

Rockets still on shaky ground with Olajuwon

I heard recently that an anonymous Houston Rockets fan snuck into his car without anyone noticing.

He drove discreetly to Olga's, the notorious shop of alleged witchcraft and mayhem on the other side of the railroad tracks.

Once inside, the fan paid a small fee, made a wish and watched as Olga rubbed her crystal ball exactly 34 times.

A couple of days later, Akeem Olajuwon returned to the Rockets' lineup.

And the team actually harmonized around The Dream. Winning games down the stretch was no longer a problem!

As sportswriters often do, most of them bonded over the notion that Olajuwon was a multi-talented, yet selfish space-eater, who put down his teammates to the point where they lost their concentration after losses.

And the Rockets consistently fell into the 'L' column as a result.

But times may have changed for coach Don Chaney and his troops.

When Olajuwon's eye was severely elbowed by the Bulls' Bill Cartwright on Jan. 3, Rockets fans saw trouble coming toward the Summit.

What happened, though, was quite surprising to the ordinary sports fan... the Rockets became the hottest team in the NBA.

With a 9-2 February record, Chaney may earn the NBA Coach of the Month Award.

And the players are much more confident in themselves, especially since Akeem has been sidelined.

Chaney mentioned last week that Olajuwon would have to come back with a new attitude.

"Basically, it's going to be a give-and-take situation," Chaney said. "Akeem has to understand his teammates are walking now, not crawling. He can't do anything to disturb their games."

"A lot of people will be quick to jump to conclusions if we lose a game or two right after Akeem comes back."

Well, the Rockets lost to the Los Angeles Clippers on Akeem's goggle-clad debut, 83-80, on Feb. 28.

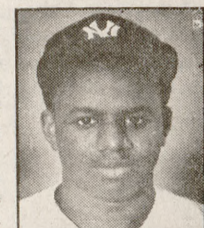
But the Rockets had something to prove when they visited the Forum in Los Angeles Sunday.

With millions watching on NBC, the Rockets carefully dismantled the favored Lakers, 104-95, and gained a huge confidence boost.

Instead of just Akeem's name popping up, the country's basketball fans are becoming more familiar with the names Smith, Maxwell, Floyd, and Thorpe.

And Olajuwon has accepted a new role, at least for now.

"That's what I was talking about the other night when I said that I did not want to be the hero anymore," Olajuwon said. "I said that I want to pick my spots



Craig Wilson
Sportswriter

See Wilson/Page 6

A&M hits road for Lamar twinbill

Bullard fills starter, closer roles for Ags

By Anthony Andro
The Battalion

For the Texas A&M pitching staff, senior Jason Bullard is a jack of all trades. But the righthander from Sweeny does not mind his uncertain role.

"I want to do whatever I can to help the team win," Bullard said.

This year, 'whatever' has included starting, throwing middle relief and closing out of the bullpen for A&M, which is ranked 16th by Baseball America.

With all the roles, Bullard has managed to start the season 2-0 while racking up two saves.

Despite an ERA of 5.49, Bullard has been elusive enough to strike out 26 batters in 19 and two-thirds innings, continuing a pattern he established last year when he struck out 53 men in 43 and one-third innings.

Today, the Aggies (12-6) travel to Beaumont to face the Lamar Cardinals (7-6) in a 1 p.m. doubleheader. Bullard is not scheduled to start either game, but may see relief duty.

Freshmen lefthanders Kelly Wunsch and Jeff Granger are slated to start on the mound for A&M. Wunsch is 2-2 with a 3.63 ERA and Granger is 1-1 with a 5.68 ERA.

The Aggies lead the Cardinals 17-3 in the series' history, and swept a twinbill last season at Olsen Field 10-5 and 2-1.

Bullard does not really care whether he is starting or coming in in relief as long as it means winning games.

"I really don't have a preference," he said. "I just want to do whatever I can to help this team win."

"Whatever the coaches believe, is what I want to do."

Last year, Bullard was 4-0 with a 3.12 ERA for the Aggies. He started four games

and came out of the pen 12 times, collecting two saves.

He transferred to A&M in 1989 after playing at San Jacinto Junior College his sophomore year, where he was 8-1 with a 3.00 ERA for a team that won the Junior College National Championship. Bullard pitched for Lamar, today's opponent, his freshman year.

Even though he has an impressive record, Bullard is not fully satisfied with his performance.

"I believe I haven't really been as consistent as I want to be," Bullard said. "I've been throwing good pitches but I've been missing on my location and haven't been hitting my spots."

Bullard said there are differences between starting a game and coming out of the bullpen.

"When you're coming out of the pen, you're never really sure when your going in so you can be more relaxed," said Bullard. "There's more pressure starting because you know you're gonna pitch and you start thinking about it."

"But, when you come out of the pen, there's a lot of pressure on you because you're coming in when the pitcher is usually in trouble and you have to put out the fire."

Because of his versatility, Bullard figures to see a lot of action this weekend in the Aggie Continental Classic, as the Aggies play six games in four days.

"We're going to have to use so many different pitchers because of all the games we're gonna play," he said.

In last year's tournament, Bullard tossed a four-hit, complete-game shutout against St. John's University in the final game.

Bullard likes the way this year's squad is pitching, especially the freshmen.

"I think the team is pitching well," he

said. "The freshmen have come in the game in pressure situations and have pitched fashionably."

"They've done the job that they've had to do."

And, he thinks the loss of Ronnie Allen, who is serving a six game suspension for academic reasons, has changed the pitching.

"I think it affected us a little," he said. "It messed up the rotation a little bit."

"But, I don't think that it has been the difference in us winning or losing games."

Bullard does not see his role with the team changing during the season.

"What I'm thinking right now, coach Johnson will keep me doing both things," Bullard said. "It really doesn't bother me because I don't have to think about anything the night before."

"I'd rather not have to worry about it." Despite the fact the team has lost four of the last six games, Bullard sees glimmers of hope.

"Each day, we're getting closer and closer as a team," he said. "I think this team will come around and be one of the good ones at A&M."

Bullard is worried about how the fans are taking the teams recent slump.

"I just hope the fans aren't getting down on us right now," he said. "We'll be there."

Bad breaks have hurt the Aggies lately, Bullard said.

"I think in the Louisiana Tech series, they got lucky," he said. "Everything they hit was falling in."

And, while Tech was getting hits, the Aggies were not.

"We just hit the ball right at people," Bullard said. "We're not playing up to our potential right now."



J. JANNER/The Battalion
Aggie pitcher Jason Bullard delivers a pitch in last season's win over Stephen F. Austin.

Longhorn player identified in steroid scandal

AUSTIN (AP) — University of Texas offensive lineman Kevin Wiley has been identified as a football player who was selling falsified prescriptions for steroids similar to the falsified prescriptions that led to the arrest of a Longhorn player last week, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

In addition, an Austin pharmacist told the newspaper on Saturday that he filled at least four prescriptions for steroids last year from Duncanville doctor David Hubler, but he said he had no knowledge the prescriptions were falsified.

Local weightlifter Tim Bruner, who told the American-Statesman he bought falsified prescriptions for steroids through a broker for \$400 last October without the initial knowledge they were falsified, said he engaged in two transactions with Texas football players.

Bruner said he witnessed the first transaction between his broker and Wiley outside a campus dormitory where the players live. Bruner said he was told by his broker the second exchange inside the dorm involved a second football player.

Bruner picked out Wiley's picture from more than a dozen mug shots taken from a Texas football media guide. In addition, Bruner said the broker told him the player who sold him the prescriptions was Wiley.

Wiley, a fifth-year senior offensive guard from San Antonio who completed his eligibility in the Cotton Bowl, has an unlisted telephone number and could not be reached for comment.

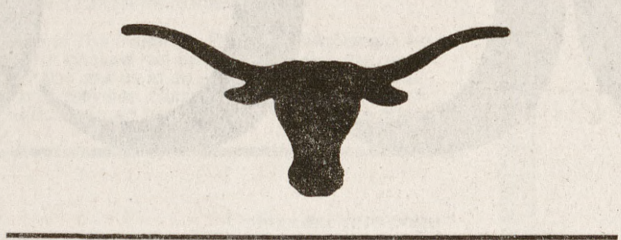
Selling falsified prescriptions is a second-degree felony and is punishable by two to 20 years in prison and a \$20,000 fine.

Walter Leamons, former owner of M D Pharmacy on Lavaca near the Texas campus, told the American-States-

man: "I did not knowingly fill them illegally. The fact they were forged doesn't make me a criminal. It makes the person presenting them a criminal."

"I don't know any football players. I wouldn't know them if I saw them. I don't keep up with football," said Leamons, who sold M D Pharmacy last year.

The Dallas Morning News reported recently that fake prescriptions for steroids have been filled for Texas football players and their acquaintances at the pharmacy formerly owned by Leamons, according to two people who claim firsthand knowledge of the scheme.



The newspaper said Leamons routinely fills drug orders printed on forged prescription slips being sold and used by Longhorns football players, said the two sources who asked to remain anonymous.

Leamons said the four prescriptions with Hubler's name do not match those that were reprinted in the American-Statesman Saturday.

Anabolic steroids are chemicals that athletes use to build

and enhance muscles and increase strength.

Brent Beauchamp, a Texas reserve punter and quarterback, was arrested Feb. 21 and charged with obtaining the male hormone testosterone by fraud from a pharmacy, using prescriptions carrying the name of Hubler, the Duncanville doctor. The Texas Department of Public Safety is continuing its investigation into that case.

Since mid-February, at least three additional Austin pharmacies have been approached by persons trying to obtain steroids with prescriptions bearing Hubler's name. Hubler has told the American-Statesman all the prescriptions were falsified.

The current owner of M D Pharmacy said Saturday his pharmacy has been given a prescription bearing Hubler's name, but he did not fill it.

This brings to five pharmacies across the state that have received falsified Hubler prescriptions, the American-Statesman reported.

Bruner's broker, who is a former Texas football player, told the American-Statesman that players on the football team told him the prescriptions with Hubler's name on them were stolen by a player. The broker declined to name the player.

Asked where Beauchamp obtained prescriptions with Hubler's name, the broker said, "Brent just got them from somebody else on the football team."

Texas Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds told The Morning News Sunday that any steroid abuse among Longhorn football players will be stopped at all costs. "It's going to grind to a halt" if it exists, he told the newspaper.

DPS is investigating the matter involving Beauchamp and has said more arrests are possible.

Steve McCleery, assistant district attorney, said "it's too early to comment" on the case.

Spring Formals & Party Dresses

- Hundreds to choose from
- Short - Tea length - Long
- Sizes 4 - 44 available
- Sequins - Taffeta - Satin - Lace - Lame'



LADIES AND LORDS
707 Texas Ave.

764-8289

Next to Taco Cabana

Save \$20.00

on your next purchase* of a formal/party dress at



LADIES AND LORDS
707 Texas Ave.

* original purchase price of \$129.95 or more.

Expires 3-31-91

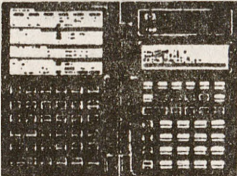
Not Valid With Any Other Promotion

Professional Computing

HAS A CALCULATOR FOR YOU!

CALCULATORS FOR BUSINESS

10B...\$37.50



17BII...\$80.30

12C...\$70.00

19BII...\$129.95

14B...\$59.50

CALCULATORS FOR SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

20S...\$37.50



32S.....\$50.95

21S...\$37.50

42S.....\$88.95

22S...\$44.50

28S.....\$173.90

27S...\$59.50

48SX..\$259.95

BUSINESS HOURS
M-F 8:00-5:30
SAT. 10:00-3:00



HEWLETT
PACKARD
Authorized Dealer

505 CHURCH STREET COLLEGE STATION (409) 846-5332

AggieCon XXII

March 21-24, 1991

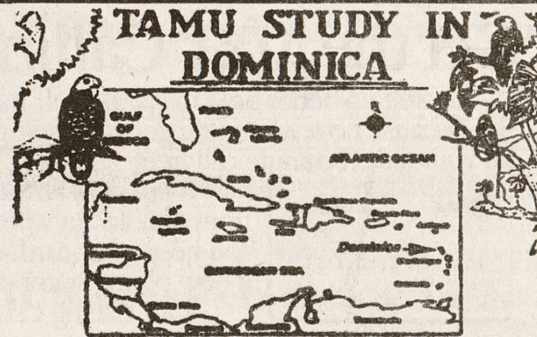
MANDATORY WORKERS MEETING

Tuesday, March 5 8:30 p.m. in 510 Rudder

If you plan to work at AggieCon, you must attend this meeting, or get in touch with an officer in the Student Programs Office.



845-1515



TROPICAL ISLAND BIOLOGY

WHERE: Archbold Tropical Research Center WHEN: Summer Session I

WHAT: Field Studies and Individual Problems (WFSC 300, SP TP 485-6 hours)
Courses at Archbold Tropical Research Center will expose students to tropical island biology, including intensive studies of tropical rain forest, elfin woodland, dry scrub woodland, and seashore environments. Both plant and animal components will be investigated.

Prerequisites: Introductory biology or ecology course

For more information contact: Prof. Keith Arnold 845-5777 Nagle 2128 Prof. Douglas Slack 845-5777 Nagle 3118

Study Abroad Office 161 West Bizzell Hall 845-0544