Page 10 **The Battalion** Wednesday, August 23, 1989

Battalion Classifieds White could begin career in Greece



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SALONICA, Greece (AP) -PAOK Salonica was guardedly opti-mistic Tuesday that Randy White, the Dallas Mavericks' No. 1 draft pick, would begin his professional basketball career with the Greek

"He'd have to be very naive to turn down PAOK for the Mavericks," said the team's press officer, Plato Thoropoulos. "In effect we have offered Randy 21/2 times what the Mavericks have. That's why we're guardedly optimistic."

The 6-7 power forward, who played college ball at Louisiana Tech, left suddenly for the United States on Monday after spending the weekend in Greece negotiating with the team.

But before he departed Monday afternoon, White told a Salonica

television interviewer that he was 65 percent certain that he would accept the Greek team's offer.

Thoropoulos contacted White's mother in Dallas on Tuesday and he said she upped the percentage. He quoted her as saying her son was "70-80 percent" sure he would play for PAOK, despite "the fact that he'd been talking with the Mavericks since his arrival.

PAOK president Nikos Vezirtzis told White on Monday that White has until Wednesday morning to reply to his team's offer. The player was offered \$1.3 mil-

lion for one year, a condominium with luxury furnishings and several other perks during meetings with the Greek team's management.

We could put all the money up front if he wanted it, and

wouldn't be taxed the way he would be in the NBA," Thoropoulos said in a telephone interview.

"What's more, he would be playing with one of the two best Greek teams and with three international players" he said. "And he would be the most expensive player in any European team.

A report in the daily Ethnos newspaper Tuesday said that White promised Vezirtzis that he would sign a contract on Monday af-ternoon but that after a telephone call to his manager he decided to re-turn to the United States.

Mrs. White told Thoropoulos that Randy had returned home because he is very close to her. "When I told her that PAOK

would like to have her come live in Greece with her son, she expressed.

pleasure," Thoropoulos said. The team has also offered White's

friend and personal trainer \$50,000 a year to join him in Greece. PAOK, considered the secondmost powerful Greek team after Aris, also of Salonica, will represent Greece in this season's European Cup of Cupwinners championship.

The greatest pressure on the team to hire White is coming from Panayiotis Fasoulas (PAOK's star center) who has always wanted someone like him for support. Coach Costas Politis also wants him, because he'll fill in the team's weak spot," Thoropoulos said.

"We will accept White with all the warmth shown to him by the fans last week when he arrived to nego-tiate," he said. "As long as he replies by the deadline."

Bucs down Astros, 4-1

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Bobby Bonilla went 3-for-4, hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs and John Smiley cooled off Houston by pitching a six-hitter as the Pitts-burgh Pirates beat the Astros 4-1

Tuesday night. Smiley, 10-7, won for the first time in five starts with his eighth complete game as Pittsburgh ended Houston's four-game winning streak. The Astros lost to the Pirates winning for just the third time in 10 games

Glenn Davis homered with one

shutout. The homer tied a careerhigh of 31 by Davis, who has connected in all four Houston games at Three Rivers Stadium.

The Pirates, who were 0-3 against Houston at home, got to Astros starter Jim Deshaies, 11-7, for two

Jay Bell walked and scored one out later on a single by Bonilla. Barry Bonds, who also went 3-for-4, followed with a RBI double. Deshaies pitched out of a base-

loaded, none-out jam in the fourth, but got in trouble again in the fifth.

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds





League World Series, the opposing team walked her intentionally after she hit a home run. For her part, Victoria appears most excited about her first trip out

of California.

first trip out of state I'd be in the World Series?" she said. San Pedro plays its first World Se

ern Regional champion Tampa, Fla.

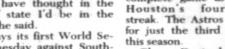
ries game Wednesday against South-

TANK MCNAMARA

"Who would have thought in the

this season.

out in the ninth inning to spoil the



runs in the first.

