

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Bulls hold Olajuwon to season low of 15

CHICAGO (AP) — Hakeem Olajuwon was held to a season-low 15 points on 2-for-18 shooting and B.J. Armstrong led a balanced Chicago attack with 20 points as the Bulls beat the Houston Rockets 100-81 Sunday.

Toni Kukoc scored 18 points and Scottie Pippen and Steve Kerr added 15 each to help the Bulls win the matchup of teams that won the last four NBA titles.

Robert Horry scored 19 points to lead the defending champion Rockets, who have lost four of their last five games. Houston shot 33 percent to Chicago's 50 percent.

Olajuwon, the league's MVP in 1993-94, entered the game as the NBA's third-leading scorer with a 28.1-point average.

But with Sunday's national TV audience watching, he missed short jumpers and hook shots, couldn't hit from his favored baseline spots and even botched a dunk as he failed to reach 20 points for only the fifth time this season.

### Spurs lose despite Rodman's 25 boards

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana Pacers survived a costly blunder in the closing seconds Sunday and beat San Antonio 98-93 behind Rik Smits' 16 points.

A 3-point basket by the Spurs' Sean Elliott with 17 seconds to go cut Indiana's lead to four points. But the Pacers' Sam Mitchell was ejected after a flagrant foul when he shoved San Antonio's Dennis Rodman out of bounds.

Rodman hit one of two free throws, and the Spurs retained possession. But San Antonio couldn't capitalize on the opportunity as Elliott missed a 3-pointer and Indiana's Haywoode Workman was fouled on the rebound.

Workman scored the final two points on free throws.

Derrick McKey added 15 points, Reggie Miller had 14 and Workman finished with 12 to offset 34 points by the Spurs' David Robinson and a season-high 25 rebounds by Rodman, who returned after being benched for a game because he missed a shooter.

Elliott added 12 points and Rodman had 11 points.

### Mav's Tarpley under stringent guidelines

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Mavericks forward Roy Tarpley said he hopes a formal meeting with representatives of his aftercare program will erase questions about his recent demeanor on the court.

Dr. Lloyd Baccus, Tarpley's Atlanta-based aftercare supervisor, plans a formal meeting with Tarpley today, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported Sunday, quoting Tarpley and a team source.

As a condition for returning to the NBA after a three-year absence for violating the league's drug policy, Tarpley must undergo daily tests for alcohol, heroin and cocaine use.

No recent failings have been reported, but eyebrows were raised among teammates, management and others because his words were slurred and he acted boisterously before three recent home games.

Tarpley, who has missed the past four games with tendonitis in his right knee, had a long, heated discussion on Friday with director of player personnel Keith Grant, who asked him to leave Reunion Arena just before halftime of the Mavericks' game with the New York Knicks.

Tarpley, who had been on the bench in street clothes for the earlier games he was injured, was not with the team on Saturday night for the Mavericks' game in Reunion Arena against the Seattle SuperSonics.

Tarpley said he wants to play Friday at home against Minnesota.

Grant indicated that team management has voiced its concerns about Tarpley's demeanor to the league office and to aftercare representatives.

Tarpley said that's OK with him.

"Let's clear up all the rumors," he said. "I'm tired of defending myself. People are harder on me now than back when I was doing things to deserve it."

Grant said no action will be taken regarding his lengthy, sometimes heated meeting with Tarpley on Friday.

## Aggies win despite foul trouble

□ Kessel's clutch free throws ensure victory over Houston Cougars.

By Robert Rodriguez

THE BATTALION

Texas A&M men's basketball coach Tony Barone did not talk to guard Corey Henderson for two days before the Aggies took on the Houston Cougars Saturday. Based on Henderson's performance, maybe silence is golden.

Henderson tied a career-high with 18 points on six of nine shooting from the three-point line to help the Aggies defeat the Cougars 73-68 before a crowd of 4,485 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

"There's no question Corey (Henderson) can shoot the ball," Barone said. "I haven't talked to him for two days. We just left him alone and let him shoot the

ball. I thought he did a really good job for us today."

The six three-pointers Henderson buried tied for the second most in a SWC game by an Aggie player. Henderson's older brother Chuck, set the record by draining seven three point-ers against the Cougars in 1992. Henderson said the team played a large part in his shooting performance.

"I came out focused and had confidence in my first couple of shots," he said. "I just want to thank the team for having the confidence in me and giving me the ball."

Not only was it a career day for Henderson, but junior John Stevens also had his best game as an Aggie. Stevens came off the bench to score 15 points and pull down nine rebounds.

"I've had a tough season and it felt good to play well against a good Houston team," Stevens said.

The Aggies jumped out early to a quick 10-4 lead before foul

trouble forced Damon Johnson and Joe Wilbert to the bench and sparked a Cougar comeback. The Aggies came back with a 19-8 run of their own at the end of the first half, thanks in large part to Henderson and Stevens, to post an eight point lead at halftime.

"We can't rely on Joe (Wilbert) every game," guard Kyle Kessel said. "When Wilbert is out of the game, we have to pick up the scoring a lot. That's when Corey stepped it up for us today."

The second half began with an 11-2 run by the Cougars that gave them the lead, 44-43, with 16 minutes left to play. The Aggies bounced back due in large part to clutch performances by several players.

"Damon Johnson worked hard in the paint and really hit the boards," Barone said. "He came up with a couple of key rebounds down the stretch."

The lead kept on switching hands until Kessel sealed the victory with four clutch free throws.

"I knew if I knocked down my free throws at the end, I could really help this team," Kessel said. "We've lost some games in the past by missing free throws and we really needed this win today to get the enthusiasm back."

Kessel was not the only one hitting his free throws. The team as a whole only missed one free throw in 12 attempts.

Wilbert tied Henderson for the team scoring lead at 18. Houston freshman Damon Jones led all scorers with 20 points while Kirk Ford and Tim Moore each added 15 points for the Cougars.

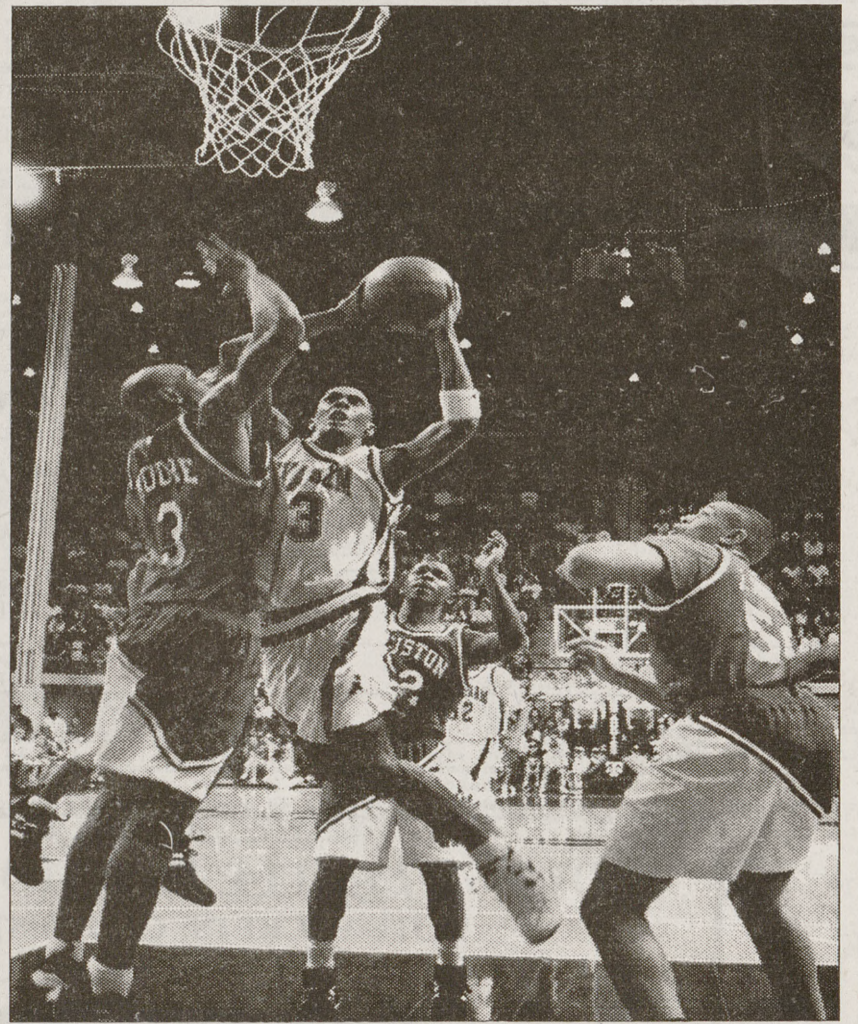
"I was real proud of my team and I have a great deal of respect for the way they played today," Barone said. "Coming off a tough loss to Rice is tough to bounce back from."

The men's basketball team now holds a six-game home winning streak to start the season, the best start since the 1986-87 season when the Aggies started 8-0 at home.

The Aggies will now face road games at Siena, Texas Christian University, and Southern Methodist. The team will not play another game at the friendly confines of G.Rollie White until Feb. 4 when Baylor comes to town.

"We don't seem to run off a home-stand so we are kind of used to going on the road," Barone said. "I don't know if we like going on the road, but obviously when you win, it gives you some momentum to have going into the next game."

## Aggies travel to Siena for last non-conference match-up



Roger Hsieh/THE BATTALION

Senior Tony McGinnis goes up strong in the paint during

the Aggies win against the Houston Cougars Saturday.

□ Aggies six-game home win streak put on hold until Feb. 4.

By Shelly Hall

THE BATTALION

As the Texas A&M men's basketball team travels the road to their last non-conference game against the Siena Saints on Tuesday, coach Tony Barone has one thought for the road.

"It's amazing, the fans mean so much to this team," Barone said. "If we could we would like to take all of them with us on the road."

While Barone knows that is impossible, he said the key to a victory against a physical Siena team is player confidence, especially considering the Aggies' problems on the

road this season.

"The confidence that we have now must carry over on the road to Siena," Barone said.

The Aggies will need to pack a lot of confidence considering the decisive 73-62 home defeat handed to them by Siena last year according to Barone.

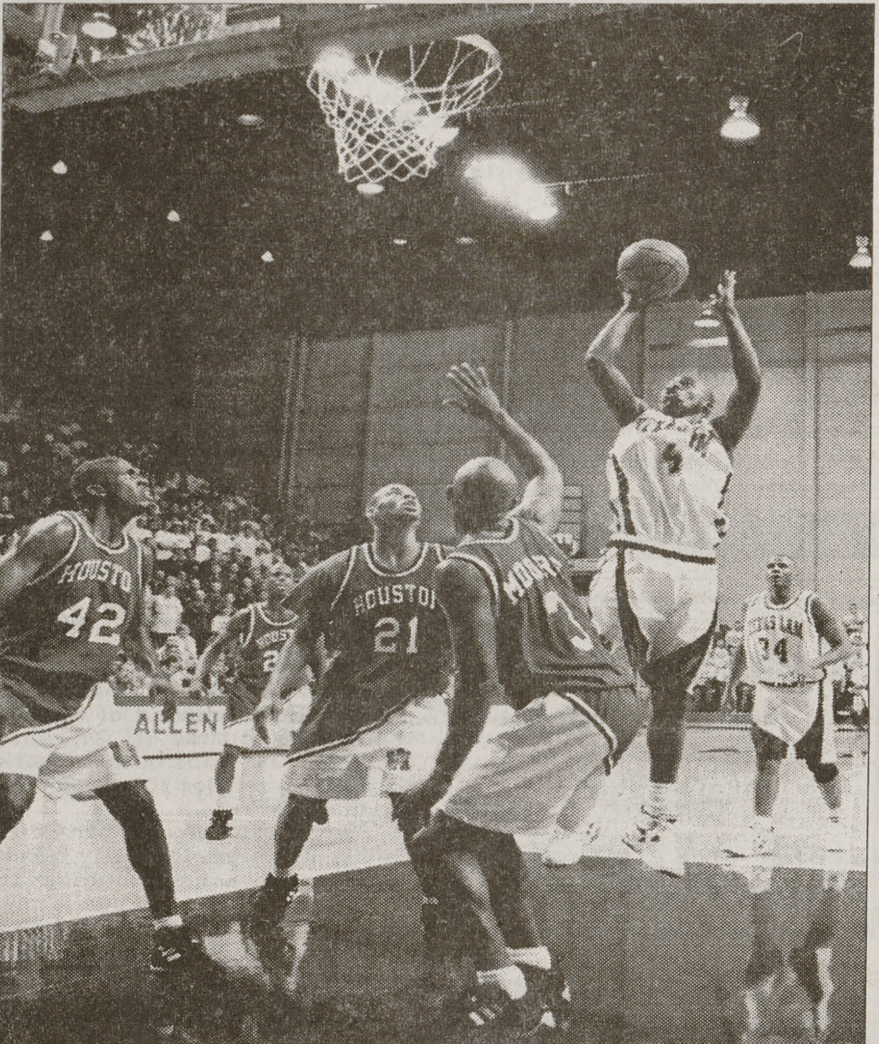
"Siena kicked our butts last year," Barone said. "They dominated us more than any other team we played."

Freshman point guard Kyle Kessel agrees that confidence is the key to the game against Siena.

"We need to play on the road like we play at home in order to play a good team like Siena," Kessel said.

Kessel said the key to his own confidence against Siena is visualization.

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Roger Hsieh/THE BATTALION

Junior John Stevens pulls up for a short jumper in Saturday's

game against the Houston Cougars at G. Rollie

## NFL looking for brains behind all that brawn



DAVE WINDER  
SPORTS EDITOR

It used to be all you needed to be drafted by the National Football League was talent. Now, you have to have talent and score well on a 50-question test that the NFL administrators to measure a player's logic and temperament.

"Would you consider wearing shoes with no socks to a black tie affair?"

"A car travels 16 mph for 27 minutes. How far has the car gone?"

Those are just two examples of questions the league will be asking. A player's draft position can actually be affected by what they score on the test. A guy could conceivably lose between \$500,000 -

\$1,000,000 by answering a question about "puppy love" wrong.

The New York Giants have gone even farther than that. They give players they want to draft a 480-question test.

"Do you believe Elvis Presley is still alive?"

"Do you stare directly into a setting sun?"

From these questions the Giants hope to find the next Lawrence Taylor or avoid drafting the next Tony Mandarich.

Other teams are now jumping on the exam bandwagon. Using specific questions, teams are now able to determine what players fit their team the best. The following are example questions from other NFL franchises.

**Dallas Cowboys**

"Do you think a team can tie too many players doing radio and television shows?"

"Would you consider yourself a reckless driver?"

"Has Newt Gingrich's mother ever

whispered anything to you?"

"Have you ever hit a referee at the end of a crucial game?"

"Would you consider the firing of the head coach of the two-time defending Super Bowl champions a bad move?"

**Buffalo Bills**

"Have you ever looked into the sun reflecting off the bald spot of an aging quarterback?"

"Do you think O.J. Simpson is guilty or innocent?" (Before you answer, remember 'The Juice' is a former Bill)

"Do you think Paul Maguire is the most annoying announcer working pro football today?"

"Would you be able to find your helmet on a crowded bench?"

"Does losing leave a refreshing taste in your mouth?"

**San Francisco 49ers**

"Do you think Deion Sanders is musically inclined?"

"Who would you compare Steve Young to? Joe Montana or Danny White?"

"Do you think Newt Gingrich's mother has ever whispered anything about O.J. Simpson being guilty or innocent?"

"Who would you compare Merton Hanks too? Ronnie Lott or E.T.?"

"Would you consider buying a new defense for one year unethical?"

**Houston Oilers**

"Would you like to play for a smart owner?"

"When playing John Madden '95 on Sega do you usually avoid our team like the plague?"

"If Newt Gingrich's mother helps O.J. Simpson escape the police by driving 35 mph in a slow white Ford Bronco, how many people will stand along the highway holding signs reading, 'Hillary's a Bitch on the Loose, Mexico's a Cinch Juice?'"

"How do you feel about playing on an offense that can't run or pass?"

"Do you like to watch the other teams spike the ball?"

The new NFL. It's all brains and brawn.

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