

Basketball stars declared ineligible

By TONY GALLUCCI and PAUL McGRATH

specially-called Sunday meeting in Dallas of conference officials. It is the only official pronouncement in the disclosure of alleged wrongdoing by the two Aggie freshmen basketball players.

There is speculation that recruiting violations were involved in the case of the pair. However, as of this morning, conference officials had made no clarification. Both Godine and Williams attended Houston Kashmere High School last year. A&M officials could make no comment as they are

bound by a "gag rule" imposed by the conference.

A&M's official response came late yesterday when Dr. Charles Sampson Jr., chairman of the A&M Athletic Council, served a notice of appeal to the conference. The SWC member representatives must now meet to discuss the Aggies' response.

Of immediate concern to the team, which leads the SWC standings, is the possible forfeiture of past games. Conference spokesman Bill Morgan said that during the Sunday meeting "forfeitures were not even discussed."

Media speculation about the type of violations was triggered by a release by the Houston News Service yesterday.

The story, written by Dennis Tardan, said that the players were driving 1976 cars. Tardan also said the two got special privileges such as being allowed to drive to Houston for the Bluebonnet Classic while other team members were forced to ride on the team bus.

A&M Athletic Director Emory Bellard said Williams drives a 1974 Cutlass and Godine drives a 1975 Camaro.

The news service statement continued: "Two Southwest Conference recruiters were told (last year) by ex-Kashmere head coach Weldon Drew that the team that gets Godine and Williams will have to come up with some cars and some cash."

Drew, contacted by The Battalion at New Mexico State where he is now an assistant coach, flatly said, "That is a lie."

"As far as I'm concerned there were no illegal tactics used. They were recruited in the manner that they should have been," Drew said.

Drew said that heavy recruiting of the pair made it inevitable that such rumors would surface. He said he had told the pair that anywhere they went they would be investigated.

The Dallas Times-Herald said in a story yesterday that Godine and Williams were asked to take lie detector tests on Friday by

SWC investigators. Godine confirmed the story.

Although no official announcement was made, Godine and Williams apparently were investigated earlier in the season. At that time they also apparently took a lie detector test. Conference sources reported that the two passed with "flying colors."

Dr. Sampson said he could not comment on any aspect of the investigation.

One SWC official told the Associated Press that no criminal acts are involved.

Williams and Godine have both started for the Aggies during the conference season. The 6-foot-2 Godine is averaging 13 points per game and 2.7 rebounds. Williams, a 6-foot-6 forward, is averaging 7.7 points per game and 5.4 rebounds.

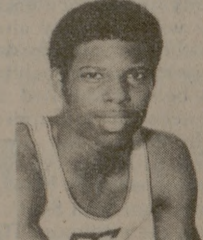
Godine hit seven of eight shots in the second half of A&M's televised bout with Texas Tech Saturday to spark the Aggies to a 73-64 win and the conference lead. The Ags have compiled a 10-2 SWC record and are 17-5 overall.

The squad has been cut to seven scholarship players. Seniors Barry Davis, Sonny Parker, Ray Roberts and Gates Erwin remain. Also junior Steve Jones, and freshmen Wally Swanson and Joey Robinson are still playing. Junior walk-on Kevin Jones may see more action and former junior varsity player Brian Barrett has been asked to accompany the team.

The starting lineup is currently up in the air, although Gates Erwin and Wally Swanson have been the chief substitutes for Godine and Williams.



Karl Godine



Jarvis Williams

The Battalion

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Nibble, nibble

What is it, an experimental lawnmower? No, it's Moonshadow, a guest at A&M. Moonshadow is staying with Brent Thorpe of Legett Hall. Let's hope Sbisla doesn't catch the cute little critter.

School Board meets

Suggests school bond issue

The Citizen's Advisory Committee recommended a \$6.43 million bond issue to A&M Consolidated School Board last week. The board will consider the committee's report in preparation for a potential bond election later this spring.

The committee recommended that a school containing grades five and six be added in the old middle school building at Jersey St.

The projected cost of renovations, site improvements and equipment for the old middle school building is \$1,785,600.

The committee also recommended spending \$1,545,600 for a new vocational building at A&M Consolidated High School.

Expansion of physical education facilities, cafeteria expansion, a service drive, correction of existing building problems and other equipment at the high school would total \$835,600, according to the committee suggestions.

The committee advised the school board that \$774,900 is needed at College Hills Elementary School and \$710,000 at South Knoll Elementary School for additional classrooms and improvements.

An expenditure of \$396,500 was also suggested by the committee for building and salvage work on maintenance facilities in the district.

The committee advised the board to begin studying the possibility of acquiring property for future building sites.

Committee chairman Alvin Jones said the committee did not recommend using any funds from the forthcoming bond election for land acquisition.

The Professional Consultation Committee of the College Station Education Association (CSEA) presented the board with a statement of needs as seen by the teachers in the district.

The consultation committee's perception of school needs was included in the advisory committee's information used to calculate the recommended building program.

Betty LeBlanc, chairman of the consultation committee, said the need for a vocational building has been evident since the high school opened.

A field house was also needed for the high school, LeBlanc said.

She said currently there are no facilities for girls' athletics in the high school.

The athletic teams are now using the high school's physical education classrooms and lockers.

LeBlanc said with the addition of a field house, overcrowding in the physical education facilities would be eliminated.

LeBlanc said the teachers also felt there was a need for general improvement at the Middle School, including drainage, lighting, ventilation and security.

Additional classroom space and expansion of the library and cafeteria are needed at the Middle School, LeBlanc said.

Politics seen through eyes of second graders

By PAUL ARNETT and CAROL MEYER

Another election year is upon us and the second graders of College Hills and South Knoll Elementary schools already have a favorite in mind. President Ford is the unanimous choice, with Ronald Reagan finishing second.

None of the children knows any of the individuals running on the Democratic ticket.

"1968, that's when I was born," was the response of one boy when told that Hubert Humphrey, a possible candidate for this year's election, had run against then-President Richard Nixon in 1968. Local politics seemed to interest the children the least. Very few of them knew that Dolph Briscoe is the governor of Texas. A girl responded to the question with, "Isn't George Washington the governor?" Other answers ranged from God to Abraham Lincoln.

Teachers Cherry Burnett of South Knoll and Julie Click of College Hills appeared to have done an excellent job teaching their students about American history and its government. All the students had a strong feeling of nationalism.

"My favorite thing about America

is the flag because it's cute," one girl said.

Another added, "I like the president, the police and electricity."

There were varied replies to the question of who runs the country. Some responses were God, Jesus, firemen and the police.

When asked about the President of the United States, a quick "I hate him" rose from a boy in the crowd. That boy changed his mind when he

found out that Ford was the President, not Nixon.

The Pledge of Allegiance is an everyday occurrence for second graders. Parents often wonder if the children know exactly what they are saying.

"I pledge my allegiance to God and to the flag," was one girl's answer.

Another said, "I pledge my allegiance to the flag." (See Children, page 3)

Early views remain

In high school, Chuck is president of the student council, vice-president of his class, and once helped campaign for the senator from his hometown.

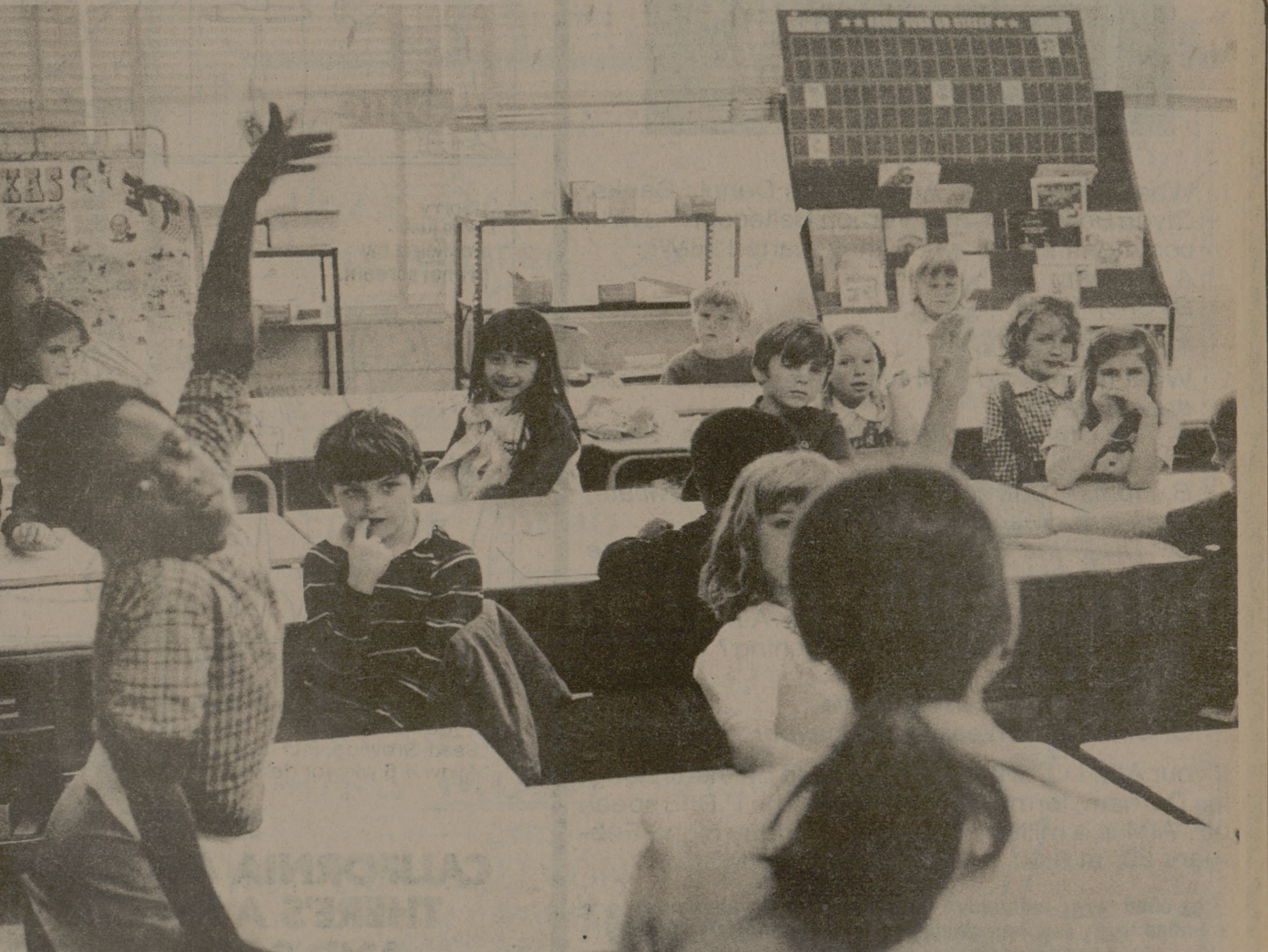
Most people would say Chuck displays the first signs of an interest in politics. However, a pair of researchers maintain that this interest actually was kindled in elementary school, where a child begins formulating his political attitudes and values.

"Early impressions acquired in childhood are likely to change much more slowly than those developed through later experience, especially in maturity," say David Easton and Robert D. Hess.

Their study of more than 12,000 elementary school children is related in their essay, "The Child's Political World."

The Easton and Hess findings correlate with the attitudes of second graders whom The Battalion talked with at South Knoll and College Hills Elementary Schools in College Station.

For example, the children realize, as Easton and Hess learned, that "they are different from other members of a society." One boy in The Battalion's interview said he was glad all the children didn't have to wear



"I like the President, the Police, and Electricity"

Paul Arnett