

## Phoenix Suns play checkers defense in a Kings game of chess, lose 117-103

Written by  
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This game was more about the absence of [Goran Dragic](#) for the [Phoenix Suns](#) (23-50) than the play of rookie [Kendall Marshall](#).

The [Sacramento Kings](#) (27-46) came into U.S. Airways Center and were led by a rather motivated DeMarcus Cousins. Last time the Kings were in town he had a poor overall performance and was called out after the game by [Marcin Gortat](#). With Gortat sitting this one out he was able to see the full Cousins Experience as he dominated the Suns from the opening tip for 34 points and 14 rebounds, most of that came in three quarters of action.

It was not a banner night overall for the Suns, but they did show effort and energy in this game, but playing as short-handed as they were did not play out in their favor.

Interim Head Coach [Lindsey Hunter](#) ran a 10-man rotation, but with Jermaine O'Neal and Dragic logging a DNP--Coaches Decision they didn't stand a chance.

Marshall was more aggressive looking for his shot getting up 11 attempts for a 9 point and 10 assist night. He did not turn the ball over (2) in volume and was able to run the offense. [Luis Scola](#) led the way with 25 points and was complemented by 18 points from [P.J. Tucker](#).

. Against the Kings, it was not enough tonight with the short-handed rotation they didn't have a chance.

With this loss the Suns reached the 50 loss mark on the season, something only accomplished six times in 45 years of basketball.

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