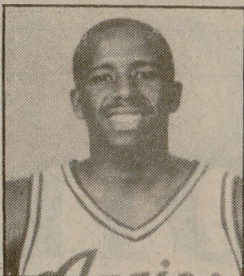


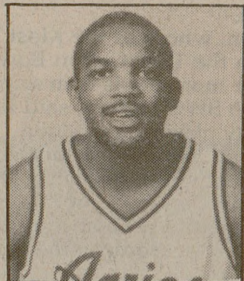
#4 ERIC HAWTHORNE



Guard 6-1 185 JR-TR

Hawthorne is eligible to play after sitting out when he transferred from Pensacola Junior College. At Pensacola, he averaged 12.0 points and, 5.0 assists and 4.0 rebounds per game, shooting 55.0 percent from the field. During that season, he was named JUCO scholar athlete of the year.

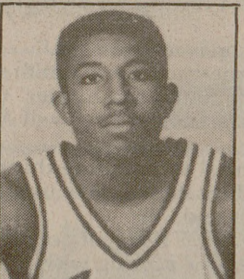
#10 DAVID EDWARDS



Guard 5-9 170 SO-TR

After sitting out last season, Edwards is ready to play again this season. He played in all 31 games as a true freshman at Georgetown University, averaging 5.4 points, 4.8 assists and 2.3 rebounds per game. He ranked second on the Hoya's team with 150 assists and third in steals with 42.

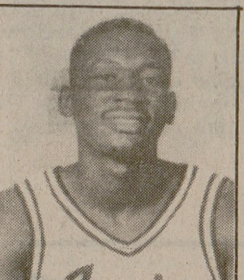
#15 CHUCK HENDERSON



Guard 6-2 170 SO-1L

The 6-foot-2 sophomore out of Lee High School in Houston should be a solid performer this season as a walk-on. Henderson saw limited action last year, averaging 1.1 points and 0.4 rebounds per game. He shot 50.0 percent from the field, connecting on eight-of-16 shots from the field and a pair of three pointers.

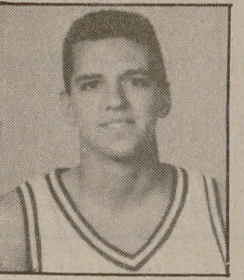
#20 MICHAEL SMITH



Guard 5-10 160 SO-TR

After transferring from Iowa Western Junior College, Smith will be eligible to play this year. At Iowa Western, Smith was named conference newcomer of the year after averaging 12.7 points, 3.3 rebounds, 7.6 assists and 2.2 steals per game. He shot 52.4 percent from the field and 42.3 percent from 3-points range.

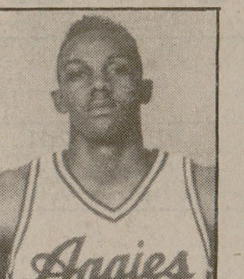
#22 DAVID MARTIN



Guard 5-11 160 JR-2L

Martin is a former walk-on who was awarded a scholarship this past summer. Martin has good knowledge of the game and has been a member of the GTE Southwest Conference Academic Honor Team for two years. Last season, he played in 19 games for A&M and proved to be a threat from 3-point range.

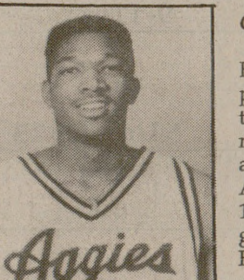
#23 TONY McINNIS



Guard 6-5 182 FR-HS

Out of Butler High School in Huntsville, Ala., McInnis could prove to be one of the best young, A&M players. As a senior at Butler last year, he averaged 20.6 points and 8.2 rebounds per game and was named first-team all-state. He led his team to a 31-4 record.

#32 COREY HENDERSON



Guard 6-6 180 FR-HS

Henderson is one of a group of young players that should form the foundation for the A&M program over the next few years. He was named honorable mention Parade Magazine All-America after averaging 18.5 points, 11.5 rebounds and 10.2 assists per game as a senior at Lee High School in Houston.

Believe to Achieve

Barone ready to face challenge of new year

By Steve O'Brien
The Battalion

The "Effort Board" hangs in the hallway leading to the Texas A&M locker room. Six pieces of paper are pinned to the rectangular piece of cork.

Four of those and a message painted on the locker room wall stand out.

Tacked to the wall is a poem, a formula for success, a story about an NBA All-Star and a list of 10 things the players are supposed to work on during practice.

There are no jokes or cartoons tacked to the board. Only orders and inspiration. Across the small hallway is another reminder: "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Like the paper hanging on the wall, first-year head coach Tony Barone and his A&M basketball team go on display tonight. The Aggies open their 1991-92 season against Prairie View A&M at G. Rollie White Coliseum. Tipoff is at 7:30 p.m.

The Aggies are coming off an 8-21 season last year. Former head coach Kermit Davis Jr. resigned after an NCAA investigation revealed rules violations during his one-year stay. His tenure will continue to affect the program for years to come.

Three players return from last year's squad. Barone will suit up seven freshmen, three sophomores, three juniors and one senior in his regular-season debut as the Aggies' coach.

The numbers aren't good, Barone said.

"It's the old story: we were 8-21 last year and we have the same team coming back," he said. "I'm not sure that's a great deal."

Actually, a number of key players from last year's team are

gone.

Sophomore Brooks Thompson, who led the Aggies last season, transferred to Oklahoma State last spring. Barone Lynn Suber and Freddie Ricks ran out of eligibility. As much

And senior Shedrick Anderson has been suspended from the team until "further notice." Anderson was the team's leading scorer last year.

But turning a losing program into a winner is something Barone has done before. In six years, Barone took Creighton last place in the Missouri Valley Conference to three straight win seasons. Two of those years, Creighton was invited to the NCAA Tournament.

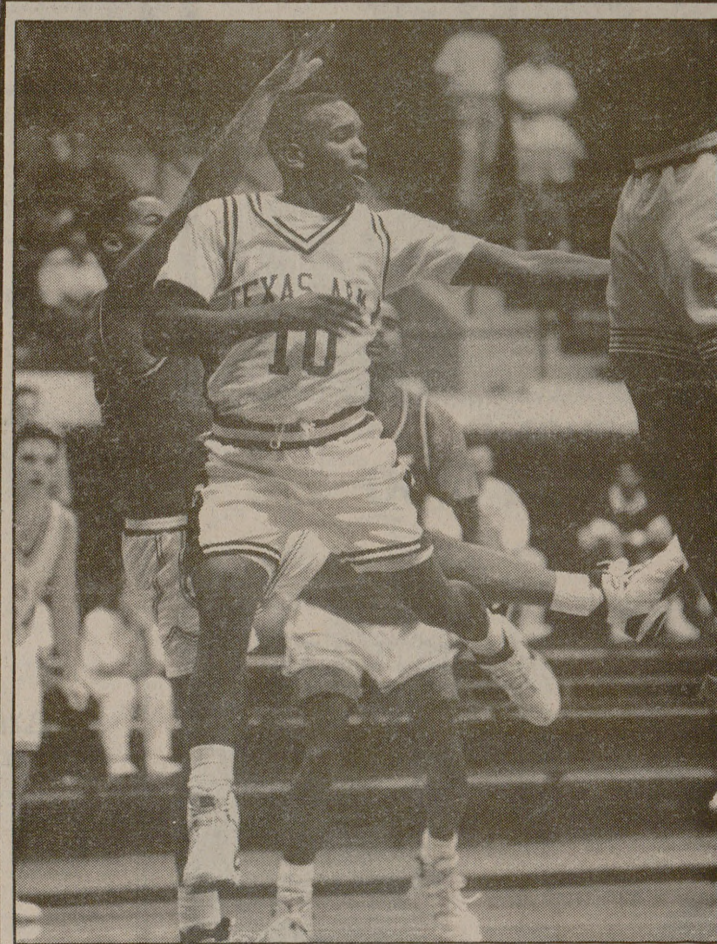
Like the challenge he faced at Creighton, Barone's goal is to improve the team's image. It is part of his formula for success.

"I think the attitude about the Creighton program in the area of the Midwest and A&M in this part of the country is similar," Barone said. "The total program is the issue and we want to be a little different. We want a young person who comes into this program to know that we're interested in his development."

"We want to develop him as a basketball player, as a person and as a person."

Besides image, Barone has to deal with a collection of players. They are players that must be concerned with their individual skills every day, Barone said. Like the wall reads, "pretty good" from each Aggie player works enough for the team as a whole.

"What we have to do is we have to make sure we're every day," Barone said. "Each one of the players and the coaches must understand that each day is a day to improve individually. If we can do that, we'll improve."



KARL STOLLEIS/The Battalion

Sophomore David Edwards wants to soar to new heights this season after sitting out a year. Edwards will lead A&M's offensive attack.

Point guard David Edwards

By Scott Wudel
The Battalion

David Edwards isn't bothered by some of the problems of a lot of towering basketball players encountered when he had a problem finding his pants size in a crowded room. He doesn't have to duck his head when he steps through a doorway. He isn't easily spotted across a crowded room because he stands head and shoulders above the rest.

For Edwards, five feet and nine inches is more than enough. Height means little to him.

Edwards is a believer in the philosophy that you should be with what God gave you.

"I don't get mad at myself because I'm not 6-foot-6," Edwards said. "Other people used to say, 'If I was only 6-foot-6, I'd be a star.'"

"I take my height and use it to the best of my ability," Edwards said. "What that means to Texas A&M basketball is simple: Edwards is the little guy that will make big things happen."

Edwards knows he is highly capable of doing that.

"I don't get mad at myself because I'm not 6-foot-6," Edwards said. "Other people used to say, 'If I was only 6-foot-6, I'd be a star.'"

What they do best and they're only 5-foot-5 or so. "When you sit down and see those guys, you say, 'How can I be mad when Muggsy Bogues is 5-foot-2?'"

Edwards is listed as the shortest player on the Aggies' roster. Perhaps, he has the biggest job of all. As the Aggies' starting point guard, he must be the quarterback of a team short on experience.