

Hickey is ready to teach basketball

By TRAVIS TINGLE
Sports Writer

Texas A&M's new women's basketball coach and assistant athletic director, Lynn Ann Hickey, stressed her coaching philosophy isn't really coaching at all — it's teaching. "I really want to consider myself a teacher. We'll be a fundamentally sound team and we'll be physically and mentally prepared for each game," Hickey said in a telephone interview from her home in Manhattan, Kansas.

Why would Hickey rather consider herself a teacher and not a coach?

Probably because she is a teacher. Hickey received a bachelor's degree in Education from Ouachita Baptist University, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Hickey moves into her second head coaching position after spending the last five years at Kansas State University.

If Hickey's accomplishments at Kansas State are any indication of what's in store for Texas A&M, then the women's basketball program may finally turn itself around.

Hickey hasn't begun recruiting for the Aggies yet, but since she brings a 125-39 career record into the confines of G. Rollie White Coliseum — no one's going to rush her.

In 1984, Kansas State advanced to the NCAA regional tournament capturing its third Big Eight conference title in a row. The Wildcats

finished in the nation's Top 10 with a 25-6 season mark.

But 25 wins in the Big Eight isn't at all unusual for Hickey. Kansas State won at least 20 games in every one of her five years as head coach. Hickey says the Big Eight is the fifth best conference in the nation for women's basketball.

"Overall, the Big Eight has a better reputation than the Southwest Conference," Hickey said. "Kansas, Missouri and Colorado are usually in the Top 20."

Texas A&M Associate Athletic Director John David Crow is pleased with the abilities of the Athletic Department's newest employee.

"We are delighted to be able to hire a person with such an outstanding record to head our women's program," Crow said. "Her teams have won the Big 8 championship or Big 8 tournament the past three years and she has demonstrated outstanding leadership abilities."

But by hiring Hickey, the Athletic Department has created another problem. The present assistant athletic director, Kay Donn, is currently in arbitration with the University.

Hickey, however, is not concerned with that situation.

"I don't think it's my problem really," Hickey said. "I don't think I should worry too much about what has gone on in the past. John David Crow was very sincere in letting me know that he wanted me to be coach."



Photo by DEAN SAITO

New Women's Basketball Coach Lynn Hickey

Akeem, Bowie, Jordan to go first in NBA draft

United Press International

NEW YORK — With the two premier centers already claimed, the Chicago Bulls are expected to swallow hard and settle merely for the college Player of the Year in Tuesday's NBA draft.

Akeem Olajuwon, the shot-blocking 7-footer from the University of Houston, will be the No. 1 pick when the Houston Rockets open the draft.

The 10 rounds of selections begin at noon EDT at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum.

Last year, the Rockets also had the top choice and selected 7-foot-4 Ralph Sampson. As a result of a 29-53 record and a winning coin toss with Portland, the Rockets get another crack at No. 1 and the chance to pair two of the best big men in the last decade of college basketball.

The Trail Blazers, who have added high-scoring forward Kiki Vandeweghe in Phase One of their front line rebuilding program, need a quality center to challenge the Lakers in the West. Portland has already announced it will choose 7-1 Sam Bowie of Kentucky, an adept passer and rugged rebounder who missed two seasons because of a fractured shin.

Michael Jordan of North Carolina, the college Player of the Year and the best athlete in the draft, is available with pick No. 3 and the Bulls don't figure to bypass the 6-6 swingman — despite a pressing need for a center. After Olajuwon and Bowie, there is a sharp decline in available talent to patrol the middle.

"Portland has made it clear they will take Bowie," said Chicago General Manager Rod Thorn Monday. "We would have given very serious consideration to him, but Jordan is an outstanding player and barring anything different, he's our pick."

"We obviously believe that center is our principal need, but you can't allow a top player to get by you just in order to fill a need."

As for Chicago Coach Kevin Loughery, who envisions the electrifying Tar Heel providing some voltage at the gate, the choice is simple.

"How can you pass up a Michael Jordan?" he asks.

That leaves Dallas, also hungry for strength in the middle, with a possible choice between Bowie's Wildcat teammate, 6-10 Melvin Turpin, and Sam Perkins of North Carolina.

Philadelphia, which has accumulated three first-round picks (Nos. 5, 10, 22), then picks between whomever Dallas doesn't take and Charles Barkley, Auburn's power forward who blends bulk and ballistic moves.

"This draft is very important for us," says 76ers general manager Pat Williams. "We got these picks six years ago so we have been pointing to this draft for six years. We'd like to go big at No. 5, at 10 go for the best player and as for 22 ... who knows?"

Completing the order of the first round, it's: Washington, San Antonio, the Clippers, Kansas City, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Cleveland, Phoenix, Clippers, Dallas, Utah, New Jersey, Indiana, Portland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Boston.

Dallas, Portland and the Clippers, who are seeking to relocate from San Diego to Los Angeles, have two picks each while Denver, Golden State, New York and Seattle are without first-round selections.

Two names to watch in the early going are a pair of excellent point guards, Leon Wood of Fullerton State and Alvin Robertson of Arkansas.

At power forward are Otis Thorpe of Providence, Anthony Teachey of Wake Forest while the top small forwards available are Michael Young of Houston and Tony Campbell of Ohio State.

"I think we can have a good season if we (Sampson) get together," said Olajuwon. "I can't say I am going to guarantee a playoff berth — maybe I'll be on the bench — but 119158021 don't regret my decision to go hardship. I came to this country looking for an education. I did what the coaches told me to do and this is the right decision now."

"I feel I can play against anybody. There are good players in the NBA, but I feel I can play against them."

Grand slam worth a million for fan

United Press International

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Ann Sommers hasn't been to an Orioles' game in, oh, say 25 years and doesn't know who Gary Roenicke is. But she can't wait to meet the man who won her \$1 million Sunday with a grand slam homer.

Ms. Sommers, 45, won the jackpot in WMAR-TV Equitable Bank's Homerun Derby during the eighth inning of the Baltimore Orioles' con-

test with the New York Yankees when Roenicke hit his fourth career grand slam.

"I can't believe it. I've never won anything," said Ms. Sommers, a secretary in Seabrook, Md. "I've never had this much attention before."

Ms. Sommers said she is an Orioles' fan "only to a degree" and hasn't attended a game "in years and years."

"I'd say it's been 25 years," she said.

Ms. Sommers said she's too busy to keep track of the current Orioles' players, and never heard of Roenicke before her daughter called to tell her the news.

"I'd like to meet him though and thank him," she said.

The instant millionairess said she has no immediate plans for the money, but plans to go to work Mon-

day. "I haven't had time to think about it," she said.

WMAR-TV, the team's flagship station, and Equitable Bank pick names as Orioles' players come to bat during a selected "lucky inning" and award prizes depending on how that player does.

It was the first time a player hit a grand slam during a "lucky inning," a station official said.

Zoeller beats Norman in U.S. Open

United Press International

MAMARONECK, N.Y. — Fuzzy Zoeller, whistling a happy tune in the rain, destroyed Greg Norman with a 68-foot birdie putt on the second hole of their playoff Monday and carried on to capture the U.S. Open Championship by eight shots.

Zoeller, who opened his round with a pair of birdies, breezed to a 3-under-par 67 and easily bested Norman's erratic 75.

It was the largest winning margin in an Open playoff since 1929, when Bobby Jones defeated Al Espinosa by 23 shots in a 36-hole playoff at this same course.

Zoeller's incredible downhill putt from the back of the green, coming in the rain, was due payback for the 40-foot putt made by Norman on the final hole Sunday to force the 18-hole playoff.

The 32-year-old, wise-cracking American ended the suspense early on a damp, dreary day at Winged Foot. He led by four shots after the fourth hole and five at the turn.

The shot on No. 2 became even sweeter for the new champion when Norman double bogeyed the same hole, thereby lifting Zoeller to a three-shot lead.

And just like Sunday, when Zoeller waved a white towel in undisguised admiration at Norman's shot, the blond Australian responded in kind on the 18th green Monday. The two then shook hands.

Unlike Sunday, though, when Zoeller squandered a four-shot advantage, he wasn't nearly as gener-

ous in the playoff.

The 32-year-old, wise-cracking American ended the suspense early on a damp, dreary day at Winged Foot. He led by four shots after the fourth hole and five at the turn.

This was Zoeller's second major championship. His first also came in a playoff when he won the 1979 Masters from Tom Watson and Ed Sneed in sudden death.

Both Zoeller and Norman opened with birdies, but Zoeller then put the pressure squarely on his Australian

rival by jumping to the three-shot advantage on the second hole.

Norman, winner of the Kemper Open two weeks ago for his first triumph on the American Tour to go along with 29 other titles worldwide, bogeyed the third and fourth holes, which Zoeller parred, dropping him four shots back.

Norman never was able to get untracked and he was guilty of three consecutive bogeys starting on the 14th.

Norman had forced the playoff on the final hole Sunday after he sunk a 40-foot putt to save par, one of the most remarkable shots in the long history of the Open.

Curtis Strange took third place, and tied for fourth place were Johnny Miller and Jim Thorpe. Hale Irwin, after holding or sharing the lead for the first three rounds, dropped him to sixth place.

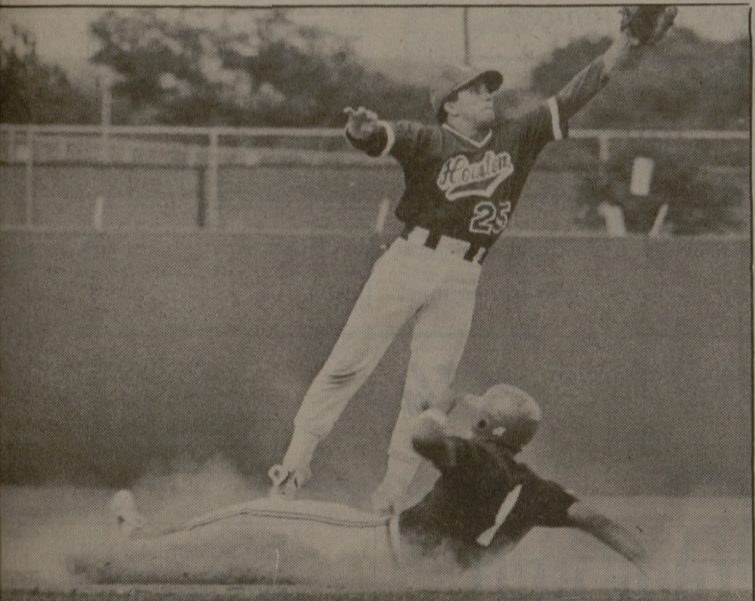


Photo by PETER ROCHA

C.S. splits with Houston

Tim Cartwright slides safely into second during Sunday's doubleheader at Olsen Field. The Cards improved to 9-5.



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