

## Heat, Thunder to decide 2012 NBA Championship

Written by Yolande Y. Lezine, Sports Editor  
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The Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder captured their divisional crowns and have now set the center stage for what will become the ultimate prize in both team's history.

It took just three years as the Thunder, only three years removed from a 3-29 start that had them on pace for the worst record in the Western Conference, to turn things around and capture the Western Conference Championship, winning 4-2 over the San Antonio Spurs in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

For the Miami Heat, a lot of heat was given as the "Big 3", LeBron James, Chris Bosh, and Dwyane Wade talked about how many championships that they would win in Miami, only to get their last year and have their dream taken away by Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Terry, Shawn Marion, Tyson Chandler and the Dallas Mavericks. However, despite all of that they found a way to capture the Eastern Conference Championship, going seven games against the older "Big 3" in Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, and Ray Allen and the Boston Celtics.

OKC, as it's called is led by a group of young guns in Kevin Durant, Russell Westbrook, Kendrick Perkins, Serge Ibaka, and oldtimer Derek Fisher, who came over from the Los Angeles Lakers. The Thunder weren't worried about the fact that the Spurs had won 20 in a row. They now look to take advantage of having home-court advantage in the finals.

The first two games of the N

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