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<p>POST OFFICE MAIL 764018 Discounted Features Before 6 p.m.</p> <p>Runaway Train 7:15 9:15 CANNON</p> <p>TROLL 7:30 9:30 PG-13</p> <p>SPIES LIKE US 7:30 CHEVY CHASE DAN AYKROYD</p>	<p>CINEMA III SKAGGS CENTER 846-6714</p> <p>WHITE NIGHTS 7:00 9:40 BARYSHNIKOV HINES</p> <p>The Jewel of the Nile 7:15 9:15 PG</p> <p>Waiting time is over. IRON EAGLE 7:15 9:45 PG-13 DELPHI</p>
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Cougars claw past Lady Ags

A&M defense can't stop UH inside game

By KEN SURY
Assistant Sports Editor

HOUSTON — The Texas A&M Lady Aggies looked very maroon in their visitors jerseys as they walked onto the Hofheinz Pavilion floor Wednesday night. And they came off the floor looking very blue after taking it on the chin from the University of Houston, 80-75.

"We just didn't play well," A&M Coach Lynn Hickey said. "Both teams were flat offensively in the first half, but (UH guard Sonya) Watkins was in foul trouble early which kept her out of the half."

Watkins, the Southwest Conference's leading scorer averaging 19.2 points per game, picked up her second personal foul less than four minutes into the game. Watkins went on to score only two points in the half.

But that slack in the UH offense was taken up by forward Kelly McCabe, who was the Cougars' top scorer of the night with 21 points in her first ever collegiate start. Fourteen of McCabe's points came in the first half as she continually got inside position under the basket for easy layups.

"Defensively, we tried man-to-man and zone," Hickey said, "but we were just standing there (on the court) like we were in another world."

As for the easy backdoor plays involving McCabe, Hickey said, "We're talking about a girl who has hardly scored any points all year (averaging just 4.4 points a game), and we made her look like an All-American."

Early on in the game, neither team's players looked like All-Americans.

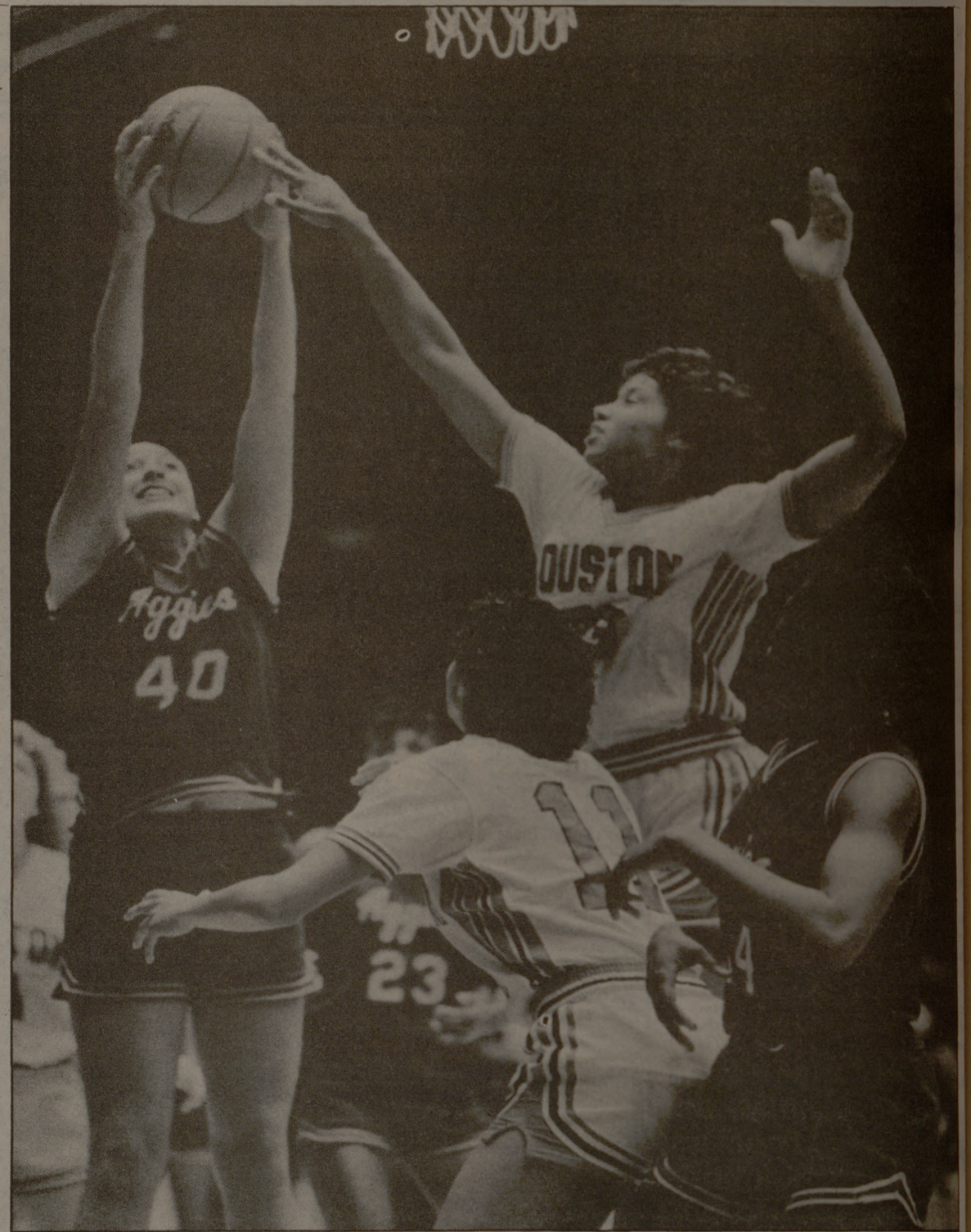
A&M and UH traded rebounds and turnovers after the opening tip-off, until a pair of baskets put UH out in front 4-0. But A&M deadlocked the game after an 8-foot jumper by Donna Roper and a Paula Crutcher layup.

The game was close throughout the rest of the first half, with the Lady Aggies' biggest lead being four points.

A&M held a 34-31 lead with just over a minute left before the half, but UH's Charlotte Reescano converted both shots on a one-and-one at the freethrow line to leave the Lady Aggies with a tenuous 34-33 halftime lead.

UH came out in the second half and scored its first three trips down the floor to take a 39-34 advantage.

Midway through the second half, the Lady Cougars utilized their backdoor and inside games once



A&M's Lisa Jordan (40) goes up for a layup inside, despite pressure from Houston's Barbara Anderson (11) and Sonya Watkins. The Lady Ags lost to the Lady Cougars Wednesday night, 80-75.

Photo by DEAN SAITO

again to open up a 10-point lead over the Lady Aggies, 58-48.

But A&M slowly pulled the game back into reach as Langston started to heat up and hit her perimeter shots, rallying the Lady Aggies by scoring fifteen of her game-high 23 points in the second half.

With 7:14 left, Langston connected at the foul line on both ends of a one-and-one to lock the game at 62-62.

But Watkins, after her dismal two-

point performance in the first half, exploded for 16 second-half points to help the Cougars slowly pull away and seal the victory.

"Houston is a veteran club, much like (No. 1-ranked) Texas is," Hickey said, "and, like veteran clubs, they pulled (the game) out when they had to."

"But it's tough to win here (in Houston's Hofheinz Pavilion). We were fortunate just to keep the game close. Now we have to rely on other

(SWC) teams to stay in the race." Hickey said there are about five teams in the conference who don't play particularly well on the road and added, "We'll be OK. We'll even things up at home." With the loss, the Lady Aggies fell to 9-8 overall and 3-3 in the SWC. The Cougars, ranked No. 20 by USA Today, are now 12-5 on the season and 3-3 in the conference. A&M hosts Rice Saturday in the Rollie White Coliseum at 5:15 p.m.

Bears

(continued from page 13)

end, incurred when he was struck by the helmet of the Rams' Jim Collins in the NFC title game, has been the major topic of discussion in this pre-Super Bowl week when hard news is rare.

It became more so Monday after McMahon complained that team officials wouldn't allow Hiroshi Shirashi, the acupuncturist whose treatments he said had helped ease the pain, to fly to New Orleans. But the Bears relented Wednesday and said Shirashi was flying here from Chicago to treat McMahon and four of his teammates prior to Sunday's NFL championship game against the New England Patriots.

"If that's what it takes to have our quarterback play as well as he can in the most important game of the year, we're all for it," Bears President Mike McCaskey said.

Moreover, the Bears appeared seriously concerned.

"With all the hype, people assume

the injury is a put-on," said Coach Mike Ditka. "It's no put-on. He's hurting right now. He's recovered some from what he was last week, but he still hasn't recovered enough to play football. It's not serious, it's just a bruise, but it's very deep."

McMahon, who depends on his scrambling ability to keep defenses from mounting an all-out pass rush and ran 16 yards for a touchdown in the 24-0 win over the Rams, conceded that he was still having problems. At Tuesday's practice, he didn't work out with the offense but did practice passing.

"I can't run, I can't move around," McMahon said. "I can drop back but that's about it."

But he added that he was confident the pain could be eased by the treatments from Shirashi, who also treats running back Walter Payton, wide receivers Dennis McKinnon and Willie Gault and center Jay Hilgenberg. McMahon said he had been introduced to Shirashi, the trainer for the Japanese national track team, by Gault.

Clips sail by Mavs, 131-118

Associated Press

DALLAS — Marques Johnson scored 22 points and Kurt Nimphius added 21 to lead a balanced Los Angeles attack as the Clippers defeated the Dallas Mavericks 131-118 Wednesday night.

Nimphius, who went from Dallas to Los Angeles in a November trade for James Donaldson, tied his season-high point total as the Clippers won for the fourth time in five games. Dallas has lost four of five.

After leading 55-51 at the half, the Clippers broke open the game with an 18-8 run in the middle stages of the third period, extending a 65-61 advantage to 83-69.

Benoit Benjamin contributed eight points to the rally, ending it with a slam dunk with 3:55 remaining.

Dallas, despite 26 points from Derek Harper and 25 from Mark Aquirre, never drew closer than

Other Wednesday NBA Scores (home team in capitals)	
PHILADELPHIA 118	Phoenix 111
ATLANTA 131	Golden State 100
Detroit 107	CLEVELAND 104
BOSTON 110	L.A. Lakers 95
DENVER 137	New Jersey 124

eight points the rest of the way. Cedric Maxwell added 18 points for the Clippers, and Rory White had 15.

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