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**First A&M Setback, 79-72**

**George Washington Nips Ags**

By BILL HENRY  
Battalion Sports Writer  
George Washington University  
used an overabundance of talent  
here Monday night. Pat Tallent  
that is.

Tallent hit eight straight buck-  
ets and scored 16 of his 22 points  
in the second half, thrusting the  
visitors to a 79-72 victory.

For the Texas Aggies, it was  
the first defeat of the young sea-  
son and leaves A&M with a 5-1  
record. The Colonials travel back  
to Washington, D. C., with an  
identical mark after suffering  
their first defeat of the year in  
Rice Saturday, 93-89.

"That's the most aggressive  
I've ever seen them play," George  
Washington coach Carl Stone  
said after the game. "The key to

our win was the way Tallent and  
Clyde Burwell played. Burwell  
has finally come around like I  
thought he would. He's devastat-  
ing."

Burwell, a 6-11 sophomore, in-  
timidated A&M's inside game  
and stuffed in 17 points with his  
jump shots. He led GW with 10  
rebounds.

For the Aggies, it was a com-  
bination of inopportune turn-  
overs, lack of outside scoring  
punch and a disputed goal-tend-  
ing call and following technical  
foul.

"We played hard," coach Shel-  
by Metcalf said following his first  
loss. "Cedric (Joseph) is getting  
better and Jeff (Overhouse) is  
beginning to find himself after  
being injured during drills.

"I thought it was the best game  
we've played all year and I'm  
sure it's the best they've played."

Overhouse led A&M in scoring  
with 21 points followed by Joseph  
with 18. Mario Brown was the  
only other Aggie in double fig-  
ures with 12.

Leading rebounders for A&M  
was Joseph with 11 and Over-  
house with 10.

"We finally got our inside  
plugged in in good shape and  
now we don't get any help from  
our wings," Metcalf added. "We  
have got to get a good team ef-  
fort to beat clubs like George  
Washington. What we desperat-  
ely need is someone to back up  
Ced and Jeff underneath. We  
lose too much momentum when  
we have to rest them."

One play was singled out by  
Metcalf after the game giving  
the Aggies the loss. A&M had  
come within two points, 72-70,  
with 1:04 remaining when Bur-  
well missed a lay-up, Brown got  
the rebound and referee Shorty  
Lawson called goal-tending on  
Joseph for hitting the net. Met-  
calf questioned the call and was

stuck with a technical. These  
events gave George Washington  
the lead, 75-70, and the ball.

After the contest, Lawson ad-  
mitted he blew the call when he  
was asked to view the film in  
Metcalf's office.

"I thought Cedric hit the net  
before the shot," he said. "It was  
a fast break and I couldn't see it  
clearly. That's what I thought  
happened."

When analyzing the play, it  
was Brown who tipped the net,  
but it came after grabbing Bur-  
well's missed shot. Joseph was  
seven feet away from the basket.

The only thing the Aggies  
couldn't overcome was the trem-  
endously hot hand held by the  
Colonials the second half. George  
Washington hit on 17 of 22 shots  
from the field for 77%. A&M hit  
on 13 of 33 for 39%.

A&M's largest lead in the con-  
test was with 18:01 remaining in  
the opening stanza 8-3. Less  
than two minutes later, the Ag-  
gies found themselves down 9-8.  
It was nip and tuck for a while,  
but by 9:07 remaining in the  
half, GW garnered a nine point  
lead, 27-18.

In the second half, GW jumped  
to an eight point lead with Tal-  
lent doing his thing from about  
20-feet out. A&M tried to come  
back and traded baskets, but  
couldn't keep up the torrid shoot-  
ing pace.

A&M tied it up, 68-68, with  
6:48 left, but that was as close  
as it got. A&M hit another cold  
streak as the Colonials took the  
contest as the Aggies were  
burned on an admitted official  
blunder.

**Mustang's Popelka  
Wins Tips Award**

DALLAS — Robert Popelka,  
Southern Methodist University's  
outstanding defensive back, has  
been named winner of the fifth  
annual Kern Tips Memorial  
Award.

The trophy, named for the late  
Southwest Conference radio  
broadcaster, is awarded each year  
by Humble Oil & Refining Co. to  
the outstanding senior football  
player in the Southwest Confer-  
ence.

Selection of the winner is made  
by a panel of 120 media and  
sports representatives.

Popelka, who is from Temple,  
Tex., has recorded an outstanding  
football and academic career at  
SMU. His defensive play at the  
safety position has attracted  
widespread recognition. As a  
junior, he was named co-defen-  
sive player of the year in the  
Southwest Conference, was  
selected consensus all-conference,  
and made the Associated Press  
All-America second team.

This year, he has been named  
to the Kodak mid-season All-

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America team and the Football  
Writers All-America team.

Popelka broke the SMU record  
for most yards in interception re-  
turns and set a new school record  
for most tackles by a defensive  
back three years in a row. He  
is also an honor student, main-  
taining a 3.5 grade point average  
in the School of Business.

John J. Loftis Jr., vice presi-  
dent and member of the Humble  
board of directors, made the  
award presentation to Popelka.  
Loftis pointed out that academic  
standing, good sportsmanship and  
high moral character were con-  
sidered in the selection in addi-  
tion to athletic ability.

The award winner is the son  
of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Popelka of  
Temple.

Other players, nominated for  
the 1972 award were: Mike Bay-  
er, Texas; Lyle Blackwood, Tex-  
as Christian; Bruce Gadd, Rice;  
Robert Murski, Texas A&M;  
Tom Reed, Arkansas; Donald  
Rives, Texas Tech; and Tommy  
Stewart, Baylor. The University  
of Houston is not eligible for the  
award until it competes for the  
Conference football title in 1976.

**Track Team  
Sets Marks**

Texas A&M's track team set  
three school indoor records in a  
meet in Monroe, La., Saturday.

The two-mile relay team of Pat  
Bradley, Harold Davis, Willie  
Blackmon and Horace Grant  
placed first in a time of 7:50.5.  
The old record was 7:50.6 set in  
1967.

Sophomore Scotty Jones ran  
7.2 in the 60-yard hurdles for  
third place. The old record was  
7.4, held by Rockie Woods and  
Jack Abbott. Donny Rogers long  
jumped 23 feet for a new record,  
though he did not place. The old  
record was 22-7/4 by Steve  
O'Neal in 1967.

Freshman Craig Carter won  
the shot put with a career best of  
54-0/4. David Peterek placed  
third in the pole vault with 15-0.  
Ben Greathouse, competing un-  
attached, tied for first in the  
high jump with 6-10.

In the afternoon division, the  
mile relay team of David Hunt,  
Donny Rogers, Tom Owen and  
David Morris won in a time of  
3:30.6. The two-mile relay team  
of Harold Vagtborg, Dennis  
O'Brien, Tom Todd and Danny  
Jones placed second.

"We were very pleased with  
the showing," coach Charlie  
Thomas said. "Sammy Dier-  
schke and Wayne Mills both ran  
well on the mile relay, though we  
didn't place. Everything is very  
encouraging."

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