

# Directors Name Jim Myers Coach

## Hagler, Rollins Credited

By The Associated Press

Two students who passed up final examinations to help land the man they believed could best do the job were credited yesterday with a major role in the selection of Jim Myers as new head coach and athletic director of A&M. They don't know if or when they can make up the three examinations they missed.

"I'd like to think our trip had something to do with it," said Gary Rollins, sports editor of The Battalion, who was an organizer of a "get-Myers" campaign. He and Cadet Col. Jon Hagler visited Myers in Ames, Iowa.

"We talked with him for six hours and he finally said, 'What do you want?'" Rollins related. "I answered, 'We came up here for any answer but a no.'"

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"Myers is young, clean-cut and of the kind of man I like to see as coach," Rollins said.

He said the athletic council had favored Myers and its members knew of his trip to Iowa.

Dr. Chris Groneman, council chairman, had telephoned Myers earlier this week and the agreement was reached provided Iowa State officials would agree.

Myers' last year at Iowa State ended with a 4-5-1 record. Bryant's final season at A&M consisted of eight victories and three losses, including one against Tennessee in the Gator Bowl.

Myers, a protege of UCLA coach Red Sanders, will find his old trainer, Charles E. Smokey Harper, waiting for him here. Earlier today Harper said: "I hope they get Jim. He's the man for the job and he can do it."

Harper was a trainer under Bryant here.

Harrington's announcement that Myers would become coach and athletic director came at the end

of a day in which the nine members of the college's Board of Directors had met in an almost continuous closed door session.

The session was interrupted at noon when the board announced that all members of its athletic committee had resigned from the committee but not the board. Last week the board chairman, W. T. Doherty, had dissolved the committee and two committeemen immediately challenged his right to do so.

A great many sports writers said it appeared earlier that the aggressiveness of the athletic committee was at the bottom of A&M's inability to hire a coach.

As the writers saw it, when a coach appeared ready to sign with A&M, the committee would go after a still bigger name, discouraging the current prospect.

At times, also, the committee and the faculty athletic council appeared to be working at cross purposes.

In Ames, Myers, 36, said he de-

cid to accept A&M's offer because "they were so persistent." He acknowledged that the telegram and visit of two Texas A&M students last weekend were partly responsible for getting him to change his mind.

"It's nice to be wanted," he said. "They have tremendous student support."

Myers said the "opportunity is better than it was." He added he thought the move was better for his family and his coaching staff.

He said two Cyclone assistant coaches, Russ Faulkinberry and Doug Bradley, will accompany him to College Station. Also he said he will retain present Aggie assistants J. T. King and Willie Zapalac. Myers said he will hire four other

coaches. "My relationship with Iowa State has been pleasant," he said. "The athletic council and school have been good to me."

Myers said he hopes to leave for Texas later this week.

Myers declined to say whether the Cyclone council's ultimatum last week had anything to do with his change of mind. The council had directed Myers to say whether he planned to stay or leave when the Aggies first started to court him.

The Iowa State Athletic Council Sifting Committee, which was appointed last week, now will begin seeking candidates for the vacancy.

Cyclone Athletic Director Louis

Menze said he had no comment on Myers' unexpected resignation.

Harrington said he asked Dr. James Hilton, president of Iowa State, for permission to talk to Myers before the job was officially offered. Permission was granted, he said, and Myers accepted.

"The first word I heard about this came about 3 o'clock this afternoon when I received a call from Texas saying that the council had offered to give the job to Mr. Myers," Hilton said. The Iowa State president said a few minutes later Myers informed him he was quitting to accept the position.

Hilton also said he knew nothing about the visit of the students, Rollins and Hagler, with Myers.

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## Athletic Committee Resigns; Board In Complete Harmony

The Texas A&M Board of Directors, in a movement prior to their announcement of Jim Myers as head coach and athletic director to succeed Coach Paul (Bear) Bryant, repaired their battered reputational fences by dissolving the Athletic Committee.

In an official statement from R. Henderson Shuffler, Director of Information for the Texas A&M College System, the directors stated:

"At the conclusion of the morning session of the Board of Directors of the Texas A. and M. College System, W. T. Doherty, President of the Board, made this statement:

"Mr. Finney this morning stated to the Board that 'in view of the confusion of the questions concerning the athletic situation at A. and M. College and the authority of the board's committee on athletics, as well as the authority of the President of the Board to discharge this committee, in the

spirit of wholehearted cooperation, we, the members of the committee, wish to submit our resignations and ask that the board as a whole assume the authority and responsibility of the athletic committee and work diligently within the rules of the Southwest conference, the rules and regulations of the A. and M. College and the laws governing the A. and M. College in securing a coach.' Mr. Finney then moved and Mr. Campbell seconded, that the Board accept the resignations of the members of the Athletic committee and assume the authority and responsibility of the committee. The motion was adopted unanimously, with all members present."

"The Board is greatly concerned," Mr. Doherty continued, "over the fact that this one matter has been allowed to assume an importance out of all proportion to its real significance in the operations of the statewide Texas A. and M. College System. We want the people of Texas, to whom we are responsible, to know that we recognize our primary responsibility to be in the effective conduct

of teaching, research and extension throughout Texas and that we are working together to develop within each school and service of this system the type of program which the needs of Texas at this time require."

Supporting their action, they voted unanimously to accept Jim Myers as head coach and athletic director.

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(SEE PARAGRAPH AT LEFT)

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## Myers "Hanged" By Iowa Students

Iowa State Coach Jim Myers was hung in effigy by a small group of students last night on the Iowa State campus.

A dummy was found hanging from a tree about 9:30 p. m.

First reports were that it was a student prank in retaliation for Myers' accepting the Texas A&M job of football coach and athletic director.

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