

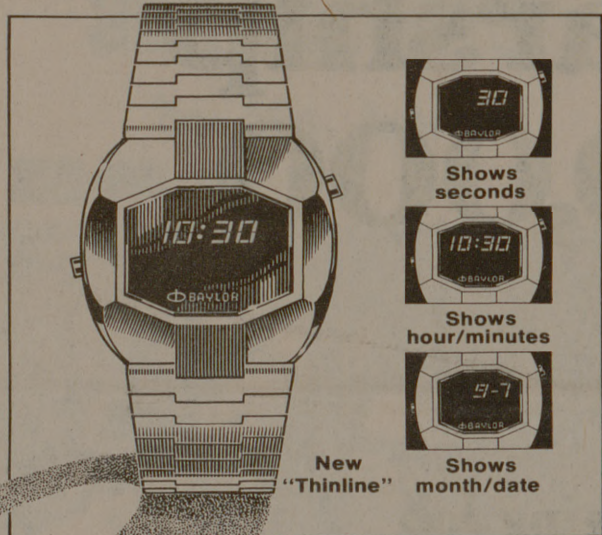
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Women roundballers put squeeze on Wharton JC

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Sports Writer

Thank heavens for little girls. When the impending disaster at Little Rock seemed too unbearable for most Aggies, the women's basketball team lightened the burden just a bit by giving us something to cheer about. They trounced Wharton Junior College 68-52, upping their record to 3-1 for the season.

That relentless Aggie defense was at work once again, yielding its opponent absolutely nothing to the inside. Wharton continually was forced to shoot difficult, outside shots.

A&M, led by Cissy Auclair, out-rebounded Wharton 53-40. The 5-11 junior from Waco was responsible for 15 of the Aggies' rebounds. The game got off to a fast start with A&M scoring quickly with the

opening tipoff. Wharton came right back and tied the score at 2-2. That was as close as they ever came.

A&M, helped by steals by Beth Mamaliga and Auclair and some fast breaks, stretched its lead to 18-4. After a couple of quick goals which brought the score up to 18-8, Wharton could not manage to score again during the next five minutes. At halftime, the Aggies held a commanding 37-16 lead.

The rest of the game went pretty smoothly until only about nine minutes remained in the game. Wharton, in desperation, went to a full court press defense and drastically changed the tempo of the game. Fouls and turnovers started occurring everywhere. The hectic play continued until the final seconds ticked off. A&M had won the battle.

Mamie Mauch and Nancy Stredic were the high scorers for Wharton Junior College with 13 and 11 points respectively.

But the main spark behind the Wharton offense came the small package of 5-foot-tall Gayln Zwerschke. The antics of this little Mighty Mouse really kept the Aggies on their toes. She spent as much time dribbling the ball while on her knees as she did while standing up.

Sally Morris and Auclair led the scoring for the Ags with 14 points each. Cindy Gough scored 9 while Margaret Byrne and Eileen Roitsch had 8 and 6 points respectively.

Other Aggies getting into the scoring act were Diane Quitta, Mamaliga, Ann Brewer, Jane Anne Jenkins, and Carol McAllister. Quitta, as usual, led in assists with 13.

The Aggies' next game will be against Sam Houston State University tonight at 5:15 in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Aero's Gordie Howe suffers suspension

PHOENIX (AP) — Gordie Howe, the 47-year-old right wing of the Houston Aeros who is also the club's president, was suspended for the first time in his 29-year hockey career Saturday when the World Hockey Association shelved him indefinitely for abuse of an official in a game Friday night.

Howe's teammate, goalie Ron Grahame, was suspended along with Howe after each had run-ins with referee Ron Asselstine in Friday night's penalty-filled 5-4 Houston victory over the Winnipeg Jets. A WHA statement said league Chief Executive Ben Hatskin would make a ruling on the incident on Monday.

Each was ejected from the contest — Grahame in the first period and Howe in the second — after drawing five of the penalties called.

"Among other things, I rumbled at the referee," said Howe, hockey's all-time greatest scorer. "One time I did give him an elbow, and you shouldn't do that to an official." He added, however, "The guy was making awful calls."

It was one call, on Howe for high-sticking at 7:10 of the middle period, that got the veteran ejected. Howe argued the ruling by Asselstine, bumped him against the boards at Houston's Summit Arena, and got a game misconduct for his actions.

His ejection, the second of the game, brought a furious reaction from the crowd of 10,702 at the Summit. Asselstine earlier had thrown out Grahame — who had

stormed at the official with his stick raised. When the crowd erupted, the referee skated off the ice and nearly didn't return.

Howe said Grahame just raised his stick over his head while facing the referee. "Gee," he added, "we do that all the time."

Grahame, however, came after the referee a second time but was tackled by teammate Ted Taylor before reaching Asselstine.

Howe also said he told the referee at one point, "All those people came down just to see you; put on a good show." Later, he added, "Why don't you step out and see yourself on the telescreen (a replay screen in the stadium)?" and at that point elbowed the official.

Swim team holds first scrimmage

Swimming coach Dennis Fosdick got his first in-depth look at the swimmers last Saturday in the P.L. Downs Natatorium as the team swam in an intra-squad meet. Time trials were taken in the medley relay, the 200 meter individual medley, the 50, 100, 200, 500, and 1000 meter freestyle. Competition was also held in the 200 meter backstroke, the 200 meter breaststroke, and the 200 meter butterfly.

"It's still early season for us," said Fosdick. "This mainly gives us a chance to get times."

The swimmers are presently preparing for their first dual meet to be held this weekend against SMU.

"We're not too concerned with dual meets," Fosdick added. "We don't worry until the second semester when we aim toward the conference and national meets in March."

Fosdick noted promise in several swimmers during the trials.

Oran Marksbury, Steve Moore, and Bob Leland reportedly had excellent times in the breaststroke. Greg Meek equalled his best time in the 50 meter freestyle. Others recording good times for this time of the year were Don Reeser, backstroke, Phil Pellegrino, freestyle and butterfly, and Bruce Hoak, freestyle.

These and all other questions answered here.

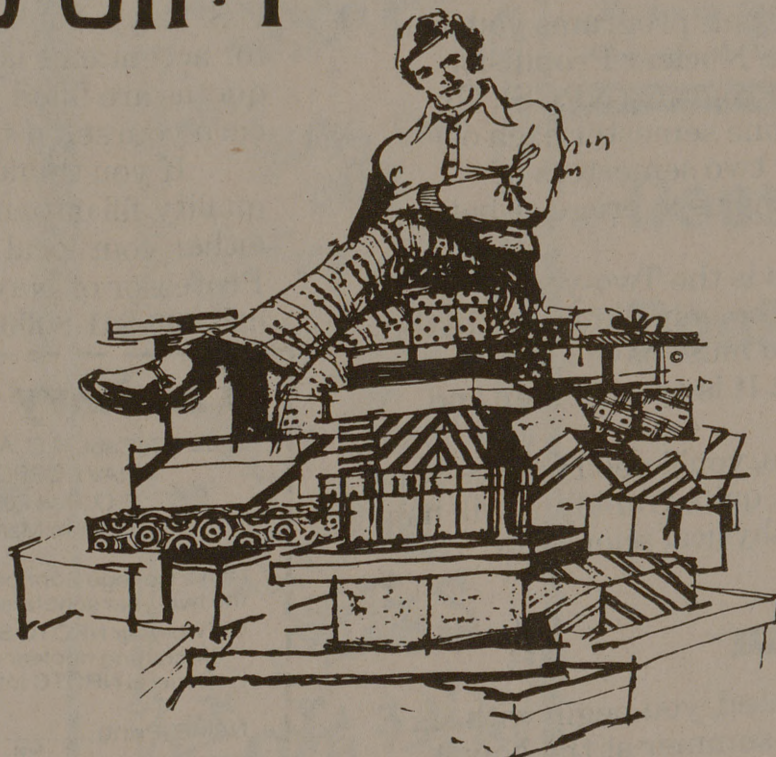


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