



Mike Lord

# Lord sees Aggies as a much improved team over last year

By BILL HENRY  
Assistant Sports Editor

Mike Lord is mild mannered, intelligent, and somewhat conservative, until he is unleashed on the football field; then he turns into a demon.

This 6-1, 220, senior linebacker from Baton Rouge feels the team is in for a great year after the disappointing season a year ago. Coach Gene Stallings has helped the chances of a great season by simplifying both the

offensive and defensive strategy. "We are not going for the big play as in years past, in fact I have even taken down the sign in the dressing room which says 'Make the Big Play,'" stated Stallings. "We have been so conscious about the five or six big plays a game that we forgot about the other 75. This is where I think we have been in error," he added.

With all the talk about the simplified offense and defense,

better execution, and more confidence in the team a fan asks, "What really is the difference in this year's edition of the Aggies?"

"Almost everything has changed around here this year. We are tapering our workouts. We are getting on the field and off and getting our job done. The workouts have even been easier because we save our full contact drills until Saturday when we can inflict the blow on

our opponents, not our own players. It makes us a little hungry for contact when we play the game fresh instead of being tired from the head knocking during the week's practice."

Lord was also asked what he felt were the strong points of this year's club.

"We are executing on both offense and defense far better than we did last year. We were more concerned with how we did our assignments than how our as-

signments turned out. This year we will get the job done the way we are best qualified and not worry about our form," he said.

"LSU really wants to beat us this year after last year's game because it made them look terrible to the sports writers around the country after we had such a disappointing season. They only lost two other games all season, by three points to Notre Dame and by five to Nebraska in the Orange Bowl", Lord elab-

orated. "Wichita is much improved over last year, even with the loss of many of their older players," Lord said about Saturday's opponent. He was also asked about top WSU players. "Randy Jackson will be one of the best we've seen all year. I'd place him as one of the top runners in the nation", he added. Lord also has a lot of respect for the Shiner quarterback, Rick Baehr, who he feels is "real quick and agile".

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