All Former Aides

Three Named To Sharpe Staff

BLACKSBURG, Va. (AP)—assistant coaches Danny Ford of Alabama and Perry Willis of Livingstone today were named assistants on the staff of Virginia Tech's new head football coach, Jimmy Sharpe.

The appointments brought to three the number of assistants Sharpe has chosen since he took over the Tech job last week.

Charley Pell, head coach at Jacksonville, Ala., State, had been named to Sharpe's staff Monday.

All three of the new Virginia Tech assistants at one time or another served with Sharpe on the Alabama staff of Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Both Ford and Willis played at Alabama in 1967-68-69 and each began as a graduate assistant to Bryant.

Willis, 26, a split end and defensive back, joined the Livingstone staff in 1971, working with the offensive backs.

Ford, an all-Southeastern Conference offensive tackle his senior year after two seasons at tight end, was elevated to Alabama's varsity coaching staff in 1972 after two years as graduate assistant.

Sharpe, noting that he knows all three of the new assistants intimately, said:

"We need to start with compatibility among our staff at Virginia Tech, and these two men definitely know how we plan to do things. We should be under way before the end of the week."

Pell, head coach at Jacksonville State for five years, was expected to arrive here today to begin his new job as assistant to Sharpe.

Pell, 32, was a teammate of Sharpe at Alabama in the early 1960s. The two began their coaching careers together as graduate assistants to Bryant.