

Blackman, Mavericks nip Nets 126-124

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Rolando Blackman scored a Meadowlands record 42 points, including two free throws in the final minute, to lift the Dallas Mavericks to 126-124 victory Monday over the New Jersey Nets.

Blackman hit 10-of-13 field goals and made 22-of-23 free throws to break the old arena record of 40 points by Bernard King of the New York Knicks on April 20, 1983.

Blackman had 17 points in the third period, when Dallas outscored the Nets 40-27 to wipe out a 66-57 halftime deficit and sweep into a 97-93 lead.

The Nets, who played without injured Otis Birdsong and Darryl Dawkins, outscored Dallas 50-37 from the field. But the Mavericks hit on 51 of 58 free throws, while New Jersey made 23 of 25.

Thirty-seven fouls were called on the Nets who had four players — Richardson, Buck Williams, Jeff Turner, and Mike O'Koren — foul out.



Other Monday NBA scores
(home team in capitals)

CLEVELAND 111
New York 97

INDIANA 124
Chicago 110

SEATTLE 100
Atlanta 87

DETROIT 117
Utah 96

Milwaukee 111
PHILADELPHIA 106

Boston at
PHOENIX (late)

Washington at
L.A. CLIPPERS (late)

Houston at
GOLDEN STATE (late)

Ag netters back home to host Lamar



A&M's No. 1 women's singles player Vanne Akagi concentrates on nailing a forehand during

a match earlier this year. Akagi and the rest of the Ag women netters host Lamar today at 1:30 p.m.

Photo by GREG BAILEY

By KEN SURY
Assistant Sports Editor

The Texas A&M women's tennis team is looking to prove the old adage, "There's no place like home," as it takes on Lamar at the Omar Smith Tennis Center today at 1:30.

The Aggies are hoping to find some consistency after a rollercoaster week of tennis in the South.

The women easily defeated Louisiana State last Thursday, were rained out while leading Tulane Friday, and then dropped a disappointing 6-3 contest to South Alabama Saturday.

Against USA, A&M's singles play fell through as they lost four of the six matches. The doubles teams didn't fare much better with all three tandems lost their first set.

However, A&M's No. 1 duo of Vanne Akagi and Gaye Lynn Gensler battled back for the Ags' only doubles win that day, a 1-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over USA's Jillian Muller and Gillian Adams.

A&M Women's Tennis Coach Bobby Kleinecke said Akagi and Gensler have been playing great doubles tennis the past two weeks. The duo made it to the consolation finals match in the Intercollegiate Tennis Coaches Association (ITCA) Nationals tourney Feb. 9, but lost the match to Harvard's Cathy Vigna and Erika Smith.

Against LSU, the Aggie pair knocked off the Tigers' twin tandem of DeAnn and Dana Watlington, 6-2, 6-4. The Watlingtons won the ITCA doubles regional qualifying tourney last fall.

Kleinecke said the team made its share of mistakes over the weekend, but added, "We're not making the same mistakes twice. We're making new ones. But that's what these matches before conference are for."

Rockets to be Akeem-less for at least 2 weeks

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Akeem Olajuwon, the Houston Rockets' all-star center, will miss at least two weeks of the season, the club said Monday.

The injury to his right knee comes at a time when the Rockets were just beginning to establish themselves as a power in the NBA.

Monday night's game against the Golden State Warriors marked the first time in Olajuwon's pro career and only the second time in his entire career that he had missed a game because of an injury.

Olajuwon, who averages 23.4 points and 11.4 rebounds per game, missed four of the first six games of his college career at the University of

Houston and had played in 237 consecutive games.

Team physician Dr. Charles Baker said Olajuwon received a sprain of the medial collateral ligament Saturday in a game against the Los Angeles Clippers when teammate Robert Reid fell on him under the basket.

The doctor said Olajuwon started receiving therapy on the knee Monday.

Rockets General Manager Ray Patterson moved quickly to sign former Rockets player Hank McDowell to fill Olajuwon's roster position.

McDowell, who played 34 games for the Rockets last season, was expected to be in uniform for Monday

night's game against Golden State.

McDowell, who has been playing basketball in Europe, averaged 1.4 points and had nine rebounds in 34 appearances for the Rockets last season.

Doctors who examined Olajuwon Saturday feared the 6-foot-11 player had torn a ligament, meaning he would have been lost for the season.

Rockets Coach Bill Fitch said he would move 7-4 Ralph Sampson into the center position and start Jim Petersen or Rodney McCray at Sampson's power forward spot.

Olajuwon's injury forced Fitch to change his starting lineup for the first time this season.

"The whole chemistry of the team

changes with Akeem out of there," Fitch said. "You look at his statistics, and they don't really tell the whole story. It's his intimidation factor and the way other players interact with him."

"We'll have to scrap some of our plays designed especially for Akeem and add some other things that suit the remaining personnel."

Rockets point guard John Lucas said Olajuwon's impact had been felt not only on the team but on the game itself.

"We'll have to be a smarter team now," Lucas said. "You've got to take good shots because the big fella won't be there to jam in back in the hoop for you."

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