

Thunder, Pacers set for Game 7

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — For the 20th time, there will be a Game 7 in the NBA Finals.

Indiana will play at Oklahoma City on Sunday night in the final game of the season, with the winner getting the Larry O’Brien Trophy.

Home teams are 15-4 in Game 7 of the finals, but a road team — Cleveland, over Golden State — won the most recent of those games in 2016.

A look inside some numbers surrounding this matchup:

ODDS ARE, NOBODY’S SCORING 40

There have been only two 40-point scoring performances in Game 7 of the NBA Finals — and both came in losing efforts.

Jerry West scored 42 points in Game 7 of the 1969 series, but the Los Angeles Lakers lost to the Boston Celtics in Bill Russell’s final game. And Elgin Baylor scored 41 points in Game 7 in 1962 — another Lakers-Celtics matchup — but Boston prevailed in that one as well.

Bob Pettit had the third-highest scoring total in a Game 7. He had 39 for the St. Louis Hawks against the Celtics in 1957 ... and Boston won that game as well.

The highest-scoring Game 7s in a winning effort? Those would be by Boston’s Tom Heinsohn in that 1957 game against St. Louis and Miami’s LeBron James in the 2013 series against San Antonio.

Both had 37; Heinsohn’s was a double-overtime game, James got his in regulation.

AND NO TEAM MIGHT BREAK 100, EITHER

Yes, these are high-scoring teams. Oklahoma City was No. 4 in points per game in the regular season (120.5 per game) and In-



Indiana Pacers center Myles Turner (33) drives to the basket against Oklahoma City Thunder forward Chet Holmgren (7) during the first half of Game 6 of the NBA Finals on Thursday night in Indianapolis. (MADDIE MEYER/POOL PHOTO VIA AP)

diana was No. 7 (117.4). The Thunder are second in that category in the playoffs (115.2), just ahead of No. 3 Indiana (115.1).

In Game 7, that might not matter much.

No team has reached 100 points in Game 7 of the NBA Finals since 1988. Or even topped 95 points, for that matter.

The last five Game 7s:

- 2016, Cleveland 93, Golden State 89
- 2013, Miami 95, San Antonio 88
- 2010, Los Angeles Lakers 83, Boston 79
- 2005, San Antonio 81, Detroit 74
- 1994, Houston 90, New York 84

The last finals Game 7 to see someone hit the century mark was when the Lakers beat the Pistons 108-105 in 1988.

EXPECT A CLOSE ONE

The average margin of victory in Game 7 of an NBA Finals: 6.9 points.

Each of the last eight such games have been decided by single digits. Only four have been double-digit wins: Boston over St. Louis by 19 in 1960, Minneapolis over New York by 17 in 1952, Boston over Milwaukee by 15 in 1974 and New York over the Los Angeles Lakers by 14 in 1970.

The closest Game 7 in

the finals was Syracuse beating Fort Wayne 92-91 in 1955. That was one of six finals Game 7s decided by three points or less.

BY SEED

The Thunder are the 22nd No. 1 seed to play in Game 7 of an NBA Finals. Their 21 predecessors on that list are 12-9 in the ultimate game; seven of those games have been ones where both teams entered the playoffs as No. 1 seeds.

The Pacers are the fourth No. 4 seed to make Game 7 of the title round. Their three predecessors went 1-2 (Boston beat the Lakers in 1969, Seattle lost to Washington in 1978 and the Celtics lost to the Lakers in 2010).

GAME 7 EXPERIENCE

It’ll be the fourth Game 7 for Indiana forwards Pascal Siakam and Myles Turner. Siakam’s teams have gone 2-1 in Game 7s, Turner’s have gone 1-2.

Indiana’s Aaron Nesmith is 2-0 in the pair of Game 7s in which he has played, with Indiana winning at New York last year and Boston beating Milwaukee in 2022. Both of those wins were in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Thunder star Shai

Gilgeous-Alexander, the league’s reigning MVP, has averaged 27 points in two previous Game 7s. Pacers star Tyrese Haliburton scored 26 points in his lone Game 7 to this point.

No player on either side has previously been part of a Game 7 in the NBA Finals.

NEW FOR SOME REFS, TOO

The NBA doesn’t announce referee assignments until game day, so it won’t be known until Sunday morning who the three-person crew is for Game 7.

This much is certain: for at least two of the referees, it’ll be the first time on the Game 7 finals stage.

Scott Foster — who would seem a likely pick this year — worked Game 7 of the finals in 2013 alongside Dan Crawford and Monty McCutchen, and Game 7 of the title series in 2010 with Dan Crawford and Joe Crawford.

The most recent Game 7 of the finals was in 2016 and the crew for that game was Dan Crawford, McCutchen and Mike Callahan.

Outside of Foster, no referee in this year’s pool has been on the floor for a Game 7 in the NBA Finals.

LEGALS

(Published in The Morning Sun on June 21st, 2025)

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

June 21, 2025
State of Kansas, Department of Commerce
1000 SW Jackson Street
Suite 150
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 480-8072

These notices satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by Pittsburg State University (PSU).

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about July 8, 2025, the State of Kansas will submit a request to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (PL 93-383) to undertake the following project: The project will include building and equipping the National Institute for Materials Advancement (NIMA) Prove-Out Facility. This will include the construction of a 20,000 square foot facility that will be available to local and regional entrepreneurs and businesses, to assist in moving conceptual products from proof-of-concept to pilot-scale within the research center, currently housed at Pittsburg State University (PSU). NIMA’s Prove-Out Facility will provide the region with the ability to produce materials and products locally and provide regional businesses with a skilled workforce to accomplish small-scale runs and prototyping for larger scale production. It is anticipated this project will help generate 200 new high paying, technology-based jobs along with an estimated \$100 million in capital investments over the next 10 years. The 20,000 square feet building will be constructed east of the existing Tyler Research Center footprint. The Tyler Research Center is located at 1204 Research Road, Pittsburg, KS 66762. In addition to construction of the new building, there will be associated concrete and asphalt access and parking. There will be ground disturbance associated with the project; however, excavation of soil and off-site disposal is not anticipated. PSU owns the property. The project cost is anticipated to be \$13,800,000, including \$4,000,000 of CDBG Congressional Project Funding (Grant B-23-CP-KS-0605).

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The State of Kansas had determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the State of Kansas, Commerce Department, 1000 SW Jackson Street, Suite 150, Topeka, KS 66612 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM or review the documents at this link <https://bit.ly/3HN8ZTO>.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the State of Kansas, Commerce Department, Suite 150, Topeka, KS 66612, ATTN: Timothy Parks. All comments received by July 7, 2025, will be considered by the State of Kansas prior to submission of a request for release of funds. Comment should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The State of Kansas certifies to HUD that Timothy Parks in his capacity as Kansas Commerce CDBG Environmental Specialist consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD’s approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows Pittsburg State University to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the State of Kansas’ certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the State of Kansas; (b) the State of Kansas has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to: Michael Laverty, Field Office Director, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Kansas City Regional Office, 400 State Avenue, Room 200, Kansas City, KS 66101-2406.

Timothy Parks, CDBG Environmental Specialist and Certifying Officer for the State of Kansas

Coastal Carolina, LSU set for CWS Finals

By **ERIC OLSON**
AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — LSU and Coastal Carolina have met only two times previously as they enter the College World Series finals Saturday night. Those games back in 2016 have not been forgotten.

Coastal Carolina swept the Tigers on their home field in super regionals on the way to their first national championship. The Chanticleers’ opponent in the CWS finals that year was Arizona. Jay Johnson, now at LSU, was Arizona’s coach.

Tigers outfielder Jake Brown was 11 years old and living in Sulphur, Louisiana, at the time, and he recalled Friday how the players on that LSU team were superheroes to him.

“A little bit of heart-break,” he said Friday. “That was a great team, a team I think could have made a good run in the championship. Obviously, things didn’t go our way that time. Looking forward to turning it around and making

something good happen for us this time.”

LSU (51-15) will be playing for its eighth national championship and second in three years. Coastal Carolina (56-11), which brings a 26-game win streak into the best-of-three series, is going for its second title in its second all-time CWS appearance.

“That would put Coastal Carolina baseball on a different planet,” Chanticleers coach Kevin Schnall said.

Cameron Flukey (8-1), who pitched four innings of relief against Arizona on June 13, will start for Coastal Carolina. Johnson has not named his starter. Ace Kade Anderson (11-1), who limited Arkansas to three hits and struck out seven in seven innings on June 14, is available.

The Tigers and Chanticleers each went 3-0 in bracket play. LSU had to beat SEC rival Arkansas twice, winning the bracket final 6-5 in walk-off fashion after a wild three-run ninth inning.

LSU’s Brown is 4 for 6 with four RBIs in three



Coastal Carolina’s Caden Bodine celebrates hitting a solo home run during an NCAA super regional game against Auburn on June 6 in Auburn, Ala. However, Coastal Carolina has not hit a home run in its three College World Series games in Omaha, Neb. (AP PHOTO/STEW MILNE, FILE)

CWS games and Jared Jones is 5 for 9 with two homers and six RBIs in the last two games after striking out five times in the opener against Arkansas. Tigers pitchers have walked just four in 27 innings.

“I think if you’re at this point in the NCAA

tournament, you’ve been battle-tested,” Johnson said. “I don’t believe there’s anything we have not seen. ... I feel like we’re well-trained and well-prepared for, in my opinion, probably the best team that we’ve played this year in Coastal.”

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