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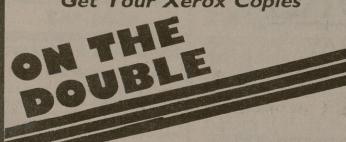
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# **Rockets' Carroll** happy in Houston

HOUSTON (AP) — It's been a points and 13 rebounds against Deason of adjustment for the Houstroit on Dec. 29. season of adjustment for the Houston Rockets' Joe Barry Carroll.

Carroll started the first 14 games of the NBA season with the Golden State Warriors, where he was booed and carried the uncomplimentary nickname of "Joe Barely Cares.

Since coming to the Rockets Dec. 12 with Sleepy Floyd in exchange for Ralph Sampson, Carroll has shown that his stoic demeanor on the court doesn't reflect his desire.

Carroll's latest gem was Tuesday night when he scored 21 points, grabbed 12 rebounds and blocked five shots in Houston's 109-99 vic-

tory over Phoenix Carroll has had to adjust to his new role as a bench player and as a Rocket, and he must face the basket

more in relief of Jim Petersen.

"When I came in (to Houston) I had to accept that I would be facing the basket more and playing against smaller guys," Carroll said. "It takes me out of my offense a little more because I have to shoot from different places.

But Carroll is learning. He scored 16 points and got six

rebounds in Friday's 108-92 victory over Midwest division-leading Dallas. His high for the year was 25

'The past month has been like training camp for me," Carroll said.
"I've had to get in a different kind of condition and coming off the bench has compounded the adjustment. Carroll is slowly uncrating his

jump shot.
"The adjustment is ongoing but we're getting better," he said. "I got

in a few good jumpers from outside and I was passing the ball good." Carroll hit seven straight points late in the fourth quarter after the Suns had pulled within one point of

'He did a great job on the offensive boards and got some good de-fensive rebounds," Houston Coach Bill Fitch said. "He played hard to-night. I'm glad he's on our team."

Carroll has played so well that Fitch has been questioned about not starting Caroll ahead of Petersen, who went one for six against the

"Who starts is a coaching decision," Carroll said. "It's my job to adjust and contribute. There's no controversy between Pete and me.

The Rockets host New Jersey Thursday as Houston tries to gain ground on the Mavericks.

## Former Browns' coach named to lead Packers

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) - Lindy Infante, the offensive coordinator who helped the Cleveland Browns to consecutive appearances in the AFC championship game, took over Wednesday as head coach of the Green Bay Packers.

'I didn't take this job to be here two or three years and be a loser," Infante told a news conference. "We'll work our tails off. We'll be

Infante, 47, signed a five-year contract, the details of which were

not released. Tom Braatz, Packers executive vice president of football operations, said Infante's expertise on offense is

what made him attractive. "Over the last four or five years . . he's been highly regarded as one of the best offensive coordinators in the NFL," Braatz said.

Infante said he would call the plays next season, and did not expect to name an offensive coordina-

Green Bay struggled on offense last season when it finished 5-9-1, but Infante said that didn't worry

"We'll be as multiple an offense as championship game.

the players allow us to be once we get a system installed," he said. "I believe a wide variety of things on of-

fense will get the job done."

Infante was the Packers' second choice to replace Forrest Gregg, who resigned last month after four years to become head coach at Southern Methodist University.

Michigan State Coach George Perles last week turned down a re-ported five-year contract worth \$2.25 million.

Before he joined the Browns in February of 1986, Infante was head coach of the Jacksonville Bulls of the United States Football League in 1984 and 1985. He compiled a record of 15-21.

Infante was named the Cincinnati Bengals' offensive coordinator in 1982 and for two years before that was the team's quarterbacks and re-

The Packers have had only four winning seasons since they won two straight Super Bowl championships in 1967 and 1968. There have been four coaches since Vince Lombardi resigned in 1968, and none have

# Mackovic named coach for Illinois

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — John Mackovic, who previously coached Wake Forest and the Kansas City Chiefs, was named head football coach at the University of Illinois on Wednesday

He said the Illini offense will be patterned on the pro-style drop back passing attack.

His goal, he said, was eventually to make Illinois the national champion. Mackovic was described as man of exceptionally high integrity and honesty by Chancellor Morton Weir, as he introduced the new coach at a news conference.

a single person who would question his record in that regard," said Weir.

1984 for a long list of infractions.

'Try as we did, we could not find

Mackovic, 44, replaces eight-year veteran Coach Mike White, who resigned Jan. 18 after charges of re-cruiting violations by the NCAA and the university. Illinois' football program was placed on probation in "No doubt there have been disappointments and frustrations and that's why I am here," said Mackovic, who has been out of football since his dismissal by the Chiefs a year ago. "We will operate, accordingly, within the rules.

Illini defensive coordinator Howard Tippett had campaigned hard for the job and said he had support from players, staff members and high school coaches around Illinois. Ohio State assistant Jim Colletto and former Northwestern Coach Dennis Green also interviewed, the *Champaign-Urbana* News-Gazette re-

"I'd like this to be the best athletic program in the United States," said Mackovic, who stressed a balance between academics and athletics. "We want to play; we want to win; but, we also want our fellows to graduate."

He said he would stress to his staff that each assistant coach shares responsibility with him for abiding by the rules, and "if there is any question (about a recruiting activity), don't do it.'

#### Ex-WTSU coach files suit to prevent hiring of new one

CANYON (AP) — Fired West Texas State football coach Bill Kelly has filed suit to delay the hiring of a new coach until he can appeal his dismissal to the university, his attorney said Wednesday.

District Judge David Gleason issued a restraining order Tuesday after the lawsuit was filed requesting the university to hold off hiring a new coach for 10 days, attorney Jim Bob Brown said.

Also named in the suit were WTSU President Ed D. Roach and

Athletic Director Bruce Grimes.

Brown said the suit was filed after rumors circulated that WTSU was

Grimes declined comment on the suit Tuesday night because the matter is the subject of pending liticlose to naming a replacement for Kelly, fired Friday.

If a new coach were named, "we would be denied our right to go through the university process on cated football job.

Coach Kelly's firing," Brown said. Such an appeal would be based on the fact that Kelly's three-year con-

tract was terminated with two years remaining and the coach had abided by its terms, Brown said. Kelly had an 18-13-1 record in

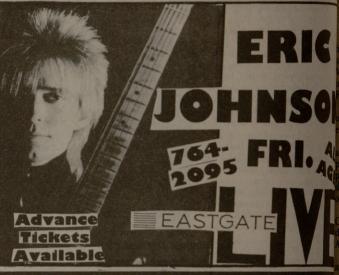
three years with the Buffaloes, and suffered his first losing season in 15 years with a 5-6 record last season. In announcing Kelly's firing, Grimes cited major philosophical differences between Kelly and the

university

gation. Grimes and Roach met Tuesday morning discussing the avenues available concerning West Texas' va-

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