

Women roundballers doing well

By ROBERT CESSNA
Staff Sports Writer

Coach Shelby Metcalf has a fine team to rely on but if he needs more reinforcements, he need look no further than the girl's basketball team.

Two of the first girls he might pick are the co-captains Cissy Auclair and Diane Quitta who have helped the team compile a 9-4 record.

Auclair has been with the girl's basketball team for two years. She is a sophomore from Waco majoring in journalism. Auclair was all-district three years in basketball at Midway High School. In 1973 she was all-state and played on the Texas South All-Star team. She made all-

tournament at the Baylor Invitational and scored 21 points in last night's win.

"Cissy helps on rebounds and is a fairly aggressive player. She has a nice little jump shot under the basket. And Cissy has improved a lot this year becoming more aggressive," Kay Don, girl's basketball coach said.

Auclair started playing basketball about six years ago in the eighth grade. "I don't know why I started," Auclair said. "They asked me to play and it was something new so I wanted to try it," she added.

She went to school in Georgia, but Cindy Horton a teammate told her about basketball at A&M and she decided to come here.

"I love playing basketball," Auclair said. Playing at the college level has been even more fun. "We played half-court in high school and now we play full-court," she added.

Auclair also has to be helped by the fact she stands 5'11". She has improved in her two years here and one main reason is because the girl's team has improved also. "We have material to work with this year. I watch Karen (Aulenbacher) and Diane (Quitta) play and I feel guilty if I don't hustle," Auclair said.

But for Auclair basketball may be near the end because college is the last level for most women. Men can always hope to make it in the pros.

"I don't know what I'm going to do at the end of college. I'll try to

find something to do. I will still want to play. There are a few professional teams, but I don't think I'll play for them."

Does Auclair think girl's basketball is accepted equally with men's? "No, I don't think it has been accepted as equal. We haven't won enough and it takes a while. We don't get the money the men do but we don't need as much."

"We are a lot better than Rice and SMU who are also in their second year. Everyone works hard," Auclair said.

"I just want to win enough to get interest and scholarships for the team. We could have a better team and program," Auclair said.

Sometimes Auclair has to leave class early to go to a game. Some say, "I didn't even know we had a team."

But interest is picking up as 2,500 showed up for the Baylor game.

The other captain is Diane Quitta a junior from College Station. She earned four letters in basketball at A&M Consolidated High School. She made all-district team and most valuable player on her team.

The Physical Education major went to Temple Junior college where she earned all-conference honors.

"Diane is a defensive player with a nice little jump shot. She is very aggressive and more of a playmaker on offense to get things going," Don said.

Quitta like Auclair started in junior high. "I just liked basketball," Quitta said. "They had just started a program and I thought I could help," she said.

Quitta hopes to improve her game in two areas: cutting down on the fouls and shooting more. "I think it has (the team) made a lot of improvement and it's going to get better. We have the people who can play and they have the right attitude. It's improving each year and more people are becoming interested and backing us."

Girl basketball is catching on. Girls can play just about as well as boys excepting speed and jumping ability. They can play the same game just like a boy. It's just as exciting to watch, Quitta said.

What about after college? "There are some basketball teams that you can play for on the amateur level. You can be a coach," Quitta said. But it's more than playing basketball. "It helps on other aspects of life," she said. Quitta gets to travel and meet new people. "It's like a class."

Quitta realizes that some people are going to look down on girl athletes. That will happen anywhere you go, she said.

Her goals: "To see if I can do better. I hope we do good at the regional tournament and the Houston tournament."

Quitta sees recognition for the girl's basketball team coming on campus. "We are going to have a girl's basketball team here and it's going to get better. And people are going to see we are good."



Cissy Auclair gets a shot off against Baylor. (Photo by Jack Holm)



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Tech beats SMU 74-61 for 5th win

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP) — Rick Bullock led a balanced Texas Tech attack here Tuesday night as the Red Raiders hit quick and early for a 74-61 Southwest Conference basketball victory over Southern Methodist University.

Bullock helped move the Raiders into a 12-0 lead early in the game and the Raiders held back the SMU Mustangs to go into the intermission with a 39-25 advantage.

The victory gave Texas Tech a 5-2 mark in league play and dropped the Mustangs to a 3-4 record.

Tech's lead in the second half was stretched to 19 points before the Mustangs cut it down to eight in the last few minutes, but Bullock's free throws again put the Raiders beyond reach.

Bullock ended the night with 17 points followed by William Johnson and Phil Bailey with 12 and Grady Newton with 10.

SMU was led by Rusty Bourquein who scored 14 points. Mike Jaccar added 13 and Jeff Swanson 12.

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