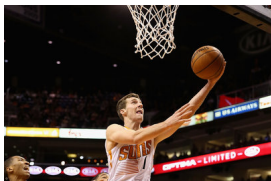


Phoenix Suns Reign On Player of the Week: Goran Dragic

Written by

Saturday, 18 January 2014 13:00 -



It was another sub-par week for the Suns, going 1-2 overall. However, while other players had their ups and downs, there is one player who is consistently getting it done on a nightly basis. Will he ever find someone else to step up and join him in Bledsoe's absence?

The NBA is all about which player and team can rule the court in the most epic fashion and Bright Side of the Sun has teamed up with Crown Royal to rank the best of the best Phoenix Suns players each and every week. Which player ruled the court this week? #ReignOn

The Player of the Week

[Goran Dragic](#)

Weekly Stat Averages:

Points: 24.6 **FG%:** .492 **Assists:** 6.0 **Steals:** 2.0 **Rebounds:** 7.7

No surprise, Goran Dragic had another outstanding week. With a team that has been on the worst overall stretch of the season, just one win in the last six games, it's difficult to hand out any accolades at the moment. But if there's one player who doesn't deserve much angst over the current losing trend, it's the Dragon.

You may have heard people making comments about how Dragic can't do it all alone which

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may seem like an overstatement at times, because on any given night there is at least another couple of players who help carry the load, at least to some extent.

However, the problem is that there is nobody who has proven they can help Dragic carry the load on a consistent basis...at least not since [Eric Bledsoe](#) went out with an injury.

Take this week for instance. [Gerald Green](#) had a huge game against the [Lakers](#) scoring a season high 28 points, but he was a complete no-show against the [Knicks](#), going 2/16 for only four points. And in last night's loss to the [Mavericks](#), Green went 4/13 for 12 points. One good game sandwiched between two bad ones.

Let's also look at [Markieff Morris](#), who had shown a very promising stretch of games earlier in the season. Markieff had a great night against the Mavericks, scoring 23 points on 8/15 shooting and grabbing 12 rebounds. He also had a big night against the Lakers, scoring 24 points on 9/14 shooting and grabbing 7 rebounds. But against the Knicks? 2 points on 1/5 shooting and 2 rebounds. Not good enough.

Compare this with Dragic's week. His "worst" game was against the Lakers where he scored a measly 18 points on 7/15 shooting and also managed to grab 10 rebounds and dish out 7 assists. If we could get those kind of numbers on someone else's "worst" day, the [Suns](#) wouldn't be in this position right now.

Instead, it's the same story. Dragic is awesome, and someone else has a good game, but nobody else has proven they are capable of doing it consistently.

Don't get me wrong, the Suns have plenty of good players and are fun to watch with loads of chemistry, and they have a versatile enough roster that various players can find ways to contribute on a nightly basis. However, without that second consistent scoring threat that they had with Bledsoe, the Suns are struggling to keep their heads above water.

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Goran Dragic has been all we'd hoped he would be this season and is playing at an All-Star level, whether or not he actually makes it. But for the Suns to maintain their position until Bledsoe returns, they need to find another consistent player. Even if they aren't putting up the same kind of numbers as Dragic...The Suns just need someone else they can count on.

At any rate, this just goes to show what an outstanding job The Dragon has been doing for the Suns this season, and how he has elevated his game now that the Suns need him most. But just how well is he doing? Here are some interesting tweets from the Suns' digital reporter, Matt Petersen:

Dragic last 5 games: 21.6 ppg, 7.2 apg, 6.0 rpg, 46.2% three-point shooting

— Matt Petersen (@TheMattPetersen) [January 17, 2014](#)

Goran Dragic has crept into top 25 in NBA in scoring (19.3ppg). Best FG% of any guard in that group (48.2%) [#Suns](#)

— Matt Petersen (@TheMattPetersen) [January 17, 2014](#)

Pretty impressive stuff, huh?

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Made for royalty, Crown Royal offers a fine array of blended whisky products such as Crown Royal Deluxe, Crown Royal Black, Crown Royal Maple, Crown Royal Reserve and Crown Royal XR. Fit for every occasion, the Crown Royal portfolio caters to those who choose to celebrate with a whisky they can incorporate into every memorable experience.

Remember, our readers will also have a chance to receive some Crown Royal swag to help you Reign On, too, on the street, basketball court or just in your living room. More to come soon.



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- [Phoenix Suns fight back despite youth, injury and inexperience](#)
- [Phoenix Suns guard Leandro Barbosa lights up New York Knicks, inspires brings hope](#)

Poll **Who will step up and help Dragic right the ship in Bledsoe's absence?**

- Gerald Green. He's had some bad games, but he's learning how to do other things when his shot isn't falling.
- Markieff Morris - He's had a rough stretch, but has really turned it back on over the past couple of games. He should continue to make consistent contributions
- Channing Frye - He's the other veteran player on the team, and he's capable of doing more than just shooting threes.
- Leandro Barbosa - LB has been injured, but once he's healthy, the Dragon will have a new running mate.
- Nobody - This team will continue to flounder until Eric Bledsoe returns.

159 votes | [Results](#)

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