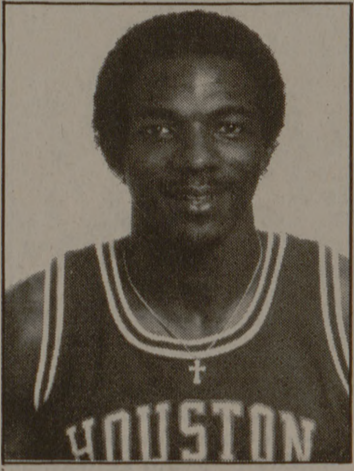


Cougars remain undefeated in SWC

UH confident after victory

by Frank L. Christlieb



Coogs' Clyde Drexler says defense key to UH victory

about winning in College Station.

"Well, how tall is the highest mountain?" he asked. "We had said a couple of weeks ago that the next five games or so starting with the Rice game (Jan. 26) could make or break us. This was the third of those games and we still have to play SMU up there and TCU at home."

"We played well today." After being asked if his Cougars had played a better game this season, Lewis paused for a few seconds.

"That's a good question," he said. "I think it's definitely the best road game we've played."

Micheaux, who scored nine points and had six rebounds, played only 27 minutes after getting into foul trouble in the first half. When both Micheaux and Olajuwon drew three fouls in the opening 20 minutes, it seemed the Aggies' plan would work. But sophomore Benny Anders came off the bench to score 11 points in 21 minutes.

"To me, this was really my best game ever, because I came off the bench ready to play and was able to contribute," Anders said. "I knew in the first half that our big guys were in foul trouble. Coach (Lewis) told me to be ready for anything, and I was. This was one game that we had to win."

Micheaux, the only senior in UH starting lineup, said he has big plans for the remainder of the season.

"I really want to see us undefeated — both at home and on the road. The team wanted to play well today. It was just awesome. The way Akeem was playing, especially with those first two dunks (UH's first two bas-

kets), was just awesome.

"I think the Aggies wanted to go inside on us and get us into foul trouble, which they did. But we held on and they had to go outside instead. We were ready to play. Everyone was saying we'd have to win this one because we hadn't won here in so long. So, we had no intentions of coming in here and losing."

And will the Cougars continue their winning ways, which have brought nine straight SWC victories?

"Oh yeah, with a big win like this in such a hard place to play?" he asked. "I think we may just go on and be undefeated the rest of the way."

Drexler, whose No. 1 assignment was to stop Aggie forward Claude Riley, said he and his teammates didn't want to see Riley break loose like he has in recent games with the Cougars. Riley, who had 38, 28 and 24 points against Houston last season, finished Saturday's game with 20 points and a game-high 13 rebounds.

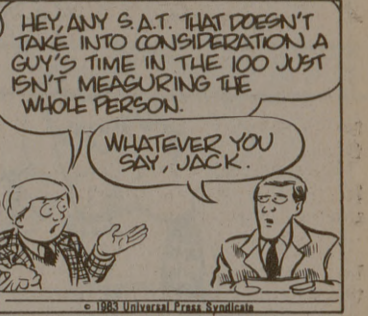
"Riley got the ball a little too much in the first half (14 points)," Drexler said. "So Coach Lewis told us to forget about the rest of the team, to still play defense and to still rebound, but to not let Riley touch the ball. At halftime, he told us not to let him get his hands on the ball in the second half."

The Cougars' superior defense paved the way during the victory, Drexler said.

"I think this was one of our greatest games on the road, without a doubt," Drexler said. "We played it just as if we were at home. Defense was the key. We won the game on our defense."

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



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United Press International The Southwest Conference continues the second half of its season tonight when the ninth-ranked Arkansas Razorbacks, visitors only to Houston this year, travel to Baylor.

The Hogs have lost the last two times they have played in Waco, but that could change tonight since the Bears are in a

sizeable slump. Baylor became the first Southwest Conference victim of the Rice Owls Saturday night, 54-48.

The Houston Cougars return to action Wednesday night at SMU. The Mustangs won only one conference game last year and that was against the UH. The Cougars are currently 9-0 in SWC play.

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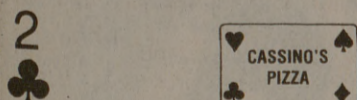
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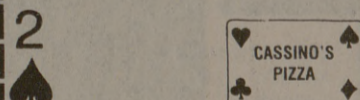
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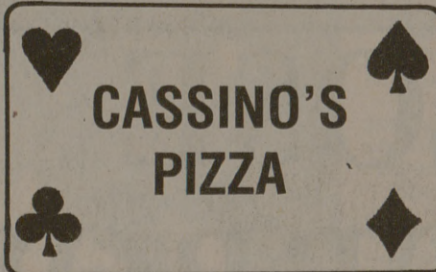
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