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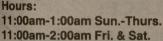
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Thursday, February 5, 1987/The Battalion/Page 11

## Sampson may miss rest of '87 schedule

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets, who started the season among the NBA's elite, faced still another crisis Wednesday with the loss of 7-foot-4 Ralph Sampson for what probably will be the rest of the schedule.

An examination on Wednesday showed Sampson had sustained a large tear of the lateral cartilage in his left knee during Tuesday night's 107-105 loss to Denver. The injury will require surgery, Rockets officials said, but Sampson said a doctor had advised him against the arthroscopic procedure.

"It is in no way a career-threaten-ing situation," team trainer Richard Vandervoort said. "At this point, we don't feel there is any ligament damage

Sampson probably will be out the rest of the season, Rockets spokes-man Jim Foley said. Sampson told KRIV-TV in Hous-

ton that the doctor advised him against arthroscopic surgery and he feels he will be out for the year.

"Right now, he's going on the one opinion he's had," Rockets Coach Bill Fitch said "We are holding off until he talks to the other doctor that is going to be involved. If I had to say it would be my opinion he's

going to take the safe approach." The littany of bad news that has reduced the Rockets to also-ran status has reached the bizzare stage with shoe polish being a prime sus-pect for causing Sampson's injury in the first quarter.

Shoe polish was left on the court by a drill team practicing prior to the

"That's the kind of luck we've been having this season," forward Jim Petersen said. "Every week or so we turn around and we have somewe turn around and we have something else go wrong. "It would be the finishing touch if

we lose Ralph because of some shoe polish.

Sampson appeared to slip on the Coach of the Month.

field said.

Sampson returned for the start of overcome anything that comes our the second quarter but he played less way."

## Blackman scores 23 points as Mays reach 30th victory

DALLAS (AP) — All-Stars Mark Aguirre and Rolando Blackman scored 23 and 18 points respectively as the Dallas Mavericks trounced the Seattle SuperSonics 124-94 Wednes-day, becoming the third NBA team to reach the 30-victory mark this sea-

The Mavericks, trailing only the Los Angeles Lakers in the Western Conference, enter the All-Star break with a 30-16 record, the best at that point in franchise history.

The Lakers and Boston Celtics were the first two teams to reach 30

than one minute and left the floor

for the rest of the game. "I wanted to test it," Sampson said of his brief return. "I thought it had just popped out of joint and would be okay."

But it wasn't. Sampson spent the rest of the game in the training room while Petersen came off the bench to score 19 points in 36 minutes and newly acquired Cedric Maxwell scored 12 points in reserve.

It is the third time this season that Sampson has been sidelined by inju-ries. He missed 11 of Houston's first 13 games with two separate ankle sprains.

Guard Robert Reid missed seven games after undergoing arthros-copic knee surgery and No. 1 draft choice Buck Johnson was lost Dec.

21 with a hyperextended knee. The Rockets also were rocked Jan. 13 when guards Lew Lloyd and Mitchell Wiggins were banned for life by the league after testing positive for drug use.

Now they must try to pick up the pieces of their fragmented season again tonight in the Summit against Golden State.

Sampson's power forward posi-tion will be handled by Petersen and Maxwell.

"I'm ready for the challenge," Maxwell said. "I've been in this league a long time. I know I can beln." help.

Sampson's injury also eliminated him from the starting lineup for Sunday's NBA All-Star Game in Seattle.

by a drill team practicing prior to the game. The scuff marks were removed with turpentine and players said slippery spots remained on the floor at the start of the game. "This basketball team has to come here Thursday night and forget ev-erything that's happened and win against Golden State," Fitch said. "We haven't beaten them this year."

night game.

uary and Fitch was named NBA

floor with six minutes left in the first quarter against the Nuggets. "I slipped a couple of times and that could have happened to Ralph too," Rockets guard Dirk Minnie-too, a nositive cullook and try to keep a positive outlook and try to

to cut the deficit to 20.

Despite their difficulties, the Rockets had an 11-4 record in Jan-



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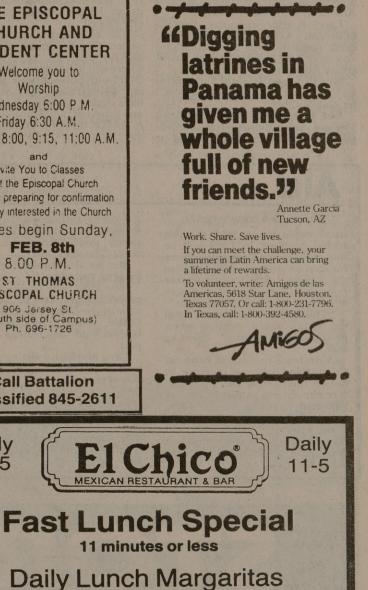
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victories.

The Mavericks charged to a 64-40 halftime advantage after leading by as many as 28 in the second quarter.

with 19 points. Mavericks starting point guard Derek Harper suffered a bruised left shin in the third quarter and didn't return. The injury was not thought to be serious.

quarter to Dallas' 61 percent.

## **Broadway sinks 3-pointers** to lead Horns over Hogs

AUSTIN (AP) — Alex Broad-way hit two key three-point jump-ers midway through the second half to break open a tight game and lead Texas to a 78-73 victory over Arkansas in Southwest Conference basketball action

Wednesday night. Arkansas whittled the Long-horns' 11-point halftime lead down to three points before Broadway connected on a 20-footer that put Texas up 53-47 with 10:35 left in the game. Two minutes later he hit an-other three-pointer to give the

other three-pointer to give the Longhorns a 58-48 lead.

Broadway and Patrick Fairs scored 16 points each for Texas, 11-2 overall and 4-6 in SWC play. Ron Huery was the Razorbacks'

## Flo Hyman Award given

taken.

letic stars celebrated National Women in Sports Day on Capitol Hill Wednesday with an emphasis on the progress women have made in

sports. During a ceremony organized by the Women's Sports Foundation, Navratilova, winner of 53 Grand The event was arranged by Navratilova, winner of 53 Grand The event was arranged by Carol Slam tennis titles, received the first Mann, president of the Women's Flo Hyman Memorial Award.

The award, named for the late member of the 1984 U.S. Olympic Volleyball team, will be presented Mary Lou Retton, former tennis each year to the person who most great Billie Jean King, 1984 Olympic captures Hyman's "dignity, spirit basketball captain Lynette Woodard and commitment to excellence," and race car driver Lyn St. James. according to the foundation. Navratilova, brushing away tears,

told the audience, "This means more about the accomplishments girls and to me than any award I've ever got- women have made since the enactten because of the type of person Flo ment of Title IX in 1972, they also was. I hope I can live up to her repu- said there are many strides left to be tation.

only scorer in double figures with 15. Arkansas dropped to 13-10 and 4-6.

The Razorbacks, trailing 70-58 with 1:57 left to play, closed the gap quickly by hitting five three-point jumpers in the final 1:37. Arkansas stiffened its defense

to get back in the game in the second half, holding Texas scoreless for 5:03, while Huery scored six of the Razorbacks' 10 points. But foul calls deflated the drive.

In the first half, after Arkansas tied the score at 19-19 on Cannon Whitby's three-pointer at the 8:39 mark, Texas scored nine straight unanswered points, capped by Broadway's second two-pointer of the half.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Martina Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., who Navratilova and other female ath- played college basketball at Princeton and pro ball with the New York Knicks, also gave Navratilova the American flag that flew above the Capitol on the morning of the first national day designed to recognize

> Sports Foundation, and attended by several senators and famous women athletes, including Olympic gymnast

While the participants talked

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