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All Seats
Selected (D) (Discount Tuesday) Features

MANOR EAST III
MANOR EAST MALL 823-8300

MEN DON'T LEAVE PG-13 7:10
REVENGE DT R 7:00 9:40
GLORY DT R 7:00 9:40

PLAZA THREE
226 SOUTHWEST PKWY 693-2457

HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER R 7:00 9:45
SYLLA DT PG-13 7:15 9:30
DRIVING MISS DAISY DT PG 7:10 9:30

SCHULMAN SIX
2000 E. 29TH STREET 775-2463

DOWNTOWN DT PG 7:20 9:40

\$1 DOLLAR MOVIES \$1

ALWAYS PG 7:10 9:55
TREMORS PG-13 7:05 9:30
BACK TO THE FUTURE II PG 7:00 9:30
LOOK WHO'S TALKING PG-13 7:15 9:45
CHRISTMAS VACATION PG-13 7:25 10:00

WILL YOU BE GONE OVER SPRING BREAK?

ABSENTEE VOTE

On Mon.-Fri. 8-5 at the following locations:
MSC Room 138 (Rep.) MSC Room 146 (Dem.)

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Milam Elementary School 1201 Ridgedale

Bryan Court House
Texas Ave & 6th St.
IT'S FREE!

All you need is your Brazos County Voter's Registration Card
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TODAY

\$2.50 **TUESDAYS**

CINEPLEX ODEON THEATRE GUIDE

★ SELECTED FILMS NOT INCLUDED CHECK LISTING BELOW...

CINEMA THREE
315 College 693-2796

Steel Magnolias (PG) 7:00 9:15
3 Academy Award Nominations

Hard to Kill (R) 7:30 9:30

War of the Roses 7:05 9:20

POST OAK THREE
1500 Harvey Road 693-2796

Born On The Fourth Of July (R) 8:00
8 Academy Award Nominations

MADHOUSE (PG-13) 7:30 9:30

NIGHTBREED (R) 7:15 9:15

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES

Wednesday, February 14 - Room 206 - 12:30 to 2:00 pm
"The Study Abroad Experience"
A Panel Discussion Featuring Study Abroad Participants

Thursday, March 8 - Evans Library 204C - 12:30 to 2:00 pm
"Eastern Europe's Transition: The Case of Czechoslovakia and Romania"
Presentations by:
Dr. Betty Unterberger, Professor, Department of History
Dr. Dinu Giurescu, Visiting Professor, Department of History

Tuesday, March 27 - Rudder Tower 601 - 12:00 to 1:30 pm
"Internationalizing Higher Education"
A Presentation By:
Dr. William H. Mobley, President
Texas A&M University

Wednesday, April 4 - Rudder 404 - 12:30 to 2:00 pm
"A Jordan Fellowship - The Experience of a Lifetime"
A Panel Discussion Featuring Former Jordan Fellowship Recipients

Tuesday, April 24 - Rudder 504 - 12:30 to 2:00 pm
"The Senior Fulbright Award - A Door To The World"
A Panel Discussion Featuring Former Senior Fulbright Awardees

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The Art of Dunking

SWC basketball teams well-acquainted with game-stopping shot

AUSTIN (AP) — There is slamming, jamming, flushing and chunking.

There are 360s, reverses, windmills and cradles.

There are stupid ups, super boosters and unlimited springs.

And there is shame.

Most of all, dunking provides a chance to inflict shame.

"In a game, when a guy talks noise to me, it makes me mad," says Texas Christian forward Craig Sibley, who has 31 dunks this season. "I want to dunk on him. Like Oliver Miller. He's always talking."

"The bigger the guy is, the better it is to dunk," says Baylor forward Julius Denton. "One guy I like to dunk over is Oliver Miller of Arkansas. He's so big and so cocky."

"It adds flamboyance, flair and charisma," says Southern Methodist coach John Shumate.

"I love it," says A&M coach John Thornton. "I think it's one of the most exhilarating things you can do to a team — if you can do it."

"When you're losing," says Texas Tech guard Jerry Mason, "it's just another layup."

Attitudes on altitudes.

Some coaches don't like the dunk. Former Texas coach Bob Welch reportedly once told a player if he missed a dunk he should just keep on running.

Some tolerate it. "I don't have anything against a good, solid dunk, a sound dunk," says Texas Tech coach Gerald Myers. "When you go in double-pumping, twisting, showing off, I don't like it. Maybe the fans like it."

Some coaches like it, more so if their teams could do it. "We're landlubbers," laments Shumate. "My philosophy? Don't miss it."

Some plain love it. "I think it's the greatest shot in basketball," says Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson. "Any time they have a chance I want them to flush it."

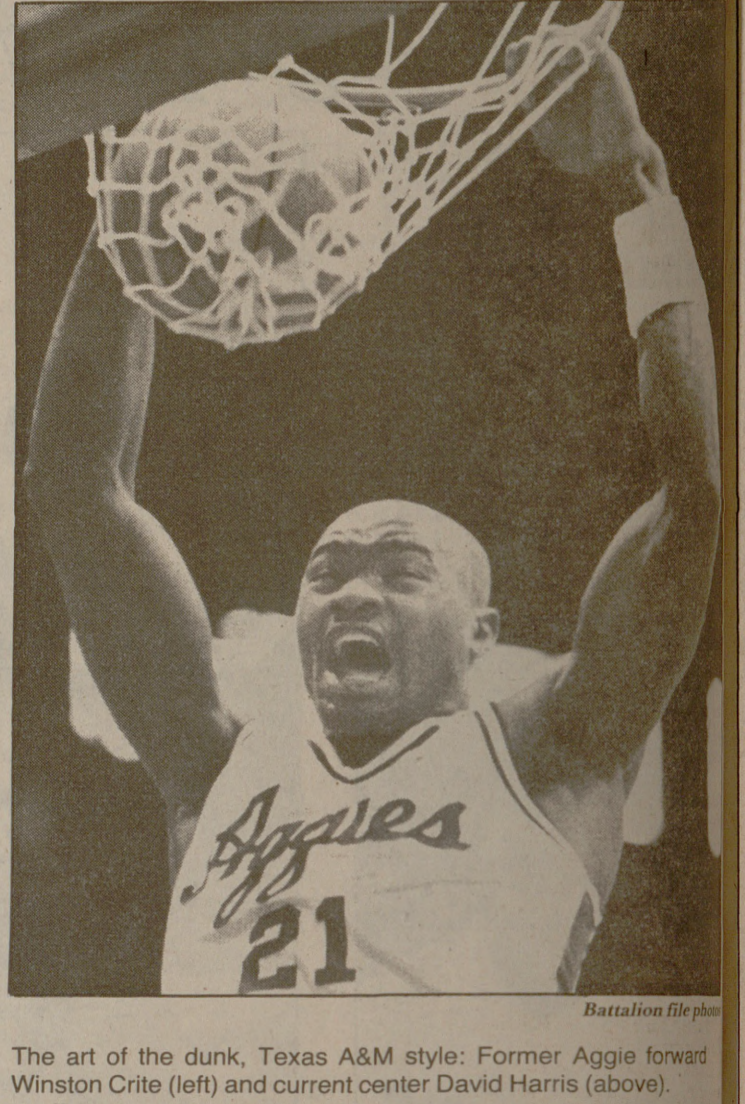
It's fraught with danger. Aside from the assortment of sprained ankles and twisted knees — lessened somewhat because players can protect themselves by hanging on the rim — Shumate tells of the pickup game he played as a high school student on a New York City playground, in which a dunker was undercut and fell to the asphalt, breaking his neck. At Robert Morris College in 1984, center Roy "Dunkenstein" Dudley, slamming in practice, caught two teeth on the net. Made the dunk, lost the teeth.

But danger's not why the shot was banned in the college game in 1967. With the emergence of giants like Lew Alcindor, the rule-makers feared it would become too easy to lob it inside to the big men, who would score at will.

In 1976, the dunk was back.

In the Southwest Conference, its role is mixed. Most teams have dunk drills, in which the front-line players practice going strong to the basket, dunking balls in rapid succession.

Some teams, like SMU and Texas Tech, don't have a dunk play in their



The art of the dunk, Texas A&M style: Former Aggie forward Winston Crite (left) and current center David Harris (above).

repertoire because they don't feel they have anyone who can handle the job. Houston has four plays. "But we don't hardly run them," moans Cougars forward Darrell Mickens.

Most of the dunks you see in the SWC are on breaks, rebounds and inside moves. Impromptu stuff. All the called dunk plays are lob passes inside. TCU has guard Tony Edmond lobbing to the 6-6 Sibley, whose vertical leap couldn't be measured, TCU officials say, because their weight room only has a 12-foot ceiling.

"The dunk isn't the hard thing," says TCU coach Moe Iba, "it's getting the ball there."

Assuming a team has a leaper with control and good hands, the play works in two situations. Against a man-to-man defense, the dunker uses a screen or cutback to break for the basket. Against a zone, a three-point threat helps because it spreads the zone out, making it easier to screen the middle man in the zone and free the cutter. And ...

"Somebody has to go to sleep," Myers says.

Myers says the best way to deter the lob is to play the passer. "When he picks up the dribble," he says, "you stick him."

"It wouldn't work but about twice a game. Then teams start scouting it."

Teams hate to be dunked on. They might spend more time preparing for stopping the dunk than your offense.

"I think it's still the dunk," says Blanks, who sports a U Dunk T-shirt on his black Corvette. "Well, damn. I don't know. It's close."

Not as much stakes rides on the three. The three has not yet reached the level of the dunk in terms of excitement. People say, "So what, he missed the three — it's a 20-foot shot." The dunk is as sure as rain. When you miss, that's when everyone goes crazy.

Won't anyone speak out positively for the dunk? Yeah, you with the polka dot hankie.

"The three-point shot is a nice play, but people don't get as excited as when you flush it," Richardson says. "They have signs for it. Look at Louisville — they're getting 18 percent of their field goals from dunks. Eighteen percent!"

Seventeen percent is the actual figure — that's still a little better than one in six baskets — and it's enough for fans on the loge level at Freedom Hall to display cardboard "D's at a record rate this season."

SWC teams aren't that prolific, or if they are, nobody's counting. TCU is the only conference school that keeps track of dunks. Houston did before Phi Slamma Jamma was deactivated and Tech also did at one time. Most don't because their computer programs for statistics don't include a category for dunks.

Branch fired from coaching at Lamar

BEAUMONT (AP) — Tony Branch, who had a 7-21 season and an overall mark of 19-37, was fired as Lamar University head basketball coach on Monday with two years remaining on his contract.

Dr. Billy Franklin, university president, said, "We will be working with him in the next couple of days concerning his future relationship with the university."

Franklin said in two years under Branch "things have not developed as quickly as our program needed them to happen. Coach Branch has conducted himself professionally and has recruited student athletes who have represented this university responsibly."

"The program has not shown the kind of improvement that one expects in the second year. As the centerpiece of the university's athletic program, basketball requires major improvement, and it must be accomplished on a fast track without compromising the program's integrity," Franklin said.

The school hopes to name a new coach by the end of March.

"Since our athletic director's position is open (Dr. Sonny Jolly resigned in January), as we recruit for a basketball coach, if we find an individual who could fill both positions, then that option is available," Franklin said.

"We will put together a small group of people as soon as possible to assist us in the recruitment for the head-coaching job."

Branch, 32, replaced Tom Abate-marco in April 1988 when Abate-marco went to Drake University.

Branch has been an assistant at Lamar, Tulsa, Purdue University, Manhattan College and the University of Louisville.

He was co-captain of Louisville's 1980 national championship team.

Valvano contract buyout possible

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Coach Jim Valvano's lawyer left North Carolina State Monday after proposing a contract buyout labeled as "very difficult" by one university official wrestling with allegations of point-shaving.

Art Kaminsky, Valvano's attorney and agent, returned to New York after discussions over the weekend with N.C. State officials of a possible buyout of Valvano's contract. Valvano has not been personally implicated in allegations that some of his players shaved points for money, but has come under fire to step down as head coach.

Valvano said he had not met with school officials to discuss his contract on Monday.

"I have not been involved in any discussions, and there weren't any today," he said, heading into practice Monday afternoon at Reynolds Coliseum.

Junior guards Chris Corchiani and Rodney Monroe said N.C. State counsel Becky French met with Wolfpack players Monday, but they would not discuss the meeting.

"That was just between the school and players," Corchiani said.

He said he would consider leaving N.C. State if Valvano leaves.

"I would definitely have to reevaluate my situation," Corchiani said. "You play for a university and you're used to its support. And when you see your coach not getting that kind of support, you wonder if it's all worth it."

Calls for Valvano's dismissal began after ABC News reported last week that four players conspired to fix as many as four games during the 1987-88 basketball season. That report came after an admission by former Wolfpack center Charles Shackleford that he accepted nearly \$65,000 while a student, in violation of NCAA rules.

Shackleford has denied any role in point-shaving. And Valvano insists he knew nothing of point-shaving or improper payments.

"Mr. Kaminsky had come to Raleigh, requested to meet with the university officials concerning the possibility of Mr. Valvano's resignation, and he presented a

proposal to the university which was very difficult for us to respond to," said George Worsley, vice chancellor for business and finance.

Valvano attended his team's practice Monday, but said only that he hasn't been involved in any discussions about his contract.

Worsley would not say how much money Kaminsky proposed to settle Valvano's contract. The contract includes a buyout provision that requires the university to pay Valvano \$500,000 if he is dismissed for anything short of a felony conviction or a finding that he personally was responsible for a major NCAA violation.

Sources close to the negotiations said the school is legally obligated to pay Valvano \$875,000 if he is fired or asked to step down. The Charlotte Observer reported Monday, Kaminsky has proposed a settlement of between \$500,000 and \$600,000 and that the school has offered \$106,000, the coach's base salary for one year, the newspaper said. The newspaper also said Valvano is due \$250,000 from a Wolfpack Club trust fund and a \$125,000 annuity.

Worsley would not comment on the report or say what amount would be acceptable to school officials.

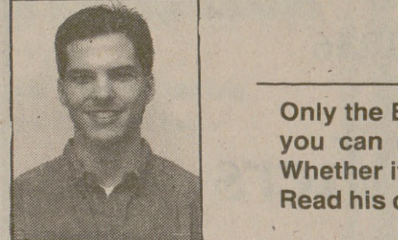
"The university has a very straightforward contract," he said. "I don't recall the contract mentioning any annuity ... (the \$500,000 buyout) would only come about if Mr. Valvano is terminated. There's been no discussion with Mr. Kaminsky about terminating Mr. Valvano's contract."

The contract allows Valvano to terminate it during the 30-day period after the regular basketball season ends. But it requires him to pay the school \$500,000 if he leaves to coach in the NBA or at a Division I basketball program.

Worsley said no further contract talks were scheduled with Kaminsky or Valvano.

"I'm planning to go to the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament, and Mr. Valvano's planning to coach," Worsley said. The basketball tournament opens Friday in Charlotte.

Despite calls for Valvano to resign, Valvano's supporters said he should stay at N.C. State.



SPORTS

Only the Battalion has sports writer Vince Snyder, and only you can read his stirring thoughts on the sports world. Whether it's horseshoes or high jumps, Snyder's your man. Read his column in Wednesday's Battalion.