

Rockets starting season with ailing Akeem

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets open the regular season Friday night with center Akeem Olajuwon slowed by an off-season blood clot in his leg and three other players on the injured list.

But the positive-thinking Olajuwon says he's ready to get the season started in Los Angeles against the Clippers.

"I'm taking this as a challenge," Olajuwon said. "I don't know how many minutes I'll be able to play in the opening game. But I plan

to make them quality minutes. I'm going to play as hard as I can for as long as I can and build on that from game to game."

Olajuwon hasn't played in a game since May 5 when Seattle eliminated the Rockets from the NBA playoffs.

He took two months off after the season and had just started working out again when a blood clot was discovered in his left calf.

Olajuwon was unable to participate in any contact work until he stopped taking blood thinners on

Saturday. Now he's medically 100 percent, but being physically prepared for a rigorous 82-game schedule is another matter.

Center Tim McCormick underwent arthroscopic knee surgery on Wednesday and joined guards Mike Woodson and Byron Dinkins on the injury list.

"It's not a catastrophe, because we've got Larry Smith and Otis Thorpe, who also can play center," coach Don Chaney said. "These are the kinds of injuries

that happen early in the year. Hopefully, Tim will be back quickly. He had been having an impressive camp."

Chaney tried to see the bright side of having injured players.

"With three players going on the injured list, it enables us to buy some time," Chaney said. "But we've still got decisions to make down the line when these players are ready to come back."

The Rockets' home opener is Tuesday against the Portland Trail Blazers.

Mavs have many questions to fill in 1989

DALLAS (AP) — It has been months since the Dallas Mavericks suffered the humiliation of watching the NBA playoffs on television, but the sting is still fresh, they say.

And they would rather face no one else in their first game of the season than the Los Angeles Lakers. The Lakers, who won five titles in the '80s and finished second last year to Detroit, play the Mavericks at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Reunion Arena.

"It puts you at a high level of basketball right away," said Mav-

ericks guard Rolando Blackman. "It tells you right away where you are as a team."

That is a big question for the Mavericks, who finished ninth in the West Conference last season with a 38-44 record. If the Mavericks hope to challenge for the title, several problems must be resolved.

The most publicized has been involves the status of forward Roy Tarpley. He missed 49 games last season because of drug problems and a relapse this year could result in a ban from the NBA for at

least two years.

Dallas also must hope that cen-

ter James Donaldson's right knee holds up, that forward Sam Perkins can accept a new role as sixth man, and forward Adrian Dantley can find a solid niche in the Mavericks' attack. Dantley came to Dallas last year while the controversial Mark Aguirre shuffled off to Detroit and shared NBA title toasts with the Pistons.

"Believe me, that was no fun, looking at the TV and seeing your team being listed as one of

the lottery teams," Blackman said. "People made fun of us because we didn't make the playoffs. So this year, we're going to carry a chip on our shoulders."

MacLeod was a little less enthusiastic about facing LA than some of his players.

"You have to open against someone, and we're opening against the premier team," he said. "You know full well you'd better be flat-out ready. In that respect, it is good to be playing them. But it only helps if you respond to it."

Lady Aggies host No. 3 Cornhuskers on Saturday

By Alan Lehmann

Of The Battalion Staff

The Lady Aggie volleyball team returns to action 7:30 Saturday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum. A&M hosts third-ranked Nebraska, and will be trying to break a four-match losing streak. The Lady Aggies have lost eight of their last nine matches.

The Lady Aggies, 9-13 on the season, were swept by the Houston Cougars 15-6, 17-15, 15-5 Wednesday night in Hofeinz Pavilion.

Sheri Hermesmeyer had a .256 hitting average and a career-high 15 kills for the Lady Aggies.

Coach Al Givens said his team now has the role of spoiler.

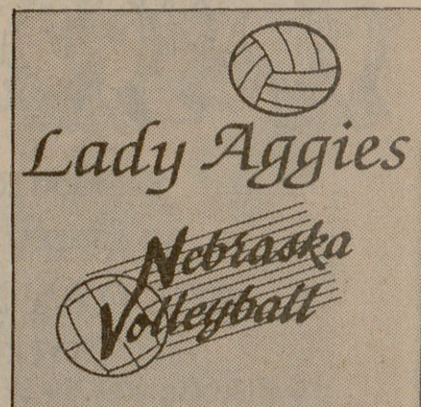
"It's to the point where where we have to see what some of the new kids can do," Givens said. "We served well, but for a while it was the only thing that was working for us."

Nebraska is 18-1 on the season, and won its first 14 games of the year. The Cornhuskers' only loss came at the hands of top-ranked Hawaii.

The Cornhuskers are led by All-American Virginia Stahr. She leads

the nation with a .468 hitting percentage. Setter Val Novak, who was an outside attacker last season, leads the nation in assists.

Givens sees the match as a challenge for his team.



"Playing a team of Nebraska's caliber is a great opportunity for us," Givens said. "I expect us to be very competitive against them, and realistically, I think the odds of us upsetting them are very high."

Anyone bringing a bringing a ticket stub from the A&M-SMU football game will receive free admission to the match.

DON'T MISS THE 2nd ANNUAL TEXAS A&M NEW CAR SHOW

All the latest '90 models, many valuable prizes, and **FREE** popcorn and balloons

WHERE: Around the Academic Building
WHEN: Friday & Saturday, November 3rd & 4th

Hosted by **PI SIGMA EPSILON, THE MARKETING FRATERNITY AT TEXAS A&M**

POINTS PLUS
No. 8900062

Pre-register for your Points Plus card and use it at the following Bryan-College Station Businesses

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>AUTO CARE Automotive Service World (service only) D & R Auto Supply Phil Thweatt Wrecker Service Wolf Creek Car Wash</p> | <p>PRINTING & PHOTOCOPYING STORES On The Double Tops Printing</p> |
| <p>BAKERIES Brazos Blue Ribbon Bakery Daylight Donuts-C.S.</p> | <p>RECORD STORES Down To Earth Records</p> |
| <p>BOOKSTORES Loupof's-all locations Texas Aggie Bookstores-all locations University Bookstores-all locations</p> | <p>RESTAURANTS Arby's Archie's Hamburger Place Beef 'N' Brew Beetle's BBQ-Bryan & C.S. Cafe Ecceel The Country Kitchen The Cow Hop CowHop Junction Smith Dairy Queens 312 Villa Maria 3507 E. 29th 2323 S. Texas-C.S. The Deluxe Burger Bar Dirty Juan's DoubleDave Pizzaworks-all locations Duddley's Draw Farmer's Market-C.S. Fatburger-C.S. Flying Tomato Pizza in a Pan Fort Shiloh Grille Gizmo's Cafe and Bar The Grapevine K-Bob's Restaurant Ken Martin's Steak House The Kettle-all locations La Taqueria Little Caesar's-all locations McDonald's Restaurants 801 University 2420 Texas Ave. South Post Oak Mall Villa Maria Rd. Pepe's Mexican Foods-both locations Pizza Hut 501 University 102 University Drive East Delivery Service Pap's Barbeque Rita's Eaterie and Cantina Texas Burger 3C Barbecue Wendy's Hamburgers-both locations WingJoint</p> |
| <p>CLOTHING The Apparel & Shoe Store Hulabaloo T-Shirt Shop</p> | <p>COMPUTER STORES Computer Access</p> |
| <p>CONVENIENCE STORES Cargo Bay Reveille's H&M Texaco Food Marts 1405 Texas Ave. S.-C.S. 400 Jersey</p> | <p>GROCERY STORES Appletree-Culpepper Plaza Kroger's (Bryan & C.S.) Mike's Grocery</p> |
| <p>DRY CLEANERS Aggie Cleaners</p> | <p>HAIRSTYLING SALONS Checker's Hair & Tanning Salon The Other Eclips New Perspectives Reflections Hair Design Tangles Beauty Salon</p> |
| <p>ENTERTAINMENT Brazos Valley Putt-Putt</p> | <p>LIQUOR STORES J.J.'s Package Store-C.S. For The Good Times-C.S.</p> |
| <p>NIGHTCLUBS Carney's Pub Texas Hall of Fame</p> | <p>SPECIALTY STORES Aggieland Schwin Aggie Unlimited-Post Oak Mall Curiosity Shop-Post Oak Mall Fantasy Lingerie Sarge's Army and Navy Wenonah's Pantry</p> |
| <p>OFFICE SUPPLIES Engineering & Office Supply TOPS-Teacher's Office & Products</p> | <p>VIDEO STORES M&M Video of C.S. Kroger's (Bryan & C.S.) Appletree (Culpepper Plaza)</p> |
| <p>PET STORES Pet Paradise</p> | <p>WORD PROCESSING Just Your Type</p> |
| <p>PHARMACIES Kroger's (Bryan & C.S.)</p> | <p>PHOTO PROCESSING Quick As A Flash-C.S.</p> |

4341 Wellborn Rd. 846-9085

The MicroComputerCenter/Macintosh

Truckload Sale

Pick-up your system and a FREE copy of MacNOTIS right off the truck, Saturday, November 4th*

EXTENDED to November 4th

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$1350 20MB Hard Drive Apple Mac Plus | \$4920 Apple Mac Portable 40 | \$450 Apple ImageWriter II | | | |
| \$2099 Apple Mac SE 20 | \$2250 Apple Mac SE 40 | \$3199 Apple Mac SE/30 40 | \$4280 Apple Mac SE/30 80 | | |
| \$83 MS WORD 4.0 | \$699 Apple RGB | \$1599 Apple 2 Page | \$825 Apple Portrait | \$299 Apple Mono | \$3399 Apple Laser NT |
| \$3520 Apple Macintosh IIfx 40 | \$3899 Apple Macintosh IIfx 40 | \$4699 Apple Macintosh IIfx 40 | \$4599 Apple Macintosh IIfx 80 | \$4980 Apple Macintosh IIfx 80 | \$5820 Apple Macintosh IIfx 80 |

Prices on all systems include a standard keyboard

MICROCOMPUTERCENTER
Computer Sales and Supplies
Located at the Memorial Student Center
Open Monday - Friday 7:45 - 6:00 Saturday 9:00 - 5:00

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE TAX
*Delivery may vary depending upon availability of some systems

PICK UP YOUR 1989-90 STUDENT DIRECTORY
230 Reed McDonald if pre-paid or **buy one for \$2.50 at MSC Bookstore**