

SCHAEFFER RESIGNS FROM ATHLETIC STAFF AT ASU (4-14-94)

JONESBORO, Ark. -- Jerry Schaeffer, sports information director at Arkansas State University for the past 20 years, has announced his resignation, effective May 5.

Schaeffer, who has also been an assistant athletic director for 18 years, has accepted a position as administrative assistant to the pastor at the First Baptist Church in Ormond Beach, Fla.

"I am excited about the new opportunity that has been afforded my family and me," Schaeffer said, "but I am also saddened about leaving a place where I have invested 20 years of my life.

"ASU will always have a double meaning to me, as an alum and as a former employee. It will always hold a special place in my heart, and I will continue to be loyal and supportive."

"We are all very sorry to be losing Jerry," said ASU Athletic Director Dr. Brad Hovious, "but at the same time are happy for him as he pursues a career change.

"Jerry has been a tremendous asset to this department and university. His reputation for excellence, honesty and cordiality speaks to the kind of person he is. He is truly a professional by anyone's definition.

"We wish Jerry, Pat and his family nothing but the best, and we want to thank him publically for 20 years of service to Arkansas State."

First Baptist Church in Ormond Beach is pastored by the Rev. Roy Hargrave, former pastor of Jonesboro's Philadelphia Baptist Church.

Schaeffer joined the ASU staff on May 1, 1974. He has been responsible for publicity of the athletic teams and has at various times also handled football scheduling, game management, negotiation of radio-TV contracts, and color commentary on radio football and basketball games.

Schaeffer, who has had five ASU brochures win awards in national competition, previously spent three years (1971-74) as sports news editor at the Arkansas Gazette. He formerly served as sports editor of the Jonesboro Sun, on the sports staff of the Alexandria (Va.) Gazette and as associate editor of Probe (Baptist youth magazine).

A native of North Little Rock who also served as an Army intelligence officer in Vietnam, he earned his B.S. in journalism at ASU in 1968 and his master's in mass communications at ASU in 1982.

Schaeffer, a deacon at Central Baptist Church, is married to the former Pat Barber of Jonesboro, and they have two daughters--Amy (16) and Laura (13).

END