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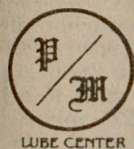
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**McLeod enjoying few  
good times with Mavs**

DALLAS (AP) — Could they pay you enough to coach the Dallas Mavericks?

John MacLeod must at times wish he were still back at Oklahoma coaching the Sooners, as he did for six years.

The indefinite suspension of Roy Tarpley in the past week serves as another painful reminder that there is only so much a basketball coach can control. Chemical dependency isn't one of them.

The Tarpley grenade finally hit Dallas, just as those who had seen him out sampling the city's nightlife had predicted it eventually would. His arrest Wednesday night on charges of driving while intoxicated and showing a police officer was the final straw for the ASAP Family and Treatment Center in Van Nuys, Calif.

On Thursday, they suspended him indefinitely without pay (some \$15,000 a game). If blood tests indicate cocaine, he'll be suspended for life from the NBA.

You've never seen a madder coach than MacLeod the day the Tarpley time bomb went off. He was shaking so hard he dropped a folder while he tried to talk to reporters.

"Darn right I'm upset," said MacLeod, the closest he ever comes to a four-letter word. "Heck no, I don't like it. It's just so discouraging."

MacLeod ought to be used to it by now, coaching this team. Recall, Tarpley was suspended last year and missed most of the season. There also was James Donaldson's knee injury that doomed the Mavs to missing the playoffs by a game.

It was also the year of the big Mark Aguirre snit. He finally was traded away to the Detroit Pistons,

who promptly won a world title with him coming off the bench.

Dallas management did no hand springs extending MacLeod's contract. In fact, after he turned down the New York Knicks job, they thanked him by intimating that he had better win big this season.

The Mavs' stumbling start this year had the rumor mill churning that he wouldn't make it until Christmas before the ax fell.

The Tarpley cataclysm at last insured MacLeod's job for the rest of the year. How could you fire somebody who has been through what he's been through?

It's ironic, anyway, how fast MacLeod's star fell in Dallas. Two years ago the Mavs stretched the eventual champion Los Angeles Lakers to a seventh game of the NBA Western Conference title series.

Then he barely made it through last season without owner Donald Carter writing his termination check.

MacLeod said he believes Tarpley's departure may pull the team closer together. Without an outside influence, he thinks the team may concentrate harder and quit a selfish, ball-hogging brand of basketball that had been evident in some games.

Of course, Tarpley's incredible talents will be missed. He was leading the NBA in rebounding when he was suspended. It will be interesting to see who picks up the rebounding pace for the club.

MacLeod might even turn out to be coach of the year if he could get the Mavs into the playoffs through the first and second rounds.

Darn if that wouldn't make a good story.

**Manley's suspension  
no surprise to Skins**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington Redskins knew too well that the child-like frailties of Dexter Manley made him susceptible to dependency on mood-altering drugs.

The Redskins were hoping that Manley could overcome his addiction to drugs, but the revelation that he had tested positive for cocaine hardly came as a surprise.

Instead, Manley was cited for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy for a third time, earning an indefinite suspension from the league. It is the opinion of former Redskins general manager Bobby Beathard that it was only a matter of time before Manley — a human time-bomb — exploded.

"I'm not surprised and I don't think the people at Redskin Park were surprised," Beathard said Sunday on NBC's NFL Live. "I think it wasn't 'if' this happened to Dexter, it was just 'when' it was going to happen to Dexter."

Beathard, who resigned his job with the Redskins earlier this year, said team officials were getting fed up with Manley's off-the-field antics. And, although Manley had a team-high nine sacks this season, Beathard said the Washington hierarchy had somewhat soured on his play of late.

"For the last couple of seasons, they haven't been happy with Dexter, from either a player's standpoint or a personal standpoint," Beathard said. "His erratic behavior has even led a lot of people at Redskin Park to say 'How can we get rid of Dexter, we've got to trade him, get somebody to take his place.'"

"His play has been declining. After 10 games this year, the guy has 12 tackles," Beathard added. "From a football standpoint, I think the Redskins are better off without Dexter Manley."

Manley thrived on the attention he received as a football player and a source said he has still not accepted his suspension, saying the test was erroneous. The source said Manley, despite evidence to the contrary, denies he used drugs this season.

Since joining the Redskins in 1981, his mouth has drawn him as many headlines as his sacks. But the biggest headlines came in 1987, when he entered a drug-rehabilitation clinic; in 1988, when he received a 30-day suspension for cocaine-use; and this weekend, when he was banished from the league.

Months ago, Manley and cornerback Barry Wilburn (who was suspended this month) already were being eyed by Washington coach Joe Gibbs, who was well aware of the problems both faced because of drugs.

"I kind of knew when we were coming into the season," Gibbs said. "I knew that there was a potential and I knew where the problems could be and maybe we've lived with it for a while."

As it turns out, Manley will have to live with his suspension. But his attorney, Bob Woolf, is confident that his troubled client can return if he can recover from a suspension that seemingly surprised only himself.

"It's a traumatic shock for him," Woolf said. "One minute he's a Washington Redskin, the next he's banned. But I'm convinced that he can return and play."

NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue, speaking on NFL Live about Manley's possible reinstatement in November 1990, said, "First of all, Dexter Manley would have to stay away from drugs and other abusive substances. He's achieved a lot, has been a leader in things such as special education, and that would be a factor that I would take into account."

**Strange, O'Meara  
team up in golf win**

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Curtis Strange and Mark O'Meara combined for another almost-flawless round of golf, shooting a 10-under-par 62 Sunday to win the RMCC Invitational at the Sherwood Country Club.

The pair, who led from start to finish in the 54-hole event, finished at 26-under-par 190, six strokes ahead of Bernhard Langer and John Mahaffey, and Tom Weiskopf and Lanny Wadkins.

Two more teams, Greg Norman and Jack Nicklaus and Ray Floyd and Chip Beck, were another shot back.

With the 10 teams playing a scramble format, there were a total of 40 birdies and two eagles on the front nine alone.

Norman, who organized the \$1 million tourney, and Nicklaus, who designed the brand-new 7,025-yard

course, combined for the lowest round of the day, shooting a 14-under-par 58.

But Strange and O'Meara, who played the entire 54-hole event without a bogey, blended their games perfectly — adding a second straight 62 to their opening-round 66.

Entering the final round eight strokes off the pace, Wadkins and Weiskopf combined for a final-round 60. The pair birdied all but two holes on the front nine and had five more birdies on the back.

They narrowly missed an eagle on the par-5 16th, after Weiskopf put his second shot eight feet from the cup. After his putt broke left, Wadkins' try skipped over the cup and they had to settle for birdie.

Langer and Mahaffey, in second place after the first round, rode a strong back nine, including an eagle on the 11th, to a final-round 59.

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