



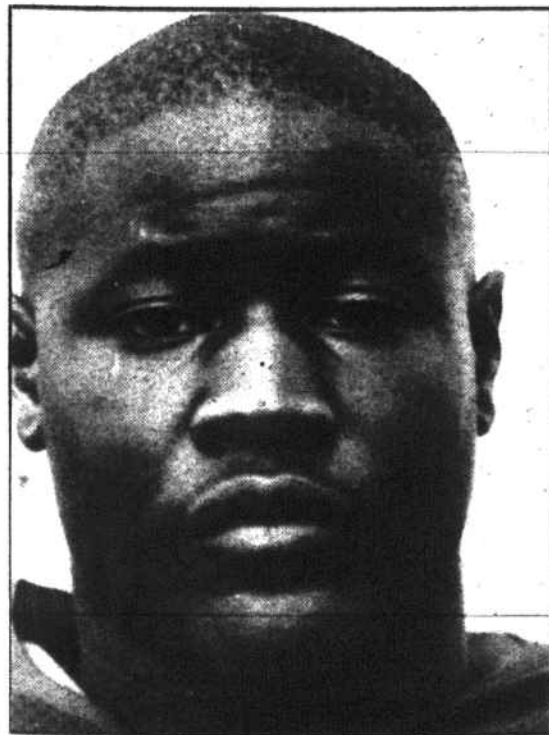
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Texas Southern's Burch, 6-2, 295, induced the Patriots to select him because of his power. "We love him," Patriots director of college scouting Charlie Armev said. "He's highly intelligent, which is what you look for at center. He's blue-collar, brings him lunch bucket. Most of the guys we take are self-motivated guys. Bill Parcels wants self-motivated guys. He would rather have guys who he has to reign in that ones who you have to spur on."

Alabama A&M's Patton, 6-5, 288, is expected to help an aging Redskins offensive line. "I think he's a down-the-line guy," said David Aldridge, who cov-



**Marlo Perry**

ers the Redskins for The Washington Post. "They are looking at him for a few years from now. The Redskins believe he's a decent run-blocker, and they think he can learn pass-blocking. He's a smart guy, an electrical engineering major,

going for his master's." Patton played well in 1993 despite playing half the season with a right shoulder separation.

Tennessee State's Fuller, 5-10 1/2, 190, will be tried as a cornerback with the Broncos. "How much playing time will be determined in camp," said Jeff Smith, Broncos college scouting director. "We feel he'll play defensive corner and special teams. We like his toughness, his speed. We like him as a football player. We think he can cover."

FAMU's Mickens, 6-0 1/4, 200, impressed the Packers with his toughness. "He's a young man with relatively little fear," Packers general manager Ron Wolf told the Wisconsin State Journal. "He'll go anywhere to catch the football. And he shows the ability to run with the football after he has it. That, and his size, makes him tailor-made for our offense."

Added Packers wide receivers coach John Gruden "Mickens is a guy who delivers force to the defensive back after he catches the ball, so he's going to fit in nicely with what we ask guys to do after the catch."

FAMU's Nottage, 6-3, 273, hasn't played since 1992, because of family obligations, but he could be a long-range find. "He can run," the Post's Aldridge said. "Can really get up the field. He's a quickness guy, not a power guy."

Nottage dropped out of school in 1992 after his mother became seriously ill. Then his sister-in-law became ill. As a result, Nottage quit the FAMU team to earn money to help support the family. Nottage worked as a cable layer, parking lot attendant and security guard.

Alabama A&M's Lester, 6-1, 235, is similar in size and background to Jets full-back Brad Baxter, who went to Alabama State. Lester, the younger brother of Rams running back Tim Lester, gained 550 yards rushing last season and scored nine touchdowns. The Jets believe he has a good size-speed ratio (4.54 in the 40), but he lacks elusiveness. Lester will compete with Pat Chaffey for a backup role in the Jets' depth chart.



**Ronald Edwards, North Carolina A&T**

Clark-Atlanta's Anthony Abrams is a 6-3 1/2, 289-pound versatile player. "He's got that quick first step off the line of scrimmage," said Dwight Adams, the Bills' director of player personnel. "He takes on blockers with his hands, not his pads. We think he has the size to play defensive end or defensive tackle." He transferred to Clark-Atlanta from Auburn to gain more playing time.

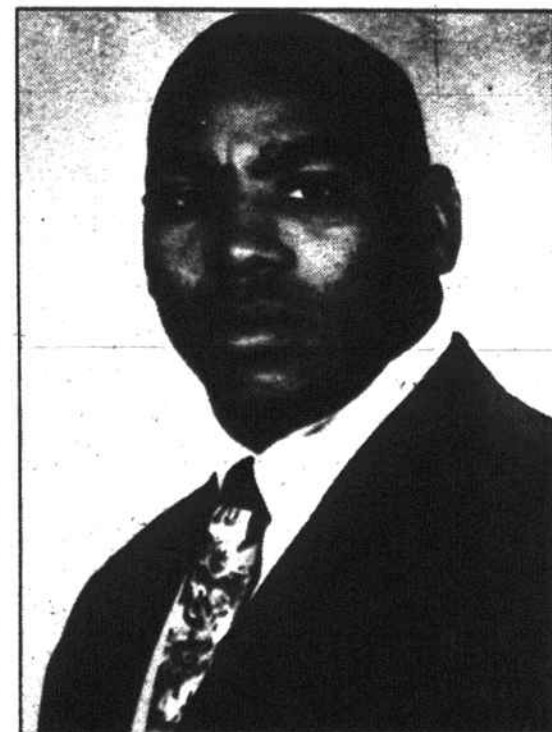
North Carolina A&T's Edwards is 6-5, 311. "He has the size and athletic ability," Rams assistant PR director Dave Pearson said. "We'll take a look and see how he develops. You can't coach size, that's for sure. The coaches were impressed with his athletic ability for his size." The Rams need more depth now that Jackie Slater, who went to Jackson State, will turn 40 and enters his 19th season.

Howard's Walker, 6-3 1/4, 230, has a fireball, as put in football jargon. That means he can throw — and throw hard. "he's big, strong and can fire the ball," the Patriots' Armev said. "We were surprised he was there in the seventh round. We had him rated to go a lot higher than that. He has the right disposition for this football team. You have to be mentally tough to play for Bill Parcels."

Grambling State's Greene, 6-4, 275,

has superb blocking skills, the Chiefs say. The team said he will start out as a tight end but could be moved to the offensive line. Green has 36 receptions during his career at Grambling, and he's a very good runner after the catch.

— Gregory Clay



**John Thierry**