

Rodriguez earns All-American credentials

Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M senior Anthony Rodriguez was selected to the first-team, All-America golf squad by the Golf Coaches Association of America Tuesday. He is the first Aggie All-American since Phillip Parkin was selected in 1984.

"This is just awesome," Rodriguez said. "When Coach Ellis told me about it, I felt a lot like I did when I won conference. It was very emotional."

The 1995 Southwest Confer-

ence player of the year, Rodriguez won a school-record five tournaments this season, more than any other player in the nation.

During his career at A&M, Rodriguez earned All-SWC honors three times. His 72.08 stroke average this season was the second best in school history behind Parkin's record of 71.9 in 1984.

Next up for Rodriguez is a trip to Japan. He will represent the United States in the U.S. - Japan Collegiate Matches later this month. He will also play in the

All-American Amateur in New Jersey before turning pro July 8.

"I'm really happy for Anthony," Texas A&M head golf coach Bob Ellis said. "He's had a tremendous year."

Rodriguez was one of only nine players on the All-American team.

Despite the honor, Rodriguez says he wants to be remembered as more than just an athlete at Texas A&M.

"I want to be remembered as an All-American person as well," Rodriguez said.

Mantle may need liver transplant

□ The New York Yankee great has been in a Dallas-area hospital since May 28.

DALLAS (AP) — Baseball great Mickey Mantle has developed progressive liver failure and may need a liver transplant, a close friend of the Hall of Famer said Tuesday.

Mantle, 63, was admitted May 28 to Baylor University Medical Center. Hospital spokeswoman Denise Kile Walton said he was in stable condition.

Roy True, a Dallas attorney and longtime friend of the former New York Yankees center fielder, said in a statement that doctors have characterized Mantle's condition as progressive liver failure due to infection.

True quoted Drs. Daniel DeMarco and Kent Hamilton, specialists in gastroenterology, as saying Mantle may require a liver transplant. They said he will remain hospitalized until he has been treated and recovered sufficiently.

True did not immediately return calls to The Associated Press, although he told The Dallas Morning News for Wednesday's editions that Mantle is in good spirits and the former slugger asked to know more about his condition.

"I told him it was probably good you can be a legitimate candidate for a transplant," True said. Reached by the Morning News at his hospital room Tuesday, Mantle said only, "I'm not doing too good."

Mantle's doctors are to hold a news conference Wednesday at the Baylor center at 10 a.m. EDT. Robert Goldstein, one of the hospital's liver transplant specialists, is to attend.

"He's had a liver problem for a long time,"

Hamilton told the newspaper. "I don't know if this will get better without it (a transplant)."

A timetable for a possible transplant "depends on how he does, the waiting list and the donor organs," Hamilton said, adding Mantle's condition probably would increase his chances as a candidate.

Mantle and his wife, Merlyn, live in Dallas with their sons Danny, David and Mickey Jr.

Mantle was hospitalized in May with stomach problems. His son, David, said at the time his father was doing much better. He called his father's stomach ailment "just one of those things."

Mantle joked during his playing days that he would have taken better care of himself if he knew he was going to live this long. He comes from a family with a history of health problems as he has had a variety of troubles in recent years including a highly publicized bout with alcoholism. He spent a month in the Betty Ford Center in 1994.

In April 1987, he was admitted to an Irving hospital after complaining of chest pains. Tests that year revealed he suffered only from exhausted and mild pneumonia.

Yogi Berra, the Hall of Fame catcher and longtime teammate, said Tuesday night he spoke with Mantle last week when he entered the hospital.

"He said he had some kind of stomach problem and was going to get a physical," Berra said from his home in Montclair, N.J. "He knew he was then, but he didn't know what it was. Whitey told me he talked to him this afternoon, but (Mantle) was pretty heavily sedated."

Word of Mantle's condition reached baseball owners in Minneapolis, where they are trying to sort out the sport's labor problems.

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Olajuwon, O'Neal take center stage tonight

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Hakeem and Shaq. Grace vs. power. Experience against youth.
 On one side, there's 32-year-old Hakeem Olajuwon, a 7-footer with dazzling moves, a soft touch and at the top of his game. On the other, there's 23-year-old Shaquille O'Neal, a 7-1, 303-pound giant who is one of the most powerful forces the league has ever seen.

On Wednesday night, when Olajuwon's Houston Rockets meet O'Neal's Orlando Magic in Game 1 of the NBA Finals, the spotlight will fall on these two soft-spoken super-centers. There's no posturing and certainly no trash talking as this series begins.

"These are two class guys," Clyde Drexler said. "It says something about Hakeem and it also says something about Shaq."

On the eve of the big game, O'Neal talked of sneaking in the back door of the HemisFair Arena in San Antonio when he was 16 to get Olajuwon's autograph. There is no one in the league O'Neal admires more.

"He's a class act," O'Neal said. "On the court, he's a very hard-nosed player. He doesn't play dirty. He doesn't down other players. Off the court, he's well-dressed, soft-spoken, nice to people. So compare me to him if you're going to compare me to anybody."

Olajuwon said he's admired

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 ORLANDO VS. HOUSTON

the way O'Neal has handled himself under the pressure of his first three highly publicized seasons in the NBA.
 "I have a lot of respect for Shaq," Olajuwon said. "Just to see how he came into the league and established his position right away."

Agassi dumped in quarters

□ Yevgeny Kafelnikov defeated the top-ranked player in Paris.

PARIS (AP) — A painful hip and a powerful opponent were too much for Andre Agassi in his latest quest for a first French Open championship.

The top-ranked Agassi, who injured his right hip in the first set, was upset by Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov 6-4, 6-3, 7-5 on Tuesday in the quarterfinals at Roland Garros.

The loss prevented Agassi from advancing toward his third straight Grand Slam title and the only one that has eluded him.

"You come here to play well, to give it everything," said Agassi, who added that he hurt the hip while sliding for a ball in either the third or fourth game. "For it to end like that is extremely disappointing."

The win was extremely satisfying for Kafelnikov, who reached his first Grand Slam semifinal.
 "He might be injured, but it's no excuse in the quarterfinal of the French Open," Kafelnikov said. "I was just going for every shot, and Andre knew he was under pressure."

In the semis, the ninth-seeded Kafelnikov plays Thomas Muster, a 6-2, 3-6, 6-7 (8-6), 7-5, 6-2 winner over Alberto Costa.

Oilers' ax Carlson, look to future

HOUSTON (AP) — Carl Carlson, the career Houston Oilers backup quarterback whose elevation to starter a year ago was a disaster to injuries, was cut by the Oilers Tuesday when he finished his physical.

Carlson was a third-round draft pick by the Oilers in 1987 after setting records as a four-year starter at Baylor.

He played sparingly behind Warren Moon, normally in mop-up duties or when Moon was out with injuries.

With Moon's trade to Minnesota a year ago, Carlson was handed the starting job but was injured in the season opener and failed to fully recover from knee and shoulder problems.

Despite off-season rehabilitation, Carlson flunked his physical, the Oilers said Tuesday.

In his eight seasons with Houston, Carlson completed 56 of 659 attempts for 4,469 yards, including 21 touchdowns and 21 interceptions.
 Despite his part-time playing time, Carlson was the Oilers' longest passing list.

Rangers 2, Royals 1

KANSAS CITY		TEXAS	
ab	r	h	bi
Coleman lf	4	1	2
Hiatt rf	4	0	0
Gagne ss	4	0	1
Gaetti 1b	4	0	1
Joyner 1b	3	0	1
Borders dh	4	0	1
Nrmm cf	3	0	1
Stynes 2b	4	0	0
Randa 3b	3	0	1
Joyner ph	1	0	0
Mayne c	3	0	0
Totals	34	1	7

Marlins 7, Astros 0

FLORIDA		HOUSTON	
ab	r	h	bi
Veras 2b	3	1	1
Car 5	1	1	1
Conine lf	5	1	2
Shiffeld rf	4	1	1
Clbrn 1b	5	1	1
Pndlon 3b	4	0	2
KAbbit ss	4	0	2
CJhnsn c	5	1	3
Rapp p	1	0	0
Dawson p	1	0	0
Mthws p	1	0	0
YPerez p	0	0	0
JHmdz p	1	0	0
Grndr p	0	0	0
Arias ph	1	0	0
Totals	40	7	11

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