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reserves for USA basketball

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Tim Duncan, the San Antonio Spurs' rookie center, and Miami's Tim Hardaway were added to the U.S. basketball team on Wednesday, completing the 12-member unit that will represent the United States at the World Championship in Greece this summer.

The first 10 members of the team were announced Oct. 30.

They are Vin Baker and Gary Payton of the Seattle SuperSonics; Terrell Brandon of the Milwaukee Bucks; Kevin Garnett and Tom Gugliotta of the Minnesota Timberwolves; Grant Hill of the Detroit Pistons; Allan Houston of the New York Knicks; Christian Laettner of the Atlanta Hawks; Glen Rice of the Charlotte Hornets; and Chris Webber of the Washington Wizards.

Hill and Payton were on the 1996 U.S. "Dream Team" and Laettner played on the 1992 team as the only collegiate member.

Houston Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich is the head coach while Del Harris of the Los Angeles Lakers, George Washington University coach

Mike Jarvis and University of Illinois coach Lon Kruger are assistant coaches.

The games will be held July 29-Aug. 9 at Athens, Greece.

Tomjanovich called Duncan, a 7-foot center, "one of the best players in the league right now,' and characterized Hardaway, a 6foot guard, as "a tough-minded player and a great leader.'

Duncan ranked in the NBA's top 20 leaders in five statistical

categories. His 21.1 point average was 13th and 11.9 rebounds a game ranked third.

Hardaway averaged 18.9 points and 8.3 assists during the season. He is a five-time NBA All-Star selection.

The 1998 team is the fourth to consist of NBA stars. The 1992 Olympic team, the original "Dream Team," won the gold medal with 11 NBA players and one college star, a feat duplicated by the 1996 Olympic team, which had 12 NBA players on the roster.

The 1994 USA World Championship team also featured 12 NBA players.

Duncan, Hardaway named | Tough pairings highlight NBA playoffs The team with the best record in the NBA lose," Utah guard Jeff Hornacek said.

opens the playoffs Thursday night, and it's not the champion Chicago Bulls.

Utah quietly beat out the Bulls for the best regular-season record, meaning the Jazz will have the homecourt advantage for every playoff series, including the opener against the Houston Rockets.

Three other series also start Thursday: Cleveland at Indiana, Atlanta at Charlotte and San Antonio at Phoenix.

On Friday, it's New Jersey at Chicago, New York at Miami, Minnesota at Seattle and Portland at the Los Angeles Lakers

All series in the first round are best-of-5.

Rockets vs. Jazz

This will be the fourth time in the last five seasons



a tough season, finishing at .500, 21 games behind Utah in the

Drexler Midwest Division.

"It's a new season," Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "We can still have a successful year."

The Rockets get no sympathy from the Jazz. "They were the champions just a couple of seasons ago, and that (aura) isn't something that you

Hawks vs. Hornets

Atlanta swept the four games this season by an average of nearly 17 points, but Hawks coach Lenny Wilkens says that doesn't matter much.

'You make everyone aware that nothing should be taken for granted, and there are lots of examples we can point to and that you have to make your players aware of," Wilkens said. "We're going to go in confident.'

Charlotte coach Dave Cowens hopes the Hornets

can turn things around. "We're going to have to make changes. We're going to have to make adjustments," Cowens said. They're not going to have to do anything.'

Spurs vs. Suns

Phoenix and San Antonio had identical 56-26 records, using different routes to get there. The Suns won 12 of their last 13 games while the Spurs won

ping three of four. Both teams enjoyed giant turnarounds. With David Robinson injured, the Spurs

their last three after drop-

missed the playoffs a year ago but won the draft lottery and came away with Tim Duncan, who was NBA Rookie of the Month six straight times and led the league with 57 double-doubles.

The Suns recovered from an 0-13 start to squeeze into the playoffs last season at 40-42 and made a 16game improvement on that this season. Phoenix earned the homecourt advantage by winning three of the four regular-season meetings.

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TENNIS

Continued from Page 7

"Our biggest concern is us. If we can play with the kind of focus and concentration that we've had most of the season, then I think we will be able to do what we hope we can do," Cass said.

Brent Horan, who was named to the Academic All-Big 12 First Team on Tuesday, said the tournament is often full of surprises.

"Sometimes the tournament mimics what happened in the regular season, but sometimes teams who didn't have great regular seasons get pumped up for the tournament and come in and play really well," Horan said.

Horan said the Aggies are anxious for a chance to play UT, who beat A&M in Austin during the season.

"We don't want to look past any team," he said, " but we are looking forward to getting to the finals to play Texas, and I don't think we will be happy if we don't win the tournament."

AGGIE **SPORTS** BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Golf team ranked top 40 nationally

and Women's Golf Teams are ranked in the latest MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings. The men are

ranked No. 33 in the country and the women are ranked No. 11. In the individual men's rank-

ranked No. 86.

ings, Miguel del Angel is ranked 32 and Ryan Palmer is

In the individual women's rankings, Jamie Hullett is No. 36, Isabelle Rosberg is No. 45 and Anna Becker is No. 46.

Athletic banquet hosts Ag awards

The Texas A&M Athletic Department announced the Bill Erwin Scholar-Athletes of the Year Monday at the ninth annual GTE/Texas A&M Athletic Academic Awards banquet.

The award was given to Aggie diver Mark Naftanel and Aggie volleyball player Jennifer Wells. Naftanel, a junior from Austin, has

grade-point average over 3.8 in biomedical science and was named Big 12

Diver of the Year. Wells, from Stockton, Calif. maintained over a 3.4 grade-point average in health



the female Budget Awards Plus Sportsmanship Award for the Big 12. Senior pitcher Ryan Rupe and Ceci Hudson were also honored at banquet with Distinguished Letterman's Award

for team contributions, leadership and academic efforts.