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## locker room tears

## Aggie players react to Bellard's resignation

and STEVE LEE Battelier

At approximately 4 p.m. Tuesday Varvin Tate stepped before the cras A&M football team and read a niddle Easter Marvin Tate stepped before the ed at the MX Texas A&M football team and read a nts. The sha etter written by Emory Bellard to

The team was in tears after what

"I just resigned as head football ach. This is the toughest thing e done in my life. I'm asking Mr. n social and late to read it to you because I sion is \$5 pt puldn't keep my composure and what I want to say. You're great oung men and I love all of you.
The rest of the season will be a g, big challenge for you. Give the saches your best and if you can get few guys well you can play with e best of them.

kies and b lemic Buil

pants must oximately

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be helpfi

untain for

s Center.

After playing for him (Bellard) mostly and the student newspaper. "He doesn't play. Everybody got ly lived with the man," Russell

Tootball players are suppose to events, offensive tackle Cody Rebig and strong, but there was a ison said, "I don't have much to say

By MARK PATTERSON

Most people will blame the mi from Texas A&M for the

breed" resignation of Emory Bel-rd. But word from The Aggie dub, the athletic department's

kM, is that the alumni were, as a

toup, backing Bellard.
"As far as I know, there was no

nent receives income from four reas; ticket sales, TV-radio reve-

e post-season bowl revenue and the donations. The Aggie Club mated \$785,000 to the depart-

The Texas A&M water polo team

d elements ellard," Aggie Club Executive
Room 14 lice President Don Brister said
ts at the do hortly after Bellard's resignation.
And I'm certain that there was no

party will bessure put on him by any execu-rs are invisives of the Aggie Club."

The Texas A&M athletic depart-

st Southweent, yet Brister contends the or-

y as the Mags defeat Rice

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lot of crying going on.
"For all those people who have written letters to The Battalion against Coach Bellard, they've got what they deserved. They don't know what kind of a man they've

Defensive back Carl Grulich was just one of many Aggies who couldn't believe what had just hap-

"I'm shocked like the rest of the guys," Grulich said. "I'm having a difficult time understanding if Coach Bellard quit on his own or from pressure from the alumni and the University. I never imagined he'd resign in the middle of the sea-

Quarterback Mike Mosley, recruited by Bellard two years ago to to The Battalion. become the quarterback in his wishbone offense, echoed the disbe-

If it's tough to understand, but last ty."

In the Aggie players.

"This is a hard way for him to leave after all he's done for this University," Mosley said. "Somebody as popular as Coach Bellard should as popular as Coach Be Texas A&M that lasted over six go out a lot better.

'I know personally he wouldn't The players were stunned by the quit. He got a lot of pressure from people who didn't know what their talking about, from the alumni "He doesn't play. Everybody got too greedy. They wanted to win

ikeska said after the announce-ent. "I didn't find out about it ntl 4p.m. I had no idea. every game. They have no self con-trol."
When questioned about the day's

No pressure from alumni,

Aggie Club official claims

workings or decisions reguarding Texas A&M athletics.

"The department couldn't do without us," Brister said. "Well,

maybe without us, but not without

the department. They have their

own problems without us adding to

them. We have no say in any

decision-making process."
As a group, The Aggie Club is silent. But individual members seem

"We have virtually no pull with

the donations.

ganization has no input into the lard and that there was a movement

rumors have been circualting that the alumni were turning against Bel-

The Cow Hop

RESTAURANT 3

New Aggie coach Tom Wilson

Defensive end Jacob Green back pullikened the loss of Bellard to that of Tuesday.

The resignation must be felt hardest by the 16 seniors on this year's squad. After playing three years under Bellard they must now adjust to a new coach for the last five games of their college careers.

"Every time I step on the field these last five games I'll be playing for the man," defensive tackle Eugene Sanders said about Bellard. "I started here with Bellard and I'll end with Bellard.

"He's still my head coach."

afoot to buy up the remaining year and a half left on his contract. The

The rumor that there were

people sending us donations to buy

his contract is completely and absolutely false," Brister said. "I honestly thought that the mood against

Bellard would be greater this week

than it has been, but it hasn't.
"People who belong to the club
usually call and ask who's hurt and

won't be ready for the next game. But most of the calls this week have

rumors may now be laid to rest.

Offensive Coordinator Tom Wilson must step in and pick up the pieces for the rest of the season. Though the players are still stunned by Bellard's resignation they seem to accept Wilson as their new head

"It's funny how you can lose a great coach and then, in the same

day, gain another great coach,"
Mikeska said. "I have a lot of respect
for Coach Wilson.

"There probably won't be any offensive formation changes, but there will be different variations on what we're doing now

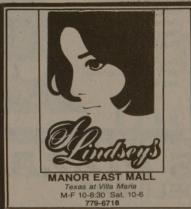
Only in his second year under Bellard, Mosley won the starting quarterback job in Bellard's offense. Some thought Mosley would leave if Bellard resigned, but the quarter-back put an end to those rumors

"Definitely, I'm staying," Mosley said. "I like Coach Wilson and I might of had second thoughts about anyone else. I love Coach Wilson

and am so happy for him."

It's the job of the entire Texas Aggie team to make something out of the situation they're facing the remainder of the season. And this strange turn of events may prove to be valuable to the team's success

"I believe in this team and have from the beginning," Mikeska said.
"Coach Bellard may have felt that a crisis like this would help draw us closer together. I think it will.









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## COWPIE tinued in its winning ways by de-ing Rice 16-2 Tuesday night in Downs Natitorium. (Hamburger) for the Aggies, Dutchy Kuete-a, Jim Woodman, Mike Newsom steve Sampson each made coupon) SALAD BAR te goals. Itiday the Aggies play the Uni-EXPIRES inday the Aggies play the Uni-nity of Illinois Chicago Circle at 4 m and Saturday at noon they play tola. Both games are in Wofford in Pool. OCT. 30, 1978 "AN AGGIE TRADITION" 846-1588 317 UNIVERSITY DR.



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