

The Battalion Sports

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Worthy chosen No. 1; not many surprise picks

United Press International
NEW YORK — The Los Angeles Lakers picked North Carolina's all-America forward James Worthy first in the annual college draft.

Laker owner Jerry Buss said afterward: "It's going to be an exciting thing to see Worthy at 6-9 work into the Lakers' fast-break."

Worthy, who led his team to the NCAA championship in his final season, will soon realize a dream.

"Kareem Abdul-Jabbar has always been a model of mine," he said. "Now I'll be playing on the same team with him."

The San Diego Clippers wasted little time in drafting Terry Cummings, from DePaul, considered the best power forward in the draft, with the second pick. The final member of an awesome trio, Dominique Wilkins of Georgia, whose flashy style has brought comparison with Julius Erving, went to Utah.

Dallas drafted Bill Garnett of Wyoming — a 6-8½ banger beneath the boards — and Kansas City chose center LaSalle Thompson of Texas — the country's leading rebounder last season — to complete the top five. New York went with one of the premium

big guards of the draft — 6-5 Trent Tucker, Chicago followed by naming 6-3 All-America Quintin Dailey of San Francisco, perhaps the draft's best offensive guard.

Indiana took junior forward Clark Kellogg of Ohio State and Detroit chose 6-8 Wichita State forward Cliff Levingston. Atlanta, picking 10th, selected 6-5 shooting guard Keith Edmonson of Purdue and Portland revised its backcourt with point guard Lafayette Lever of Arizona State.

Cleveland produced the first real surprise by tabbing Boston College's John Bagley, New Jersey followed with all-America guard Eric Floyd of Georgetown, then Golden State named 6-4 Lester Conner of Oregon State. Phoenix, in the No. 15 position, followed with another defensive specialist in 6-6½ David Thirdkill of Bradley.

Houston took 6-5 Terry Teagle of Baylor and Kansas City selected a rugged defender in 6-5 guard Brook Steppe of Georgia Tech. Detroit, selecting again, drafted 6-5 forward Ricky Pierce of Rice.

Denver went for junior guard Rob Williams before Milwaukee, at No. 20, chose 6-5 swingman Paul Pressey of Tulsa. New Jersey, picking once more, went for 6-6 Eddie Phillips of Alabama. Philadelphia

selected Mark McNamara of California, a 6-10 center, and Boston closed the round by taking Darren Tillis, a 6-11 center from Cleveland State.

Of 12 undergraduates who applied for the draft, nine were grabbed in the first round.

In the second round, San Antonio went for guard Oliver Robinson of Alabama-Birmingham and Washington picked guard Bryan Warrick of St. Joseph's. Seattle had to wait for the third round before naming forward John Greig of Oregon.

"Everybody came away with two or three good players," said Marty Blake, the NBA's director of scouting.

The Celtics selected paralyzed star center, Landon Turner, who helped carry Indiana to an NCAA championship in 1981. He was paralyzed as the result of an automobile accident the summer after winning the title.

"It was a good-will gesture. When we made the pick," Boston Coach Bill Fitch said, "Make it with pride." That's what we did."

Turner, selected in the 10th round, was the 225th player chosen.



Rudy's a pro now

photo by C. Michel Chang

Former Aggie center Rudy Woods, who was selected by the Dallas Mavericks in the fourth round of the NBA draft Tuesday, goes up with Michael Young of Houston during the Aggies' final regular-season game in February. The

6-11, 220-pound Woods finished his college career as the Aggies' No. 3 all-time leading rebounder and the No. 6 all-time scorer. Eleven players from the Southwest Conference were chosen during the draft's first 10 rounds.

Good first day for SWC

NBA teams tap 11 conference players in draft

United Press International
DALLAS — University of Texas rebounding powerhouse LaSalle Thompson, the fifth player picked in the NBA draft, says he made the right decision in entering the NBA this year.

"I felt I'd be taken in the top five picks," Thompson said Tuesday after his selection by Kansas City. "But I may not have been in the top five next year had I stayed at Texas. (Ralph) Sampson is a senior next year and both Sam Bowie (Kentucky) and Pat Ewing (Georgetown) might come out. I was the top center taken this year but I probably wouldn't have been next year."

Thompson, a 6-10, 245-pound center from Cincinnati, was Texas' top rebounder for three years and finished his college career with a total of 1,463 points.

Led by Thompson, the Southwest Conference placed

four players in the first round of the draft.

Baylor forward-guard Terry Teagle, holding a conference scoring record with a career total of 2,189 points, went to the Houston Rockets. The 6-5, 195-pounder from Broadus finished in the top 50 NCAA Division I scorers, ranking No. 13 during his senior year.

The Detroit Pistons picked up Rice forward Ricky Pierce, a 6-5, 205-pounder from Garland. Pierce earned national recognition for his performance in the Rainbow Classic at Honolulu in December, where he was named most valuable player after leading Rice to the title. He holds Rice's record for career points with 1,847.

University of Houston guard Rob Williams, who passed up his final year of college eligibility to turn pro, went to the Denver Nuggets. The 6-2, 175-pounder led Houston in scoring and

assists all three seasons, finishing with a career 1,838 points.

In the second round, the New York Knicks picked up Arkansas forward Scott Hastings, a 6-10, 235-pounder from Independence, Kan.

The Houston Rockets drew on SWC schools again in the second round, picking Jeff Taylor, of Hobbs, N.M., who averaged 15.8 points per game and 13.8 points per conference game for Texas Tech in the 1981-82 season. Taylor, a 6-4

guard, was named the SWC defensive player of the year.

In the fourth round, Texas A&M center Rudy Woods went to Dallas and New Jersey grabbed Tony Brown, a forward-guard from Arkansas.

Texas Tech forward Clarence Swannegan went to the San Antonio Spurs in the fifth and Houston guard Lynden Rose was picked by Los Angeles in the sixth round.

In the eighth round, the Dallas Mavericks picked forward Keith Peterson of Arkansas.

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