

Olympian hopefuls seek court order

United Press International
NEW YORK — Politics, economics and diplomacy — activities that have seemed to supersede the traditional track and swimming in Olympic news of late — were joined by jurisprudence Wednesday.

A group of prospective Olympians filed suit against the United States Olympic Committee seeking to overturn the committee's decision not to send a team to the Summer Games in Moscow.

The lawsuit, filed in federal district court in Washington, was announced at a news conference held in the New York offices of the American Civil Liberties Union. It seeks a court order declaring the USOC April 12 resolution illegal and prohibiting the committee from doing anything other than enabling American athletes to take part in the games. The action would return the choice of participation to the individual athletes.

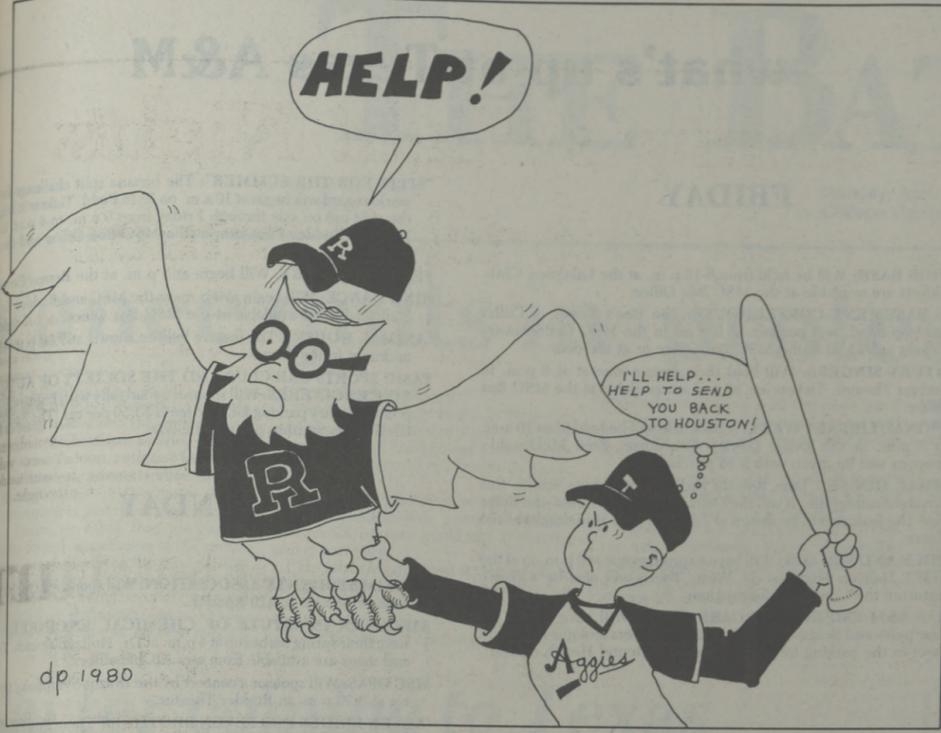
"We're just plain tired of being used by our government and being told we'd be used by the Soviet government," said Anita DeFrantz, a 1976 rowing bronze medalist who is one of 20 plaintiffs named in the case. "We're not tools. We're human beings with goals and aspirations."

Also joining in the class action

were 1976 Olympic discus gold medalist Mac Wilkins, long jump gold medalist Arnie Robinson and rowing bronze medalist Carol Brown, as well as 16 selected or prospective members of the rowing, weightlifting, fencing, waterpolo and track teams.

An attorney for the group said the list would likely increase as individuals training and competing around the world were contacted. He indicated the matter must be settled by May 24, the latest possible date for accepting the invitation to Moscow.

The case alleges the USOC decision is illegal because federal law requires the committee to be autonomous and non-political, and to "enable and coordinate" participation in the Olympics by Americans; it violates constitutional rights of liberty; and it further violates the committee's own constitution that gives the USOC monopoly power to coordinate participation but not to decide whether or not to take part.



dp 1980

Lady Ag track team favored at state meet

The A&M women's track team, in its first year of history, is favored to win the state meet, and last year the Aggies were runner-up to Texas Southern. "If we make any mistakes," Nix said, "either one of us will win it."

The Aggies turned in a strong performance last weekend in the Baylor National in tuning up for the state meet.

Lady Bartlett qualified for the national meet in the 400-meter hurdle and in the process, the senior from Dallas set a new school record of 1:06.64, bettering the mark of 1:09.09 that she set last year.

Another school record was set last weekend in Baylor when the 400-meter relay team, consisting of Lynn Gamble, Julie White, Evelyn Smith and Bartlett, posted a time of 3:56, eclipsing the old mark of 4:00.

Once again the Aggies will rely on

field events and distance running for the majority of their points. Iris Tipton and Early Douglas are ranked first and fourth respectively amongst the state shot putters. Jan Chesbro tops all high jumpers in the state and Vickilee Cobern is third ranked in the discus.

Sophomore Sandra Brown is ranked second in the 3,000-meter and mile run, and is third in the 1,500-meter run. Lorie Scott is ranked

second in the 5,000-meter and fourth in the 3,000-meters.

Nix said the majority of the teams points will come from the field events and distance runners, but added, "I will be real happy if we can pick up 10 points in the sprint events and relays."

Nix summed up his team this way: "We don't have any outstanding individuals, but we are a solid homogeneous unit."

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