## \&Quantitative Reasoning \& Droblem Solving

## Troubleshooting

A bookie is taking bets on the 2014 NBA Championship: Miami Heat vs. San Antonio Spurs. Dan and Lou decided to pool their funds and go for it.
Dan pointed out that the Miami Heat beat the Spurs last year, coming from behind by 5 points with 31 seconds to go; they overcame a 3-2 deficit! But not only that, they won in game seven.
Lou countered that San Antonio has the home court advantage, that they won more games, have played more difficult teams, and have won by a larger average of points.
Dan said that Miami has the best player in the world, the confidence of beating San Antonio last year and a healthy Dewayne Wade on their side.
The friends agreed that the key factors are: home court advantage, playoff experience, best player, and coach. They even agreed in the ranking of factors: home court, best player, coaching, depth, and confidence.

A San Antonio newspaper predicted one upset on each team's home court (Spurs and Heat), and that as long as there is not a second upset, the smart money is on San Antonio having a $58 \%$ chance of winning the championship. A Miami newspaper predicted that the Miami Heat could run off 4 straight victories (they'd done it before, after all) and that it was very unlikely that San Antonio could put Miami away in anything short of 6 or 7 games.
All things considered, Dan and Lou agreed to bet on the hungry nature of San Antonio's team and that neither of them liked Miami, both having visited in the last several years.

