studying as he is running (4.5 seconds in the 40-yard

dash), he should have no problem completing his

education or contributing on the gridiron.

When Walker gets on the field this season, it will

be mainly on special teams. But Doll said if

Walker starts to feel more

comfortable at his position,

the linebacker might win

some defensive playing

portant for us," Doll said.
"He has made some good

tackles on special teams,

(but) he's still trying to

learn the outside line-

outside linebacker Antonio

Walker credits junior

"Special teams are im-

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Sports Briefs

Cross Country meet The Texas A&M men's and women's teams will compete in the Sam Houston State Invitational in Huntsville on Saturday. The women's 5000-meter will start at 8:30 a.m. and the men's five-mile run will begin at 9:40

Women's volleyball

The Lady Aggies encounter a challenging weekend as they face the 15th-ranked Georgia Lady Bulldogs in Athens on Saturday at 6:30p.m. and the South Carolina Gamecocks on Sunday

From Staff and Wire Reports

Combo

Continued from Page 5

been as pressure-packed as one might think.

"I can't expect my-self to play like Buck-ley," Shorter said. "If I have a good season like Buck, then great. If I don't, then I can't get down.

'My concern needs to be playing football like I can and not trying to play like Marcus.

At the other end of the line, Solari struggled in the early going of the season and ended up missing most of the Oklahoma game with a concussion. But he said that he turned around the next week in A&M's 73-0 pasting of Mis-

'I recovered three fumbles against them," the standout from Sugar Land Willowridge said. "I should have said. scored a touchdown on one of the recoveries, but I was more worried

about just recovering it. "Now, everything is going good.

Davie said that since Solari is playing well, the defense has more options than before because of us athletic abil-

"Steve gives us flexibility because we can play multiple defenses and do different things," Davie said. He can be a nickel back when he plays a lot of man-to-man, or he could rush the passer. Steve is a great ath-

Shorter's path to success had no short cuts, and the product of Houston's Kashmere High School landed his position by competing on every play.
"I think the Okla-

homa game was my breakthrough because I played the whole game," Shorter said. The next morning I was sore and exhausted. Coach Davie said to never let them see you sweat, but those guys

saw me sucking wind.
"I was surprised to find out I played every play, but I was so into the game I didn't realize it. But that was secondary because I was disappointed in losing like we did (44-14).

Shorter also said the game was a learning experience.

"After watching the films, I saw I was two anxious and made what I call rookie mistakes,"
he said. "A veteran
would have made some
of those play's, but I
have learned and improved." proved."

Davie said Shorter's every-down perfor-mance throughout the Oklahoma Oklahoma game showed the coach that Shorter could be an out-

standing player.
"(At first) I told him we were going to have get him a bottle of tobasco sauce to get a flame under him, (but) now he is not feeling his way around much, Davie said. "I think he can play at the next lev-

And vault into a lot of other teams' back

Freshman Spotlight A&M's Walker becomes special contributor If Walker is as fast

By Jose de Jesus Ortiz

Textbook moves characterize Texas A&M freshman outside linebacker Larry Walker II.

On the field, he is aggressive and fast as he contributes on special teams. Off the field, the former Rusk High School standout works out with the books, majoring in biomedical sci-

A&M outside linebackers coach Kirk Doll said Walker can be an excellent performer for the Aggies

"To be a great football player, you have to have great effort, intelligence and be a great athlete," Doll said. "He has all of those."

The 6-feet-2-inch, 200pound Walker carried the load in high school by also carrying the ball. As a running back, Walker rushed for 1,307 yards, scoring 26 touchdowns, but he was recruited for his skill on de-

fense. A&M originally slotted him as a strong safety but moved him back to his preferred position.

Walker said he wants his career to shadow a former A&M linebacker who now plays for the New

"Now that I am at A&M, I pattern my game after Marcus Buckley," he said. "I want to achieve everything that he achieved." Walker said that while at A&M he will strive to

prepare for his life away from Kyle Field. My education is what is going to help me in my life," Walker said. "You are going to have to do something after football is over, and I realize that education is the key."



helped the Aggies get a leg up this season.

Shorter as the player who has taken Walker under his wing.
"Everyone has been A&M freshman linebacker Larry Walker II has helpful to me, but Shorter has taken me and shown

me the ropes,'

backer position."

said. "He does not just tell me how, he shows me exactly how to do it through his actions.

Walker said he knows a starting position could be a year away

"My goal is to be a starter," he said. "I am going to do my best, and hopefully a starting position

will come later. Before he graduates from A&M Walker said he wants to accomplish two things: To be a part of the number one team in the nation and to show that academics can play hand-in-hand with a winning

Some people stereotype us as dumb jocks, and I want to prove that you can be great at football

and academics.

THE BATTALION WRITERS	PLUMER	HARRISON	CHELKOWSKI	RUSH	WINDER	CLAY	DIENER	GEORGANDIS	CORRINGTON	WHITLEY	ORTIZ	CONSENSUS COMMENTS
Houston @ #14 Texas A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M - Coogs declawed; don't take spread
#10 Oklahoma vs. Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	Texas	Oklahoma	Texas	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Texas	Oklahoma	Okla Gardere not here, Sooners kick rear
Baylor @ Southern Methodist	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor	SMU	SMU	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor - Bears discover merits of play-callin
N.C. State @ Texas Tech	N.C. State	N.C. State	Tech	Tech	N.C. State	N.C. State	N.C State	N.C. State	Tech	N.C. State	N.C. State	N.C. State - Tech is dead, dead, dead
Texas Christian @ Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice - But you have to respect TCU. Or no
#3 Miami @ #1 Florida State	Miami	Florida State	Miami	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State	Fla. St A 13-point spread??? No way				
#13 Washington @ #16 California	Washington	Washington	Washington	California	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Washington	Wash California meets a defense
#17 Louisville @ #24 West Virginia	Louisville	WVU	WVU	Louisville	WVU	Louisville	WVU	Louisville	WVU	WVU	Louisville	WVU - Mountaineers rowdy at home
#19 Brigham Young @ #25 UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	BYU	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA - Okay, ONE person likes BYU
Mississippi State @ #22 Auburn	Miss. State	Miss. State	Auburn	Miss. State	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Miss. State	Auburn	Miss. State	Auburn	Auburn - Good 'nieff at home to beat Jack
Dallas Cowboys @ Indianapolis Colts	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys - Dolts go down despicably
Houston Oilers @ Buffalo Bills	Bills	Oilers	Bills	Bills	Oilers	Bills	Bills	Oilers	Bills	Bills	Bills	Bills - And nowwwww - the Loserbowl!
RECORD FOR PREVIOUS WEEK	9-2	8-3	8-3	6-5	8-3	8-3	8-3	7-4	7-4	5-6	7-4	81-40 (669) Hey - the Oilers didn't pla
CUMULATIVE RECORD	31-27(.534)	37-21(.638)	36-22(.621)	32-26(.551)	32-26(.551)	35-23(.603)	34-24(.586)	38-20(,660)	35-23(.603)	34-24(.586)	28-18(.609)	372-254 (.594) Threw out the SMU tie

Aggies continued from Page 5

demand some adjustments for

A&M's offense, as well. "We don't know a whole lot about what their defense does," Pullig said, "so we're just going to have to play it by ear and see what they do to us. "I know Houston has a lot of

great athletes and maybe this year they've finally come out and put

it together."

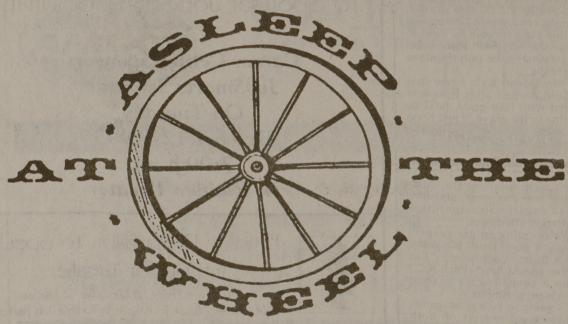
But even though the Aggies are unsure about the challenge Houston will present, England said he is confident that the A&M defense will have few problems handling the new Houston offense.

'If we stop the run, they'l have to bring the run and shoot back," he said. "They'll have to start passing more, so I'm not really concerned about it.

"I just want to stop the run and then we can have a little fun."

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