

LONGHORNS FOOTBALL

## **Fundraiser Friday night expected to raise \$1.5 million for the new Mack Brown endowed chair at LBJ School**

**Penn State coach Joe Paterno was the guest speaker. He said: "I've admired (Brown) for a long time."**

By [Suzanne Halliburton](#)  
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Penn State football coach Joe Paterno was in feisty form Friday night as he prepared to laud Texas' Mack Brown during a fundraiser at the Four Seasons.

Paterno's four-hour treatment for dehydration and nausea at a Pennsylvania hospital made national headlines Thursday. By Friday, the 81-year-old coaching legend was joking about the scare he threw into the Nittany Lion faithful.

"Yesterday I didn't think this event was getting enough press," said Paterno, who was the keynote speaker at Friday's affair. "I decided to go to the hospital and see if I could spruce it up a bit. I feel good."

More than 200 people gathered to hear Paterno and honor Brown, paying a minimum of \$1,000 apiece to raise money for the newly created Mack Brown Distinguished Chair for Leadership in Global Affairs. The chair will be part of UT's Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law.

Joe Youngblood, executive director of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, a partner in the Strauss Center, said Friday's fundraiser was expected to generate \$1.5 million.

The goal is to permanently endow the chair with at least \$2 million. The UT athletic department already has donated \$500,000. Brown said that after the initial fundraising was finished, he and his wife, Sally, might make a personal contribution.

They've already made donations to the school, but Brown declined to talk about his financial gifts.

As of now, Brown's name is the main fundraising calling card for the chair.

"His greatest of all contributions is he's lending his name and his reputation," said Larry Temple,

president of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation.

It's the second time the university has honored one of its coaches with an endowed chair. More than two decades ago, the school did the same for Darrell Royal, endowing a chair in the College of Liberal Arts. Ohio State has since created a chair to honor Woody Hayes.

Royal was on hand Friday night. He picked up Paterno, who spoke at the event for free, at the airport earlier in the day and brought him to the hotel.

It seems that Royal, back in December 1997, called Paterno to ask his advice on whether the school should hire Brown.

"I told him, 'You can't get him,' " Paterno recalled. "Darrell said, 'I wouldn't bet on that.'"

"I think Mack has been a great thing for college football and the University of Texas."

The crowd Friday included UT president William Powers and three of his predecessors. Luci Baines Johnson also attended.

The Strauss Center is hoping the chair will help to attract a big name. Frank Gavin, the center's director of studies, said the hope is to hire someone with the prestige of current U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

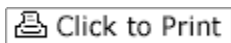
"When I was approached about the chair, I was really overwhelmed," Brown said. "Our global leadership is much bigger than wins and losses on a Saturday."

shalliburton@statesman.com; 445-3954

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