

Sports

Barnhill's Age "Not a Factor"

Most women don't start playing collegiate basketball after reaching 30 and having two children. But Anita Barnhill said she thought that college and college sports would be something she could handle.

It didn't matter that she was 30 years old and last attended school in 1975. Barnhill, a native and current resident of Maxton, is playing center for the St. Andrews Presbyterian College women's basketball team. "It's been really challenging," said Barnhill, describing her first couple of months of collegiate basketball.

Most of the challenge for the 5'9" physical education major has been conditioning and playing the post position. She is used to playing at the guard slot.

Barnhill was a four year all conference performer at guard for Maxton High School. She graduated from high school in 1975.

"All I thought about back then was playing basketball," said Barnhill.

Now, after marriage, children and running her own business, Barnhill is finally fulfilling a high school dream of attending college and playing collegiate athletics. "It's not easy, but I think it will really pay off for me," she said.

The route that brought Barnhill to St. Andrews started not with basketball, but with her summertime passion — softball.

"I played summer league softball with (St. Andrews women's basketball and softball coach) Marcy Maurer and I started helping her running the clock at St. An-

draws basketball games last year," said Barnhill.

Maurer approached Barnhill about possibly attending St. Andrews and playing for her. Making a decision to go ahead get her college degree, Barnhill applied and was accepted by St. Andrews and is now a fulltime freshman.

Although Barnhill has not scored many points for the Lady Knights so far this season, she has gotten in some key playing time.

"Anita's strongest asset is her 'smartness' on the floor," said Maurer. "She has the great ability to find the open person and get the ball to her; and she is very strong inside.

"She works just as hard as anybody else on the team."

Barnhill enjoys the collegiate game for its physical aggressiveness. "I enjoy the contact that is allowed at this level," she said.

"It seems that in high school we played faster, but with much less battling inside under the basket," Barnhill said.

Barnhill's personal goals are: raising her children, graduating from college, becoming a coach and a teacher and playing sports.

"I don't think age is a factor in athletics — if you stay in shape, you can remain active and competitive in sports for a long time," she said.

This spring Barnhill will be playing softball for St. Andrews.

"I can't wait," she said.

GC Nips St. Andrews

Buck Tredway

The St. Andrews Knights men's basketball team dropped a bitter 76-75 game to conference rival Greensboro College Monday night.

The Knights, 9-3 in the Dixie Conference and 14-9 overall, finish their regular season at top ranked UNC-Greensboro on Feb. 17 and at home against number two NC Wesleyan College on Feb. 20.

The Knights are masters of their own fate. With defeats over the top two teams in the conference, the Knights would win the regular season conference championship. St. Andrews has already defeated both UNC-Greensboro and NC Wesleyan once this season.

Four Knight players, three of them freshmen, are scoring in double figures. Center David Simons averages 13.4

points per game and is the team's leading scorer. He is one of the NCAA Division III's top rebounders with 12.4 per game.

6'3" freshman forward Teddy Holloway, from Shelbyville, Ind. is averaging 12 points per game, two steals per game and six rebounds. Freshman guards Eric Shelton and Wendell Staton are scoring 11.2 and 10 points per game respectively.

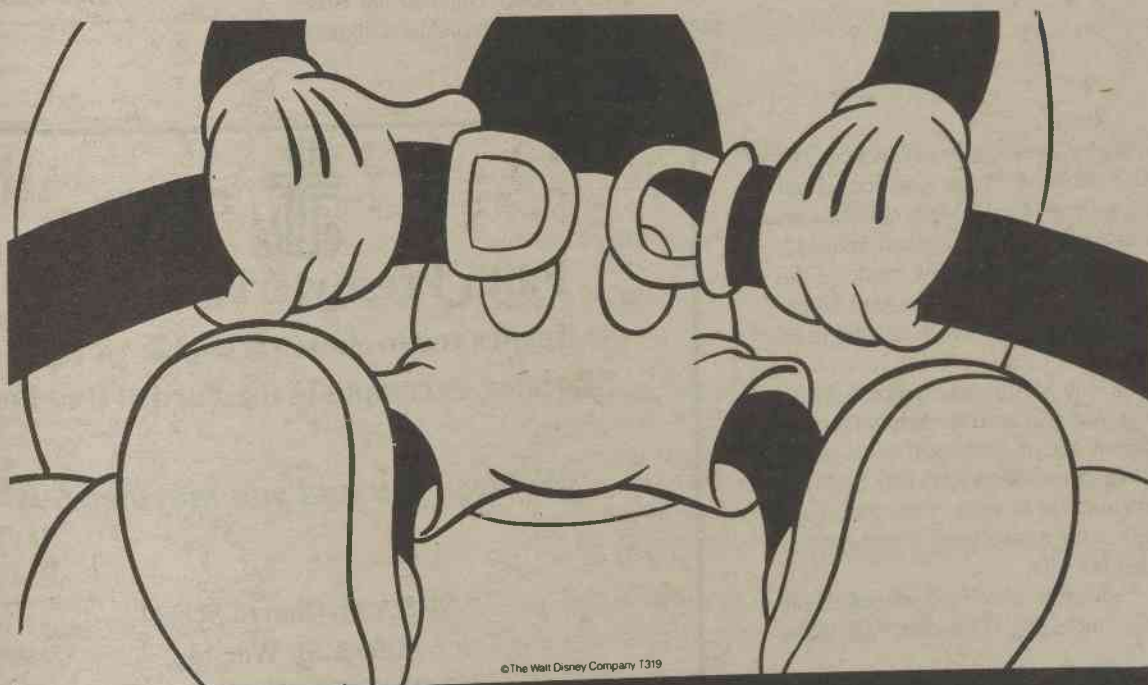
Staton and freshman guard Mark English are two of the Dixie conference's best 3-point shooters. English is hitting 45 percent while Staton is hitting 44 percent.

As a team, St. Andrews is hitting 43.6 percent of their three-point attempts. The Knights also lead the league at the free throw line, hitting 73.2 percent of their free throws.

St. Andrews will host the first round game of the Dixie Conference Tournament on March 4 at 7:30 p.m.



Center David Simon rebounds against Methodist College earlier this year



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