

NOTEWORTHY

SPORTSDAY II



Big final: Horns vs. Kansas

LaMarcus Aldridge and Texas edged Texas A&M, 74-70, to reach the Big 12 tournament final against Kansas.

OU wins Big 12 women's title

Courtney Paris (24 points, 26 rebounds) led Oklahoma past Baylor, 72-61, for the tournament crown.

- UT women win NCAA indoor track
 - OU's Bomar cited for alcohol possession
- Pages 1-6CC

COWBOYS

Cowboys start fortifying line

The Cowboys began shoring up their offensive line for 2006 by signing guard Kyle Kosier and re-signing center Andre Gurode. 4C

STARS

Stars turn back Vancouver, 2-1

Mike Modano scored two third-period goals, one on the power play, as the Stars rallied to win. 10-11C

MOTOR SPORTS Bruton Smith keeps scheming

Now that TMS has a second date, the racetrack mogul turns his attention to other potential acquisitions. 6C

- Kahne wins Busch, 6C

ALSO INSIDE

- Hundreds show for Vince Young's Austin stop, 3C
- Canadiens legend "Boom Boom" Geoffrion dies, 11C
- Mariners' new catcher learning on the fly, 5C
- Duncanville boxer wins U.S. 106-pound title, 16C

SCORES

NBA, 9C

Dallas.....90	at Charlotte.....116
at Utah.....87	New York.....109
Chicago.....95	LA Clippers.....106
at Atlanta.....90	at Milwaukee.....98
at Washington.....110	at Phoenix.....110
Detroit.....92	Minnesota.....102
at Orlando.....103	Golden St.....92

NHL, 10C

Dallas.....2	at Columbus.....4
at Vancouver.....1	Edmonton.....3
Buffalo.....6	at Pittsburgh.....6
at Philadelphia.....5	New Jersey.....3
at San Jose.....3	at Florida.....4
Nashville.....2	Carolina.....3
NY Islanders.....3	at Detroit.....6
at Boston.....1	Chicago.....4
at Toronto.....5	Los Angeles.....2
Tampa Bay.....1	at St. Louis.....1
at Montreal.....1	Anaheim.....5
NY Rangers.....0	at Phoenix.....3

For late scores, log on to DallasNews.com

INDEX

Baseball.....4-5	NBA.....7-9
Boxing.....16	NFL.....4
Colleges.....15, 1-6CC	Outdoors.....17
Etc.....16	Rodeo.....9, 16
Golf.....15	Running.....16
High schools.....12-15	Soccer.....16
Horse racing.....2	Tennis.....16
Motor sports.....6	

COMMENTARY

KEVIN SHERRINGTON
Father of the Longhorns, 2C
SPORTSDAY FORUM
Letters to the editor, 3C
KEVIN B. BLACKSTONE
OU women a force, 1CC

Rangers' bullpen: Keepers of the fate



TIM COWLISHAW

SURPRISE, Ariz. — Is the leadoff hitter Brad Wilkerson or David Dellucci? Is the cleanup hitter Hank Blalock or Phil Nevin? Is the new five-man rotation better than last year's?

Spring training provides Buck Showalter the opportunity to make these determinations. And yet six weeks in Arizona may give the Rangers manager no clue as to

whether his club's greatest weakness has been fixed.

Texas dropped from 89 wins to 79 last year, failing to repeat as a competitor in the American League West for a very simple reason. The bullpen fell apart.

"The single biggest reason we were playing meaningful games in September in '04 and weren't last year is the bullpen," general man-

ager Jon Daniels said.

And when Daniels took over for John Hart last fall, he was quick to caution those who expected an overnight overhaul of the pitching staff. He said that the team wouldn't necessarily make moves

to add starters but felt certain that the bullpen needs could be addressed.

Oddly enough, Daniels did more in the off-season to alter the rotation, trading for Adam Eaton and Vicente Padilla and signing Kevin Millwood as a free agent, than he did to secure bullpen help.

See **RANGERS' Page 4C**

UIL BOYS STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

CLASS 3A FINAL

Roosevelt 61,
Carrollton Ranchview 46

CLASS 4A FINAL

South Oak Cliff 76,
Fort Worth Dunbar 58

CLASS 5A FINAL

Plano 60,
Kingwood 58 (OT)



Photos by MICHAEL AINSWORTH/Staff Photographer

Plano's Joseph Fulce (left) and John Roberson soak in their dramatic 60-58 overtime win over Kingwood for the Class 5A state championship. The two combined for 40 points as Plano won the first boys basketball state title by a Collin County team.

Three kings

It's triple crowns as Plano wins thriller, DISD captures two titles

By KATE HAIROPOULOS
Staff Writer

AUSTIN — Dallas is the undisputed center of Texas high school boys basketball.

The rest of the state got to eat its heart out Saturday, when three area teams swept the Class 5A, 4A and 3A UIL state titles.

Plano upended defending champion Kingwood, 60-58, in overtime of a heart-stopping Class 5A final. South Oak Cliff and Roosevelt added to the Dallas ISD's collection, winning 4A and 3A finals featuring Dallas-Fort Worth matchups.

The victories continue a season of amazing successes for the area, which also had teams sweep the 5A and 4A girls basketball and football championships.

Plano, the first Collin County boys basketball state champion, fought from behind to force overtime behind John Roberson (24 points), Joseph Fulce (16 points) and a ton of heart. The upset wasn't secure until Kingwood's 3-point and tip-in attempts barely missed in the final seconds. When they did, joyous players in maroon shirts flooded the court.

SOC defended its Class 4A title with a 76-58 victory over Fort Worth Dunbar. McDonald's All-American Darrell Arthur fittingly capped his high school career with 21 points, 13 rebounds and four blocks for his second straight title-game MVP performance.

DYNAMIC DUOS

With South Oak Cliff and Roosevelt winning boys titles Saturday, it became the third time two Dallas schools have won UIL titles in the same year:

1990

CLASS 5A: Kimball d. Houston Clear Lake, 59-56
CLASS 4A: Lincoln d. Boerne, 87-77

1997

CLASS 5A: Kimball d. GP North Shore, 64-53
CLASS 3A: Madison d. Tulia, 64-58

2006

CLASS 4A: South Oak Cliff d. FW Dunbar, 76-58
CLASS 3A: Roosevelt d. Carrollton Ranchview, 61-46

In Class 3A, Roosevelt won the program's first title in 34 years with a 61-46 victory against Carrollton Ranchview, which qualified for state in its second year as a varsity program. Junior Cedric "Cici" Robinson hit four 3-pointers during a crucial stretch. Coach Stanford Hill Jr. said he hopes basketball can bring pride to the community. Even 1972 star Ira Terrell was on hand.

The DISD had multiple winners for the first time since Kimball (5A) and Madison (3A) won in 1997.

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Darrell Arthur emphatically ended his South Oak Cliff career with his second MVP performance in a Class 4A title game.

TWICE AS GOOD

A look at the numbers for South Oak Cliff's Darrell Arthur in the state title game the last two seasons:

	Points	Rebounds	Blocks
2004	22	17	2
2005	21	13	4

INSIDE

- Roosevelt runs to Class 3A title, 13C
- Matt Wixon column, 12C

Mavs limp to victory

MAVERICKS 90,
JAZZ 87

Nowitzki leads the way as Harris, Griffin join ranks of wounded

By EDDIE SEFKO
Staff Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — The Mavericks' injuries are getting too numerous to track. And that doesn't even include Dirk Nowitzki, who has every right to complain about a bad back, given the way he's carried the team lately.

While Devin Harris could barely walk out of the Delta Center on Saturday night and Adrian Griffin felt something pop in his right hamstring, Nowitzki continued to shoulder whatever load the Mavericks put on him.

He pumped in 34 points, including consecutive 3-pointers that iced the game, as the Mavericks outlasted the Utah Jazz, 90-87, for their third win in a row. They won their 21st road game of the season, ensuring their fifth winning record on the road in the last six seasons.

The win kept them a game in front of San Antonio in the Western Conference race and drew them within a half game of Detroit for the best record in the league.

"We're excited to get out of here

See **BEAT-UP Page 7C**

Mavericks at Kings
8 p.m. today
Ch. 21; ESPN-FM (103.3)
KFLC-AM (1270, Spanish)
Preview, 7C

SportsDay honored in AP contest

News judged top 10 in daily, Sunday sections for record 23rd year

By BARRY HORN
Staff Writer

We interrupt the sports stories we report about others to tell one on ourselves.

For the 23rd consecutive year, America's sports editors have ranked SportsDay's daily and Sunday sections among the top 10 in the country.

It's a record. And it's all ours.

The Dallas Morning News' SportsDay is the only sports section to achieve the prestigious daily double every year since the Associated Press Sports Editors organization revised its annual contest to the present format in 1983.

"I couldn't be prouder of the consistent excellence produced by these great sports journalists, both in print and online," said Bob Mong, editor of The News.

See **APSE Page 6C**