

Elliott begins recovery after kidney transplant

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — While San Antonio Spurs forward Sean Elliott can't participate in any vigorous workouts following his kidney transplant, he's keeping busy. When the NBA champion Spurs start playing exhibition games next month, Elliott plans to travel with the team and be on the sidelines providing color commentary for team broadcasts.

"I feel great, I really do. I feel really good," Elliott said. "Considering I'm a month out of the initial surgery, I'm feeling a lot better than I thought I would at this time, that's for sure."

Elliott, who had a kidney transplant Aug. 16, can walk on a treadmill and is waiting for doctors to clear him to run, which could happen in the coming month.

"Nothing too strenuous, is what I've been told," he said. "I'm sticking to that."

Elliott also is sticking to his plan for a possible NBA return.

A comeback after a kidney transplant would be unprecedented in professional sports, but that doesn't worry Elliott. He has recovered from knee injuries in the NBA and was told after a knee injury in high school he would never play again.

"It doesn't bother me at all," the 31-year-old forward said. "I don't think about it. I think if somebody can do it, I can do it."

Elliott, a 10-year veteran who helped San Antonio to its first NBA title in June, received the kidney from his brother, Noel.

He had a condition called focal segmental

glomerular sclerosis, which prevents the kidneys from properly filtering waste from the blood.

Without the transplant, he was weeks away from needing dialysis.

Elliott wants to put his comeback on the fast track. The longer he is away from basketball, he says, the harder it could be.

"To be honest with you and myself, I would rather do it this year than sit out a year and then try to come back," he said.

Doctors said it would be about six weeks after the transplant before he could run or do strenuous activity.

"I'm pretty much chomping at the bit now to do a little bit more," he said. "It's the hardest part, just laying around half the time.

People say, 'Get off your feet.' Well, I've been off my feet for long enough. It's time to start getting better and strengthening my body back up."

He said some medications have made him ill, but doctors plan to reduce the dosages over the next few months.

If he does return, he would have to shield the new kidney with a protective device in the pelvic area.

"That's the immediate concern, making sure that you don't get hit. Then the other concern is you have protection and you're afraid to go out there and play or you're afraid that you're going to get hit," he said.

"You've got to get past that mental part. If I can get past all that, then I'll try to play."

Candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

me that irregularities in the school zone cause problems. Why, for instance, should cars have to travel at 15 miles per hour all day long, even though the kids aren't outside. Why not have the flashing signals to let you know when you should slow down instead of slowing traffic all day long?"

Duncan-Briley founded Windsor Park Homeowners' Association and secured \$12 million in relocation funding

for homes sinking due to underground fault lines. That experience, combined with being a small business owner and working in police enforcement, will help handle the demands of leadership, she said.

"Ward 5 is so critical," she said. "If we experience civil unrest, it will spread throughout the city. We're on the verge of that happening, just like in the '60s, but I think it's totally

unnecessary. We can meet the people's needs."

Bennett, head pastor at Zion Methodist Church and former state assemblyman and Las Vegas NAACP president, said he's heads above the other candidates.

"I'm the best man for the job because I have the most experience," he said. "I'm not looking for a job. I don't have to appease people. I have an excellent track record that shows that I'm interested in the area. Not one of the other candidates has invested \$1 in Ward 5. I, on the other hand, take care of a lot of people. They're just giving lip service."

Herebuffed assertions that his troubles as a landlord have contributed to the deterioration of the area. Some residents claim Bennett is a slumlord.

"I spent almost a million dollars at DNK Plaza but some dope addicts went and broke out the windows," he



"It's an appointment, not an election. I'll be glad when it's over."

—Larry Weekly

are always complaining about what they don't like and what needs to be different, but when they have the opportunity, they don't show up."

Another person in the running for the Ward 5 seat, Lawrence Weekly, chose not to attend the discussion. Weekly, liaison for City Councilman Gary Reese, is considered by many as the front-runner after endorsements from City Councilman Michael McDonald, a high-school friend, and other city staff.

"It's an appointment, not an election," Weekly said. "After the appointment, there will be ample time to mix with the public. People don't understand that the hardest part is working here. People think that something is going on behind closed doors, but it's not. None of the councilmen have said anything to me about it. I'll be glad when it's over."

History

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OCTOBER 12

Independence Day - Equatorial Guinea Columbus Day

1904 - William Montague Cobb is born in Washington, D.C. He will become a physician, longtime professor of anatomy, and editor of the Journal of the National Medical Association from 1949-1977.

1908 - Ann Petry is born in Old Saybrook, Conn. She will become the author of *The Street* and the juvenile work *Harriet Tubman, Conductor of the Underground Railroad*.

1925 - Xavier university, American's only Black Catholic college, founded in New Orleans.

1932 - Richard Claxton Gregory is born in St. Louis, Mo. "Dick" Gregory will be a comedian, civil rights supporter, and nutrition advocate.

1989 - George Beavers, Jr., last surviving founder of Golden State Life Insurance Company of Los Angeles, Calif. dies. He co-founded this company in 1925 which is the third largest African-American life insurance company, with \$120 million in assets and \$5 billion of insurance in force.

OCTOBER 13

1831 - Jo anderson, a slave, helps invent the grain harvester reaper.

1902 - Prolific poet, librarian, and author of historical and juvenile fiction Arna Bontemps is born in Alexandria, La. Among his best-known works will be the words *God Sends Sunday* and *Black Thunder*, the juvenile books *We Have Tomorrow* and *The Story of the Negro*, and *American Negro Poetry*, which he edited.

1906 - J. Saunders Redding is born in Wilmington, Del. He will become a literary and social critic and author of non-fiction works on the African-American experience, such as *To Make a Poet Black*, *On Born Negro in America*, and *Cavalcade: Negro American Writing from 1760 to the Present*.

1915 - Meharry Medical College, founded in 1876, is incorporated in Nashville, Tenn.

1925 - Garland Anderson's "Appearances" opens at the Frolic Theatre on Broadway. It is the first full-length play by an African-American on Broadway.

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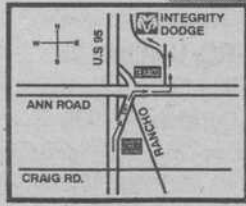
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