

GEORGANDIS

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noon for the chance to sit on the floor and take pictures.

Late in the first half, A&M's Gary Nottingham got to do to me what so many people have waited for: Knock the crap out of me.

It wasn't on purpose, mind you, but The Sheriff got pushed in the back by Tony Battie of Texas Tech, and suddenly I put the camera down and there he was.

Now I'm a pretty big guy, but I was sitting Indian-style, while he was running/falling at top speed. It hurt.

Perhaps it was a blessing in disguise — because now I get plenty of exercise on stairwells — but I am now petrified of elevators.

The scene was beautiful Amon Carter Stadium in Fort Worth. It was the 1995 A&M-TCU game, and I covered it alone, because it was the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

When the press conference was over, I rode the elevator back up to the press box to get my binoculars. Heading back down to the parking lot, I was joined on board the people mover by John David Crow, Wally Groff and Larry Slade.

The elevator went about 18 feet down, and stopped.

It started up again two hours later.

I hate elevators.

Oilers. Yes, I am a junkie. In early August, I woke up at 4 a.m. and drove to San Antonio and Houston Oiler training camp. I was the proverbial kid in the candy store, talking to Mark Stepnoski, Hayward Jeffries and Steve McNair.

I was there for the start of the season, and I saw their 23-6 win over the Jets in December.

If they do move to Nashville this fall, I was there the last time they called Texas home.

Rockets' basketball was my summer. It exceeded schoolwork, page design and sleep. It consumed me. The layout was glorious in the paper. I'd like to see a twin for that front page in about six weeks.

Troy Aikman has three Super Bowl rings. I don't have any. Troy Aikman has been to countless Pro Bowls. I have been to none. Troy Aikman knew who his backup quarterback was in 1994. I did not.

After months of talking big, I finally decided to write the column where I would inform the masses that despite playing on the best team in football, Aikman was the NFL's most overrated player. I had stats, I had theories, but most importantly, I called Jason Garrett by the name of Wade Wilson.

Open the floodgates, boys. I've written an error about the Dallas Cowboys. Campus responded with a deluge of hate mail that would have been my calling card forever if it hadn't been for ...

Saturday, September 17, 1994. Kyle Field. Texas A&M versus Southern Mississippi. Also known as Aggie Band Reunion Weekend.

Ah, now you remember.

The game itself was a wonderful affair. I was assistant sports editor at this point, and Tom Day, a new sportswriter and your new sports editor, came along with me for his first press-box experience.

At halftime, the reunion band march, and Jack Jernigan had a stroke and fell.

Tom wrote the front-page story on how he was faring, I wrote the column entitled, "Love him as a man, not an Aggie."

By Monday at five, the Batt's newsroom had received 23 mail call letters — all for me.

By week's end, the count had reached 47, along with some 35+ E-mail remarks.

The rest of the staff thought of me as a bit of a hero for pissing off every red-ass person out there.

One woman from Lufkin told me that I was the Devil.

A girl I'd never seen before walked up to me on campus and told me to go to hell.

More than a few people mentioned that Highway 6 ran both ways. Others told me I was a horrible person, and was the worst writer they'd ever read.

Six months later, I took first place in the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association's sports column writing division for "Love him as a man, not an Aggie."

See ya when it burns.

Pacers' defense forces Game Five

ATLANTA (AP) — The Indiana Pacers held Atlanta scoreless for more than seven minutes in the fourth quarter to stay alive in the first round of the NBA playoffs, beating the Hawks 83-75 in Game 4 Thursday night.

The Pacers evened the series at two games apiece even without Reggie Miller, who continued to be sidelined with an injured eye socket.

The deciding game in the best-of-5 series is Sunday at Indianapolis.

The Hawks missed 13 shots in a row after Grant

Long's tip-in with 8:32 remaining cut the Pacers lead to 73-71. By the time Long broke the streak — tipping in another miss, appropri-



ately — there was only 1:09 left and the Pacers had built the lead to 10 points.

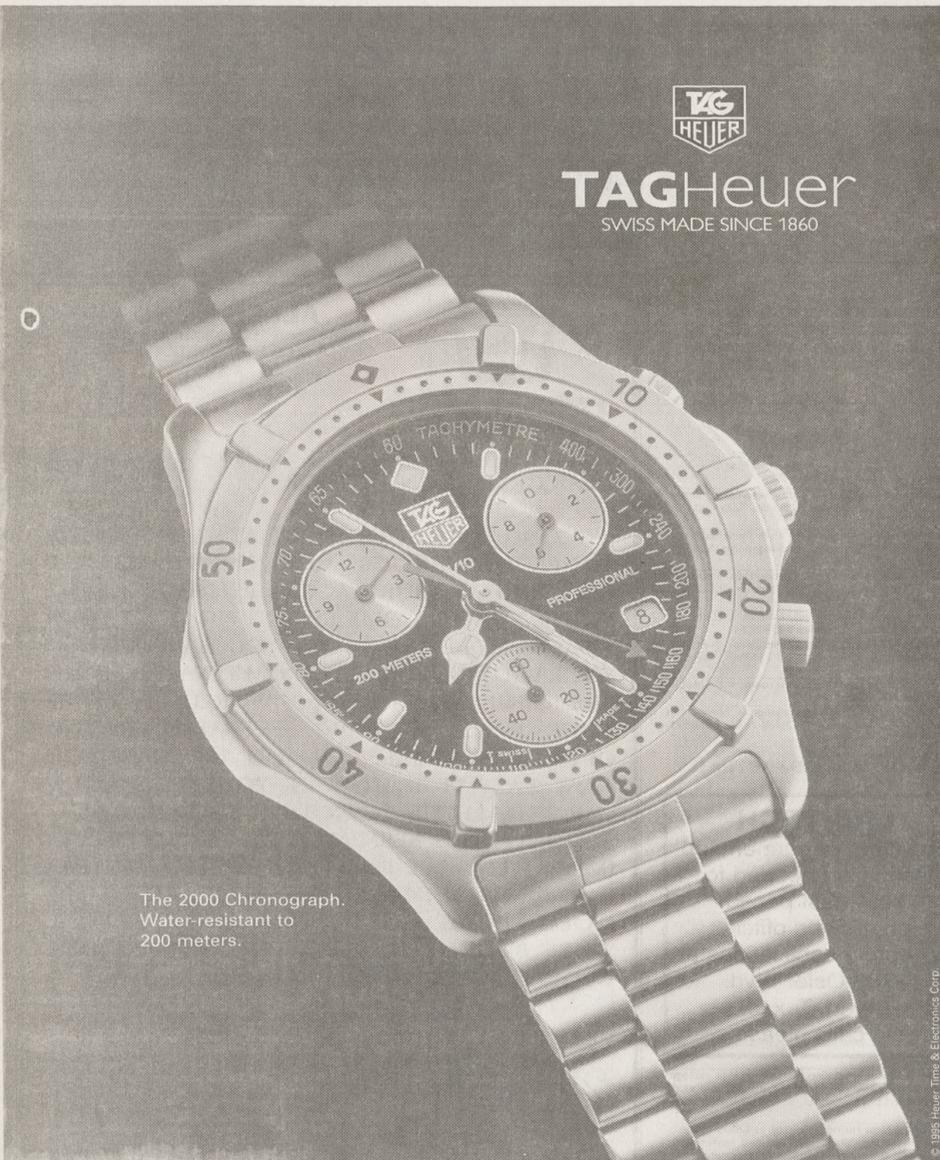
Atlanta scored a couple of late baskets to avoid playoff

infamy after making a run at the postseason record for fewest points (8) in a quarter. They finished with 11 in the fourth, but that was little consolation.

Rik Smits scored 15 of his 17 points in the first half to lead the Pacers, who also got 14 from Derrick McKey and 12 apiece from Mark Jackson and Ricky Pierce.

Indiana shot only 33 percent in the second half, but the Hawks' 5-of-23 performance in the final period made it a moot point.

Steve Smith led Atlanta with 19 points and Mookie Blaylock added 17.



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The Office of Admissions and Records and the Minority Recruitment Committee (a subcommittee of the Academic Operations Committee) is sponsoring an

Admissions Workshop

Thursday, May 9, 1996
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
201 Memorial Student Center

The Admissions Workshop is designed to educate campus leaders about the admissions process administered by the Office of Admissions and Records, and how the Hopwood decision has affected this process.

Topics of discussion will include how non-academic factors are considered in the admission review process and what recruitment efforts are made to attract qualified students.

There will be opportunity for you to actively participate in this program, and we hope you will assist in future recruitment activities and programs as a result of the Admissions Workshop.

To determine space availability, please RSVP by Tuesday, May 7 at 845-3741. Ask for Chris Brown or Ric Gonzalez if you have questions.

