



Longtime Texas A&M Athletics Administrator Penny King to Retire

Penny King, Texas A&M University's Senior Associate Athletics Director and Senior Women's Administrator, who has served 41 years with the school's Athletic Department, has announced she will retire at the end of February.

King began her career in the athletic ticket office in 1972, and worked her way to Deputy Director of Athletics, a position she held from 2003-12.

"Penny King is an institution here at Texas A&M," Director of Athletics Eric Hyman said. "She has dedicated her adult life to Texas A&M Athletics and worked her way up to an executive level administrator. I've seen firsthand the tremendous amount of compassion and support she has for our student-athletes and coaches. I will miss having her part of our daily team, but at the same time I wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement."

King will celebrate her 65th birthday on February 1, and believes the timing is right to conclude her successful athletics administration career.

"There is no perfect time to step away," King said. "But I felt this was the right time for me. I never thought when I started a temporary job in the Ticket Office in G. Rollie White Coliseum in the fall of 1972 I would be retiring after being a part of Texas A&M Athletics for over 41 years."

King spent one year working in the athletic ticket office before taking a position as payroll clerk in 1973. She would remain on the business operations side of the department for 30 years working alongside Wally Groff and heading the business office as Assistant AD in 1993. A year later, Groff promoted King to Associate AD for Business. Then, in 2000, King was named Senior Associate AD for Business. Three years later, she became the Deputy Director of Athletics to Athletics Director Bill Byrne.

"To work with student-athletes, coaches, the administration and the Bryan-College Station community has been incredibly rewarding," King said. "I have had great opportunities to develop as a person and to meet and work with many wonderful people over the course of my career in Athletics. After attending Texas A&M as a non-traditional student with a full time job from 1985-90, I am proud to claim the Texas Aggie class year of 1990 when I graduated."

In addition to her own graduation, King says she is most proud of the thousands of student-athletes who graduated during her tenure.

"How proud am I of our student-athletes when they graduate?" King said. "I feel like one of my own kids is walking across the stage."

During King's time as an athletic administrator, she assisted Texas A&M in transitioning from the Southwest Conference to the Big 12 Conference to the Southeastern Conference. At the same time, she noted the evolution of the school's athletics facilities into the some of the finest in the country.

However, King says, her most memorable moments have been those spent watching the student-athletes win championships.

"Two of my most memorable moments at Texas A&M," King recalled, "were being in attendance when we won the 2011 NCAA Women's Basketball National Championship, and when our football team came from behind to win the 1998 Big 12 Championship in St. Louis."

King has been a key part of Texas A&M Athletics success and growth over the last 41 years.

“I think the commitment to excellence Aggie Athletics has established as a department is extraordinary, and I am proud to have been a part of our success,” King said. “I’ve had the opportunity to enjoy national championships, numerous conference championships, Elite Eights, Sweet 16s, and 27 bowl games among many other milestones.

“I have to thank those who have given me the tremendous opportunity to be a part of this department beginning with Wally Groff who hired me, John David Crow, Bill Byrne, and Eric Hyman. I have seen remarkable change in intercollegiate athletics since 1972. I hope I have been able to make a positive impact in some small way on the staff and the student-athletes who have participated at Texas A&M, as they have certainly enriched my life.”

She credits her family for her success.

“I would not have been able to attain any of my accomplishments without the incredible love and support from my family, (Clark, husband; Rusty, son; Becky, daughter-in-law; Lyndsey, granddaughter, 8; and Logan, grandson 6),” King said. “It is time to watch our grandchildren excel in their activities and enjoy other opportunities life brings our way! I can now be a FAN of Aggie sports and sit in the stands cheering for our teams.”

King plans to spend her retirement traveling, playing golf, and visiting family and friends around the country with her husband Clark.

Penny King’s Texas A&M Career

2012-14	Senior Associate Athletics Director/Senior Women’s Administrator
2003-12	Deputy Director of Athletics
2000-03	Senior Associate Athletics Director for Business
1994-2000	Associate AD for Business
1993-94	Assistant AD for Business
1988-93	Athletic Business Manager
1980-88	Office Manager of Athletic Business Office
1973-80	Athletics Payroll Clerk
1972-73	Athletic Ticket Office

Texas A&M Athletics Directors During Penny King’s Career

Emory Bellard
Marvin Tate
Jackie Sherrill
John David Crow
Wally Groff
Bill Byrne
Eric Hyman