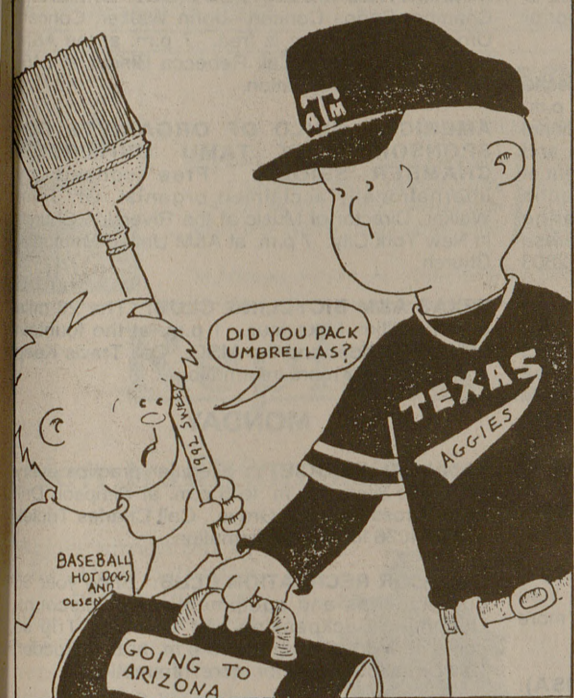


dp 1992



### Golden State shuts down Spurs, 109-94

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Chris Mullin scored 25 points and Sarunas Marciulionis 21 as the Golden State Warriors shut down David Robinson and defeated the San Antonio Spurs 109-94 Thursday night.

Robinson had 14 points and 16 rebounds, but took only nine shots. With teammates helping out, Tyrone Hill held Robinson to two points and one missed shot in the second half.

Willie Anderson and Terry Cummings each scored 18 points for the Spurs, who managed 40 points after halftime, shooting 42.5 percent in the second half.

Hill had 17 points and Tim Hardaway and Billy Owens 16 each for the Warriors, who were 10 points under their NBA-leading scoring average, but allowed 20 points under their league-worst average for points allowed.

## Long-awaited Aggie victory sounds sweet

It had been almost a year since I went to G. Rollie White to watch a Texas A&M basketball game. The last time I witnessed an A&M victory at home was December 20, 1990, so I entered the hallowed hall for the Aggies' game with Texas Southern with quiet enthusiasm. I sat courtside last season as A&M lost heartbreakers to Texas and Baylor. I was in Houston when the Cougars' Derrick Daniels sank a 21-footer with six seconds left to put the Aggies away.



**DOUGLAS PILS**  
Editor-in-Chief

Much worse, I was there when the program came to a screaming halt. The team returned only four players from 1990-91 and the coach was forced to leave in shame.

Enter Tony Barone. The man marched into College Station preaching discipline and high academic standards for his team. While it was understood it would take a couple of years to build a contender, victories would follow in the steps of these two ideals. No one could imagine that by the middle of February there would only be three wins and a 12-game losing streak.

The team has suffered twice the heartbreak of last season. Seven losses have been by less than six points. Late leads were lost to inexperience. A close, hard-fought game against Houston was followed by an embarrassing loss to Texas Tech — a team of lesser talent than the Cougars. There was also the horror of the gas leak at Baylor.

When Barone signed on to revive this "sleeping giant," he didn't bargain for drudgery of a 3-16 start. I expected to find a coach that had a hard time bringing

enthusiasm to a team so downtrodden. What I witnessed was the laying of the first block of a solid foundation. When a team gets down, the hardest thing to do is to get back up. Look no further than the Dallas Mavericks and this becomes all too clear.

The Aggies jumped on TSU from the outset and never trailed. There were moments when the Tigers looked like they might get back in the game, but this time A&M slammed the door shut.

I watched in appreciation how Barone yanks players out to let them know he's not pleased with their performance. That's the respect Barone commands from his players. If he doesn't get it, the player pays the price. Starters David Edwards, Anthony Ware and Shedrick Anderson have all felt the sting of sitting on the bench for long spells this season.

It's apparent Edwards fears Barone's wrath. During timeouts after an Edwards miscue Thursday night, he would take the farthest route possible around other players and coaches so he wouldn't have to walk past Barone on his way to the bench.

Discipline, respect, education — these are

all part of Barone's blueprint for successful basketball at A&M. A victory over an 11-12 team from the Southwestern Athletic Conference isn't going to magically turn this team around, but it's one of those blocks to the foundation that Barone is building.

Solid coaching is what makes a team with good players a great team. Duke, Barone's alma mater, is a perfect example of this quality. Perennially, the Blue Devils challenge for the national title. The magic is they don't do it with superstar players. If you don't believe that, name one NBA superstar from Duke. That's not a crack at Duke, it's the ultimate example of good coaching.

That's the mold that Tony Barone is creating here at A&M. A record of 4-16 is a long way from the Final Four or even a conference championship, but it's a start, and it also ends a horrendous losing streak.

Give Coach B time, he'll conjure up something good out of the ruins of Aggie basketball. And the same goes for you, Coach. Give the throngs at A&M time to figure out what's going on at G. Rollie, they'll come around.

In the meantime, it sure was nice to hear the victory bells from Albritton Tower cascading down the walls of Rudder Tower into the MSC fountain after a basketball game. I don't want to even begin to think how long it's been since that's happened.

Douglas Pils is the editor of *The Battalion* and covered A&M basketball during the 1990-91 season and the hiring of Tony Barone.

### Edwards changes play

Continued from Page 5

Edwards has to realize is that he's got to look at this game tonight and see how he made us win the game."

What a more conservative Edwards did was play with caution. He refused to take chances, and made the decisions that gave A&M the opportunity to win the game and break a 12-game streak of frustration.

"He turned the game around for us in terms of the things he did," Barone said. "None of which were of the spectacular variety. They were very sound plays. He didn't have to take it behind his back or between his legs to win."

Edwards played all but two minutes of the game and scored 18 points. He also handed out nine assists and kept his turnovers to a minimum. More importantly, he reestablished himself as the leader of the A&M team.

"I just had to reevaluate myself as far as winning," Edwards said. "I've been doing a lot of things for myself and not for the team."

Through the Hurley article, Barone showed Edwards that he cared about his success. Through his performance Wednesday, the point guard showed his teacher that he had listened to the lessons he had been given throughout the season.

"People think that David and I are chewing at each other and that's not the case at all," Barone said. "I want him to be good and he's been very cooperative."

"I thought he played a really good game tonight." For Edwards, Thursday's win simply proved that the Aggies were capable of more than a 12-game losing streak.

"We don't have any All-Americans on our team or anything like that," he said. "We play a lot of good teams and we play hard."

"When we walk off the court we still have our heads held high because a win is a win and a loss is a loss."



The A&M basketball team huddles around coach Tony Barone Thursday during a timeout

in the Aggies' game against Texas Southern. A&M broke its 12-game losing streak, 75-67.

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