NEW YORK STARS

History of

The New York Stars were members of the Women's Professional Basketball League (WBL) for two seasons, 1978-1979 and 1979-1980. During both years the team made the playoffs and in 1980 they were crowned the World Champions of the WBL.

For almost every team in the league there was no publicity or acknowledgement of the league's existence before the historic draft of July 18, 1978 at the Essex Hotel in New York City. Only when the list of the players drafted sent to the papers did any recognition begin to take place.

So, what can we learn from a bunch of men representing a bunch of cities choosing a bunch of names? The draft consisted of two types of players to be drafted: those who were currently graduating (college grads) and those that graduated before that (free agents). Each team would be able to select five players in each category.

The league started with five rounds of graduating seniors and the teams selected in this order: Houston, Milwaukee, New York, Minnesota, Washington (to become Dayton), Chicago, New Jersey, and Iowa. The order would then rotate to make it fair, so in the 2nd round Milwaukee moved to #1, New York #2, and Houston was last. This went on for five rounds

Simple enough. But right away there was some gamesmanship and maneuvering taking place. How do I know? In the Free Agent portion of the draft, the Milwaukee team had two second round picks! How? Why?

My guess, with no real support other than human nature, was that with the 2nd pick of the draft the Milwaukee team selected Althea Gwyn of Queens College in New York. The Milwaukee team would have full knowledge that a great player from a local area was vital to a new franchise. The New York team, the team picking third in the draft, *needed* Althea and the Milwaukee team took her.

So, if you need her, what do you do to get her? As New York, you give up your 2nd round pick in the free agent round, select the player the Does wanted, then trade for Althea Gwyn. Therefore, without fanfare or concerns with the people at the draft – the first "unofficial" WBL transaction was:

"The Milwaukee team has traded #2 pick Althea Gwyn to New York for Sarah Williams and a 2^{nd} round pick in the free agent draft."

New York's historic selections were as follows:

Graduating Seniors

1.	Sarah Williams	6′3″	Center	S.E. Louisiana
2.	Marny Dacko	6′1	Forward	So. Connecticut
3.	Dawn Forster	5′9″	Guard	Cortlandt State
4.	Susan Bretthauer	5′5″	Guard	St. John's
5.	Lynda Lyman	5′11	Forward	Cortlandt State

Free Agents

1.	Harriet Novarr	5′10″	Forward	Syracuse
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2. Traded to Milwaukee

3. Pat Samuel 5'10" Forward City College of New York

4. Debbie Mason 5'6" Guard Queens College

5. Phyllis George CBS Broadcaster Denton, Tx – a Publicity Stunt

Based on their draft positions, and the rotation of teams involved, the New York team had the 2nd best positioning (behind Washington) and with it they came away doing very badly. Only two of their choice played in the league: Debbie Mason made the All-Star team, but as a member of the New Jersey Gems, and Harriet Novarr would play 74 minutes in her entire WBL career.

Yet, their coup of getting Althea Gwyn, who was probably one of the most dynamic forces in WBL history, overrode all the other bad draft selections. Yet they almost did their best to NOT sign Althea.

The first Stars' general manager, Larry Kinisky, made a financial offer that seemed too farfetched for a start-up league. So, Althea took off for Belgium and played in the European women's league. The Stars didn't even know she had left.

Two months later (October?) the Stars contacted her in Belgium and made a more reasonable offer. Althea spoke with an agent she recently hired and learned that everything needed to be in writing. Only then did Althea consider coming back to play with the Stars.

Editor: In the following narrative I will lead show many times how the New York & New Jersey area were not covering the women's basketball league. But, there is a caveat. Not every newspaper in the country has made its information available through Newspapers.com. Therefore, I can only retrieve what is available to me through this web service. Other places like Milwaukee, Houston, Nebraska, New Orleans, New York, and New Jersey had very limited information available.

Even though the draft took place on July 18th – in New York – the first recognition of the league's existence in New York came on July 19th with the following words:

Althea Gwyn, Queens College, first draft pick of N.Y. five of new women's pro basketball league. New Jersey chose Carol Blazejowski, Montclair State. The next metropolitan announcement came on August 11th, when Hempstead Newsday announced that discussions between the New York franchise and Nassau Coliseum officials were taking place.

At the same time, it only took two months for New York's selection of former Miss America and CBS broadcaster, Phyllis George, to reach San Antonio, Texas. But this isn't to put down San Antonio, it is the fact that in the New York area with numerous newspapers – there was nothing about the team.

On September 20th, 1978, the Orlando Sentinel had a clipping announcing that Marv Kessler was recently named the coach of the New York Stars. Two things of note here: the New York team had a name, the Stars, and a coach. What happened to Marv Kessler? I don't know. But, the season began with Alan Cissorsky, who had 13 seasons of coaching experience with AAU women's basketball teams in the Philadelphia area. His team's were known as Al's Gals.

An interesting part of the Stars basketball history, through the newspapers, is that it was all coming from out of state. The December 2nd Evansville, Indiana press let everyone know the team would be playing at Iona College. Of course, this was quite helpful to Hoosiers who were traveling to New York, but no one in New York was made aware of this.

With the first WBL inaugural game only six days away, and the Stars first game only 11 days away the Raleigh News Observer announced that former North Carolina State players Faye and Kaye Young had signed contracts with the New York Stars.

A week later, December 10th, the Newport News, Virginia Daily Press announced that Donna Geils, of Queens College had signed with the Stars. The December 13th Latrobe, Pennsylvania Bulletin had a clipping that Althea Gwyn had signed a contract. This would have been just one day before their first game in Chicago on the 14th. So, whether Althea was part of a training camp was unknown.

The Stars began their WBL life with a midwest trip to Alumni Hall, on the campus of DePaul

University, to face the Chicago Hustle on Thursday December 14, 1978. The Hustle were 1-0, with their historic first game victory over the Milwaukee Does, 92-87. A crowd of 2,192 came out to see who was this new team in town?

The Stars weren't entirely sure of what they had, based on the minutes played. The Hustle came out running as they took a 64-52 half time lead. (The 1st and 3rd quarter scores were unknown,

because the Hustle statisticians were using the NCAA college forms, and college played with two halves.)

The 2nd half was an even more potent Hustle display as they outscored the Stars 73-55. The Stars 137-107 loss would be their largest defeat in the team's history. Yet there were some strong offensive performances for the Stars. Althea Gwyn's 30 points and 19 rebounds made her close to a rare 30-20 performance. And she did all this in only 30 minutes, before she fouled out. Her 1.567 Efficiency Rating

(think of school grades – like 100 or 1.00 is tops). This was almost matched by an equally high 1.462 E.R. by Mara Melbourne, who had 26 points and 16 rebounds in only 26 minutes.

For the 2-0 Chicago Hustle 5-6 guard Rita Easterling almost matched her 1st game 21 assists, with 20 in this game. Back-to-back 20 assist games. Her 22 points and 20 assists were a different kind of 20-20 game, but even more impressive because there were only two 20 assist games in WBL history. The Hustle also had seven players with double figures.



Turning on the Hustle
Rita Gail Easterling of Chicago Hustle drives past
a pressing Mara Melbourne of New York Stars
during Women's Pro Basketball League action
Thursday night in Chicago. Chicago won, 137-107.



New York Stars															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Arturi, Lynn	23	34	3	10	2	2		3	3	2	4	3	6	1	8	0.353
Bailey, Darlene	11	4	0	1	1	2		1	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	0.750
Fletcher, Carmen	30	13	1	3	4	5		3	3	0	1	0	1	0	6	0.615
Geils, Donna	21	41	5	19	2	4		5	5	3	4	1	7	0	12	0.415
Gross, Maria	12	3	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0.333
Gwyn, Althea	31	30	10	19	10	15		19	19	1	6	2	6	1	30	1.567
Melbourne, Mara	24	26	9	15	8	13		16	16	0	5	1	5	1	26	1.462
Novarr, Harriet	15	4	0	1	0	0		1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.250
Thomas, Janice	10	25	4	21	2	5		2	2	3	4	3	3	0	10	0.720
Young, Faye	22	25	2	13	2	2		4	4	3	4	0	5	0	6	0.440
Young, Kaye	20	35	3	9	2	2		2	2	2	3	2	3	0	8	0.371
Totals		240	37	111	33	50	0	56	56	15	36	13	37	3	107	0.704
			FG%	33.3%	FT%	66.0%	Tea	m Rebs	5							

Chicago Hustle															Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Digitale, Sue	21	24	5	9	5	10	6	5	11	1	4	2	3	1	15	1.125
Duckworth, Tesa	44	29	6	10	5	8	3	3	6	2	3	1	0	0	17	0.966
Easterling, Rita	15	40	5	8	12	16	0	2	2	20	2	3	9	0	22	1.450
Fincher, Janie	10	26	9	15	2	5	1	0	1	4	5	1	4	0	20	1.000
Galloway, Liz	31	22	6	12	4	5	5	7	12	1	4	3	3	0	16	1.364
Logan, Karen	4	32	2	10	4	4	0	3	3	7	2	1	1	0	8	0.781
Peppler, Mary Jo	8	8	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0.125
Rainey, Sandra	23	4	0	1	2	3	0	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	2	1.500
Stachon, Toni	14	33	8	17	2	2	3	1	4	2	3	2	5	1	18	0.697
Waddy-Rossow, Debby	25	22	7	17	3	3	2	4	6	2	5	0	0	0	17	1.227
Totals		240	49	101	39	56	20	29	49	39	30	13	26	2	137	1.046
			FG%	48.5%	FT%	69.6%	Tear	n Rebs	4							

The Stars continued their Midwest trip as they ventured to Des Moines. This Sunday, December 17th game attracted 4,231 fans to the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. The 1-0 Cornets were coming off their first win just two days earlier in Minnesota. As the first women's pro game in Iowa, the game was being telecast live on the Iowa Public Broadcasting Network to nine Midwestern states and to select cities around the country.

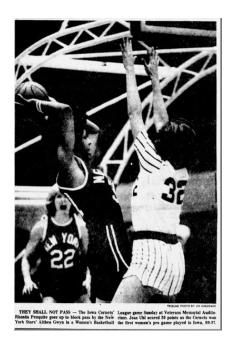






The Stars found themselves behind 24-23 and 52-39, which lead to their 99-87 defeat. Donna Geils, the future Commissioner of the WNBA from 2005-2010, led the way with 23 points. The rebounding tandem of Althea Gwyn and Mara Melbourne each pulled down 14 rebounds. Coach Cissorsky was not upset, because he said his team had had only 10 practices to date, which would take them to the beginning of December as their starting date.

The 2-0 Cornets were led by Joan Uhl's 20 points and 17 rebounds, while Doris Draving added 16 points and 13 rebounds.





New York Stars guard Donna Cenis (21) is cough out of position by Kathy Hawkins of the lowa Cornets (left) during Sunday's home opener for the Cornets. The lowa team defeated the New York team by a score of 99-87. Gells was the leading scorer with 23 points. Both teams are members of the gladgling Womens Professional Basketball league.—84.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		2	13	0	3		0	0		1			0	4
Bailey, Darlene	11		0	0	0	0			0		0			0	0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		2	5	2	2		2	2		2			0	6
Geils, Donna	21		10	19	3	4			0		4			0	23
Gross, Maria	12		0	3	0	0		1	1		0			0	0
Gwyn, Althea	31		7	18	2	7		14	14		5				16
Melbourne, Mara	24		6	14	1	1		14	14		4				13
Novarr, Harriet	15		0	0	0	0			0		2			0	0
Thomas, Janice	10		4	11	3	3			0		0			0	11
Young, Faye	22		0	1	5	6			0		3			0	5
Young, Kaye	20		3	7	3	6			0		0			0	9
Adjustment		240						26	26				38		
Totals		240	34	91	19	32	0	57	57	0	21	0	38	0	87
			FG%	37.4%	FT%	59.4%	Tea	ım Rebs							

Iowa Cornets															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	42		2		0	0			0						4
Bolin, Molly	30		2		2	2			0						6
Draving, Doris	50		7		2	2		13	13						16
Green, Anita	12		4		0	0			0						8
Hawkins. Kathy	14		1		0	0			0						2
Kunzmann, Connie	44		1		3	4			0						5
Penquite, Rhonda	32		4		2	2			0						10
Rutter, Nancy	34		2		0	0			0						4
Sharps, Denise	20		3		2	2			0						8
Thomas, Debra	40		5		0	0			0						10
Tucker, Robin	10		3		0	0			0						6
Uhl, Joan	22		7		6	9		17	17						20
Adjustment		240		101				40	40		26		37		
Totals		240	41	101	17	21	0	70	70	0	26	0	37	0	99
			FG%	40.6%	FT%	81.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

The 0-2 Stars had 11 days off, 18th to 29th. On December 23rd, in the Yonkers Herald Statesman, an opportunity to get to know the team was written. It was known that the team's playing at Iona was only a stop gap. The team currently had three owners, but they were not the original owners. In fact, complications in the league's sale of the \$50,000 New York franchise delayed the formation of the New York roster. For all we know the first owner defaulted and the following people took over in December:

Mike Rosenthal of Matawan, New Jersey, who was also serving as the team's general manager. Edward Gary Reisdorf of Chatham, New Jersey, and Stephen McCarthy of Bernardville, New Jersey.

As of December 23rd, the Stars still hadn't opened an office in New Rochelle, even though their home opener was 13 days away on January 5th. When asked what kind of attendance the team needed to break even this year, Mike Rosenthal said they haven't had time to work that out yet.

Debbie Mason, of Queens College and their 4th pick in the free agent draft, was cut during their training camp. How wise was this cut? Debbie ended up playing with New Jersey and making the All-Star team. Her New Jersey compensation was \$5,000 for her 34 games. (Equal to \$25,000 in 2025).

The Stars travelled to Dayton to take on the 1-3 Dayton Rockettes. The Rockettes began the season by losing their first two games and then firing their coach, Linda Mann. Yet, she wasn't the fastest firing in the league. No, that honor went to Candace Klinzig, who lost her first game with the Milwaukee Does and was let go right away. Since Mann's firing the Rockettes hired a former Milwaukee Does assistant coach, Tom Griffey. In two games he was 1-1 since taking over.

A crowd of 720 came out to Hara Arena on this Friday evening to watch the Rockettes take a 31-23 first quarter lead. The Stars cut the lead to 55-53 by half time. Yet with both Althea Gwyn and Janice Thomas fouling out the Stars ending up falling, 113-106.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	Pts
Arturi, Lynn	23		1	2	0	0		0	0		2				2
Bailey, Darlene	11		0	4	2	5		1	1		1				2
Fletcher, Carmen	30		2	4	5	6		4	4		3				9
Geils, Donna	21		5	14	6	6		5	5		3				16
Gross, Maria	12		0	0	0	0		0	0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31		9	13	2	2		11	11		6				20
Melbourne, Mara	24		10	20	2	5		7	7		4				22
Novarr, Harriet	15		1	3	2	2		2	2		1				4
Thomas, Janice	10		5	18	0	0		0	0		6				10
Young, Faye	22		2	8	6	7		7	7		1				10
Young, Kaye	20		4	7	3	3		6	6		4				11
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	39	93	28	36	0	43	43	0	31	0	0	0	106
			FG%	41.9%	FT%	77.8%	Tea	m Rebs	11						

The Stars had six players with double figures with Mara Melbourne's 22 leading the way. Gwyn was an efficient 9 of 13 from the floor, while gathering 11 rebounds. The Stars were now 0-3 as they prepared for their home opener. As a trivia question - the Stars were one of only two teams to go through a calendar year without a win. (1978, the Stars were 0-3).

For the Rockettes, who were now on a two-game winning streak, they raised their record to 2-3. Dayton had four players with 20+ points as Angela Scott had 27 points and 13 rebounds, while Denise Craig had 26 points and 16 rebounds. Patti Bucklew's 24 points and Vivian Greene's 20 points added to the team's success.

Dayton Rockettes															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bucklew, Patti	40		9	13	6	9		4	4		6				24
Craig, Denise	10		11	15	4	6		16	16		5				26
Franklin, Connie	25	Name r	ot in Nev	vspaper											
Greene, Vivian	24		9	25	2	5		4	4		5				20
Holman, Joy	3	Name r	ot in Nev	vspaper											
McKenzie, Michelle	20		2	8	3	4		3	3		2				7
Payne, Felicia	21		0	2	0	0		1	1		2				0
Pitts, Brenda	14		1	2	1	2		0	0		0				3
Scott, Angela	23		9	21	9	11		13	13		5				27
Tomich, Vonnie	5		3	14	0	0		5	5		2				6
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	44	100	25	37	0	46	46	0	27	0	0	0	113
			FG%	44.0%	FT%	67.6%	Tea	m Rebs	10						

The Stars had chosen as their home court the Mulcahy Center at Iona College, which was situated in the quiet town of New Rochelle, New York. While New Rochelle was just 22 miles from the middle of New York City, it was in the affluent county of Westchester. Mulcahy Center could only seat 2,990, but for a start-up league, this might have been a wise choice.

As for Iona College, it's men's head coach was Jim Valvano. A coach who would become famous in 1983 for taking an underdog North Carolina State team to an NCAA National Championship. But for now the Stars were trying to be practical, frugal, and hope the New York City press and media would find them. A decent size article in the New York Daily News told about the league, the teams, and also highlighted several players.

As a team the Stars felt they were behind the other teams in preparation, because their financing got them off to a late start. Their tri-owners, Stephen McCarthy, Ed Reisdorf, and Mike Rosenthal, delayed the formation of the Stars roster. Yet their coach, Alan Cissorsky, believed the core of players they had would lead them to the playoffs.

One of the unique highlights of the team were twins, Faye and Kaye Young, out of North Carolina State University. They were identified as defensive specialists.

On Friday January 5th it seemed only 563 individuals figured out where the Mulcahy Center was, and where the Stars would be playing the (5-2) Chicago Hustle. This was the 5th home opener the Hustle would be involved with as they were a part of Milwaukee's, Chicago's, New Jersey's, and Houston's before this one. The Hustle were coming in from Dayton after losing 102-95 the night before. They were also coming in without their floor general, Rita Easterling, who was injured near the end of the year. This would be the second game in a row she would miss.

For all the trivia buffs out there the first home points for New York came from two free throws by Mara Melbourne and the first basket was by Maria Gross.

The Stars jumped out to an 11-2 lead when they broke through the Hustle's full court press. They ended up leading 32-22 after the 1^{st} quarter lead. The game went back and forth with Chicago's Janie Fincher hitting from the outside and Althea Gwyn answering from the inside. The Stars' lead grew to 66-55 at the half.

The Hustle trimmed the lead to 86-83 as they began the 4th quarter. They finally caught the Stars with 2:03 left as they took a 103-102 lead. But after Mara Melbourne made two free throws, Donna Geils hit a 12-footer, and Faye Young added two free throws the Stars had a 107-103 lead. The game ended when Liz Galloway of the Hustle was fouled at the buzzer at the Stars leading 110-107. Her two free throws made the final score 110-109.

Althea Gwyn had her first 20-20 game of 27 points and 21 rebounds. (She would have 12 more over her career) Five other Stars also had double digit points with Mara Melbourne's 23 points next in line.

As for the Hustle, even without Easterling, their other guard Janie Fincher came through with 24 points and seven assists. Debby Waddy-Rossow had 21 points and nine rebounds in this losing effort.

New York Stars															Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Arturi, Lynn	23	9	1	3	0	0	2	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	1.111
Bailey, Darlene	11	Name n	ot in Box	Score												
Fletcher, Carmen	30	9	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0.000
Geils, Donna	21	40	6	17	1	2	1	2	3	3	4	4	7	0	13	0.475
Gross, Maria	12	23	6	15	0	0	2	1	3	1	5	0	1	0	12	0.696
Gwyn, Althea	31	41	12	21	3	7	7	14	21	1	2	1	4	0	27	1.146
Melbourne, Mara	24	35	7	11	9	10	3	4	7	1	3	2	2	0	23	0.914
Novarr, Harriet	15	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.000
Thomas, Janice	10	27	3	11	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	5	0	7	0.370
Young, Faye	22	27	6	9	3	5	4	5	9	2	1	1	3	0	15	0.963
Young, Kaye	20	25	2	6	7	10	3	3	6	4	5	0	2	0	11	0.920
Totals		240	43	94	24	35	24	33	57	16	25	10	26	0	110	0.763
			FG%	45.7%	FT%	68.6%	Tear	m Rebs	9							

Chicago Hustle															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Digitale, Sue	21	27	1	3	6	6	0	5	5	0	4	1	0	1	8	0.519
Duckworth, Tesa	44	20	6	13	4	5	3	2	5	1	4	1	2	0	16	1.100
Easterling, Rita	15	DNP - Ir	njured													
Fincher, Janie	10	41	10	20	4	6	0	0	0	7	3	1	3	0	24	0.878
Galloway, Liz	31	37	7	14	2	2	0	10	10	3	5	2	3	0	16	0.838
Logan, Karen	4	37	6	11	2	2	0	4	4	4	5	0	6	2	14	0.541
Peppler, Mary Jo	8	21	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0.095
Rainey, Sandra	23	7	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.143
Stachon, Toni	14	20	4	8	2	3	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	10	0.800
Waddy-Rossow, Debby	25	30	9	15	3	4	1	8	9	0	4	1	3	0	21	0.933
Totals		240	43	86	23	28	5	31	36	18	28	7	18	3	109	0.708
			FG%	50.0%	FT%	82.1%	Tear	n Rebs	8							

This one-point victory got the Stars over the hump and into the win column. It would also be the beginning of a very positive trend for the Stars. As long as they could keep a game close, they would win the close ones. We'll point this out later at the end of the season.

As for recognition of history being made in the New York area, only the Hempstead Daily News and the Yonkers Herald Statesman took the time to record this event. The Hempstead headline accurately stated: **Stars Win in a Near-Empty House**. Most people connected with the Stars were not surprised at the small crowd, because Ed Reisdorf had only bought his part of the franchise after he heard about the 7,824 that attended the game in Milwaukee on December 8. Coach Cissorsky said the team just opened their office last week (late December?) and hadn't had a chance to create their publicity yet.

A January 7th article in the New York Daily News was very similar to every other newspaper around the country in that they wanted to know when would this league be profitable? Every owner answered the same way, "this isn't a get-rich quick scheme, and we are financially prepared to go two-three years. Once people see the quality of the game, they will return and we should be breaking even by the third year."



For the Stars they had a \$250,000 budget for salaries, travel, court rental and office expenses. No one mentioned advertising or publicity to make people aware there was a team. The article also emphasized that even though the Stars began the year 0-3, they felt they had the talent to make the playoffs.

With a victory under their belt and a decent excuse for their lack of community awareness, the Stars saw only 234 people come to the Mulcahy Center on Sunday January 7th. The (4-0) Iowa Cornets came to town fresh off an overtime win against the Milwaukee Does on January 4th.





Even though there were only 234 fans (125 according to the White Plains Journal News) the Stars fought to take a 26-20 lead which evaporated to 50-49 at the half. A 30-30 third quarter led to a dog fight as the Cornets took an 86-82 lead with 7:31 remaining. But the Stars took the lead back, 92-91, with 4:30 to go. The Cornets had a chance to win when with 38 seconds left they cut the lead to 100-99 on a Robin Tucker 15-foot jumper.

The Stars' Kaye Young took an ill-advised shot with 14 seconds left, but an Iowa turnover and a subsequent foul with four seconds remaining gave the Stars two free throws to ice the game. It was another close victory, 102-99. Leading the way with a monster performance was Althea Gwyn with 28 points and 26 rebounds. Therefore, at Iona, over the last two games Althea had scored 55 points and had 57 rebounds. A new contributor, Faye Young, had 13 points and 11 rebounds.

Another player, who would play a significant role, 5'3" guard Janice Thomas, came through with 23 points. Janice was working as a security guard and hadn't been playing much basketball when she was contacted by the Stars. She acknowledged she was out of shape and after a month she was finally feeling like herself. Unfortunately, for J.T. New York's record of stats through newspapers and other media would be atrocious for the two years of the Stars' existence and her individual game statistics would be unknown.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0				0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11		0		0				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		0				0						0
Geils, Donna	21		7		4				0						18
Gross, Maria	12		2		2				0						6
Gwyn, Althea	31		13		2			26	26						28
Melbourne, Mara	24		3		2				0						8
Novarr, Harriet	15		0		0				0						0
Thomas, Janice	10		6		11	13			0						23
Young, Faye	22		4		5			11	11						13
Young, Kaye	20		2		2				0						6
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	37	0	28	13	0	37	37	0	0	0	0	0	102
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	215.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	42		2		0				0						4
Bolin, Molly	30		2		0				0						4
Draving, Doris	50		9		10			20	20		6				28
Green, Anita	12		5		2				0						12
Hawkins. Kathy	14		1		0				0						2
Kunzmann, Connie	44		4		2				0						10
Penquite, Rhonda	32		1		0				0						2
Rutter, Nancy	34	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Sharps, Denise	20		2		1				0						5
Thomas, Debra	40		6		1				0						13
Tucker, Robin	10		5		0				0						10
Uhl, Joan	22		4		1				0						9
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	41	0	17	0	0	20	20	0	6	0	0	0	99
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

As for the (4-1) Cornets they were led by Doris Draving's own 20-20, because she had 28 points and 20 rebounds, before she fouled out. Four other Cornets scored in double figures.

The Yonkers Herald Statesman did an article on guard Lynn Arturi, who grew up in the area of the Stars' current home. Lynn's story was a common story among a high number of women in the league. After playing in college she got a teaching and coaching job to keep her hand in the game she loved. When she learned of the WBL it was a tough decision to give up a good job to take a chance on an uncertainty. She took the leap and tried out for the New Jersey Gems and a week later tried her hand with the Stars. She earned her place on the team and fulfilled her dream. Lynn was a super rarity, because in a league that would employ 294 women over three years only 31 played all three years. Lynn was one of those 31.

The (2-3) Stars, who were 2-0 at home and 0-3 on the road would now try their newfound skills back on the road in Houston. They would meet up with the (5-1) Houston Angels at a special place. Instead of playing at the regular home of the Angels, the Astro Arena, the Angels scheduled this game for The Summit. This was the 16,800 arena of the NBA's Houston Rockets. The idea was to generate widespread publicity and play the game in a familiar Houston location.

In an ironic statement Angel's coach Don Knodel said:

"This is an important game for us. Anytime you play a New York team you get a lot of media exposure and the more media exposure this league gets the better off it will be."

What was the irony? There was no media exposure in the New York area.

This Thursday January 11th game attracted 2,682, which was about the same as the Angels' home opener at the Astro Arena (2,800). The Stars took an early 26-21 lead which they kept at 50-45 at the half. The Angels cut off three points as they made half-time adjustments and held the Stars to just 11 points. But the Angels could only put up 14 themselves, as the Stars held a 61-59 lead going into the 4th quarter.

Yet things for the Stars turned sour quickly as guard Donna Geils sprained her ankle chasing a loose ball at the 9:26 mark. The Stars lead was 72-67, but after the injury Houston went on a 12-2 run to take a 79-74 lead. The teams stayed close, but with the Angels' leading 85-82, they took off and scored the last 11 points of the game for a 96-82 Stars defeat.

Donna Geils left the game with 18 points, which lead the team, as Althea Gwyn was held to 15 points. Kaye Young also had 15 points.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0	0			0		0				0
Bailey, Darlene	11		1		1	2			0		0				3
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		2	5			0		1				2
Geils, Donna	21		9		0	0			0		2				18
Gross, Maria	12		0		0	0			0		0				0
Gwyn, Althea	31		4		7	14			0		5				15
Howard, Barbara	13		0		0	0			0		1				0
Melbourne, Mara	24		6		1	2			0		5				13
Novarr, Harriet	15		0		0	0			0		0				0
Thomas, Janice	10		6		2	2			0		5				14
Young, Faye	22		1		0	0			0		2				2
Young, Kaye	20		6		3	4			0		3				15
Adjustment		240		84					45	15					
Totals		240	33	84	16	29	0	0	45	15	24	0	0	0	82
			FG%	39.3%	FT%	55.2%	Tea	m Rebs	14						

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		6		4	6			0	10	4	4			16
Bubrig, Patty	33		2		0	0			0		1				4
Candler, Belinda	24		6		6	8		13	13		1				18
Chapman, Vicky	22		5		2	2			0		2				12
Dobson, Gail	25		0		0	0			0		0				0
Holleyman, Glenda	20		5		0	0			0		0				10
Johnson, Pat	45		5		0	0			0		3				10
Jones, Belinda	23		1		0	0			0		0				2
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		2		0	0			0		3				4
Mayo, Paula	10		6		0	0		13	13		4				12
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Washington, Cynthia	15		4		0	0			0		3				8
Adjustment		240		94				34	34	6					
Totals		240	42	94	12	16	0	60	60	16	21	4	0	0	96
			FG%	44.7%	FT%	75.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

As for the Angels, six players had double figures with Belinda Candler's 18 points and 13 rebounds leading the way. Karen Auhlenbacher came through with 16 points and 10 assists. This victory gave the Angels a four-game winning streak and a 6-1 record.

The Stars had to get to Minnesota and the Metropolitan Sports Center for a game the next day against the (1-6) Minnesota Fillies. The Fillies were trying to break their four-game losing streak, while the Stars were trying to break their road losing streak. The Stars would be without Donna Geils who still had her ankle injury.

A crowd of 811 came out to see the Stars take a 20-14 first quarter lead. The Fillies tied it at 43 at the half. The Stars took a two-point lead into the 4th quarter, but eventually ended up losing 96-90. Their record dropped to 2-5, while the Fillies improved to 2-6.

The Stars were led by Althea Gwyn's 29 points and an unknown number of rebounds. Janice Thomas added 21 points and an unknown number of assists. Kaye Young was the only other Star with double digit points. For the Fillies Brenda Chapman, who was leading the league in scoring at 28 ppg was held to just 23, while Donna Wilson scored 21.

New York Stars															Team G
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						6
Bailey, Darlene	11								0						2
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						O
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	- Ankle												
Gross, Maria	12								0						4
Gwyn, Althea	31								0						29
Howard, Barbara	13								0						O
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						4
Novarr, Harriet	15	4	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	2
Thomas, Janice	10								0						21
Young, Faye	22								0						6
Young, Kaye	20								0						16
Adjustment		236									23				
Totals		240	1	1	0	0	1	2	3	0	25	0	0	0	90
			FG%	######	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							
Minusesta Fillias															T

Minnesota Fillies															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Chapman, Brenda	15								0						23
Cooper, Accronetta	33	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
DeLorme, Scooter	32								0						7
Engle, Cheryl	24								0						6
Jackson, Peggy	12	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Kocurek, Marie	42								0		6				16
Koopman, Carol	25								0						3
Lundberg, Cindy	10								0						7
Morrish, Mary	53	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Sjoquist, Lynette	55								0						11
Wilson, Donna	11								0						21
Wilson, Laurie	13	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2
Adjustment		233									14				
Totals		240	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	2	2	0	96
			FG%	50.0%	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The third and last game of this road trip brought the Stars to New Jersey and the Dunn Sports Complex. The (4-4) Gems played their first eight games with the pattern of lose-win, lose-win, etc. Therefore, having won their last game they were due for a loss.

Yet the 1,136 fans didn't know this, so they came out to watch the Stars take a 30-27 lead, which became 58-56 in the Stars favor at the half. The Stars came out smoking with a 14-4 streak to increase their lead to 78-71, and they came though with a 107-104 victory. The Stars' road-loss streak was broken and the Gems lose-win pattern continued. In reality this was more of a Gems' loss than a Stars' victory, because the Gems shot only 24 of 45 from the free throw line.

The Stars had seven players in double figures with Maria Gross and Althea Gwyn scoring 20 each. While Mara Melbourne had 15, the Young twins had 13 each.

The Gems also had five players with double digits with former Star, Debbie Mason's 27 leading the way. Randi Burdick had an impressive 13 assists along with 18 points. The Gems were missing Wanda Szeremeta's 23.5 ppg, because of a sprained ankle she received a week earlier. The Stars were also playing without Donna Geils, who was recovering from her ankle injury.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		1		0				0						2
Bailey, Darlene	11		0		0				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		5		0				0						10
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	Ankle						0						0
Gross, Maria	12		9	15	2				0						20
Gwyn, Althea	31		8		4			13	13						20
Howard, Barbara	13		0		0				0						0
Melbourne, Mara	24		6		3				0						15
Novarr, Harriet	15		1		2				0						4
Thomas, Janice	10		5		0				0						10
Young, Faye	22		4		5				0						13
Young, Kaye	20		5		3				0						13
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	44	15	19	0	0	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	107
			FG%	######	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bistromowitz, Jo-Ellen	3		2		1				0						5
Burdick, Randi	21		8		2				0	13		1	<< at le	ast	18
Canning, Peggy	12		1		1				0						3
Fitzgerald, Kathy	4		2		0				0						4
Hayek, Mary Jean	19		0		0				0						0
Johnson, Tanya	22		1		0				0						2
Martin, Sue	13		5	14	2				0						12
Mason, Debbie	11		9	9	9	11			0						27
Roelich, Debra	15		3		1				0						7
Solano, Kathy	20		4		4				0						12
Szeremeta, Wanda	23	DNP - I	njured A	nkle					0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33		5		4				0						14
Adjustment		240				34									
Totals		240	40	23	24	45	0	0	0	13	0	1	0	0	104
			FG%	######	FT%	53.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

The (3-5) Stars came back to Mulcahy Center to play the same New Jersey Gems on Thursday January 18^{th} . A mere 400 people came out to see the Stars dominate the Gems with a 28-13 1^{st} quarter, behind 11 points by Kaye Young and 10 points by Mara Melbourne. After the Stars lead got up to 32-15, the Gems turned the tables with a 27-8 run which eventually led to a tie score at the half, 48 apiece.

The 3rd quarter began with the Gems taking a 57-51 lead, but with Janice Thomas controlling the ball and the tempo the Stars took a 78-71 lead. The game stayed close until Mara Melbourne made two free throws with one second left for a 100-97 lead. Without a three point shot available in the league's first year, the Gems' basket at the buzzer gave the Stars another close victory, 100-99. Not only did they have four victories with winning margins of 1,3,3, and 1, but also a two-game winning streak.

Althea Gwyn's 26 points and 13 rebounds led the way, while Mara Melbourne's 23 and Kaye Young's 17 added to the score. For the Gems, Gail Tatterson and Debbie Mason scored 19 each, while Randi Burdick had 17.

Did the Gems lose again because of free throws? We'll never know. In general, when the Stars and Gems played each other their known statistics were very often incomplete, because of how weak the coverage was by both the New York and New Jersey newspapers.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11								0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						0
Geils, Donna	21	Injured	- Ankle						0						0
Gross, Maria	12								0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31		at	least >>	2	2		13	13			1	<< at le	ast	26
Howard, Barbara	13								0						0
Melbourne, Mara	24		at	least >>	2	2			0						23
Novarr, Harriet	15								0						0
Thomas, Janice	10								0	8					0
Young, Faye	22		1						0						2
Young, Kaye	20				2	2	< <at le<="" td=""><td>ast</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>17</td></at>	ast	0						17
Adjustment		240													32
Totals		240	1	0	6	6	0	13	13	8	0	1	0	0	100
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	100.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bistromowitz, Jo-Ellen	3								0						0
Burdick, Randi	21								0						17
Canning, Peggy	12								0						0
Fitzgerald, Kathy	4								0						0
Hayek, Mary Jean	19								0						0
Johnson, Tanya	22								0						0
Martin, Sue	13								0						0
Mason, Debbie	11								0						19
Roelich, Denra	15								0						0
Solano, Kathy	20								0						15
Szeremeta, Wanda	23	Injured -	- Ankle						0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33		1	<< at Le	east				0						19
Adjustment		240													29
Totals		240	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

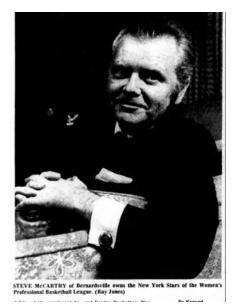
With an improved record of 4-5 there was almost a three-way tie for second in the Eastern Division. Houston was out in front with a 7-1 record, while the Dayton Rockettes were 4-4, the Stars were 4-5, and the Gems were 4-6.

Two days later, Saturday January 20th, the Stars travelled to Dayton to take on the Rockettes. A crowd of only 397 came to see the Stars take a 56-49 half time lead. Yet at the end of regulation the two teams were tied and went to overtime. The Stars prevailed 112-107 to even their record at 5-5 and added to their win streak. They also moved into second place in the East.

The combination of Janice Thomas (26), Mara Melbourne (24), and Althea Gwyn (21) had 71 of the team's points. Althea Gwyn also pulled down 15 rebounds. The (4-5) Rockettes were led by Angela Scott's 30 points and 16 rebounds. While Vivian Greene had 22 points, it was Denise Craig's 19 rebounds that kept Dayton in the game.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23	Name N	lot in Nev	vspapers					0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11		5	9	1	2		8	8		4				11
Fletcher, Carmen	30		1	4	2	4		5	5		2				4
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	Ankle												
Gross, Maria	12		2	5	0	0		2	2		3				4
Gwyn, Althea	31		5	16	11	15		15	15		3				21
Howard, Barbara	13	Name N	lot in Nev	vspapers											
Melbourne, Mara	24		9	17	6	8		7	7		3				24
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	lot in Nev	vspapers					0						0
Thomas, Janice	10		11	23	4	7		8	8		3				26
Young, Faye	22		2	6	2	2		4	4		0				6
Young, Kaye	20		7	16	2	4		6	6		2				16
Adjustment		265													
Totals		265	42	96	28	42	0	55	55	0	20	0	0	0	112
			FG%	43.8%	FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

Dayton Rockettes															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bucklew, Patti	40		5	12	2	2		5	5		4				12
Craig, Denise	10		7	18	0	0		19	19		5				14
Franklin, Connie	25	Name N	ot in Nev	vspapers											
Greene, Vivian	24		11	31	0	2		8	8		4				22
Holman, Joy	3		1	3	0	0		0	0		1				2
McKenzie, Michelle	20		6	15	1	3		9	9		6				13
Payne, Felicia	21		0	2	0	0		0	0		0				0
Pitts, Brenda	14		1	3	1	2		1	1		1				3
Scott, Angela	23		13	20	4	5		16	16		3				30
Tomich, Vonnie	5		4	8	3	6	1		1		5				11
Adjustment		265													
Totals		265	48	112	11	20	1	58	59	0	29	0	0	0	107
			FG%	42.9%	FT%	55.0%	Tea	m Rebs							



The Bernardsville (N.J.) News was proud of their association with an owner of the New York Stars, Steve McCarthy. McCarthy headed an investment business and structured venture capital and tax shelters with Reismac Corp. He acknowledged the team would be in the red for about three years but he knew this was the time for women's basketball. He told the writers the team had drawn 1,500 people to their first two home games (actually - 563 & 234). His desire was to have the Stars play two preliminary games in Madison Square Garden, before the Knicks games.

The rest of the article gave the beginnings of women's basketball from 1899, the early rules of the game, and the popularity in Iowa of the 6 on 6 variety.

But the article and the league could be summed up in the words of Althea Gwyn who was being paid peanuts like the rest of the players: "I hope to give all of myself to make this league work. Later I'll be able to look back and say that I helped to start it all."

After playing five games in nine days, the Stars had six days off before the (2-9) Milwaukee Does came to Mulcahy Center. The Does were in the midst of another coaching shake-up. The Does began their existence hiring a coach named Charlotte Adams, but she had to resign for personal reasons before training camp. The team then brought in Candace Klinzig, who formed & trained the team that lost in the inaugural game against Chicago 92-87. Which led to her being fired. The Does then hired George Nicodemus, who had been let go by the Iowa Cornets after two exhibition wins, also against the Chicago Hustle. (Play the Hustle – lose your job). After going 1-9, which later became 2-8 when a protested game was replayed and won, Nicodemus was fired. Therefore, General Manager Gene deLisle took over for this visit to New York.

The Stars did some advertising to let the fans know this was GUARANTEED WIN NIGHT. The Stars were prepared to offer a Free ticket to everyone attending, if they were to lose. A crowd of only 511 came out on this Friday night to see the Stars take a 28-16 1st quarter lead, which reached a peak of 23 before settling in for a 55-36 half time lead.

But it seemed as if the Stars were allergic to big leads as they were outscored 34-13 in the 3^{rd} quarter to then trail 70-68 going into the 4^{th} quarter. A battle ensued and Milwaukee took an 88-82 lead with 90 seconds remaining. The Stars scored the last six points to tie the game at 88 apiece.

The Stars then continued their run by scoring the first six points of overtime and securing a 101-96 victory for their fourth in a row. For the Does this would be their ninth consecutive loss, but that would change in a few weeks when a protested game was replayed and a loss became a victory. But as of this date, the Does players were in the middle of a losing streak.

The usual combination of Althea Gwyn, 25 points and 20 rebounds, along with Janice Thomas' 24 points, five assists, and five steals were instrumental. The Does fell to 2-10 and were led by Marguerite Keeley's and Debbie Prevost's 21 points each.

New York Stars															Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Arturi, Lynn	23	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0.000
Bailey, Darlene	11	18	1	7	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	5	0	2	-0.111
Fletcher, Carmen	30	30	0	2	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0.100
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	Ankle													
Gross, Maria	12	30	0	5	0	0	0	2	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	0.267
Gwyn, Althea	31	38	9	20	7	9	5	15	20	4	2	2	3	2	25	1.368
Howard, Barbara	13	12	2	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	4	0.333
Melbourne, Mara	24	20	5	9	2	7	0	8	8	0	2	0	4	0	12	0.800
Novarr, Harriet	15	5	1	3	1	2	4	1	5	0	1	0	1	1	3	1.400
Thomas, Janice	10	38	10	21	4	4	1	2	3	5	2	5	5	0	24	0.974
Young, Faye	22	28	5	9	5	10	3	4	7	1	0	1	3	0	15	0.786
Young, Kaye	20	38	8	13	0	0	1	3	4	3	2	2	3	0	16	0.658
Totals		265	41	96	19	32	15	39	54	17	16	11	28	3	101	0.649
			FG%	42.7%	FT%	59.4%	Tea	n Rebs								

Milwaukee Does															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Booker, Gerry	24		5		0				0						10
DeBoer, Cathy	13		8		1				0						17
Decker, Patti	44	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Dennis, Brenda	10		1		0				0						2
Ellis, Cindy	25		1		0				0						2
Fuller, Jan	28		2		2				0						6
Gehrke, Linda	33		2		0				0						4
Hostert, Barb	6		0		0				0						0
Keeley, Marguerite	31		10		1				0						21
Prevost, Debbie	32		9		3				0						21
Smith, Joanie	1		5		3				0						13
Zweig, Doris	15		0		0				0						0
Adjustment		265									24				
Totals		265	43	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0	96
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

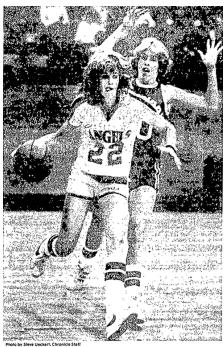
In a move, not unusual in the WBL, the New York Stars fired Head Coach Alan Cissorsky after his Milwaukee victory. The team that was now over .500 at 6-5, and in the midst of a four-game winning streak, decided it was time to part ways with Cissorsky. What was the reasoning? We know it was not a financial move, because Coach Cissorsky was only being paid \$150 a week to coach the Stars.

The information given to the newspaper was that in the Friday game against the lowly Milwaukee Does the Stars had a 23-point lead that eventually became a seven point Does lead. A 30-point swing. The owners felt the players lacked fundamentals and Cissorsky had lost control of the team. Therefore, instead of firing him over the phone General Manager Mike Rosenthal flew to Houston, walked into Cissorsky's hotel room and said, "You're fired." Even though the Stars were only playing a single game in Houston, they couldn't wait for the team to get back to fire him then. According to the newspaper the "news of the firing was reportedly well received among the Stars' players even though the team had won its last four games."

So, for a one game solution the team turned to guard Donna Geils, who had not played since January 11th, because of her injured ankle. The Stars would take their four-game winning streak to Houston to face the (10-1) Houston Angels, who had their own eight-game winning streak going.

The Stars found themselves behind 27-23, but took advantage of the bloody mouth that Vicky Chapman (14.5 ppg) received in the 2nd quarter that required her to leave for stitches. The Stars were then able to take the lead at the half 43-42.

The Angels took a brief lead 61-57 3rd quarter lead, but then at the 11:18 mark Althea Gwyn got a Pat Johnson elbow to the head, which caused her to leave the game with a cut scalp. Gwyn departed having scored 17 points and grabbing 13 rebounds in 34 minutes. With Gwyn gone, the Angels' Belinda Candler went on to score 12 points in the final 10 minutes which gave the Angels an 82-72 victory.



Houston Angels forward Vicky Chapman (22) drives past New York Stars Kay Young for layup in Angels 82-72 Women's Basketball League win Sunday night at the Astroarena. Chapman later suffered a cut on the inside of her mouth and had to leave the game.

Donna Geils' 0-1 WBL coaching experience was complete as she looked forward to getting back on the floor. Janice Thomas was the only other Star double figure scorer with 14 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists. For Houston Belinda Candler had 22 points and nine rebounds, but it was Pat Johnson's 14 points and 12 rebounds as a sub that played a big part in the victory.

New York Stars															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Arturi, Lynn	23	4	0	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	2		0	-0.500
Bailey, Darlene	11	8	0	1	0	0		2	2	0	1	0	3	1	0	-0.125
Fletcher, Carmen	30	13	2	5	1	2		4	4	0	3	0	1		5	0.615
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	Ankle													
Gross, Maria	12	44	4	11	0	0		2	2	2	4	3	1		8	0.364
Gwyn, Althea	31	34	7	15	3	4		13	13	0	2	0	5		17	0.735
Howe, Connie	25	2	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0		0	0.000
Melbourne, Mara	24	27	3	8	2	4		10	10	0	5	1	6		8	0.481
Novarr, Harriet	15	6	4	7	0	0		3	3	0	0	0	0		8	1.833
Thomas, Janice	10	41	7	12	0	0		10	10	7	4	2	12	1	14	0.683
Young, Faye	22	26	2	7	0	0		3	3	1	0	3	1	1	4	0.423
Young, Kaye	20	35	3	9	2	2		3	3	1	3	3	6	1	8	0.286
Totals		240	32	76	8	12	0	50	50	11	23	12	37	4	72	0.496
			FG%	42.1%	FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs								

There were only five days until the next game on Friday February 2nd at home against the (5-6) Dayton Rockettes. By this time the New York Stars had hired as their new coach 44-year-old LaVozier Lamar. Coach Lamar was very familiar with the New York area and women's basketball as he was the head coach of the New York Chuckles AAU team.

Houston Angels															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11	45	4	18	2	3		6	6	4	2	3	0	1	10	0.600
Bubrig, Patty	33	3	0	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	1		0	-0.333
Candler, Belinda	24	34	9	17	4	6		9	9	0	0	3	4	1	22	0.882
Chapman, Vicky	22	17	3	7	0	0		2	2	2	2	0	1		6	0.647
Dobson, Gail	25	Name n	ot in Nev	vspaper												
Holleyman, Glenda	20	24	2	9	0	0		0	0	2	1	1	1	1	4	0.333
Johnson, Pat	45	26	5	12	4	6		12	12	1	0	3	2	1	14	1.115
Jones, Belinda	23	29	1	8	2	3		8	8	2	0	5	3		4	0.621
Kenlaw, Jessie	40	14	0	3	2	4		6	6	0	2	1	2	1	2	0.500
Mayo, Paula	10	29	4	18	1	4		12	12	2	4	2	1		9	0.897
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper												
Washington, Cynthia	15	19	4	6	3	4		2	2	0	1	2	0		11	0.789
Adjustment													5			
Totals		240	32	99	18	30	0	57	57	13	12	20	20	5	82	0.688
			FG%	32.3%	FT%	60.0%	Tea	m Rebs								

With the Stars starting to put some wins together the crowds were improving as 742 came in this Friday evening. This was a vast improvement over the 427 they were averaging.

Since their last game on January 20th the Rockettes had beaten Chicago and lost to Houston. So, they were ready for revenge after their previous overtime loss to the Stars. The Rockettes took a 25-20 lead, which became 51-50 Dayton at the half. The Stars took the lead 80-77 with Althea Gwyn scoring 12 points. The Stars won 104-102, which was another close victory. It didn't matter who the coach was, this team knew how to finish in close games.

Of course, it helped when Althea Gwyn put up 38 points with 28 rebounds, including 15 offensive rebounds to lead the way. Mara Melbourne had a steady 13 points and 13 rebounds. The Rockettes were led by Denise Craig's 22 points and 12 rebounds, along with Angela Scott's 22 points. Also with 20 points was Vivian Greene.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		1	7	0	0		1	1		3				2
Bailey, Darlene	11		0	0	0	0		0	0		1				0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		2	7	2	5		4	4		1				6
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	- Ankle						0						0
Gross, Maria	12		4	4	0	0		0	0		1				8
Gwyn, Althea	31		17	28	4	5	15	13	28		2				38
Howe, Connie	25	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers											
Melbourne, Mara	24		6	12	1	2		13	13		5				13
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers											
Thomas, Janice	10		6	13	3	5		3	3		2				15
Young, Faye	22		5	11	3	5		4	4		3				13
Young, Kaye	20		2	15	5	8		5	5		2				9
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	43	97	18	30	15	43	58	0	20	0	0	0	104
			FG%	44.3%	FT%	60.0%	Tea	m Rebs	10						

Dayton Rockettes															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bucklew, Patti	40		8	10	0	1		9	9		5				16
Craig, Denise	10		10	20	2	2		12	12		5				22
Franklin, Connie	25	Name N	ot in Nev	vspapers											
Greene, Vivian	24		10	23	0	0		3	3		5				20
Holman, Joy	3		1	1	0	0		0	0		1				2
McKenzie, Michelle	20		2	7	0	0		5	5		3				4
Payne, Felicia	21		0	1	0	0		0	0		0				0
Pitts, Brenda	14		2	4	0	0		3	3		0				4
Scott, Angela	23		5	13	2	2		7	7		3				12
Tomich, Vonnie	5		7	14	8	13		2	2		5				22
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	45	93	12	18	0	41	41	0	27	0	0	0	102
			FG%	48.4%	FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs	12						

The (7-6) Stars were about to host another improving team as the (7-7) Minnesota Fillies came to town. Since starting the season 1-6, the Fillies had gone 6-1. They were enjoying their 2nd three-game winning streak and were excited with beating Iowa in overtime just two days earlier. This Sunday, February 4th game was at Mulcahy Center and drew an abysmal 200 fans. Noting how inaccurate WBL attendance was recorded, and knowing how teams rounded up, you can only imagine how many actual humans were in the building.

Was it possible the two team were responding with lethargy as the Fillies had a 12-point lead at one point, but settled in for a miniscule 15-10 1st quarter lead. By half time this was cut down to 37-34, behind 15 points from Althea Gwyn. But in the 3rd quarter Janice Thomas took over. She improved on her 2-9 first half shooting to hit 9 of 11 with two free throws in the 2nd half. With a 31-26 effort the Stars took a 65-63 lead. The 43 points the Stars scored in the 4th quarter set the WBL record for points in a half with 74. The Stars 108-87 victory was their sixth straight home victory.

The Stars' coach LaVosier Lamar was now 2-0 and the team was 8-6. Althea Gwyn had another 20-20 game with 28 points and 24 rebounds. So, in her last two games Gwyn had 66 points and 54 rebounds. Janice Thomas came through with 26 points and an unknown number of assists, while Kaye Young added 18 points.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0				0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11		1		2				0						4
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		0				0						0
Geils, Donna	21	Injured -	Ankle												
Gross, Maria	12		2		2				0						6
Gwyn, Althea	31		9		10			24	24						28
Howe, Connie	25	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0
Melbourne, Mara	24		7		3			10	10						17
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Thomas, Janice	10		11	20	4				0						26
Young, Faye	22		4		1				0						9
Young, Kaye	20		9		0				0						18
Adjustment		239													
Totals		240	43	20	22	0	0	34	34	0	0	0	0	0	108
			FG%	######	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Minnesota Fillies															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Chapman, Brenda	15		6		3				0						15
Cooper, Accronetta	33		0		0				0						0
DeLorme, Scooter	32		8		5				0		6				21
Engle, Cheryl	24		0		0				0						0
Jackson, Peggy	12	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Kocurek, Marie	42		10		2				0						22
Koopman, Carol	25		3		4				0						10
Lundberg, Cindy	10		1		0				0						2
Roberts, Trish	44		0		0				0						0
Sjoquist, Lynette	55		1		0				0						2
Wilson, Donna	11		6		3				0						15
Wilson, Laurie	13	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper					0						0
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	35	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	87
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

For the (7-8) Minnesota Fillies Marie Kocurek had 22 points, while Scooter DeLorme had 21 points before she fouled out. The league's leading scorer, Brenda Chapman, was held to just 15 points.

With the loss to the Stars, the Minnesota Fillies decided to part ways with the only remaining female head coach in the WBL, Julia Yeater. Even though the team was 6-2 over their last eight games owner Gordon Nevers had other plans. So, a league dedicated to female players and once had four women who were named as head coaches now had zero in place.

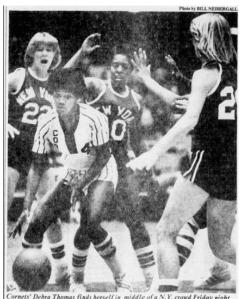
A February 5th Morristown Record article on New Jersey's Steve McCarthy headlined that it would cost the Stars owners about \$300,000 the first year. The largest expense was sending 12 players and coaches to the Midwest or the south. Yet, as with all articles, the information printed was the information that was fed to them. Therefore, the Stars were supposedly averaging 1,500 fans per game (their highest was 742 to date), Houston was averaging 3,000 (in reality the 8 games produced 13,526, an average of 1,691) and the Iowa & Dayton were doing even better. [than Houston]

When did Steve McCarthy actually commit to the Stars? Since February 1978 the WBL claimed they were filtering through 750 applicants that wanted a team. Yet when the WBL approached him, as an investment counselor, to see if he had any clients that wanted to get involved, he decided this was worth his time. Yet the team itself was not organized until late November. So, it was hard to determine if Steve McCarthy was at the initial owners meeting held in June 20, 1978 in Chicago.

As for the (8-6) Stars they had five days before they had to travel to Des Moines, Iowa to take on the (8-6) Iowa Cornets at Veterans Memorial Auditorium.

The Cornets jumped out to a 29-20 lead to the delight of the 1,824 fans who came out this Friday, February 9th. The lead expanded to 53-40 by halftime. The Stars struggled but then Gwyn and Thomas got hot, when the Cornets went cold.

With 7:44 left the Stars took an 84-82 lead. The game went back-n-forth with Denise Sharps scoring seven points. A Joan Uhl layup with :58 left gave Cornets a 98-95 lead, but that was cut to 98-97 with :27 remaining. The Stars were forced to foul and Sharps hit only one of two free throws, which gave the Stars the ball with 10 seconds left, but a Gigi Ransom 20-footer fell short. The Stars 99-97 loss was a rarity for them as their record dropped to 8-7.



Althea Gwyn continued on her rampage as she added another 20-20 with 28 points and 24 rebounds. Over the last three games she was averaging 31.3 points and 25.1 rebounds per game. Janice Thomas came through with 24 points and 12 assists.

For the 9-7 Cornets Molly Bolin led the way with 24 points, while Joan Uhl added 16 points and 14 rebounds and Doris Draving had 16 points and 12 rebounds. Guard Robin Tucker came through with 14 points and nine assists.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Bailey, Darlene	11	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		0	0			0						0
Geils, Donna	21		1		0	0			0						2
Gross, Maria	12		3		0	0			0						6
Gwyn, Althea	31		13		2	6		24	24						28
Melbourne, Mara	24		3		2	2			0						8
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Ransom, Gigi	25		4		2	2			0						10
Thomas, Janice	10		12		0	0			0	12					24
Young, Faye	22		3		0	2			0						6
Young, Kaye	20		6		1	2			0						13
Adjustment		240									21				
Totals		240	45	0	7	14	0	24	24	12	21	0	0	0	97
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	50.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	42	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Bolin, Molly	30		10		4	5			0						24
Draving, Doris	50		7		2	2		12	12						16
Green, Anita	12	DNP - S	ick with	Flu											
Hawkins. Kathy	14		0		0	0			0						0
Kunzmann, Connie	44		2		0	0			0						4
Penquite, Rhonda	32		1		0	0			0						2
Rutter, Nancy	34		0		0	0			0						0
Sharps, Denise	20		6		5	10			0						17
Thomas, Debra	40		3		0	0			0						6
Tucker, Robin	10	44	6		2	2			0	9		2			14
Uhl, Joan	22		6		4	4		14	14						16
Adjustment		196									16		19		
Totals		240	41	0	17	23	0	26	26	9	16	2	19	0	99
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	73.9%	Tea	m Rebs							

The (8-7) Stars immediately went up to Milwaukee to take on the (3-13) Milwaukee Does. They were greeted this Saturday, at the Milwaukee Arena and a Scout Day crowd of 2,659 fans and a new Does coach. Coach Julia Yeater, the same coach the Stars faced and was fired in Minnesota only six days earlier, was now in Milwaukee.

While Coach Yeater was familiar with the Stars, she had a new team she had to get used to. Therefore, New York took a 33-16 1st quarter lead behind Gwyn's eight points and seven rebounds. The Does went on a 19-7 run to cut the lead to 40-35, but the Stars upped it to 52-42 by the half. With a loud supportive group behind them the Does cut the lead to 98-92 with one minute remaining. The Stars held them and came through with a 100-93 triumph.

For the fourth game in a row Althea Gwyn had a 20-20 with 27 points and 20 rebounds. This gave her 121 points in four games along with 96 rebounds. On top of Gwyn's performance Janice Thomas came through with 17 points and 15 assists. This two-player combo would set the standard for future generations of players, including Utah's Karl Malone and John Stockton ten years later.

As a bonus for the Stars, Donna Geils returned to play a full game after being out for nine games. Her 13 points showed she was back in the rotation. As for the defeated 3-14 Does Cindy Ellis led the way with 15, while Marguerite Keeley added 14.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0	0			0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		1		2	3			0						4
Geils, Donna	21		5		3	5			0						13
Gross, Maria	12		3		1	3			0						7
Gwyn, Althea	31		9		9	12		20	20						27
Melbourne, Mara	24		0		2	6			0						2
Novarr, Harriet	15		1		0	0			0						2
Ranson, Gigi	25		3		2	3			0						8
Thomas, Janice	10		8		1	1			0	15					17
Young, Faye	22		2		4	6			0						8
Young, Kaye	20		3		6	9			0						12
Adjustment		240									28				
Totals		240	35	0	30	48	0	20	20	15	28	0	0	0	100
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	62.5%	Tea	m Rebs							

Milwaukee Does															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Booker, Gerry	24		3		3	7			0						9
DeBoer, Kathy	13		6		0	0			0						12
Decker, Patti	44	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper					0						0
Dennis, Brenda	10		3		0	0			0						6
Ellis, Cindy	25		5		5	6			0						15
Fuller, Jan	28		2		4	7			0						8
Gehrke, Lynda	33		0		2	4			0						2
Hostert, Barb	6		1		4	5			0						6
Keeley, Marguerite	31		3		8	10			0						14
Prevost, Deb	32		4		0	0			0						8
Smith, Joanie	1		5		2	2			0						12
Zweig, Doris	15		0		1	2			0						1
Adjustment		240									28				
Totals		240	32	0	29	43	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	93
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	67.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

On Monday February 12th the Stars returned home to Mulcahy Center to play a team that was fighting for 2nd place in the East Division. The (6-9) Dayton Rockettes were 2.5 games behind the Stars, but a Stars win could put the Rockettes into the review mirror. Another sad crowd of 312 came out to Iona to watch the Stars take a 22-20 1st quarter led. But it was all tied at 44 at the half.

Dayton came out strong in the 3rd quarter with a 33-27 takeover which eventually became a Stars loss at 111-103. The six-game home winning streak was also over. The Rockettes were now with 1.5 games behind the Stars.

Althea Gwyn's 20-20 streak ended as she came through with 23 points, but only 18 rebounds. Janice Thomas came through with 24 points and seven assists, before she fouled out. Donna Geils and Mara Melbourne had 15 points each, while Mara pulled down 14 rebounds of her own.

For the Rockettes four players had over 20 points. Both Vivian Greene and Patti Bucklew each scored 26 points and each pulled down 10 rebounds. Denise Craig had her own 20-20 as she scored 22 and grabbed 21.

At the halfway point of the Stars' season the standings looked like this:

EASTERN D	<u> </u>	SION			MIDWEST	DIVI	SION		
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	14	2	.875		Iowa	10	7	.588	
New York	9	8	.529	5.5	Chicago	11	8	.579	
Dayton	7	9	.438	7.0	Minnesota	8	9	.471	2.0
New Jersey	5	11	.313	9.0	Milwaukee	4	14	.222	6.5

The second half of the season the Stars hoped to improve on their New York acceptance. While they were a successful 6-1 record at home, they only had 2,962 fans attend, an average of 423.

On Wednesday February 21st the Stars were scheduled to play at Queens College. Queens College was the Alma Mater of both Althea Gwyn and Donna Geils. The college team had built up a following over the last few years with a very successful program. Therefore, to piggy-back off that success, the Stars planned to meet the league leading (16-3) Houston Angels at Queens College.

But where was the game played? The New York newspaper said: "The game <u>was going</u> to be played at Queens College." This would lead you to believe it wasn't played there and had to be moved. But after the game Houston coach Don Knodel had these comments:

"We're trying to build a professional league gaining recognition and these people (the Stars' front office) are running a five-and-dime pop stand," Knodel stated. "If this happened in Houston, I'd quit. They have a bunch of kids running the statistics, the clock, everything! The officials ought to get paid double for all the work they did tonight."

These comments would lead me to believe the game was not played in a familiar location. Therefore, the game must have been played at Queens College and the number of fans stayed about the same as Iona, 321.

The Stars fall behind 24-20 in the 1^{st} quarter. They made up for it and trailed 51-50 at the half. But Althea Gwyn took her 14 points into the locker room early as she left the game in the first half with an ankle injury. While other players stepped up, Houston created a five-point lead late in the 3^{rd} quarter. But the Stars outscored them by 12 until there was 3:30 remaining.

Now that the Stars had a lead they knew they would win the close games. Behind Janice Thomas' 27 points, and Donna Geils' 13 points the Stars claimed another close victory, 100-98. Kaye Young added 12 points and the team's next best rebounder, Mara Melbourne, scored nine, but eventually fouled out. The victory made the Stars 10-8 for the season.

The fallen Angels were led by Vicky Chapman's 22 points and Paula Mayo's 21. The Angels' Belindas, Candler and Jones, scored 19 and 17 respectively.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	23		3		1				0						7
Fletcher, Carmen	30		4		2				0						10
Geils, Donna	21		6		1				0						13
Gross, Maria	12		1		0				0						2
Gwyn, Althea	31		4		6				0						14
Melbourne, Mara	24		4		1				0		6				9
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N		wspaper											
Ransom, Gigi	25		1		0				0						2
Thomas, Janice	10		10		7				0						27
Young, Faye	22		2		4				0						8
Young, Kaye	20	240	6		0				0						12
Adjustment Totals		240	41	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	-4 100
lotais		240		#DIV/0!		#DIV/0!		m Rebs		U	0	U	U	U	100
			FG/6	#DIV/0:	F 1 70	#DIV/0:	i ea	III Kebs	·——						
Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		4		1				0						9
Bubrig, Patty	33	Did Not	Travel												
Candler, Belinda	24		8		3				0						19
Chapman, Vicky	22		7		8				0						22
Holleyman, Glenda	20		3		1				0						7
Johnson, Pat	45	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Jones, Belinda	23		8		1				0						17
Kenlaw, Jessie	40	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Mayo, Paula	10		7		7				0						21
Mosley, Dolly	14	Did Not	Travel												
Waddell, Leanne	25	Did Not	Travel												
Washington, Cynthia	15		0		1				0						1
Adjustment		240			2										2
Totals		240	37	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	-	m Rebs	11						

Before this game the Stars acquired 6'3" Suzanne Alt from the Iowa Cornets for future considerations.

The Stars took a trip across the river to Elizabeth, New Jersey and the Dunn Sports Complex. On Sunday February 25^{th} the (10-8) Stars took on the (5-12) Gems in front of 1,017 fans. The Stars would be playing without Althea Gwyn who had injured her ankle.

After beating the best team in the WBL the confident Stars took a 30-23 1st quarter lead, which they promptly lost when the Gems outscored them 29-16. So even though trailing 52-46 might not seem bad it was a harbinger of the future. The Gems increased their lead to 78-67, which led them to a 104-93 victory.

Even though the game box score said the game only took 2:15, the fact that the teams split 70 fouls and 60 turnovers must have made it a tough game to watch. For the Stars they had five players score 10+, but none had over 14. As usual Mara Melbourne had 14 points and 14 rebounds, while Kaye Young also had 14.

The winning Gems raised their record to 6-12, because seven players had double figures with Debbie Mason's 18 leading the way. Gail Tatterson, who only three weeks earlier had set the WBL scoring record with 44, scored 16 in this game along with pulling down 13 rebounds.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Alt, Suzanne	13		2		4	5			0						8
Arturi, Lynn	23		2		2	2			0						6
Fletcher, Carmen	30		3		1	3			0						7
Geils, Donna	21		4		5	6			0		6				13
Gross, Maria	12		1		0	0			0						2
Gwyn, Althea	31	Injured -	- Ankle						0						0
Melbourne, Mara	24		6		2	4		14	14						14
Novarr, Harriet	15		1		2	2			0						4
Ransom, Gigi	25		4		2	2			0						10
Thomas, Janice	10		2		7	9			0						11
Young, Faye	22		2		0	0			0						4
Young, Kaye	20		1	17	12	15			0						14
Adjustment		240		82				46	60		25	N	Y+NJ=6	60	
Totals		240	28	99	37	48	0	60	74	0	31	0	0	0	93
			FG%	28.3%	FT%	77.1%	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Burdick, Denise	35	25	5		3	4		9	9						13
Burdick, Randi	21		4		2	2			0		6				10
Logan, Karen	4		2		4	5			0						8
Martin, Sue	13		3		6	6			0						12
Mason, Debbie	11		7	8	4	5			0						18
Peppler, Mary Jo	34	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Roelich, Debra	15		1		0	0			0						2
Solano, Kathy	20		4		4	6			0	8					12
Szeremeta, Wanda	23		4		5	9			0						13
Tatterson, Gail	33		6	9	4	6		13	13		6				16
Adjustment		215						22	22		27	N	IJ+NY=	50	
Totals		240	36	17	32	43	0	44	44	8	39	0	0	0	104
			FG%	######	FT%	74.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

Three days later on February 28 the same two teams met again at Iona. Neither had a game in between so the Stars were still 10-9 and the Gems were still 6-12. An unknown number of fans came to the Mulcahy Center to watch the Gems continue their current dominance over the Stars as they took a 24-12 1st quarter lead. That lead increased to 30-15, before the Stars went on a 26-4 run in the last nine minutes of the half to take a 41-34 half time lead.

What happened in the 3rd quarter? Unknown. Yet in the 2nd half the Gems outscored the Stars 55-53, which allowed the Stars to win 94-89. The 11-9 Stars again played without Althea Gwyn, so Janice Thomas was the scoring leader with 26 with seven assists. Gigi Ransom and Kaye Young each had 12 points.

The newspapers only had two people scoring for the Gems – Gail Tatterson with 24 and Wanda Szeremeta had at least eight points. The distribution of the other 57 points are lost to history.

Unfortunately, for the league and historians the stats for New York games and New Jersey games was brutal, and the worst was when they played each other.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	Pts
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						10
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						0
Bailey, Darlene	11								0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						0
Geils, Donna	21								0						0
Gross, Maria	12								0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31	Injured -	- Ankle												
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						0
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	Not in Ne	wspape	rs										
Ransom, Gigi	25								0						12
Thomas, Janice	10								0	7					26
Young, Faye	22								0						0
Young, Kaye	20								0						12
Adjustment		240													34
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	94
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Burdick, Denise	35								0						0
Burdick, Randi	21								0						0
Logan, Karen	4								0						0
Martin, Sue	13								0						0
Mason, Debbie	11								0						0
Peppler, Mary Jo	34								0						0
Roelich, Denra	15								0						0
Solano, Kathy	20								0						0
Szeremeta, Wanda	23								0				At	Least>>	8
Tatterson, Gail	33								0						24
Adjustment		240													57
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars were pleased with a victory in their first of five straight home games. Their Friday March 2nd opponent at the Mulcahy Center would be the always struggling (4-16) Milwaukee Does. Coach Yeater was still trying to figure her team out as they acquired the WBL's leading scorer, Brenda Chapman, from the Minnesota six days into her coaching reign. Since February 10th the Does saw both Kathy DeBoer and Marguarite Keeley get traded and change teams.

The Does had been off for 12 days, which allowed Coach Yeater to learn more about her team. Therefore, the Stars, who were still playing without Gwyn, found themselves trailing 23-19 after one quarter. The Stars took a 48-47 halftime lead, after the two teams were tied seven times and had 13 lead changes.

The 3^{rd} quarter saw two WBL records being set as the Stars scored a record low six points in the 3^{rd} quarter. The Does didn't really light it up either as their 15 points meant the two teams combined for 21 total points in one quarter. This gave the Does a commanding 62-54 3^{rd} quarter lead.

Yet to the delight of the 302 fans attending the 4th quarter was just the opposite as the two teams combined for 64 points with the Milwaukee Does prevailing 98-82. For the (11-10) Stars Janice Thomas scored 27 points in only 27 minutes, while Donna Geils had 18 points in 18 minutes. The newest Star, Suzanne Alt, contributed 11 in her 3rd game with the Stars.

For the (5-16) Does they had their first chance to play with Brenda Chapman, who scored 26 and handed out either four assists or 11 assists (?). Deb Prevost came through with 21, while Gerry Booker had 18 points.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13		5		1	2			0						11
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		0				0						0
Geils, Donna	21	18	9		0	0			0						18
Gross, Maria	12		0		0	0			0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31	Injured -	Ankle												
Melbourne, Mara	24		3		4	7			0						10
Novarr, Harriet	15		0		0	0			0						0
Ransom, Gigi	25		3		0	2			0		6				6
Thomas, Janice	10	27	8		11	14			0						27
Young, Faye	22		0		1	2			0						1
Young, Kaye	20		4		1	2			0						9
Adjustment		195						66			21				
Totals		240	32	0	18	29	0	66	0	0	27	0	0	0	82
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	62.1%	Tea	m Rebs							

Milwaukee Does															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Booker, Gerry	24		7		4	9			0						18
Chapman, Brenda	22		12		2	6		4	4	11 or 4	asts?	3			26
Decker, Patti	13		0		0	0			0						0
Dennis, Brenda	10	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Ellis, Cindy	25	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Fuller, Jan	28		3		0	0			0						6
Gehrke, Lynda	33		4		0	0			0						8
Hostert, Barb	6		0		0	0			0						0
Koopman, Carol	13		3		2	2			0						8
Prevost, Deb	32		8		5	11			0						21
Smith, Joanie	1		3		1	2			0						7
Wilson, Laurie	30		1		2	3			0						4
Zweig, Doris	15		0		0	0			0						0
Adjustment		240						71	71		20				
Totals		240	41	0	16	33	0	75	75	0	20	3	0	0	98
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	48.5%	Tea	m Rebs							

Since February 4th the (11-10) Stars have been unable to put together a two-game winning streak. Over the last eight games they win and then lose. The next game would be Sunday March 4th as the (14-8) Chicago Hustle came to Iona College.

The Hustle were on a three-game winning streak, including winning the conclusion of a protested game they had originally lost. With a record of 14-8 they were tied with the (14-8) Iowa Cornets.

Another small crowd of 304 saw the Stars continue their offensive prowess as they scored 31 but ended up trailing 33-31 after one quarter. The Stars took the half time lead with a 30-26 2nd quarter and a 61-59 lead. The two teams slowed the pace down so the Hustle could take a 77-74 lead. They then got their track shoes back on and outscored the Stars 37-27 for a 114-101 victory. The Stars now had a two-game losing streak.

As for playoff positioning the Stars were still leading the Gems and Rockettes, as each team was 8-13 on March 4th. Althea Gwyn finally made it back on the floor for the first time in 11 days as she had 20 points and 15 rebounds in 35 minutes. Janice Thomas had 20 points and 14 assists in 34 minutes, while the Young twins had 26 points (Faye 11 & Kaye 15).

The (15-8) Hustle stayed pace with the Cornets who were in the process of beating the Houston Angels on the same day. The Hustle were led by Debby Waddy-Rossow's 34 points and 12 rebounds in 35 minutes. The backcourt duo of Rita Easterling and Janie Fincher put up 49 points with Rita scoring 28 of them, before she fouled out.

New York Stars															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Alt, Suzanne	13	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0.000
Arturi, Lynn	23	10	1	5	2	3	0	1	1	0	2	2	4	0	4	0.300
Fletcher, Carmen	30	11	2	4	0	2	2	0	2	0	2	1	2	0	4	0.455
Geils, Donna	21	19	1	8	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	2	0.316
Gross, Maria	12	8	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.500
Gwyn, Althea	31	35	8	16	4	5	9	6	15	0	1	0	3	3	20	0.914
Melbourne, Mara	24	38	3	8	3	8	3	10	13	1	4	2	2	0	9	0.632
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers	3											
Ransom, Gigi	25	19	6	12	0	0	2	4	6	2	5	4	5	1	12	1.105
Thomas, Janice	10	34	9	19	2	2	3	4	7	14	3	1	7	1	20	1.441
Young, Faye	22	25	4	8	3	6	1	4	5	4	3	2	1	0	11	1.000
Young, Kaye	20	34	7	17	1	1	1	2	3	2	2	1	2	0	15	0.618
Totals		240	43	100	15	27	21	33	54	24	24	15	28	5	101	0.792
			FG%	43.0%	FT%	55.6%	Tear	m Rebs	5							

Chicago Hustle															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Caldwell, Breena	30	5	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	4	0.600
Digitale, Sue	21	40	6	13	3	4	3	5	8	1	5	1	2	0	15	0.600
Duckworth, Tesa	44	24	0	7	0	0	2	2	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0.208
Easterling, Rita	15	41	8	15	12	16	0	4	4	5	6	2	10	0	28	0.829
Fincher, Janie	10	42	10	20	1	3	2	2	4	4	2	6	5	0	21	0.810
Galloway, Liz	31	45	6	8	0	0	7	10	17	7	4	3	3	1	12	0.956
Johnson, Tanya	32	8	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0.375
Rainey, Sandra	23	Name n	ot in Box	Score												
Stachon, Toni	14	Name n	ot in Bo	x Score												
Waddy-Rossow, Debby	25	35	15	30	4	4	3	9	12	0	5	2	3	0	34	1.286
Totals		240	47	96	20	27	18	35	53	18	26	15	27	1	114	0.796
			FG%	49.0%	FT%	74.1%	Tear	n Rebs	13							

The Stars tried again at Queens College to see if supporters would come flocking to acknowledge their past queens, Donna Geils and Althea Gwyn. Did they? We'll never know the newspapers didn't report the attendance.

As for the (11-11) Stars they were playing host to the (8-13) Rockettes on Monday March 5th. The Stars had a 16-8 lead with 4:10 remaining, when the Rockettes went on a 13-4 run to take a 21-20 lead. The Stars countered that with an 18-8 run to make it 38-29. The Stars then put together another 18-11 run to take a 56-40 half time lead. The Rockettes came out and had a 12-4 streak which cut the lead to 60-52. The two teams played evenly so that the 3rd quarter score was 77-69 as they entered the 4th quarter. The Stars broke their losing streak with a 101-95 victory.

In just her second game back after her ankle injury Althea Gwyn had 34 points and an unknown number of rebounds, while Kaye Young added 17. The Rockettes had six in double digits with Patti Bucklew's 20 leading the way. Denise Craig added 18 herself.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						8
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						8
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						0
Geils, Donna	21								0						6
Gross, Maria	12								0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31								0						34
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						8
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	Not in Ne	wspaper	s										
Ransom, Gigi	25								0						0
Thomas, Janice	10								0						14
Young, Faye	22								0						8
Young, Kaye	20								0						17
Adjustment		240	38		25										-2
Totals		240	38	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Dayton Rockettes															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bucklew, Patti	40								0						20
Craig, Denise	10								0						18
Franklin, Connie	25	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Greene, Vivian	24								0						15
Holman, Joy	3								0						0
McKenzie, Michelle	20								0						13
Payne, Felicia	21								0						2
Pitts, Brenda	14								0						4
Scott, Angela	23								0						10
Tomich, Vonnie	5								0						13
Adjustment		240	42		11										
Totals		240	42	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

On Friday March 9th the (12-11) Stars would test themselves against the (15-8) Iowa Cornets who were a mere ½ game out of first in the Midwest Division. Since the Stars and Cornets last met on February 9th the Cornets had switched coaches from Rod Lein to Dan Moulton. Dan was proving to be a good choice as he took over a 10-7 team and had raised their record to 15-8.

Another unknown number of fans poured into Mulcahy Center to see the Cornets score 16 1st quarter points and the Stars put up an unknown number. That's ok, because we at least know the halftime score was Stars 45 Cornets 38.

The third quarter was just the same. The Cornets put up 16 and the Stars total was a secret to everyone not attending. Yet in the 2nd half the Stars put a 54-36 whooping on the Cornets for a 99-74 victory. It was a total performance for the Stars as all 12 players scored and were led by Althea Gwyn's 24 points and 12 rebounds. The guard tandem of Donna Geils (19 points) and Janice Thomas (18 points) was vital to the victory.

The Cornets had six players with double digits with two who scored 11 and four who scored 10. Iowa dropped to 15-9, while the Stars improved to 13-11 and had another two-game winning streak. Their home stand of 3-2 would be a springboard for their four-game road trip.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13		3		2	4			0						8
Arturi, Lynn	23		2		0	0			0						4
Fletcher, Carmen	30		3		0	0			0						6
Geils, Donna	21		6		7	14			0						19
Gross, Maria	12		1		0	0			0						2
Gwyn, Althea	31		10		4	6		12	12						24
Melbourne, Mara	24		2		1	2			0						5
Novarr, Harriet	15		1		0	0			0						2
Ransom, Gigi	25		1		0	0			0						2
Thomas, Janice	10		9		0	0			0						18
Young, Faye	22		1		1	2			0						3
Young, Kaye	20		2		2	3			0						6
Adjustment		240		93							19				
Totals		240	41	93	17	31	0	12	12	0	19	0	0	0	99
			FG%	44.1%	FT%	54.8%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bolin, Molly	30		4		3	4			0						11
Crevier, Tanya	24	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Draving, Doris	50		5		0	0			0						10
Green, Anita	12		4		3	5			0						11
Kunzmann, Connie	44		0		3	4			0						3
Penquite, Rhonda	32		4		2	3			0						10
Rutter, Nancy	34		1		1	5			0						3
Schrad, Mary	54	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Sharps, Denise	20		4		2	3			0						10
Thomas, Debra	40		5		0	0			0						10
Tucker, Robin	10		0		0	0			0						0
Uhl, Joan	22		2		2	3			0						6
Adjustment		240		83											
Totals		240	29	83	16	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	74
			FG%	34.9%	FT%	59.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

It was a quick transition as the (13-11) Stars had to go to Dayton for a Sunday March 11th game at Hara Arena. 997 came out to see the (8-15) Rockettes take a 24-15 1st quarter lead, which stayed the same at 46-37 at the half. But an explosive Stars' 3rd quarter of 29-18, made the score 66-64. An evenly played 4th quarter gave the visiting Stars the 91-89 victory. Another close game that the Stars won.

Janice Thomas scored 28, and was still able to dish out 10 assists and get four steals. Donna Geils' 18 was the next highest scorer. The Rockettes played only seven players of which Patti Bucklew's 23 and Vivian Greene's 22 were more than half their points.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						4
Arturi, Lynn	23	Name N	Not in Ne	wspaper	s										
Fletcher, Carmen	30							0		5					
Geils, Donna	21							0		18					
Gross, Maria	12							0		0					
Gwyn, Althea	31							0		14					
Melbourne, Mara	24							0							
Novarr, Harriet	15	Name N	Not in Ne	wspaper	s										
Ransom, Gigi	25														2
Thomas, Janice	10									10		4			28
Young, Faye	22														6
Young, Kaye	20							0						10	
Adjustment		240	40		11										
Totals		240	40	0	11	0	0	0	0	10	0	4	0	0	91
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Dayton Rockettes															Team Ga		
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts		
Bucklew, Patti	40								0						23		
Craig, Denise	10																
Franklin, Connie	25	Name not in Newspaper															
Greene, Vivian	24														22		
Holman, Joy	3	Name not in Newspaper															
McKenzie, Michelle	20							0						4			
Payne, Felicia	21	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Pitts, Brenda	14										2						
Scott, Angela	23																
Tomich, Vonnie	5									0							
Adjustment		240	39		11												
Totals		240	39	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	89		
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs									

The next game for the Stars would be Thursday March 15 in Minnesota. So most likely the Stars returned home before venturing west. Yet in the meantime the WBL decided to sneak in an All-Star game into the middle of the schedule.

The game was set for Wednesday March 14th to be played at the Felt Forum of Madison Square Garden in New York City. Was this game really an afterthought? Four teams played on Tuesday the 13th and six teams played on Thursday the 15th. For the 24 players selected to participate they had to make arrangements to play, get to New York, play, and then get to the site of their team's next game. All three Stars players had an advantage, because they were already in New York for this game.

But despite the quickness of the event, it was a great success. Even though the rental fee for the Felt Forum was \$10,000, it brought great publicity for the league. A crowd of 2,731 was 75% capacity for the 3,601 seat arena. To no one's surprise both Althea Gwyn and Janice Thomas were Stars' representatives and also in the starting lineup. The other Stars' rep was Kaye Young.

The East squad, coached by Houston Angels' coach Don Knodel, fell behind 30-18 after the 1st quarter. The East was able to trim off five points with a 35-30 2nd quarter and a 60-53 half time deficit. The third quarter had the East duplicate the West's 1st quarter with a 32-20 3rd quarter and take an 85-80 lead. The East continued their onslaught with a 27-19 4th quarter and a 112-99 win.

For the Stars Althea Gwyn played 28 minutes and had 19 points and 16 rebounds. Janice Thomas added eight points, seven rebounds and six assists in 23 minutes. Kaye Young contributed three points, four rebounds, and three assists in 18 minutes.

		March 14, 1979 Felt Forum - Ne		ork City		The renta	ıl fee was	s \$10.00	0									
		,		(,	Eastern Coach: Do	Division	All-Sta			6								
Team	No.	Name	Pos.	Min	2 FGM	2FGA	FTM	FTA	OF RB	DF RB	TOT RB	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	то	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Houston Angels	24	Candler, Belinda	F	19	4	6	1	3	3	1	4	4	<u>PF</u> 3	<u>St</u> 0	<u>TO</u> 0	0	9	1.105
New Jersey Gems	33	Tatterson, Gail	С	17	5	9	0	3	5	3	8	2	3	0	1	0	10	1.235
New York Stars	31	Gwyn, Althea	С	28	8	23	3	8	7	9	16	2	1	0	5	3	19	1.214
New York Stars	10	Thomas, Janice	G	23	3	9	2	2	3	4	7	6	3	2	3	0	8	1.130
Dayton Rockettes	21	Greene, Vivian	G	13	4	9	0	0	0	1	1	2	5	2	2	0	8	1.000
Dayton Rockettes	5	Tomich, Vonnie	G	18	5	9	1	2	1	1	2	3	2	1	3	0	11	0.944
New Jersey Gems	11	Mason, Debbie	G	14	0	2	3	4	1	2	3	1	2	1	3	0	3	0.429
Houston Angels	12	Aulenbacher, Karen	G	23	2	5	3	4	0	5	5	5	2	2	2	0	7	0.957
Dayton Rockettes	18	Craig, Denise	F	23	7	13	0	0	1	7	8	1	2	0	1	1	14	1.000
New York Stars	20	Young, Kaye	F	18	1	7	1	2	1	3	4	3	3	3	0	0	3	0.889
New Jersey Gems	23	Szeremeta, Wanda	F	24	1	9	4	5	3	2	5	4	3	3	3	0	6	0.792
Houston Angels	52	Mayo, Paula	F	20	5	10	4	7	3	7	10	1	3	3	1	1	14	1.400
				240	45 FG %:	111 0.405	22 FT %:	40 0.550	28	45 Tea n	73 n Rbs	34 N/A	32	17	24	5	112	1.025

					Western Coach: Do				e 17 - 9									
<u>Team</u>	No.	Name	Pos.	Min	2 FGM	2FGA	FTM	FTA	OF RB	DF RB	TOT RB	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Iowa Cornets	22	Uhl, Joan	F	19	1	3	0	0	1	4	5	0	2	0	3	0	2	0.211
Chicago Hustle	25	Rossow, Debra Waddy	F	27	9	19	8	14	3	2	5	0	3	2	1	1	26	1.185
Minnesota Fillies	42	Kocurek, Marie	С	30	7	12	3	8	6	4	10	1	6	4	1	1	17	1.067
Chicago Hustle	10	Fincher, Janie	G	24	2	7	1	2	0	1	1	1	4	2	7	0	5	0.125
Chicago Hustle	15	Easterling, Rita	G	40	5	11	9	10	0	4	4	18	4	1	9	0	19	1.275
Milwaukee Does	1	Smith, Joanie	G	13	1	5	0	0	1	2	3	0	2	0	1	0	2	0.308
Milwaukee Does	16	Booker, Gerry	F	18	3	10	3	9	3	5	8	2	1	1	1	2	9	1.167
Iowa Cornets	18	Bolin, Molly	G	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Minnesota Fillies	30	Chapman, Brenda	G	23	2	5	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	0.304
Minnesota Fillies	33	Wilson, Donna	F	17	2	8	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	2	1	0	5	0.471
Milwaukee Does	45	Keeley, Marguerite	F	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0.000
Iowa Cornets	50	Draving, Doris	С	21	4	11	2	7	5	12	17	0	2	0	1	1	10	1.238
				240	36	92	27	52	20	38	58	23	26	12	27	5	99	0.783
					FG %:	0.391	FT %:	0.519		Tean	n Rbs	14						
		M.V.P Rita Easterlii Players were paid \$1		_		s												

As you can imagine there were great or funny or tragic stories about players and their involvement with the first All-Star game. As for the (14-11) Stars their next game was against the (10-14) Minnesota Fillies at the Metropolitan Sports Center.

The Fillies at this point were riding a roller coaster. They began the season 1-6, but improved to 7-8 when Coach Julia Yeater was fired. After owner Gordon Never coached one game to victory (8-8) they hired Louis Mascari as head coach. Coach Mascari had a 1-6 record which left the team at 9-14 when he was fired. During that time the WBL's leading scorer, Brenda Chapman, was traded to the Milwaukee Does. Since Mascari's firing the Fillies' owner took over and guided them to another victory and a 10-14 record.

Only 558 came out this Thursday night to watch the Fillies take a strong 29-18 lead, which they increased to 47-35 by the half. After scoring the Fillies scored first four points of the 3rd quarter to take a 51-35 lead the Stars slowly began to cut into the lead as they trailed 65-53 after three quarters. They got within two points with 24 seconds remaining before two Kathy DeBoer free throws made the final score 81-77. The Stars record dropped to 14-12.

All-Stars Gwyn (23), Thomas (21), and Young (12) were the only real offense for the Stars. For the Fillies, their All-Star Marie Kocurek shot 17-26 for 35 points, while Kathy DeBoer, the player traded for Brenda Chapman, scored 13.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						4
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						4
Fletcher, Carmen	30	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Geils, Donna	21								0						4
Gross, Maria	12	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Gwyn, Althea	31								0						23
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						5
Ransom, Gigi	25	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper											
Thomas, Janice	10								0						21
Young, Faye	22								0						4
Young, Kaye	20								0						12
Adjustment		240									18				
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	77
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	n Rebs							

Minnesota Fillies															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Blacklock, Kim	55	Name n	ot in Nev	vspaper											
DeBoer, Kathy	21								0						13
DeLorme, Scooter	32								0						9
Engle, Cheryl	24								0						4
Hawkins, Kathy	13	12	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	1	3	0	0
Keeley, Marguerite	45								0						6
Kocurek, Marie	42		17	26	1				0						35
Lundberg, Cindy	10								0						6
Roberts, Trish	44	DNP - II	njured												
Wilson, Donna	11								0						8
Adjustment		228									17				0
Totals		240	17	27	1	0	0	1	1	1	19	1	3	0	81
			FG%	63.0%	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	n Rebs							

The next day, Friday March 16th found the Stars back at the site of their opening game humiliation, 137-107. Chicago's Alumni Hall had the (17-9) first place Chicago Hustle and 4,089 fans welcome back the (14-12) Stars back. The 4,089 was the 23rd highest attendance in WBL history.

In an informational shock, historically the Chicago newspapers had been very thorough with the Hustle games. Tonight – no quarter scores, and 50 New York Stars points not designated to any players. The Stars jumped off to an early lead and then at one point of the game, the Stars had a 25-point lead.

Several of the All-Star Hustle claimed to be tired, because they played in Houston on Sunday the 11^{th} , the All-Star game in New York on the 14^{th} , in Milwaukee on the 15^{th} , and then this game on the 16^{th} .

The final score was New York 120 and Chicago 103. The Stars improved to 15-12 and the Hustle fell to 17-10. The Hustle stats below were backed into from an assortment of Hustle stat pages. For such a large crowd, you'd have hoped for a clear game sequence to be available.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						0
Geils, Donna	21								0						20
Gross, Maria	12								0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31								0						0
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						0
Ransom, Gigi	25								0						0
Thomas, Janice	10								0						25
Young, Faye	22								0						0
Young, Kaye	20								0						25
Adjustment		240	43	84	34	50	8	35	43	21	21	8	22	1	50
Totals		240	43	84	34	50	8	35	43	21	21	8	22	1	120
			FG%	51.2%	FT%	68.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

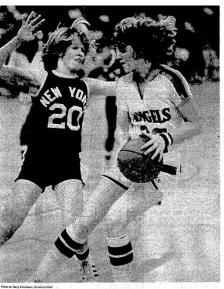
Chicago Hustle															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Caldwell, Breena	30	19	2	8	3	5	2	2	4	1	2	0	1	0	7	0.632
Digitale, Sue	21	40	8	14	0	0	3	7	10	0	4	0	2	0	16	0.600
Duckworth, Tesa	44	11	0	1	2	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	3	0	2	0.091
Easterling, Rita	15	41	6	16	6	7	1	3	4	12	2	5	3	0	18	1.171
Fincher, Janie	10	35	7	18	2	2	2	2	4	6	3	4	6	0	16	0.857
Galloway, Liz	31	39	8	19	2	6	6	12	18	3	5	1	1	0	18	1.077
Johnson, Tanya	32	10	1	3	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	1	2	0	2	0.300
Rainey, Sandra	23	Name n	ot in Box	Score					0						0	
Stachon, Toni	14	14	2	5	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	1	5	0.500
Waddy-Rossow, Debby	25	31	9	28	1	2	2	6	8	0	4	0	1	0	19	0.839
Adjustment							5	-5								
Totals		240	43	112	17	26	22	32	54	22	25	11	19	1	103	0.804
			FG%	38.4%	FT%	65.4%	Tea	m Rebs	5							

The Stars were about to play their third game in four days as they travelled to Houston to take on the (21-6) Angels. With a record of 15-12 the Stars were six games out of first place with seven games remaining. So, this was a chance to show they were not intimidated by the Angels.

A crowd of 1,697 came out on Sunday March 18^{th} to watch the Angels take a 24-15 1^{st} quarter lead. The Stars came back to make the score 39-36 at the half. They continued their roll and went into the 4^{th} quarter with a 58-56 lead. Here is how the game ended:

"We had a chance to win the thing here at home and blew it," shrugged a disgruntled Angels coach Don Knodel. "We made so many mental errors it was pitiful."

With only 10 seconds left Houston forward Vicky Chapman drew a foul and made one of her two free throws to give the Angels an 81-80



From trieng trianges of the Contraction of the Cont

lead. New York immediately called timeout. It appeared the Angels were going to get a gift when the inbounds pass by the Stars' Faye Young bounced out of bounds off the fingertips of teammate Gigi Ransom.

"I really thought we had the game won then," shrugged Angel's assistant, Greg Williams. "Barring a freak play we had it wrapped up."

What happened next turned both Knodel and Williams fire-engine red.

Houston guard Karen Auhlenbacher lofted a pass inbounds to Belinda Candler. Instead of attempting to run the clock down by either dribbling the ball or passing, Candler drove for the basket and missed a layup. With only three ticks left on the clock Houston's Paula Mayo fouled Faye Young as she attempted to rebound Candler's shot.

With the crowd of 1,697 shrieking in the background, Young stepped to the free throw line and calmly sank two foul shots that gave New York an 82-81 lead. "Those two free throws made-up for the turnover," smiled Young as her identical twin sister, Kaye, nodded in agreement.

Leanne Waddell's in-bound pass sailed out of bounds and New York got the ball again. Gwyn was fouled by Mayo on the inbound pass and the 6-2 New York center canned two free throws for the final three-point spread.

To the joy of the Stars, the Angels had to put their 11 bottles of champagne back on ice, because there was no reason to celebrate as the division champs. As inter division rivals the teams now stood at two wins apiece. The Angels won two before Coach LaVozier Lamar showed up and the Stars won two under Lamar. Before the season ended there would be two more games between these two teams.

The Stars had their leaders, Gwyn and Thomas, score 24 points each, while Gwyn pulled down 18 rebounds. Donna Geils chipped in 14 for the cause.

The Angels were led by All-Stars Paula Mayo's 18, Belinda Candler's 16, and Karen Auhlenbacher's 15. Vicky Chapman also scored 15 in this losing effort.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	TO	BS	Pts
Alt, Suzanne	13		0		0	0			0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23		1		0	0			0						2
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		2	2			0						2
Geils, Donna	21		7		0	2			0						14
Gross, Maria	12	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers											0
Gwyn, Althea	31		8		8	12		18	18						24
Melbourne, Mara	24		1		0	0			0						2
Ransom, Gigi	25		3		0	0			0						6
Thomas, Janice	10		11		2	2			0						24
Young, Faye	22		3		2	2			0						8
Young, Kaye	20		1		0	2			0						2
Adjustment		240		76							26				0
Totals		240	35	76	14	22	0	18	18	0	26	0	0	0	84
			FG%	46.1%	FT%	63.6%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		3		9	9			0						15
Bubrig, Patty	33	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers											
Candler, Belinda	24		6		4	7		12	12						16
Chapman, Vicky	22		4		7	10			0						15
Holleyman, Glenda	20		1		0	0			0						2
Johnson, Pat	45		2		5	7			0						9
Jones, Belinda	23		1		3	6			0						5
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		0		0	0			0						0
Mayo, Paula	10		8		2	3			0						18
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers											
Waddell, Leanne	25		0		1	2			0						1
Washington, Cynthia	15	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers											
Adjustment		240									29				
Totals		240	25	0	31	44	0	12	12	0	29	0	0	0	81
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	70.5%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars ended this four-game road trip with a 3-1 record and greater confidence in the direction they were going.

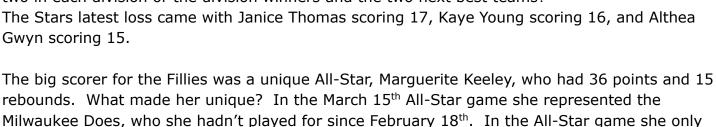
The (16-12) Stars didn't get any rest as they returned home to Mulcahy Center as they played the next day Monday March 19th. Their opponent was the (13-14) Minnesota Fillies who were 5-0 with owner Gordon Nevers as their coach. The Stars were trying to attract their first home crowd of over 1,000 as they had Pennant Night. The first 200 fans would get a pennant.

The crowd of 680 saw the Fillies take a 26-21 lead, which became 47-36 at the half. The Stars Janice Thomas was 0-8 with one free throw in the first half. The Stars cut the lead down to eight at 66-58 and when it was 68-62 they were about to cut the lead to four when a missed layup and a Fillies outside shot made it eight points again. Thomas did score 16 in the 2nd half, but Althea Gwyn was a pathetic 5-17 from the floor as the Stars lost 86-78. Their 16-13 record was only 1.5 games better than the Fillies 14-14.

The first-year playoff picture was never entirely clear, because with four teams making the playoffs – was it the top

played four minutes and could only add one rebound to the cause.

two in each division or the division winners and the two next best teams?



Stars' Althea Gwyn takes ain

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						2
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						2
Fletcher, Carmen	30	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Geils, Donna	21								0						7
Gross, Maria	12								0						2
Gwyn, Althea	31		5	17	5			18	18						15
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						7
Ransom, Gigi	25	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Thomas, Janice	10								0						17
Young, Faye	22								0						10
Young, Kaye	20								0						16
Adjustment		240									27				
Totals		240	5	17	5	0	0	18	18	0	27	0	0	0	78
			FG%	29.4%	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Minnesota Fillies															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Cooper, Accronetta	33	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
DeBoer, Kathy	21							15	15						12
DeLorme, Scooter	32								0						7
Engle, Cheryl	24								0						0
Fitzgerald, Kathy	4	20	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3
Hawkins, Kathy	13	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Keeley, Marguerite	45							15	15						36
Kocurek, Marie	42								0						16
Lundberg, Cindy	10														6
Pitts, Brenda	25	Name n	ot in Nev	wspaper											
Wilson, Donna	11								0						6
Adjustment		214									21		27		
Totals		240	1	2	1	1	0	30	30	0	23	0	28	0	86
			FG%	50.0%	FT%	100.0%	Tea	n Rebs							

After playing five games in eight days, the Stars finally got the next 10 days off. Their next game would not be until March 30th when the Houston Angels would return to Mulcahy Center. So that Friday saw the Stars attract another 573 fans and they came out strong with a 33-28 1st quarter lead. The Angels then scored 33, while holding the Stars to 12 to take a 61-45 lead at the half.

In the third quarter whatever adjustments the Stars made in the locker room led to 37 3rd quarter points to get within 86-82. As in what was becoming typical Angels vs Stars games here is how the end of the game transpired:

The Stars drew to within one point at 106-105 with 38 seconds left when Thomas fed Gwyn, racing ahead of the field. Gwyn was fouled on the play, but missed two free throw attempts. Houston attempting to run down the clock, committed a 24-second violation with the Stars immediately called a timeout at 0:14.

Belinda Jones, who had 14 points for Houston, fouled Faye Young on a loose ball, sending Faye to the line for two shots. The 22-year old blonde forward out of North Carolina State, made both. Houston's Vicky Chapman, following a time out, was off the mark with a last ditch shot, and Gwyn snared the rebound as the clock ran out

The Stars continued their LaVozier Lamar winning streak against Houston as they won, 107-106. The Angels fell to 23-8, with three of those losses to the Stars.

The Stars were led by Janice Thomas who had 28 points, while Althea Gwyn added 22, and Donna Geils added 14 and Faye Young had 12. For the Angels the front court duo of Belinda Candler (26) and Paula Mayo (22) were complemented by Belinda Jones' 14, and Pat Johnson's 13.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13		1		0				0						2
Arturi, Lynn	23		0		0				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		3		2				0						8
Geils, Donna	21		5		4				0						14
Gross, Maria	12	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Gwyn, Althea	31		9		4				0						22
Melbourne, Mara	24		3		1				0						7
Ransom, Gigi	25		3		0				0						6
Thomas, Janice	10		9		10				0						28
Young, Faye	22		5		2	2	<< at le	ast	0						12
Young, Kaye	20		4		0				0						8
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	42	0	23	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	107
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	######	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		3		2				0						8
Bubrig, Patty	33	Did Not	Travel												
Candler, Belinda	24		10		6				0						26
Chapman, Vicky	22		4		3				0						11
Holleyman, Glenda	20	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Johnson, Pat	45		3		7				0						13
Jones, Belinda	23		5		4				0		1	<< at le	ast		14
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		3		0				0						6
Mayo, Paula	10		10		2				0						22
Mosley, Dolly	14	Did Not	Travel												
Waddell, Leanne	25		1		0				0						2
Washington, Cynthia	15		1		2				0						4
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	40	0	26	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	106
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

An important item to focus on was the need for the Stars to beat bad teams. Of their next four games two would be against the last place New Jersey Gems, and another would be against the last place Milwaukee Does.

Ironically, these two teams with identical records of 8-21 just played each other on the same day the Stars were beating the Angels. In a battle to avoid being the worst team in the WBL the two teams went THREE overtimes before the Gems finally came away with a 163-161 victory.

Two days after their exciting victory over Houston, the (17-13) Stars would host the (9-21) New Jersey Gems at Mulcahy Center on Sunday April 1st. In a typical New York and New Jersey clash – there were an unknown number of fans and not all the points could be attributed to players.

At least we know the Stars took a 24-14 1st quarter lead, which was cut to 44-40 by the half. The Gems began to throw fear into the Stars as the score narrowed to 72-70. But a strong 36-25 4th quarter gave the Stars a 108-95 victory and a record of 18-13.

Althea Gwyn came through with 25 points and 17 rebounds, while Janice Thomas added 17, Kaye Young 15, and Donna Geils 13. As for the (9-22) Gems, All-Star Gail Tatterson scored 29 and grabbed 14 rebounds, while another All-Star Wanda Szeremeta scored 25.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Alt, Suzanne	13								0						
Arturi, Lynn	23								0						
Fletcher, Carmen	30								0						
Geils, Donna	21								0						13
Gross, Maria	12								0						
Gwyn, Althea	31							17	17						25
Melbourne, Mara	24								0						
Ransom, Gigi	25								0						
Thomas, Janice	10								0						17
Young, Faye	22								0						
Young, Kaye	20								0						15
Adjustment		240													38
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	17	17	0	0	0	0	0	108
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Burdick, Denise	35								0						0
Burdick, Randi	21								0						0
Logan, Karen	4								0						0
Martin, Sue	13								0						0
Mason, Debbie	11								0						0
Nelson, Mariah	19								0						0
Peppler, Mary Jo	34								0						0
Solano, Cathy	20								0						0
Szeremeta, Wanda	23								0						25
Tatterson, Gail	33							14	14						29
Adjustment		240													41
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	14	14	0	0	0	0	0	95
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Three days later, on Wednesday April 4th, the Stars and Gems met again at the Dunn Sports Complex. A crowd that would have set a Mulcahy Center record of 1,126 didn't go to Iona, but to Elizabeth, New Jersey.

The Stars took a 29-25 lead, which expanded to 56-45 and seemed pretty comfortable. Yet the Gems put a 36-22 3rd quarter showering on the Stars and took an 81-78 lead. The two teams fought to the end, and as the Stars have been establishing all year it was another one-point victory, 107-106.

Althea Gwyn came through with 34 points and 18 rebounds, while Donna Geils added 18 and Kaye Young added 16. For the (9-23) Gems Gail Tatterson led the team with 28, while Randi Burdick came through with 24. Karen Logan, the stimulus to the whole professional women's basketball league, was concluding her career in the WBL as she scored 19.

The player that beat Jerry West in a nationally televised game of H-O-R-S-E started the year with the Chicago Hustle, but was traded to New Jersey in late January. To most knowledgeable basketball people Karen was past her prime and unable to keep up with the current players. Yet her contribution, especially the re-designed women's basketball will always make her an historic part of the WBL.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Alt, Suzanne	13		0		0	0			0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23		3		0	0			0						6
Fletcher, Carmen	30		2		2	4			0						6
Geils, Donna	21		9		0	1			0						18
Gross, Maria	12		3		0	0			0						6
Gwyn, Althea	31		14		6	11		18	18						34
Melbourne, Mara	24		3		0	2			0						6
Ransom, Gigi	25		0		1	2			0						1
Thomas, Janice	10		3		4	4			0						10
Young, Faye	22		3		5	5			0						11
Young, Kaye	20		6		4	4			0						16
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	46	0	22	33	0	18	18	0	0	0	0	0	114
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Burdick, Denise	35		1		0	0			0						2
Burdick, Randi	21		10	12	4	8			0						24
Logan, Karen	4		8	11	3	4			0						19
Martin, Sue	13		8		0	0			0						16
Mason, Debbie	11		2		6	8			0						10
Nelson, Mariah	19		1		2	2			0						4
Peppler, Mary Jo	34		1		0	0			0						2
Solano, Cathy	20		0		0	0			0						0
Szeremeta, Wanda	23		4		0	0			0						8
Tatterson, Gail	33		11		6	9		12	12						28
Adjustment		240													
Totals		240	46	23	21	31	0	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	113
			FG%	######	FT%	67.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars had one more home game, which meant one more opportunity to break that elusive 1,000 barrier for a Mulcahy Center home game. And . . . we'll never know. For the fifth time this season there was an unknown number of fans. Of the league's first 136 games only eight times was an attendance unavailable, and the Stars had five of those eight.

By this time of the year, the Stars knew they were in the playoffs, but they weren't sure of their opponent. This was because the best team would play the worst and the other two would face each other. As of Thursday April 5th here are the records of the top four teams:

Houston 25-8 (@ New York) – guaranteed 1st.

Iowa 21-13 if tie (4-2 vs Chicago, 2-2 vs New York NY 385 vs Iowa 371)

Chicago 20-13 (1 game @ Dayton) (2-4 vs Iowa, 2-2 vs New York Chic 463 NY 438)

New York 19-13 (vs Houston, @ Milwaukee)

So, with two New York victories there would be a three-way tie at 21-13. So, Iowa would be declared the Midwest champ, because of their 4-2 edge over Chicago. Chicago would be declared the 3rd place team with their 463 to 438 point edge against New York. The Stars would be the fourth team and scheduled to play Houston.

On this Friday April 6th, the Stars forgot to send their players out on the floor as the Angels took a 20-0 lead before the Stars woke up. The quarter ended up with the Stars trailing 36-15. The Stars fought back to make the half time score a little more respectable at 53-41.

There were an unknown number of points scored in the 3^{rd} quarter, but the Stars outscored Houston 41-33 in the 2^{nd} half. Which meant they came up short, 86-82. The two teams split 3-3 for the season, but for the Stars there was no reason to fear Houston in the first round of the playoffs.

Janice Thomas led the team with 21, while Althea Gwyn had 19. A name that started the season strongly, but faded a bit was Mara Melbourne who had 12, while Gigi Ransom also had 12.

In such a close game – where was Donna Geils? The Houston Chronicle box score did not have her in the game. She played in the game before and in the last game of the year but was not present here.

For the (26-8) Houston Angels they ended the season with the best record, but that never guarantees a championship. The Angels had five players in double figures, but none dominating. They were: Pat Johnson 15, Belinda Jones 12, Karen Auhlenbacher 11, Belinda Candler 11, and Vicky Chapman 10.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23		1		0	0			0						2
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		2	2			0						2
Geils, Donna	21	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Gross, Maria	12	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31		9		1	3		11	11						19
Melbourne, Mara	24		5		2	2		11	11						12
Ransom, Gigi	25		4		4	5			0						12
Thomas, Janice	10		10		1	1			0						21
Young, Faye	22	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Young, Kaye	20		2		0	0			0						4
Adjustment		240	4		2	2			29						10
Totals		240	35	0	12	15	0	22	51	0	0	0	0	0	82
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	80.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		3		6	7			0						11
Bubrig, Patty	33	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s				0						0
Candler, Belinda	24		5		0	0			0						11
Chapman, Vicky	22		4		2	2			0						10
Holleyman, Glenda	20		2		0	0			0						4
Johnson, Pat	45		4		7	10		9	9						15
Jones, Belinda	23		6		0	0			0						12
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		1		2	2			0						4
Mayo, Paula	10		4		0	0			0						8
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s										
Waddell, Leanne	25		1		2	2			0						4
Washington, Cynthia	15		2		3	4			0						7
Adjustment		240							32						
Totals		240	32	0	22	27	0	9	41	0	0	0	0	0	86
			FG%	#DIV/0!	FT%	81.5%	Tea	m Rebs							

The (19-14) Stars needed to travel to Milwaukee for a Sunday game on April 8th. The playoffs were scheduled to begin on Wednesday the 11th, so this should have been a tune-up game against the (10-23) Milwaukee Does.

Since the season was over for the Does and their players had their bags packed the Stars only needed to show up. So, the Stars and 1,375 came into Milwaukee Arena expecting a Stars blow out. They got off to a strong start at 24-16, but the Does didn't quit. They came back with a 24-19 2nd quarter to make the score 43-42, Stars, at the half.

The Does Coach Julia Yeater, who inherited a 3-13 team, had the team performing with a 7-10 record under her. Therefore, it shouldn't have surprised anyone to see the Does come out and put a $24-16\ 3^{rd}$ quarter together to take a 66-59 lead. They refused to take their foot off the pedal and ended their season with a $31-27\ 4^{th}$ quarter and a 97-86 victory over the Stars.

The Stars ended their regular season with a respectable 19-15 record and a spot in the playoffs. Kaye Young led the team with 22 points, while Althea Gwyn scored 17 and had 20 rebounds. Janice Thomas ended with a modest 11 points and eight assists, before she fouled out.

For the (11-23) Milwaukee Does, they were led by the league's leading scorer Brenda Chapman who had 31 points. Brenda ended her season having scored 447 points while with Minnesota and 416 points while with Milwaukee. This gave her 863 and an average of 27.84 a game. All-Star Gerry Booker came through with 16 points and seven rebounds. Cindy Ellis and Janice Fuller each scored 14 to end their season.

New York Stars															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Alt, Suzanne	13	8	0	2	0	0		3	3	0	2	0	4		0	-0.125
Arturi, Lynn	23	5	0	1	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0.000
Fletcher, Carmen	30	12	1	6	2	2		1	1	0	0	0	0		4	0.417
Geils, Donna	21	29	3	11	2	2		1	1	8	1	0	3		8	0.759
Gross, Maria	12	14	3	6	2	2		3	3	0	1	0	0		8	0.786
Gwyn, Althea	31	45	5	7	7	12		20	20	1	3	1	3	1	17	0.822
Melbourne, Mara	24	31	4	4	2	2		14	14	0	2	1	2		10	0.742
Ransom, Gigi	25	24	2	7	2	3		2	2	3	3	3	4	2	6	0.542
Thomas, Janice	10	35	4	17	3	4		5	5	8	6	1	6		11	0.771
Young, Faye	22	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Young, Kaye	20	37	10	18	2	2		5	5	3	3	2	9		22	0.703
Adjustment							10	-10								
Totals		240	32	79	22	29	10	44	54	23	21	8	31	3	86	0.679
			FG%	40.5%	FT%	75.9%	Tea	m Rebs								

Milwaukee Does															Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Booker, Gerry	24	39	8	15	0	1		7	7	4	3	2	2		16	0.795
Chapman,Brenda	22	48	13	30	5	8		9	9	4	2	4	3	5	31	1.021
Decker, Patti	44	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Dennis, Brenda	10	17	0	2	7	8		4	4	5	2	1	2	2	7	1.176
Ellis, Cindy	25	32	6	15	2	2		5	5	7	5	2	4		14	0.969
Fuller, Janice	28	37	7	19	0	0		11	11	2	3	5	0		14	0.919
Gehrke, Lynda	33	10	1	7	0	0		6	6	0	1	0	2		2	0.600
Hostert, Barb	6	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Koopman, Carol	13	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Prevost, Deb	32	31	4	10	4	4		5	5	4	2	0	0		12	0.806
Smith, Joanie	1	26	0	6	1	2		2	2	2	0	4	3	1	1	0.308
Wilson, Laurie	30	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Zweig, Doris	15	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper					0						0	
Adjustment							17	-17	0							
Totals		240	39	104	19	25	17	32	49	28	18	18	16	8	97	0.850
			FG%	37.5%	FT%	76.0%	Tea	m Rebs								

For the record these were the accumulated stats from the New York Stars regular season.

Player	No.	<u>GP</u>	Min	M.p.G	FGM	FGA	FG %	FTM	FTA	FT %	Of Rb	Df Rb	Total	Avg	Ast	Avg	PF	Avg	Stl	<u>TO</u>	Avg	BS	PTS	Avg	Ef Rt	College	Ht.
Alt, Suzanne	13	16	185	11.56	27	46	0.587	9	19	0.474	15	25	40	2.50	2	0.13	39	2.4	6	34	2.13	3	63	3.94	0.427	Univ. Missouri	6'3"
Arturi, Lynn	23	32	375	11.72	38	124	0.306	9	15	0.600	20	17	37	1.16	18	0.56	38	1.2	19	48	1.50	4	85	2.66	0.344	Northeastern Univ.	5'8"
Bailey, Darlene	11	13	135	10.38	9	37	0.243	8	16	0.500	7	11	18	1.38	6	0.46	21	1.6	7	27	2.08	2	26	2.00	0.267	Cheyney State	5'2"
Fletcher, Carmen	30	32	445	13.91	42	132	0.318	42	69	0.609	27	50	77	2.41	6	0.19	42	1.3	15	27	0.84	0	126	3.94	0.456	St. John's Univ.	5'8"
Geils, Donna	21	26	745	28.65	137	356	0.385	51	75	0.680	47	52	99	3.81	71	2.73	70	2.7	52	91	3.50	1	325	12.50	0.707	Queens College	5'7"
Gross, Maria	12	31	497	16.03	55	134	0.410	10	14	0.714	14	28	42	1.35	36	1.16	55	1.8	19	46	1.48	2	120	3.87	0.416	La Salle Univ.	5'6"
Gwyn, Althea	31	31	1,185	38.23	274	550	0.498	168	261	0.644	191	344	535	17.26	40	1.29	98	3.2	60	108	3.48	29	716	23.10	1.083	Queens College	6'2"
Howard, Barbara	13	4	48	12.00	2	7	0.286	0	0	0.000	1	1	2	0.50	1	0.25	3	0.8	0	4	1.00	0	4	1.00	0.083	Cheyney State	5'7"
Howe, Connie	25	1	1	1.00	0	0	0.000	0	0	0.000	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.000	Southeastern III.	5'3"
Melbourne, Mara	24	34	1,010	29.71	147	319	0.461	89	166	0.536	102	212	314	9.24	23	0.68	121	3.6	36	74	2.18	15	383	11.26	0.698	Cheyney State	5'11"
Novarr, Harriet	15	15	74	4.93	13	28	0.464	7	8	0.875	12	15	27	1.80	2	0.13	16	1.1	1	9	0.60	3	33	2.20	0.757	Syracuse Univ.	5'9"
Ransom, Gigi	25	19	370	19.47	45	125	0.360	15	26	0.577	15	32	47	2.47	30	1.58	57	3.0	43	68	3.58	13	105	5.53	0.505	Federal City	5'10"
Thomas, Janice	10/11	34	1,220	35.88	256	589	0.435	123	158	0.778	44	120	164	4.82	262	7.71	104	3.1	108	194	5.71	5	635	18.68	1.014	Long Island Univ.	5'3"
Young, Faye	22	34	1,140	33.53	160	424	0.377	102	146	0.699	53	109	162	4.76	90	2.65	98	2.9	46	114	3.35	7	422	12.41	0.611	No. Carolina State	5'11"
Young, Kaye	20	33	780	23.64	93	246	0.378	76	114	0.667	61	90	151	4.58	63	1.91	66		31	75	2.27	2	262	7.94	0.635	No. Carolina State	5'11"
		34	8,210		1,298	3,117	0.416	709	1,087	0.652	609	1,106	1,715	50.44	650	19.12	828	24.35	443	919	27.03	86	3,305	97.21	0.712	-	

The regular season was over. The second season was about to begin with all teams at 0-0. The playoff format called for a 2 of 3 first round with the superior team hosting the two games. Yet in order to save money the lesser team hosted the first game with the next two being played on the superior team's home court.

The first WBL playoff game was on Tuesday April 10 at Alumni Hall in Chicago as the Hustle hosted the Iowa Cornets. True to the rivalry that developed with these two franchises the game went to overtime. The Hustle came through victorious, 112-107.

The New York Stars were ready to eliminate the 26-8 Houston Angels. Afterall they were 3-1 with LaVosier Lamar as coach, plus in their last meeting they overcame a 20-0 deficit to only lose by 4. If there was any team that could beat the Angels, it would be the Stars.

On Wednesday April 11 Mulcahy Center had their largest crowd of the year -808. These dedicated followers, which included my parents and sisters, saw the Stars take a 22-17 1^{st} quarter lead. The Angels could only chip away two points as the Stars led 48-45 at the half. The Stars began to take control in the 3^{rd} quarter as they outscored the Angels 29-22 to take a 77-67 lead into the 4^{th} quarter.

The Angels unleashed a special press which disrupted the Stars and held them to just 14 points in the 4th quarter. In the meantime, the Angels put up 30 for a 97-91 victory and only one home win from the WBL Championship series.

The dynamic combination of Althea Gwyn and Janice Thomas did everything expected of them, and more. Gwyn had 35 points and 22 rebounds, while Janice Thomas had 24 points and seven assists. The Stars only used seven players, which played a role in their 4th quarter collapse. The non-All-Star Faye Young had 12, while her sister Kaye had 8.

For the 1-0 Angels six players scored in double figures, with no one player dominating. Belinda Jones had 19, while Vicky Chapman added 16 points and eight rebounds. All-Star Belinda Candler chipped in with 11, but for some reason only played 18 minutes. This is from a player that was averaging over 35 minutes a game all season.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	3				0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	3				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	3				0						0
Geils, Donna	21		4		0	0			0						8
Gross, Maria	12	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	3										
Gwyn, Althea	31		12		11	12		22	22						35
Melbourne, Mara	24		2		0	2			0						4
Ransom, Gigi	25	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	;				0						0
Thomas, Janice	10		10		4	4			0	7					24
Young, Faye	22		6		0	4			0						12
Young, Kaye	20		4		0	1			0						8
Adjustment		240		97				22			24				
Totals		240	38	97	15	23	0	44	22	7	24	0	0	0	91
			FG%	39.2%	FT%	65.2%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		4		2	2			0						10
Bubrig, Patty	33	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers	3				0						0
Candler, Belinda	24	18	5		1	3		1	1						11
Chapman, Vicky	22		6		4	5		8	8						16
Holleyman, Glenda	20		2		0	0			0						4
Johnson, Pat	45		2		0	0			0						4
Jones, Belinda	23		9		1	1			0						19
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		5		3	5			0						13
Mayo, Paula	10		4		3	4			0						11
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers	3										
Waddell, Leanne	25		1		0	0			0						2
Washington, Cynthia	15		3		1	2			0						7
Adjustment		222		78				30			17				
Totals		240	41	78	15	22	0	39	9	0	17	0	0	0	97
			FG%	52.6%	FT%	68.2%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Midwest part of the WBL playoff series continued on Thursday night as the Cornets hosted the Hustle at a high school gym in Ankeny, Iowa. The regular facility, the Des Moines Veterans Memorial was supposedly "unavailable." After an off-season investigation this proved to be false. The Cornets switched to a high school gym, because the 84-foot floor would thwart the true "run-n-gun" style of the Chicago Hustle.

The Cornets won this game 114-101 to tie the series and send it to a Saturday winner-take-all game.

While the Stars lost 97-91, they still felt that the Gwyn-Thomas combination was what it took to make a champion. The two teams met on Friday the 13th at the Astro Arena. There was no evidence of playoff fever hitting Houston as 1,157 fans came out for game two.

Houston took a 26-25 lead, which they expanded to 47-39 by half time. While the Stars knew what they had to do, the Angels also knew they couldn't allow the Stars to get within three or they would lose. The Angels increased their lead to 72-59 and then bided their time to a 93-84 victory.

The Stars season was over. The amazing Althea Gwyn poured in another 38 points with 19 rebounds, while Janice Thomas scored 17, before she fouled out. For the two games Gwyn scored 73 points and pulled down 41 rebounds. Donna Geils was the only other Star with double figures.

For the Angels it was another team effort as Vicky Chapman led the way with 22 points and 13 rebounds. Karen Auhlenbacher was next with 15 points, while Belinda Candler put up 13.

New York Stars															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Alt, Suzanne	13	Name I	ot in Ne	wspapers	;				0						0
Arturi, Lynn	23	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;				0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	30		0		4	5			0						4
Geils, Donna	21		5		0	0			0						10
Gross, Maria	12	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;										
Gwyn, Althea	31		16	24	6	6		19	19						38
Melbourne, Mara	24	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;				0						0
Ransom, Gigi	25		1		3	4			0						5
Thomas, Janice	10		6		5	7			0		6				17
Young, Faye	22		1		0	0			0						2
Young, Kaye	20		4		0	2			0						8
Adjustment		240		67							22				
Totals		240	33	91	18	24	0	19	19	0	28	0	0	0	84
			FG%	36.3%	FT%	75.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels															Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		3		9	10			0						15
Bubrig, Patty	33	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	3				0						0
Candler, Belinda	24		4		5	9			0						13
Chapman, Vicky	22		7		8	12		13	13						22
Holleyman, Glenda	20		1		0	0			0						2
Johnson, Pat	45		3		4	6			0						10
Jones, Belinda	23		3		3	4			0						9
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		3		0	0			0						6
Mayo, Paula	10		4		4	6			0						12
Mosley, Dolly	14	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	3										
Waddell, Leanne	25		0		0	0			0						0
Washington, Cynthia	15		2		0	2			0						4
Adjustment		240		77							24				
Totals		240	30	77	33	49	0	13	13	0	24	0	0	0	93
			FG%	39.0%	FT%	67.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

The New York Stars playoff stats look like this:

<u>Player</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>GP</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>M.p.G</u>	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>FG %</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>FT %</u>	Off Rebi	Oef Reb	ot Reb	Reb Avg	<u>Ast</u>	st Avg	PF	PF Avg	<u>Stl</u>	<u>T0</u>	TO Avg	<u>BS</u>	<u>PTS</u>	Avg	Eff. Rat
Alt, Suzanne	13	2	9	4.50	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!	2	2	4	2.00	0	0.00	1	0.5	1	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.556
Fletcher, Carmen	30	1	7	7.00	0	1	0.000	4	5	0.800	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.0	0	2	2.00	0	4	4.00	0.286
Geils, Donna	21	2	61	30.50	9	26	0.346	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	2	2	1.00	4	2.00	9	4.5	1	6	3.00	0	18	9.00	0.377
Gwyn, Althea	31	2	92	46.00	28	46	0.609	17	18	0.944	19	22	41	20.50	2	1.00	8	4.0	2	3	1.50	2	73	36.50	1.272
Melbourne, Mara	24	2	61	30.50	2	11	0.182	0	2	0.000	5	7	12	6.00	1	0.50	6	3.0	2	1	0.50	1	4	2.00	0.311
Ransom, Gigi	25	2	47	23.50	1	15	0.067	3	4	0.750	1	4	5	2.50	4	2.00	7	3.5	8	8	4.00	2	5	2.50	0.383
Thomas, Janice	10/11	2	76	38.00	16	38	0.421	9	11	0.818	2	3	5	2.50	12	6.00	10	5.0	7	12	6.00		41	20.50	0.855
Young, Faye	22	2	57	28.50	7	22	0.318	0	4	0.000	4	9	13	6.50	4	2.00	5	2.5	2	5	2.50	0	14	7.00	0.561
Young, Kaye	20	2	70	35.00	8	28	0.286	0	3	0.000	2	7	9	4.50	9	4.50	5	2.5	5	5	2.50	1	16	8.00	0.614
		2	480		71	187	0.380	33	47	0.702	35	56	91	45.50	36	18.00	51	25.50	28	42	21.00	6	175	87.50	0.675

After the Stars' playoff loss there was no information regarding the Stars or even that the league had a champion in the Houston Angels as of May. It wasn't until June 13 – when the Nassau edition of Newsday had a headline that read: **Women's League Lives to Draft Again**

With an opportunity to lift a struggling 2-year old league, Newsday made sure they talked about a failed past regarding women's pro basketball.

In the summer of 1977, Jason Franklin, of the newly formed Women's Professional Basketball Association had an organized bash at a West Side restaurant. The open bar bill, that was never paid, came to \$1,000. When the WBL moved their league headquarters to New York City the bill was presented to Bill Byrne. This was obviously because all women look alike and the WBL and the WBA must be associated.

The article did mention the signing of former New York Knick, Dean Meminger, to be the head coach of the Stars. It also mentioned that a draft had taken place the day before and many unknowns were selected by a handful of teams.

The New York publicity was going to stay consistent with the first year of the league.

Even if the results of the draft didn't make it into the City's newspapers, the Stars met with the other WBL teams on June 12, 1979 at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Their picks were as follows:

#1a	Sharon Farrah	5′8″	Univ. of Missouri	rec'd trade with N.J.
#1b	Pearl Moore	5′7″	Francis Marion College	
#2	Ethel White	5′6″	High Point College	
#3	Karen Smith	5′10″	Montclair State Univ.	
#3	Debbie Stewart	6′1″	Univ. of Maryland	
#4	Jennifer Savio	6′2″	Kean University	
#5	Leanne Miner	5′11″	Univ. of Calif - Riversid	e
#6	Kathy Kilgore	5′9″	Univ. of Virginia - CV	
#7	Kathy Regan	5′8″	Eastern Connecticut	
#8	Traded to Iowa			
#9	Elizabeth McGovern	5′9″	Fordham University	
#10	Faith Rostad	5′10″	Alberta, Canada	

The next day an article about Dean Meminger said, "I'm a theorist, a scientific student of the game. It's an art to coach and some people have it and others don't. I think I have it." Owner Steven McCarthy also noted they were going into the Garden and signing Meminger was a step in the right direction.

A July 1st Suffolk Edition of Newsday was an extension of the previous Meminger article, because it emphasized that he has always been a coach. Whether at Rice High School in New York City, or Marquette University with Al McGuire, or with the New York Knicks Meminger was always the coach on the floor. His plans are to play strong defensively, but he hadn't planned an offense yet, because he didn't know what kind of talent he had.

The day before, June 30, Dean had 40 players at a try-out camp. He was hoping to find 10 from here that he could bring to camp. Try-outs for any sport are where lifelong stories develop, this camp was no different.

Of the 40 players attending Saturday's tryout, about half were former local college players. One perspective star, Gwen Reed, came from her home in Gillette, Wyo., and spent \$400.00 for an airline ticket, only to have her luggage lost enroute. "It'll be worth it if I make the team," said Reed who was loaned a pair of sneakers and a uniform. Last year, Reed played for the All-American Redheads, a barnstorming team for which Reed had to dye her hair red.

The New York Daily News finally got into the mix on July 19, with a picture of Coach Meminger with two of his prospective players.

On August 10th the Stars traded their 5th round 1980 pick to the Milwaukee Does for 6'2" Linda Gehrke.

It took until August 19th before the Daily News could find something else to say about the Stars.

Dean Meminger, head coach of the WBL New York Starr, poses with two of his top draft choices. Karan Smith hy of Montchair State and Jennifer Savie of Kent State and Jennifer Savie of Kent State and Jennifer Savie of Kent State are making if it to the Felt Formula night. Season tios off in Superdome on Nov. Is, with home opener two days later in main areas against San Francisco Pioneers.

This time it took the wife of a New York Met to be named host of a charitable event in November to break the ice. Carole Kranepool was with Stars guard, Faye Young.



On September 18th an interesting clipping came out. Ann Meyers, the UCLA star who was the #1 pick in the initial WBL draft in 1978 by the Houston Angels did not sign with Houston. In fact, she was given a tryout with the Indiana Pacers of the NBA. When this didn't work out, she should have negotiated with Houston, but the Angels were giving the New York Stars 10 days to work out a contract agreement. The compensation, if she signed with the Stars, was unknown.

The results of the negotiations were reported on October 4th when the rights were returned to the Angels. The problem was Ms. Meyers believed she should receive NBA money while in the WBL. The best WBL salary was around \$15,000 and Ann wanted about \$50,000.

While putting a team together would not include Ann Meyers, the Stars welcomed 23 players to the Manhattanville College training camp on October 3rd. A week later the Stars signed their own All-Star and All-Pro Althea Gwyn to a contract.

The Stars also signed All-Star and All-Pro Gail Tatterson, who played for the New Jersey Gems in 1978-79. In a legal WBL move, Gail became a free agent in late September, when she and the Gems could not come to contract terms. As an undrafted free agent, she was a rare bright spot for the 9-25 Gems. Her 20.9 points (6th in WBL), her 10.3 rebounds (9th in WBL), and her .646 shooting percentage (1st in WBL) would definitely be missed. At first the newspapers thought there was a trade, where New York gave up their 1980 2nd round pick, but this was incorrect.

Coach Meminger was looking forward to playing Gwyn and Tatterson together against the taller teams in the league.

An idea of relationship between the Stars and the Knicks was presented in the October 11^{th} Newsday.

Stars co-owner and board chairman Steve McCarthy said the Stars will play 6 regular season doubleheaders with the Knicks. The teams will split the gate, with the Knicks getting the bigger share. "We save rent on the Felt Forum, where the games were to be played and getting percentage of the gate. Who could ask for better?" he said. McCarthy said the Stars lost about \$400,000 last season, but could come close to breaking even this season.

The Stars would also play an exhibition game on October 20th as part of a Knicks regular season game. Overall, the Stars would play seven games in the main arena and 11 games in the Felt Forum.

The October 11th article also stated that Lynda Gehrke, who had been acquired on August 10th, was traded to San Francisco for a 1980 4th round draft pick (an upgrade of one draft spot).

A Newsday article about All-Pro and All-Star Althea Gwyn gave some insight as to what it was like for WBL players in the first season:

"Last year a lot of people had the attitude it was a freak show," said the Jamaica resident. "I'd get it everywhere, guys saying, 'If you play basketball you're trying to be like a man.' I can't nurse men's egos. I don't have time for that. But at least I got them out there. Maybe at first they came to make fun, but I showed them I can play. At the beginning of the year we were a novelty, but by the end they learned to appreciate the game and were really dedicated fans."

Althea, who doubted herself last year even though she averaged 23.2 points (3rd in league) and 17.3 rebounds (1st in league), now was looking forward to playing as a team.

On Saturday October 20th the first of the Stars/Knicks doubleheaders took place. The Knicks would play the Philadelphia 76ers later that evening, but for now the teams on the floor were the Minnesota Fillies and New York Stars. The Stars came thru with a 92-85 victory with Gail Marquis scoring 16 points. For the Fillies Donna Wilson had 20 points and 10 rebounds. Their #1 pick, 6'5" Katrina Owens came through with 8 points and 14 rebounds.

An October 28^{th} New Orleans Times-Picayune article noted the Stars and the Pride would make an appearance on ESPN in November. (WBL Interpreter: "An Appearance" – is that a game or a 3-minute 1^{st} game recognition?)

On October 29th the Stars played a game against the New Jersey Gems in Madison Square Garden before the Knicks vs Nets 8 pm game. Attendance? There were only about 200 there, for the exhibition game. Most of them had moved from the cheap blue seats to courtside. Yet when the Knick fans began coming in, the public address announcer told them they had to return to the seats on the stubs. Was there going to be a large Knicks' crowd. No, this was the era when the Knicks were bad and only drawing 5,000 fans to the Garden themselves.

Therefore, the game contrast was seen on the sidelines. The Stars' new coach, Dean Meminger, was treating the game with intensity and using every moment to teach defense. For the Gems new coach, Howie Landa, a two-time small college national champion, and who was the guru of fun and "everybody plays" offense he was trying to keep everyone's spirits up.

Was there a score to this game? It didn't matter, because to the women trying out to be on a WBL team just being on the Madison Square Garden floor was a thrill.

On October 31st, Newsday did a special on Gail Marquis who scored 12 points in the Stars 98-67 victory over the Gems. In fact, this must have been the 2nd exhibition game, because she had 16 points in a previous game and over the two games she had totalled 23 rebounds in 59 minutes.

Gail, a Queens College graduate was a part of the 1976 silver medalist Olympic team and a former teammate of Althea Gwyn and Donna Geils. For the last three years she had led the French league in scoring, but when she saw that the WBL was going to survive, she didn't renew her contract with France and came home to New York. Yet she knew there were going to be adjustments under Dean Meminger, even though she didn't think there was anything else to learn.

Learning new basketball skills were going to be easy compared to lifestyle changes between the more relaxed French atmosphere and the streets of New York. Even as a New York native her language had changed and she was fearful of the people in the area. But after two good games, she knew where she belonged and she was glad to be back.

During the training camp #1 draft pick Sharon Farrah, from the University of Missouri, was struggling. Some of it was culture shock going from Mexico, Missouri (population 12,000) to New York City (7 million).

While she struggled Coach Meminger showed he didn't care if he was coaching men or women, because he approached Sharon and said, "Sharon, you're my No. 1 draft pick. What's wrong with you?" Sharon was crushed, but she told him she would pull it together. And she did.

On Tuesday November 6 in the Stars 121-108 victory over the Washington Metros in Madison Square Garden Farrah had 15 points and six rebounds. She also showed off her defensive skills as well.

Another interesting dynamic about Sharon was expressed this way:

"I had to adjust to many changes. In all my years of playing basketball I never played with a black basketball player. Now I play with several and they're my friends. We all get along here, and I think that's one of the reasons we're successful."

After a 3-0 pre-season, the Stars made their final cuts and announced their 1979-80 team:

Denise Craig	6′0″	played with Dayton	averaged 15.0	13.3 rebounds
Sharon Farrah	5′8″	1 st round draft pick		
Althea Gwyn	6′2″	1979 All-Pro and All-Star	averaged 23.1	17.3 rebounds
Gail Marquis	6′0″	3x scoring leader in France		
Pearl Moore	5′7″	1 st round draft pick		
Kathy Sanborn	5′5″	Free Agent Univ. of New Hamp	shire	
Karen Smith	5′10″	3 rd round draft pick		
Gail Tatterson	6′0″	1979 All-Pro and All-Star	averaged 20.9	10.3 rebounds
Janice Thomas	5′3″	1979 All-Pro and All-Star	averaged 18.7	7.7 assists
Faye Young	5′11″	played with New York	averaged 12.4	
Kaye Young	5′11″	1979 All-Star	averaged 7.9	

The first regular season game for the Stars would take place in New Orleans. The newly formed New Orleans Pride had also secured an NBA legend as their coach. Butch vanBreda Kolff, former coach of the Los Angeles Lakers and New Orleans Jazz, signed to coach the ladies back in August.

The front office of the Pride made this a special event as the game would be played in the Super Dome. A new WBL record crowd of 8,452 (1st all-time in WBL history) came out to see their newest team.

The Pride, who were 2-2 in the pre-season, played the Stars, who were 3-0 in the pre-season, to a 27-27 1^{st} quarter tie. To the delight of the 8,000+ the Pride went on an 18-2 scoring spree in a 3:27 spurt. The 36-23 2^{nd} quarter attack meant the Pride led 63-50 at the half.

The fans were also entertained at half-time by the San Diego Chicken. For those watching women's basketball for the first time they were probably happy to see so many points on the scoreboard.



Who wasn't happy to see this many points? Dean Meminger. After his half-time talk the Stars "held" the Pride to 25, while they put up 40. So, the Stars took a 90-88 lead into the 4^{th} quarter, which they expanded to 14 points around the 4:00 mark. But the Pride used the crowd to cut the lead down to six with 1:00 left, but the Stars eventually came through with a 120-114 victory.





SEASON — The New Persence of Season S

The Stars had five players in double figures led by Pearl Moore's 31, and followed by three with 17 each – Sharon Farrah, Gail Marquis, and Janice Thomas. Marquis also pulled down nine rebounds, before she fouled out. But the rebounding honor went to Althea Gwyn who had 13.

For the losing Pride Augusta Forest contributed 28, Wanda Ard had 24, and Paula Dean had 23 points. To the surprise of no one, Coach vanBreda Kolff picked up his first WBL technical at 7:37 of the 3rd quarter.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13		2				5				0						9
Farrah, Sharon	11		4				9				0						17
Gwyn, Althea	31		5				5			13	13						15
Marquis, Gail	6		7				3			9	9		6				17
Moore, Pearl	12		10				11				0						31
Sanborn, Kathy	32		1				1				0						3
Smith, Karen	24		1				0				0						2
Tatterson, Gail	33	Name r	ot in Bo	x Score							0						0
Thomas, Janice	10		7				3				0						17
Young, Faye	22		2				1				0						5
Young, Kaye	20		2				0				0						4
Adjustment		240		79									29				
Totals		240	41	79	0	0	38	0	0	22	22	0	35	0	0	0	120
			FG%	51.9%			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Orleans Pride																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Ard, Wanda	15		10				4				0						24
Blalock, Sybil	10		2				0				0		6				4
Bloom, Coretta	12		5				4			9	9						14
Brumfield, Queen	32		4				1				0						9
Dean, Paula	30		7				9			8	8						23
Duckworth, Tesa	24	Name r	ot in Bo	Score							0						0
Forest, Augusta	31		11				6				0						28
Logan, Karen	25		0				0				0						0
Smallwood, Sandra	34		1				4				0		6				6
Swilley, Kathy	5		0				0				0						0
Williams, Cindy	11		2				2				0						6
Adjustment		240		80									22				
Totals		240	42	80	0	0	30	0	0	17	17	0	34	0	0	0	114
			FG%	52.5%			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

On Saturday November 17th the (1-0) New York Stars took on another expansion team, the (1-0) San Francisco Pioneers. The Pioneers also played on opening night, November 15th, in Washington, D.C. at the Starplex Armory against the Washington Metros. As opposed to the 8,452 that the Stars saw, the Pioneers were treated to a crowd of 350.

The Stars and Pioneers would be meeting on the main floor of Madison Square Garden. This would be one of the doubleheaders with the Knicks, and it was perfect timing. The Knicks and Celtics would draw 19,591 at their game. The Stars official attendance was listed as 4,108 (the 21st highest crowd in WBL history), even though the Oakland Tribune said they thought there were 9,000 present. (Both are probably correct – depends on official versus end of game Stars' game attendance)

The Garden crowd of 4,108 saw the Pioneers take a 20-16 lead over the Stars, behind 13 points by Anita Ortega. San Francisco held the lead at 46-44 at the half. But the Stars came out strong in the 3rd quarter and took a commanding 68-58 lead into the 4th quarter. But the Pioneers showed their resiliency and took the lead at 86-84. Then with a few seconds left Gail Marquis missed a tying shot, but she grabbed the rebound and scored to send the game into overtime.

In the overtime, Ortega drove for a score to put the Pioneers up 88-86. Janice Thomas made a free throw, followed by Pearl Moore's jumper. New York were now up 89-88. Another Ortega jumper gave San Fran the lead, 90-89, but a Janice Thomas to Althea Gwyn back door, put the Stars up 91-90.

The two teams exchanged two baskets each to raise the score to 95-94, New York. So, with 15 seconds remaining and the Stars up 95-94, the Pioneers designed a play for either Musiette McKinney, who took Ortega's place when she fouled out, or Jan Ternyik, who took Hansen's place, when she fouled out. The ball ended up in Pat Mayo's hands and she drove for a goahead lay-up. Gail Marquis blocked the lay-up by Pat Mayo and then grabbed the rebound. Marquis then called the Stars last time out.

When play resumed New York's inbounds pass was stolen by Pam Martin who immediately took a 20-footer that rolled around the rim and dropped in. So, with only two seconds left and the Pioneers up 96-95, Coach Meminger called a time-out he didn't have. His reasoning was if the Pioneers made the free throw and his created play worked they would go to a 2nd overtime. Instead, Debbie Ricketts made the technical to make the score 97-95. The Stars' final play was unsuccessful, and they lost.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13		5				0	0			0						10
Farrah, Sharon	11		3				0	0			0						6
Gwyn, Althea	31		2				5	6			0						9
Marquis, Gail	6		9				0	3			0						18
Moore, Pearl	12		8				2	2			0						18
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Smith, Karen	24	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Tatterson, Gail	33		3				4	4			0						10
Thomas, Janice	10		7				7	10			0						21
Young, Faye	22		0				1	2			0						1
Young, Kaye	20		1				0	0			0						2
Adjustment		265		100							50				33		
Totals		265	38	100	0	0	19	27	0	0	50	0	0	0	33	0	95
			FG%	38.0%			FT%	70.4%	Tea	ım Rebs							

San Francisco Pioneers																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Foley, Bonnie	14	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Franklin, Connie	21		1				2	2			0						4
Hansen, Barbara	42	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Hansen, Kim	32		7				2	5		21	21		6	3			16
Hicks, Cardie	10		8				0	0			0	3	6				16
Martin, Brenda	45	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Martin, Pam	12	5	1	at least 5	mins		0	0			0						2
Mayo, Pat	13		4				3	4		6	6						11
McKinney, Musiette	33		6				4	6			0						16
Ortega, Anita	11		12				3	7		4	4	9	6	3			27
Ricketts, Debbie	8		2				1	1		5	5	3		3			5
Ternyik, Jan	22		0				0	0		7	7						0
Adjustment		260		94							5				26		
Totals		265	41	94	0	0	15	25	0	43	48	15	18	9	26	0	97
			FG%	43.6%			FT%	60.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

During the week the Stars traded the rights of Ethel White, their 1979 2^{nd} round pick to the Milwaukee Does in exchange for a 1980 3^{rd} round pick. At the same time, they activated Debbie Mason, a 5'5" guard who was an All-Star with the New Jersey Gems the previous year.

The Stars had a week off before their next game in the Garden against the (1-1) Washington Metros. The Metros picked up their first victory on the 17th against the New Jersey Gems. This was another game with the Knicks' support. The Knicks attracted 12,080 to their game and the official Stars attendance was 1,500.

The Metros were coached by Nat Frazier who had been a part of the Knicks staff in the 1977-1978 season. He missed being Dean Meminger's coach by just a few months as Meminger ended his career at the end of the 1977 season.

As for the game there was with very little information – no quarter scores, only three Star scorers and one Metro scorer – we know the Stars upped their record to 2-1 with a 114-98 victory.



New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13										0						16
Farrah, Sharon	11		12	20							0			6			24
Gwyn, Althea	31									11	11						14
Marquis, Gail	6										0						0
Mason, Debbie		4									0				3		0
Moore, Pearl	12										0						0
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						0
Thomas, Janice	10										0						0
Young, Faye	22										0						0
Young, Kaye	20										0						0
Adjustment		236															60
Totals		240	12	20	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	0	6	3	0	114
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

Washington Metros																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	4										0						0
Brewer, Lisa	5										0						0
Caudle, Diane	13										0						0
Cooper, Accronetta	14										0						0
Fletcher, Carmen	22										0						0
Gault, Jodi	2										0						0
Greene, Vivian	1										0						0
Hardy, Bertha	15										0						24
Harris, Willodean	21										0						0
McWhorter, Charlene	20										0						0
Schlesinger, Lisa	11										0						0
Shoemaker, Cathy	12										0						0
Adjustment		240															74
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars were led by Sharon Farrah's 24 on 12 of 20 from the field, Denise Craig's 16, and Althea Gwyn's 14 points and 11 rebounds. For the Metros their high scorer was Bertha Hardy with 24. The other 74 points are lost to history.

Saturday December 1st saw another game on the main floor of MSG. The Knicks game that evening, against the Denver Nuggets, drew a crowd of 11,687. The Stars crowd was listed as 600. It was hard to determine at what point the crowd was counted, yet the attendance numbers were dwindling drastically.

Regardless of the crowd size the (2-1) Stars were facing another expansion team, the (1-5) Dreams were on the road. This was game seven of eight and the team had been on the road since November $20^{th} - 11$ days ago.

Yet despite the hardships the Dreams jumped out to a 31-23 1st quarter lead. The Stars found their rhythm in the 2nd quarter with a 38-21 burst that had them leading 61-52 at the half. The Stars added to their lead and went into the 4th quarter leading 90-78. This was an opportunity for the Stars to step on the Dreams' throat and finish them off. But the same Dream team that began the season taking the Chicago Hustle to overtime, but losing, also showed resilience against the Stars. A 28-16 4th quarter tied the game and if it weren't for several close misses in the last few seconds they could have won. Instead they sent it to overtime, 106-106.

The days on the road finally caught up with the Dreams as they were outscored 13-2 in the five-minute overtime. The Stars improved to 3-1, with their 119-108 victory. The Dreams fell to 1-6 and they had one more road game on this trip.

The Stars were led by Janice Thomas who recorded a Triple Double as she had 25 points, 16 assists, 10 rebounds and five steals. These numbers overshadowed Gail Marquis' 19 points and 11 rebounds. First round draft picks Sharon Farrah and Pearl Moore had 17 and 15 respectively.

The Dreams were led by former 1976 Olympian Nancy Dunkle's 29 and Stacey Rhoades 20 points and 15 rebounds. Michelle McKenzie added 21 points as well.

An article in New York Newsday focused on the road it took for Janice Thomas to become the leader and quarterback of the New York Stars. After playing at Long Island University for a year and a half, she quit to become a detective. But she continued playing AAU ball, so when she was contacted to tryout for the Stars in 1978, she wasn't in very good shape. At 5'3" and 140 lbs she looked more like a detective than a basketball player, but she got the last laugh with her exceptional floor leadership.

The (3-1) Stars with an amazingly cooperative schedule were about to play their fourth home game in a row – and all of them on a Saturday before the Knicks game. (11/17, 11/24, 12/1, & 12/8). This game would be against the (2-5) New Orleans Pride.

In the Garden the Knicks took on the Kansas City-Omaha Kings that evening in front of 11,523 and the Stars packed in 599. The theory of exposure to the women's game and that it would bring people back was slowly proving to be only a dream.

The Pride were coming to New York riding a four-game losing streak. Their latest loss was four days earlier against the (6-0) Houston Angels. The Stars took a slim 23-22 1^{st} quarter lead which they allowed the Pride to tie at 44 each at half time. The Pride went up 70-69 after three quarters and then the fire-works and accusations began.

This sequence has two-sides to the same story and it involves a loud boisterous Coach vanBreda Kolff and two officials. The officials, who weren't allowed to comment after the game, said they were not influenced or intimidated by VBK.

According to the Newsday account:

The Stars were leading, 89-87, with 2:52 left in the game, and had called a timeout. Janice Thomas was about to throw the ball inbounds, when vanBreda Kolff began yelling, "Our ball! It's ours!"

McCann (the referee) then gave the ball to New Orleans. Augusta Forest's short jumper tied it at 89, and her lay-in and free throw 49 seconds later gave the New Orleans the margin it needed. The Stars did not score again after Janice Thomas's jumper made it 92-91 with 1:34 to go

He [vanBreda Kolff] was yelling, "Blue ball," and the official just turned around and gave it to him," Stars' assistant coach Shula Feuer said. "He was closest to the official. It should have been our ball. We had called the time out."

"It was the correct call. Unfortunate, but the correct call," said John Nucatola, the former NBA head of officials who supervises WBL officials now. 'You can't stop vanBreda Kolff from yelling. The ball went off 12's [Pearl Moore's] knee and the official just pointed in the wrong direction and didn't realize it until white [the Stars] were going to put it into play.

The Pride's 92-91 victory raised their record to 3-5. The Stars, at 3-2, had two of their losses total three points. The Stars were led by Althea Gwyn and Janice Thomas who had 16 points each, while Sharon Farrah and Gail Marquis split 24 points evenly.

The Pride were led by Sandra Smallwood's 33 and Paula Dean's 18.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Craig, Denise	13		2				0	0			0						4
Farrah, Sharon	11		5				2	2			0						12
Gwyn, Althea	31		7				2	4			0						16
Marquis, Gail	6		6				0	0			0						12
Mason, Debbie		Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s												
Moore, Pearl	12		1				5	6			0						7
Sanborn, Kathy	32		1				0	0			0						2
Smith, Karen	24		3				1	3			0						7
Tatterson, Gail	33		3				0	2			0						6
Thomas, Janice	10		7				2	2			0						16
Young, Faye	22		0				0	0			0						0
Young, Kaye	20		4				1	1			0						9
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	39	0	0	0	13	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91
			FG%	#####			FT%	65.0%	Tea	m Rebs							
New Orleans Pride																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Ard, Wanda	15		2				0	0			0						4
Bassinger, Kim			1				0	0			0						2
Blalock, Sybil	10		1				0	0			0						2
Bloom, Coretta	12		0				0	0			0						0
Brumfield, Queen	32		2				4	6			0						8
Dean, Paula	30		5				8	10			0						18
Duckworth, Tesa	24		2				2	2			0						6
Forest, Augusta	31		5				1	1			0						11
Smallwood, Sandra	34		13				7	8			0						33
Swilley, Kathy	5	Name r	ot in Bo	x Score							0						0
Williams, Cindy	11		3				2	2			0						8
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	34	0	0	0	24	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92
			FG%	#####			FT%	82.8%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars began the season with a road game in New Orleans on November 15, which was followed by four home games over a one-month period. Their next road trip wouldn't require that anyone pack a suitcase, because the next day Sunday, December 9th, the Stars had to travel to the Dunn Sports complex in New Jersey. This would be a long 35-minute trip from Manhattan to Elizabeth, New Jersey.

The 1978-79 last place New Jersey Gems should have improved themselves by having the first pick in the 1979 draft. But with the addition of seven franchises the Gems had to settle for the 8th pick. Yet the Gems didn't have a first-round pick in 1979.

I believe the November 30, 1978, trade that sent Debbie Mason, a 4th round free agent pick, to the New Jersey Gems for future considerations became this pick. After all Debbie Mason became an All-Star for the Gems, so that might have been worth a 1st round pick. That pick ended up being Sharon Farrah.

So, was it possible for the Gems to improve? Yes, first they hired a new coach, a positive offensive-oriented small college national champion, Howie Landa. But the biggest change was signing UCLA star Ann Meyers to a 3-year \$130,000 contract. (The cost of two WBL franchises)

After the Stars returned the negotiating rights back to their proper owner, the Houston Angels, somehow the Gems received permission to talk to Ann. It was speculated that Gems' owner, Bob Milo, paid Angels' owner Hugh Sweeney \$50,000 for Meyers. Since no draft picks or players were exchanged between the two teams, this transaction was the most likely possibility.

The Sunday December 9th game attracted 938 fans as the (3-2) Stars took on the (3-4) Gems. By this time Ann Meyers had played in five of the seven games, with the missing two being excused absences so she could compete in the Women's Superstar competition on ABC TV. She was averaging 24.4 ppg, 12 rpg, 4.4 assists, and 3.5 steals.

The Stars took a 32-29 lead, which became 58-50 at the half. The Stars increased their lead to 84-68 after three quarters. Early in the 4^{th} quarter with the score 86-73, Ann Meyers fouled out after scoring 20 points, grabbing seven rebounds, and handing out four assists. A minute later Coach Howie Landa was ejected from the arena with his second technical and the score 90-73.

Yet guard Donna Geils, who had coaching experience last year, took over at this point for the Gems and helped them go on an 11-0 run to bring the score to 90-84. But in the last few minutes Denise Craig added four steals to the five she already had and the Stars pulled away. The 108-92 victory raised the Stars record to 4-2, while the Gems fell to 3-5.

The Stars had six players with double figures led by Sharon Farrah's 20, while Janice Thomas & Denise Craig had 17 each. For the Gems Donna Geils led the way with 24 points and six assists. On top of Meyers 20, was Wanda Szeremeta's 18 points.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13		7				3				0			9			17
Farrah, Sharon	11		8				4				0						20
Gwyn, Althea	31		4				2				0						10
Marquis, Gail	6		4				2				0						10
Mason, Debbie		Name N	ot in Ne	wspape	rs												
Moore, Pearl	12		2				0				0						4
Sanborn, Kathy	32		2				2				0						6
Smith, Karen	24		1				0				0						2
Tatterson, Gail	33		4				4				0						12
Thomas, Janice	10		5				7				0						17
Young, Faye	22		1				0				0						2
Young, Kaye	20		2				4				0						8
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	40	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	108
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Browning, Pam	22		2				3				0						7
Burdick, Denise	35		3				2				0						8
Collins, Sheila	6		0				0				0						0
Comerie, Debra	34		4				4				0						12
Geils, Donna	4		8				8				0	6					24
Hastings, Martha	24		0				0				0						0
Martin, Gwen ???			0				0				0						0
Meyers, Ann	14		6				8			7	7	4	6				20
Rangler, Candy	5		0				1				0						1
Simms, Donna	17		1				0				0						2
Szeremeta, Wanda	23		7				4				0						18
Van Ness, Joan	21		0				0				0						0
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	31	0	0	0	30	0	0	7	7	10	6	0	0	0	92
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

After their exhaustive road trip across the river the Stars returned to New York City to play the once first place Philadelphia Fox. Yes, on November 29th the 2-1 Fox were tied for first place with the 2-1 Stars. Since then their record had dropped to 2-3 as they all invaded the Felt Forum of Madison Square Garden.

The Forum was a 3,600 seat amphitheater that was more intimate, but could still be classified as "the Garden." With the dwindling crowds around 600 in the 19,500 seat main arena (3.1% capacity), the 183 that showed up for this game (5.1%) wasn't a whole lot different.

This Tuesday December 11th game began with the Stars taking a small 24-22 lead. The Fox took the lead and went into the half up 43-41. They increased their lead to as many as 13 before the Stars were able to tie it up at 69. The Stars outscored them 21-16 for a 90-85 victory.

Denise Craig and Sharon Farrah led the team with 14, while Karen Smith, Gail Marquis, and Janice Thomas all had 10 each. The Fox were led by Sandy Miller and Linda Matthews with 18 each. Peggy Vincent came through with 15 in the losing cause. Winsome "Skinny" Davidson added 14 points and 12 rebounds before she fouled out.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Craig, Denise	13	26	6	14			2	3	1	2	3	0	3	3	4	1	14	0.615
Farrah, Sharon	11	38	5	15			4	4	0	2	2	1	3	0	4	0	14	0.368
Gwyn, Althea	31	26	2	3			5	8	5	5	10	1	5	3	3	0	9	0.808
Marquis, Gail	6	27	4	8			2	2	2	7	9	0	4	0	0	1	10	0.704
Mason, Debbie		2	2	3			2	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	3.500
Moore, Pearl	12	8	1	4			4	4	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	6	1.000
Sanborn, Kathy	32	12	0	2			0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	-0.167
Smith, Karen	24	24	5	10			0	1	3	3	6	0	3	0	2	0	10	0.583
Tatterson, Gail	33	22	1	5			3	8	1	3	4	0	4	1	3	0	5	0.318
Thomas, Janice	10	31	3	9	0	1	4	4	0	2	2	10	2	6	7	0	10	1.000
Young, Faye	22	9	0	2			0	0	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0.667
Young, Kaye	20	15	3	5			0	0	2	1	3	1	1	1	0	0	6	0.800
Totals		240	32	80	0	1	26	37	17	29	46	15	28	14	27	2	90	0.638
			FG%	40.0%			FT%	70.3%	Tea	n Rebs	7							

Philadelphia Fox																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Arturi, Lynn	17	16	1	10			0	0	0	1	1	0	2	3	4	0	2	0.125
Davidson, Winsome	11	40	4	12			6	9	6	6	12	4	6	2	5	0	14	0.775
Garrity, Pat	10	13	1	4			3	4	0	1	1	3	2	2	3	0	5	0.846
Gay, Peggy	20	29	2	5			0	0	0	3	3	1	0	1	3	0	4	0.241
Hlavacek, Sue	24	4	0	0			0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.250
Matthews, Linda	34	43	8	16			2	4	2	5	5 7	4	5	2	8	1	18	0.628
Mayes, Dee Dee	12	Not in B	ox Scor	е														
Miller, Sandy	44	34	5	6			8	10	4	4	8	1	5	0	0	0	18	0.824
Vincent, Peggy	30	33	7	14			1	3	6	1	7	2	4	3	6	0	15	0.697
Zabel, Chrissy	4	28	2	9			5	7	1	2	2 3	2	4	1	0	0	9	0.607
Totals		240	30	76	0	0	25	37	19	24	43	17	29	14	29	1	85	0.613
			FG%	39.5%			FT%	67.6%	Tea	m Rebs	8							

The last of the local games for the Stars was on Thursday December 13th, and was played in Madison Square Garden. The Knicks did not have a game that day, and Newsday said the Stars game was to be in the Garden.

So, the crowd of 389 that came out to watch the (5-2) Stars take on the (2-7) Milwaukee Does probably had a choice of any seat in the house. New York was riding a two-game winning streak, while the Does, under the direction of former NBA Coach of the Year, Larry Costello, were trying to break a three-game losing streak.

(Editor: Ironically the number hanging from the MSG rafters to the right, #7, was for a hockey player – but that was also the number that Dean Meminger wore with the Knicks!)

Even though Milwaukee was a weak team and struggling, this might be the game that New York used to tell the rest of the league, "there was a new sheriff in town." The Stars began the game with a 28-15 lead. Yet for some reason in the WBL with most teams things usually even out by half time.

Not today. The Stars then put together a 32-14 second quarter to take a 60-29 half time lead. Without showing any mercy, they added a 30-21 3rd quarter on top of that. A comfortable 90-50 lead gave the Stars a chance to play everyone, because they had a game the next day in Chicago. But a 25-17 4th quarter was the Stars way of intimidating anyone that got in their way. The 48-point, 115-67 victory, did not break the record of the Iowa Cornets' 131-81 victory over the Rockettes last year, but it did make a point.

The 115 points were distributed with no one dominating: Sharon Farrah 17, Gail Marquis 16, Althea Gwyn 15, and 2 people with 10, 2 people with 9, 2 people with 8 give you an idea of the teamwork involved. Also, in a rare box score the Stars had no one play over 31 minutes, and most starters were in the 25 range.

As for the Does, Brenda Chapman scored 19 on 5 of 15 from the floor, while Heidi Nestor had 14 points. The Does left New York with a 2-8 record and a four-game losing streak.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Craig, Denise	13	31	4	9			0	0	4	7	11	3	1	2	4	1	8	0.742
Farrah, Sharon	11	23	8	13			1	1	0	3	3	3	3	1	5	0	17	0.957
Gwyn, Althea	31	25	6	8			3	5	0	6	6	3	3	4	2	0	15	1.160
Marquis, Gail	6	25	7	13			2	2	3	5	8	1	1	6	3	0	16	1.160
Mason, Debbie		15	1	3			6	6	2	1	3	2	2	0	0	0	8	1.000
Moore, Pearl	12	20	3	7			0	0	1	3	3 4	3	0	1	5	0	6	0.600
Sanborn, Kathy	32	13	0	4			0	0	1	C	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	0.308
Smith, Karen	24	14	5	10			0	1	3	2	2 5	1	0	1	1	0	10	1.214
Tatterson, Gail	33	15	4	7			1	5	5	1	6	0	4	2	4	0	9	0.867
Thomas, Janice	10	25	4	12			1	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	5	0	9	0.600
Young, Faye	22	17	2	3			3	5	2	3	5	3	3	2	3	0	7	1.000
Young, Kaye	20	17	3	4			4	8	1	4	5	0	1	1	2	0	10	0.824
Totals		240	47	93	0	0	21	34	23	36	59	25	23	22	36	1	115	0.875
			FG%	50.5%			FT%	61.8%	Tea	m Rebs	0							

Milwaukee Does																	Team Ga	ame#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Carney, Mary	13	Injured -	Strained	d Shoulder														
Chapman, Brenda	15	43	5	15			9	13	1	4	- 5	3	5	2	10	2	19	0.512
Dennis, Brenda	10	23	1	4			0	0	0	2	2	0	3	0	6	1	2	-0.087
Ellis, Cindy	25	21	1	5			0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	2	0.286
Gamble, Carolyn	8	38	4	10			1	2	1	7	8	4	3	0	6	3	9	0.500
Griffith, Denise	6	24	1	3			4	5	2	3	5	1	4	2	1	0	6	0.583
Morales, Diane	22	14	3	5			0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	6	0.286
Nestor, Heidi	28	44	7	16			0	2	3	8	11	2	4	2	5	1	14	0.591
Prevost, Deb	32	5	1	2			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0.200
Smith, Joanie	1	Name n	ot in Nev	vspaper														
White, Ethel	30	28	2	3			3	6	0	3	3	3	3	2	11	0	7	0.250
Totals		240	25	63	0	0	17	28	7	27	34	15	29	8	42	7	67	0.404
			FG%	39.7%			FT%	60.7%	Tea	m Rebs	0							

Two two-game road trips were up next for the (6-2) New York Stars as they ventured to Alumni Hall at DePaul University to face the (4-5) Chicago Hustle. So, on Friday the 14th the Stars faced the Hustle and a crowd of 1,387. The Hustle were carrying a two-game losing streak into the game and they were missing their leader, Rita Easterling. Yet the fans would never have known as the Hustle led the Stars 31-13 with 2:00 left on the clock. A 10-3 Stars effort made the score Hustle 34 and Stars 23. The Stars were able to trim off six of those 11 points by the half, so Chicago had a 66-61 advantage.

But the Hustle left the locker room and the Rita-less team now couldn't get any traction as they only scored 18 and gave up 37. This gave the Stars a comfortable 98-84 3rd quarter lead. The Hustle got their scoring mojo back as they put up 38, but their defense could only hold the Stars to 35, for a Stars 133-122 victory. Dean Meminger gave the credit to his bench who outscored the Hustle subs, 55-29.

The Stars were now 7-2 with a four-game winning streak. Six players scored in double figures including Sharon Farrah's 28 and Pearl Moore's 23 in 22 minutes. Likewise, Gail Marquis chipped in with 22 in just 27 minutes. Overall, the Stars had five players with over a 1.000 Efficiency Rating for this game – a rarity.

On the Chicago side 122 points wins most games and the Hustle had three players with 20+ points: Debra Waddy-Rossow 28, Liz Galloway 25, and Breena Caldwell with 21.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Craig, Denise	13	17	4	6			2	2	3	7	10	1	3	1	4	0	10	1.118
Farrah, Sharon	11	32	12	22			4	6	1	4	5	5	4	3	3	0	28	1.344
Gwyn, Althea	31	31	5	10			2	3	5	6	11	0	2	0	4	1	12	0.613
Marquis, Gail	6	27	8	14			6	8	4	1	5	2	1	1	0	1	22	1.185
Mason, Debbie		Name N	lot in Nev	vspapers														
Moore, Pearl	12	22	7	14			9	13	2	0	2	5	3	1	4	0	23	1.455
Sanborn, Kathy	32	13	2	3			0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	0	4	0.154
Smith, Karen	24	26	1	4			3	4	1	2	3	1	2	0	1	0	5	0.346
Tatterson, Gail	33	17	3	4			1	2	0	4	4	1	2	0	2	0	7	0.647
Thomas, Janice	10	32	5	9			8	13	1	2	3	9	3	3	5	0	18	1.156
Young, Faye	22	Name N	lot in Nev	vspapers														
Young, Kaye	20	18	1	7			2	2	1	3	4	2	3	0	2	0	4	0.556
Totals		235	48	93	0	0	37	53	18	30	48	26	25	9	28	2	133	0.911
			FG%	51.6%			FT%	69.8%	Tea	n Rebs	11							

Chicago Hustle																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Caldwell, Breena	30	21	9	13			3	4	2	C	2	2	3	2	4	0	21	1.190
Digitale, Sue	21	38	7	9			4	4	3	5	8	1	5	0	3	0	18	0.658
Galloway, Liz	31	40	11	23			3	8	6	2	8	4	5	3	4	1	25	1.000
Hileman, Vicki	22	31	3	5			2	4	0	2	2 2	10	4	0	7	0	8	0.742
Kennedy, Peggy	11	19	2	8	0	2	0	0	1	3	3 4	4	2	1	4	0	4	0.684
Mitchell, Adrian	26	2	0	0			0	0	0	C	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	-0.500
Rajcula, Jody	24	3	1	1			0	0	0	C	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	0.667
Stachon, Toni	14	4	0	0			0	0	0	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Swindell, Retha	44	39	5	8			4	5	2	g	11	2	5	5	1	2	14	0.846
Thomas, Lisa	41	Name n	ot in Nev	vspaper														
Travnik, Pat	12	11	0	2			2	4	2	3	5	0	2	1	1	0	2	0.636
Waddy-Rossow, Debra	25	32	12	25			4	5	1	2	2 3	1	5	1	3	0	28	0.969
Totals		240	50	94	0	2	22	34	17	26	43	24	35	13	28	3	122	0.825
			FG%	53.2%			FT%	64.7%	Tea	m Rebs	2							

Almost with the same ease of travelling to New Jersey, the Stars had two days to get to Milwaukee for a game on Sunday December 16th. The Does were planning a special recognition for former Marquette University star Dean Meminger. The 1:30 pm game would be titled "Welcome Back Dean (The Dream) Meminger."

One has to wonder what the mindset of the Does players were because just three days ago the Does lost by 48. They could not let the game get away quickly as it had before (28-15). A Student Day crowd of 1,181 came to see the Does take an early six-point lead, only to fall behind by nine, and then catch up see the Stars hold a 32-31 lead. The five-game losing streak played no part in the fight and effort of the Does, as they again got within one point, but trailed 54-51 at the half. This was much different than the 60-29 game.

As they went into the 3rd quarter they got within 60-59 at the 8:59 mark, but then a missed shot, and a missed tip-in resulted in a Stars fastbreak and the beginning of a nine point onslaught.

At the conclusion of the 102-89 win, the Does were elated feeling they had played their best game all year. Especially since they were missing Joanie Smith who was out for her fourth game in a row with a hyper extended knee and Mary Carney who was out with a sprained shoulder. It wasn't easy, but Does coach Larry Costello had to admit the Stars were just the better team and were going to be hard to beat.

The Stars' balanced scoring saw Gail Marquis have 21 points, Althea Gwyn with 18 points and 12 rebounds, and Sharon Farrah with 16 points. For the Does Heidi Nestor had 22 points and 12 rebounds, while Diane Morales had 18, and both Brenda Chapman and Carolyn Gamble had 16 each.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Craig, Denise	13	25	3	11			0	0	4	6	10	3	3	4	2	0		0.960
Farrah, Sharon	11	39	7	15			2	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	5	0	16	0.538
Gwyn, Althea	31	35	8	16			2	3	5	7	12	2	4	2	1	0	18	1.000
Marquis, Gail	6	22	8	13			5	5	2	6	8	3	0	2	4	1	21	1.500
Moore, Pearl	12	18	1	2			2	4	0	1	1	2	3	2	3	0	4	0.444
Sanborn, Kathy	32	8	0	1			0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0.500
Smith, Karen	24	18	3	6			2	4	2	1	3	0	0	2	1	0	8	0.667
Tatterson, Gail	33	7	1	1			0	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	3	0	2	0.143
Thomas, Janice	10	36	2	9			9	9	1	2	3	7	3	4	3	0	13	0.861
Young, Faye	22	Name N	lot in Nev	wspapers														
Young, Kaye	20	32	5	12			4	7	2	4	6	1	2	0	1	0	14	0.656
Totals		240	38	86	0	0	26	34	17	29	46	23	22	20	24	1	102	0.792
			FG%	44.2%			FT%	76.5%	Tear	n Rebs	8							

Milwaukee Does																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Carney, Mary	13	Injured -	Strained	d Shoulder														
Chapman, Brenda	15	46	7	17			2	6	2	4	6	10	4	1	9	0	16	0.739
Dennis, Brenda	10	4	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Ellis, Cindy	25	13	2	4			0	0	0	2	2	2	3	0	1	0	4	0.692
Gamble, Carolyn	8	35	8	11			0	0	1	5	6	1	4	1	5	0	16	0.571
Griffith, Denise	6	10	1	2			2	2	0	2	2	0	3	0	0	0	4	0.600
Morales, Diane	22	38	7	14			4	6	2	2	4	7	5	1	8	0	18	0.763
Nestor, Heidi	28	48	10	19			2	3	3	9	12	2	1	1	3	0	22	0.750
Prevost, Deb	32	4	0	0			0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0.000
Smith, Joanie	1	Injured -	Knee															
White, Ethel	30	42	4	8			1	4	2	7	9	4	5	1	9	0	9	0.429
Totals		240	39	75	0	0	11	21	10	32	42	26	26	5	36	0	89	0.633

After returning to New York for a few days the (8-2) Stars flew out to the West Coast. Their first scheduled game on this two-game road trip was in California where they were to take on the (2-8) California Dreams.

As an expansion team the Dreams were given a very unfair schedule to start their existence. Seven of their first eight games were on the road. Therefore a 2-8 record led to the firing of Head Coach Mel Sims and the transition to Artie Blouin. Artie's coaching experience included in both New York and South Africa.

This was the third home game for the Dreams and the lack of support and publicity by the Los Angeles community had the crowds go from their record high of 928, to 331, and now 117.

The Stars began slowly as they were trailing after one quarter 24-23. But they turned on the defensive pressure in the 2nd quarter as they held the Dreams to 15 and they took a 52-39 lead. The Stars upped the difference to 80-65 and finished the game with a 110-91 victory. Their winning streak increased to six games and their record was now 9-2.

Six players scored in double figures led by Janice Thomas' 19 and Gail Tatterson's 16. For the (2-9) Dreams Stacey Rhoades had 16, while both Mary Scharff and Nancy Dunkle scored 12 each.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13		5				2	2			0						12
Farrah, Sharon	11		2				5	7			0						9
Gwyn, Althea	31		5				3	4			0						13
Marquis, Gail	6		7				0	0			0						14
Moore, Pearl	12		5				4	7			0						14
Sanborn, Kathy	32		2				1	2			0						5
Smith, Karen	24		1				0	0			0						2
Tatterson, Gail	33		6				4	5			0						16
Thomas, Janice	10		7				5	5			0						19
Young, Faye	22	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Young, Kaye	20		4				0	0			0						8
Adjustment		240	-1										28				-2
Totals		240	43	0	0	0	24	32	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0	110
			FG%	#####			FT%	75.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

California Dreams																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bucklew, Patti	40		2				4	6			0						8
Cook, Jane Ellen	7		4				1	2			0						9
Dunkle, Nancy	15		6				0	0			0						12
McGraw, Muffet	10		3				2	2			0						8
McKenzie, Michelle	20		2				3	4			0						7
Mosher, Barb	33	Name r	ot in Ne	vspaper													
Ransom, Gigi	55	Name r	ot in Ne	vspaper													
Rhoades, Stacy	17		4				8	8			0						16
Scharff, Mary	11		4				4	6			0						12
Scott, Angela	23	Name r	ot in Ne	vspaper													
Shirley, Pam	12		4				1	2			0						9
Uhl, Joan	22		5				0	0			0						10
Adjustment		240											29				
Totals		240	34	0	0	0	23	30	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	91
			FG%	#####			FT%	76.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

While the Stars were on the West Coast there was tremendous turmoil on the East Coast. The Philadelphia Fox and the Washington Metros, both teams the Stars had beaten, folded. Their "ownerships," if there ever were any, were both revoked in early December. The costs of running these teams by the league was too costly, so the teams folded and there was a dispersal draft of the Fox and Metro players. At the time the Stars had the 2nd best record in the league,

so they selected 11th out of 12. (Minnesota was 10-2 at the time) They selected 5'8" Evelyn Bender off the Metros roster. They did not make a 2nd round selection.

The next game at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium with 1,504 fans must have been a treat to the travelling Stars. The Pioneers were carrying a 10-3 record as the Stars were looking to avenge one of their two defeats. To the Stars' advantage Pioneer star Cardie Hicks would be out as she had a leg injury that would keep her out most of the year.

The Pioneers had a modest two-game winning streak after defeating the 7-1 Houston Angels 79-75 two days earlier. Therefore the 36 points they put up in the 1st quarter was almost half of their previous game total. Yet the Stars added 30 to trail 36-30. Early in the 2nd quarter the Pioneers had a 16-point lead, but they cooled off to bring the lead down to 58-55 in the Pioneers favor at the half. Anita Ortega's 15 points led the team.

The Stars came out strong with a 32-21 3rd quarter using their height advantage and their bench strength to take an 87-79 lead, which eventually became a 108-102 victory. The balanced scoring had Pearl Moore with 24, Gail Marquis with 23, and Denise Craig with 22, and Althea Gwyn with 19.

The Pioneers were led by Anita Ortega who had 27 points in 48 minutes, and Pat Mayo with 20 points. Guard Debbie Ricketts was also forced to play all 48 minutes.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	TO	BS	Pts
Craig, Denise	13		10				2	2			0						22
Farrah, Sharon	11		4				0	0			0						8
Gwyn, Althea	31		8				3	7			0						19
Marquis, Gail	6		10				3	3			0						23
Moore, Pearl	12		11				2	2			0						24
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Karen	24	20	0				0	0			0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33		0				2	2			0						2
Thomas, Janice	10		3				2	2			0						8
Young, Faye	22	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Young, Kaye	20		1				0	0			0						2
Adjustment		220											21				
Totals		240	47	0	0	0	14	18	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	108
			FG%	#####			FT%	77.8%	Tea	m Rebs							

San Francisco Pioneers																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Hansen, Barbara	42	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Hansen, Kim	32		5				3	4			0						13
Martin, Brenda	45	Not in P	laying S	hape - p	er 12/28	article											
Martin, Pam	12		3				0	0			0						6
Mayo, Pat	13		7				6	8			0						20
McKinney, Musiette	33		7				5	8			0						19
Ortega, Anita	11	48	10				7	8			0						27
Ricketts, Debbie	8	48	4				1	2			0						9
Ternyik, Jan	22		2				4	7			0						8
Adjustment		144											18				
Totals		240	38	0	0	0	26	37	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	102
			FG%	#####			FT%	70.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

After their game on the 22nd the Stars had the rest of the year off. An excellent article in the New York Times gave a great summary of not just the Stars' life, but WBL life in general. I need to include the whole article here:

THE 15-seat bus rolled to a stop in the middle of an intersection, sputtered and died. The driver pointed down the dark, wintry street in Chicago. Three blocks ahead was a railroad trestle; two blocks to the left was the De Paul University gym. Without a word of complaint, the New York Stars and their coach, Dean Meminger, filed out and began walking.

The members of New York's only first-place team, the Stars of the Women's Basketball League were in the midst of a nine-day road trip that would take them from the Midwest to California, where most of them never had been before. Despite low salaries and second-class travel accommodations; despite washing their own uniforms and taping their own ankles, dressing in tiny locker rooms with a single sink at one end and a urinal at the other, they are living a life that women only dreamed about two years ago.

"I guess right now we consider it a luxury," said Althea Gwyn, the 6-foot-2-inch center who is the Stars' highest-paid player with a \$23,000-a-year salary. "We understand. You can't go out and demand things if you want the league to last. If we didn't have this league, we'd be in New York working at various jobs. We'd never even have the opportunity to see these cities if it wasn't for the W.B.L."

On the Stars, there are no prima donnas, and even Meminger, a member of the Knicks' championship team in 1972-73, does his share of the work. When the Stars arrived in Chicago earlier this month, he chided them for over-packing, then helped load huge suitcases on the little "Hustle Bus" provided by the home team. On the way to a Holiday Inn on the edge of Lake Michigan, where group-rate rooms cost \$21 a night, Meminger pointed out the towering Continental Plaza, where the Knicks pay \$32. At the motel, while the players unloaded luggage in an orderly relay system, Meminger registered for the team. He controlled his temper when the desk clerk insisted that the bill be paid in advance, and then distributed room keys and made phone calls to set up a practice site - chores routinely handled by the team trainer in the National Basketball Association.

The women are sophisticated and good-humored about their league's financial problems. Before the Chicago game, one of three that the first-place Stars won on their four-game trip, the players talked about the most successful franchise, the Iowa Cornets, and its owner, George Nissen. Gail Marquis, the 6-foot forward who played three seasons in France, observed that Nissen had "beaucoup money." Sharon Farrah, the feisty rookie guard from Missouri, said that the gymnastics equipment mogul gave each of his players \$100 for Christmas last year.

"Don't count on it," said Kaye Young, one of the blond twins from the Dannon yogurt commercial, whose sister, Faye, was left behind when the Stars decided to travel with 10 of 12 players to save money.

"Maybe you'll get stars," Meminger said, fingering his own star-shaped necklace.

"They'll probably make our necks turn green," said Gail Tatterson, the back-up center who came to the Stars from the New Jersey Gems.

By the end of last week, two franchises - Washington and Philadelphia - had suspended operations due to insufficient funds, reducing the league to 12 teams.

The New York owners, Ed and Terry Reisdorf, say they lost \$350,000 last season and are currently losing \$25,000 a night playing in Madison Square Garden where a recent game drew 389 spectators. While waiting until players like Old Dominion's star, Nancy Lieberman, are available after the Olympics, and hoping those players can stimulate the league, the owners have trimmed the travel budget from \$75,000 to \$55,000.

Last winter, the players got \$21 a day for expenses on the road. Now they get \$16, \$11 less than the men, and Meminger has advised them to save receipts for tax purposes. They travel without their trainer and with only one of two assistant coaches - Joe Verdi, a New York City policeman. They go as far as Washington in a van, round trip in one day, and between Chicago and Milwaukee by train because an Amtrak ticket costs \$7.75 compared to \$38 for an airplane ticket.

Players' salaries throughout the league average \$10,000 for the four month, 36-game season and coaches earn approximately \$20,000. "I made a couple of bucks in the N.B.A.," said Meminger, who was coaching in the Police Athletic League when the Stars hired him last summer. "I've seen that side of life."

While the women pros are in a different tax bracket than the men, their noisy banter on buses and in locker rooms is the same. The music on the portable tape deck is disco and the jokes are racial and raunchy. The whites and blacks seem at ease with each other, and with their male coach. Meminger, who grew up on 135th Street in Manhattan, finds their camaraderie unusual by N.B.A. standards and credits it to feminism. "They're fighting for a cause," he said.

On one of many early-morning bus rides, Meminger told a story about a friend who had been to Nigeria and said that men there have "27 wives." From the seats behind him came a chorus of voices yelling, "You couldn't handle it."

"Rappers' Delight" by the Sugar Hill Gang played over and over on the tape deck and several white players complained they didn't understand the lyrics. "I'm black and I don't know what they're saying," Marquis said.



In the Chicago locker room, in preparation for a postgame party in De Paul's Blue Demon room, Marquis lined up the four other black players to make up their faces. "Hey y'all, I got some white person's rouge," Farrah shouted. Everybody laughed.

They needle each other constantly and coin nicknames that ring of the playgrounds. Janice Thomas is J.T.; Faye Young is Twin; Denise Craig, with her close-cropped afro and bulging eyes, is Turtle, and Sharon Farrah, in imitation of newspaper articles, Miss Farrah.

Throughout the league, the 9-2 Stars have a reputation for toughness. They have four players at least 6 feet tall and play rough, fast-breaking basketball learned in the schoolyards and honed by Meminger. They talk about "rattling teeth" of opponents and relish out of-town headlines about the "intimidating" New Yorkers.

After handing the Chicago team its first home defeat since last season, Verdi asked, "Where do the Bulls play? We'll go there tomorrow and play them."

When the Stars arrived in Milwaukee after beating the Does by 48 points in Madison Square Garden, the home team trainer initially refused to tape their ankles, which is required in the W.B.L. "That's one of Larry Costello's psych jobs," Verdi said, referring to the former Milwaukee Bucks' and current Does' coach. "He's trying to get any edge he can. I told him, 'Taped or untaped, we'll blow you out, and untaped we'll be madder.'"

The Stars almost blew out the Chicago Hustle on the first night of their trip, despite a game in New York the night before, an early-morning flight, a two-hour shooting practice and a stalled bus. With a 25-point lead in the fourth quarter, however, they displayed the inexperience and fundamental weaknesses that Meminger is quick to acknowledge.

"Easy, easy," the coach screamed from the bench as his players continued at a needlessly breakneck pace. "No shots. No shots. Run the clock and we'll win the game."

Even after the Stars won, 133-122, Meminger did not hide his displeasure with Pearl Moore, who had taken a low percentage baseline jumper with 18 seconds on the shot clock in the closing moments of the game.

Two days later, in Milwaukee, Meminger printed a list of instructions on the locker-room blackboard. Item No. 6 was underlined and said "be patient," No. 7 said "accept and adjust to officiating." Meminger said that, in general, the women are more sensitive to criticism than men and more prone to tears, bickering with each other and losing concentration after a questionable call. He is sharp with a sulky player during a timeout and yells "Play ball!" when they lose composure on the court.

After New York beat the Does, 102-89, Meminger said; "When two or three out of five of them react to a call, it frustrates what we're trying to do. It's all right to react for a second, but after five or six seconds, the other team makes their transition. They have to let me worry about it as a coach." There has been some debate within women's sports circles about the hiring of male head coaches by all 14 teams that started the season. Clearly, the men — many with N.B.A. experience—have not had the anticipated effect on attendance. In Milwaukee, where Meminger is a hero from the Marquette University team of 1968-1971 and Costello coached the Bucks to a championship, fewer than 1,000 people were in the stands.

Although Meminger has a warm relationship with the Stars, is an effective teacher and a quick-witted bench coach, Kaye Young said, "Men are men. They don't worry if your confidence is down. They figure you'll take care of it yourself. A woman coach always knows when it's going bad for you."

Many of the men in the women's league, perhaps in an effort to prove themselves right-minded, insist there is no difference between male and female athletes. But a referee stops the action at the request of a player, blood dripping from her arm, who asks for an "earring check," and winners and losers kiss and hug at midcourt after game. In the locker room, the air is heavy with the smell of Halston perfume and there is talk of who will do the laundry and who last used the travel iron.

The women are not as uncomfortable with the ambiguities of being female athletes as they once were. After taking great pains with clothes and makeup and arriving at a noisy beer party in Chicago, Gwyn flattened her hair to show that she was taller than Meminger. "I'm 6-2-74 inches," she said. "I used to hate saying that and I love it now."

Meminger said that at first, he was besieged by questions from his friends about the locker-room protocol of his new job. As a rule, the coach, Verdi and the trainer, Rick Capistran, stay outside while the women are dressing. Capistran sometimes wears gym shorts under his street clothes because he has no place to change "except behind the dumpsters." On the occasions when the men happen upon women in their underwear, there is no shrieking or scampering for cover.

"If I see a woman in her panties, it's no big deal," Capistran said. "It's not like there's candlelight and wine in the locker room. I can understand people being inquisitive, but once you're involved it's no big deal."

"I've seen female bodies before," Meminger said. "What does it have to do with basketball?"

Meminger permits all reporters in the locker-room shortly after a game, and usually the players do not change until the interviewing is over. In the Milwaukee Arena, the male reporters chose to stay in the corridor, but a trio of 11-year-old boys, begging for wrist bands, were invited in for souvenirs and autographs.

From the chilly hallway, while the Stars were still in various stages of undress, Meminger shouted for one of the players to pass out his overcoat. They crowded around the door, opened it a few inches, flashed the coat before their coach's eyes, and pulled it back out of his reach.

The New York Times, Sara Krulwich

The end of the year standings showed the re-arrangement of the divisions. With the East having lost two teams it was necessary to bring St. Louis from the Midwest to the East, and New Orleans from the West to the East.

Eastern					Midwest					Western				
New York	10	2	.833		Minnesota	11	2	.846		Houston	7	2	.777	0.5
St. Louis	8	5	.615	2.5	Iowa	9	3	.750	1.5	San Fran	11	5	.688	
New Orleans	6	7	.462	4.5	Chicago	8	7	.533	4.0	Dallas	3	11	.214	7.0
New Jersey	6	7	.462	4.5	Milwaukee	3	13	.188	9.5	California	2	10	.167	7.0
Washington	3	7	.300	- Disb	anded									
Philadelphia	2	8	.200	– Dist	anded									

The new year began with the Stars riding a seven-game winning streak, but playing the Midwest leaders on the 1^{st} and 3^{rd} . In what may have been an epic WBL battle between the two highest percentage teams the (11-2 .846) Fillies met the (10-2 .833) Stars. A record of 21-4 and a .840 winning percentage made this a huge game.

The Fillies began the year 10-1 and had just recently lost to a 50-point Liz Silcott explosion as the St. Louis Streak beat the Fillies 93-90. This game on Tuesday the 1st was held in the Felt Forum and a crowd of 574 watched the Stars take a 31-25 1st quarter lead. The Fillies fought back to make it 53-51 at the half, with the Stars leading. A 32-26 3rd quarter expanded the Stars lead to 85-77 and they completed the win with a 114-97 victory.

The leaders were a combination of the old and the new as Althea Gwyn had 27 points and 11 rebounds, while Janice Thomas had 17 points and 11 assists – the old. Pearl Moore's 20 points and Sharon Farrah's 15 – the new – gave the team a balanced attack.

For the losing Fillies, their record dropped to 11-3. Marie Kocurek played 41 minutes and had 33 points and 11 rebounds. Patty Montgomery came through with 23 points, while Donna Wilson added 14.

[&]quot;Come on in sweetie," said Janice Thomas.

[&]quot;What you see is what you'll get," yelled Pearl Moore over the rising laughter.

[&]quot;Which is not much," said Sharon Farrah, as she surrendered Meminger's coat to the cheers of her rowdy teammates.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						4
Craig, Denise	13										0						8
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						15
Gwyn, Althea	31	33	7	10			13	18	3	8	11	1	1	2	1	0	27
Marquis, Gail	6										0						2
Moore, Pearl	12										0						20
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						4
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						11
Thomas, Janice	10										0	11					17
Young, Faye	22	11	2	3			0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	4
Young, Kaye	20	15	1	5			0	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	0	1	2
Adjustment		181								32	32		21				
Totals		240	10	18	0	0	13	18	4	42	46	15	24	2	2	1	114
			FG%	#####			FT%	72.2%	Tea	m Rebs							

Minnesota Fillies																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Booker, Gerry	55	7	0	2			0	0	1	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	0
Burdick, Randi	25	11	2	3			0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	4
DeBoer, Kathy	21										0						8
DeLorme, Scooter	32										0						8
Hawkins, Kathy	13	19	0	3			0	0	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	1	0
Keeley, Marguerite	45	18	2	8			0	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	1	4
Kocurek, Marie	42	41	12	22			9	13	3	8	11	2	5	2	4	0	33
Montgomery, Pat	53										0						23
Timperman, Janet	12										0						3
Wahl-Bye, Susan	24	1	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson, Donna	11										0						14
Adjustment		144								33	33		17				
Totals		241	16	38	0	0	9	13	6	45	51	10	27	5	10	2	97
			FG%	#####			FT%	69.2%	Tea	m Rebs							

There was going to be no rest for the (11-2) Stars as they put their eight-game winning streak on the line against (9-3) Iowa Cornets. The Cornets began the year 6-0, but then lost to the 1-8 Dallas Diamonds on December 13th. So, they were still trying to put together a winning streak.

A crowd of only 309 came out to the Felt Forum to watch the Stars and Cornets battle as the Stars took a 17-11 lead, but the Cornets turned that around with 31-15 outburst and a 41-32 lead behind Mo Eckroth and Rhonda Penquite. But by the half the Stars cut that down to 53-51.

The Stars went up 71-62 before Doris Draving and Connie Kunzmann ignited the team to achieve a 76-76 tie as they entered the 4th quarter. The Cornets then went ahead 88-80 with 7:50 remaining. After a time-out the Stars went on a 15-6 blitz over the next four minutes to take a 95-94 lead. Gail Marquis scored 13 of her 25 points in the fourth quarter to lead the charge. The Cornets could never regain the lead, and the Stars came away with a 109-101 victory. The ninth win in a row made the Stars 12-2, while the Cornets fell to 9-4.

Gail Marquis and Sharon Farrah each had 25 points, while Janice Thomas had 17 points and 15 assists. Althea Gwyn's 18 rebounds and 11 points also helped. The Cornets were led by Molly Bolin's 27 points, while Doris Draving contributed 19 points and 18 rebounds. Connie Kunzmann's 20 points and 10 rebounds also played a big role.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s												
Craig, Denise	13		5				0	0			0						10
Farrah, Sharon	11		8				9	10			0						25
Gwyn, Althea	31		3				5	6		18	18						11
Marquis, Gail	6		11				3	5		12	12						25
Moore, Pearl	12		2				3	4			0						7
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Karen	24		1				1	2			0						3
Tatterson, Gail	33		1				4	6			0						6
Thomas, Janice	10		8				1	1			0	15		2	<< at le	ast	17
Young, Faye	22		1				0	0			0						2
Young, Kaye	20		0				3	4			0						3
Adjustment		240								32	32		21				
Totals		240	40	0	0	0	29	38	0	62	62	15	21	2	0	0	109
			FG%	#####			FT%	76.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bolin, Molly	30		12				3	5			0						27
Davidson, Winsome	20		0				0	0			0						0
Draving, Doris	50		8				3	3		18	18						19
Eckroth, Mo	22		4				0	0			0						8
Green, Anita	12		2				3	3			0						7
Hodgson, Pat	34		2				0	0			0						4
Kunzmann, Connie	44		9				2	2		10	10						20
Penquite, Rhonda	32		3				2	2			0						8
Thomas, Debra K.	40		2				0	0			0						4
Tucker, Robin	10		2				0	0			0						4
Wellen, Nancy	14		0				0	0			0						0
Adjustment		240								14	14		26				
Totals		240	44	0	0	0	13	15	0	42	42	0	26	0	0	0	101
			FG%	#####			FT%	86.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

After the latest game and an attendance figure of only 309 the Stars needed to start reconsidering their move to Madison Square Garden. Newsday explained the financial relationship this way:

The Stars played at Iona College last season, their first. This season's 18 game home schedule consists of four games as the sole attraction in the Garden's main arena, seven games in the Felt Forum and six games as preliminaries to Knicks games.

On game days with the Knicks, the Stars accrue gate receipts from fans arriving before 5:00 PM and their rent is negligible. When theirs is the only game in the Garden, the rent is \$25,000.

Therefore, Stars president Ed Reisdorf was looking toward the Nassau Coliseum as a possible future home for the Stars.

The last of this three-game home stand had another game in the main arena against the (8-5) St. Louis Streak. The Streak were another new team in the WBL and they began the year 0-4. But since then, their record was 8-1. What was the difference – one player. A Canadian named Liz Silcott, whose nickname was "The Wiz" for her flashy style. As of this game against the Stars, Liz was averaging 34.11 and leading the league.

The Stars were about to play their third top notch team in 5 days and the 615 who joined them were not disappointed. The Stars began with a 24-23 lead which became 50-46 at the half. The Stars went ahead 64-52 by the 6:54 mark, when the Streak got their running game going and went on a 20-9 run to close out the guarter only trailing 73-72.

With 5:00 left the Stars trailed by five, when the Streak's 6'4" center Sheila Patterson and 6'1" Tonyus Chavers were sent to the bench with fouls. With a decided height advantage the Stars tied the game with 3:19 left. Liz Silcott, playing with five fouls, had to temper her game and the Streak slowed down their attack. With 54 seconds left the Streak led 100-98, when Silcott turned over the ball and with :44 on the clock Sharon Farrah completed a three-point play. The final seconds produced no points and the Stars came away with a 101-100 victory for their 10th win in a row.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						6
Craig, Denise	13										0						12
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						19
Gwyn, Althea	31									17	17		1	< at lea	st		17
Marquis, Gail	6										0						11
Moore, Pearl	12										0						10
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						2
Smith, Karen	24										0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						8
Thomas, Janice	10										0						8
Young, Faye	22										0						4
Young, Kaye	20										0						4
Adjustment		240	37					27					26				
Totals		240	37	_ 0	0	0	0	27	0	17	17	0	27	0	0	0	101
			FG%	#####			FT%	0.0%	Tea	m Rebs							

St. Louis Streak																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Chavers, Tonyus	6									12	12		4				13
Daniels, Coco	1										0						16
Griffey, Venita	11										0						0
Loyd, Jeanie	10										0						2
Mitchell, Adrian	34									14	14						13
Patterson, Sheila	33										0		4				3
Platte, Ann	23										0						11
Plice, Darla	20										0						8
Silcott, Liz	22										0	10	5		1	<at least<="" td=""><td>34</td></at>	34
Washington, Debbie	31	Name N	Not in Ne	wspape	s												
Adjustment		240	40				20						14				
Totals		240	40	0	0	0	20	0	0	26	26	10	27	0	1	0	100
			FG%	 			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars got 17 points and 17 rebounds from Althea Gwyn, but it was Sharon Farrah's 19 that led the way. The Streak's Liz Silcott, described as the best one-on-one player in the WBL by Dean Meminger, scored 34. Adrian Mitchell came through with 13 points and 14 rebounds. Coco Daniels' 16 was the 2nd high scorer for St. Louis.

The Stars had a week off before their next game, which would be on the road against the St. Louis Streak. The (13-2) Stars and their 10-game winning streak needed just one more win to tie the WBL record of 11 in a row, established last year by the Houston Angels.

An enthusiastic crowd of 3,430 who were following the scoring exploits of Liz Silcott came out to see if the (10-6) Streak could stop the Stars. Yet there was turmoil in the Streak camp as Liz voiced her displeasure with Coach Larry Gilman and asked to be traded. Silcott was also nursing a neck injury as she took the floor against the Stars and their leading scorer, University of Missouri star Sharon Farrah.

Farrah got off to a great start as she scored nine points as the Stars took an early 15-13 lead. But the Streak came back to capture a 30-28 1st quarter lead. The Stars went into the half leading 50-49, despite 15 points from Silcott. The Stars increased their lead to 79-69, before the Streak could cut it back to 81-76. The Stars went on to win, 108-104 for their 11th straight.

Five players scored in double figures with Farrah's 19, Pearl Moore's 19, and Janice Thomas' 18 leading the way. For the (10-7) Streak Liz Silcott had 38, while Adrian Mitchell scored 21.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						8
Craig, Denise	13										0						6
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						19
Gwyn, Althea	31		0 0 0														16
Marquis, Gail	6																14
Moore, Pearl	12		ne not in Newspaper														19
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name r	0														
Smith, Karen	24		me not in Newspaper 0														1
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						0
Thomas, Janice	10										0						18
Young, Faye	22										0						0
Young, Kaye	20										0						7
Adjustment		240	37				34						29				
Totals		240	37	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	108
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

St. Louis Streak																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	TO	BS	Pts
Chavers, Tonyus	6										0						5
Daniels, Coco	1										0						10
Griffey, Venita	11										0						2
Loyd, Jeanie	10										0						4
Mitchell, Adrian	34										0						21
Patterson, Sheila	33										0					5	15
Platte, Ann	23										0						4
Plice, Darla	20										0						5
Silcott, Liz	22										0						38
Travnik, Mary Pat	25	Name r	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Washington, Debbie	31										0						0
Adjustment		240	37				30						33				
Totals		240	37	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	5	104
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars returned from their one game excursion to play the Houston Angels on Monday January 14 in the Felt Forum. The (14-2) Stars and their 11-game winning streak would have a chance to break the record against the team that held the record.

The (8-5) Angels were the opposite of the St. Louis Streak. The Angels began the year 6-0, ended 1979 at 7-2, and had now gone 1-3 for January. The supposed sale of the team for a million dollars back in November never took place and the reverting of the ownership back to original owner Hugh Sweeney caused issues with the team.

The Angels brought their two-game losing streak with them as 1,100 people came out to watch the Stars fall behind 23-21 after one quarter. The Angels increased their lead to 54-43 at the half.

The Stars responded with a powerful 35-21 3rd quarter and a 78-75 lead. The Angels led 95-94 when Pearl Moore made the last of her 32 points with a lay-up in the last six seconds. The final score of 96-95 gave the Stars the record with their 12th win in a row. Their 15-2 record was a powerful testimony to what Dean Meminger had put together.

With Pearl's 32, the Stars had four others with double figures.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35		2				4	7			0						8
Craig, Denise	13	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s												
Farrah, Sharon	11		4				3	3			0						11
Gwyn, Althea	31		0				1	2			0						1
Marquis, Gail	6		8				2	2			0						18
Moore, Pearl	12		11				10	12			0						32
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Karen	24		0				0	0			0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33		4				4	5			0						12
Thomas, Janice	10		6				0	0			0						12
Young, Faye	22		1				0	0			0						2
Young, Kaye	20		0				0	0			0						0
Adjustment		240									54		20				
Totals		240	36	0	0	0	24	31	0	0	54	0	20	0	0	0	96
			FG%	#####			FT%	77.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		0				3	3			0						3
Candler, Belinda	24		13				4	5			0						30
Chapman, Vicky	22		9				2	2			0						20
Durham, Gwen	3		1				1	2			0						3
Johnson, Pat	45		0				0	0			0						0
Jones, Belinda	23		2				0	0			0						4
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		0				1	2			0						1
Mayo, Paula	10		8				12	14			0						28
Washington, Cynthia	15		2				2	2			0						6
Adjustment		240									43		21				
Totals		240	35	0	0	0	25	30	0	0	43	0	21	0	0	0	95
			FG%	######			FT%	83.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Angels were led by their front court trio of Belinda Candler with 30, Paula Mayo with 28, and Vicky Chapman with 20. The Angels (8-6) record and their three-game losing streak was their longest in their history.

Was it possible that the Stars were developing a fan base in New York? After they attracted 1,100 on Monday the 14th, they had 1,200 on Wednesday the 16th making the Felt Forum seem festive. The 16th had the (9-11) Chicago Hustle in town to play the (15-2) Stars.

The Hustle took a slim 31-30 1st quarter lead, which they held onto for a 58-57 half time lead. The Stars came out in the 3rd quarter and took control, just like they did against Houston. This time they created a 10-point lead 92-82. To the delight of the 1,200 fans the Stars put together a 34-15 4th quarter and extended their winning streak to 13 games with a 126-97 victory.

Pearl Moore led the team with 26 points and 10 rebounds and the newest Star, Evelyn Bender, added 20 points on 10 of 11 from the field. Gail Marquis' 13 rebounds complemented her 14 points. For the losing (9-12) Hustle Retha Swindell and Rita Easterling each had 18 points, while the former Iowa Cornet Denise Sharps added 17 points.

		New York Stars																	Team Ga
Орр	Team	Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Chic	N.Y.	Bender, Evelyn	35		10	11			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	20
Chic	N.Y.	Craig, Denise	13		2	8			4	5	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	8
Chic	N.Y.	Farrah, Sharon	11		3	6			4	6	3	3	6	2	1	0	3	0	10
Chic	N.Y.	Gwyn, Althea	31		1	2			0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Chic	N.Y.	Marquis, Gail	6		5	10			4	4	4	9	13	1	1	1	0	1	14
Chic	N.Y.	Moore, Pearl	12		9	15			8	10	3	7	10	7	2	3	5	0	26
Chic	N.Y.	Sanborn, Kathy	32		2	3			4	4	0	1	1	3	4	3	5	0	8
Chic	N.Y.	Smith, Karen	24		3	10			0	0	3	8	11	1	4	2	0	1	6
Chic	N.Y.	Tatterson, Gail	33		5	10			3	3	4	3	7	0	4	1	3	0	13
Chic	N.Y.	Thomas, Janice	10		4	13			3	5	0	1	1	10	5	2	7	0	11
Chic	N.Y.	Young, Faye	22		2	4			0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	3	0	4
Chic	N.Y.	Young, Kaye	20		1	4			2	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	2	0	4
Chic	N.Y.	Adjustment		240															
Chic	N.Y.	Totals		240	47	96	0	0	32	39	19	38	57	25	26	15	31	5	126
					FG%	#####			FT%	82.1%	Tea	m Rebs	11						

Chicago Hustle																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Caldwell, Breena	30		2	6	0	1	2	2	2	0	2	2	1	1	1	0	6
Digitale, Sue	21		3	6			3	5	0	1	1	1	4	0	7	0	9
Easterling, Rita	15		7	17			4	6	2	1	3	6	5	1	5	1	18
Fincher, Janie	10		1	9	0	3	2	2	0	2	2	1	3	1	3	0	4
Galloway, Liz	31		4	10			0	0	2	6	8	5	3	1	3	2	8
Hileman, Vicki	22		1	4			0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2
Rajcula, Jody	24		0	3			2	2	2	0	2	2	1	0	5	0	2
Sharps, Denise	26		7	11			3	4	3	3	6	1	2	1	2	1	17
Swindell, Retha	44		8	16			2	4	3	5	8	0	4	5	2	2	18
Waddy-Rossow, Debra	25		4	17			5	6	3	4	7	0	4	2	4	0	13
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	37	99	0	4	23	31	17	22	39	19	29	12	32	6	97
			FG%	#####			FT%	74.2%	Tea	m Rebs	8						

On the 19th of January the (16-2) Stars paid a visit to Alumni Hall in Chicago to the (9-12) Hustle. A great crowd of 3,873 (the 25th largest WBL crowd) came out to see the Hustle take a 26-24 1st quarter lead. Unfortunately, this time the Stars added a 34-22 2nd quarter which made for a 58-48 half time score. Another 32-20 3rd quarter gave the Stars a comfortable 90-68 lead. The final score of 115-97 made the Stars winning streak reach 14 games and a 17-2 record.

Though no technicals were registered this game was it is possible that Coach Doug Bruno threw a chair during this game? There was a reference to this action in a future article.

The Stars balanced scoring had six players in double figures: Pearl Moore 26, Sharon Farrah 22, and Janice Thomas' 15 with 11 assists led the way. Chicago also had six in double figures led by: Sue Digitale's 19 points along with 15 rebounds, Rita Easterling 14, and Liz Galloway 14.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ame#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	17	3	8			0	0	2	1	3	0	3	0	5	1	6	0.235
Craig, Denise	13	Name N	Not in Nev	wspapers	;													
Farrah, Sharon	11	40	9	20			4	4	3	6	9	6	3	1	1	0	22	1.075
Gwyn, Althea	31	16	5	8			3	6	6	3	9	0	1	0	1	1	13	1.313
Marquis, Gail	6	30	5	11			0	1	1	7	8	0	5	1	3	2	10	0.533
Moore, Pearl	12	33	10	15			6	11	5	5	10	3	2	3	3	0	26	1.273
Sanborn, Kathy	32	18	0	3			2	2	0	1	1	2	3	1	5	0	2	0.167
Smith, Karen	24	25	6	8			0	0	1	2	3	4	2	1	1	0	12	0.920
Tatterson, Gail	33	28	4	7			1	1	3	6	9	0	5	1	4	0	9	0.536
Thomas, Janice	10	33	7	21	0	1	1	2	0	3	3	11	2	2	2	0	15	1.212
Young, Faye	22	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers	;													
Young, Kaye	20	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers	;													
Totals		240	49	101	0	1	17	27	21	34	55	26	26	10	25	4	115	0.863
			FG%	48.5%			FT%	63.0%	Tear	n Rebs	9							

Chicago Hustle																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Caldwell, Breena	30	8	2	7			2	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	6	0.875
Digitale, Sue	21	41	8	14			3	4	5	10	15	1	2	0	2	0	19	0.829
Easterling, Rita	15	35	4	13			6	9	0	0	0	3	2	0	5	0	14	0.429
Fincher, Janie	10	25	5	12	0	1	0	0	2	2	4	7	1	2	3	0	10	1.080
Galloway, Liz	31	29	6	12			2	3	3	1	4	4	3	4	1	0	14	1.000
Hileman, Vicki	22	7	1	2			1	4	0	3	3	2	1	1	3	1	3	1.143
Rajcula, Jody	24	21	6	8			0	1	2	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	12	0.810
Sharps, Denise	26	31	3	12			4	4	1	2	3	1	3	0	1	2	10	0.452
Swindell, Retha	44	28	1	10			2	4	4	3	7	1	6	2	3	3	4	0.429
Tomich, Vonnie	11	2	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1.000
Waddy-Rossow, Debra	25	13	2	9			1	2	2	1	3	0	1	1	2	0	5	0.538
Totals		240	38	99	0	1	21	33	19	23	42	21	22	12	21	6	97	0.717
			FG%	38.4%			FT%	63.6%	Tear	n Rebs	7							

The Stars road trip did not continue west for their scheduled game on the 22nd in San Francisco, instead they traveled east – back to New York. They then left on Tuesday the 21st and got stuck in airports in New York and Chicago before arriving in San Francisco at 3am, Wednesday the 22nd.

The (13-8) Pioneers, who were once 10-3, were hoping that a Disco Night promotion and another match-up with the Stars would attract a good crowd. They were not disappointed, when 2,525 came to the Civic Auditorium and saw the Pioneers take a 29-21 1st quarter lead. They raised this to a 10-point lead before the Stars flipped it around, so they only trailed 51-50 at the half.

The Stars took the lead 71-70 after three quarters and were up by two with 40 seconds remaining, when the Pioneers got a steal. The next basket tied it in the end, 95-95. Just like the beginning of the year in New York, these two teams would go to overtime.

The Stars had a 101-100 lead when Janice Thomas made a strong move to the basket. Kim Hansen established herself and picked up the charge and the chance to make some free throws with :29 on the clock. Whether Kim wanted to win the game or earn the dollar that Coach LaPorte offered to players who would sacrifice their body, we will never know.

With the 2,500 plus fans showing their support, Hansen hit both free throws, making her 10-12 for the game. The Pioneers were up 102-101. The Stars had one last chance with under five seconds when the ball was stolen by Pat Mayo and the Pioneers called time. Coach LaPorte was afraid of a Stars steal and basket. After inbounding the ball, Anita Ortega was fouled and she made both free throws for the 104-101 victory. This ended the 14-game winning streak and gave the Stars three season losses, with two of them compliments of the Pioneers.

Sharon Farrah led the way with 32 points, while Janice Thomas added 18 before she fouled out. Pearl Moore contributed 16 for the Stars. The Pioneers Anita Ortega had 32 points and eight assists, while Pat Mayo added 20 points.

The WBL was too new for conspiracies to develop but a free throw difference of 58 to 26 was hard to ignore. The Pioneers shot a miserable 33% from the field, but made 42 of 58 free throws for 72%. The Stars made 11 more field goals, but made only 17 of 26 free throws. A 25-point difference from the line. Yet there were no comments from either players or Dean Meminger as to a problem with the refereeing.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;												
Craig, Denise	13		2				2	2			0						6
Farrah, Sharon	11		14				4	7			0						32
Gwyn, Althea	31		6				0	3			0						12
Marquis, Gail	6		3				0	0			0		6				6
Moore, Pearl	12		7				2	2			0						16
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;												
Smith, Karen	24	Name N	ot in Ne	wspapers	;												
Tatterson, Gail	33		4				3	5			0						11
Thomas, Janice	10		6				6	7			0		6				18
Young, Faye	22	Name N	Not in Ne	wspapers	;												
Young, Kaye	20	Name I	Not in Ne	wspapers	;												
Adjustment		265											26				
Totals		265	42	0	0	0	17	26	0	0	0	0	38	0	0	0	101
			FG%	#####			FT%	65.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

San Francisco Pioneers																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Booker, Gerry	35		0				1	4			0						1
Brewer, Lisa	9		1				2	2			0						4
Hansen, Barb	42	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Hansen, Kim	32		2				10	12		21	21						14
Martin, Pam	12	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Mayo, Pat	13		6				8	11			0			1	<< at le	ast	20
McKinney, Musiette	33		6				7	13			0						19
Ortega, Anita	11		10				12	14			0	8	4	<< at le	ast		32
Ricketts, Debbie	8		2				2	2			0		6				6
Ternyik, Jan	22		4				0	0			0						8
Adjustment		265		93									15				
Totals		265	31	93	0	0	42	58	0	21	21	8	25	1	0	0	104
			FG%	33.3%			FT%	72.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

The (17-3) Stars returned home before they had another game in New Jersey on January 26th. The Saturday game at Jadwin Gym on the campus of Morris Community College was a sell-out of 2,317 according to Newsday. This was the Gems' first game this year outside of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

The (10-11) Gems had Ann Meyers leading the way, as she was 5th in scoring at 23.3 and 7th in rebounding at 10.3. Yet the Gems were very much a .500 team. From the beginning of the year they would win one and lose one. Their longest winning streak was two games and their longest losing streak was two games. And these would usually follow each other, if they won two in a row, they would then lose two in a row.

The Gems took a 28-25 first quarter lead, but by halftime the score was tied at 50. Ann Meyers had 12 at halftime. At the end of three quarters, the score was unknown. But with 27 seconds left and the Stars leading 91-89 Meyers hit two free throws to send the game to overtime. The Stars were about to play their 2nd overtime game in a row, and lose their 2nd overtime game in a row. As the Gems came through with a 101-98 victory. For the Stars Sharon Farrah had 22, while Janice Thomas had at least eight points, all scored in the first half. The other 68 points are lost too history.



The Gems were led by Ann Meyers 33 points, and their 68 points were also unknown. The Stars had their first two-game losing streak and a 17-4 record. The Gems were now on a two-game winning streak and 11-11 for the year.

Before the January 30th All-Star game in Chicago the standings and leaders of the WBL looked like this:

Eastern					Midwest					Western				
New York	17	4	.810		Iowa	15	5	.750		San Fran	14	9	.609	
St. Louis	12	8	.600	4.5	Minnesota	14	6	.700	1.0	Houston	8	9	.471	3.0
New Orleans	12	10	.545	5.5	Chicago	10	13	.435	6.5	California	6	13	.316	6.5
New Jersey	11	11	.500	6.5	Milwaukee	5	17	.277	11.0	Dallas	6	15	.286	7.0
Washington	3	7	.300	- Disb	anded									
Philadelphia	2	8	.200	- Disl	oanded									
Scorina						Re	bou	nds						

<u>Scoring</u>				<u>Rebounds</u>
Silcott St.L	15	503	33.5	Abernathy, Dal 18 268 14.9
Bolin, Iowa	19	616	32.4	Draving, Iowa 19 262 13.8
Abernathy, Dal	18	496	27.6	K.Hansen, SF 20 230 11.5
Ortega, SF	20	512	25.6	Mayo, Hous 15 165 11.0
Meyers, NJ	19	444	23.3	Gwyn, NY 19 208 10.9
Montgomery, Min	18	388	21.6	Comerie, NJ 16 169 10.7
Kocurek, Min	18	384	21.3	Meyers, NJ 19 195 10.3
Hicks, SF	8	160	20.0	Dunkle, Cal 16 159 9.9
Geils, NJ	20	378	18.9	
Chapman, Mil	21	391	18.6	
FIELD GOAL %				FREE THROW %
Hardy, NO	118	205	.576	Thomas, NY 69 85 .812
Draving, Iowa	105	185	.568	Farrah, NY 63 79 .797
Forest, NO	136	246	.553	Smith, Mil 55 69 .797
Patterson, St.L	63	115	.548	Matthews, Cal 82 103 .796
Abernathy, Dal	187	348	.537	Montgomery, Min 96 121 .793
Gwyn, NY	83	156	.532	Kocurek, Min 90 114 .789

Marquis, NY	122	233	.524	Bolin, Iowa	108	137	.788
Kocurek, Min	147	281	.523	Wilson, Min	52	66	.788

As noted above, the WBL had an All-Star game on Wednesday January 30th in Chicago at Alumni Hall.

The West squad, coached by Iowa's Steve Kirk defeated the East squad, coached by the Stars' Dean Meminger, 115-112. The East took a 30-25 1^{st} quarter lead, which they held onto for a 57-56 halftime advantage. The West jumped ahead after three quarters, 89-83 and came through with their 115-112 victory.

				Western	Division	All-St	ars								
				Coach: St	eve Kirk	Iowa Co	rnets	15 - 5							
<u>Team</u>	<u>Name</u>	Pos.	Min	2 FGM	2FGA	FTM	FTA	OF RB	DF RB	TOT RB	Ast	PF	St	BS	<u>Pts</u>
California Dreams	Cook, Jane Ellen	G		2	3	4	5			0		0			8
California Dreams	Dunkle, Nancy	С		1	2	0	0			0		3			2
Dallas Diamonds	Shoemaker, Cathy	F		0	2	0	0			0		2			0
Dallas Diamonds	Abernathy, Alfredda	С		8	16	6	9			0		3			22
Houston Angels	Mayo, Paula	F		3	7	4	4			0		1			10
Houston Angels	Candler, Belinda	F		1	1	0	0			0		2			2
Iowa Cornets	Bolin, Molly	G		11	28	3	6			0		4			25
Iowa Cornets	Draving, Doris	С		1	4	2	2			0		4			4
Minnesota Fillies	Montgomery, Pat	С		4	5	0	0			0		0			8
Minnesota Fillies	Kocurek, Marie	F		3	7	6	8			0		6			12
San Francisco Pione	e Ortega, Anita	G		3	8	7	10			0		2			13
San Francisco Pion	e∈Mayo, Pat	F		3	5	3	6			0		4			9
	Adjustments		240						53						
			240	40	88	35	50	0	53	53	0	31	0	0	115

				Eastern	Division	All-Sta	ırs								
				Coach: De	an Memin	ger No	w York	Stars 1	7 - 4						
<u>Team</u>	Name	Pos.	Min	2 FGM	2FGA	FTM	FTA	OF RB	DF RB	TOT RB	Ast	PF	St	BS	Pts
Chicago Hustle	Easterling, Rita	G	24	1	3	1	2			0	6	3			3
Chicago Hustle	Waddy-Rossow, Debra	F		3	9	1	2			0		4			7
Milwaukee Does	McWhorter, Charlene	F	24	12	17	7	8		6	6	1	6	3	3	31
Milwaukee Does	Nestor, Heidi	С		7	15	3	5			0		2			17
New Jersey Gems	Meyers, Ann	F		7	15	1	2		7	7	6	5	5		15
New Jersey Gems	Geils, Donna	G		1	7	7	9			0		1			9
New Orleans Pride	Smallwood, Sandra	G		0	1	0	0			0		3			0
New Orleans Pride	Forest, Augusta	F		0	3	5	6			0		1			5
New York Stars	Thomas, Janice	G		3	15	2	2			0		3			8
New York Stars	Gwyn, Althea	С		1	3	0	0			0		0			2
St. Louis Streak	Silcott, Liz	G		4	8	3	4			0		0			11
St. Louis Streak	Mitchell, Adrian	F		0	0	4	4			0		0			4
	Adjustment		192						33			3			
			240	39	96	34	44	0	46	46	13	31	8	3	112

For the second year in a row the game's Most Valuable Player was on the losing team. Charlene McWhorter, the ex-Washington Metro, who was the first player chosen in the dispersal draft and now a member of the Milwaukee Does, had 31 points.

The Stars were represented by Janice Thomas, who had eight points, and Althea Gwyn who had two points. I believe this was a time to question how players were selected to go to the All-Star game. While I do not fault the Janice Thomas selection, it was hard to believe that Sharon Farrah, Pearl Moore, or Gail Marquis were not chosen before Althea Gwyn.

While others were at the All-Star game or taking a break Pearl Moore went to Nassau Coliseum on January 31st to be a part of the Greater New York Car Show. Pearl was attempting to set a Guiness' World Record for Free Throw Shooting. The plan was to have her shoot free throws for FIVE hours, but she was afraid she'd be tired for the next Stars game. So, she only shot for FOUR hours. She made 1,022 of 1,191 an 85.8%. Her longest streak was 33 in a row. She was questioned about the league's stability, and she said she was looking forward to next year when players like Carol Blazejowski and Nancy Lieberman would be joining the league.

It was with great irony to see that after people wondered about the stability of the league the New York newspapers had no available information for the next two weeks and four games.

The Stars began the 2nd half of the season with a two-game losing streak, and with the All-Star loss Dean Meminger was nursing a personal three game losing streak. Therefore, to get the Stars back on track the (6-15) Dallas Diamonds would be the perfect sacrificial lambs for a Felt Forum appearance on Friday February 1st. The Stars jumped out to a 35-27 lead, which became 64-53 at the half. The second half was almost a duplicate of the first half with a 63-49 Stars dominance. The 127-102 final score gave the Stars an 18-4 record. For some reason All-Star Althea Gwyn's name did not appear in the box score.

When the Stars had overwhelming leads, Coach Meminger did a great job of spreading out his minutes so that all his players were prepared for the future. Pearl Moore's 19 points in 29 minutes led both categories. Sharon Farrah's 18 points in 28 minutes was also tops. Gail Marquis had 19 points and four others scored in double figures.

Alfredda Abernathy's 28 points were complemented by Carolyn Bush-Roddy's 18 points and 14 rebounds.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ame#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	11	2	4			0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	4	0.182
Craig, Denise	13	17	6	11			2	2	1	5	6	0	5	1	2	0	14	1.118
Farrah, Sharon	11	28	7	10			4	7	1	3	4	6	5	3	5	0	18	1.143
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name N	Not in Nev	wspapers														
Marquis, Gail	6	24	9	14			1	3	3	5	8	0	4	2	1	0	19	1.167
Moore, Pearl	12	29	5	10			9	10	2	3	5	5	3	6	7	0	19	1.138
Sanborn, Kathy	32	19	0	3			3	6	0	0	0	1	0	3	6	0	3	0.105
Smith, Karen	24	25	5	10			6	9	1	4	5	1	3	2	1	1	16	0.960
Tatterson, Gail	33	23	4	6			4	5	3	3	6	0	3	0	2	0	12	0.696
Thomas, Janice	10	27	6	11	0	1	0	0	1	2	3	7	3	5	4	0	12	1.111
Young, Faye	22	20	3	10	0	1	0	0	0	5	5	3	4	1	2	0	6	0.800
Young, Kaye	20	17	1	3			2	2	0	4	4	1	2	2	0	0	4	0.706
Totals		240	48	92	0	2	31	44	12	34	46	24	34	26	33	1	127	0.892
			FG%	52.2%			FT%	70.5%	Tear	n Rebs	8							

Dallas Diamonds																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Abernathy, Alfredda	34	33	10	23			8	12	7	2	9	1	5	1	2	0	28	1.152
Baker, Janice	12	16	2	5			2	4	0	1	1	1	4	3	3	0	6	0.563
Bruton, Cindy	20	16	2	4			4	8	3	2	5	0	2	4	2	0	8	0.938
Bush-Roddy, Carolyn	40	37	7	12			4	4	5	9	14	3	4	2	1	2	18	1.054
Cooper, Sheena	11	2	0	2			0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	4	0	0	-1.000
Earnhardt, Christy	42	41	5	8			4	4	1	3	4	2	5	2	8	0	14	0.390
French, Joanie	30	26	2	4			0	2	1	3	4	2	0	0	7	0	4	0.192
John, Jeriann	44	25	3	10			4	4	0	6	6	2	3	2	7	1	10	0.600
Shoemaker, Cathy	24	31	2	13			6	12	1	0	1	4	3	1	6	0	10	0.452
Stewart, Debbie	33	13	2	5			0	0	1	2	3	0	3	1	1	1	4	0.538
Totals		240	35	86	0	0	32	50	20	29	49	15	30	16	41	4	102	0.650
			FG%	40.7%			FT%	64.0%	Tear	n Rebs	5							

After the game the Diamonds had a game in New Jersey on February 3^{rd} . The Stars next game was going to be down in Dallas on Tuesday February 5^{th} . The (18-4) Stars met the (6-17) Diamonds at the Dallas Convention Center where 550 fans came to watch.

The Diamonds, having put up only 85 in their 97-85 defeat in New Jersey came through with 32 and the Stars added 29 in the $1^{\rm st}$ quarter. Dallas added to their lead and took their 58-54 score into halftime. The 550 attending were surprised when the Stars didn't come out and take over in the $3^{\rm rd}$ quarter as they had with other teams. Instead, the Diamonds held the Stars to 21 points while adding 24 more for a reasonable 82-75 lead. Yet a seven-point lead should have been easy to overcome, except the Diamonds completed their shocking win with a 33-25 fourth quarter and a 115-100 victory. This 15-point loss would be the worst defeat for the Stars all season.

With althea Gwyn out of the line up again, Gail Tatterson picked up the slack with 32 points in only 30 minutes. Pearl Moore added 16, while Sharon Farrah had 15. For the (7-17) Diamonds Alfredda Abernathy had 30 points and 18 rebounds. Carolyn Bush-Roddy had another solid game with 27 points and 12 rebounds. Cathy Shoemaker's 21 and Christy Earnhardt's 20 gave the team a rare four players with 20 points game.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers														
Craig, Denise	13	28	2	7			0	0	0	5	5	0	5	5	6	1	4	0.286
Farrah, Sharon	11	42	6	19			3	4	0	1	1	5	4	4	1	0	15	0.690
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name N	lot in Nev	wspapers														
Marquis, Gail	6	31	4	8			2	2	5	7	12	1	5	2	4	1	10	0.710
Moore, Pearl	12	33	8	19			0	0	6	4	10	4	5	0	0	0	16	1.030
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name N	lot in Nev	wspapers														
Smith, Karen	24	13	3	6			0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6	0.538
Tatterson, Gail	33	30	11	20			10	18	5	3	8	0	4	2	4	0	32	1.267
Thomas, Janice	10	36	3	15			1	2	3	0	3	9	3	7	5	0	7	0.833
Young, Faye	22	11	0	2			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0.091
Young, Kaye	20	16	3	7			4	6	1	0	1	2	3	0	0	0	10	0.938
Totals		240	40	103	0	0	20	32	20	21	41	21	30	22	21	2	100	0.767
			FG%	38.8%			FT%	62.5%	Tear	n Rebs	10							

Dallas Diamonds																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	<u>3-M</u>	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Abernathy, Alfredda	34	42	11	18			8	13	3	15	18	0	5	3	1	0	30	1.190
Baker, Janice	12	10	0	2			2	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0.200
Bruton, Cindy	20	14	2	4			3	4	2	1	3	0	5	1	2	0	7	0.643
Bush-Roddy, Carolyn	40	39	11	15			5	5	5	7	12	0	5	0	2	1	27	0.949
Cooper, Sheena	11	1	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Earnhardt, Christy	42	36	9	16			2	5	1	3	4	0	2	1	2	0	20	0.639
French, Joanie	22	14	0	0			0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	0	0.071
John, Jeriann	44	34	3	10			0	0	0	3	3	5	4	1	3	0	6	0.500
Shoemaker, Cathy	24	40	7	12			7	12	2	5	7	0	5	2	7	0	21	0.575
Stewart, Debbie	33	10	1	1			0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	1	0	2	0.600
Totals		240	44	78	0	0	27	43	13	40	53	6	26	9	21	1	115	0.700
			FG%	56.4%			FT%	62.8%	Tear	m Rebs	15							

The second game of this four-game road trip was the next day and it brought the (18-5) Stars down to Houston and Autry Court on the campus of Rice University. The (11-9) Angels who began the year 6-0, fell to 8-9, and were now supporting a three-game winning streak opened the doors for 346 people.

The Stars fell behind 33-26, but their defensive pressure against the Houston guards made it difficult to get the ball up the floor. When they did the Angel big people chose this game "to miss enough layups to win five games" per Houston coach, Don Knodel. This was evidenced by Paula Mayo's 3 of 19 from the field. The Stars' 29-14 second quarter made the score 55-47 at halftime. The Stars expanded that lead to 86-77. In the fourth quarter the Stars led 105-101 with :39 seconds left, but Belinda Jones made a jumper and free throw to make the score 105-104.

The Stars' Kaye Young walked in for an unguarded layup with :23, 107-104 New York. A stolen inbounds pass killed any chance for the Angels as they fouled and two free throws later the 109-104 pretty much ended the game. The final score was 111-106 and the Stars improved to 19-5.

Janice Thomas & Pearl Moore had 20 points each, while Sharon Farrah and Gail Marquis had 17 each. The Angels Belinda Jones came through with 26, while Vicky Chapman had 18, with 10 being in the 4th quarter. Four others scored in double figures for the (11-10) Angels.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s												
Craig, Denise	13		3				4	5			0		6				10
Farrah, Sharon	11		7				3	4			0		6				17
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s						0						0
Marquis, Gail	6		7				3	4			0						17
Moore, Pearl	12		7				6	6			0			1	<< at le	ast	20
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	s						0						0
Smith, Karen	24		2				0	0			0						4
Tatterson, Gail	33		2				4	4			0		6				8
Thomas, Janice	10		7				6	6			0						20
Young, Faye	22		3				1	2			0						7
Young, Kaye	20		3				2	2			0						8
Adjustment		240		85									18				
Totals		240	41	85	0	0	29	33	0	0	0	0	36	1	0	0	111
			FG%	48.2%			FT%	87.9%	Tea	m Rebs							

Houston Angels																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Auhlenbacher, Karen	11		3				2	2			0		1	<< at le	ast		8
Candler, Belinda	24		2	8			5	9			0						9
Chapman, Vicky	22		6				6	7			0						18
Durham, Gwen	3		0				0	0			0						0
Johnson, Pat	45		5				2	2			0						12
Jones, Belinda	23		10				6	8			0						26
Kenlaw, Jessie	40		4				2	4			0						10
Mayo, Paula	10		3	19			5	6			0						11
Washington, Cynthia	15		4				4	5			0						12
Adjustment		240		58									32				
Totals		240	37	85	0	0	32	43	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	106
			FG%	43.5%			FT%	74.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

The third game on Saturday February 9th was up in the Milwaukee Arena against the (5-17) Milwaukee Does. The fans of the Does, who were coached by Larry Costello a former NBA coach of the year, were waiting to see how long Costello would last. His 5-17 record was actually worse than last year's 6-16 record.

For the Does it has been 16 days since their last game – January 24 to February 9. So, this team "in turmoil" would either be very rested or very rusty. With falling behind 32-21 in the first quarter, it would seem the answer was rust. The Stars already had a 48-point victory over the Does, so an 11-point first quarter lead over a rusty team should have been an omen. A 31-26 2nd quarter gave the Stars a strong 63-47 halftime lead.

Yet whatever was said in the Does locker room sure made a difference. The Does came out and put a 39-16 3rd quarter on the Stars, taking an 86-79 lead. The Does increased this lead by five more for a 117-105 victory. The (19-6) Stars were now 2-4 since they hit their peak during their 14-game winning streak.

Gail Tatterson again led the team with 23 points, while Sharon Farrah added 20 and Gail Marquis had 18.

The (6-17) Does had three players with 22 points each: Brenda Chapman, Denise Griffith, and Charlene McWhorter. Three other Does had double figures in what would be Coach Larry Costello's last game. There was nothing more gut-wrenching than winning a big game against the best team and then being fired. The assistant coach, Julia Yeater, was, again, given the head coaching job.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35		3				0	0			0						6
Craig, Denise	13		4				1	2			0						9
Farrah, Sharon	11		9				2	2			0						20
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	rs						0						0
Marquis, Gail	6		6				6	8			0						18
Moore, Pearl	12		3				7	14			0						13
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	rs						0						0
Smith, Karen	24		0				1	2			0						1
Tatterson, Gail	33		9				5	13			0						23
Thomas, Janice	10		5				3	4			0						13
Young, Faye	22										0						0
Young, Kaye	20		1				0	0			0						2
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	40	0	0	0	25	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105
			FG%	#####			FT%	55.6%	Tea	m Rebs							

Milwaukee Does																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Chapman, Brenda	15		9				4	5			0						22
Ellis, Cindy	25	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper	-						0						0
Gamble, Carolyn	8		5				2	4			0						12
Greene, Vivian	10		1				0	0			0						2
Griffith, Denise	6		10				2	4			0						22
Kennedy, Peggy	44		0				0	0			0						0
McWhorter, Charlene	24		9				4	5			0						22
Morales, Diane	22		2				2	2			0						6
Nestor, Heidi	28		6				1	1			0						13
Prevost, Deb	32		0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Joanie	1		1				0	0			0						2
White, Ethel	30		3				10	14			0						16
Adjustment		240															
Totals		240	46	0	0	0	25	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	117
			FG%	#####			FT%	71.4%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars returned to the New York area to wait for their next game against the Gems on Monday February 11th. This would be the fourth game in a row away from Madison Square Garden, but hardly an extension of the past road trip.

With the demise of the Washington & Philadelphia franchises it was necessary to create schedules that didn't create extensive travel plans for the teams. Therefore, in the last 10 games of the Stars' season they would play the Gems five times. This was on top of the two meetings they already had this season.

This game was back at the Dunn Sports Complex in Elizabeth, N.J. Gems' owner Bob Milo stated that the Gems' future would be in the Meadowlands Complex, when it was finally built. Until then his desire was to be playing all the Gems games at the Jadwin Gym at Morris Community College. Their support had been great and the atmosphere was electric. Yet contracts and obligations had them playing back in Elizabeth.

A decent crowd of 1,040 came out to watch the (13-11) Gems, who had finally put together a four-game winning streak, as they took a 50-46 halftime lead over the (19-6) Stars.

The Stars took control with a 29-18 third quarter with Sharon Farrah scoring 10 of those points, which gave them a 75-68 lead. The Stars came through with a 103-96 victory and their 20th win of the season. The Gems continued their .500 dance as they fell to 13-12.

As usual with women's basketball information from the Metropolitan area – there was almost nothing. The Stars were led by Sharon Farrah's 24 points and 79 points divided amongst the other players. The Gems had three players scoring points: Ann Meyers with 30 points and 11 rebounds, Donna Geils with 24, and Willodean Harris with 20 points. The other 22 points were spread among any others who played.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Craig, Denise	13										0						0
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						24
Gwyn, Althea	31										0						0
Marquis, Gail	6										0						0
Moore, Pearl	12										0						0
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						0
Thomas, Janice	10										0						0
Young, Faye	22										0						0
Young, Kaye	20										0						0
Adjustment		240															79
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	20										0						0
Browning, Pam	22										0						0
Burdick, Denise	35										0						0
Geils, Donna	4										0						24
Greer, Drema	7										0						0
Harris, Willodean	5										0						20
Hastings, Martha	24										0						0
Meyers, Ann	14									11	11						30
Simms, Donna	19										0						0
Szeremeta, Wanda	23										0						0
Adjustment		240															22
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	11	0	0	0	0	0	96
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

On February 15th the (21-5) Stars and (13-12) Gems met again just four days later in the Felt Forum in front of 1,292 fans on Friday February 15.

The fans who paid for 48 minutes of regular season play received 58 minutes of exciting high scoring action. The Gems went into the game seeking revenge for their last loss. The Stars just wanted to build on their modest one game winning streak.

In a game that had eight players foul out and 93 fouls called the score after the:

1st quarter - unknown

2nd quarter – unknown

3rd quarter – unknown

4th quarter – unknown

1st overtime – unknown

FINAL SCORE: New York Stars 140 New Jersey Gems 129. Janice Thomas had 33 points and 11 steals, while New Jersey did not have one player who scored enough to make it into a newspaper clipping.

The next day the Stars traded their two most marketable players, Faye & Kaye Young to the New Jersey Gems. Faye (the non-All Star) was for a 3rd round draft pick and Kaye (the All-Star) was for a 5th round draft pick. With the overload of talent on the Stars the twins were expendable, plus their stats were down. Faye went from 7.9 points and 4.6 rebounds to 4.1 points and 1.4 rebounds. Kaye went down from 12.4 points and 4.8 rebounds to 5.6 points and 2.1 rebounds.

A week later the Stars went on a two-game Midwest trip to Iowa & Minnesota. Just like last time (17-10) Cornets and (17-7) Fillies were in a battle for first place in their division. On Thursday February 21st the Stars invaded the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines, Iowa.

There was no indication of bad weather that day so a crowd of only 1,601 for two teams of this quality was a disappointment and Iowa's worst of the year. But then again maybe the Iowa faithful forgot they had a team, because they had been sent away for 35 days (January 13 thru February 17). During this time away from home the 13-4 Cornets fell to 16-10. They finally righted the ship with a 90-80 victory over the St. Louis Streak just four days earlier.

The Cornets took a 29-24 first quarter lead, which they increased to 66-53 at the half. The Cornets had a 99-80 lead with 2:21 left in the quarter, when the Stars put on a 9-3 ending to make the score 102-89, Cornets. The Stars comeback was slowed down when the WBL's 2nd leading scorer, Molly Bolin scored 10 straight points. But the Stars kept coming as they got to 123-121 with 1:12 left, then it was 127-125 with :32 left in the game. The last four free throws by Iowa made the final score 131-125

Pearl Moore's 30 and Sharon Farrah's 27 and Janice Thomas' 24 led the Stars in scoring. For what seemed to be the 7th game in a row, Althea Gwyn was out. The Iowa Cornets unleashed their scoring machine, Molly Bolin, as she took 42 shots to score 41 points. The 42 shots were a regular season record, only topped by Gail Tatterson's 44 which was the overtime record.

Five other Cornets also scored in double figures: Pat Hodgson 21, Charlotte Lewis 17, Connie Kunzmann 15 (plus 10 rebounds), Doris Draving 14 (plus 12 rebounds), and Robin Tucker 12 points.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35		1				0	0			0						2
Craig, Denise	13		2				2	2			0						6
Farrah, Sharon	11		12				3	4			0						27
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name r	ot in Nev	wspaper													
Marquis, Gail	6		5				4	6			0						14
Moore, Pearl	12		12				6	7			0						30
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Karen	24		1				1	2			0						3
Tatterson, Gail	33		8	9			3	6			0						19
Thomas, Janice	10		10				4	4			0						24
Adjustment		240								57	57		31				
Totals		240	51	9	0	0	23	31	0	57	57	0	31	0	0	0	125
			FG%	######			FT%	74.2%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	TO	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bolin, Molly	30		17	42			7	7			0						41
Chavers, Tonyus	20	3	1				1	2			0						3
Draving, Doris	50		6				2	4		12	12		6				14
Eckroth, Mo	22	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Green, Anita	12		1				1	2			0						3
Hodgson, Pat	34		8				5	7			0						21
Kunzmann, Connie	44		4				7	10		10	10						15
Lewis, Charlotte	52	29	6				5	8		6	6						17
Penquite, Rhonda	32	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Thomas, Debra K.	40		2				1	2			0						5
Tucker, Robin	10		4				4	4			0						12
Adjustment		208		60						28	28		17				
Totals		240	49	102	0	0	33	46	0	56	56	0	23	0	0	0	131
			FG%	48.0%			FT%	71.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

The (21-7) Stars were now a mediocre 4-5 in their last nine games. Which was in contrast to the boast they made to a Chicago newspaper on January 19th when they thought they'd go undefeated the rest of the season. In theory the Fillies who had four games in hand could also reach 21-7, which made the next road game for the Stars important.

On Friday February 22 the (21-7) Stars quickly took away the possibility of the (17-7) Fillies catching them as they met at the Metropolitan Sports Center. Only 986 came out to see these division leaders battle. The Stars took a 27-19 lead which they elevated to 55-41. But the resilient Fillies came back with a 26-15 3rd quarter to cut the lead to 70-67. The two teams ended up in a 94-94 tie, so the Stars were about to play their 6th overtime game this season. Their 2-3 overtime record evened out as they outscored the Fillies 12-9 for a 106-103 victory.

Sharon Farrah, the player who was challenged by Dean Meminger earlier in the year, led the team for the 12th time with 31 points. Gail Marquis added 23 points, while Pearl Moore had 19. The (17-8) Fillies, who were now 3 games behind the Stars for best record, were led by Patty Montgomery's 28, and former New York Star Debbie Mason's 21 points.

New York Stars																	Team G
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						6
Craig, Denise	13										0						2
Farrah, Sharon	11						3	3	<at leas<="" td=""><td>st</td><td>0</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>31</td></at>	st	0						31
Gwyn, Althea	31	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Marquis, Gail	6										0						23
Moore, Pearl	12										0						19
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						3
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						10
Thomas, Janice	10										0						12
Adjustment		265											20				
Totals		265	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	106
			FG%	#####			FT%	100.0%	Tea	m Rebs							
Minnesota Fillies																	Team G
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
DeBoer, Kathy	21										0		6				16
DeLorme, Scooter	32										0						0
Kocurek, Marie	42	Name n	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Mason, Debbie	13	44	8	12			5	7	1	1	2	3	4	0	8	0	21
Montgomery, Pat	53										0						28
Owens, Katrina	33	45	5	14			1	2		20	28	2	2	1	2	1	11
Sharps, Denise	10	6	0	1			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Timperman, Janet	12										0						8
Wilson, Donna	11										0						19
Adjustment		170											10				
Totals		265	13	27	0	0	6	9	9	21	30	5	23	1	10	1	103
			FG%	#####			FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

The Stars returned home to play a game on Saturday February 23rd. The game against the (14-13) New Jersey Gems took place in Madison Square Garden. A crowd of 8,293 (the 2nd largest in WBL history) saw the Stars and Gems battle. The New York Knicks drew a crowd of 9,977 that evening, so this was probably the front end of a doubleheader.

The Stars had a 66-45 half time lead after a 15-2 scoring spree at the end of the quarter. The game concluded with a 122-98 Stars victory. Gail Marquis led the way with 28 points, while Denise Craig contributed 23 and Pearl Moore had 22 points. The Gems were led by Donna Geils 21 points and Willodean Harris' 13 rebounds. Ann Meyers was held to just 10 points.

The Stars improved to 23-7, while the Gems stayed at .500 with a 14-14 record. Yet with all the positive energy on the East Coast the West Coast saw another WBL team fold. The California Dreams informed the Minnesota Fillies to not come out for their game, because they were shutting down with an 11-17 record.

Of course, another missing team meant the league had to re-adjust their schedule – again! This led to an over emphasis of games with a team geographically close to you.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						0
Craig, Denise	13										0						23
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31										0						0
Marquis, Gail	6										0						28
Moore, Pearl	12										0						22
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						0
Thomas, Janice	10										0						0
Adjustment		240															49
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

New Jersey Gems																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	20										0						0
Browning, Pam	22										0						0
Burdick, Denise	35										0						0
Geils, Donna	4										0						21
Greer, Drema	7										0						0
Harris, Willodean	5									13	13						0
Hastings, Martha	24										0						0
Meyers, Ann	14										0						10
Simms, Donna	19										0						0
Szeremeta, Wanda	23										0						0
Adjustment		240															67
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	98
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The month of March began with the (7-25) Dallas Diamonds coming to town with their eight-game losing streak. In fact, their last win on February 5th was the 115-100 victory over the Stars.

The (23-7) Stars wanted to prove that the last loss in Dallas was a fluke as the two teams were about to play in front of 2,322 fans on Madison Square Garden's main floor. Part of the crowd was there to honor two slain police officers as this was a fund raiser that raised about \$1,700 for the families.

The Stars jumped out to a 25-18 1st quarter lead, which grew to 52-39 at the half with Pearl Moore scoring 15 of those points. The second half was a complete destruction as the Stars added 38 points to the Diamonds 23 for a 90-62 3rd quarter score. It was the 45-30 4th quarter that completed the job the Stars' set out to do. The 135-92 victory wasn't as large as the 115-67 victory over the Does in December, but it was still quite satisfying.

This was the first documented game that we saw that Althea Gwyn was on the floor as she had 15 points in 18 minutes. While Pearl Moore's 25 led the team, it was Janice Thomas hitting 10 of 11 from the field for 21 points that was quite impressive. Four other Stars also had double figures in the game that clinched the Eastern Division title for them.

Dallas' Alfredda Abernathy led the team with 27 points and 13 rebounds, while Jeriann John and Cindy Bruton had 15 points each. The Diamonds left New York with a 7-26 record, and a nine-game losing streak that would become 11 by the season's end. The only good news for Dallas was their 7-28 record earned them the $1^{\rm st}$ pick in the next draft – if the WBL didn't add any more teams or make any deals to other teams.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	me#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	19	4	11			0	2	1	4	5	0	4	1	4	0	8	0.526
Craig, Denise	13	27	5	14			2	4	1	6	7	3	4	5	3	0	12	1.000
Farrah, Sharon	11	30	8	14			3	4	1	2	3	3	2	2	1	0	19	0.967
Gwyn, Althea	31	18	4	8			7	12	5	4	9	0	2	2	6	1	15	1.111
Marquis, Gail	6	29	4	8			2	4	2	4	6	0	4	3	5	1	10	0.483
Moore, Pearl	12	32	10	17			5	5	6	0	6	3	1	8	4	0	25	1.281
Sanborn, Kathy	32	14	2	4			3	4	0	2	2	1	3	0	2	0	7	0.643
Smith, Karen	24	17	2	5			2	2	1	3	4	1	1	1	0	0	6	0.765
Tatterson, Gail	33	24	4	4			4	4	3	4	7	0	4	3	1	0	12	0.875
Thomas, Janice	10	30	10	11			1	1	0	1	1	10	2	3	3	0	21	1.400
Totals		240	53	96	0	0	29	42	20	30	50	21	27	28	29	2	135	0.942
			FG%	55.2%			FT%	69.0%	Tea	n Rebs	6							

Dallas Diamonds																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	<u>FGM</u>	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	<u>DFR</u>	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Abernathy, Alfredda	34	43	10	20			7	12	3	10	13	2	2	1	1	1	27	1.023
Baker, Janice	12	13	1	4			3	4	0	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	5	0.231
Bruton, Cindy	20	26	5	9			5	7	3	4	7	1	4	1	4	1	15	0.808
Bush-Roddy, Carolyn	40	32	1	6			2	2	0	2	2	2	3	1	1	0	4	0.313
Earnhardt, Christy	42	31	2	10			6	6	1	2	3	2	1	1	8	0	10	0.323
Goodwin, Valerie	22	29	4	8	0	1	0	0	3	3	6	1	2	2	6	0	8	0.414
John, Jeriann	44	39	7	15			1	2	0	2	2	5	4	0	7	0	15	0.513
Shoemaker, Cathy	24	14	2	6			2	6	0	0	0	0	4	3	8	0	6	0.071
Stewart, Debbie	33	13	1	6			0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	2	0.231
Totals		240	33	84	0	1	26	39	11	23	34	13	26	11	39	2	92	0.517
			FG%	39.3%			FT%	66.7%	Tear	n Rebs	6							

Two days later the (24-7) Stars would host the (15-15) St. Louis Streak. Yet this was not the same Streak team that twice took the Stars to close finishes, 101-100 and 108-104 in January. That team was a threat when it was led by Liz Silcott. When the Streak traded Silcott to San Francisco they began a slide that would end up with them going on a 11-game losing streak to end the year. The Streak with Liz was 14-5, without Liz 1-16.

The Monday March 3rd game was played in the Felt Forum and a good crowd of 1,292 came to watch the Stars take a 33-20 first quarter lead. The Streak cut off two points in the 2nd quarter to make it 53-42 at the half. The Stars then put together two quarters of 36-27 and 32-24 for a 121-93 victory.

With teams playing an unbalanced schedule one thing was for certain, the Stars had locked up home court advantage all through the playoffs.

The Stars had five players with double figures with Denise Craig's 32 on top, Sharon Farrah's 26 was next and then three players in the teens. The (15-16) Streak saw Sheila Patterson getting 30, while four others were in double figures.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35										0						14
Craig, Denise	13										0						32
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						26
Gwyn, Althea	31										0						1
Marquis, Gail	6										0						13
Moore, Pearl	12										0						16
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						5
Smith, Karen	24										0						4
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						6
Thomas, Janice	10										0						4
Adjustment		240	51				19						30				
Totals		240	51	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	121
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

St. Louis Streak																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Daniels, Coco	1										0						16
Davidson, Winsome	6										0						11
Greene, Vivian	31										0						2
Hastings, Martha	11										0						10
Hoffman, Jeri	15										0						0
Mitchell, Adrian	34										0						16
Patterson, Sheila	33										0						30
Platte, Ann	23										0						2
Plice, Darla	20										0						0
Travnik, Mary Pat	25	Name r	not in Ne	wspaper													
Vincent, Peggy	10										0						6
Adjustment		240	32				29						24		40		
Totals		240	32	0	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	40	0	93
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

There would be a week off before the Stars regular season would be over. Their next game was in New York, but whether it was the Felt Forum or the Main Arena of M.S.G. was hard to pin down. Why? One source says the crowd was 2,322 in the Felt Forum – the exact same number of people from 10 days earlier. Another source says there were 400 fans in the main arena.

A member of the Does, Joanie Smith confirmed that the Does played in the main arena two times. Therefore, I'm stating that 400 people watched the Stars take a 37-25 first quarter lead. The Does under Coach Julia Yeater cut the margin from 12 to 8 as the Stars led 62-54 at the half.

Just like the last game against the Diamonds, where they put up 83 points in the 2nd half, the Stars did it again. They put up 84 in the 2nd half against the Does. They had a 48-23 3rd quarter and a 36-25 4th quarter for a 146-102 victory. These 84 points set the WBL record for points in a half.

For the (10-23) Does their Madison Square Garden experience was where they lost by 48 and 44. (115-67 on December 13, and 146-102 on March 11)

Seven Stars were in double figures: Farrah (31), Moore (22), Craig & Thomas (15), Marquis & Bender (11). The 7th was a free agent pick-up from the now defunct California Dreams, Stacey Rhoades (19 points and 9 rebounds). The Stars strengthened themselves as Stacey brought her 17.2 ppg and 10.6 rpg to an already packed team. They also added a player with two years of WBL experience, Patti Bucklew, who also came in from California.

Althea Gwyn's numbers and playing time: 6 points & 7 rebounds in only 10 minutes should make us question her health as the season came to a close.

For the visiting Does Heidi Nestor had 26 points and eight rebounds. The next three were: Denise Griffith (16), Brenda Chapman (15), and Carolyn Gamble (14 and 13 rebounds).

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	17	3	8			5	7		2	2	2	1	1			11	1.059
Craig, Denise	13	32	5	13	1		2	2		7	7	4	3	3		1	15	1.031
Farrah, Sharon	11	31	12	17			7	9		2	2	1	4				31	1.129
Gwyn, Althea	31	10	2	5			2	3		7	7	0	3	1		1	6	1.400
Marquis, Gail	6	19	4	8			3	3		7	7	1	5	1		1	11	1.105
Moore, Pearl	12	38	9	14			4	8		4	4	3	2	6		1	22	1.000
Rhoades, Stacey		14	6	9			7	8		9	9	1	2	2			19	2.286
Sanborn, Kathy	32	13	0	0	1		1	2		0	0	1	3	1			4	0.538
Smith, Karen	24	19	1	6			2	4		5	5	1	6	4			4	0.789
Tatterson, Gail	33	21	3	5			2	4		4	4	2	2	2			8	0.857
Thomas, Janice	10	26	7	15			1	1		3	3	4	4	2			15	1.077
Totals		240	52	100	2	0	36	51	0	50	50	20	35	23	0	4	146	1.079
			FG%	52.0%			FT%	70.6%	Tea	m Rebs								

Milwaukee Does																	Team Ga	ıme#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>	Eff Rat
Chapman, Brenda	15	47	3	15			9	13		8	8	4	5	2			15	0.702
Ellis, Cindy	25	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper							0						0	
Gamble, Carolyn	8	38	6	14			2	2		13	13	3	5	3		4	14	0.947
Griffith, Denise	6	31	7	10			2	2		4	4	3	3	0		1	16	0.839
Kennedy, Peggy	44	9	1	3			0	0		2	2	0	5	1			2	0.556
Morales, Diane	22	14	4	8			3	6		3	3	0	2	2		1	11	1.143
Nestor, Heidi	28	41	8	13			10	11		8	8	0	5	1		1	26	0.854
Prevost, Deb	32	10	1	3			0	0		0	0	1	3	1			2	0.500
Smith, Joanie	1	17	1	5			6	9		2	2	2	2	0			8	0.824
Thomas, Lisa	24	5	0	2			2	6		3	3	0	1	1			2	1.200
White, Ethel	30	30	1	3			4	8		2	2	3	5	1			6	0.500
Adjustment		-2																
Totals		240	32	76	0	0	38	57	0	45	45	16	36	12	0	7	102	0.796
			FG%	42.1%			FT%	66.7%	Tea	m Rebs								

It was only natural that with California's demise that any make up games for the Stars and Gems would involve each other. Therefore, the last two games for the Stars' regular season would be the Gems at home and the Gems away.

Overall, the Stars and Gems met seven times in the regular season. The next game was Thursday March 13th at the Felt Forum. It was attended by a number the front office liked to use – 400.

The (19-14) Gems had not played since March 2nd, which was too bad because they finally put together a five-game winning streak. Yet that didn't mean there wasn't controversy going on in the Gems' camp. The Paterson News gave the following update:

The long running feud between coach Howie Landa and Gem's management culminated in Landa's indefinite suspension.

Team captain Wanda Szeremeta, named interim player-coach, opened her new assignment in Madison Square Garden against the New York Stars.

Landa watched the game from the mid-level stands and gave high marks to Szeremeta and her unofficial assistant, Lynn Arturi.

Landa was suspended by team president Robert Milo for insubordination and holding an unauthorized scrimmage against Mercer County Community College's women. Gem center Willodean Harris popped her knee in the scrimmage, but was able to play last night.

Even with a new leader and a lot of time off the Gems took a 29-17 first quarter lead. The Stars countered with a 24-2 burst in a six-minute span to go up 41-31 with 4:20 remaining in the half. The official half time score was unknown (which was normal for Stars-Gems games).

The Stars had a 16-point lead in the 3rd quarter, but the Gems slowly chipped away. By the 4th quarter the Gems actually took a two-point lead twice, the last being at 87-85. But that ended when the Stars put 11 unanswered points together for a 96-87 lead. The final score of 104-91 made the Stars 27-7 and the Gems 19-15.

It was obvious the Stars focus was on shutting down Ann Meyers, because she only played 26 minutes before fouling out. She only took nine shots, making two. Her seven points were her season low and it was a continuation of the 10 she scored in their last meeting.

For the Stars, who were 27-7 and riding a six-game winning streak, they had six players with double figures. Pearl Moore had 29, while Janice Thomas had 19 points and nine assists. For the Gems Donna Geils and Willodean Harris each had 23 points.

																Team G
No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
35	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s												
13										0						10
11										0						12
31										0						0
6										0						13
12										0						29
	Name N	lot in Ne	wspaper	s												
32										0						0
24										0						0
33										0						11
10										0	9					19
	240															10
	240	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	104
		FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							
																Team G
No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	TO	BS	Pts
17																
										0						0
22										0			_			0
22 35												_				
										0						0
35										0		_				0
35 4										0 0 0		_				0 0 23 0
35 4 7 5	26	2	9			3				0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23
35 4 7	26	2	9			3				0 0 0 0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23 7
35 4 7 5 14 19	26	2	9			3				0 0 0 0 0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23 7
35 4 7 5	26	2	9			3				0 0 0 0 0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23 7 0
35 4 7 5 14 19 23	26	2	9			3				0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23 7 0 0
35 4 7 5 14 19		2	9			3				0 0 0 0 0 0		6				0 0 23 0 23 7 0 0 0
35 4 7 5 14 19 23	26 214 240	2	9	0	0	3	0	0	0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0	6	0	0	0	0 0 23 0 23 7 0 0
	35 13 11 31 6 12 32 24 33 10	35 Name N 13 11 31 6 12 Name N 32 24 33 10 240 240 No. Min	35 Name Not in Ne 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Ne 32 24 33 10 240 240 FG%	35 Name Not in Newspaper 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspaper 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 FG% ######	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 FG% ###### No. Min FGM FGA 3-M	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 0 FG% ######	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 0 0 FG% ###### FT%	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 FG% ###### FT% #DIV/0!	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 FG% ###### FT% #DIV/0! Tea	35 Name Not in Newspapers 13 11 31 6 12 Name Not in Newspapers 32 24 33 10 240 240 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 FG% ###### FT% #DIV/0! Team Rebs	35 Name Not in Newspapers	Name Not in Newspapers	35 Name Not in Newspapers	35 Name Not in Newspapers	13	35 Name Not in Newspapers

For the Stars their final regular season game would be on the road in two days, March 15th against the New Jersey Gems again. Except this was most likely an emergency fill-in game for the Stars, because on March 15th the New Orleans Pride were scheduled to play the Gems.

Yet there were no references to this game being cancelled, nor were there any WBL ramifications for refusing to travel. Therefore, I believe this game when first planned, after the California demise, was discussed and adjusted between the Pride and the Gems.

So, while the Stars needed to wait two days for their next game, the Gems flew to Minnesota for a game on the 14th. Coach Szeremeta lost her 2nd game as the Fillies beat the Gems 96-83.

On Saturday March 15th the East Coast teams completed their 2nd season in the WBL. The Dunn Sports Complex hosted an amazing crowd of 3,534. (A figure that didn't qualify for the WBL's top 30 list) As usual the first quarter score, second quarter, and third quarters scores were unknown. But the two teams were close as of the end of the third quarter with Gems leading 88-87.

The Stars then came on strong, as they had in the past, with a 43-27 fourth quarter and a 130-115 final score. Their end of the season seven-game winning streak was built on an offense that scored 758 points in the last six games for a 126.3 average.

The Stars completed their season with a 28-7 record, while the Gems finished with a 19-17 record. Yet as a recognition of how good the Gems were they were 1-6 against the Stars and 18-11 .620 against the rest of the league. A .620 winning percentage made them the 5^{th} best team in the league.

The Stars were led by Gail Marquis' 25, and Pearl Moore's 23 and a host of others who had 82 points between them. The Gems Ann Meyers ended the season with 29 points, while former New York Star, Donna Geils had 28 points. 58 points were split up among the other players.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35	Name I	Not in Ne	ewspaper	s												
Craig, Denise	13										0						0
Farrah, Sharon	11										0						0
Gwyn, Althea	31										0						0
Marquis, Gail	6										0						25
Moore, Pearl	12										0						23
Rhoades, Stacey		Name I	Not in Ne	ewspaper	s												
Sanborn, Kathy	32										0						0
Smith, Karen	24										0						0
Tatterson, Gail	33										0						0
Thomas, Janice	10										0						0
Adjustment		240															82
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	130
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							
New Jersey Gems																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Arturi, Lynn	17										0						0
Browning, Pam	22										0						0
Burdick, Denise	35										0						0
Geils, Donna	4										0						28
Greer, Drema	7										0						0
Harris, Willodean	5										0						0
Meyers, Ann	14										0						29
Szeremeta, Wnda	23										0						0
Van Ness, Joan	21										0						0
Young, Faye											0						0
Young, Kaye	20										0						0
Adjustment		240															58
Totals		240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	115
			FG%	#####			FT%	#DIV/0!	Tea	m Rebs							

The Final Regular Season Standings showed:

Eastern					Midwest					Western				
New York	28	7	.800		Iowa	24	12	.667		Houston	19	14	.576	
New Orleans	22	13	.629	6.0	Minnesota	22	12	.647	1.0	San Fran	18	18	.500	2.5
New Jersey	19	17	.528	9.5	Chicago	17	19	.471	7.0	Calif-DISB	11	17	.393	XXX
St. Louis	15	21	.417	13.5	Milwaukee	10	24	.294	13.0	Dallas	7	28	.200	13.0
Washington	1	3	7 .30	0 – Di	sbanded									
Philadelphia	a	2	8 .20	00 - D	isbanded									

The Final Regular Season stats are listed below:

New '	ork Star	'S		197	9 - 19	80 P	layer	Stats	,																				
1979 - 80	Team	Player	No.	GP	Min	M.p.G	FGM	FGA	FG %	3FGM	3FG	FTM	FTA	FT %	Off Reb	Def Reb	Tot Reb	Reb Avg	Ast	Ast Avg	<u>PF</u>	PF Avg	Stl	<u>10</u>	TO Avg	BS	PTS	Avg E	Eff. Rat.
79 - 80	New York Stars	Bender, Evelyn	35	18	272	15.11	58	120	0.483			16	29	0.552	8	11	19	1.06	9	0.50	36	2.0	11	47	2.61	4	132	7.33	0.489
79 - 80	New York Stars	Bucklew, Patti		2	28	14.00	0	4	0.000			3	4	0.750	1	3	4	2.00	1	0.50	6	3.0	0	2	1.00	1	3	1.50	0.250
79 - 80	New York Stars	Craig, Denise	13	33	835	25.30	158	450	0.351	2	5	48	64	0.750	64	163	227	6.88	48	1.45	115	3.5	91	84	2.55	19	366	11.09	0.834
79 - 80	New York Stars	Farrah, Sharon	11	35	1,169	33.40	266	558	0.477			123	156	0.788	56	74	130	3.71	102	2.91	104	3.0	92	108	3.09	4	655	18.71	0.832
79 - 80	New York Stars	Gwyn, Althea	31	27	660	24.44	100	199	0.503			93	155	0.600	97	152	249	9.22	28	1.04	72	2.7	30	76	2.81	18	293	10.85	0.836
79 - 80	New York Stars	Marquis, Gail	6	35	1,044	29.83	221	420	0.526			93	133	0.699	116	208	324	9.26	25	0.71	118	3.4	57	92	2.63	30	535	15.29	0.837
79 - 80	New York Stars	Mason, Debbie		4	21	5.25	3	6	0.500	0	1	8	9	0.889	2	2	4	1.00	2	0.50	2	0.5	0	0	0.00	0	14	3.50	1.048
79 - 80	New York Stars	Moore, Pearl	12	35	987	28.20	208	470	0.443			202	283	0.714	91	106	197	5.63	90	2.57	93	2.7	105	101	2.89	1	618	17.66	1.012
79 - 80	New York Stars	Rhoades, Stacy	22	3	40	13.33	11	18	0.611			8	10	0.800	8	11	19	6.33	2	0.67	7	2.3	6	1	0.33		30	10.00	1.450
79 - 80	New York Stars	Sanborn, Kathy	32	31	318	10.26	21	61	0.344	1	2	23	39	0.590	6	15	21	0.68	39	1.26	44	1.4	20	59	1.90		66	2.13	0.396
79 - 80	New York Stars	Smith, Karen	24	35	591	16.89	57	155	0.368			34	68	0.500	49	85	134	3.83	18	0.51	77	2.2	33	31	0.89	6	148	4.23	0.541
79 - 80	New York Stars	Tatterson, Gail	33	34	717	21.09	113	195	0.579			106	164	0.646	74	91	165	4.85	25	0.74	133	3.9	28	79	2.32	9	332	9.76	0.692
79 - 80	New York Stars	Thomas, Janice	10	35	1,196	34.17	206	458	0.450	0	7	114	146	0.781	43	64	107	3.06	302	8.63	108	3.1	106	180	5.14	1	526	15.03	0.972
79 - 80	New York Stars	Young, Faye	22	20	286	14.30	31	87	0.356	0	2	20	36	0.556	13	33	46	2.30	22	1.10	26	1.3	16	43	2.15	2	82	4.10	0.507
79 - 80	New York Stars	Young, Kaye	20	24	386	16.08	51	136	0.375	0	2	32	47	0.681	21	42	63	2.63	15	0.63	46	1.9	11	36	1.50	3	134	5.58	0.523
79 - 80	New York Stars	Adjustment					7	-6	-1.167				11		-2	-2	-4		-2		-2						14		
79 - 80	New York Stars	3		35	8,550		1,511	3,331	0.454	3	19	923	1,354	0.682	647	1,058	1,705	48.71	726	20.74	985	28.14	606	939	26.83	98	3,948	112.80	0.792

As for the Playoff format. Originally with the creation of three divisions the plan was for the top team from each division making the playoffs, then the next three best teams. The two best teams got 1st round byes and then the next four teams were part of a 2 of 3 playoffs. But with the loss of teams it was decided the playoffs would be the top two teams from each division. This was why the San Francisco with an 18-18 .500 record made the playoffs and the New Jersey Gems 19-17 .528 did not make the playoffs.

In a league that needed to save money the 2 of 3 playoff series would usually have the lesser team hosting game one and then both teams travelling for two games at the home of the superior team. Therefore the 1979-1980 playoffs had: New York and Iowa earning the Byes for Best Record. The division winning Houston Angels (19-14) would then play the worst qualifying team, San Francisco (18-18). That left the Minnesota Fillies (22-12) playing the New Orleans Pride (22-13).

Yet the 1st round games didn't follow the usual expected pattern. Because the Pioneers ended their season in Houston, it was decided they should just stay and play the first game in Houston. Then game two would be in Frisco and game three, if necessary back in Houston. That seemed to make sense.

In the other first round game Minnesota (the superior team) should have hosted games two and three. Instead, because of an agreement made earlier in the month between the Fillies and Pride the playoff schedule changed.

What was that agreement? With the unbalanced schedule the Fillies were trying to catch the Iowa Cornets and have the 2nd best record, so they needed more games. Therefore, they asked the Pride to come to Minnesota for an extra game and if the playoffs went a third game it would be in New Orleans.

The Fillies were unable to catch the Cornets, but since the Pride were already in Minnesota to end the year and they would be facing each other in the playoffs the Fillies hosted game one. This meant the other two would be hosted by the lesser team, the Pride.

In a quick synopsis:

March 17: home team - Houston 90	San Francico 75.	Houston up 1-0
March 18: home team – Minnesota 92	New Orleans 96.	New Orleans up 1-0
March 20: home team – San Francisco 93	Houston 82.	Series tied 1-1
March 21: home team - New Orleans 93	Minnesota 97 OVERTIM	E Series tied 1-1
March 22: home team – Houston 95	San Francisco 98	S. F. wins Series 2-1
March 23: home team – New Orleans 91	Minnesota 97	Minn. wins Series 2-1

Two Home team Victories Four Road team Victories

The 2nd round of the playoffs should have again followed the usual pattern – lesser team game one, superior team games two & three. So what do we see?

The 2nd round began on March 27th with the (22-12) Fillies hosting the (24-12) Cornets at Williams Arena on the campus of Univ. of Minnesota. Minnesota went out and destroyed the Cornets, 108-87. This was the Cornets largest loss of the year.

After returning home from their March 22nd victory over Houston, the Pioneers travelled to New York. Yet the game was not played in Madison Square Garden, or the Felt Forum to accommodate whatever loyal fans the Stars had. No, the game was moved to Queens College. A location neither team had played at all year. Yet the 2,013 that showed up, proved this was the right move by the Stars.

In the minds of the Stars was it possible they didn't want to face the Pioneers? Probably not, even though the Pioneers had beaten them twice in overtimes. The idea was for the Stars to not allow the Pioneers to keep the game close. Also, in a two of three series it didn't take much to upset the best. The Pioneers also were entering confident, after overcoming several double-digit deficits against Houston.

The Pioneers knew the Stars would have to get the upper hand quickly, so they had to be prepared. The Stars jumped ahead 29-22 and 57-45 by the half. The Stars lead hit 17 at its highest, before the Pioneers fought back to make it 73-70 after three quarters. The Stars slowly

built another lead which reached 96-83 with 4:10 remaining. By game's end the Pioneers were defeated 104-97.

Yet for the winning Stars the day was not over. Coach Meminger brought the team into a Queens College classroom to lecture the team on "How to Break a Press." The Pioneers comeback from 17 down was because of poor choices by the Stars and Meminger wanted to teach while the team was still aware of their faults.

The New York Stars displayed balance with six players in double figures, led by Sharon Farrah and Janice Thomas with 19 points apiece. Denise Craig and Gail Marquis both had 16 points. Janice Thomas passed out nine assists, while Althea Gwyn had 10 rebounds.

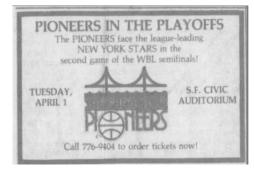
The Pioneers again showed their team balance as they had seven players with double figures. Anita Ortega was 1 assist shy of a Playoff Triple Double as she had 9 assists, 13 rebounds, and 18 points. Musiette McKinney scored, 16, Cardie Hicks 15, Nancy Dunkle 13, Kim Hansen 12, Jan Ternyik 11, and Pat Mayo 10.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35		0				2	2			0						2
Bucklew, Patti			1				0	0			0						2
Craig, Denise	13		6				4	4			0			6			16
Farrah, Sharon	11		8				3	4			0						19
Gwyn, Althea	31		4				2	2		10	10					3	10
Marquis, Gail	6		7				2	2		9	9						16
Moore, Pearl	12		4				2	3			0						10
Rhodes, Stacy			0				0	0			0						0
Smith, Karen	24		3				0	0			0						6
Tatterson, Gail	33		1				2	2			0						4
Thomas, Janice	10		9				1	2			0	9		3			19
Adjustment		240		78						22	22	8	28	10	27		
Totals		240	43	78	0	0	18	21	0	41	41	17	28	19	27	3	104
			FG%	55.1%			FT%	85.7%	Tea	m Rebs							

San Francisco Pioneers																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Dunkle, Nancy	35		6				1	2		7	7					1	13
Hansen, Barbara	42	Name N	Not in Nev	wspaper													
Hansen, Kim	32		3				6	7			0			1			12
Hicks, Cardie	10		7				1	1			0					1	15
Martin, Brenda	45	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Martin, Pam	12	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Mayo, Pat	13		3				4	4			0			4			10
McKinney, Musiette	33		6				4	4			0			3		1	16
Ortega, Anita	11		6				6	9		13	13	9		2		1	18
Ricketts, Debbie	8		1				0	0			0			1			2
Silcott, Liz	21	Name N	ot in Ne	wspaper													
Ternyik, Jan	22		4				3	6			0			4			11
Adjustment		240		73						19	19	10	19		34		
Totals		240	36	73	0	0	25	33	0	39	39	19	19	15	34	4	97
			FG%	49.3%			FT%	75.8%	Tea	m Rebs							

With the need to travel to San Francisco the league scheduled the next game for Tuesday April 1^{st} . The three-day break allowed the Pioneers to get the publicity out for their next game.

Meanwhile the other series concluded during this long break. On Saturday March 29 the Minnesota Fillies invaded Coe College in Cedar Rapids hoping to close out the Iowa Cornets.



Coe College, like Williams Arena, was another venue that neither team had played in all year. A crowd of 2,114 watched as the Cornets evened the series at 1-1 behind a 50-point explosion by Molly Bolin. The 128-111 victory set-up for a great third game. The 128 points were a WBL playoff record.

Two days later, Monday March 31st, saw only 1,845 file into the Coe College arena to see who would go to the WBL Finals. Minnesota held Molly Bolin to just 25 points, but that was enough for Iowa to come through with a 95-92 win. So, for the 2nd time in two years the Iowa Cornets would be playing in the Finals. They just had to wait for the end of the San Francisco/New York series to see who their opponent was.



Off the court in other big news Soap Opera star Eileen Fulton of "As the World Turns," became a part owner of the Stars. Just like the Pioneers who had Alan Alda of M*A*S*H and Mike Connors of Mannix fame, the Stars now had their own celebrity financial backer.

On Tuesday April 1st San Francisco's largest crowd, 3,281, came to the Civic Auditorium to see if the Pioneers could even their series.



The Stars took an early 25-22 1st quarter lead, which stayed at three points when the half time score became 43-40. New York added to their lead with



a 26-23 3rd quarter to make the score 69-63. The Stars felt like they were in control and ready for the next round as they led 87-77 with 2:56 left.

After a time-out the Pioneer pressed and outscored the Stars 9-3 to trail 90-86. With 16 seconds left, Cardie Hicks hit a 16-foot jumper to make it 90-88. The Pioneers resorted to fouling and they picked the right person. Althea Gwyn made only one of her five free throws in the game's ending seconds. Trailing 91-88, a Cardie Hicks 3-point shot missed and was rebounded by Pat Mayo. With no time on the clock Pat closed out the Pioneers first season by making both free throws concluding in a 91-90 Stars win. The Stars would move onto

the championship series, while the Pioneers had to be satisfied with all they accomplished in the 1979-1980 season.

For the Stars Gail Marquis's 23 points and 13 rebounds were in addition to Pearl Moore's 18 points. If the Stars had lost, you only had to look at two-time All-Star Althea Gwyn's free throws. She shot 3 of 11 from the line, while the team as a whole shot 17 of 35 (49%). But who cares, the team won and now they must continue to pursue their championship.

New York Stars																	Team Ga	ame#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Bender, Evelyn	35	9	2	2			0	0		0	0	1	4				4	0.667
Bucklew, Patti		2	1	2			0	0		1	1	0	3				2	1.500
Craig, Denise	13	33	6	15			3	3		4	4	2	5	5		1	15	0.848
Farrah, Sharon	11	34	4	16			3	4		3	3	1	3				11	0.471
Gwyn, Althea	31	28	0	1			3	11		12	12	0	1				3	0.536
Marquis, Gail	6	34	10	17			3	3		13	13	1	3				23	1.118
Moore, Pearl	12	26	8	15			2	8		2	2	3	2				18	1.000
Rhoades, Stacy		1	0	0			0	0		0	0	0	0				0	0.000
Smith, Karen	24	22	1	4			0	0		4	4	0	4				2	0.273
Tatterson, Gail	33	17	2	3			1	2		4	4	0	2				5	0.529
Thomas, Janice	10	34	3	9			2	4		4	4	2	3		6		8	0.294
Adjustment														8	19			
Totals		240	37	84	0	0	17	35	0	47	47	10	30	13	25	1	91	0.608
			FG%	44.0%			FT%	48.6%	Tea	m Rebs								

San Francisco Pioneers																	Team Ga	ame#
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	OFR	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts	Eff Rat
Dunkle, Nancy	35	32	4	11			0	0		12	12	8	4			3	8	1.125
Hansen, Barbara	42	Name N	lot in Nev	wspapers														
Hansen, Kim	32	16	2	2			2	2		2	2	0	3				6	0.500
Hicks, Cardie	10	38	7	24		1	4	4		7	7	4	3				18	0.868
Martin, Pam	12	Name N	lot in Ne	wspapers														
Mayo, Pat	13	43	4	6			6	8		12	12	1	5				14	0.651
McKinney, Musiette	33	28	6	11			4	4		4	4	8	6				16	1.286
Ortega, Anita	11	33	7	13			5	6		5	5	9	4		9		19	1.000
Ricketts, Debbie	8	34	3	6			0	0		6	6	2	2	3			6	0.559
Silcott, Liz	21	Name N	lot in Nev	wspapers														
Ternyik, Jan	22	11	1	1			1	2		5	5	0	2				3	0.727
Adjustment		5												5	24	1		
Totals		240	34	74	0	1	22	26	0	53	53	32	29	8	33	4	90	0.758
			FG%	45.9%			FT%	84.6%	Tea	m Rebs	igsqcut							

The WBL Finals would be a three-of-five series, with the superior team hosting the first two games and the fifth game, if necessary.

On Thursday April 3rd, the two best teams in the league would face off. Last year the Iowa Cornets faced the Houston Angels and this year they'd play the Stars. The excitement and the allure of the playoffs might have brought in a large crowd, except New York City was experiencing a transit strike. As opposed to the rest of the country that easily get around by



THE San Francisco Pioneers meet the New York Stars in the second game of the Women's Basketball League semifinals at Masonic Auditorium at 8 p.m. Tuesday night.

car, New Yorkers depended on their subways and trains. A crowd of only 988 made it to Queens College for the first game.



The Stars and Cornets split their season series, with the Stars winning in January 109-101 and the Cornets winning in February 131-125. The Stars and Cornets were tied at 16 with 4:13 remaining, when the Stars went on a 15-7 streak that gave them the 31-23 first quarter lead. The Cornets added 26, behind Molly Bolin's 12 2nd quarter points, but the Stars' lead grew to 59-49 at the half.

The Stars refused to allow the Cornets a shot as they increased the leads to 91-75, and then went on a 16-point blitz to take a 32-point lead. The final score was, 128-96. The 128 points tied the playoff record for points scored in a game, that Iowa set only five days earlier.

In the playoffs, especially the Finals, coaches usually cut back on their rotation. But the depth of the Stars had all 12 players scoring points. Even though seven had double figures it was spread out amongst: Marquis (21), Moore (18), Farrah

(16), Rhoades (15), Thomas (12), and Bender & Bucklew (10 each).

The Cornets were led by the WBL's leading scorer, Molly Bolin, with 31 who left the game in the 3rd quarter with an ankle injury. Connie Kunzmann came through with 22 points and 10 rebounds. All-Star Doris Draving left the game in the 3rd quarter with a thigh bruise after grabbing nine rebounds but only scoring two points. It would be hard to imagine that Coach Steve Kirk was pleased with 42 Iowa turnovers for the game.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35		5	10			0	0		2	2		2				10
Bucklew, Patti			5	6			0	0		5	5		2				10
Craig, Denise	13		3	12			2	2		7	7		3				8
Farrah, Sharon	11		6	14			4	4		3	3		4				16
Gwyn, Althea	31		1	4			4	4		6	6		4				6
Marquis, Gail	6		9	15			3	5		7	7		2				21
Moore, Pearl	12		6	14			6	8		3	3		3				18
Rhoades, Stacy			6	8			3	4		10	10		1				15
Sanborn, Kathy	32		1	3			0	0		1	1		1				2
Smith, Karen	24		2	2			0	0		3	3		2				4
Tatterson, Gail	33		2	4			2	2		2	2		3				6
Thomas, Janice	10		5	9			2	2		1	1		3				12
Adjustment		240												24	25		
Totals		240	51	101	0	0	26	31	0	50	50	0	30	24	25	0	128
			FG%	50.5%			FT%	83.9%	Tea	m Rebs							

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	FTM	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	<u>St</u>	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bolin, Molly	30		15	25			1	2		3	3		1				31
Chavers, Tonyus	20		5	10			3	3		4	4		4				13
Draving, Doris	50		1	4			0	0	1	8	9		3				2
Eckroth, Mo	22		0	2			0	0		3	3		3				0
Green, Anita	12		0	3			2	2		2	2		1				2
Hodgson, Pat	34		3	9			4	5		3	3		2				10
Kunzmann, Connie	44		7	11			8	15		10	10		1				22
Lewis, Charlotte	52		2	7			2	4		8	8		0				6
Thomas, Debra K.	40		1	6			0	0		1	1		2				2
Tucker, Robin	10		2	3			4	4		0	0		1				8
Adjustment		240													42		
Totals		240	36	80	0	0	24	35	1	42	43	0	18	0	42	0	96
			FG%	45.0%			FT%	68.6%	Tea	m Rebs							

The second game was two days later on Saturday April 5th at Queens College. A crowd of only 543 came out to watch the Stars take slim leads of 23-21 and 47-44. The second half was the Stars' time to shine as it had been at the end of the year. They put up a 35-25 3rd and 37-30 4th for a 119-99 victory. This gave them a 2-0 advantage as they went to Iowa for game three.



While the Stars still had 11 players scoring points, there were only five with double figures. They were Denise Craig with 22, before she fouled out, Pearl Moore with 19, Sharon Farrah with 16, Janice Thomas with 13, and Althea Gwyn with 12.

One thing about the Stars was that their offense allowed for great distribution. Of the 39 games they had played this season there were nine different players that led the team in scoring.

As for the Cornets, the injured players, Molly Bolin and Doris Draving each had 19, with Doris pulling down 22 rebounds. Four others had double figures and two of those players fouled out. Yet 42 turnovers did not help the Cornets cause. Also, it seemed that during the game Coach Kirk benched Molly Bolin for poor play.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35		4	10			0	0		1	1		2				8
Bucklew, Patti			0	1			2	2		0	0		0				2
Craig, Denise	13	30	10	17			2	2		9	9		6				22
Farrah, Sharon	11		7	17			2	2		2	2		3				16
Gwyn, Althea	31		5	8			2	2		8	8		3				12
Marquis, Gail	6		2	11			4	6		8	8		3				8
Moore, Pearl	12		6	13			7	10		0	0		3				19
Rhoades, Stacy			1	1			4	4		4	4		1				6
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0	0			0	0		0	0		0				0
Smith, Karen	24		3	9			3	5		6	6		3				9
Tatterson, Gail	33		2	3			0	0		3	3		3				4
Thomas, Janice	10		5	11			3	4		2	2		2				13
Adjustment		210												21	22		
Totals		240	45	101	0	0	29	37	0	43	43	0	29	21	22	0	119
			FG%	44.6%			FT%	78.4%	Tea	m Rebs	2						

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	<u>3-A</u>	<u>FTM</u>	<u>FTA</u>	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bolin, Molly	30	30	7	18			5	5		2	2		2				19
Chavers, Tonyus	20		2	4			2	5		4	4		2				6
Draving, Doris	50		7	14			5	8		22	22		2				19
Eckroth, Mo	22		1	1			0	0		1	1						2
Green, Anita	12		4	7			2	2		4	4		4				10
Hodgson, Pat	34		3	8			5	8		4	4		6				11
Kunzmann, Connie	44		5	7			0	0		4	4		6				10
Lewis, Charlotte	52		7	13			0	2		4	4		4				14
Thomas, Debra K.	40		4	8			0	0		1	1		1				8
Tucker, Robin	10		0	0			0	0		0	0		1				0
Adjustment		210													42		
Totals		240	40	80	0	0	19	30	0	46	46	0	28	0	42	0	99
			FG%	50.0%			FT%	63.3%	Tea	m Rebs							

The focus in New York Newsday was on the lack of support the New York fans gave to the Stars. They were successful, they were on an 11-game winning streak, and no one cared. While it was always believed a league needed a successful New York franchise to be considered legit, this New York team was proving that wrong. Cornets' star Molly Bolin summed it up this way:

"It's discouraging to come here and see so few people in the stands. People in New York like to call Iowa backwards, but the people of Iowa have accepted us. The people around here [New York] haven't."

The WBL did a great job of getting playing sites for the regular season, but when it came to the playoffs those sites were now unavailable. This year the Cornets stopped being a regional team and played their games in only Des Moines or Cedar Rapids. Therefore, game three on Monday April 7th was played at . . . Grandview College. This was a site the Cornets never used in two years of games, but it was familiar to star Molly Bolin. This was her alma mater and a crowd of 1,581 came out. This was very close to the gym's capacity. The Cornets were not unfamiliar with fighting back from 2-0 deficits in the Finals, as they had done this with Houston last year.

The Cornets came out firing and protecting the ball (28 turnovers) as they took a $39-19~1^{st}$ quarter lead. The Stars shaved off seven points to make it 62-49 at the half.

An even third quarter kept the Cornets lead at 13, 94-81. The lead rose to 100-83 with 11 minutes left, when the Stars began their push, with a 13-2 run. The lead was cut to 102-96 with 7:25 remaining and it looked like the Cornets may have been through for the season. The Stars then got within two, 109-107 with 3:32 left. Iowa took a 113-107, that the Stars cut to 113-111 with 1:33 remaining. But two more Bolin jumpers and a Charlotte Lewis shot gave the Cornets the separation they needed. The Cornets finished off their victory with a 119-112 defeat of the Stars.





The Stars played 11 players and had six with double figures. Pearl Moore led the way with 27, while Sharon Farrah had 19. An interesting side note was that Olympian and New York gal, Gail Marquis was ejected with two technical at 5:27 of the 3rd quarter. She supposedly made an obscene gesture. Yet what was probably a typical New York gesture didn't fly in Iowa.

Cutting down on the turnovers and having Molly Bolin score 49 on 17 of 30 from the field and 15-18 from the line played a big role. Even with so many points from one person the Cornets had five others with double figures: Anita Green (16), Pat Hodgson (15), Doris Draving (14 & 18 rebounds), Charlotte Lewis (11), and Connie Kunzmann (10).

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bender, Evelyn	35		0	1			0	0		0	0		1				0
Bucklew, Patti			2	5			0	0		5	5		2				4
Craig, Denise	13		5	13			0	0		3	3		5				10
Farrah, Sharon	11		9	17			1	1		3	3		4				19
Gwyn, Althea	31		3	6			5	7		13	13		2				11
Marquis, Gail	6		3	3			1	3		6	6		3				7
Moore, Pearl	12		9	23			9	10		3	3		3				27
Rhoades, Stacy			1	1			2	3		2	2		1				4
Sanborn, Kathy	32	Name I	ot in Ne	wspapers	;						0						0
Smith, Karen	24		1	5			1	2		2	2		3				3
Tatterson, Gail	33		5	7			3	4		9	9		1				13
Thomas, Janice	10		6	16			2	4		3	3		3				14
Adjustment		240													24		
Totals		240	44	97	0	0	24	34	0	49	49	0	28	0	24	0	112
			FG%	45.4%			FT%	70.6%	Tea	m Rebs	3						

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	3-A	<u>FTM</u>	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	PF	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bolin, Molly	30		17	30			15	18		3	3		5				49
Chavers, Tonyus	20		0	1			0	0		1	1		1				0
Draving, Doris	50		5	9			4	5		18	18		2				14
Eckroth, Mo	22		0	0			0	0		0	0		0				0
Green, Anita	12		8	11			0	2		1	1		3				16
Hodgson, Pat	34		6	14			3	5		6	6		5				15
Kunzmann, Connie	44		4	8			2	6		8	8		4				10
Lewis, Charlotte	52		4	7			3	3		8	8		5				11
Thomas, Debra K.	40		0	1			2	3		0	0		2				2
Tucker, Robin	10		1	1			0	0		2	2		2				2
Adjustment		240													28		
Totals		240	45	82	0	0	29	42	0	47	47	0	29	0	28	0	119
			FG%	54.9%			FT%	69.0%	Tea	m Rebs	3						

Game four of the best of five series was not at Grandview College, but Coe College where the Cornets had two good crowds in their victories over the Minnesota Fillies in the 2^{nd} round of the playoffs.

Wednesday April 9th, 2,891 came out to Coe College in Cedar Rapids. For two teams that were putting up an average of 224 points a game (NY-119 vs Iowa-105), it should have been no surprise the first quarter ended in a 36-36 tie. The Cornets were able to take the lead and hold

it at the half, 66-61. The Stars came out in the third quarter and had a 31-25 advantage which gave them a 92-91 lead.

The 4th quarter cemented the run the Stars were on as they took the WBL Championship with a 125-114 victory. Again all 12 players played and 10 of them played over 13 minutes each. The Stars should be commended for bringing their full roster to Iowa for the two games. Six players had double figures with Pearl Moore scoring 27 and Janice Thomas adding 22. Sharon Farrah had 14, and three others had 12.

For the Cornets, this was their 2nd attempt at a basketball championship, but they came up short. Molly Bolin did her part with 36, and Connie Kunzmann had 20 points and 12 rebounds.

In an unusual disciplinary move Coach Kirk did not start two of his regulars – Doris Draving or Pat Hodgson. It seemed that after the last game on the 7th these two players did not ride back on the team bus and instead got rides form others. Hodgson did not enter the game until the 9:45 mark of the 1st quarter, while Draving entered at the 8:00 mark.

Another interesting stat was that before this game the Cornets had never lost a game in Cedar Rapids. They were 15-0 going into this game.

New York Stars																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	<u>Ast</u>	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	Pts
Bender, Evelyn	35		4	10			1	1		1	1		0				9
Bucklew, Patti			1	2			1	1		2	2		5				3
Craig, Denise	13		6	14			0	0		4	4		4				12
Farrah, Sharon	11		5	14			4	4		3	3		5				14
Gwyn, Althea	31		3	4			0	0		9	9		3				6
Marquis, Gail	6		4	11			4	6		6	6		2				12
Moore, Pearl	12		12	23			3	7		2	2		4				27
Rhoades, Stacy			5	5			2	3		3	3		4				12
Sanborn, Kathy	32		0	1			0	0		0	0		0				0
Smith, Karen	24		1	2			0	0		2	2		2				2
Tatterson, Gail	33		1	1			4	6		5	5		3				6
Thomas, Janice	10		9	14			4	5		2	2		5				22
Adjustment		240													21		
Totals		240	51	101	0	0	23	33	0	39	39	0	37	0	21	0	125
			FG%	50.5%			FT%	69.7%	Tea	m Rebs	7						

Iowa Cornets																	Team Ga
Name	No.	Min	FGM	FGA	3-M	3-A	FTM	FTA	<u>OFR</u>	DFR	Tot Rb	Ast	<u>PF</u>	St	<u>TO</u>	BS	<u>Pts</u>
Bolin, Molly	30		12	27			12	16		2	2		5				36
Chavers, Tonyus	20		2	5			3	5		8	8		1				7
Draving, Doris	50		2	3			7	10		8	8		6				11
Eckroth, Mo	22		3	4			0	0		1	1		1				6
Green, Anita	12		3	7			6	8		2	2		3				12
Hodgson, Pat	34		3	11			0	0		7	7		4				6
Kunzmann, Connie	44		9	13			2	3		12	12		3				20
Lewis, Charlotte	52		5	9			2	3		8	8		5				12
Thomas, Debra K.	40		1	3			0	0		0	0		1				2
Tucker, Robin	10		0	0			2	2		0	0		0				2
Adjustment		240													31		
Totals		240	40	82	0	0	34	47	0	48	48	0	29	0	31	0	114
			FG%	48.8%			FT%	72.3%	Tea	m Rebs	9						

The Stars brought to New York another basketball championship. The 1973 Knicks were the last New York champion and now the 1980 Stars could put their name in the annals of New York basketball lore.

The New York papers exploded with excitement over the achievement of the Stars. (sarcasm) The New York Daily News had a $3" \times 5"$ clipping – a small corner of a page. Not a 3" tall headline, a small clipping acknowledging their feat. New York Newsday had a longer game summary and a picture. But nothing that really celebrated the championship. **Wins Title** – is the best they could get.



In the earlier years of Women's Basketball – the goal was always personal satisfaction over public recognition.

One could be controlled, the other could lead to frustration, anger, and bitterness.

Overall, the Stars played 41 games and were 33-8. The Stars playoff statistics look like this:

Player	No.	<u>GP</u>	Min	M.p.G	FGM	<u>FGA</u>	FG %	3FGM	3FG	FTM	FTA	FT %	Off Reb I	Def Reb	Tot Reb I	Reb Avg	Ast	Ast Avg	PF	PF Avg	Stl	<u>TO</u>	TO Avg	BS	PTS	Avg E	Eff. Rat.
Bender, Evelyn	35	6	84	14.00	15	37	0.405			3	3	1.000	2	3	5	0.83	11	1.83	12	2.0	8	15	2.50	0	33	5.50	0.631
Bucklew, Patti		6	39	6.50	10	19	0.526			3	3	1.000	8	6	14	2.33	0	0.00	16	2.7	4	3	0.50	1	23	3.83	0.974
Craig, Denise	13	6	165	27.50	36	84	0.429	0	1	11	11	1.000	8	23	31	5.17	6	1.00	25	4.2	23	13	2.17	2	83	13.83	0.824
Farrah, Sharon	11	6	187	31.17	39	92	0.424			17	19	0.895	6	15	21	3.50	7	1.17	21	3.5	5	20	3.33	0	95	15.83	0.615
Gwyn, Althea	31	6	168	28.00	16	32	0.500			16	26	0.615	20	38	58	9.67	3	0.50	17	2.8	12	8	1.33	11	48	8.00	0.690
Marquis, Gail	6	6	162	27.00	35	70	0.500			17	25	0.680	23	32	55	9.17	2	0.33	16	2.7	8	16	2.67	2	87	14.50	0.852
Moore, Pearl	12	6	155	25.83	45	96	0.469	0	2	29	46	0.630	2	9	11	1.83	15	2.50	17	2.8	11	16	2.67	1	119	19.83	1.000
Rhoades, Stacy	22	6	68	11.33	13	15	0.867			11	14	0.786	7	13	20	3.33	3	0.50	7	1.2	5	5	0.83	1	37	6.17	0.926
Sanborn, Kathy	32	4	10	2.50	1	4	0.250			0	0	#DIV/0!	0	1	1	0.25	2	0.50	1	0.3	1	1	0.25	0	2	0.50	0.700
Smith, Karen	24	6	110	18.33	11	27	0.407			4	7	0.571	11	8	19	3.17	2	0.33	17	2.8	1	6	1.00	3	26	4.33	0.400
Tatterson, Gail	33	6	102	17.00	13	22	0.591			12	16	0.750	13	14	27	4.50	1	0.17	16	2.7	7	10	1.67	0	38	6.33	0.627
Thomas, Janice	10	6	190	31.67	37	73	0.507			14	21	0.667	5	8	13	2.17	52	8.67	18	3.0	20	31	5.17	0	88	14.67	1.021
		6	1,440		271	571	0.475		3	137	191	0.717	105	170	275	45.83	104	17.33	183	30.5	105	144	24.00	21	679	113.17	0.780

On June 6 Dean Meminger was named WBL Coach of the Year.

On June 16, 1980 the Stars and the other 12 WBL teams met at the New York Hilton for the 3^{rd} Annual WBL Draft.

Of course, the number one prize in the 1980 draft was two-time Wade Trophy winner, Nancy Lieberman. Nancy was not only from New York, but she was a five-borough playground legend. The street credit and the charisma was what many believed the league needed. So, with New York being the mecca of publicity the combination would have been perfect.

Yet, hadn't the media of New York already made their statement that they had no interest in women's sports. Even a world champion in their city did not inspire them to offer any publicity.

Joe Verdi, the head of player personnel, stated that Dallas wanted two starters and four draft picks for the draft's first pick. Having just won the championship, Verdi did not want to mess with his team's unity.

When Nancy Lieberman was approached, while participating in a celebrity tennis tournament, said she was disappointed she couldn't go back to New York, but she had nothing against Dallas.

The actual New York Star draft picks were:

#1	Cris Critelli	6′0″	Old Dominion
#2	Alice Schmidt	5′6″	Montclair State
#3	Cathy Andrykowski	6′4″	Marquette Univ.
#4a	Kathy O'Neil	5′11″	Univ. of Tennessee
#4b	Sue Martin	5′7″	Penn State
#5	Krystal Kimrey	6′5″	Univ. of Maryland
#6	Gwen Hackett	6′0″	Morgan State
#7	Barbara Parno	?'?"	Monmouth College
#8	Ling Ling Hou	5′9″	St. John's Univ.
#9	Sandy Turpin	6′2″	Rutgers Univ.
#10	Cindy Olsen	5′8″	Southwest State Univ.

An exciting development was the first ever all-girls basketball league, with six high school teams and six college entries, as they swung into action in Central Park. The league, better known as the Janice Thomas Women's Basketball League, with New York Stars' guard Janice Thomas as its commissioner would have games every Saturday & Sunday through August.

In another summer league story, Althea Gwyn was the only woman in the Eastern Summer Pro League. Yet two weeks later the league was cancelled from lack of attendance. After seven summer league games by all six teams, the fans in New York were just not showing up. It was good to see the fans ignored both the men and women equally.

Does anyone know that from 1934 to 1976 there was a charity fund raiser football game in Chicago where the College All-Stars would play the NFL Champions? This was usually in July before the football All-Stars reported to play with their teams. So?

The WBL's New York Stars just participated in something very similar.

Kodak Beats NY Stars

The Kodak All-America team defeated the New York Stars, 79-63 at the Inaugural Women's Games in Salt Lake City. Center Inge Nissen had 18 rebounds and 12 points for the winners. Kodak's Pam Kelly and Denise Curry shared high scoring honors with 17 points apiece. Pearl Moore led the Stars with 16.

"It's pretty obvious, we're not in shape," said Dean Meminger, coach of the defending champions of the Women's Pro Basketball League.

By the way the NFL Champs were 31-9-2 over the All-Stars.

A player who did not participate in the Kodak game was leading scorer, Sharon Farrah, who felt her contract had been broken and declared herself a free agent. It was not known whether she signed with the New Orleans Pride before or after the demise of the Stars.

In late September, Stars owner Ed Reisdorf said the team needed to raise \$500,000 in one week or they were finished. The WBL was requiring a performance bond and Reisdorf was offering up to 50% of the team, but no takers. By the end of the month four teams chose not to continue for the 1980-81 season. They were the 1980 Champion New York Stars, the 1979 Champion Houston Angels, the two-year Finalist Iowa Cornets, and the Milwaukee Does.

Reisdorf said that he had lost \$800,000 over the last two years and if the team were to play in 1980-81, the games would have been at Fordham University. So, the move from a small Catholic school (Iona College), to New York City's Madison Square Garden, and then back to a small Catholic school seemed ironic.

As a final good-bye from the New York area a Newsday article called: **Former Stars Seeking Work and Back-Pay** was 4 times the size of the team winning the championship. Althea Gwyn, Janice Thomas, and Dean Meminger were all owed thousands of dollars, but they knew in their hearts that if the owners had the money they would be paid. No one was complaining, they were trying to grasp the reality of the team no longer existing. Sharon Farrah had already moved on to New Orleans. With four teams going under that meant there were 48 experienced players looking for work in a league with only nine teams now.

By the middle of October both Janice Thomas and Gail Tatterson signed on as free agents with the New Jersey Gems. As for the rest of the players: Althea Gwyn ended up in New England with the New England Gulls and later with the Chicago Hustle, where she earned both All-Star and All-Pro levels. Pearl Moore played with St. Louis, and Gail Marquis went to New Jersey. The others took their skills, and their stories with them to begin a new life.

So Concludes the Story of the NEW YORK STARS