

sideline

TODAY IN SPORTS

'Hoop Dreams' star striving for NBA

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP) — A little more muscle lines his body, his head is shaved and there's a diamond stud in his left ear, but the shy grin is the same and Arthur Agee is instantly recognizable.

In fact, anyone who watched more than four years of his life unfold in the documentary film *Hoop Dreams* may feel a kinship with this basketball player.

At 23, he's still chasing his NBA dreams, although right now the hunt has taken him far afield.

Agee is playing for the Winnipeg Cyclone in the fledgling International Basketball Association, a five-team league.

It's a long way from the NBA, but it's still pro basketball — which means Agee is getting paid in his first year after leaving Arkansas State.

He moved north after completing a season in the United States Basketball League, where he was the No. 1 draft pick.

"The money is OK, but it's not that good," he said of the Winnipeg-based IBA, with its weekly team salary cap of \$2,200 for the 10-week season.

"You're really here for the opportunity.

"I've got plenty of time. I'm young, I've got a little talent, I think. I'll just keep working at it."

Hoop Dreams spends three hours following Chicago teen-agers Agee and William Gates from grammar school to college as both pursue their dreams of making it in the NBA.



ON THE TUBE

January 24

- 1 p.m. ESPN
PGA Golf, Phoenix Open, first round, at Scottsdale, Ariz.
- 4 p.m. ESPN
NCAA Basketball, Syracuse at Georgetown.
- 5 p.m. TBS
NBA Basketball, Phoenix at Minnesota.
- 6 p.m. ESPN
NCAA Basketball, Virginia at Wake Forest.
- 7:30 p.m. PRIME
NCAA Basketball, Southern Cal at UCLA.

EMERALD

Upstart Oregon faces reeling Arizona State

■ **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Ducks take on the Sun Devils in the second of three games in a six-day stretch Wednesday evening

By Pete Schneider
Sports Reporter

After breaking into the Pacific-10 Conference winning column with a 73-56 rout of California on Sunday, the Oregon women's basketball team is feeling confident going into tonight's game against Arizona State.

The Sun Devils are at the opposite end of the spectrum from the Ducks. They are in the midst of a six-game losing streak, including a 0-5 mark in league play. Not only has Arizona State lost every Pac-10 game it has played, but the team has lost by an average of more than 10 points per game.

Although the Sun Devils are reeling from their losing record, Oregon head coach Jody Runge said she knows that her team's swing through Arizona will not be easy.

"We're looking at a tough road trip down through the state of Arizona," she said. "We are particularly focused because [both Arizona and Arizona State] got us last year at home. Arizona State has a much better team than they've had in the past, so we can't look past that game in preparation for Arizona."

The team had little time to relish Sunday's win before it was back on the court for only one day of practice prior to departing for Tempe. In all, Oregon will have played three games in six days after a game in Tucson on Friday. The road-weary Ducks squad will then have a few days to rest before playing UCLA at home on Feb. 1.

"Arizona plays ASU right before we do, so if they don't get a win there, then they need one against us," Runge said. "They are such different teams that we don't have a lot of time to prepare for. I think that's a tough spot for us to be in now."

Oregon faces a defensive-minded, low scoring team in Arizona State tonight. The Sun Devils average only 68.5 points per game while holding its opponents to just 45.3 shooting. Arizona State features a tough front line with Molly Tuter (14.1 points per game) and Emma Witowski (12.5 points per game) both scoring in double figures. Junior point guard Julie Gledhill has recorded 64 assists this year.

Arizona State will have to contend with the Ducks' Renae Fegent, who is coming off a big performance against California. The 6-foot-2 junior led Oregon in scoring Sunday with 15 points and passed the 100-blocked-shots milestone with three that night.

"Everyone has the winning feeling again," Fegent said. "Hopefully it will carry over when we go down to Arizona. People aren't going to want that feeling of losing again, and that will help us this week."



The Oregon women's basketball team knows it can count on center Renae Fegent Wednesday against Arizona State. The senior scored 15 points against California on Sunday and is averaging 14 points per game this year.

Tempe searches for identity in midst of Super Bowl hoopla

■ **NFL:** The college town vows to show that it is more than just a suburb of better-known Phoenix

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — That's Tem-PEE. Not TEMP-ee, Tempeh or Temp.

And definitely not Phoenix. The second-smallest city ever to host a Super Bowl, this college town is waging a war for its identity as football fans either mispronounce its name or assume it's part of Phoenix.

"We want to make sure people know Tempe hasn't actually been annexed by the city of Phoenix," said Mayor Neil Giuliano, whose staff shipped information to media around the world instructing them on Tempe's proper pronunciation.

Founded in 1872, Tempe was named by English traveler Darrel Duppa, who said the city's desert buttes reminded him of the vale of Tempe in northeast Greece.

The city is the home of Arizona State University, the Southwest's largest university.

With a population of 155,000, which is expected to double on game day, Tempe has fought being overshadowed by its giant neighbor, Phoenix.

In fact, the first round of Super Bowl sporting gear actually said "Phoenix Super Bowl."

"Because Phoenix is where the airport is, people assume that's the only city in the [area] that counts," said Abbie Fink, a Tempe spokeswoman. "But there's only one place where Sun Devil stadium is, and that's Tempe."

Mispronunciations aside, Tempeans are not looking to compete with Phoenix.

"Tempe has always known it wasn't Phoenix. Nobody has any giant egos here, they just kind of get the job done. Tempe is kind of a sleepy little giant," said Keith Stone, owner of Stan's

Metro Deli.

Residents believe the city's small-town feel will set it apart from past Super Bowl venues, including major cities such as Los Angeles, Miami and San Francisco. The smallest Super Bowl city, Pasadena, Calif., has played host to the championship game five times since 1977.

With its sidewalk coffee shops, throngs of college students and offbeat shops, Tempe is hoping to show out-of-towners an alternative to its wealthier neighbor, Scottsdale, a teeming city with glitzy art galleries and posh golf resorts.

"The thing that's cool about Tempe is that it's a town. You've got mostly independently owned stores," said Dave Sherman, owner of The Cap Co., a downtown store hawking 780 styles of Super Bowl baseball caps.

Other residents don't seem

bothered by the confusion.

"Tempe is just the southeast corner of Phoenix," said Larry Bennett, a Tempe resident who works for AAA Cab in Phoenix. Bennett said customers coming in for the Super Bowl sometimes don't know the difference between the two cities.

"Sometimes it's a little irritating, but people out of state don't know where Tempe is. They think of Phoenix," he said. "The recognition of the state is more important than drawing a fine line."

Mark Brophy, manager of Long Wong's, a popular bar and restaurant in downtown Tempe, said the Tempe-Phoenix debate is pointless. The typical wealthy Super Bowl visitor will likely head to a more upscale area altogether, he said.

"If you live here, you know they're going to Scottsdale anyway," he said. "They're not coming here."