

TIGERETTES WIN STATE!

EXTRA!

The Slatonite

EXTRA!

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Slaton Girls Halt Comanche in Finals Of Class AA, 51-45

By DALTON WOOD

They're great; they're beautiful; they're magnificent; they're No. 1! It's hard to come up with adequate superlatives to do justice to the smashing climax of a great season which the Tigerettes engineered Monday and Saturday, but anyway, they are the 1974 Class AA girls basketball champions of the State of Texas, after a tremendous victory over Comanche

in the final game Saturday afternoon before 5,000 spectators in Gregory gym at the University of Texas.

The path to the state championship and undisputed No. 1 rating for Coach Gay Benson and her 19 players who made the "dream trip" to Austin started with a 62-17 win over Ralls last fall and wound up with the fantastic win over a very good Comanche Maiden team which found itself No. 2 in state for the

second time in a row.

In between, Slaton lost just four games, two of them to AAA Canyon, which was playing for the state title immediately following the Slaton game Saturday afternoon. And Slaton beat Canyon once on the Tigerettes' way to a 30-4 season and the coveted trophy awarded the best AA team in 254 counties.

Slaton had an easy time beating Lyford 56-41 in the semifinal game Friday while Comanche pulled a big upset by toppling defending state champion Midway 49-43 to reach the finals.

Beating Comanche was no easy task for the Tigerettes. In the first game of the tournament it was Rosemary Scott who was the big offensive weapon for Slaton, so Comanche put its best guard, 1973 all-stater Cyndra Frick, on Rosemary in the first half of the final game. Slaton once more proved its balanced attack, for this turned loose Doris Meurer to drive in time and again for layups in the first quarter, scoring 10 points as Slaton took a 15-10 first period lead.

In the second quarter, it was Jan Davis who damaged Comanche's Maidenly pride, as Jan scored 12 of her game-leading 24 points in that period, including two fine

shots from right under the basket, and once hitting six free throws in a row.

Kay Stephens was guarding Comanche's other all-stater from last year, Linda Andrews, and did an excellent job of containing her; in fact, live-wire guard LuAnne Fondy, who kept moving around

in jet-like spurts, and Becky Culver, who led Slaton rebounds with 8, also did a fine job.

Slaton's forwards did a great job of harassing the guards trying to get the ball back downcourt to the Maiden forwards -- in fact, the whole team played fine ball.

The delirium of the exuberant Slaton moms, dads and just plain fans who followed the team to Austin is hard to describe. Tears of happiness, shouts and dancing were the norm for Slaton folks.

It was the first time a Slaton team ever had won a state championship. One other girls team from Slaton went to the state meet in 1932, but lost.

After the 15-10 first period lead and taking a halftime edge of 29-23 into the dressing room, it may sound if Slaton won it going away. This was not the case, as Comanche showed plenty of skill and muscle in the third quarter and Slaton forwards suddenly found the basketball just a little bigger around than the basket. Early in the third, Slaton took a big 12-point lead as Rosemary, finding that Miss Frick had moved over to guard Jan, hit three straight field goals to open the period.

Comanche, however, hit a hot streak and cut the margin to just four points as the period ended, with Linda Andrews horrifying Slaton fans with a fine demonstration of how she got to be all-state.

Scott hit a long outside shot, followed by two calmly fired free throws by Davis to open the final period, though, and again the tide seemed to turn in Slaton's favor. The Maidens never quit, and came back to pull within just three points at 46-43 with only a minute and 15 seconds remaining, and Slaton fans started biting their nails down to their elbows. Jan then hit 3 of 4 free throw efforts, and Doris hit two more with just 43 seconds left and the "We're No. 1" chant began. Comanche scored another goal with just 17 seconds left, and that was the ball game.

Davis' 24 points led all scorers; Meurer had 12 and Scott 15. For Comanche, Linda Andrews had 19, Sissy Andrews had 16 and Jenifer McDougal had 10.

In Friday afternoon's semifinal game, Miss Scott poured in an official 36 points to lead Slaton scoring as the Tigerettes took an early lead and were never in trouble with Lyford.

Actually, Miss Scott had only 34 points, and Doris Meurer, who was credited with 6, had 8, but anyway, Slaton wound up with 56 to just 41 for the Dogettes from deep South Texas. Jan Davis hit for 11 points, Kimmy Cooper 2 and Teresa Wright 1 to account for the other Slaton scores.

Guard Kay Stephens held Lyford's top scorer, Dianne Trolinger, to just 2 points in the first half, as Slaton went in with a 31-10 halftime lead, but Miss Trolinger came back to score a total of 20 for the game. Coach Benson cleared the bench in the last few minutes of the game, getting all the squad into the contest.

Miss Stephens led Slaton in rebounds with 7, but the (continued on Page 4)



MATCHUP OF THE BEST -- Slaton and Comanche fought it out for the top spot in Class AA in Texas Saturday, and here Rosemary Scott goes toward the basket only to meet the Maidens' Connie Mankin. Slaton won the game and the championship. (SLATONITE PHOTO by Dalton Wood)

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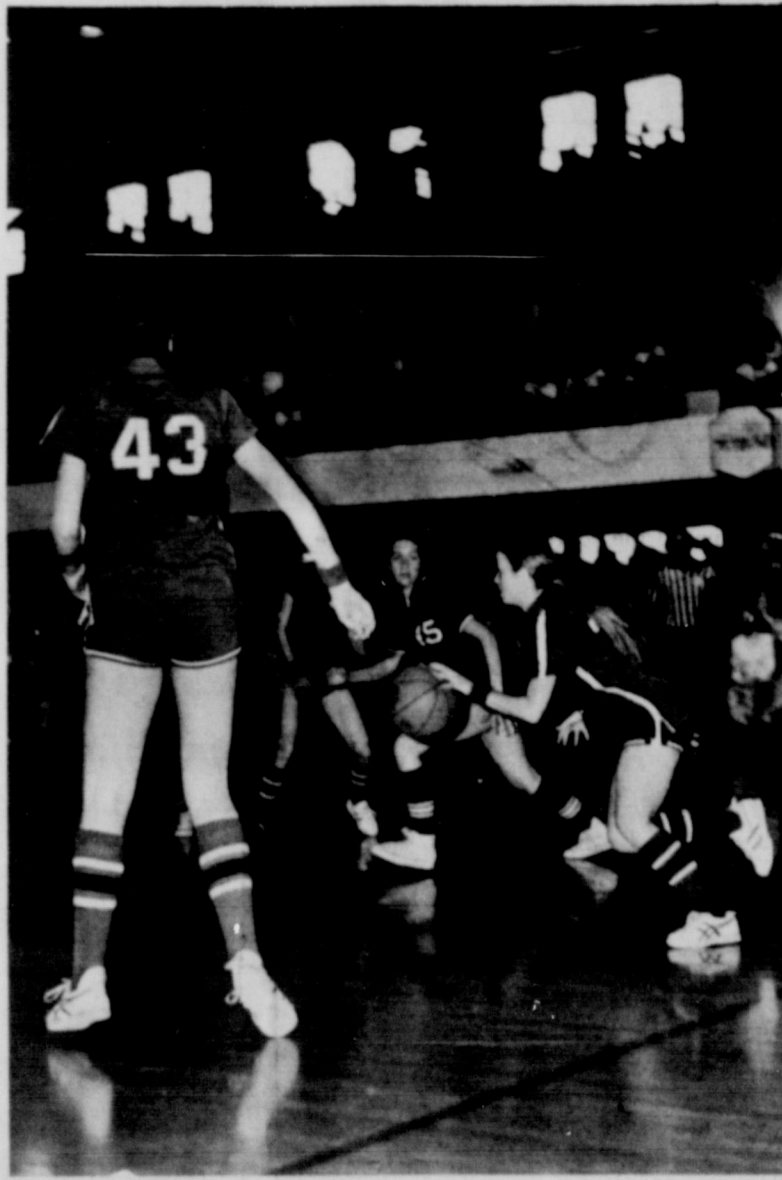
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LUANNE FONDY heads downcourt as Becky is ready to help.

THE 1974 CLASS A STATE CHAMPION

COACH:

Gay Benson

- Jan Davis
- Rosemary Scott
- Kay Stephens
- LuAnne Fondy
- Doris Meurer
- Becky Culver
- Debra Montgomery
- Frana Gass
- Patti Melton
- Teresa Wright
- Angela Kitten
- Diana Dunlap
- Jo Edna Smith
- Kimmy Cooper
- Rhonda Biggs
- Susan Hopper
- Loretta Wolf
- Ann Partain
- Mildred Maxwell
- Pam Howard

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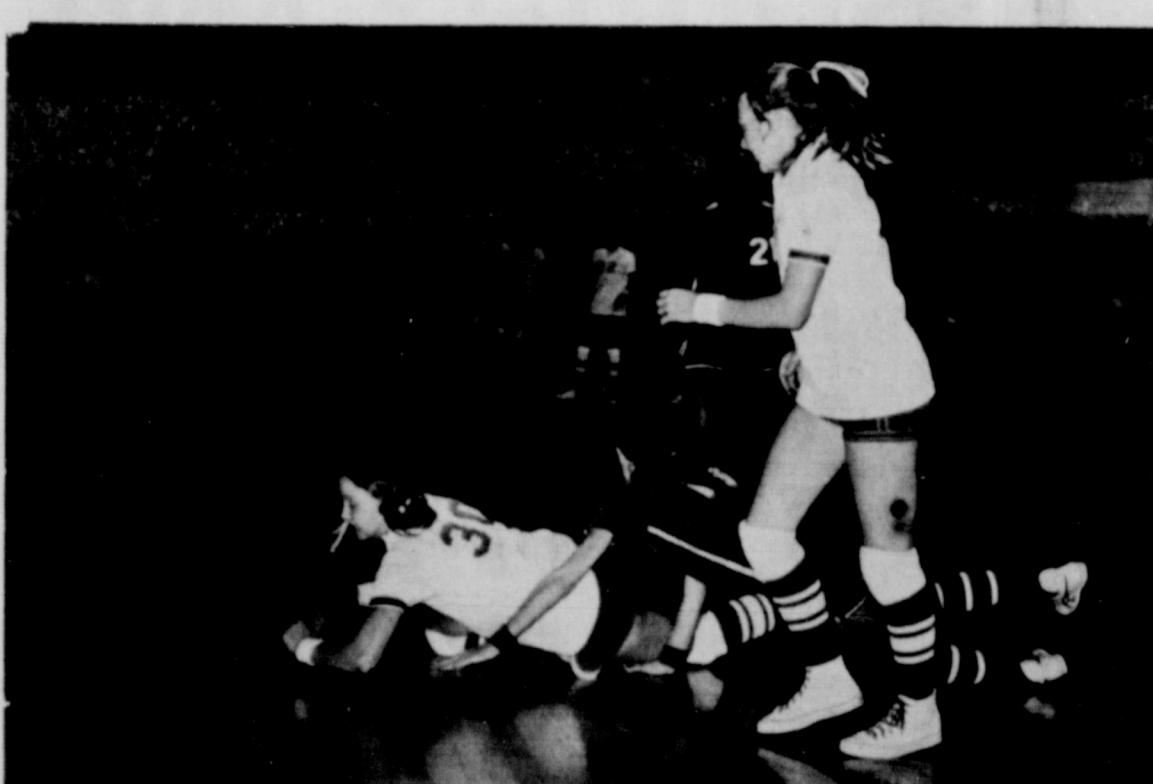
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HAPPINESS IS WINNING STATE --- The girls come off the court after the final game.



TACKLE BY JAN --- Jan Davis halts a Lyford guard at the line of scrimmage.

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TIGERETTES

Comanche coach, Mrs. Leta Andrews. Midway had gone over 100 points eight times in regular season, once hitting an incredible 160 points against 41 for Groesbeck.

game's top rebounder was Lyford Guard Sharon Anderson, who had 11 before fouling out. Miss Davis had 6 rebounds, and Miss Scott and Guard Becky Culver had 5 each.

About 200 Slaton fans watched as Miss Davis outjumped her Lyford counterpart at the start of the game (as she did on at least four other occasions). Meurer hit the game's first points at 7:28 left in the first. Then Lyford's Peggy Nyquist tied it 2-2 at 6:58, but Davis and Scott hit field goals which put Slaton ahead to stay. Lyford never led in the entire game.

Scott was hitting from the outside in the first game, and methodically put in 10 points in each of the first three periods. Slaton hit only 38.7 per cent from the field in that game, to 46 per cent for Lyford, but the Tigerettes hit 8 of 12 free throws to 5 of 11 for the Dogettes. Slaton had 16 fouls, four of them by Stephens, and Lyford 15. Official attendance at the game was 2500.

In the other semifinal Friday, Comanche upset the defending state champions, tall and talented Midway of Waco 49-43, with the quick guards doing a magnificent job of holding the Pantherettes far below their average. Midway had beaten Comanche in last year's finals 65-46 and had beaten the Maidens again in regular season play this year by the comfortable 17-point margin of 64-47.

It was Comanche's version of the Andrews Sisters who doomed Midway on offense, as sophomore Sissy Andrews and junior Linda Andrews scored most of Comanche's points in that victory. The girls are daughters of the

FGM-FTM-					
	FGA	FTA	R	F	TP
Comanche					
L. Andrews	8-17	3-5	3	2	19
S. Andrews	6-20	4-4	5	4	16
McDougal	4-6	2-4	0	2	10
Frick			11	3	
Davis			1	1	
Mackin			4	4	
Shaw			2	3	
Team			4		
Totals	18-43	9-13	30	19	45

FGM-FTM-					
	FGA	FTA	R	F	TP
Slaton					
Davis	6-15	12-14	5	1	24
Rosemary Scot	6-14	3-7	2	2	15
Meurer	5-7	2-5	0	1	12
Stephens			7	2	
Culver			8	4	
Fondy			2	2	
Totals	17-36	17-26	24		

Comanche	10	13	10	12-45
Slaton	15	14	8	14-51

FGM-FTM-					
	FGA	FTA	R	F	TP
Slaton					
Davis	5-13	1-2	6	2	11
Scott	16-33	4-5	5	0	36
Meurer	3-12	0-0	3	3	6
Melton	0-1	0-0	0	1	0
Cooper	0-1	2-2	0	2	2
Partain	0-1	0-0	0	2	0
Wright	0-0	1-3	0	0	1
Montgomery	0-1	0-0	0	0	0
Stephens	0-0	0-0	7	4	0
Culver	0-0	0-0	5	1	0
Fondy	0-0	0-0	2	1	0
Gass	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Kitten	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Wolf	0-0	0-0	2	0	0
Smith	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Hopper	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Biggs	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Team			4	0	0
Totals	24-62	8-12	34	16	56

FGM-FTM-					
	FGA	FTA	R	F	TP
Lyford					
Trolinger	9-17	2-5	3	3	20
Williams	1-7	2-4	2	0	4
Terry	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Nyquist	4-9	0-1	0	1	8
Zdansky	2-4	0-0	1	0	4
Christian	2-2	1-1	1	1	5
Krupala	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Anderson			11	5	0
Fletcher			2	2	0
Zdansky			4	2	0
Studebaker			2	0	0
Garcia			0	0	0
Christian			0	0	0
Team			3	0	0
Totals	18-39	5-11	35	15	41

Slaton	14	17	12	13-56
Lyford	6	4	12	19-41



HORRORS --- The expression on Doris Meurer's face tells something. Doris had just driven in toward the basket and Comanche's Fredda Davis has her hand up, when the referee at left blew his whistle and called Doris for walking. (SLATONITE PHOTO)



GAY'S ON TOP --- Frank Benson and someone else lifted his wife, Coach Gay Benson, up and carried her off the court after Slaton won the state title at Gregory Gym in Austin Saturday. Happy Slaton fans are at left. (SLATONITE PHOTO)

**EMPHATICALLY, ABSOLUTELY AND
UNDENIABLY, SLATON TIGERETTES ARE**

**TOPS IN THE STATE
OF TEXAS!**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
COACH GAY BENSON
AND ALL THE GIRLS,
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