

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND STUDENT CENTER

Welcome you to  
Worship  
Wednesday 6:00 P.M.  
Friday 6:30 A.M.  
Sunday, 8:00, 9:15, 11:00 A.M.  
and  
Invite You to Classes  
about the Episcopal Church  
for those preparing for confirmation  
or simply interested in the Church  
Classes begin Sunday,  
**FEB. 8th**  
8:00 P.M.  
**ST. THOMAS**  
**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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Ph. 696-1726

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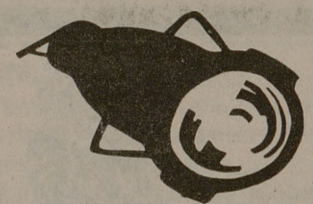
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## Mavericks may soon show they're one of NBA's finest

DALLAS (AP) — The most burning issue in Dallas is not whether the Cowboys of the NFL will abandon their 'Flex' defense in 1987.

Most coffee shop theory questions whether the Mavericks have finally reached elite status in the NBA.

By "elite" we mean the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers and the Houston Rockets, clubs who have proven they belong in the June championship game.

This topic broke into a high fever after the Mavericks, who are off to their best start ever, flogged the Lakers by 15 points in Reunion Arena.

Lakers Coach Pat Riley called the loss "embarrassing."

Considering the public whipping occurred on national television, it may have been the most impressive regular season victory in the Mavericks' history.

The Mavericks were so dominating, they didn't even need Mark Aguirre, who had 35 points in the fourth period.

Never has a Dallas team so dominated the Lakers. The Mavs beat up on them once without Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Magic Johnson in the lineup, so that one doesn't count.

The query before the house is were the Lakers just a tired team (it was their fifth road game in seven days) or could Dallas do the same thing to a rested Jabbar and Johnson?

The answer will come on Monday when Dallas visits the Forum where they should meet an inspired foe.

Dallas won two games before it lost a playoff series to the Lakers last season.

The talk is that Dallas is much improved, although witnesses to a recent five-point home loss to Washington might beg to differ. They



slayer have celebrated their Laker slaughter a bit too long.

The facts are that at the midway point of the season, the Mavericks were leading the Midwest Division and were 11 games over .500.

Guard Derek Harper has been amazing. He's averaged 16 points per game, shoots 52 per cent from the field, ranks seventh in the NBA in assists and fourth in steals. He is just one of 10 players in the NBA with more steals than turnovers. It's no wonder he recently got a 10-year contract.

Seven-foot center James Donaldson has given the Midwest Division leaders respect in the lane. No longer do opponents drive down the middle for uncontested layups.

If anything, you could get

crippled trying to drive down the lane.

"If you get close to him he's bruised up," Rolando Blackman said. "He'll hit anybody but me."

He's averaging a club record 16.5 rebounds per game.

Besides playing great defense, Blackman and Mark Aguirre made the NBA All-Star team.

Aguirre's attitude — which has past rivaled the storm around the Horn of Africa — has been upbeat. His well-publicized "feud" with Coach Dick Motta has been on the back burner.

Blackman recently joined a special club by scoring his 10,000th career point.

Dallas' bench is beginning to show its strength. Guards Detlef Schrempf and Davis delivering some clutch plays.

The Mavericks are tough where they lead the NBA with an average of 16,934 fans per game, were 16-4 at Reunion in the first half of the season.

Now comes the test of whether they can start defeating quality opponents on the road. For example, they've never beaten the Celtics in Boston. The question looms whether they can beat the Lakers in L.A.

## Philadelphia guards Toney, Free headed in opposite directions

Andrew Toney and World B. Free, two of the NBA's best shooters in the past decade, appear to be going in opposite directions as backup guards for the Philadelphia 76ers.

With six guards, including All-Stars Julius Erving and Maurice Cheeks, on the 76ers roster, Coach Matt Guokas has to juggle the playing time of Free and Toney, who have combined for more than 24,000 NBA points.

In his first 11 games after joining the 76ers on Dec. 20, Free played 196 minutes and averaged 6.7 points off the bench. But he has not played at all in the last two games, while Toney returned to the team Sunday after three weeks on the injured list and in Guokas' doghouse.

"When we picked up World, we didn't expect Andrew to be back for a while," Guokas said. "Now we have six guards on the

roster and I can't go into a game expecting to play five or six guards."

Toney was placed on the injured list because of sore feet on Jan. 5, but at the same time he was told by Guokas that he was a negative influence on the team. He was banned from sitting on the bench during games and was told not to come to practice.

But after several meetings including Toney, Guokas, General Manager John Nash and owner Harold Katz, Toney was reinstated.

With the logjam in the backcourt, Guokas installed Toney as a backup for Cheeks at point guard ahead of Steve Colter, Rookie David Wingate and Free are reserves behind Erving.

Toney has played unusually well since his return.

On Sunday, he scored 21 points on 8-for-11 shooting

against Boston, he had 10 points in the last 10 minutes of Tuesday as the 76ers' slim lead against New York. He scored 14 of his 21 points in the fourth period on Wednesday in a victory over Cleveland.

"It's been a trying situation for me and the team," Toney said after the victory in New York. "I'm not the victor back (from the fractures in both feet), but I wanted to get there. All I wanted to do was to play and produce."

Free, who has averaged 22-30 points per game in each of the last eight seasons, said only difference between him and Toney is "he makes more than I do."

Free said that Erving's comment at the end of the game could mean there is a future for Free on the 76ers.

## Warriors' Carroll chosen as All-Star for first time in consistent career

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Joe Barry Carroll became a consistent 20-point scorer early in his NBA career, and he was consistently snubbed at selection time for the All-Star game.

But this year, despite scoring and rebounding averages below his career bests, the 7-foot center will be representing the Golden State Warriors in the gathering of the league's elite players on Feb. 8 at Seattle.

"There's not a great deviation from what my numbers have been in the past. The difference is we're winning," Carroll observed after being picked by the Western Conference head coaches to be on the West squad as a reserve.

The Warriors, though, have not been winning lately. They have lost five straight games, their longest skid this season.

It has been suggested that a change in attitude may have been re-

sponsible for Carroll being selected for the All-Star team.

Because he often took the court with the facial expression of a bored worker on the assembly line, Carroll's desire was questioned by some.

"I wasn't one of them," said Eric "Sleepy" Floyd, the Warriors' guard who also will play in the All-Star game.

Carroll and Floyd are the Warriors' first All-Stars since 1982, when Bernard King was picked.

It has been 10 years since the team had double representation, Rick Barry and Phil Smith, in the All-Star game — and also 10 years since the Warriors made the NBA playoffs.

"When you lose, you tend to be not looked upon as favorably, not even by us. There were a lot of players here who didn't think they were participating in big-time basketball," said Carroll, who made his disenchantment with the Warriors' man-

agement and the team's lack of very clear two years ago by leaving season in Italy rather than signing a Warriors' contract offer.

Carroll returned to the team last season, playing with the only because they matched him on a sheet presented to him by Milwaukee Bucks. He opened his eyes with John Bachman's coach.

First-year Coach George Gervin said, "He's been tremendous. He's been professional with me."

Carroll did not hide his excitement about getting a call to play in the All-Star Game.

"It certainly made me feel good."

Carroll is averaging 20.1 points per game, a shade below his career average, and about seven rebounds per game.