

## Pettibone leaves A&M for NIU job

Jerry Pettibone, Texas A&M's wide receiver coach and recruiting coordinator, was named head football coach at Northern Illinois University Thursday.

Pettibone, who came to A&M in 1982 and was named assistant coach following that season, said a head coaching position has always been his goal.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to go to Northern Illinois as head football coach," Pettibone said. "This has been a goal for a long time. I'm excited about the opportunity at Northern Illinois for several reasons. Number one, the excellence of the athletic director, Bob Brigham. The football program is in very stable condition, because of the excellent job that Bill Mallory and Lee Corso have done."

Pettibone succeeds Corso, who departed NIU last month after one season to coach the new Orlando Renegades of the United States Football League. Pettibone is at least the

second assistant to resign from A&M coach Jackie Sherrill's staff since the regular season ended.

"This is an excellent opportunity for me to go in there and work with some fine young men, who are excellent athletes, and continue the tradition that has already been established at NIU," Pettibone said.

"I certainly will have a (contract) commitment to stay at Northern Illinois four years. I would like the opportunity to complete the full four-year recruiting cycle. Hopefully, I can stay longer than that."

Pettibone said he appreciated the experience he received as an assistant under Sherrill.

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Sherrill said he was pleased that Pettibone was getting an opportunity as a head coach.

"I'm very excited for Jerry (Pettibone) to have an opportunity to become the head coach at Northern Illinois," Sherrill said. "I think that all

of us in the coaching profession are excited when one of our former coaches goes off and becomes a head coach. I think that's very indicative of the quality of people who are on our staff.

"Jerry has done an outstanding job at Texas A&M. He has the qual-

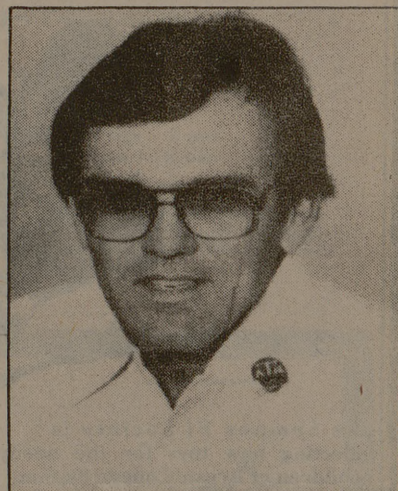
ities of becoming a head coach and I'm sure that he'll add a lot to Northern Illinois' program. I'd like to wish him the best of luck and I know that

Jerry will do the things necessary to get the job done."

Pettibone is a veteran of 19 years as an aide to such coaches as Colorado's Chuck Fairbanks, Oklahoma's Barry Switzer, Iowa's Hayden Fry and Nebraska's Tom Osborne. Prior to coming to A&M, Pettibone spent three years as recruiting coordinator and split end coach at Nebraska from 1979-81. He spent seven years as chief recruiter at Oklahoma, his alma mater, and one season at Southern Methodist University in 1971.

Acknowledged by Sports Illustrated last year as the nation's top college football recruiter, Pettibone signed 20 players who became consensus All-America selections, including Heisman Trophy winners Billy Sims at Oklahoma and Mike Rozier at Nebraska.

Pettibone inherits an NIU team that went 4-4-1 in Corso's only season. The previous year under Bill Mallory, now head coach at Indiana, the Huskies were champions of the



Jerry Pettibone will become NIU's new football coach.

Mid-America Conference with a 10-2 mark, including a victory over San Jose State in the California Bowl.

## UT's Degrate wins Lombardi Award

United Press International

HOUSTON — Texas defensive tackle Tony Degrate was awarded the Lombardi Award, which is given annually to college football's best lineman, Thursday night.

Degrate, from Snyder, had 147 tackles this season, 123 of those assisted. The 6-foot-4, 278-pounder was the Longhorns' seventh player nominated for the award in 15 years. Texas' Kenneth Sims won the coveted award in 1981 and became the No. 1 draft pick of the New England Patriots.

Pittsburgh offensive tackle Bill Fralic, outside linebacker Jack Del Rio of Southern Cal and noseguard William Perry of Clemson were the other three finalists for the award, named after Vince Lombardi, who died of cancer in 1970.

Last year's winner was Dean Steinkuhler of Nebraska, who was the top draft pick of the Houston Oilers and No. 2 overall in the NFL draft.

The winner was selected by the votes of college football coaches, sports writers and sportscasters from across the country.

## Ag sports magazine offers insight

By JULIA HARDY Reporter

Texas A&M Sports Hotline is a detailed sports review magazine that provides accurate information for those interested in Aggie athletics.

The first copy of the magazine was distributed on Oct. 29, after the Rice game. Alan Jones, A&M's assistant athletic director for operations, said four more publications have been released after every A&M football game since then.

Texas A&M Sports Hotline provided readers with a detailed description of the game itself, action photographs, statistics and quotes from various A&M players.

"It's a great way to communicate to your people and it gives them a vehicle with which to answer their questions," Jones said.

Different features have been included in each issue. In the Dec. 3 Sports Hotline, for instance, there was a feature story on Ray Childress, A&M's United Press International All-American defensive end. The "Chatter Box" section of Sports Hotline answers reader's questions and includes other bits of little-known Aggie sports trivia.

Sports Hotline will begin publishing 20 magazines a year, starting in January of 1985. Twelve magazines will be written after each football game and one wrap-up of the entire season will be published in December. From January to July, Sports Hotline will be published once a month. The spring editions will include men's and women's basketball, tennis, track and golf, as well as features on A&M baseball and softball.

"We will try to include all recruiting information," Jones said.

About 4,000 people were sent complimentary issues of the first five Sports Hotlines, but beginning this January, a subscription will cost \$30 a year.

"We've priced (Sports Hotline) so that we won't have to keep raising the price each year," Jones said.

Sports Hotline originated when Inside Aggie Sports, a small magazine printed by local businessmen, folded 18 months ago.

Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill promised subscribers of Inside Aggie Sports that a similar magazine would be published.

"We thought we could do it better ourselves here at A&M, on campus, where we know more of what is going on," Jones said. "We also have

the advantage of printing the magazine on campus and having it mailed Monday right after the game.

"Inside Aggie Sports always seemed to be late," Jones said. "News is not worth reading a week later."

Ralph Carpenter, assistant athletic director for media relations at A&M, writes everything in Sports Hotline.

"I'm in charge of the business aspect and the circulation," Jones said. "I also critique (Sports Hotline)."

The responses to Sports Hotline from satisfied former students have been tremendous. Jones said the reason is simple.

"We're prompt, full of information and current," Jones said. "Busy people need quick and accurate information and Sports Hotline provides it."



# "KNOW WHAT WOULD BE A NEAT TRICK?"

If all the Juniors, Seniors, and Grad students would get their class pictures taken for the 1985 **AGGIELAND**.

**PHOTO SESSIONS EXTENDED THROUGH FRIDAY, DEC. 7TH AT THE YBA STUDIO, 1700 S. KYLE.**