TOMJANOVICH IS THE YEAR

Coach of the Year
1. Rudy Tomjanovich, Houston
2. Pat Riley, New York
3. Lenny Wilkins, Cleveland
4. John Lucas, San Antonio
5. George Karl, Seattle

Pat Riley is again passed up for the award, because Tomjanovich has done nearly as well with less talent. This is always the knock on Riley, although this is his sixth 60-win season in 11 years coaching, and many coaches have squandered shot better than the Knicks. Riley made some masterful changes to the starting line-up throughout the season and is a great motivator. Still, no one gave the Rockets a prayer at the start, and Rudy has guided them there.

Rookie of the Year
1. Shaquille O'Neal, Orlando (23.4 ppg, 13.9 reb., 56.2% fg)
2. Alonzo Mourning, Charlotte (21.0, 10.3, 271 blocks)
3. Tom Gugliotta, Washington (14.7, 9.6, 3.8 assists)
4. Walt Williams, Sacramento (17.0, 4.5, 3 assists)
5. Clarence Weatherspoon, Philadelphia (15.6, 7.2)

The Shaq was a run-away winner from the start, though he tired towards the end of what would have been his senior year. Mourning was impressive, putting up big numbers and leading the Hornets to the playoff without much depth. Gugliotta proved he is not the next Lany Bird, but he deserves a much better team than the Bullets. Spoon proved he can jam with the best of them.

Tough question
Who holds the Major League record for striking out the most times in a row. Send answers, comments, and predictions for how long Canseco will last as Letterman's replacement to sports@the-tech.

Answer to last week's question: Seattle Pilots (Browns), Milwaukee Braves (Atlanta), Washington Senators (both the Twins and Senators), and the St. Louis Browns (Orioles).

Tuesdays present this week will be Sports (Pilots), hardwood (A's), and baseball at the Coliseum.

For honorable mention in a strong rookie crop: Harold Miner, Anthony Peeler, Robert Hurley, Jimmy Jackson, and Christian Laettner. Jimmy Jackson gets a mention for leading the Mavs to six wins in 20 games, when they could muster only four out of the previous 62. No one, including his high schooler, alum Sonnet Lante (who bulked up for the summer by carrying bags for the Dream Team), but geral mentioned because of his big numbers (18.2 ppg, 8.7 rpg).

Bonehead play of the week
This week we turn to the New York Mets clubhouse for this feature's fodder. Met outfielder Vince Coleman, practicing for the upcoming Memorial Tournament, tagged Dwight Gooden in the shoulder while swinging his nine iron in the Met locker room a couple of hours before Gooden was scheduled to pitch to the Dodgers last Monday night. Gooden was scratched from the lineup with a bruised shoulder, acquired by "bumping into something," the Mets said.

Rut Davis had a monster season with injuries. He has also finished second in scoring for the seventh time in the last eight years.