

Indians take Rangers, 7-1

United Press International
ARLINGTON — Dave Garcia doesn't put much stock in spring training, especially where Rick Waits is concerned.

And Garcia proved right on a chilly evening at Arlington Stadium Tuesday night.

"This is his sixth year with Cleveland," said the Indians' manager, "and Rick has never had a good spring. But that doesn't bother me. A veteran is either going to do good or bad no matter what he does in the spring."

Waits made his first start of the season Tuesday night and despite giving up 10 hits he limited the Texas Rangers to a single run in bringing the Indians their first victory of the season — 7-1.

Cleveland exploded for four runs in the first inning — the outburst starting after two were out. The comfortable Indians decision gave Texas its first loss in a home opener in six years.

"It looked to me like we didn't play very good," said Texas manager Don Zimmer, whose club had three men erased from the base paths and made two errors.

After two were out in the first inning Mike Hargrove worked losing pitcher Jon Matlack (now 0-2) for a walk and Joe Charboneau singled. Toby Harrah then looped a sinking fly ball to shallow right field and it eluded John Crubb who attempted a diving catch.

The ball rolled for a triple, driving in two runs. Harrah then

scored on a double by George Orta, who scored on a single by Bo Diaz. Hargrove scored again in the third inning, being hit by a pitch and later coming in on an error by second baseman Bump Wills.

Cleveland scored twice more in the eighth, Harrah reaching on an error by Matlack, Diaz bringing him home with a double and Alan Bannister driving in Diaz with a single.

The lone Texas run came in the sixth on a double by Mickey Rivers and a single from Buddy Bell.

"I liked the way Harrah hit the ball," said Garcia. "But I've said it a lot of times. If Harrah would hit the ball all over the field he would hit .300 every year. Sometimes he hits a home run and he tries to hit some more and that's not always good for him."

Harrah, plagued by a sore leg, left the game in the eighth but he was expected to be back in the lineup for the second game of the series Wednesday night.

Astros win first game

United Press International
HOUSTON — Terry Puhl hit a first-inning lead-off homer and Alan Ashby drove in two runs Tuesday night to pace a 13-hit attack that carried the Houston Astros to their first triumph of the season, an 8-2 decision over the Atlanta Braves.

Knuckleballer Joe Niekro, a 20-game winner in each of the last two seasons, also knocked in two runs with a single in winning his first game in two starts. He scattered seven hits and struck out four.

Puhl hit Bob Walk's third pitch of the game high over the left-field fence for a 1-0 lead and later in the inning, Jose Cruz ended an 0-for-17 streak with an RBI single. Walk yielded six hits, four walks and four runs in 3 2-3 innings in absorbing the loss.

Ashby doubled in a run in a three-run fifth and singled in the sixth to drive in another run. Both of his hits were off reliever Rick Mahler, who gave up seven hits and four runs in two innings.

The National League West champions, 1-4, were one loss away from tying their worst start in club history.

coaching plan and Staubach spoke of the amenities of living in Dallas, said Stone.

Sampson is "being totally independent" in making his decision, said Elgin. "Nobody is really advising him in any type of capacity."

"If Ralph gets the kind of package that he has to take, Terry's going to say, 'Hey, you've got to take that kind of money and security.' But Terry believes he has to come back for another year to build up his bulk and strength," said Elgin.

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thing to do, the Dallas Mavericks know what it would take to get him to sign."

The Pistons and Mavericks finished the NBA season with the league's worst records, which gives one of them the No. 1 choice in the June 9th college draft. A coin toss April 30 will decide which one chooses first.

However, the filing deadline for hardship status is midnight April 25. If Sampson decides to join the draft list, he is almost assured of being drafted first, but he would not know if Dallas or Detroit would have that honor.

Carter, president of Home Interiors and Gifts, a nationwide home products firm, flew into Charlottesville armed with a specially made videotape featuring Mavs Coach Dick Motta and former Dallas Cowboy quarterback Roger Staubach.

On the tape, Motta told Sampson how he would fit into his

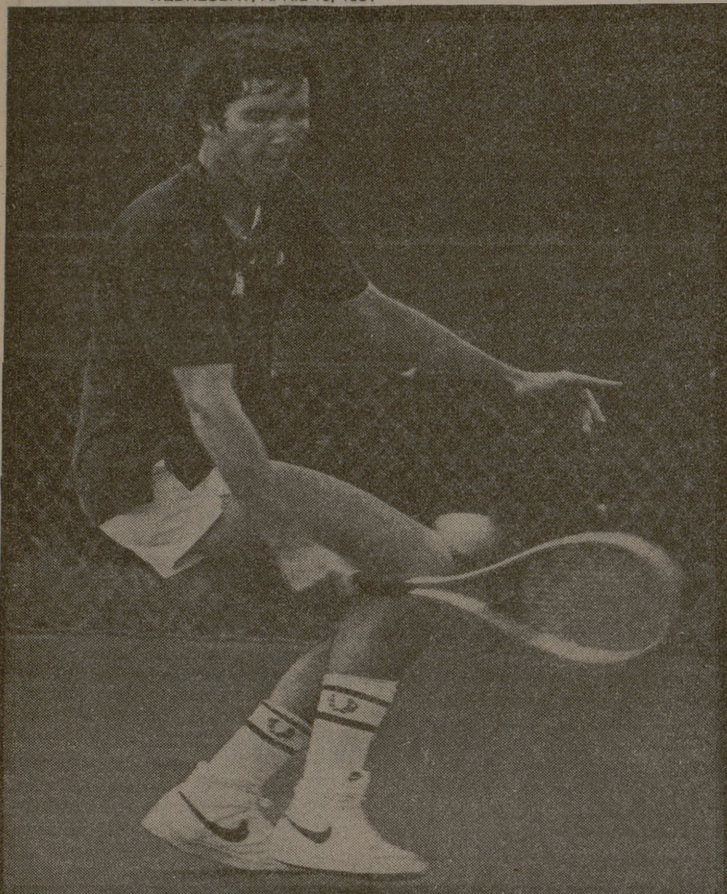
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Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Sultan of swing!

Senior Texas A&M tennis player Trey Schutz intently watches the ball as he returns a volley during Saturday's tennis match with Arkansas. Arkansas defeated the Aggies, 8-1. The 17-9 Aggies wrap up their season this weekend when they host Pan American Friday and Lamar Saturday. Both matches will be held at the Omar Smith Tennis Center. Both matches will start at 1:30 p.m.

Sampson listens to offer from Maverick president

United Press International
CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — The president of the NBA's Dallas Mavericks made a subdued sales pitch to 7-foot-4 sophomore Ralph Sampson Tuesday to get him to leave Virginia for the play-for-pay league.

Donald J. Carter, a member of the Mavericks' executive committee, had lunch with Sampson and Virginia Coach Terry Holland and then met behind closed doors for more than two hours as the first of two NBA teams attempted to sway Sampson, United Press International's college player of the year.

No money offer was made, a Mavericks spokesman in Dallas said. In recent weeks, it has been reported both the Mavericks and the Detroit Pistons were prepared to go as high as \$1 million a year to get Sampson to turn professional.

"His (Carter's) response is that he was not going to mention any money figures at all to Ralph," Mavericks' publicity director Allen Stone said in a telephone interview from Dallas. "It's not at all like what happened last year."

The Boston Celtics attempted to get Sampson to leave after his freshman year and Celtic General Manager Red Auerbach's well-publicized approach to Sampson failed.

"He (Carter) was merely going to say, 'Ralph, you've heard all the figures talked about, you have to understand that they are ball park figures. The money is there, but I'm not going to bribe him out,'" Stone said.

Stone explained that Carter is of the "old school."

"He's frankly going to tell Ralph as a parent and father that he can't come out of school early, but as an owner of an NBA team, he can tell Ralph that, if he thinks it is the

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hind



SWC baseball stats

United Press International
DALLAS — Southwest Conference baseball leaders through games of April 12.

Batting — Robert Culley, Texas, .429; Spike Owen, Texas, .410; Mike Minturn, Houston, .409; Billy Dees, Arkansas, .407; Burk Goldthorn, Texas, .375; Bobby Kohler, Tech, .357; Mark Lavespere, Houston, .357; Cedrick Mack, Baylor, .340; Rusty Laughlin, Tech, .324; Jay Jeffrey, Baylor, .321.

Doubles — Rusty Snyder, Houston, and John Hennell, Arkansas, 7; Gene Segrest, Tech, 6; Billy Dees, Arkansas, Wesley Gregersen, Houston, and Mark Etier, TCU, 5; Mark Simon, Baylor, and John Grimes, Tech, 4; ten with 3.

Triples — Chris Shaddy, Arkansas, Bobby Kohler, Tech, Spike Owen, Texas, and Bryan Burrows, Texas, 2.

Home runs — Jeff Mallett, Baylor, 4; Mark Lavespere, Houston, 3; 13 with 2.

RBI — Billy Dees, Arkansas, 16; John Hennell, Arkansas, 15; Spike Owen, Texas and Chuck Shirley, Houston, 14; Larry Long, Texas, and Kenny Rogers, Arkansas, 11.

Runs — Mark Lavespere, Houston, and Spike Owen, Texas, 15; Billy Dees, Arkansas, 13; Rusty Snyder, Houston, and Burk Goldthorn, Texas, 12; Mark Machalek, Rice, John Hennell, Arkansas, Kenny Rogers, Arkansas, Randy Richards, Texas, and Robert Culley, Texas, 11; Jeff Jacobson, Houston, Trey Brooks, TCU, Larry Long, Texas, and Pat Moore, Tech, 10; nine with 9.

Stolen bases — Joe Paul Bramhall, A&M, 11; Todd Zacher, Arkansas, 9; Andy Dawson, Tech, 7; Terry Lawrence,

A&M, 5; Rusty Snyder, Houston, Chris Russ, Rice, Brad Oliver, Baylor and Dave Edwards, Rice, 4; nine with 3.

Pitching — Tony Arnold, Texas, 4-0; Scott Tabor, Arkansas, 5-1; Doug Drabek, Houston Jimmy Tompkins, Texas, and Mike Withrow, Texas, 2-0; Rick Kelley, Rice, 4-2; Matt Williams, Rice, 3-2; three at 21; two at 2-2.

Earned-run average — Scott Tabor, Arkansas, 1.12; Rick Luecken, A&M, 2.25; Jeff Achilles, Houston, 2.88; Brent Rasner, Baylor, 3.10; Matt Williams, Rice, 3.31; Rick Kelley, Rice, 3.32; Greg Moore, TCU, 3.34; Lee Tunnell, Baylor and David Carroll, Tech, 3.60; Tony Arnold, Texas, 3.71.

Strikeouts — Matt Williams, Rice, 39; Scott Tabor, Arkansas, and Rick Kelley, Rice, 26; Lee

Tunnell, Baylor, 25; Rick Luecken, A&M, and Greg Moore, Tech, 20; Jeff Achilles, Houston, Rob Riley, Houston, 18; Akerfelds, Arkansas, and Carroll, Tech, 16.

Team batting average — Arkansas .295; Texas .255; Tech .284; Houston .283; .247; Baylor .245; A&M .233.



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