

Sports

They should run the Harde-way

Touchdown terror with the cornrows, No. 20 made an Arnold-esque statement with his play Saturday against the Louisiana Tech defense. They'll tell you.

Tiki is back. Senior fullback D'Andre Harde-man scored all three of A&M touchdowns against the Bulldogs and has accounted for all the Aggies' offensive touchdowns this season.

With the addition of prized Kilgore recruit Ja'Mar Toombs paying the way to the end zone, A&M coach R.C. Slocum now has the opportunity to use Harde-man's talents at the tail-

back position, where he belongs. Harde-man is the best short-yardage runner on the team. He proved he can be a breakaway threat in the end zone. (Harde-man owns the school record for the longest run from scrimmage, a 95-yard run in 1996.)

Harde-man calls on No. 20 in clutch situations, like the rain-drenched Texas game in 1997, when he ran 21 times for 121 yards and provided the offense to beat A&M's hated rivals for the first time in two years.

After a lackluster 1997 performance in which he had only seven touchdowns, Harde-man looks to return to his 1996 form when he averaged 17 yards per carry and scored 17 touchdowns this season.

Harde-man says "Touchdown Tiki" is back. "I'm not saying that I'll do what is best for the team," he said. "If having the ball in my hands is best for the team, then I'll do my best."

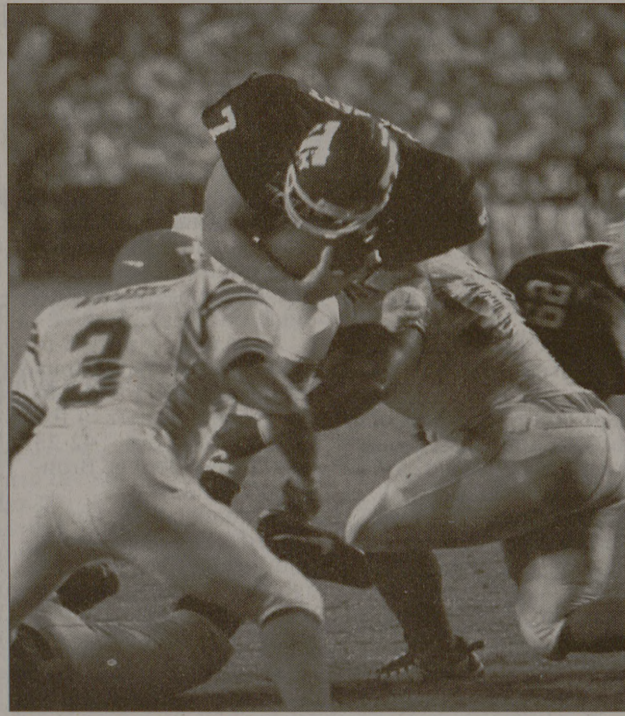
Harde-man seems to fit the trend of big, powerful college football and the NFL. Throw Harde-man into the game during a rainstorm and watch him begin as would-be tacklers slide off his 5-inch, 232-pound frame.

Harde-man and Sirr Parker provide a nice change of pace, but hasn't "three yards and a cloud of dust" A&M way since, well, since Paul "Bear" Bryant was in diapers?

Harde-man is a school that lives and dies by the running game. He is a full-ahead bruiser in the mold of Jerome Bettis. The way to go — durable, dependable and able to coughing up the ball. For an offense as conservative as the one in College Station, "Touchdown Tiki" is the man.

Ask a player might watch the replay of the game to see how the Aggies fared against receiver Troy Edwards. But the Corn-crow should take notice of the bulldozer posing right-ahead running back. They might see him early December.

Jeff Webb is a senior journalism major.



Senior quarterback Brannon Stewart gets pummeled on an option play Saturday night against Louisiana Tech.

FOOTBALL

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After three straight runs by Dante Hall, Stewart took an option play to the Tech 2-yard line. Harde-man could not push through Tech's defensive line, and the Aggies had to settle for a 19-yard Russell Bynum field goal to end the first quarter. The field goal was the first of Bynum's career.

Tech managed to drive to the A&M 19-yard line on its first drive of the second quarter but came up short after failing to convert a fourth-down attempt.

On the next drive, Stewart completed a fourth-down pass to wide receiver Chris Cole, who reached the Tech 20-yard line. Stewart gained five yards on the next play. Hall carried two times, taking the ball to the Tech 1-yard line, setting up Harde-man's first touchdown of the game.

The next three possessions were a comedy of errors for both teams.

Rattay threw an interception to Coady. A&M's possession was not much better, as Hall fumbled and Tech safety Bobby Gray re-

covered the ball.

Tech running back John Simon caught an 11-yard pass from Rattay but coughed up the football to Aggie cornerback Jason Webster at the Tech 47-yard line.

A&M managed to hold on to the ball this time.

Hall gained nine yards on consecutive plays, and Stewart hit running back Ja'Mar Toombs for 17 yards and Hodge for eight yards, bringing A&M to the Tech 5-yard line. Bynum connected on a 23-yard field goal to end first-half scoring.

A&M capitalized on two Tech personal fouls in the third quarter to reach Tech's 37-yard line. Stewart hit tight end Derrick Spiller for a first down and carried for seven yards on the next play.

Harde-man broke through the Tech defense at the 10-yard line, fumbled at the 1-yard line but recovered his own fumble in the end zone for his second score of the game, giving A&M a 19-0 lead.

Stewart then hit Spiller in the back of the end zone on the 2-point conversion.

Tech managed its only score of

the game on the next drive. Edwards lined up at quarterback in the shotgun formation and ran the ball in from eight yards out after A&M linebacker Warrick Holdman lost containment on the play.

Stewart completed three passes for 23 yards on the next possession, and Harde-man rumbled for a 5-yard carry on a fourth-and-one to Tech's 31-yard-line.

A&M was helped along by a 15-yard pass interference call to reach the Tech 16-yard line.

Harde-man rounded out the scoring with a 9-yard touchdown run, giving the Aggies a 28-7 victory.

Tech made one more push to the A&M 3-yard line, but Rattay's pass was intercepted by Coady in the end zone.

A&M Coach R. C. Slocum said he was happy with his team's performance despite missing out on some opportunities.

"I was pleased with our defensive effort in controlling a very good offensive team," Slocum said. "I thought we had some opportunities we didn't take advantage of, but overall I was pleased with the effort."

Soccer finishes second in Wisconsin

From staff and wire reports

The Texas A&M Soccer Team traveled to Wisconsin this weekend to face a doubleheader against the Wisconsin Badgers and the Arizona State Sun Devils in their first road trip of the season.

A&M started out the weekend with a Friday night win over Wisconsin by a score of 2-1, thanks to the footwork of sophomore Alison Peters and senior Sharon Pickering.

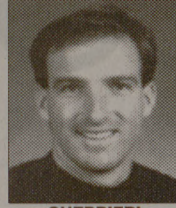
Peters got the first ball in the net off a double assist from sophomores Katie Offutt and Amber Reynolds with just over 21 minutes elapsed. Then Pickering received an assist from Peters to set her up to score the Aggies second and final point of the game with just under nine minutes remaining in the first half.

The Badgers put up a

strong fight in the second half, outshooting the Aggies 12 to 5. Yet the rally was too late, as Wisconsin could not put up any points until the 86th minute when Allison Wagner scored off a double assist from Maria De Giovanni and Emily Stevens.

"Fortunately we took advantage of our chances in the first half tonight," A&M coach G. Guerrieri said. "Wisconsin played hard and did a good job knocking us out of our game all night. It's nice when we have a less than impressive performance and can still get a good result."

With less than four min-



GUERRIERI

CC women take second

From staff and wire reports

The Texas A&M Women's Cross Country Team continued its early-season success Saturday morning by placing second at the Miami (Ohio) University Invitational.

The Aggies finished with 53 points, 21 behind overall winner Ball State University.

Freshman Melissa Gulli led the Aggies, placing fourth and covering the three-mile course in 18 minutes and 46 seconds.

Sophomore Debbie Villarreal placed 10th, finishing at 19:09.

Junior Ann Dwyer and sophomore Brooke Edwards — finishing a second later — took 12th and 13th place, respectively.

A&M's final scorer was freshman Sarah Doyle, who crossed the line one second behind Edwards and Dwyer at 19:11 to take 14th place.

Freshman Kristy Bonn and

sophomore Lauren Berryman also had strong performances, placing 20th and 21st.

The men's team fared well, placing four runners in the top 20 individual finishers. They placed fourth overall with a score of 94 points.

Sophomore Jim Pat Darcy placed 14th while covering the five-mile course in a team-leading 26:19.

Freshman Brandon Beasley followed at 26:24, placing 15th.

Other top 20 finishers were redshirt freshman Bryan Oubre and sophomore Chuck Cusimano, who placed 17th and 18th, respectively.

Also scoring for the men was freshman Chris Lee, who placed 30th.

Rounding out the team were freshmen Mike Sovinsky in 35th place and Lane Bartle in 36th place.

Both teams will compete at the Southern Mississippi Open in Hattiesburg, Miss., on Sept. 18.

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Tricia Chee began building her future in 1995 within GE's Technical Leadership Program. Today, she's an Account Manager at GE Power Systems.

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