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*JUDGE DREDD *R
*POWER RANGERS *PG
*BRIDGES OF MADISON *PG-13
*IN DOLBY STEREO

CINEMARK THEATRES

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CHILDREN & SENIORS \$3.50

These times good starting Friday June 30.

APOLLO 13 (PG) On Two Screens
10:00 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
10:40 1:40 4:40 7:40 10:40

POCAHONTAS (G) On Two Screens *
11:00 1:05 3:10 5:15 7:30 9:35
11:25 1:35 3:55 6:00 8:00 10:00

BATMAN FOREVER (PG-13) On Two Screens
10:15 1:30 4:15 7:20 10:15 12:45
11:00 2:00 4:45 7:50 10:50

CONGO (PG-13) On Two Screens
11:15 1:45 4:15 7:00 9:30 12:00
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:10

DIE HARD WITH A VENGEANCE (R) On Two Screens
11:15 1:50 4:35 7:25 10:20
12:45 4:00 6:50 9:45 12:30

BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY (PG-13)
11:45 3:50 6:50 9:50

BEFORE THE RAIN (NOT RATED)
11:40 2:15 4:40 7:20 9:55 12:30

FORGET PARIS (PG-13)
11:30 2:20 4:50 7:35 10:00 12:20

BAD BOYS (R)
11:25 2:05 4:45 7:40 10:25

WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING (PG)
11:35 2:00 4:20 7:10 9:35 12:00

FRENCH KISS (PG-13)
11:50 2:15 4:40 7:20 9:55 12:30

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ESPNET provides sports fans with online forum

World Wide Web chat lines offer fans from across the world to discuss the latest in sports.

By David Winder
THE BATTALION

The word out of Houston is Chicago Bulls forward Scottie Pippen soon will be a Rocket. Big news in the National Basketball Association, but in the world of ESPNET, it is just a normal day at the office.

ESPNET, a sports chat line available through most computer systems on the World Wide Web, allows any fan the chance to talk with others across the world.

All that is needed to discuss everything from Major League Baseball to Auto Racing is a computer and a modem. Of course, a nickname is also wise to have because sharing the real thing can cause problems such as other individuals obtaining personal information about users.

"The chat lines are cool because you are able to voice your opinion and have those good bar room discussions about something that is enjoyable," said "Oxnard," an A&M student who frequents NBA Chat. "We do discuss things that really happen, do game analysis and predict games and the draft."

"We also play GM (playing the role of one's favorite team's general manager) and create fantasy trades and scenarios. We do lots of cool stuff because you have people from all over the country and the world."

"The Shadow" from College Football Chat area said chatting makes it seem as though every sport goes on year round.

"This just gives me a way to make the season last longer," he said. "It's a prolonging experience. When the season ends, you can talk about it on here (ESPNET), and before you know it, the season is starting again."

The season might end but the chatting never does for people like "Sacramento King."

"I'm addicted to this," he said. "I do this at work for a total of about 2 1/2 hours a day. If there's a good conversation on, I stay longer."

"Bull Boy Barry" said he is addicted but only because he does not have to pay for it.

"I'm at school, and it doesn't cost me a thing to do this (directly)," he said. "I pay

about their own team and share knowledge with others."

"Twoston Tx" said the chat line is appealing to people because of the it gives them.

"Talk radio is safe," he said. "Chat more raw because you can't screen. But that has its downside because sometimes log on just to curse everybody out."

"RockFan" said talk radio will be popular until the chat line enters the ca's mainstream.

"Not everybody has access to a rum," he said. "Talk radio can be the price of a Walkman and a telephone will take wiring the country before comes something that is as pervasive as talk radio."

Aggie said the information he has from the chat line he could not get from any other medium.

"I've learned about the (University of Colorado and their stadium situation) our (Texas A&M) game up there."

"I've learned a little about our new player Brannon Stewart from a state Tennessee. I've even found a little our first opponent, LSU (Louisiana University). It has been a valuable for me that I could not have gotten where else."

One person on the NBA chat line the professional teams would be listen in sometime.

"All teams should have a scout chat because we come up with some ideas for trades," "Sleepless in said. "Who knows? We might be help someone."

"We discuss things that really happen, do game analysis and predict games and the draft."

- "Oxnard"
NBA Chat line user

a big computer fee every semester for unlimited computer usage and I like sports a lot, so why not? If I had to pay for this myself I would not spend much time here."

Others believe more people will join the chat lines because of its superiority to sports talk radio.

"This is better than talk radio because the people on here know more about college football than radio hosts do," said "Aggie," while on College Football Chat.

"These are dedicated fans who know a lot

Astros trade for Cubs' Wilkins

CHICAGO (AP) — The Houston Astros, looking to add power behind the plate, acquired catcher Rick Wilkins from the Chicago Cubs in a trade Wednesday for outfielder Luis Gonzalez and catcher Scott Servais.

Wilkins, who 30 home runs in 1993, was struggling this season. He is batting .191 with six homers and 14 RBIs for the Cubs.

Wilkins has thrown out 19 of 55 runners (35 percent) of runners who have tried to steal against him.

Wilkins, 28, and Servais were born on the same day — June 4, 1967. Wilkins hit .303 with 73 RBIs in 1993, but slumped to .227 with seven homers and 39 RBIs last season.

Wilkins was drafted by the Cubs in 1986. Chicago manager Jim Riggleman pulled Wilkins out of Wednesday's game at Wrigley Field against Pittsburgh and told him about the trade.

Gonzalez, 27, is batting .258 with six homers and 35 RBIs. He is a .268 lifetime hitter with 52 home runs, and has done well against the Cubs during his career, batting .351 with 10 homers.

Gonzalez will likely start in left, joining Hal McRae and Sammy Sosa in the outfield. Servais is hitting .225 with one home run and 12 RBIs.

The Astros have lacked a power-hitting catcher since Alan Ashby's, who holds the Astro catcher home run record, retired.

NBA irresponsible for letting Garnett make leap

The NBA should be ashamed of itself.

How can professional basketball's powers-that-be allow 19-year-old Kevin Garnett to go straight into the NBA draft? It's like tossing him into a pool just to see if he can swim.

There is no question that Garnett, a recent high school graduate who was picked fifth by the Minnesota Timberwolves in last night's NBA Draft, has great talent when it comes to basketball. Unfortunately, there seems to be some speculation about his intelligence of the court as well as his all-around maturity.

Garnett failed to meet the minimum score on the ACT to secure admittance into college.

Who cares, right? If he's going to make millions, he doesn't really need to go to college.

That may be true, but how can anyone be sure? It is ultimately the responsibility of the NBA to keep young men like Garnett from having to choose between the game they love and the education they need. The NBA needs to think about more than just the money it will make when players like Garnett take the court.

The problem is that by allowing Garnett to be eligible for the draft, the NBA is proving to young athletes that school, especially college, is not important. The message that is being

sent is: Just do enough to graduate and concentrate on the game.

Sure, Garnett came within one point of passing the ACT and probably could have done it if he knew he had to. But the other option — the one with all the glitz and glitter — was just too enticing. It probably would have been for anyone.

In a recent interview with ESPN Radio, Garnett was asked about his future plans.

"As far as getting a degree and succeeding in life after basketball, that's something I want to do, and it's something I'm going to do," Garnett said.

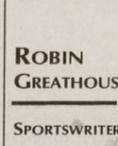
It's not the NBA's responsibility to judge a person's level of intelligence or maturity. But league officials must understand that someone who has never even lived away from home may still have a lot of growing up to do.

There are new pressures Garnett will have to face in the NBA that high school life could not prepare him for. At least attending a college, junior or otherwise, would give him some life experience, on and off the court.

This problem could be eliminated if the NBA would impose some minimum regulations on age or scholastic experience.

But for now, Garnett has a chance to postpone college and focus on playing the sport that has made him famous.

Good luck, Kevin Garnett. You may need it.



ROBIN GREATHOUSE
SPORTSWRITER

Rangers' rally forges first-place tie

ARLINGTON (AP) — Smith's record save streaked at 19 games Wednesday night when the Texas Rangers rallied for three runs in the ninth inning and beat the California Angels 9-8.

Will Clark hit a two-run double that tied it and Drizguez singled home the winning run with one out, trailing 8-2 in the seventh coming back.

Smith (0-1), who had a major league record with 19 straight appearances, entered the ninth with the first time in 21 games. He struck out two runners with runners on second and third to preserve an 8-2 lead, the eighth, but blew it in the ninth.

Otis Nixon drew a walk in the Texas ninth. McLemore singled and tied it with a double off the center-field fence.

Clark moved to third on a slow groundout by Jim Leuz. After Mickey Tetlow intentionally walked, Clark, who leads the American League in All-Star votes, singled to right field.

Roger McDowell (3-0) pitched the ninth inning. Christy Ring, called up from Triple-A Omaha City earlier in the pitched four scoreless, two-hit relief for the Rangers.

The win pulled the Rangers into a virtual tie for first in the American League. The entire AL West is on an unlikely last year when the division with a record when the players

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If you are not currently eligible to order the Aggie ring, but will be eligible after the 1995 Summer Session I grades are posted in July, please do the following:

1. Visit the Ring Office to complete an application for eligibility verification and receive a price list as soon as possible, but no later than July 31, 1995.
2. Upon completing the application, you may request a mail order form if you will not be in the Bryan-College Station area to place your order in person between July 14-31, 1995.

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