







BATTALION FOOTBALL FORECAST	 Hal Hommons Asst. Sports Ed.	 Loyd Brumfield Sports Editor	 Doug Hall Asst. Sports Ed.	 Anthony Wilson Sports Writer	 Tammy Hedgpeth Sports Writer	 d.p. Cartoonist
Texas at Houston	Horns by 8	Horns by 6	Horns by 10	Horns by 7	Horns by 17	Cougars by 3
Baylor at Arkansas	Hogs by 4	Hogs by 16	Hogs by 7	Hogs by 14	Hogs by 5	Hogs by 10
TCU at Texas Tech	Raiders by 1	Raiders by 1	Frogs by 3	Frogs by 10	Frogs by 3	Frogs by 1
Clemson at North Carolina	Tigers by 6	Tigers by 2	Tigers by 7	Tigers by 6	Tigers by 6	Tigers by 2
Oklahoma State at Oklahoma	Sooners by 24	Sooners by 20	Sooners by 17	Sooners by 21	Sooners by 19	Sooners by 21
Boston College at Notre Dame	Irish by 17	Irish by 10	Irish by 9	Irish by 8	Irish by 10	Irish by 12
Washington at Arizona	Huskies by 7	Huskies by 1	Huskies by 1	Wildcats by 1	Huskies by 4	Huskies by 2
Alabama at LSU	Tide by 3	Tigers by 10	Tigers by 6	Tigers by 1	Tigers 2	Tigers by 6
Florida State at Auburn	Seminoles by 7	Tigers by 3	Seminoles by 1	Tigers by 2	Tigers by 5	Seminoles by 2
Georgia at Florida	Gators by 6	Gators by 3	Bulldogs by 3	Gators by 6	Gators by 15	Gators by 3
Houston Oilers at San Francisco	49ers by 4	49ers by 3	49ers by 6	49ers by 3	49ers by 3	49ers by 8
Dallas Cowboys at Detroit	Cowboys by 9	Cowboys by 10	Cowboys by 7	Cowboys by 3	Cowboys by 7	Cowboys by 3
Last Week's Record	5-7-0	6-6-0	5-7-0	5-7-0	6-6-0	5-7-0
Overall Record	74-31-3 (.704)	72-33-3 (.686)	71-34-3 (.682)	71-34-3 (.696)	71-34-3 (.676)	68-37-3 (.648)

AP chosers Dawson for Player of the Year

CHICAGO (AP) — Andre Dawson was the best player in major league baseball this year, in the opinion of sports writers and broadcasters who were asked to decide the honor.

Dawson, who skyrocketed to the top of the batting charts after signing with the Chicago Cubs last spring, was named the Associated Press Player of the Year Thursday.

"I never expected a season like this. It's the kind of year you can only dream about," he said.

"It all boils down to getting off to a good start, getting your momentum, your adrenaline going."

"I believe that the manager or the general manager has to motivate you — that's something I've learned through experience."

"I had a job to do and I approached it that way," he added.

With Dawson tearing up opposing pitchers and former Cy Young award winner Rick Sutcliffe off to a fast start, the Cubs were early con-

tenders for the National League East title.

But the club began June with a swoon, then headed permanently south. By September, Manager Gene Michael resigned in disgust and General Manager Dallas Green, who would resign a month later, was pointing fingers at the team and calling his players "quitters."

The Cubs again finished at the bottom of the NL East with a 76-85 mark. But in the midst of the chaos, Dawson stood out.

He finished the season batting .287 with a major-league high 137 RBI. Only Oakland's Mark McGwire matched his home run total of 49.

This was the first time the AP has awarded Player of the Year honors. Dawson received 80 votes from a nationwide poll of writers and broadcasters prior to postseason play to beat Toronto outfielder George Bell, who received 42 votes after hitting 47 homers and driving in 134 runs.

Mavs look strong again under new coach McLeod

DALLAS (AP) — The defending NBA Midwest Dallas Mavericks open their season with a new coach Friday night against the Utah Jazz at Reunion Arena.

John MacLeod replaced Dick Motta, who resigned in a huff after Dallas failed in the first round of the playoffs against Seattle.

Motta had been the Mavericks' only head coach since they obtained an expansion franchise.

MacLeod, who was fired after nearly 14 seasons with the Phoenix Suns, isn't shooting for a 55-win season like the Mavericks posted last year.

"I just want us to play better when the playoffs roll around," he said. "That's our goal."

MacLeod, 50, was 579-543 with Phoenix and directed the Suns to

nine playoff berths. His 1975-76 team lost to Boston in the NBA finals.

"Dick built a great winning tradition and I hope to carry on that tradition and hopefully get the Mavericks up to the next level," MacLeod said.

Although MacLeod said "it makes no sense to make dramatic changes," he is hoping Dallas can run more a la the Los Angeles Lakers.

"This team averaged 117 points per game but I think we can run a little more," MacLeod said. "I think you'll see us look for the easy basket in transition first."

Mark Aguirre, All-Star guard Rolando Blackman, speedy playmaking guard Derek Harper, forward Sam Perkins, and center James Donaldson give Dallas an impressive starting club.

Robinson to sign contract with Spurs today, reps say

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Former Navy center David Robinson, who has kept mum his NBA plans for six months, will sign with the San Antonio Spurs Friday, team officials said.

Robinson, the Spurs' No. 1 draft choice, still has a two-year commitment in the Navy, but officials said Thursday his addition to the team will help the San Antonio team's future.

Spurs Chairman Angelo Drossos said Robinson's signing is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Friday in the Convention Center Arena. He said he had been talking with Robinson and his agent the past 10 days.

"It's all just falling into place," Drossos said.

Coach Bob Weiss said he spoke with Robinson in September

when the 7-1 prospect and his family received a red-carpet tour of the city. Robinson, the Associated Press College Player of the Year last season, had not committed to the NBA team, but Weiss thought Robinson could be signed.

"Some people could have come here and it didn't matter what you did you couldn't sign them."

The first news of Robinson agreeing to sign with the Spurs came from the *San Antonio Express-News*, which quoted Robinson's best friend and former Navy roommate, Carl Liebert.

"David called me tonight and told me he will be wearing the black and silver of the Spurs," Liebert told the newspaper Wednesday.

Questions remaining for Rockets in opener

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets won't be at full strength Friday night when they open the National Basketball Association season against the San Antonio Spurs in The Summit.

Guard Robert Reid is on the injury list, rehabilitating a damaged knee, and backup forward Jim Petersen is recovering from foot surgery.

Starting forward Rodney McCray signed to a 6-year, \$5 million contract on Wednesday but won't be in playing shape for the 7:30 p.m. tip-off.

The Rockets made a move Thursday to bolster their forward position by obtaining Purvis Short from the Golden State Warriors for reserve center Dave Feit and a first round draft pick.

Short, starting his 10th NBA season, played in only 34 games for the Warriors last season, averaging 18.3 points per game.

Short, 6-7, 220, had a knee injury last season.

McCray went through a similar holdout in 1984, his rookie season, but Coach Bill Fitch says McCray will be much better prepared to step in and play quickly.

Fitch gave McCray a playbook to study during his holdout.

"When Rodney came in late as a rookie, he was a fat kid who didn't even know where the game was being played," Fitch said.

"This time, he's physically sound and has so much more knowledge."

"He'd be better off with a training camp under his belt, but of all our players, he's the one with the best chance of overcoming something like that."

With Ralph Sampson and McCray signed through 1993 and Akeem Olajuwon signed through 1998, the Rockets nucleus is intact but they still are plagued at guard where they have been difficult since three players were dismissed in drug incidents.

Olajuwon was the heart of the Rockets drive to the playoffs last season, averaging 23 points and 11.4 rebounds per game.

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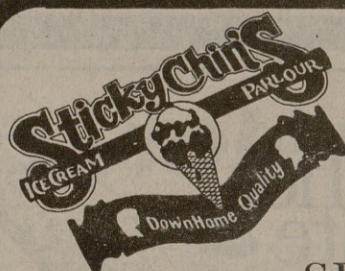
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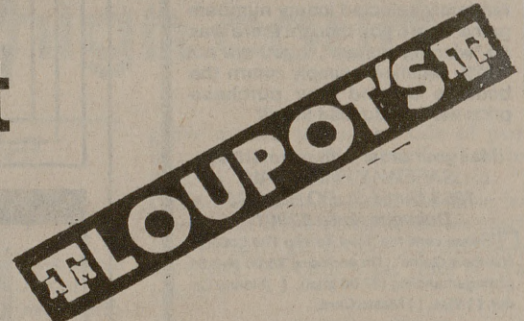


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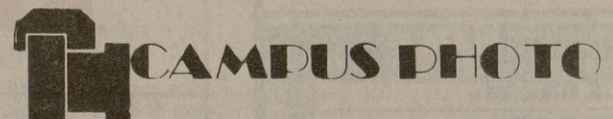
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