

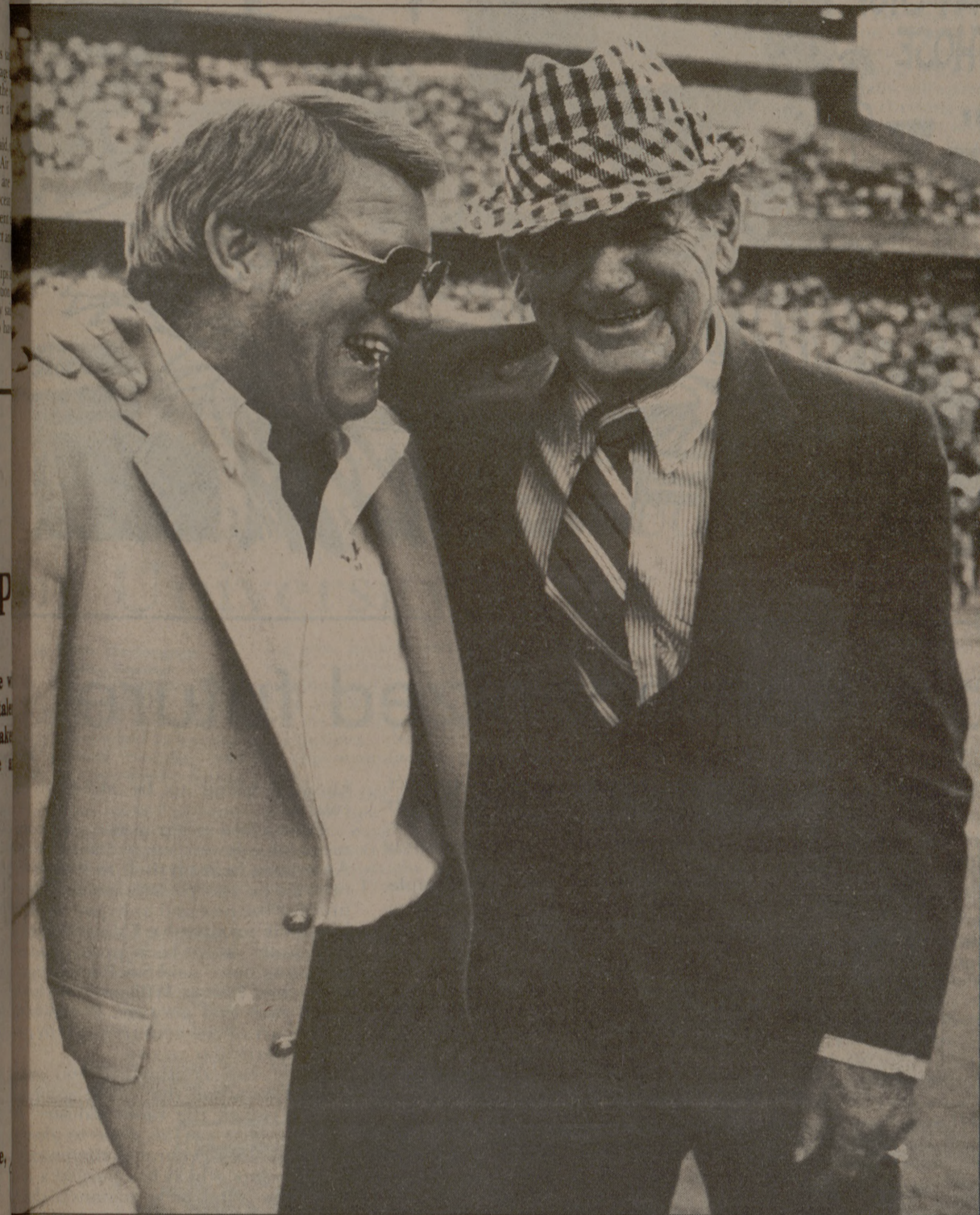
Texas A&M The Battalion

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Former Aggie football coach Paul "Bear" Bryant (right) greets former Aggie halfback John David Crow, at last May's alumni game. Bryant was an honorary coach at the game.

photo courtesy of Sports News

Sherrill says Bryant was 'father figure'

from staff and wire reports
Athletic director and head football coach Jackie Sherrill, mourning the death of his former coach and longtime friend, said Wednesday that the death of Paul "Bear" Bryant came as a "great shock" to him.

Bryant, the winningest coach in college football history, died Wednesday afternoon of a heart attack at Druid City Hospital in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he was admitted Tuesday while suffering from chest pains. Bryant was 69.

Sherrill, who played for Bryant's Crimson Tide between 1962-65, said Bryant touched many lives in a positive way during his coaching career.

"I feel probably the same as many other people feel about it," he said. "Very sad, very surprised. I don't know of any man who's touched as many lives as he has. There are a lot of people in our history who have been famous, but there's never been anyone who's touched as many players, people he's worked with and fans, or done as much for the game of college football."

"It's hard to explain my true feelings at this moment."

Although hospital officials did not immediately confirm Bryant's death, Lt. Gov. Bill Baxley announced the news to a hushed Alabama Senate in Montgomery.

Bryant, who coached at Texas A&M from 1954-57, retired as Alabama's coach after the Crimson Tide beat Illinois 21-15 in the Liberty Bowl during December. It was his 323rd career victory, more than any other college football coach. In 1981, Bryant broke Amos Alonzo Stagg's record of 314 career victories.

Bryant's death came as a surprise,

since hospital officials indicated earlier Wednesday that he was not in serious condition. Bryant was at the home of a longtime friend, Jimmy Hinton, when he was stricken by the chest pains Tuesday night. He was rushed to the hospital by ambulance. "He had been here about 10 mi-

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nutes and was talking about how good he felt and I was telling him how good he looked," Hinton said. "And in a few minutes after he sat down, he had a few pains and some breathing problems and we called his doctor and then the paramedics."

Hinton said that Bryant's cardiologist, Dr. William Hill, arrived at the house about the same time as the ambulance and Tuscaloosa city paramedics. The physician accompanied Bryant to the hospital.

Sherrill said Bryant's philosophy of football related directly to his ideas about life.

"He always said that football was just like life," Sherrill said. "He stressed and taught what football was like and demonstrated what life was like in the years following the end of his playing career. He wanted you to be prepared for the game of life."

"The period I was there was different for me than for some others, I guess. Coach Bryant was more of a father figure to me. He's a very special person and has always been over my career. And subconsciously, I think I was trying to follow what he did. I studied every meeting, every talk, his mannerisms and how he

handled different situations. I put it in my mind and stored it."

Sherrill was a graduate assistant only for one year under Bryant after receiving his degree from Alabama, but he has maintained close contact with his former coach.

"I'm no different than a lot of the other guys who played for him," Sherrill said. "I've called him at different times during my career. Every time we talked, he's been correct, whether it involved taking a job, a discipline problem or other phases of the game. He's forgotten a lot more than a lot more of us will ever learn."

Bryant coached the Crimson Tide to national championships during two of Sherrill's seasons with the team — in 1964 and 1965.

"I don't think anyone will ever accomplish what he has accomplished, or achieve the things that he's achieved," Sherrill said. "There are many young coaches today who just don't have the toughness that this job demands in order to become the success that he has been. You know, it's funny, here's a man who has been so many years in the public eye, and yet he has no enemies. What else can we say?"

"He gave so much of himself to other people. It's a shame that since his whole life was football ... the fans did not get to know what he was really like, because he was just getting ready to make that known in public appearances and speeches."

Sherrill said Bryant's decision to retire after 38 years as a head coach at Maryland, Kentucky, Texas A&M and Alabama made him "the only coach who was mentally tough enough to make that decision."

Reagan discusses policy with Egyptian president

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak today sought assurances from President Reagan the American leader's Middle East peace initiative will not die due to the stalled talks on Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Egypt has set the Israeli pullout from Lebanon as a condition of its return to talks with Jerusalem on Palestinian rights.

But after weeks of negotiations, the talks on troop withdrawals are at a standstill — and so is Reagan's Sept. 1 plan calling for the Palestinians to live on the West Bank in association with Jordan.

"If the United States fails to arrange the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, this will undermine confi-

dence in the effectiveness of the American role," Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said Wednesday.

"The Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon is the most important test of American diplomacy in the Middle East," he said.

Egypt withdrew its ambassador from Israel last September in protest of the massacres at the Palestinian refugee camps, which occurred while Israel had military responsibility for the area. Officials said even returning the ambassador hinges on a plan for withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

Mubarak is not the only one looking for Reagan to nudge Israel toward withdrawal. King Hussein of

Jordan and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia have made it clear Israel's occupation of Lebanon and its aggressive settlements policy in the occupied territories may prove fatal to the president's plan for a Middle East peace.

Hussein is edging toward joining the talks if he can win Arab League approval to represent the Palestinians, and if Reagan can change Israel's settlements policy.

Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin has rejected Reagan's peace plan, calling for a political agreement with Lebanon to ensure the gains of the summer invasion are protected.

Begin says Israelis have the right to settle where they wish, and the occupied territories are part of the biblical heritage of Israel.

Pope schedules trip to homeland

United Press International
WARSAW, Poland — Polish prelate Jozef Glemp flew to Rome today to receive a cardinal's hat amid charges Western media have created bad climate around Pope John Paul II's scheduled trip to his homeland in June.

Glemp told reporters at Warsaw's Mieczyslaw Kopernik Airport he did not have a schedule of the pope's trip, but a top church official said there should "not be any pessimism" about the visit — an indication it will occur.

The church official said, however, the pontiff would not visit the city of Gdansk, the birthplace of the independent labor union Solidarity, during the return to his homeland scheduled in June.

The official said 14 major Polish cities have invited the pope for visits. John Paul is expected to visit Warsaw, Krakow, Wroclaw, his hometown of Wadowice and Lublin.

In the northern seaport of Gdansk, Lech Walesa, former leader of the disbanded Solidarity union, said Wednesday he has been put back on

the payroll of the Lenin shipyard but had no word on when he could get his old job back.

"I was told (by the management) I would be getting paid since Jan. 17 in what was tantamount to the approval of the continuation of my work in the shipyard," Walesa said.

Walesa was released last November from 11 months of martial-law imprisonment. Solidarity was born August 1980 but outlawed October 1982. Martial law was imposed Dec. 13, 1981, and suspended Dec. 31, 1982.

Housing available

The housing office currently has on-campus spaces available for men and women for the 1983 spring semester. These vacancies are available due to an unusually high number of last minute cancellations and no-shows.

The housing office has attempted to call many of the students on the waiting list to offer them a space but most of them already are committed to a lease. The breaking of any lease or the abandonment of a roommate is strongly discouraged.

The available spaces for men and women are spread among all the halls on campus.

If interested contact the housing office at 845-4744.

Student views mixed on faculty, facilities

Editor's note: This is the last part of a four-part series based on a recent survey of Texas A&M undergraduates.

by Diana Sultenfuss

Battalion Staff

Although Texas A&M students often can be heard criticizing their professors, a recent survey shows that students may like their professors more than they usually admit.

In a survey conducted by a senior-level journalism class, 75.8 percent of the 351 students questioned said they rated Texas A&M faculty above average; 19.9 percent rated the faculty as average and 4.3 percent rated the faculty below average.

Dr. Charles McCandless, acting vice president for academic affairs, said: "I'd probably rank them the same way the students did — from good to excellent. But obviously there are differences between a lot of departments."

Dr. Clinton Phillips, dean of faculties, said that it is difficult to generalize about the faculty as a whole.

"I think it's well above average," he said. "When I compare it with other institutions, I still think the quality of teaching is excellent here."

"One good measure of it is shown when our recent graduates go out and send money back to the former students association — a high percentage of them. The per-

centage of students sending money back is similar to graduates of 20 years ago."

Students also were asked if they agreed or disagreed with the statement: "Faculty at Texas A&M are more interested in their research than teaching." About 51 percent said they disagreed and 40.5 percent said they agreed.

Although students were almost evenly divided on the teaching-research question, an overwhelming majority of the respondents opposed the idea of paying a football coach more than a university president.

Students were asked whether they agreed with the statement: "A football coach at a university should not earn more than the university's president."

About 62 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, while almost 30 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed.

"You have to be above average in salaries if you're going to attract the better people," Phillips said. "So, if you want a good coach, you have to pay the price; if you want a good president, you have to pay the price; if you want a good physicist, you have to pay the price."

But, McCandless said, a balance approach is necessary.

"In fact, it is important to attract the academic superstars to your campus," he said. "But it's also important to develop your own — bring in a bright, young assistant

professor and give him the resources he needs. And recognize and reward him. If you really brought someone who is a superstar and lost two who will become superstars, then you've lost ground."

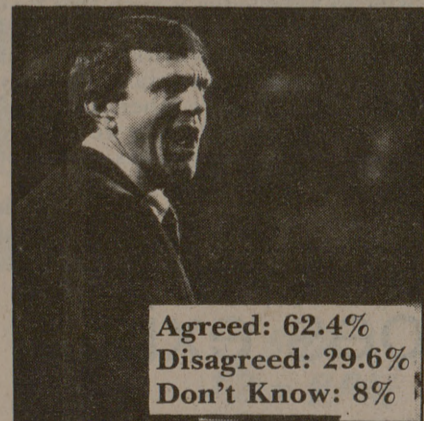
In addition to rating faculty, students surveyed also were asked to rate Texas A&M computer facilities and the hours at Sterling C. Evans Library.

Twenty percent of the students did not answer the question about computer facilities. Of those who answered the question, 40.5 percent rated the facilities good or excellent, 33.1 percent rated them average and 24.3 percent rated the computer facilities fair or poor.

Phillips said that it might be difficult to rate the computer facilities here because most students probably have not used other facilities.

Students rated library hours much higher than computer facilities. The hours were rated good or excellent by 68.5 percent of those surveyed, while 22.8 percent said the hours were average and 8.7 percent said they were fair or poor.

In contrast to overall satisfaction with library hours, registration was ranked fair or poor by 39.8 percent of the students in the survey. The system was rated good or excellent by 25.6 percent of the students and 34.6 percent said it was average.



Jackie Sherrill



Frank E. Vandiver

A football coach at a university should not earn more than the university's president.

How the survey was taken

When was it taken? Nov. 3 to Nov. 6, 1982.

Who sponsored it? The fall semester Journalism 403, interpreting contemporary affairs, class.

How many students were polled? The survey results are based on 351 completed questionnaires.

How was it taken? The names were randomly selected from the 1982-83 Campus Directory. Stu-

dents were telephoned and asked 40 questions.

How accurate is it? Because we only sampled 351 out of the 32,000 undergraduate students at Texas A&M, the survey does contain a small amount of sampling error. For every percentage reported, the actual value could range 5.2 percent higher or lower. For example, a percentage of 50 percent could actually be as high as 55.2 percent or as low as 44.8.

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forecast
Overcast to partly clear today with the high reaching 53. The winds will be northerly at about 10 mph. Partly cloudy skies tonight with a low near 38. For Friday, cloudy to partly cloudy in the morning, and clearer in the afternoon with a high of 59.