Woman says Aguirre fathered her child

HOUSTON (AP) — A Houston woman who says her child was fa-thered by former Dallas Mavericks star Mark Aguirre, now with the Detroit Pistons, is embroiled in a court battle to get the NBA player to provide financial support for the girl.

"I don't want to sound like I'm trying to take his money, but I do want him to take care of his daugh-Tina Mason said Thursday.

"It's not her fault that she's here," Mason said. "My dad has taken out his retirement and has bought everything. He has to buy her food. When he gets his disability checks in, he sends in half of his check just so she can get diapers and food. My mom has run up all her charges. It hurts."

Lesslee Ann Mason was born Feb. 25, 1988 in Houston. She just turned one year old.

Mason said Thursday Aguirre married another woman two weeks before the birth of the child, al-though he provided for payment of hospital maternity bills.

In court documents signed by Aguirre, the player acknowledges he is the father of the child. Detroit Pistons spokesman Matt

Dobek said he was unaware of any court action against Aguirre.

"We would have no comment on types of situation like that," he said. "The court records would reveal we're pursuing the action within the law and we've done what we need to do," attorney John Pavlas, who is handling Aguirre's case in Houston,

said Thursday. 'Under no circumstances has he refused to pay support. He's done what he has been required to do so far. Mark has not been ordered to pay anything at this point in time."

"From our point of view, we are interested in resolving the matter and reaching results as early as possible," said Peter Kupelian, Águirre's Detroit-based attorney. "We have taken absolutely no steps to impede the litigation and in fact we have taken steps to expedite the matter.

"There has been no obligation imposed by the court to do anything and therefore there have been no violations of court orders or obligations," Kupelian said.

Mason's lawyer, Hal Hudson, said no court hearings are scheduled and he was trying to find out how much Aguirre is worth so a payment amount can be determined.

"We will do some discovery work to try to establish what his earning powers are to establish what would be an adequate child support," he said. "We need to determine the needs of the child and his assets. And if we can't agree, then it'll be determined by a court.

The case is assigned to 312th District Court in Harris County.

"It's been in court and every time we go to court Mark will do some-thing to prolong this case," Mason said.

'Mark would definitely disagree with what she said," Pavlas said.

"I can say unequivocably, I have dealt with a number of matters o these kinds and it is without fail that for a person of her position the process is taking longer than she would like," Kupelian said. Mason said she first filed the peti-

tion for support last May. She and Aguirre have known each other for about seven years and met through her sister, Amber, who is married to former NBA player Kelvin Ransey, a 1980 No. 1 draft choice of the Chicago Bulls who played for the Dallas Mavericks in 1982-83. Aguirre was traded from Dallas to Detroit last month.

"I was totally in love with him at the time," she said. "Between my jobs, I was living in Los Angeles and Mark came in town and I got pregnant. I haven't seen him since I told him I was pregnant in June of 1987. I told him I was pregnant and he was supposed to come and see. He never showed up.

Brown's future in doubt as Spurs' season closes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - San An- our program, I don't see tonio Spurs coach Larry Brown, changes whose team has managed only a 13-42 record, says he wouldn't be surprised if team officials are consid-

ering ousting him at the end of the season. The San Antonio Light reported

The San Antonio Light reported Thursday that, according to an un-named NBA source and Brown, Spurs owner B.J. "Red" McCombs and Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling have spoken about Brown's possible availability at the end of the season.

Sterling refused comment and McCombs, although expressing dis-appointment over Brown's first coaching season, told the newspaper that Brown had a five-year contract with the Spurs. "We'll be doing that on a continu-ing basis, but I don't see anything

dramatic happening there," McCombs said. "As far as changing

But Brown, who coached the Ka sas Jayhawks to the NCAA title la year and was lured to San Anton by a five-year, \$3.5 million contra said his job with the Spurs might on the line.

People (around the league) ha already asked about it and said owners got together about me go to LA," Brown said. "I just laug about it. I don't know those t were done without the coach's (

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Philosophical differences betwee McCombs, his assistant Bob Bassa Brown could lead to the parting the ways, the Light reported.

"I don't want to walk away fn anything when things aren't go good," Brown said. "I want to do job with San Antonio. If they dot want me, I'll have to be fired. I'm leaving.

