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ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEW
 Wednesday, April 20, 1994

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#37 Jackson pulls the old switch-a-roo

By Drew Diener
 The Battalion



Newly appointed A&M defensive end Larry Jackson (middle) runs through drills during the football team's spring practice.

When Larry Jackson takes the field next season, it will not be at his familiar inside linebacker position. Instead, the fifth year senior-to-be will line up at the unfamiliar position of defensive end. What started off as an experiment at the beginning of spring practice has turned out to be a permanent move, A&M head coach R.C. Slocum said.

"We're really pleased with him," Slocum said. "I think he's made a great adjustment."

A&M defensive coordinator Tommy Tuberville echoed Slocum's sentiments concerning the move. Tuberville said that given Jackson's increasing size, he probably has a better opportunity of contributing to the team by playing defensive end.

"It looks like he's taken to it well," Tuberville said. "He's getting better everyday and we think that he's going to be an outstanding player."

Tuberville said that Jackson possesses several tools that make him an outstanding ballplayer.

"He's got superb athletic ability, great quickness, and a lot of height," Tuberville said. "He's very coachable and he's got a great work ethic."

Tuberville also cited Jackson's ability to lead his teammates as a plus. With a great deal of younger players expected to step into contributing roles next season, the coaching staff will count on Jackson to be a leader.

Jackson expressed his comfort with the role.

"After being here for four years, it's finally my turn," Jackson said. "You can't ask guys that just got here, who haven't been in a battle on the (college) football field, to lead you."

Jackson has been in those big games. After starring on special teams as a redshirt freshman on A&M's 1991 SWC Championship team, Jackson earned a starting role at inside linebacker the following season. Unfortunately, Jackson broke his hand in the SMU game and was forced to miss the remainder of the season including a return trip to the Cotton Bowl.

Jackson reassumed his spot at inside linebacker last year when former A&M inside linebacker Jessie Cox was suspended for the entire season by the NCAA. The three-time letterman responded to the pressure placed upon him and was an integral part of A&M's third consecutive SWC championship team.

Jackson said that he has no regrets about his career at A&M even though his team never won the Cotton Bowl during their three year run and that they are not eligible at another shot next season, his final one as an Aggie.

"The best thing that ever happened me since I've been here is being able to play, get on the field, and contribute to A&M's victories," Jackson said. "I would have wanted to win (the Cotton Bowl) but I'm sure anyone would have wanted to."

"When it comes down to it, we accom-

plished a whole lot."

As far as adjusting to his new position is concerned, Jackson feels extremely confident in his ability to contribute and subsequently succeed.

"I'm learning about it everyday," Jackson said. "Actually it is a lot better than when I started (practicing) there on the first day."

Although by defensive line standards he is not a big player, Jackson believes that his speed will play a major factor in his ability to make a solid contribution. At 6 feet 4 inches and 239 pounds, Jackson believes that if he bulks up to around 255, he will be at an optimum playing weight to succeed against 300 pound offensive linemen.

"At linebacker I didn't necessarily have to hit every single play," Jackson said. "Playing on the line, my job is to neutralize the (offensive) linemen."

"It's a lot more physical there."

Jackson, like his coaches, believe that his football future after college may be at defensive end. Jackson said that he will continue to work daily to be able to compete effectively by the time the 1994 season rolls around.

"I would like to have a good, strong season," Jackson said. "I will try to stay low-profile and take care of my business."

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Softball

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game 7-2.

"I think the team played well, because it was our last home game," said Gerken, who went five for seven with three RBIs and three runs scored. "It was a very important game for us."

Gonzalez, who ranks second in the nation in wins, raised her record to 25-9. Kiobassa's loss lowered her record to 5-10.

"Southwest Texas State came

Baseball

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Johnson said the late inning heroics gave him confidence the Aggies will start getting some breaks around Olsen Field.

"We have some Olsen Field magic," he said. "We haven't had it lately, so that's the touch of something we haven't had lately."

Buchman and shortstop Rich Petru helped get the Aggies out of the inning when they combined for a 2-6-2 throw out at

Baseball

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home.

With men on first and third the Roadrunners' Mickey Petru decided to steal second. Buchman allowed him the steal by throwing to Petru, who cut off the throw and blasted back to Buchman for the tag at home.

Buchman said the Aggies expected the double-steal attempt.

"Coach Johnson put that play we practice everyday," Buchman said. "I just tried to get a throw for Rich to handle."

"It helped our club come back in the bottom of the inning, and things started rolling after that."

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Job market got ya down? Can't find a job that is rewarding AND fun?

Well, look no further. The 1995 AGGIELAND is now taking applications for photographers, writers and designers. Applications are available in 012 Reed McDonald from 10-3. The applications are due Friday, April 15 by noon. Working on the AGGIELAND is a great opportunity to be a part of recording Aggie history.

AGGIELAND
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MATHEMATICS CONTEST
 Annual Freshmen and Sophomore MATHEMATICS CONTEST

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1994
 7:30 P.M.- 9:30 P.M.

Room 317 Milner Hall

It is intended to award at least six prizes:

1. \$150 for paper judged to be the best overall
2. \$125 for second best
3. \$100 for third best
4. \$80 for fourth
5. \$60 for fifth
6. \$50 for sixth

Contest problems will cover topics up through Math 151 (Engineering Calculus I) for Freshmen, and through Math 251 (Engineering Calculus II) for Sophomore contestants.

For purpose of this contest, freshmen are first-year undergraduate students, and sophomores are second-year undergraduate students.

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