Diaw averages 4.8 Ast/ 9.7PPG and 4.3 RPG - I don't think he'll have that much of an impact as the spurs increasingly utilize people like Leandro Barbosa (that guys a stud) and Robert Horry is out tonight 3.4 RPG and 3.9 PPG (2006-2007 wasn't the greatest for him). I'd also say that James Jones will have to step it up tonight as well.

If I had to make a prediction, I'd have to say that the Spurs win the game tonight as Duncan will put up huge numbers. Hope I'm wrong.

Post edited by: bdhcougar, at: 2007/05/16 09:34

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by SenorCougar - 2007/05/16 09:38

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I don't believe in conspiracy theories, but I do wonder about consistency in rulings. Violence in the sports arena should never be accepted nor tolerated. The way the current rules are structured, the team causing the ruckus gets the lesser penalty. It would seem that part of strategy could include inserting a lesser player to "stir the pot" in hopes of "baiting" the other teams players to respond. Instinct is that teammates defend each other - it is probably reactionary. Whatever the case, it worked for San Antonio as they got the best end of this deal. Perhaps another lesson learned would be, if you're going to go on the court during an altercation, make it worth your while. Go after the opponent's BIG name player so that he gets suspended too. Of the recently completed Warriors-Jazz series, I thought the(1) Baron Davis cheap shot on Fisher was the most blatent, followed by (2,tie)the shot to the head of Boozer in Game 4 (3rd quarter) as he was driving to the basket and the shot to the head of Andrei Kirilenko in Game 5 (3rd quarter?)again driving to the basket. The fact that Stern took no action (except to upgrade Baron Davis' foul to a Flagrant grade 2) was indicative that this stuff can happen with little consequence. No suspensions, no hurt to the Warriors, and consequently numerous tense situations in Game 5. I remember when Stern threatened to suspend Karl Malone for having blinking lights in his shoes (because such would create a spectacle), yet did nothing to Dennis Rodman who was a walking tatoo artist with flourescent colored hair and plenty of body piercing. Now really, which created the greater spectacle? Blinking shoe lights or Mr. Rodman? Perhaps the NBA does have an agenda.....it is called TV ratings (or in other words \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$). I would hope not, but you start to wonder sometimes.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by ammoncougar1 - 2007/05/16 09:45

I didn't know which thread to post this on but you should see this.

<http://warriors.aolsportsblog.com/2007/05/15/tim-duncan-left-the-bench-too-will-he-be-suspended/2#comments>

Duncan AND Bowen were past the three point line when there was a brief temper flare and where is their suspension? It is flat out ridiculous the way the NBA is working right now! I don't know how much Stern has to do with the punishments but there are major inconsistencies right now with who gets suspended for what.

Go Cougs!!! & Jazz!!!

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by pcs-2006 - 2007/05/16 10:08

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I am all about rules and cleaning up the NBA, but I don't get this. In the same week that the NBA showed leniency to Bowen for what they deemed intentionally kneeing Nash in the groin, Davis for intentionally elbowing Fisher in the head (away from the play no less) and Richardson for throwing Okur to the floor, none of whom were suspended. And then

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Stoudemire and Diaw have the book thrown at them not for anything they did to anyone, or said to anyone, but because of where they were. I also find it ironic that the picture underneath the caption "Three Suspended" shows a bunch of players being restrained by refs and each other, and yet no one in the picture was being suspended. I think that if you are going to throw the book at some then you have to throw it at Duncan and Bowen as well for entering the court earlier. If only James had shoved Elson, then it would have been an "altercation" and Duncan and Bowen would be suspended. Basically that is what the league is saying.

Also this ruling should only encourage the Suns to seek revenge. Just wait for Duncan and Parker to be on the bench and then send in some goon to body slam Ginobli. It could work in your favor. Why not? Baseball has its revenge with bean balls, which often gets pitcher and manager ejected, but they still do it to show they won't be intimidated. I guess Stern and Stu Jackson think it is time to bring this into the game.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by Conosticator - 2007/05/16 11:00

pcs-2006 wrote:

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Looks like the Suns should put Rodman on retainer and activate him for the playoffs in the future, just for "sacrificial purposes".

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by bdhcougar - 2007/05/16 11:06

ammoncougar1 wrote:

I didn't know which thread to post this on but you should see this.

<http://warriors.aolsportsblog.com/2007/05/15/tim-duncan-left-the-bench-too-will-he-be-suspended/2#comments>

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Go Cougs!!! & Jazz!!!

From what I understand they weren't suspended as it was ruled that there was not an altercation on the court - in which there would be no suspension.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by ky4799 - 2007/05/16 11:13

Nobody likes the decision, but think about what everyone would be saying if it were the other way around. What if it were

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the Spurs getting suspended and not the Suns? That would be justice right? Everyone on this board is either Suns fans or Jazz fans. I hate to say this but a lot of people sound exactly like other MWC teams fans, nobody cares if BYU is not doing so well but then when we have a good football season it's a conspiracy or we get preferential treatment by the league or it's the return missionaries.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by Khinkaid - 2007/05/16 11:31

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Nah, I have pretty much always hated the Spurs!! I am happy when they are losing and torked when they are not.

Someone mentioned that there was no altercation and that was why Duncan and Bowen were not suspended...sounds like a judgement call to me. Easy way to work around the rule that everyone is so adamant should be kept. Again, an interpretation that went the way of the golden boy spurs. Yeck!!!

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by MajorCougar - 2007/05/16 11:44

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ky4799 wrote:

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I understand what you're saying, but I want CONSISTENCY - no matter who it's against (even if it is a JAZZ player). I want CONSISTENCY in the officiating. I want CONSISTENCY in handing out the "fines" and "suspensions". I want CONSISTENCY in how the team I root for plays... Is that too much to ask? :unsure:

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by Conosticator - 2007/05/16 11:44

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ky4799 wrote:

Nobody likes the decision, but think about what everyone would be saying if it were the other way around. What if it were the Spurs getting suspended and not the Suns? That would be justice right? Everyone on this board is either Suns fans or Jazz fans. I hate to say this but a lot of people sound exactly like other MWC teams fans, nobody cares if BYU is not doing so well but then when we have a good football season it's a conspiracy or we get preferential treatment by the league or it's the return missionaries.

If the Spurs were getting suspended most would think it was justified because of their dirty play and the fact that their dirty players have initiated the "altercations".

Personally I think it a a crock of S@&t to have a hard rule about leaving the bench that is enforced only after a purely judgement call (was it an altercation or not?). This allows the league office tremendous latitude to use suspensions to affect the outcome of playoff series in whatever manner they choose. Apparently being well-grounded in basic logic concepts is not a job requirement to become an NBA commissioner.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by bball - 2007/05/16 11:50

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What really bothers me is that Horry commits a felony against Steve Nash and he drives a forearm into Raja Bell's throat, and he gets a two game suspension. Staudemire and Diaw do nothing, assault no one, throw no punches, don't jump into the fight--but they get suspended too. So SA, the offending team, loses one guy, Phoenix who is the victim loses two players. Something is wrong with this picture.

Frankly, I think SA is the better team, and I think the Jazz will do better against Phoenix. But it isn't right that a team who does nothing offensive, gets the worst end of the suspensions.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by bball - 2007/05/16 11:55

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by blue42 - 2007/05/16 12:20

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I hate to be the bringer of facts to the discussion, because I already have negative karma going against me on CB, but the main reason Duncan didn't get suspended was because he was still in the game. He didn't go to the bench until after the cheap shot by Horry. I didn't notice if Bowen was in the middle of the court, but if he was, he does deserve a suspension. He went to the bench and was replaced on the court by Horry. So if he did come out he should be suspended but not Duncan because he was still in the game.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by MajorCougar - 2007/05/16 12:27

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blue42 wrote:

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If you're referring to the incident with Horry and Nash, yes, he was a player on the floor. If you're referring to the other "minor" incident in the 2nd Qtr, he was on the bench (at least that's what a lot of other posters are saying).

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by joshuajohnson - 2007/05/16 12:33

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More negative Karma. Sorry, but the play involving Duncan on the court was different than the play where Nash was fouled.

The other play was earlier in the game and the non-altercation involved other players (I don't know how it isn't an

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altercation if it causes players to be out on the floor from the bench area).

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by blue42 - 2007/05/16 12:38

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MajorCougar wrote:

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Sorry my bad, I didn't see that play I just ASS-U-MEd everyone was talking about the play at the end of the game, but that's okay, keep piling on the negative karma, I can handle it, because my Mom says I am a good person.

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## Re:Stern is a dictator

Posted by ky4799 - 2007/05/16 13:14

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joshuajohnson wrote:

More negative Karma. Sorry, but the play involving Duncan on the court was different than the play where Nash was fouled.

The other play was earlier in the game and the non-altercation involved other players (I don't know how it isn't an altercation if it causes players to be out on the floor from the bench area).

I finally saw that play and there really wasn't an altercation. There was no pushing, no nothing, they really did just run down the court. Duncan was just standing there (yes on the court I know) and Bowen did even less, I only saw him at the end of the incident. They didn't run onto the court or anything they just stood up. Again, I think Horry should have had a one game suspension and nobody else, I have seen a lot worse go unpunished at all.

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## Applauding good decisions by the league

Posted by JaredLloyd - 2007/05/16 13:17

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One thing to keep in mind on the Duncan/Bowen ruling is the propensity to ignore things going on near the coaches box unless the altercation is taking place right there.

If the NBA suspended every player that stepped on the court to celebrate, yell at the officials, pump up their team, etc. every team would have ejections in every game. If coaches got technical fouls every time they stepped out of that box there would be 15 technical fouls shots per game.

The referees and the league lets players be expressive within the confines of their own bench, barring a severe altercation.

But it's one thing to take a step onto the court with an action happening 20 feet away and quite another to go rushing up the sidelines toward something that happened only five feet away, like Stoudamire and Diaw did.

And the truth of the matter is that Horry probably would've been suspended one game if Diaw and Stoudamire hadn't come onto the court. The arm to Raja Bell was purely reactionary to a guy getting in his face, which I think is clear to anyone who watches it with an open mind.

That's why I think the league didn't go after Baron Davis in the Golden State series, because nothing came of it. The

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Jazz just wanted to prove they could beat the Warriors and not sink to that level of play.

I could care less who wins this series, since I think either team will probably knock off the Jazz in six or seven games. It's just my opinion that people need to recognize these suspensions (or lack thereof) for what they are.

Post edited by: JaredLloyd, at: 2007/05/16 13:17

Post edited by: JaredLloyd, at: 2007/05/16 13:19

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## Re:Applauding good decisions by the league

Posted by caveman\_cougar - 2007/05/17 09:36

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This is a topic not everyone can fully agree on. I listened to Stern defend his position then listened to someone else say how he was probably right, but you can't suspend someone from leaving the bench and not suspend someone who was ejected from the game because of clothlines ect.

I think the bench thing is the letter of the law, but they aren't addressing the spirit of the law that when you get ejected from a game for bullying someone, which is much more severe than simply leaving the bench, especially when you leave the bench and no harm was done, that action needs to be seriously considered.

I'm sure these things have been discussed by the higher up guys, but it's a mystery why NONE of these other instances are being issued punishments.

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