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Student constitution on the line

• Defeating the student body constitution Thursday could be the first step to reorganization of the student government. Or passing it might be best. For both sides, see page 10.

• Say "Howdy" this week and you might win a prize. See page 8.

• College Station utility rates face changes — up and down — on page 9.



Emory Bellard, former Texas A&M head football coach, says he plans to get out of athletics.

Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

Emory Bellard resigns

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Sports Editor

In the wake of two consecutive losses and rumors of alumni pressure, Emory Bellard has resigned as Texas A&M University's athletic director and head football coach.

Texas A&M President Jarvis Miller announced Tuesday afternoon that Bellard's resignation had been accepted, effective immediately.

Miller also approved the Athletic Council's recommendations that Associate Athletic Director Marvin Tate become the interim athletic director and that Offensive Coordinator Tom Wilson become the interim head football coach.

"Under the existing circumstances," Bellard was quoted as saying in an athletic department release, "I feel that it is best that I resign my position as director of athletics and head football coach at Texas A&M University."

"Texas A&M is a great university and will always have a special place in my heart."

After the Aggies' regularly scheduled practice Tuesday afternoon, Wilson spoke with reporters who had gathered in College Station for Bellard's weekly press conference — a press conference that was not to be.

"It happened so suddenly," the new Aggie head coach said. "I haven't even had time to call my wife and tell her what happened. Coach Bellard brought the staff into his office at 3 o'clock and told us his decision. Dr. Miller called me into his office at 3:45 to ask if I would take over as head coach. And I was on the field practicing at 4:30. It all happened very, very quick."

What does a new coach say to his predecessor under such circumstances? "There wasn't a whole lot to say other than that we're sorry and we'll do anything we can for him," Wilson said.

Tate speculated about the reasons leading to Bellard's decision.

"After the Houston game he had a tremendous disappointment," the new athletic director said. "The kids had worked hard. He had worked hard. Things were positive before Houston. The Baylor loss was tough because we had so many people hurt."

"Winning seasons and bowl games didn't seem to satisfy people. Coach Bellard just got fed up with it. He'd fought the battle for years and he felt the best thing to do is get out of this now. He was not forced out. It was just a decision he made at this time," Tate said.

Tate said Bellard spoke very little of his plans for the future.

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"The only thing he told me is that he's going to get out of athletics," he said. He was interrupted by an Aggie alumnus calling to "start a movement to bring back Emory Bellard."

"There's going to be a segment of A&M people most upset that he's leaving," Tate said. "There are also those who are unhappy with the wishbone and Bellard's conservative brand of football."

Bellard's brand of football came to A&M in 1972 when the then-assistant coach at the University of Texas accepted the job as

athletic director and head football coach at Texas A&M.

In his six full seasons as the Aggies' head coach, Bellard had records of 3-8, 5-6, 8-3, 10-2, 10-2 and 8-4, for an overall record of 48-27. He took the Aggies to three consecutive post-season bowl games starting in 1975: the Liberty Bowl, the Sun Bowl and the Bluebonnet Bowl. In 1975 the Aggies were Southwest Conference co-champions with the University of Arkansas and Texas.

"We sincerely regret Coach Bellard's decision to resign," said Dr. Charles Samson Jr., chairman of the Athletic Council. "No coach could be more committed to achieving excellence in intercollegiate athletics than Emory Bellard. He has worked in complete cooperation with our athletic council toward this end."

Bellard also was praised by Miller as an outstanding man.

"He has been more than a head football coach," the University's president said. "His integrity and dedication is reflected in the outstanding overall athletic programs at Texas A&M."

"Coach Bellard effectively meshed the athletic program with the academic environment and stressed to all of our athletes that they were at Texas A&M first

and foremost to obtain a university education."

What was the reaction of the athletes to their coach's resignation?

"The team's reaction was anger at first and then deep sadness," Wilson said. "They loved Coach Bellard very much and respected him a great deal."

"The mental attitude is the thing we have to combat. We have a great bunch of young men and they'll come back and fight."

They will have to make a fast comeback. Saturday the Aggies, who have a 4-2 season record, host the Rice Owls, a team with a 1-4 season record. Wilson did not rule out the possibility of offensive changes for Texas A&M.

"There might be a few things," Wilson hinted. "I have a few things that I believe in offensively that I want to try out. Of course, it's going to be hard to change much. This is Tuesday; that only leaves us three days (before the Rice game)."

Wilson joined the Texas A&M staff in January 1975 as offensive coordinator and quarterback coach. He graduated from Texas Tech in 1966 where he was an all-SWC quarterback. He was the Raiders' quarterback coach from 1966 until he joined the staff at Texas A&M.

President asks U.S. to 'sit down' on inflation

United Press International

WASHINGTON — President Carter wants "every business, every union, every professional group, every individual" in the nation to join a new campaign against inflation.

In a televised address Tuesday night, he urged workers to limit their wage demands to 7 percent, proposing a new kind of "insurance" against rising prices if they do.

He called on business to hold price increases at least 0.5 percent below the amount of increase in 1976-77.

Beyond that, the president proposed to trim federal spending, cut federal hiring, eliminate "needless" regulations, encourage increased competition and oppose further income tax cuts until inflation is reduced.

He called the package "tough" and "fair," and promised no "quick or dramatic" results.

But traders on the Tokyo money market didn't agree. The dollar plunged to a new low of 180.75 yen in heavy selling of the U.S. currency at the conclusion of the president's speech.

Administration economists said the goal is to hold inflation to between 6 and 6.5 percent in the coming year. That is its average for the last decade, but below its recent, eight-month spurt to a current annual rate of 8 percent.

The president gave the public a quick employee's pay "up to some reasonable limit."

Most companies raise their prices because they expect costs to rise," he said. "Unions call for large wage settlements because they expect inflation to continue. Because we expect it to happen, it does happen, and once it's started, wages and prices chase each other up and up."

"It is like a crowd standing at a football stadium. No one can see any better than when everyone is sitting down — but no one is willing to be the first to sit down."

Specifically, Carter set a voluntary standard of 7 percent for wage increases during the coming year in private business and state and local governments. It would not apply to workers earning less than \$4-an-hour or to already-signed labor contracts.

It would apply not to an individual's wage, but to the average within each of these groups in a given firm: management, employees under labor contracts and other employees.

Carter said workers fear that if they limit their wages, prices still will rise.

Therefore, he said, he would ask Congress next January to launch a new program giving offsetting tax rebates — if inflation exceeds 7 percent — to groups of workers who adhere to the wage standard. The rebate would equal the amount inflation topped 7 percent multiplied by an

employee's pay "up to some reasonable limit."

Carter called it a "real wage insurance policy against inflation which might be caused by others."

"This will give our workers an additional incentive to observe the program — and will remove their only legitimate reason not to cooperate," he said.

His proposed voluntary price standard for business — limiting increases to a 0.5 percent below 1976-77 increases — would not apply to each product, but rather to a firm's average price.

Companies claiming unavoidable costs could demonstrate that their before-tax profit margins are no higher than in the best two of the last three years.

"As far as I'm concerned," the president told Americans, "every business, every union, every professional group, every individual in this country has no excuse not to adhere to these standards. If we meet these standards, the real buying power of your paycheck will rise."

He made clear the government will withhold its \$80 billion annual purchases from firms that don't comply with the voluntary standards. He indicated that in other cases it could deny what he called "economic privileges," such as special franchises, protected wages and prices, subsidies and protection from foreign competition.

Coach's resignation met with mixed reactions

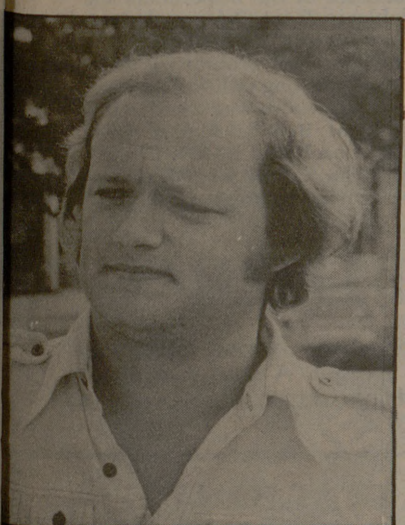
By ANDY WILLIAMS
Battalion Staff

While student reactions to the news of Coach Emory Bellard's resignation were mixed, almost all interviewed expressed some sympathy for Bellard.

Students were interviewed on the campus Tuesday between 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

"I'm just surprised, and kind of unhappy," said Tim Wessel, a junior pre-med student from Highlands. "I've made a lot of mistakes myself up here and I haven't quit. I don't see any reason he should."

"I'm kind of shocked," said Jess Mason, sophomore marketing major from Colorado Springs, Colo. "I know that a lot of students and faculty members wanted him to resign. I was for change with the football team, but not necessarily with the coach."



Tim Wessel — unhappy

Kerry Kuttler, a junior physics major from College Station, asked one of the most immediately important questions. "What's he going to do now?"

One frequently recurring feeling was voiced first by Greg Crawford, a senior range science major from Strawn. "He was a good football coach, but he just lacked a little something. Seemed like he couldn't fire the team up."

Dennis Raleigh, a pre-med senior from Houston, also criticized Bellard's coaching ability. "He wasn't the complete football coach. I feel sorry for him, you know. He was in a bad situation. But he didn't have an imaginative offense. I didn't like his play selection."

"He had his chance. He had everything he needed to have a number one team — the players and the coaching staff."

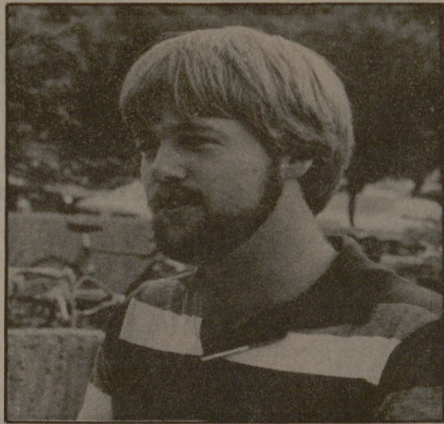
Jim Searcy, a senior geology major from Houston, agreed with Raleigh and furthered the criticism of Bellard as coach. "I was just tired of his wishbone. On third down it was always up the middle with George Woodard. He even tried to do the same thing with Raymond Belcher."

Searcy was optimistic about the rest of the season. "I think he had one of the finest coaching staffs under him in the country. I think they'll have no trouble taking over for him. One thing about having Tom Wilson as head coach is that we're going to have a passing game again."

"I just wish I hadn't given away my ticket book."

At least one student expressed bewilderment about the state of the football team. "I don't know what's going on with the team. Something's wrong, but I don't know whether it's him or the players," said Barbara Pounds, a senior education major from Fort Worth.

"I can't believe they made so many points and now they're just down. A team that was doing so well doesn't fall down



Dave Land — delighted

that fast unless something's wrong," she said.

Two students, interviewed on their way to supper, were overjoyed at the news of Bellard's resignation.

"All right," said Dave Land, a senior management major from Dallas. "I've been down on that guy for a year and a half. That's the greatest thing that could have happened."

"We're still not going to have much of a season. But this is sure gonna make dinner a whole lot better."

Richard Ready, a mechanical engineering junior from Dallas, was interviewed with Land and agreed with him.

"All I can say is, with the potential this school has, there's no reason we should be held back," Ready said. "It's always seemed like statistics is what he's after. Like, if we're 40 points behind, it seems like he was still running the ball."

Alfonso Leal, a junior range science major, was unbothered by the situation. "Really, it doesn't make that much difference, 'cause I haven't really kept up with football that much."

White favors Hill's federal energy suit

Democrat Mark White says he backs present attorney general John Hill's lawsuit against a new energy bill regulating interstate commerce and vowed Tuesday to continue the suit if elected attorney general.

White met with a number of Brazos County Democrats Tuesday during a campaign swing at the county courthouse.

"I believe it's unconstitutional to take the control of Texas' intrastate market," White said. "We have been paying high prices for gas in Texas although we have an overabundance. We will exert the constitutionality in the courts. We will continue to prosecute the suit."

White said the bill, which was passed in Congress earlier this month, would place federal price controls on intrastate gas. Hill has joined the attorneys general of

Oklahoma and Louisiana in filing suit against the measure.

White said narcotics smuggling along the Mexican border is also a problem that the new attorney general must address and added he hopes Congress will do more to curb drug traffic.

"It's going to take a lot of undercover work," he said. "I feel we are rightfully in a position to call upon the federal government. I think they could do much more."

White explained that the state needs the use of federal equipment, such as airplanes to keep aircraft from Mexico from making illegal landings.

He said he feels the "Tortilla Curtain" that the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is planning to build between El Paso and Juarez, Mexico, could harm state relations with Mexico. The wall is a

federal project to discourage Mexicans from making illegal entries into the United States.

"It's not like the Berlin wall which was built to keep people in," White said.

He added that Mexico is increasing its job market and building an economic base that could probably mitigate the illegal alien problem.

White, like Republican opponent Jim Baker, is taking a stern look at the parole system. Juvenile crime and swift punishment for career criminals are objectives for both candidates as well.

White said he would like to see more legislation dealing with aspects of crime.

"Texas has one of the largest prison populations. I think we have the finest prison administration and one of the most efficient prison systems," he said.



The sun also rises in Aggieland

The sun rose this morning about 7 a.m., but starting Sunday it will rise about 6 a.m. Daylight savings time goes off Sunday at 2 a.m., so remember to set clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday

night. There is a 20 percent chance of rain today, increasing to 30 percent tonight. The high today is expected to be 82 degrees, with a low tonight of about 60 degrees.

Battalion photo by Lee Roy Leschper Jr.