

Equal rights should apply to all sports

Anyone will tell you sexism and discrimination by gender are two of the most evil facets of our society today.



J. DOUGLAS FOSTER
Sports Editor

That is one thing we, as a society, are trying to eliminate through education and communication with others, finding out what offends people and why everyone should be treated equally.

The University Interscholastic League tried to do something about eliminating that this week.

The UIL voted Tuesday to allow girls to play high school football in the state of Texas, making them eligible to participate for the first time in 44 years. If the decision is passed by the State Board of Education, females will be eligible for competition starting Aug. 1, 1993.

The decision was one that should have been made, because we are at the point where everyone has to be given the same opportunities for pursuing whatever desires they have. Even if some people think women might get hurt, or that the entire teaching of chivalrous behavior will be wiped out by teaching head-hunting football players to take the same open-field shots at females.

Even if it costs more money for the schools by having to possibly have four locker rooms for each game. It was the right decision.

But, in making this decision, the UIL eliminated one incidence of discrimination and created another.

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Tech halts possible 'miracle' comeback Lady Aggies can't recover from two-game deficit against 17th-ranked Raiders

By DON NORWOOD

Sports Writer of THE BATTALION

Those who got to see Wednesday night's volleyball match between Texas A&M and Texas Tech got to see two different storylines unfold. Unfortunately for the Lady Aggies, both stories had less than happy endings.

Tech, the 17th-ranked team in the nation, jumped out to a quick two games to none lead in G. Rollie White Coliseum before A&M fought back to near a tie the match at two games each. But a timely 5-0 run by Tech prevented an A&M comeback, as the Lady Raiders pulled out a 15-4, 15-7, 2-15, 15-13 Southwest Conference win.

If the 793 fans in G. Rollie White were taken aback by the incredible swings of momentum of the match, they had nothing on A&M head coach Al Givens, who was in a near state of shock after the fourth game.

"If we can only solve the riddle of why we waited until we were two games down to play like we did," Givens said about the mystery of A&M's turnaround.

"I thought that after we settled down midway through the second game we started gaining momentum and playing better. But if you're up 13-10 (as A&M was in the fourth game), you've got to close it out."

A major contributor to A&M's awakening in the second game was outside attacker Elizabeth Edmiston. The senior had only five kills on 23 attempts in the first two frames, but she came out of the locker room with her typical fiery attitude to log 11 kills in the last two games, putting her at a total of 16 for the match.

"After the second game, coach just told us 'You have nothing to lose,'" Edmiston said.

"A lot of the time, it takes only one person on the team to get things going.

Everyone on the team was fired up, they just show it in different ways. I'm a talker. But the good thing about this team is you don't have to motivate anybody."

Tech almost gave the Lady Aggies a little more motivation than A&M is used to. The Lady Raiders logged 19 service errors, the most serving miscues an opposing team has had against A&M this season.

Tech head coach Mike Jones was, needless to say, unhappy with his team's serving. But he was equally miffed with Tech's inability to hammer home a win in the third game.

"A&M really turned up the tempo on offense (in the third and fourth games)," Jones said. "They made us make a lot of mistakes."

"The first two games we served terribly. In the last two we served better, but we played terribly."

If the second half of the match nearly sank Tech, the individual effort of leading scorer Erica Ruegg was what kept the Lady Raiders afloat.

Tech's bruising middle blocker entered the match with a .316 hitting percentage and a 3.37 kill average. And although she did not match her season averages against A&M, her scoring came at the right place and the right time.

"I thought one of the keys was to shut her down," Givens said. "She didn't hit her average. But her kills were real timely."

Ruegg capitalized on 10 of her 27 kill attempts, chipping in with three service aces and 16 digs.

If nothing else, the A&M-Tech match allowed both teams to show what defensive volleyball is all about. Both squads finished with seven team blocks, and they combined for 156 digs.

"I thought both teams played good de-

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DARRIN HILL/The Battalion

Lady Aggie Kim Mitchell (8) goes up for a spike against Texas Tech in A&M's four-game loss to the Lady Red Raiders Wednesday. Mitchell, a junior from Marshall, had 10 kills on the evening. The Lady Aggies, now 11-8 overall and 3-3 in Southwest Conference play, will take on Rice Saturday at home.

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THE EXPERIENCE CONTINUES

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