

Swimmers lose to Cougars

by John Bramblett

Battalion Staff
The University of Houston's swim teams swept Texas A&M Saturday in a dual meet in Houston.

The Cougar men's team swam past the Aggies 77-36, while Texas A&M's women's team lost 75-72.

The women's team won six of sixteen events as its record fell to 3-4. The women had to swim without number one swimmer and team captain Tracy Johnston. Johnston was involved in a minor car accident Friday and it was decided that she should not swim, Coach Mel Nash said.

Michon Breisacher won the 50- and 200-yard breaststroke, while Maureen Beiter won two diving events off the one- and three-meter boards. Dee Ann Fowler won the 200-yard butterfly.

The women's 400-yard freestyle relay team also earned a first. Members of the relay team are Fowler, Phillis Burns, Susan Marks and Eileen Doull.

Nash said: "Houston has a very small team, but with high quality. They have several Olympians from other countries on their team."

Since both women's teams were so close in ability, he said, the meet involved a great deal of strategy.

Friday, the women's team

hosted Southwest Texas State University, defeating the Bobcats 77-55. The Aggies won every event.

In the men's loss to Houston, the Aggies received good performances from several swimmers. Rick Walker, currently 12th in the nation in the 500-yard freestyle, won three events: the 500-yard freestyle, 1000-yard freestyle and 200-yard individual medley.

Craig Buchmann placed second in the 50-yard freestyle. He finished behind a swimmer from Hong Kong who is fifth or sixth in the world in this event, Nash said. Mike Hoche finished second behind Walker in the 1000- and 500-yard free-style.

Nash said that Walker's win in the 200-yard individual medley was particularly impressive. Walker defeated Houston's number one swimmer by six tenths of a second after trailing by three seconds at the 100-yard mark, he said. Walker competed in this event eight minutes after winning the 1000-yard freestyle. "The meet was a bit disappointing ... we were close in a lot of races," he said.

The women's team will host Lamar University Friday and both teams will compete at home Saturday against Texas Tech University.

UH's Lewis: two years' eligibility?

United Press International
HOUSTON — University of Houston officials hope track and field record holder Carl Lewis — declared scholastically ineligible for the spring semester — will have two years of eligibility remaining when he returns to the school.

Lewis did not wear the school's track uniform in indoor competition this past month. The school is expected to contend that since Lewis did not wear his Houston uniform during indoor meets in New York

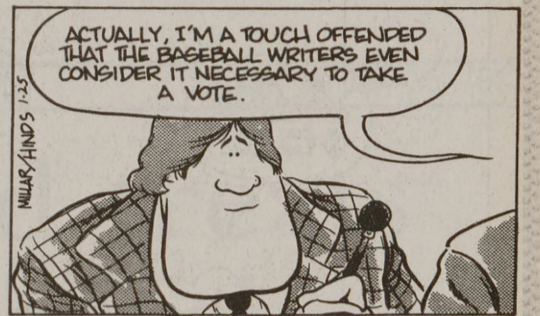
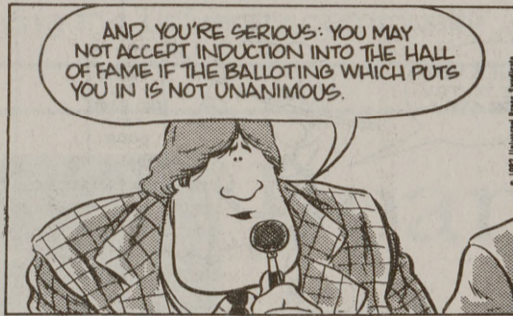
and Los Angeles this month that he did not compete as a member of the Cougars' team.

If that opinion is upheld by the NCAA, Lewis, who set the indoor long jump record earlier this month with a leap of 28-1, would still have two years of eligibility remaining.

Lewis, a junior, was declared ineligible Saturday night. Lewis' world-wide travel cut into his school work and he did not pass enough hours during the fall semester to remain eligible.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Blazers surprise Celtics

United Press International
BOSTON — Boston Celtic coach Bill Fitch, who is known to be philosophical when his team is winning, thinks two straight losses at home have taught the world champions something.

"This was a lesson," Fitch said shortly after the Portland Trail Blazers had beaten Boston 123-119 Sunday afternoon at Boston Garden. Two days earlier, the Celtics were upset by the Seattle SuperSonics.

The lesson, said philosopher Fitch, was simple: don't make mistakes, especially mental errors, in a physical game.

"It's a game of mistakes and when you make mistakes every time down the court you're going to lose the game. This was a lesson of the difference between winning and losing," Fitch said.

The loss dropped Boston to 30-11, although the Celtics are still in first place in the Atlantic Division of the National Basketball Association.

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Mark Linck, a diver for the Texas A&M men's swim team, competes in the Aggies' meet Saturday at the University of Houston. Both the Texas A&M men's and women's squads lost to the Cougars in the dual meet.

photo by Donn Friedman

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Players chosen

United Press International
PITTSBURGH — The Eastern Eight Basketball League announced Sunday that Darrell Gissendanner of Pittsburgh and Donald Russell of Massachusetts have been chosen its top player of the week and rookie of the week.

Gissendanner, a 6-foot-2 senior from Clairton, Pa., paced Pitt's two victories over St. Bonaventure and Rutgers. Against the Bonnies he had 13 points and added 19 in the Panthers' 48-46 upset of Rutgers.

Gissendanner had seven steals in the two games.

Russell, a 6-0 freshman from Mount Vernon, N.Y., won the top rookie honor for the third time this season.

Dandy Don

United Press International
SAN FRANCISCO — University of San Francisco guard Ken McAlister Sunday night was named the West Coast Athletic Conference's player of the week for his weekend performances against Gonzaga and Portland University.

McAlister scored 32 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and was credited with seven assists in the Dons' two games.

The Dons downed the Zags 80-65 Friday night and defeated the Pilots 81-78 Saturday night.

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