Gough: the First Lady of Aggie sports

Mix a softball shortstop with a basketball forward. Add eight var-sity letters. Throw in a 3.4 GPR for good measure and what do you get? Cindy Gough.

Gough, a 22-year-old senior, will graduate with eight varsity sports letters, four each in basketball and softball. She will be the first woman at Texas A&M to do so.

My freshman year was the first year A&M gave letters for sports to women," said Gough. "So, our senior class will be the first to be four-year lettermen.

"I don't think anybody else has played two sports for four years. No one else is foolish enough," she

added with a laugh. However, all of Gough's sports activities haven't been just in the

last four years.

Despite the fact that her high school in Bellaire didn't have an outstanding sports program, Gough did her best to be involved in all types of athletics.

I swam between the ages of eight and 13 and played on a church league softball team starting at 13," Gough said. "I was on the swim team in the tenth grade and ran track when I had time. In the sum-mer I played softball.

"I was even on the drill team, much to everybody's surprise," she

It is easy to see why Gough might play softball, considering she's played for nine years, but where does basketball come in?

"I didn't play basketball in high school because we didn't have a team," Gough said, "but I always liked it and played street ball when I was growing up."

Gough said that she chose to

come to Texas A&M because it offered both sports that she wanted to

play. "I also came because A&M is such a football school," she said, "and because it's so close to home."

Gough is attending A&M on a softball scholarship. "They used to split the scholarship between softball and basketball," she explained "but since they can only plained, "but since they can only give 12 basketball scholarships, they've put all of mine on softball." Gough's freshman year was the

first year Texas A&M gave softball scholarships. "I went the first day of practice and applied," she said. "I've seen the scholarships go from \$200 to \$1,200.

Gough said that when she first came to Texas A&M, women's sports were just beginning to get or-

'I was lucky enough to make the basketball team because it wasn't so specialized then," she said. "The softball team wasn't too big either.'

When I was a fish, (Women's) Athletic Director Kay Don was coaching both softball and basketball. Now they've started hiring specialized coaches. Because of the specialization, I think they're trying to get way from having one person

play two sports."
Gough said she would have a hard time choosing if forced to play only

'I like them for different reashe said, "I feel that I'm better skillwise in softball, but I've always wanted to play basketball.

Gough does say, however, that she would chose softball over bas-

Pacers de-fuse Rockets

United Press International
HOUSTON — Johnny Davis
scored 28 points, 14 in the fourth
quarter, and Alex English added 27
to lead the Indiana Pacers to a 124-120 NBA victory over the Houston Rockets Tuesday night.

Rudy Tomjanovich led the Rockets with 28 points, and Calvin Murphy and Moses Malone each had 26. The loss snapped a four-game winning streak for the Rockets and dropped them one full game behind

San Antonio in the Central Division. The Rockets used a 9-0 burst to build up a 49-42 lead midway through the second quarter, but the Pacers came back to tie the score at 60 at the half. Billy Knight had 10 of his 22 points for Indiana in the sec-

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ond quarter. The Pacers led 87-85 after three

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1. UCLA(15) (18-3) 59	8
2. Indiana St (25) (22-0) 59	
3. Notre Dame (2)(17-3) 51	
4. North Carolina (18-4) 43	
5. LSU(19-3) 37	
6. Duke	5
7. Syracuse(20-2) 33	38
8. Michigan St (16-5) 32	15
9. Louisville(21-3) 30)(
10. Marquette(17-4) 29):
11. Arkansas(17-4) 17	15
12. Texas(17-5) 13	35
13. Purdue (19-5) 8	35
14. Temple(19-3) 8	38
15. Iowa (16-5) 7	
16. Georgetown(18-4) 5	55
17. Vanderbilt (16-5) 4	18
18. (tie) Ohio St	1
18. (tie) TexasA&M(20-6)	
23. (0.0)	

"Even though getting to play bas-ketball was a dream that finally be-came a reality," she said, "I feel I'm more of an asset to the softball team. I'm just glad I don't have to choose.

Gough doesn't deny the fact that a lack of high school experience has been a factor in her basketball career. However, she said she feels that she also had somewhat of an advantage. "I never had to go through the switch form six-man in high school to five-man in college and I

didn't have to deal with not knowing

"Certain players have their specialties and I've picked up what I could from them," she said.

Gough got quite a bit of experience in softball, however, winningmost valuable player honors in several tournaments.

As far as her feelings on her individual talents in the two sports, Gough said she thinks hitting is her best point in softball as are defense and passing in basketball.

lot about basketball from other be the best defensive position and I don't have near the stats the other players have.

Gough said that basketball has been her biggest challenge because she learns something new everyday that will help her when she coaches. After graduation, the P.E. major said that she might go to graduate school and then coach at the junior

high level. "Junior high kids are at a very impressionable age," she said, "and are forming ideals and values."

sports, it doesn't take just one, but the team as as whole," she ex-plained. "Obviously, I like team sports or I'd be playing tennis or swimming."

Using softball as an example, she tid: "There are ninepeople in softball and the bench is very important. There are no stars. There can be stars in basketball. Team sports are just important.

aspect of team sports.

"Kids need to learn that in team

Gough seems to have managed quite well at handling two sports at once. However, it does get hectic. Softball is in the fall and spring, she said, "with basketball in the middle. There are no breaks."

Gough said that she spends be-tween three and four hours a day with sports, which, when combined with classes, doesn't leave much time for studying.

"I've taken 15 hours a semester and that's all I can handle" she said.

Gough said that there h several times when her gra fered or pressures at hon her want to quit. But, she can't get mentally depress

erything will cave in.
"I've often had to re-eva it made me see that quittin an easy way out," Gougl didn't enjoy it, I wouldn'th

in it for four years.' Gough and the Aggie Lat ketball team will host Pano

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