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Subject: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [mikeel](#) on Thu, 25 Nov 2010 13:58:36 GMT

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How long will Pat Riley wait before firing Eric Spoelstra? Remember the summer? How the Heat would win 70 games? Well, a month into the NBA season, the LeBron "era" has been a washout.

Spoelstra doesn't command the respect to get this "team" to play like one. Plus injuries have been a big factor--Dwayne Wade's wrist, losing a valuable role player like Udonis Haslem possibly for the season is a big setback. And is Chris Bosh overrated? Possibly.

What this shows is that without a bench, and without the role players, even three "superstars" can't always carry a team.

Still the Heat should be better than 8-7 now. And it's time for a real coach. Who's available besides Riley? That's the problem.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Gimbeaux](#) on Thu, 25 Nov 2010 15:54:02 GMT

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I mentioned a couple of weeks ago that the tailors and hairdressers in Miami have to start getting ready. I originally put the O/U on December 3, the day after the trip to Cleveland, but maybe after this speculation and the Phil Jax remarks, Riles waits a little bit to make his move.

He's spent an awful lot of time in the last couple of home games taking notes (writing Spoelstra's "resignation" speech?), and with the way the team is playing and somehow needs a spark, I can't see Spoelstra as the guy needed to get in people's faces. It's sort of like the difference between Brad Childress and Jeff Fisher and how much credibility they have. Spoelstra was one of those Students of the Game, who worked his way up from making sure there was hazelnut for the coffee and made sure the tapes re-wound correctly to working in scouting and then as a bench assistant.

Not somebody who played the game or who has been around the league for a long time. Maybe Wade, James and Bosh prefer a low-profile coach, but when times get rough, somebody in that locker room has to have a presence. I'm not sure Spoelstra has the personality for this team right now.

The Heat lack a dominant big man, and the point guard situation is still unstructured. So to me, it

makes very little sense to run more half-court stuff. The problem with going with more of a freelance-style is...who's going to direct traffic? Both Wade and James need the ball in the open court, but if they can find a way to open things up and play well off each other, I think there is plenty of potential to turn things around and get into the mix of championship contenders. I heard a very good Bosh comparison to Pau Gasol c. 2008 in that he often looks timid in the post, and he's not the biggest guy to bang around with the bulkier post players. Gasol fixed that, and the Heat need to convince Bosh to work on other facets of the game, like rebounding and defending. The rebounding has come around a little, but I want to see him average double digits, the way he was capable of in Toronto.

I still believe this team WILL go on a run at some point. Is Spoelstra the guy to take them there? That, I'm not sure of, and I don't think it's any secret that Riley still has a little bit of an "itch."

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [happyjack](#) on Thu, 25 Nov 2010 16:26:13 GMT

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they don't play as a team at all and you can't win if your top to bottom roster is ordinary which theirs is. Bosh is a nice player, but he's played his entire career in obscurity in Canada on a horrible franchise. I truly had this team in the high 40's for wins, I just didn't see enough talent to go with James and Wade. All of a sudden Udonis Haslem was being counted on to be a major piece when he's just a role player. They need more pieces to the puzzle/roster. Simple as that. I put this on Reilly and the GM not Spoelstra, gave him 2 superstars that play the same position, a big guy who plays like a 3 and no one else of consequence. Is there any NBA coach that can win 70 games with not enough talent! Doesn't exist. It's a player's league, and the players win or lose not the coach.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Marty Otto](#) on Mon, 29 Nov 2010 21:09:58 GMT

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And here's the latest on the drama, from a LeBron "source":

"He's jumping on them," one source said. "If anything, he's been too tough on them. Everybody knows LeBron is playful and likes to joke around, but Spoelstra told him in front of the whole team

that he has to get more serious. The players couldn't believe it. They feel like Spoelstra's not letting them be themselves."

Tick, tick, tick...

[http://sports.yahoo.com/nba/blog/ball\\_dont\\_lie/post/Relation-ship-between-LeBron-and-coach-gets-chill;\\_ylt=AqVJT9DdX4mW7g7nDA0myLa8vLYF?urn=nba-290079](http://sports.yahoo.com/nba/blog/ball_dont_lie/post/Relation-ship-between-LeBron-and-coach-gets-chill;_ylt=AqVJT9DdX4mW7g7nDA0myLa8vLYF?urn=nba-290079)

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [happyjack](#) on Tue, 30 Nov 2010 05:45:36 GMT  
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who can win with this avg team, a not 100% Wade and no big man?? Eddy House playing big minutes? Zilgauskas sucks, this team sucks! not a surprise. Red Auerbach won with a deep team, Jackson wins with superstars and good talent around them, what talent is around James and Wade? Bosh isn't even a top 30 player in my opinion. and Wade is not healthy and playing avg ball. nothing surprising here. Their defense has gotten worse for some reason too.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Mon, 28 Feb 2011 03:49:55 GMT  
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Headscratcher against the Knicks tonight. After the first quarter, it looked like same old defenseless Knicks. But the Heat score just 52 the rest of the way. The "it" isn't there yet after 60 games. The bench is still thin, and decision has to be made. Is it LeBron's team or Dwayne Wade's team? And with the toughest part of the schedule coming up, where's the halfcourt offense?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [ER\\_Sports](#) on Mon, 28 Feb 2011 18:10:18 GMT

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Great test upcoming!!! Schedule looks like Orlando, at San Antonio, Chicago, Portland, Lakers, Grizzlies, Spurs, Thunder, at Atlanta, and Denver. Many games at home, but a lot of these teams have the best size in the NBA as well... The question lingers, are the learning from all these close losses??? Or, just not that good in them...

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2011 04:05:08 GMT  
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Wow--what can I say. Heat had a 24-point lead in the second quarter and still led by 18 at halftime. To go from 63 points in the first half to 33 in the second half takes some doing, even with the Magic stepping up on D. I think Spoelstra is overmatched, not in his inability get the superstars playing together, but in the coaching department also--he can't make adjustments very well or respond to the other team's adjustments. I know the Heat bench is verty thin now due to injuries, but letting a huge lead slip away at home, especially when the Heat were well-rested.

What a come from ahead effort. Why are they still favored to win the NBA title? That's a real headscratcher.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [Marty Otto](#) on Fri, 04 Mar 2011 21:47:51 GMT  
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They've had some issues closing games out this season. So have the Magic. So have the Bulls. Probably just magnified by the circus that has been around that team since the summer.

I don't know that their deep enough to make a legit run at the title right now. But I wouldn't count them out of any one particular series in the playoffs.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [Tim\\_Trushel](#) on Mon, 07 Mar 2011 17:50:08 GMT

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Why would Spoelstra "tweet" or talk that there were guys crying in the locker room after yesterday's loss. This seem like a pretty big breech of accepted protocol that what happens in the locker room stays in the locker room.

Makes no sense why the head coach would want that to go public.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Marty Otto](#) on Tue, 08 Mar 2011 20:46:50 GMT

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He just doesn't "get it":

Spoelstra said Monday that he didn't regret revealing during his postgame news conference on Sunday that "there are a couple guys crying in the locker room right now" because of the disappointment from faltering yet again at the finish and extending the Heat's losing streak to four games.

The embattled Heat coach also claimed his remarks were taken out of context and blamed the media for overanalyzing his comments. Neither Spoelstra nor any of the Heat's players revealed Sunday or after Monday's practice who actually shed tears in the locker room following the 87-86 loss to the Bulls.

Spoelstra even went as far as to backtrack a bit from his original comments and said Monday that he wasn't certain that he saw actual tears when the team gathered immediately after the game.

"This is a classic example of sensationalism, looking for a headline," Spoelstra said after the team's two-hour film session and workout on Monday at AmericanAirlines Arena. "I really think you guys are probably reaching for this. Guys were very emotional about it in the locker room. Heads were down. I saw glossy eyes, but that's about it. I think everything else is probably an exaggeration."

But quote of the day comes from Stan van Gundy:

"I do chuckle a little bit when they complain about the scrutiny they get," Van Gundy, a former

Heat coach, told reporters in Orlando. "My suggestion would be if you don't want the scrutiny, you don't hold a championship celebration before you've even practiced together. It's hard to go out yourself and invite that kind of crowd and celebration and attention, and then when things aren't going well, sort of bemoan the fact that you're getting that attention."

<http://sports.espn.go.com/nba/news/story?id=6191031>

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 03:51:15 GMT  
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It's quite clear a new coach is needed. Who is available that would command respect? That's the problem right now. I think Spoelstra is in way over his head and there's no way out with him.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [Tim\\_Trushel](#) on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 14:08:39 GMT  
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<http://news.mobile.msn.com/en-us/articles.aspx?aid=41960577& amp;afid=1>

Good read passed along from Erin about the dynamics in Miami.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [Ian Cameron](#) on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 16:11:37 GMT  
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Surely the Lakers HAVE to be a consideration as a wager for Thursday night after another confidence crushing Miami loss last night.

They are red hot on this road trip they are on including a win in San Antonio on the weekend and they have all the confidence right now and they head to Miami with a huge chip on their shoulder and seeking MAJOR revenge for that humiliating, embarrassing Christmas Day national TV home

loss to the Heat earlier this season. The Lakers probably all remember that smack down they took at the hands of the Miami Heat. I think they want nothing more than to get some payback on TNT Thursday night.

Hard not to strike with the Lakers tomorrow night if that game is lined anywhere in a PK range.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Tim\\_Trushel](#) on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 17:01:45 GMT

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Chris Bosh, mostly ineffective during the Heat's losing streak, had his own ideas on the team's troubles, and it started with him. Bosh felt he hasn't been used properly, and wasn't comfortable roaming the perimeter and taking mid-range jumpers.

"I need to get it where big guys get it," Bosh said. "Then I feel like I can start helping this team more. I have to be more aggressive, demanding it in my comfort zone."

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Teddy\\_Covers](#) on Wed, 09 Mar 2011 20:56:50 GMT

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There's no point in firing Spoelstra at this stage of the season, it's not going to help them win a championship in June. But if Miami doesn't reach the Finals this year (and, barring key injuries in Boston and Chicago as well as a complete turnaround in South Beach, they won't), I'd rate Spoelstra's chance at returning as head coach at 10% or less. Why buy a Ferrari and then put Chevy tires on the thing?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [Tim\\_Trushel](#) on Fri, 11 Mar 2011 17:00:26 GMT

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Quote yesterday at halftime from Chris Bosh caught my attention.

Reporter asked Bosh if his teammates were getting him the ball as requested or if he was the reason being more aggressive.

He commented that the "coach" lets them do whatever they want on offense.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Fri, 11 Mar 2011 17:20:11 GMT  
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Big win for the Heat, but could it be the Lakers don't match up well against them?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2011 03:12:32 GMT  
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Yes, Spoelstra was totally outcoached by Rick Carlisle. But most of the blame will fall on LeBron James and maybe Dwayne Wade's hip injury. The big question is: Can any coach get LeBron to improve (post-up game, consistent outside shot)?

Would Pat Riley be able to do that?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mjm247](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2011 03:29:24 GMT  
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Lebron needs a coach that holds him accountable and coaches him hard. Popavich style

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [happyjack](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2011 12:10:53 GMT

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mjm247 wrote on Sun, 12 June 2011 20:29Lebron needs a coach that holds him accountable and coaches him hard. Popavich style  
Phil Jackson rumors yet?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mjm247](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2011 16:32:29 GMT  
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That is a taylor made Phil Jackson type team. Superstars already there.He may be motivated enough (ego) to show he can cruise thru the playoffs with this group and deliver the title.happyjack wrote on Mon, 13 June 2011 05:10mjm247 wrote on Sun, 12 June 2011 20:29Lebron needs a coach that holds him accountable and coaches him hard. Popavich style  
Phil Jackson rumors yet?

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [Tim\\_Trushel](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2011 20:19:06 GMT  
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NO WAY Pat Riley ever hires Phil Jackson.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch  
Posted by [mikeel](#) on Sat, 19 May 2012 22:33:45 GMT  
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The firing rumors are back after Thursday night's quittathon. Questions about Dwayne Wade's health (and heart), and he and Spoelstra not getting along. Shane Battier was supposed to be the missing piece but was a dud. Supporting cast seems to have regressed this season.

You'd think the Heat would bounce back tomorrow, but I'm not so sure. They can't cope with the Pacers' height, and with Bosh still out, it's going to be tough.

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Subject: Re: Spoelstra watch

Posted by [mikeel](#) on Sat, 19 May 2012 22:34:32 GMT

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