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Thomas

Continued from Page 3

in a style similar to the NCAA's 64-team basketball tournament. "The competition begins with 64 men and 64 women," Thomas said. "In the ranking round, everyone takes the same number of shots, and at the end they receive a ranking from 1 to 64."

"The archers that are participating in this tournament are the best in the world. The mental and technique aspect of their level is superb, and that's what makes them the best."

— FRANK THOMAS
Associate Chairman of Texas A&M's Physical Education Activity Program

"In the next round, number one shoots against number 64, number two against number 63, and so on, with each shooting 18 arrows. The highest score advances."

When the archers reach the quarterfinals they drop down to 12 shots apiece, making each shot more crucial.

Thomas, who is originally from Ozark, Ark. and a graduate of Arkansas Tech, said aside from the hype of the Olympic Games and the seriousness of his position, he hopes to pick up some tips from the athletes to A&M.

"The archers that are participating in this tournament are the best in the world," Thomas said. "The mental and technique aspect of their level is superb, and that's what makes them the best."

"Some people say that the mental aspect is 80 to 90 percent of the sport. You try to pick up some of these techniques and take them home with you."

Rodriguez powers Rangers to win

ARLINGTON (AP) — Ivan Rodriguez hit two homers, leading Kevin Gross and the Texas Rangers past the Baltimore Orioles 5-2 Tuesday night. Brady Anderson hit his 26th homer, most in the majors, for the Orioles. But Baltimore lost for the ninth time in 12 games against Texas this season. Gross (8-5) pitched 8 1-3 innings, allowing seven hits and one walk while striking out five. Gross won for the third time in four starts. Last season, Gross did not win his eighth game until his 26th start on Sept. 9. Mike Henne-man got the last two outs for his 19th save.

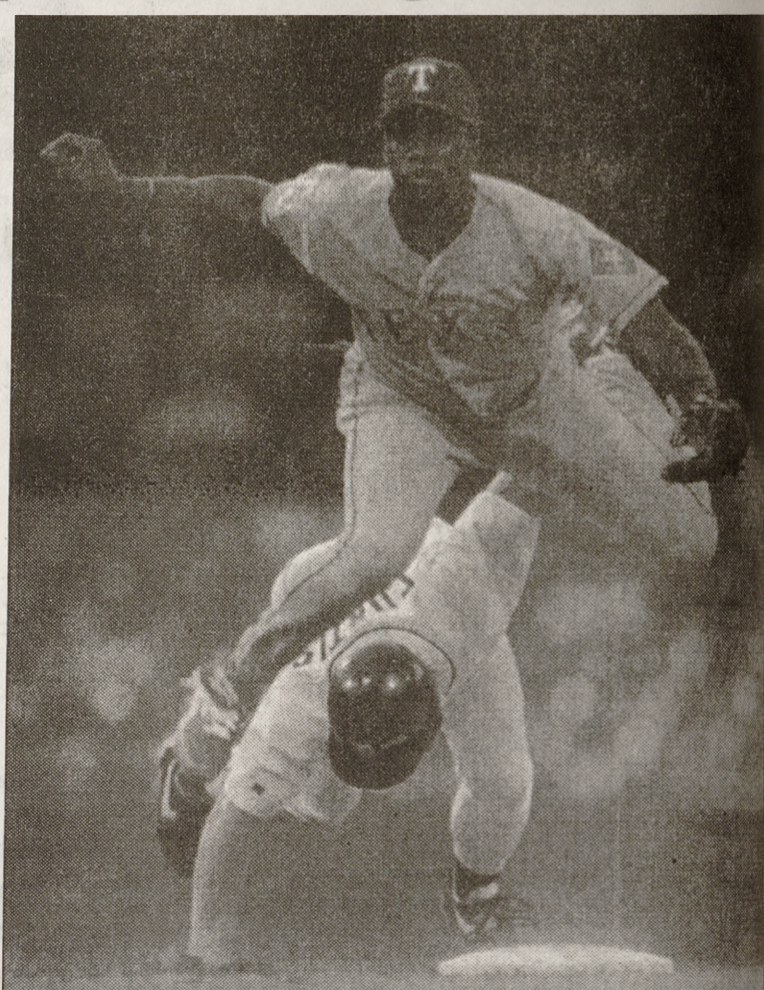
Texas took a 2-1 lead in the third against David Wells (4-7) when Rodriguez hit a 420-foot home run. Rodriguez hit his ninth homer of the season in the seventh for a 5-1 edge.

Rodriguez had his third two-homer game of the year. Anderson homered in the eighth.

The Rangers loaded the bases in the fourth on consecutive singles by Mickey Tettleton, Rusty Greer and Mark McLemore. Kevin Elster's two-run single put Texas ahead 4-1.

Bobby Bonilla doubled home a run for the Orioles in the first. Texas took advantage of three walks in the second, tying it at 1 on Greer's sacrifice fly.

Wells allowed five runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings, with one strikeout and four walks. He lost for the fourth time in five decisions.



Texas second baseman Mark McLemore leaps over a sliding Chad Curtis in a Rangers' win over Detroit in 1995.

Olajuwon addresses Barkley trade rumors

HOUSTON (AP) — Hakeem Olajuwon has heard the hopeful speculation buzzing around town regarding the Houston Rockets' reported efforts to trade for Charles Barkley.

Now the Rockets center wants to hear what Sir Charles has to say about the possibility that a mini-Dream Team of Barkley, Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler might convene to bring the Rockets another NBA championship.

"It would be nice to hear from Barkley himself what he's thinking," Olajuwon said Tuesday. "Barkley is an asset. To have Barkley on the team, on any team, is an asset."

Olajuwon will have a chance to hear Barkley's thoughts next week, when Dream Team III gathers in Chicago to begin practice for the Olympic Games.

Barkley, 33, has asked the Phoenix Suns to trade him to a

team that has a chance to win the NBA title, namely Chicago, Indiana, New York or Houston.

That pronouncement, which the 6-6 forward made on national television three weeks ago, pushed rampant speculation — already well under way in Houston — to a fever pitch.

Rockets general manager Bob Weinbauer fueled that recently by publicly talking up Barkley's abilities, and the team last week cleared room under its salary cap by trading Tim Breaux and Pete Chilcutt to the Vancouver Grizzlies.

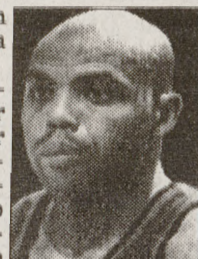
Then on Tuesday, the Houston Chronicle published an altered

three-column photo of Barkley in a Rockets uniform under the headline, "If the uniform fits ..."

The Chronicle also cited unnamed Suns sources as saying Barkley will be traded this summer, and Houston is the leading candidate to land him. Any such move would likely not come until after next Monday, when the NBA salary cap goes up to \$24.3 million, the newspaper said.

Amid all the excitement, it seems the only question remaining — for radio talk show callers and sports pundits, anyway — is which two or three Rockets should be traded for Barkley, Robert Horry? Sam Cassell? Mark Bryant?

"I was listening to the radio," Olajuwon said. "Now everybody becomes an expert ... But this is a very difficult situation, especially for the decision-maker, because this is a bold move. It has to be the right move. That is a big responsibility."



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Astros' long balls spell doom for Padres, 9-4

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Sean Berry hit his second grand slam in his last 10 games and Derek Bell and Orlando Miller also homered as the Houston Astros routed the San Diego Padres 9-4 Tuesday night.

Berry hit a 2-2 pitch from Doug Bochtler into the left-field seats with one out in the eighth inning for his third career grand slam. He also hit a grand slam June 13 off Mark Leiter at San Francisco.

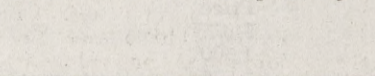
The Astros scored five runs on one hit in the eighth. Loser Scott Sanders (1-2) was tagged for four of the runs, three earned, and three walks, two intentional, in

just one-third of an inning. Former Padres shortstop Rickey Gutierrez, who drew a leadoff walk off Sanders in the

home run ball.

Todd Jones (6-1) allowed two hits in 2 1-3 innings for the victory. The Astros took a 4-1 lead on a two-run homer by Bell, another former Padres player, and a solo shot by Miller, both off Bob Tewksbury. But the Padres scored three runs in the seventh, two on Caminiti's double, to tie the game at 4 and chase Mike Hampton. Berry's fielding error in the seventh made all three Padres runs unearned.

Miller's sixth homer, with two outs in the fifth, reached the seats in left-center and gave Houston a 3-2 lead.



eight, scored the go-ahead run on third baseman Ken Caminiti's throwing error. Jeff Bagwell and Derek Bell were intentionally walked before Bochtler relieved Sanders and served up Berry's

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