Lakers now play the waiting game

SEATTLE (AP) — The Los Angeles Lakers are on such a roll that a six or eight-day layoff could work against them once the NBA championship series starts.

"I hate to have a long layoff before the finals," Lakers Coach Pat Riley said. "We'll need to fabricate some situations to keep them sharp."

The Lakers, after sweeping the Seattle SuperSonics 4-0 in the Western Conference finals, must wait for the conclusion of the Eastern Conference series between Boston and Detroit.

That series was tied at two victories each going into Tuesday night's game in Boston.

If the series ends in six games, the finals will start Sunday in Los Angeles. If the Celtics and Pistons finish in seven games, the Lakers will be on hold until Tuesday.

"Becoming stale is always a problem, but I think the rest will do us good," 40-year-old Kareem Abdul-Jabbar said.

"We definitely need a little rest," defensive star Michael Cooper added. "It might take a little edge off our level of play, but I think the rest will help us more than hurt us."

After winning the first three games against the Sonics by a total of 14 points, the Lakers were anything but complacent in the first half of Monday's 133-102

The Lakers said they remembered the sting of four straight losses to Houston in the conference finals a year ago.

"The Houston loss really stuck in our minds," said James Worthy, who scored 18 of his 26 points as Los Angeles took a 68-47 halftime lead in the finale. "We learned from it rather than dwelling on the loss."

"Everybody wrote this team off at the first of the year, but there was a battle cry last year after Houston beat us," Riley said. "The difference between this year's team and last year's team is our attitude. We wanted to get it done. We still do."

"Houston stole one from us last year and we learned not to take anyone lightly," Cooper

2 more years for Kareem?

New York Times

SEATTLE - Just when it appeared as if Lakers center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar had finally decided on a retirment plan, it appears as if there might be another change.

Abdul-Jabbar, 40, said earlier this year that next season, his 19th in professional basketball, would be his last. But Jerry Buss, the Lakers' owner, has asked Abdul-Jabbar to play for two more seasons, and will begin negotiations this week on a contract extension to keep Abdul-Jabbar in uniform through the 1988-89 season.

Buss said he approached Abdul-Jabbar - who, among his other records, is the league's career leading scorer — three weeks ago about the extension. "He didn't say much about it," Buss said. "He seemed kind of surprised."

"It's something I'll have to consider," Abdul-Jabbar said Monday after the Lakers eliminated the Seattle SuperSonics from the playoffs. "But it's not on my agenda, not yet."

said. "Coach Riley has been warning us about letting teams off the hook. I thought we did a great job of putting Seattle

The Lakers have won 11 of 12 playoff games this year, but they have never looked stronger than during a five-minute span late in the first half when they outscored Seattle 22-5.

They hit nine of 10 shots from the field, including a dunk by Worthy, seven layups and a 3point basket by Byron Scott.

"The Laker break finally got into gear after Seattle slowed us down the first three games,"

Cooper said.



AP photo

Lakers guard Magic Johnson is fouled by Seattle's Maurice Lucas as Lucas tries to knock the ball away from Johnson during Monday's game in Seattle. Los Angeles eliminated Seattle and now awaits the winner of the Boston-Detroit series.

Magic heads '87 all-NBA squad

NEW YORK (AP) - Magic Johnson, who last week was named the NBA's Most Valuable Player, was the only unanimous choice on the 1987 All-NBA team announced Tuesday.

Joining the Los Angeles Lakers guard on the first team were guard Michael Jordan of the Chicago Bulls, center Akeem Olajuwon of the Houston Rockets and forwards Larry Bird and Kevin McHale of the Boston

Johnson, who averaged a career-high 23.9 points and league-leading 12.2 assists per game, received 156 points in voting by a nationwide panel of 78 writers and broadcasters who cover the NBA. Players received two points for a first-place vote and one for a second-place vote.

Jordan, who led the league in scoring with a 37.1 average, was the runner-up in the voting with 154 points. However, two voters left him off their first team.

"People have a right to their own opinion," Jordan said when told about the vote.

Bulls' Coach Doug Collins said Jordan "had the kind of year that every player in the league dreams of

Bird received 151 points and was named to the first team by 73 voters. Olajuwon had 130 points and McHale 125.

Johnson and Bird were the only repeaters from last year's first team. Bird has made the team eight straight years, while Johnson was named to the squad for the fifth straight time. It was the first time Jordan, McHale and Olajuwon were voted to the first team.

Voted to the second-team were forwards Dominique Wilkins of Atlanta and Charles Barkley of Philadelphia, center Moses Malone of Washington, and guards Isiah Thomas of Detroit and Lafayette Lever of Denver.

Parker's homer in 9th inning lifts Reds past Cubs

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Dave Parker needed all the power his 6-foot-5, 230-pound frame could generate — and a little luck — to get what he wanted.

Parker, swinging for the wall, led off the bottom of the ninth with a homer that popped out of the glove of center fielder Bob Dernier to give the Cincinnati Reds a 3-2 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

"Without a doubt, I was looking for a home run," said Parker, who now has 11. "When you're 35 years old, you don't like to go past nine innings. I said, 'I'm going to try to take one deep."

Cubs reliever Lee Smith, 1-3, threw Parker a 2-1 slider low and inside. Parker swung as hard as he could, sending the ball toward the 404-foot sign in center field.

Dernier sprinted back and threw himself at the wall, stretching his glove over the top. The ball hit in his glove, then flew out as he started bringing it back.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

game in the ninth.

"I did have it," Dernier said. "I had to fly from the foot of the warning track. The ball was scalded. It was in the end of the glove, and the whiplash took it away."

Dernier suffered a strained left shoulder from the attempted catch, and bruised his left leg when he smacked the wall.

The homer gave the Reds only their third victory in 11 games.

"It shows that maybe our luck has changed, and my luck has changed," Parker said. Left-hander John Franco, 2-1, got the victory despite allowing the Cubs to tie the

Phillies 3, Padres 2

SAN DIEGO — Glenn Wilson hit a tworun homer in the sixth inning to break 1-1 tie and Shane Rawley and Steve Bedrosian combined on a six-hitter to lead Philadelphia. The loss was the fourth straight for San Diego and the sixth in its last seven games.

Astros 10, Pirates 3

HOUSTON — Kevin Bass hit a threerun double to highlight seven-run seventh inning, leading the Houston Astros.

Dave Meads, 4-1, was the winner, pitching

three innings of scoreless relief. Braves 5, Cardinals 4 ST. LOUIS — Ken Griffey homered to

lead off the sixth inning, snapping a 4-4 tie and leading the Atlanta Braves. Doyle Alexander, making his 1987 debut, earned the victory pitching six plus innings,

striking out six and walking none. Red Sox 6, Indians 5

BOSTON - Dave Henderson hit a three-run homer and Wade Boggs had two

championship is too easy

golfers who played in last week- we can do that."

MASON, Ohio (AP) - Some to grow rough like the U.S. Open,

end's LPGA Championship, includ- Geddes, who won the LPGA

ing eventual winner Jane Geddes, Championship Sunday with a 13-

have complained that the course under-par 275, was critical of the

may be too easy. Tournament course Saturday and said that other

chairman Burch Riber responds that tour players agree with her. "The

it is up to the LPGA to decide how consensus has it that, if possible,

Riber said tournament officials course for a major," Geddes said.

can make the Jack Nicklaus-de- She said she was concerned that

signed Grizzly course at Jack Nick- this year's LPGA Championship had

laus Sports Center as challenging as turned into a putting contest. The

the Ladies Professional Golf Asso- cut, at 1-over-par 145, was the

"There are tees that have never been held at the Jack Nicklaus

been used," Riber said. "It's up to Sports Center, 20 miles north of

tougher. They tell us how high to The players were helped by good

grow the rough and how wide to cut weather conditions. The winds were

the fairways. We don't set the mild, and early rains left the greens

doubles and a single, leading the Boston Red

Al Nipper, 4-4, scattered 11 hits over 71/3 innings as the Red Sox won two games in a row for the first time in three weeks.

Twins 4, Brewers 2

■ MINNEAPOLIS — Tom Brunansky homered and tripled and Bert Blyleven combined with Jeff Reardon on a four-hitter to lead Minnesota.

Blyleven, 4-4, pitched seven innings and gave up four hits, including a two-run homer to Jim Gantner in the fifth. Blyleven, who allowed a major-league record 50 home runs last season, has yielded 20 this year and at least one in all 11 starts.

Royals 5, White Sox 4

CHICAGO — Willie Wilson and Frank White homered and Danny Jackson struck out a career-high 12 to pace the surging Kansas City Royals.

Illinois takes all-sports title for Big Ten

By Jim Ecker Gazette assistant sports editor

Strong showings by the University of Illinois at the Big Ten Conference track meet in Iowa City last weekend vaulted the Illini to the championship of the league's allsports standings for 1987-88.

The Big Ten office does not crown an all-sports champ, but according to Gazette calculations Illinois amassed 114.5 points in men's and women's athletics for the school year, nipping Ohio State by two points.

· Iowa tied Indiana for third place with 110 points. Michigan was fifth with 104, followed by Minnesota (94.5), Purdue (91), Wisconsin (89.5), Northwestern (75) and Michigan State (74).

Illinois ran off with the men's outdoor track title Sunday and placed second in the women's standings to nudge ahead of the pack in the overall rankings.

The Gazette awarded points on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis for finishing first through 10th. In sports where less than 10 teams competed, points for a championship equalled the number of teams involved. For instance, Iowa got only six points for winning the women's field hockey title because only six schools participated.

Also, the Big Ten conducts separate meets for indoor and outdoor track, but The Gazette combined the point totals from both to determine single track champs for men and women. By doing so, track does not count twice as much as football or basketball.

The Chicago Tribune computed an all-sports champ in the Big Ten, and crowned Ohio State. The Tribune had Illinois second, with Iowa and Indiana tied for third. The Trib counted indoor and outdoor track separately, and awarded 10 points in every sport.

Illinois won only two team titles all year, taking the women's volleyball crown and the overall men's track trophy. But the Illini collected at least four points in every sport it tried, finishing no worse than seventh in anything.

Iowa also won two titles - in wrestling and women's basketball (tied with Ohio State) - but finished last in men's cross country, men's golf, women's swimming and women's gymnastics. Those lastplace showings were good for only one point apiece.

Michigan took the men's allsports trophy with 69.5 points, followed by Illinois (66.5), Indiana (60), Iowa (58.5), Ohio State (56.5), Purdue (52.5), Wisconsin (48.5), Minnesota (48), Northwestern (32) and Michigan State (31).

Michigan won championships in men's swimming, tennis and baseball, and tied Ohio State in football. The Buckeyes topped the golf and gymnastics standings. Indiana tied Purdue in basketball. Wisconsin won cross country.

Ohio State led the women's allsports rankings with 56 points, trailed by Iowa (51.5), Indiana (50), Illinois (48), Minnesota (46.5), Michigan State and Northwestern (43), Wisconsin (41), Purdue (38.5) and Michigan (34.5).

The Buckeyes captured the women's gymnastics title. Indiana won golf and tennis crowns. Illinois prevailed in volleyball. Northwestern was first in softball. Wisconsin won in cross country, Purdue in track and Michigan in swimming.

SPORTS BRIEFLY

FOOTBALL — Agent Steve Zucker says he contacted the FBI after Kathy Clements, a Zucker aide, was severely beaten two months ago by a man wearing a ski mask, apparently setting off the train of events resulting in the meeting of a special federal grand jury in Chicago each Tuesday to investigate the dealings of agents Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom, and possibly others . . . Negotiators for NFL players and owners met formally Tuesday for the first time since they exchanged opening proposals last month in hopes to eliminate some of the cavernous differences between them.

BASEBALL — Veteran first baseman Steve Garvey will urdergo surgery Saturday to repair a ruptured left bicep tendon in the left shoulder area, the San Diego Padres announced Tuesday. Garvey, a 16-year veteran, was placed on the 21-day disabled list May 25 . . . Jim Clancy, who pitched two complete-game victories for the Toronto Blue Jays last week, has been named American League player of the week for the period ending Sunday. First baseman Jack Clark, who hit .474 and drove in 12 runs for the St. Louis Cardinals won the same award for the National League.

BASKETBALL — Gene Shue, a self-described optimist, was introduced as the head coach of the Los Angeles Clippers at a news conference Tuesday and said he's confident he can help change the fortunes of the NBA's poorest team. Shue, 55, the fourth-winningest coach in NBA history with a 757-768 career record, said he signed a three-year contract with the Clippers . . . The prosecutor in the trial of Brian Tribble said Tuesday that former University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias acted as "courtesy middleman" for Tribble in the distribution of cocaine. Tribble is being tried in Prince George's County Circuit Court on cocaine distribution and possession charges in connection with Bias' cocaine-induced death last June 19.

MISC. - David Jenkins, a British Olympic track medalist in 1972, pleaded innocent to dozens of charges Tuesday in running a nationwide steroid smuggling and distribution ring. The alleged ring, which smuggled and sold the illegal muscle-building drugs since at least January 1986, is believed by authorities to have controlled 70 percent of the U.S. black market in steroids . . NASCAR officials announced Tuesday that Geoff Bodine is being fined \$15,000 and placed on probation until Dec. 31 for rough driving during the Winn-Dixie 300 Busch Grand National race at North Carolina's Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Associated Press

Error in 12th gives Teleconnect 3-2 win

An error on a ground ball off the bat of Teleconnect shortstop Terry Feye allowed Mike Tranel to score the winning run in the bottom the 12th inning as Tele edged Plangger Furniture of Benton Harbor, Mich., 3-2 in a men's fast-pitch softball contest Tuesday night at Kirkwood

difficult the course should be.

the LPGA tour to make the course Cincinnati.

course up for play. If they want us soft and manageable.

ciation wants it.

Complex.

Plangger shortstop Ron Mandarino muffed Feye's grounder, allowing Tranel to score. Tele pitcher Jody Hennigar (10-0) went the distance, allowing four hits, striking out 12 and walking six. Scott Plangger (3-3) took the loss, pitching the final 134 innings in place of starter Rick Plangger (7-3), who scattered four hits and struck out six.

The two teams also were involved in a late-starting nightcap.

we'd like to get a tougher golf

lowest in the 10 years the event has

Plangger is 10-6. Teleconnect, 18-1, won the extra-inning, 21/2-hour thriller after seventh-inning heroics by player-manager Steve Andrew.

Tele's Steve Kaiser walked with no outs and Tranel singled him to second. After Hennigar struck out, both runners advanced on a passed ball. Andrew then doubled them both home.

Plangger had taken a 2-0 lead in the second inning on back-to-back doubles by Kurt Galloway and John MacEldowney.

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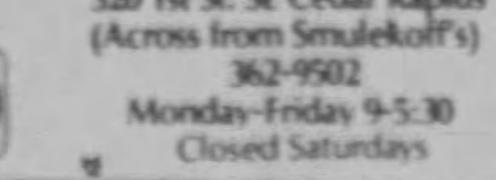
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