

## Tech announcer calling it quits

By Betsy Blaney  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LUBBOCK, Texas — The audience for Jack Dale's first play-by-play broadcasts were the crops on his family's Kansas farm.

Having learned the names of Army and Navy football players by listening to their games on radio, young Dale would climb atop a tractor and narrate imaginary games. He knew then that he wanted to make a living in broadcasting, not farming.

For the past 50 years, Dale has done so as the voice of Texas Tech men's basketball games. His run of more than 1,500 games will soon come to an end, as he's retiring after this season.

Dale, 70, stopped calling football games after the 1999 season, having done it for 47 years. He missed it for a while, but that feeling went away.

"And I think that's probably the way it's going to be with basketball," he said. "Since I've made the decision, I can't hardly wait until the end of the season to sort of put it behind me."

School officials also are establishing endowed communications and athletic scholarships in his honor, ensuring that his name and ambition will be passed on.

"I want to see it happen," Dale said. "I don't have money to do it myself, but I'm going to do everything I can to help."

Dale moved from the tractor to the sideline with a nudge from Max Falkenstein, who was early into his ongoing 57-year run as the play-by-play voice of the Kansas Jayhawks.

"I told him you can't just walk into a station and say, 'I want to be a broadcaster,'" Falkenstein said. Falkenstein pointed Dale to a Kansas City broadcasting school. Six months later, Dale began his career in Altus, Okla., then went to Topeka, Kan.

Dale sent out more than 110 letters to radio stations across the country. He wound up at KFYO

in Lubbock.

In January 1953, Dale made his debut on Tech basketball. He's remained behind the microphone through three facilities and six coaches.

"I think he is the greatest in announcing the game of basketball," former Tech coach Polk Robison said. "His speed of delivery, his enunciation and his knowledge of the game — all of it enters into his outstanding ability. He amazes me."

"... I think the people of Texas Tech University and Lubbock have had a treasure in Jack Dale over the past 50 years."

— Bob Knight  
Texas Tech basketball coach

Dale had a tough time picking a favorite player, but settled on Bubba Jennings, who played for Tech in the early 1980s and now is one of Bob Knight's assistants.

"I liked him because he was a little guy who could shoot," Dale said.

Dale is glad to have made it into the Knight era.

"It's sort of icing on the cake to work with a guy with that reputation, a real legend," Dale said. "That's been a good way to end it up, two years with Bob Knight."

Knight said he commends Dale for his dedication to the university and the region.

"I have really enjoyed working with Gentleman Jack over the last two seasons, and I think the people of Texas Tech University and Lubbock have had a treasure in Jack Dale over the past 50 years," Knight said through a team spokesman.

Dale thinks the game is better

now than when he began. Back then, there was no shot clock and no 3-point line.

But the most exciting game Dale remembers is from that slower era.

It was in 1956, and Tech was playing without its two top scorers. The Red Raiders had won the Border Conference, but NCAA rules made those two players plus two junior college transfers ineligible to play against SMU in a first-round NCAA matchup in Wichita, Kan.

A football player and a team manager suited up, and one of the ineligible players helped Dale with his radio broadcast.

"He sort of broke into tears toward the end of the game just seeing what this team was doing," Dale said. "It had to be one of the most memorable ball games for Texas Tech basketball because they fought this SMU ballclub and finally SMU won the game 68-67."

SMU went on to earn a berth in the Final Four.

Dale has called games from more than 100 cities and has traveled as far as Japan to cover Tech sports.

During the days of the Southwest Conference, games were clustered in Texas and Arkansas. Dale carried himself on the road as if he was an ambassador for Texas Tech.

"There'll not be anybody who can do what he's done for Texas Tech," said former Tech football coach Spike Dykes. "I don't think you replace people like that. You just go on and do the best you can. But there's not going to be another Jack Dale, I can tell you that."

Tech athletic director Gerald Myers, a former Red Raider basketball coach, said Dale's loyalty to the school has meant a lot.

"I really have a lot of admiration for and appreciation of what he's done," Myers said. "He's been able to make (basketball on the radio) very exciting and has been instrumental in building a fan base in West Texas."

### SPORTS IN BRIEF

#### Knight's day comes in Lubbock

LUBBOCK (AP) — The honors just keep coming in for Texas Tech coach Bob Knight.

Lubbock Mayor Marc McDougal has planned a news conference Friday to announce Coach Bob Knight Day in Lubbock on Saturday when the Red Raiders face Oklahoma at United Spirit Arena.

The special proclamation by McDougal commemorates Knight's 800th career win Feb. 5 when the Red Raiders beat Nebraska 74-49.

During his coaching career, Knight's Indiana teams won three national championships. Knight, 62, also coached the U.S. Olympic team to a gold medal in 1984.

Knight became only the fourth men's NCAA basketball coach to reach 800 wins.

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# Worship Directory

### Adventist

**Seventh Day Adventist**  
1218 Ertle St., Bryan (corner of Coulter)  
775-4362  
Pastor Bill Davis  
Saturday 8:15am - Spanish Worship  
English - 11:00 am  
Sabbath School - 9:45 am

### Assembly of God

**Bethel Temple Assembly of God**  
2608 Villa Maria,  
Bryan  
776-4835  
Sunday Worship 10:15  
Sunday School 9:00  
www.betheltemplebcs.com

### Baptist

**Parkway Baptist Church**  
1501 Southwest Pkwy  
(979) 693-4701  
Sunday Worship 8:15 10:45 & 6PM  
Sunday School 9:30 AM  
Wednesday: Meal 5:30PM  
College Bible Study Wed. 6:30PM  
www.pbccs.org

### Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church College & Career Class

You are invited to a Bible Study especially for students.  
Sunday mornings at 9:45  
Wednesday night supper at 5:30, followed by Bible Study at 6:30  
1228 W. Villa Maria  
779-2297  
For more information contact  
Marcus Brewer: 731-1890  
m-brewer@tamu.edu  
http://www.fellowshipfb.org

### Fellowship of Christian University Students

**First Baptist Church**  
2300 Welsh Avenue  
College Station  
696-7000  
Sunday Schedule  
Worship Services: 8:30 & 10:55 a.m.  
College Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.  
Evening Bible Study: 6:00 p.m.



Weekend Shuttle Route: CS West  
http://fbc-cs.tcu.net/university

### Catholic

### St. Mary's Catholic Center

603 Church Avenue in Northgate  
(979) 846-5717  
www.aggiecatholic.org  
Pastoral Team  
Rev. Michael J. Sis, Pastor  
Rev. Keith Koehl, Associate Pastor  
Campus Ministers -  
Deacon Bill Scott, Deacon David Reed,  
Martha Tonn, Jullie Mendonca  
Dawn Rouen, Roel Garza  
Daily Masses  
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m. in the Church  
Tues.-Thurs.: 12:05 p.m. in the  
All Faiths Chapel  
Weekend Masses  
Sat: 2:00 p.m. (Korean),  
5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)  
Sun.: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,  
5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.  
Confessions  
Wed. 8:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 4:00-5:15 p.m.  
or by appointment.

### Church of Christ

### A&M Church of Christ

1901 Harvey Mitchell Pkwy.  
(979) 693-0400  
Sunday Assemblies:  
8 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,  
College Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Night: 5:45 p.m.  
Mid-Week 7:00 p.m.  
Aggies for Christ  
Call for on-campus pick-up info  
www.aggiesforchrist.org

### Episcopal

### St. Thomas Episcopal

906 George Bush Dr. • College Station, TX  
696-1726  
Services - 8:00 (Rite 1), 9:00 (Family Service Rite II)  
& 11:15 (Rite II-4 for late sleeping Ags)  
7:30 p.m. Evensong  
Next door to Canterbury House,  
the Episcopal Student Center

### Non-Denominational

### Calvary Chapel Aggie Land

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(979) 324-3972 www.aggieiland.cc

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### communityCHURCH

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Prayer Service @ 10 a.m.  
Worship @ 11 a.m.

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SUNDAYS  
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ROOM 200  
WWW.AWAKENINGBIBLECHURCH.COM

### Pentecostal

### Cornerstone Church

• Mid Week Small Group Meetings  
• Sunday Service at 3:00pm on George Bush,  
just across from campus at the  
College Station Conference Center.  
485-8744

### Victory

**United Pentecostal Church**  
Sunday 2:00 p.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m.  
1808 - H Brothers  
(behind the C.S. Wal-Mart)  
764-4180

### Presbyterian

### Covenant Presbyterian Church

220 Rock Prairie Road (979) 694-7700  
Rev. Sam W. Steele - Pastor  
Sunday Service: 8:30 & 11 a.m.  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Students Welcome  
www.covenantpresbyterian.org

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Worship 8:30, 11:00 a.m.  
Church School 9:30  
Fellowship on the Patio 10:30  
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www.fpcbryan.org

### United Methodist

### A&M United Methodist

417 University Dr. (in Northgate) • 846-8731  
Sunday Worship: 8:30, 9:45, 10:50  
College Sunday School: 9:30, 10:45  
Sr. Pastor Dr. Jerry Neff  
www.am-umc.org

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### CELEBRATION WORSHIP

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779-1324