

Boston Celtics @ Phoenix Suns 132-102: Tatum-less C's obliterate the Suns



An early 3 point avalanche and a monster 30 point performance from Kristaps Porzingis was enough for the Jayson Tatum-less Boston Celtics to complete a dominant wire to wire victory over the Phoenix Suns at PHX Arena.

The Latvian also grabbed eight rebounds as he helped the Celtics extend their win streak to seven games which ties their season high and they remain undefeated on their current West Coast road trip.

Joe Mazzulla's three point philosophy was practiced perfectly by the C's as they splashed 22 three pointers whilst building a large lead which was as big as 34 points. 10 of those threes came in the first quarter.

Tatum's absence after rolling his ankle against the Sacramento Kings on Monday night was inconsequential for this game as reigning Finals MVP Jaylen Brown stepped by contributing 24 points through three quarters.

Mike Budenholzer's squad were unable to take advantage of Tatum's DNP despite having an offensively sound first quarter where they scored 38 points.

Kevin Durant's 18 point first quarter indicated that he was going to have another hot night after he scored 42 and 38 points respectively in his last two outings against the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Milwaukee Bucks.

KD finished with a game high 30 points however his final 12 points were scored after the Suns found themselves in a 25 point hole late in the second quarter.

The Suns had their four game win streak snapped after this loss and their disappointing display means that they only remain 10th in the Western Conference due to a tie breaker over the Dallas Mavericks who have an identical 35-38 record.

The only hope that the Suns have to make the playoffs is through the play in tournament however their remaining schedule looks bleak as they still have to face the likes of the Oklahoma City Thunder, the Golden State Warriors and a rematch with the Celtics.

The Celtics have all but confirmed the second seed in the Eastern Conference as they have an 8.5 game lead over the third placed New York Knicks with 9 games left to play.

The C's will travel to San Antonio next to play the Spurs on Saturday night and they may officially claim the second seed with a win contingent on a Knicks loss.