

Midwest teams ponder NBA draft

Mavericks get trade happy, Spurs sitting pretty, Rockets ponder draft

From Staff and Wire Reports

On the eve of the NBA draft, the Dallas Mavericks were dealing, the Houston Rockets were reeling and the San Antonio Spurs were sitting pretty.

The Mavericks, devastated by injuries, a star player's drug problems and lousy draft picks, did not wait until Wednesday night's NBA draft to try to change their luck.

Early Wednesday, the Mavericks

sent the 14th and 18th picks in this year's draft and reserve center Bill Wennington to the Sacramento Kings for veteran forward Rodney McCray.

Dallas also received a second round pick — the 49th overall — and a second-round pick in 1991.

The move for McCray came just five days after Dallas sent the No. 9 pick to the Denver Nuggets for All-Star guard Fat Lever, an eight-year veteran.

"If you think we could have gotten players at the 14th and 18th pick that could help this team the way Rodney McCray can, you're crazy," Rick Sund, the Mavericks vice president of basketball operations, said Wednesday.

"Picking up Fat Lever and Rodney have made us a better team today than we were at the end of last season. That's all we could ask for," he said.

After spending two years in Sacramento, which finished last season with a 23-59 record, McCray said he was happy to be back on a winning team.

"This team is a contender," McCray said. "Dallas is one of the top echelon teams in the league. And last week they picked up Fat Lever,

who is a tremendous player. I'm looking forward to playing along with him and the rest of the guys. I can't wait to get this thing going."

The Rockets are looking for fewer nail-biters and more raised victory fists in 1990-91.

They showed their interest in guards by interviewing several prospects prior to the draft including Texas' Travis Mays and Oregon State's Gary Payton.

The Rockets were to start the re-grouping process in Wednesday's NBA draft, looking for a guard to operate an offense whose center of attraction is Akeem Olajuwon.

The Rockets have the No. 12 selection in the first round.

Last season was filled with ups and downs and improved somewhat

Midwest Moves

DALLAS MAVERICKS: Acquired Dever Nugget guard Fat Lever for the No.9 pick this year and the Detroit Piston's 1991 draft pick. The Mavericks also acquired Rodney McCray from the Sacramento Kings for their 14th, 18th picks and reserve center Bill Wennington.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS: Standing pat.

HOUSTON ROCKETS: Have the No.12 selection in the first round. The Rockets have shown an interest in a guard to compliment center Akeem Olajuwon, possibly in University of Texas standout Travis Mays or Oregon State's Gary Payton.

with the addition of guard Vernon Maxwell from the San Antonio Spurs.

The Rockets slipped into the playoffs on the final day of the season with a 100-88 victory over Utah cou-

pled with a last-second 124-122 Golden State victory over Seattle.

Chaney started the off-season with a nucleus and Olajuwon, forwards Otis Thorpe and Buck Johnson and guards Maxwell and Sleepy Floyd.

To air is human



Photo by Sondra N. Robbins

Scott Shippey, a junior environmental design major from Houston, works out at swim practice early Wednesday morning. Shippey is a member of the A&M swim team and works out daily.

A&M former players help community

By DOUGLAS PILS
Of The Battalion Staff

Success after a collegiate athletic career can be measured in different ways.

It can be measured in touchdowns, points per game or how much money an athlete makes.

Or, as in the case of former A&M athletes Gerald Carter and Lisa Jordan, what an athlete contributes to a community after its last cheers fade away.

Carter and Jordan are giving back to Bryan-College Station by providing positive role models for the children of Brazos County.

Both are at the Boys' Club of Brazos County, working mainly with underprivileged children from the Bryan area.

Carter, a graduate of Bryan High School, played football for A&M in 1978-79 as a wide receiver. From there he went on to play eight years for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Carter said getting involved with the Club was not something he had planned on doing.

"I wasn't even looking for a job when they called me," he said. "I feel it was an act of God that put me here with these kids."

Carter, who has three children of his own, said he had done some work with the Boys' Club in Florida while with the Buccaneers and felt it was his duty to the kids to continue to help out.

"These days kids need a good role model to show them the difference between right and wrong," Carter said. "I have to do as I say to make sure the kids will learn to respect what I have to say."

"Most of these kids come from one-parent homes, so basically they come here to get out the house," he said.

"We want to provide an environ-

ment where they can come here and feel good about themselves."

Carter coordinates the boys activities which include organized football and basketball teams and a track team.

After being on the job for a year, Carter said the most rewarding part of the job is taking a problem child and making him sociable.

"It's neat to see a tough kid come in here and to watch him change," he said. "It's important to catch those kind before they fall into the danger zone."

"You have to let them know that everyone is not against them and eventually win them over," he said. "If we stay with a kid like that, we

ence," Jordan said. "Some days are good, but some days get kind of hectic. The best thing is getting to know all the kids and watching them make progress in their learning."

Jordan said the program is flexible around what the girls want to do. They can play volleyball, softball, swim or just about anything. This week, two members of the Lady Aggie basketball team came to the club to show the girls some tips.

Eventually Jordan wants to coach on a junior high, high school or college level, but believes that in teaching the children, she is also learning.

"Doing this is building a good foundation for what I want to do later," Jordan said. "If I can create some spark of interest in anything that makes them feel good, then I'm doing a good job."

Jordan's best advice to kids?

"I tell them never give up and always work hard," she said. "If you don't succeed at something the first time keep trying."

The new program is coming along great, Jordan said.

"The guys at first had a 'this is my turf' attitude but now everyone seems to be getting along quite well," she said. "With the renovations we're making things are going pretty good."

The Club is getting a new computer lab that will have about ten work stations. Its library and the gym are getting facelifts as well.

Carter said, "Everything is being done to accommodate the kids. We're all here to make sure these kids stay off the streets and out of trouble."

"We're also here to make sure they have fun and that's kind of fun for us too."

Neither Carter nor Jordan are doing their job for the money. They are doing their job so that others may succeed in life the way they have.

"It's neat to see a tough kid come in here and to watch him change."

— Gerald Carter,
Boy's Club

will eventually make him a friendly person."

Young boys are not the only ones running around the complex at 900 West W.J. Bryan Pkwy. anymore. Young girls are now part of the program at the center and Jordan was chosen to be in charge of the new program.

Jordan, who came to A&M from Talmage, Calif., played basketball for the Lady Aggies from 1985-89 and graduated in May with a degree in secondary education.

With her degree, Jordan said she was looking forward to getting into coaching, but A&M Lady Aggie head coach Lynn Hickey told her of the opening at the Club and she's been there since.

"Overall I'm enjoying the experi-

Top seeds at Wimbledon survive despite jinx

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Boris Becker and Steffi Graf, the defending champions from West Germany, ended the disappearing act of seeded players after nine vanished in the first round. All the seeds in action Wednesday won.

Becker beat Wally Masur 6-7, 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 in a second-round match.

Graf, the women's top seed, raced through a 6-3, 6-0 victory over Meredith McGrath in 44 minutes, allowing the 19-year-old former Stan-

ford star only six points in the final set.

Monica Seles, No. 3, took the cue from the champs and beat Camille Benjamin 6-3, 7-5. Zina Garrison, No. 5, crushed Cecilia Dahlman 6-2, 6-1, and Helena Sukova, No. 10, won the last three games of her match against Nicole Jagerman to win 6-4, 4-6, 7-5.

Jennifer Capriati, No. 12, the youngest seed in Grand Slam history and youngest player to reach Wim-

bledon's third round, beat Julie Halard of France 6-2, 7-6.

Capriati breezed along until she served for the match at 5-3 and was broken.

"I think I lost my concentration," she said. "I just didn't close it out."

Capriati won the tie-breaker 7-2 and set up a third-round match against 26-year-old Californian Robin White.

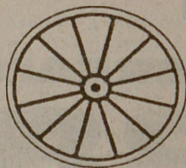
"I didn't have to make so many changes (in) my game," she said.

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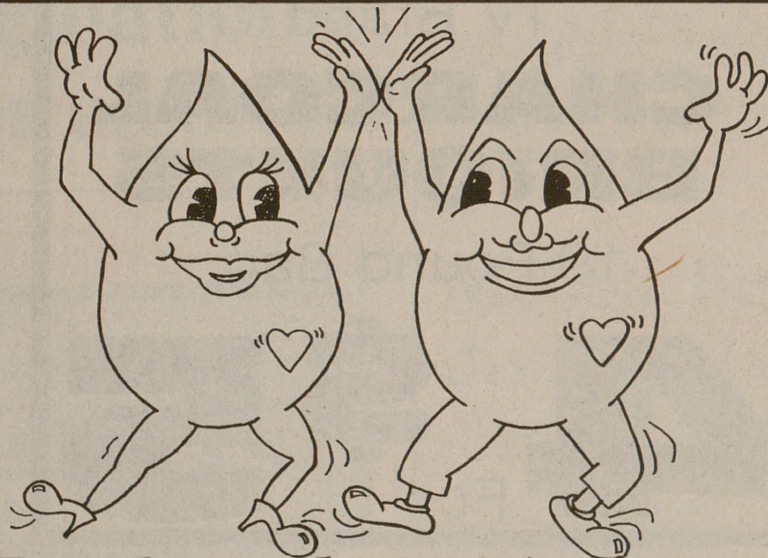
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