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Sherrill denies interest in Texas job

Former A&M coach says he has no plans to return to the Southwest Conference

STARKVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi State first-year coach Jackie Sherrill said Wednesday that he's not interested in the coaching job at Texas.

The Austin American-Statesman had quoted a Texas source earlier Wednesday as saying Sherrill had called Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds several times expressing his own interest in the job.

"I have not called DeLoss Dodds, nor do I intend to call DeLoss Dodds," Sherrill said in a statement released late Wednesday by Mississippi State. "DeLoss and I are good friends and he is doing a good job at Texas."

Sherrill, who has a 14-year coaching mark of 112-49-2, made no further comments and didn't return phone calls Wednesday night.

Mississippi State athletic director Larry Templeton was out of town Wednesday night and couldn't be reached for comment. MSU sports information director Joe Dier said.

A Jackson television station, WLBT, quoted unnamed sources Wednesday night as saying that Sherrill would receive a contract extension Thursday. Dier said he knew nothing about the report. Sherrill was 52-28-1 in seven

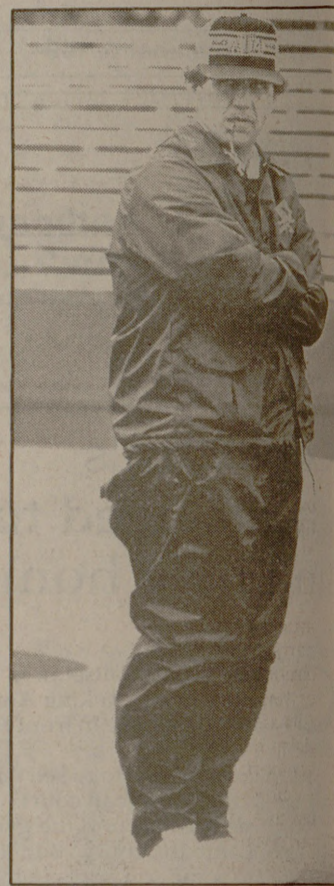
seasons at Texas A&M. Sherrill came to Mississippi State last December, two years after he left A&M. At that time, he reportedly agreed to a four-year contract with a base salary of \$75,000 a year.

The Bulldogs were 7-4 in Sherrill's first season and are preparing for their first bowl appearance in a decade — a Dec. 29 Liberty Bowl date against Air Force. The bowl invitation came after MSU's first winning season since 1986.

Texas is looking for a new coach after Monday's resignation of five-year coach David McWilliams. McWilliams' record was 31-26 for a winning percentage of .544. He lasted as long as he did only because of his personal popularity and a single Southwest Conference championship season last year. Texas lost 46-3 to Miami in the Cotton Bowl.

This year, there was talk of a national title, which vanished after opening the season with non-conference losses to Sherrill's Mississippi State squad and Auburn. There were also a run of injuries that struck down 21 frontline players at one time or another.

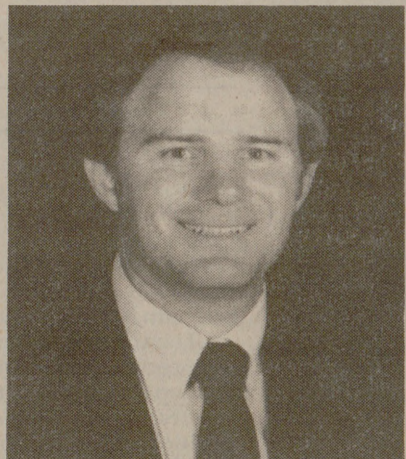
Texas' seventh loss in eight years to arch-rival Texas A&M, 31-14 on Thanksgiving night, ended a 5-6 season.



Former A&M coach Jackie Sherrill says he has no interest in becoming head coach at the University of Texas.

Pearce accepts post at Stephen F. Austin

From Staff and Wire Reports



Running backs coach John Pearce will leave A&M and become the head coach at Stephen F. Austin.

Texas A&M assistant coach John Pearce accepted the head coach position at Stephen F. Austin State University Wednesday.

Pearce, 44, becomes the 15th head coach for the Lumberjacks. This season, Pearce helped the Aggies win the Southwest Conference championship and a trip to the Cotton Bowl.

SFSU president Donald Bowen named Pearce to replace Lynne Graves, who resigned Nov. 4. In three years as Lumberjack head coach, Graves had a record of 15-20-2.

Pearce coached running backs this season at A&M. One of his running backs, redshirt freshman

Greg Hill, set a SWC record for freshman running backs with 1,216 yards.

A&M head football coach R.C. Slocum said Pearce was an integral part of his coaching staff.

"John Pearce did a great job here at Texas A&M and made a significant contribution," Slocum said. "The head coaching position at Stephen F. Austin is an excellent opportunity for him. She made an outstanding choice."

Pearce coached tight ends and specialists in his first two years at A&M.

Before working at A&M, Pearce spent four years as head coach at Fort Bend Willowridge High School, leading the Eagles to a No. 2 national ranking in 1987. He has 19 years' experience coaching Texas high school football.

Edmiston, Mitchell named to academic volleyball team

The Battalion News Services

Texas A&M volleyball players Elizabeth Edmiston and Kim Mitchell have been named part of the 1991 GTE Academic All-District VI Volleyball Team.

Edmiston has a 3.88 GPR in Kinesiology and Mitchell carries a 3.98 GPR in accounting.

To be eligible for the academic team, an athlete must have at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point average out of a possible 4.0. The player must be a starter or important reserve and must be at least a sophomore.

Edmiston, a senior from Kingwood, led the Lady Aggies in kills (132), kill average (3.7), digs (117) and dig average (3.3) in Southwest Conference play. Edmiston ranked second in the SWC in ace average (0.5), had the fifth-best kill average, and sixth-best dig average in conference games. She played and started in 32 of 34 matches and was named to the all-tournament team at the Texas A&M/Holiday Inn Classic and the Southwest Texas Bobcat Classic.

Mitchell, a sophomore from Marshall, has the highest GPR of all female athletes at Texas A&M and is the highest among those selected to the all-district VI team. She led the Lady Aggies with 27 solo blocks and 79 block assists for a 1.0 average. Mitchell started 15 matches and played in all 34 matches this season.

Edmiston and Mitchell were the only SWC players to make the team which is made up of players from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.



Edmiston



Mitchell

Harris resigns as Bucks coach

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Del Harris, in his fifth season as coach of the Milwaukee Bucks, resigned today and will be replaced by his top assistant, Frank Hamblen.

Harris will remain vice president of basketball operations for the NBA team. Harris' said he wants to devote his time to his front office duties. Since Harris was named head coach of the Bucks on June 4, 1987, he has compiled a 191-154 regular-season record. The Bucks are 8-9 this season.

Clippers surprise Spurs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Olden Polynice keyed a fourth-quarter rally by scoring 13 of his 15 points as the Los Angeles Clippers beat the cold-shooting San Antonio Spurs 92-81 Wednesday night.

Sean Elliott led San Antonio with 24 points and David Robinson had 23 points and 15 rebounds as the defending Midwest Division champs lost at the L.A. Sports Arena for the fourth straight time over three seasons.

Polynice and Doc Rivers, who scored eight of his 17 points in the final period, scorched the Spurs down the stretch as they led the Clippers on a 20-8 burst that turned a six-point deficit into an 81-75 lead with 4 1/2 minutes left.

Elliott got San Antonio within four, but Rivers set up a three-point play by Polynice with a behind-the-back pass and followed with a 16-footer to widen the margin to 86-77 with 2:55 left.

Ron Harper scored 18 points and Charles Smith, in uniform for the first time since undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his right knee on Nov. 19, came off the bench with 15 for the Clippers.

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