

Rockets blow past Blazers in 109-86 win

HOUSTON (AP) — Mitchell Wiggins scored eight points during a third-quarter spree Tuesday night as the Houston Rockets coasted to a 109-86 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Portland led 52-50 at halftime. but Wiggins' 18-footer started Houston on a 28-10 third-quarter run.

It was the Trail Blazers' second-lowest scoring quarter in franchise history.

Buck Johnson led Houston with 18 points, followed by Wig-gins and Otis Thorpe with 14 each. Akeem Olajuwon had 13 points and 20 rebounds as seven Houston players scored in double figures.

Clyde Drexler led Portland with 20 points, while Jerome Ker-sey had 13.

Portland was 4-of-23 from the field in the third quarter, while the Rockets were 11-of-22.

The Rockets scored the first points of the fourth quarter, and the Trail Blazers never pulled closer than 18 points.

"Sometimes you have a quarter where you just run flat," said Houston coach Don Chaney. They had a quarter when they couldn't buy a basket.

"And when you're missing shots like they were, you're susceptible to the transition game. We got a lot of baskets off the fast break.

Portland's Buck Williams was critical of his team's shot selec-

tion. "In the third quarter, we were rushing our shots and forcing our shots. We weren't running our of-fefise," Williams said. "To make matters worse, they did a great job of rebounding. Akeem con-tested a lot of chots" tested a lot of shots.

Portland coach Rick Adelman credited the Houston defense with the Blazers' third-quarter demise

Houston's Lewis Lloyd suf-fered a sprained left ankle in the first quarter and did not return. His status was not immediately known

9 **Rowe, Hazard Players of Wee**

LUBBOCK (AP) — To Texas Tech linebacker Charles Rowe, football is about intensity.

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"I just believe we just don't know how to lose," he said Tuesday, enthusiasm still in his voice three days after the Red Raiders upset Texas in Austin to raise their record to 6-2.

Before the season began, lots of media prognosticators would have predicted Tech to be holding a losing record by now, Rowe said, adding: "We don't go by what reporters have to say. We just go with what's in our heart and we maintain that in-tensity level."

Rowe kept his intensity level up against Texas, recording 15 tackles, 12 of them solo. He had a sack, two quarterback pressures and broke up a pass. For his performance, he was named Southwest Conference defensive player of the week.

The conference's offensive player of the week is Manny Hazard of Houston, who caught 19 passes for 194 yards and three touchdowns as the Cougars defeated Texas Christian, 55-10.

against Texas. Stephon erspoon recorded 11 tackles, ing one for a five-yard k forced Texas to punt from yard line in the third Sammy Walker had two tions and nine tackles. The defense frustrate quarterback Peter Garde

Tech's overall defensive

threw four interceptions. pleted 17 of 31 passes for 2 "All during the (preced we worked on intensity," Re

Rowe, a 6-2, 220-pound junior from Killeen, said he couldn't be-lieve anyone would single him out of our intensity during the gar

Orioles' Olson AL's outstanding playes

NEW YORK (AP) — Gregg Olson, the relief pitcher who led Baltimore to the one of the greatest turnarounds in baseball history, was voted American League Rookie of the Year on Tuesday.

Olson got 26 first-place votes and two seconds from a 28-member panel of the Baseball Writers Association of America for 136 points. Kansas City Royals pitcher Tom Gordon got one first, 19 seconds and five thirds for 67 points. Seattle Mariners outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. got one first, two seconds and 10 third for 21 points.

Baltimore third baseman Craig Worthington was fourth with 16 points, followed by California Angels pitcher Jim Abbott with 10 points and Texas Rangers pitcher Kevin Brown with two points.

"Gordon had a great year and you have to wonder what would have happened if Griffey hadn't gotten hurt," Olson said from Louisville, Ky. "The same with Junior Felix. You can't expect something like that with all the guys around the league who had the years that they did. I didn't want to get my hopes up."

Olson, the sixth Baltimore player named Rookie of the Year, set an AL rookie record with 27 saves, break-ing the mark of 23 by Doug Corbett in 1980. Olson's

save total was eight more than the rest of ALm combined this year. He is the first relief pitcher the AL honor.

"I didn't know if I was going to make the team coming out of spring training," Olson said. Todd Worrell, who saved 36 games in 1986.

only rookie to get more saves than Olson Forster, who saved 29 games in 1972 at age 20. only pitcher to get more saves at a younger aget son, who turned 23 on Oct. 11.

Olson, relying on one of the sharpest break balls in the majors, did not allow a run after Ju those 21 appearances, the right-hander gave u and struck out 23 in 26 2-3 innings, getting 11st For all his success, though, Olson may remem season more for one wild pitch he threw in

game The Orioles went into Toronto for the final week

trailing the Blue Jays by one game in the ALEs the opener, Baltimore led 1-0 in the eighth innin seemed in position to tie for the division lead whe son's curve bounced away and allowed the tying mscore with two outs.

Basketball

(Continued from page 7)

game over the last 11 games of last season.

"We've got enough athletes now to continue that style of play," Met-calf said. "We were going to make the transition (to the new offense) this year anyway, but after we played so poorly against TCU last year, we decided, 'Why wait?'"

Metcalf might have to wait a little longer before his Aggies win the SWC championship. A&M will have to beat conference favorites Arkansas and Texas to win the crown.

Last year, Arkansas took the championship with a 25-7 record. Texas, with first-year Coach Tom Penders, finished 25-9. A&M was in fifth with a 16-14 record.

The Aggies started their presea-son Tuesday night, playing Fort Hood in Fort Hood in an exhibition game.

The Lady Aggies traveled to Fort Hood also, and posted its first win in preseason play Tuesday night, de-feating the Fort Hood Tankerettes 79-73 in Fort Hood.

A&M Coach Lynn Hickey was pleased at the team's first showing.

'We were a little shaky at times, but I was pleased with our overall performance," Hickey said. "Our ounger players made a big impression

The Lady Aggies received a big performance from junior Yvonne Hill, a transfer from Blinn College.

Once close to deat Pokes find Doomsda Redskins, then changed his min

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys may have fumbled and stumbled their way through an 0-8 first half, but they're perfect on the second go-round and their defense hasn't given up a touch-

down in nine quarters. The Cowboys didn't have a penalty or a turnover in their 13upset of the Washington Redskins last Sunday, six weeks after a sloppy 30-7 loss to the Redskins at home.

sion only on their performant "I like playing a team that we've seen before," coach Jimmy Johnson said Tuesday. "It really in practice this week. "We'll approach that no diffe

Johnson said he'll base his de

saying Aikman's finger was

sore and another week of m would be beneficial.

jury isn't a factor anymore.

the nod because he was

starter when he got hurt. Others say Walsh ought bi

rewarded for the victory.

But Johnson said Aikman's

Some say Aikman should a

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hind



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Still, if the Aggies can start the season off the way they finished it last year, Metcalf may find himself in the position to win his seventh SWC championship

Hill led the Lady Aggies in scoring with 19 points. She was 5-of-9 from the field and 8-of-8 from the freethrow line.

Hill also had one three-point shot and recorded three blocked shots.

Rasmussen

(Continued from page 7) together," Johnson said. Right.

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I don't think the Cowboys' defensive secondary could cover SMU's receivers, no less the best of the NFI

Redskins quarterback Doug Williams was just having an off night. After all, it was his first start this year after coming off back surgery. If Williams had been in his Superbowl form, the score easily could have been a repeat of the two teams' first meeting this season.

In that game, Washington embar-rassed Dallas 30-7. One of the NFL's top-rated of-

fenses, the Redskins were out of form Sunday night and the Cowboys just happened to be lucky enough to catch them unprepared.

So, the Cowboys went 0-8 through the first half of the season and now they are 1-0 at the beginning of the second half.

Should Cowboy diehards take heart?

Don't hold your breath for another Dallas win. The Cowboys' second half schedule is one of the toughest in the NFL. If they are to win another game, maybe they'll be able to catch another team that, like Washington, is slightly off in their performance level.

If they accomplished anything this season, the Cowboys did win one game. And what a big game they won. The Redskin-Cowboy rivalry may not be as intense as when both teams were fighting for a playoff berth, but it will always be a factor.

If the Cowboys don't win another game this year, that's all right. They humiliated the Redskins on national television and that's an accomplish-ment Cowboy fans everywhere can be proud of.

But, it's just as easy to be humbled when a frustrated Washington fan points out that the Cowboys still share the worst record in the NFL with Detroit.

ohnson said Tuesday. "It really helps ... you know their style and system

He'll get another chance to enjoy such a meeting when the Cow-boys visit the Phoenix Cardinals Sunday.

Dallas lost 19-10 to the Cardinals at Texas Stadium Oct. 29.

But first things first.

Johnson must decide which of prized rookie quarterbacks will start against the Cards: top draft pick Troy Aikman, the Cowboys' opening day starter who has been out for five weeks with a broken index finger on his while broken makes tinger on his non-passing hand, or Steve Walsh, who helped put an NFL game ball on Johnson's mantle this week and an NCAA championship ring on his finger in 1987 in 1987.

"We've got to go with the quar-terback that will give us the best chance to win," said Johnson, who plans to name a starter be-fore Friday's practice.

Johnson said that Sunday's quarterback will be the starter for the rest of the season.

"It's a long-range decision as far as I'm concerned

Johnson originally decided to start Aikman against the

ent than what we would with other position," Johnson s "We'll go with the best player gives us the best chance of wi

ning. "It's obviously a close call!" cause it was a close call when originally made that decision."

Walsh was only 10 of 30 pa ing for 142 yards against Redskins.

Johnson, however, praised "intangibles that fans don't rea see," such things as "his caden his ability to draw the defense sides, dealing with the pass rul these sorts of things."

The Cardinals, 4-5, will be ter their first season sweep of

Cowboys since 1970. But Johnson isn't counting it.

"I like the idea of playing team we played just a couple weeks ago," he said.

The Cowboys' defense k both the Cardinals and Redskins out of the endzoned ing their nine-quarter no-tout down streak, the team's long since 1980.

Johnson said the effort again Phoenix gives his players com dence.

