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OCA Dinner Club

Come out and join Off Campus Aggies Friday November 17th at Koppe Bridge on Wellborn Rd. past 2818 @ 6:30 p.m.. As we all prepare to Beat the hell Outta M. Tenn. St. Whoop! For more info call the OCA office at 845-0688.

Larkin named National League MVP

Larkin is the first shortstop to win the award in 33 years.

NEW YORK (AP) — Barry Larkin was the surprise choice as NL Most Valuable Player on Wednesday, beating out Dante Bichette and Greg Maddux to become the first shortstop to win the award in 33 years.

Maddux, who won his fourth straight Cy Young Award this week, and Bichette, who led the league in home runs and RBIs, were considered the leading candidates.

But rather than pitching or power, voters clearly looked at the all-around contributions Larkin made on and off the field to the NL Central champion Cincinnati Reds, and made him a convincing choice.

Larkin hit .319 with 66 RBIs and 51 steals, is likely to win his second straight Gold Glove next week and was the team's clubhouse leader. He was also the Reds' best player in the

postseason, although that performance is not considered in the selection.

Larkin, who was on a cruise in Mexico when the award was announced, received 11 first-place votes and finished with 281 points. Bichette, whose 40 homers and 128 RBIs led Colorado to a wild-card playoff spot, got six first-place votes and had 251 points.

Maddux, 19-2 with a 1.63 ERA for the World Series champion Atlanta Braves, got seven first-place votes and 249 points. He is the first pitcher to finish as high as third in the NL MVP voting since Los Angeles reliever Mike Marshall in 1974.

"If you look at sheer numbers, there are guys who have more homers and RBIs," Reds second baseman Bret Boone said. "But it's nice to see people look at most valuable." He was really great on our team. He was our leader."

Dodgers catcher Mike Piazza was fourth, getting three first-place votes and 214 points. The top four finishers were named

National League MVP

Player	1st Place Votes	Total
Barry Larkin	11	281
Dante Bichette	6	251
Greg Maddux	7	249
Mike Piazza	3	214



on every ballot by members of the Baseball Writers Association of America. Ron Gant, Larkin's teammate, received the only other first-place vote.

Larkin is the first NL shortstop to win the award since Maury Wills in 1962, the season he stole a then-record 102 bases. He is the sixth shortstop to win the honor, joining Ernie Banks (1958-59), Dick Groat (1960) and Marty Marion (1944).

Larkin is the first Reds player to be named MVP since George Foster in 1977 and 11th overall. Joe Morgan, Pete Rose and Johnny Bench also won in

the 1970s.

Along with leading the league in homers and RBIs, Bichette was third in batting .340. Some voters, however, may have discounted his numbers because he played a hitter-friendly Coors Field.

Maddux, whose winning percentage was the best in history for starters with at least 20 decisions, had the highest finish for a starting pitcher since Tom Seaver was runner-up in 1969.

The last pitcher to win the NL MVP was Bob Gibson in 1968 when he had a 1.12 ERA, and some voters have been reluctant to give the award to a pitcher.

Rockets rip Raptors with buzzer beater

Robert Horry's 3-pointer at the buzzer gives Rockets the win.

TORONTO (AP) — Robert Horry's 3-point shot at the buzzer lifted the Houston Rockets to a 96-93 victory over the expansion Toronto Raptors on Wednesday night.

The Raptors, who trailed by as many as 19 points late in the first half, outscored and outshutted the Rockets in the second half, beating them to loose balls and coming up with the key shot when it counted.

Trailing 53-42 at the half, the Raptors slowly chipped away at Houston's lead, taking a 93-92 lead on Tracy Murray's two free throws with 53 seconds left.

Hakeem Olajuwon, who had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Rockets, hit one of two foul shots to pull the Rockets even at 93-93 with just under 40 seconds. Then, an errant Raptors pass gave the Rockets possession with 19.9 seconds to play. Sam Cassell took the ball up court, dished to Clyde Drexler, who fed to Horry. His shot from 3-point range caught only net as

time expired. The loss was the seventh in a row for the struggling Raptors, who have played the NBA's better teams well only to come short.

Kenny Smith scored 16 of the 22 points in the first half, including three 3-pointers.

Damon Stoudamire and Tabak had 20 points each in the Raptors.

Robinson leads Spurs over Timberwolves

Spurs center David Robinson scored 30 points in 29 minutes.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Vinny Del Negro scored 10 points in San Antonio's decisive 16-4 to start the second half Wednesday night as the Spurs eased to a 105-96 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

David Robinson scored 30 points in just 29 minutes and Avery Johnson had 13 assists for the Spurs, who improved their overall record against Minnesota to 28-3.

Nineteen-year-old rookie Kevin Garnett had his first double-digit game, scoring 19 points. Tom Gugliotta led the

Wolves with 20 points. Del Negro, who finished with 16 points, started the second half with a 3-pointer to give the Spurs a 60-59 lead. He hit another 3-pointer in the run, which saw the Spurs pull ahead 73-63.

San Antonio led by as much as 85-71 in the third period, but the Wolves finished the quarter with seven straight points, including six by Garnett, to get within 85-78.

Minnesota trailed by just four points, 91-87, with seven minutes to play before the Spurs rallied to put the game away.

Minnesota played without center Christian Laettner, who was placed on the injured list Tuesday with a sprained ankle.

Sabres send Stars to seventh straight loss

Sabres goalie Dominik Hasek has 29 saves in the 2-1 win.

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Dominik Hasek had 29 saves and Randy Burridge and Pat LaFontaine each scored a goal to give Buffalo a 2-1 win Wednesday night over the Dallas Stars.

Neither team found an offensive rhythm throughout the game, with the Stars generating 30 shots compared to the Sabres' 19.

Andy Moog had 17 saves for the Stars, who have gone winless in their last seven games (0-4-3).

Todd Harvey's goal 2:20 into the first period opened scoring for the Stars. Guy Carbonneau dug the puck off the boards and found Harvey, who skated in unmolested after a Sabres' defensive lapse

and beat Hasek with a quick wrist shot.

Burridge evened the score at 10:13. Burridge intercepted a Dallas pass, took the puck down the wing, beat Grant Ledyard and put a hard shot past Moog. His seven goals leads the Sabres.

Moog's kick-save robbed Buffalo of a goal with about five minutes left in the period.

Buffalo took the lead at 12:32 of the second period on Pat LaFontaine's goal. Brad May sent a blind pass from behind the goal to Donald Audette, who one

timed his pass to LaFontaine. The Sabres were unable to score with a two-man advantage late in the period, missing several goal opportunities.

Both teams' penalty-killing units looked strong in the game. Buffalo and Dallas each stopped six power-play chances.

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