

17 players were 48-minute men**How about NBA's 'ironmen'?**

With the NBA playoffs currently in progress, playing tips for Strat-O-Matic Basketball are still pertinent. In the article below, Robert McMullin III (Fort Washington, PA) deals with the subject of endurance and how much 'ironman' performers should be rested.

"For those fans who enjoy realism in Strat-O-Matic Basketball, you should know those players who played an entire 48-minute game and were not rested as the S-O-M card suggests. As coaches we must determine reasons why certain players complete an entire performance. Is it endurance, success in that game, or motivation to complete something which a professional has started?

As a coach I have played Dominique Wilkins of Atlanta an entire game. In that game, against Dallas, he was hot and Atlanta defeated the Mavericks as a result of his performance. The score was 109-100, but the amazing feat was Wilkins scoring 59 points. I kept him in the game because he was hot and the Hawks had a good chance at winning, otherwise I would have rested him.

If you run into the same predicament (wanting to play a certain player a whole game, but torn between that and giving the player a rest), this list might be helpful. The list is from the 1985-86 Philadelphia 76ers statistical yearbook.

48-MINUTE PERFORMERS, 1984-85, BY TEAM

Washington - 11 (times)	Chicago - 4	San Antonio - 2
Houston - 8	Detroit - 2	New York - 2
New Jersey - 7	Milwaukee - 2	Seattle - 2
Portland - 6	Denver - 2	Phoenix - 1
LA Clippers - 5	Atlanta - 2	Dallas - 1
Golden State 5		

This list includes 45 players who played at least 48 minutes in games that went overtime. Thus only 17 players played 48 minutes in regulation games.

48-MINUTE PERFORMERS, 1984-85, INDIVIDUALS

5 times - Sampson, Donaldson. 4 - McMullen. 3 - Buck Williams, M. Richardson, Short, Jeff Malone. 2 - Jordan, Ballard, Olayuwon, Vanderweghe, Woolridge. 1 - Bernard King, Birdsong, Gus Williams, Isiah Thomas, Laimbeer, Moncrief, Dunn, Drexler, Chambers, Lloyd, Jim Paxson, Valentine, Nance, Mitchell, Gilmore, Pat Cummings, Ruland, Al Wood, Dominique Wilkins, Floyd, Conner, Terry Cummings, English, Colter, Rivers, Blackman.
