

## A Question for the Bear and Woody

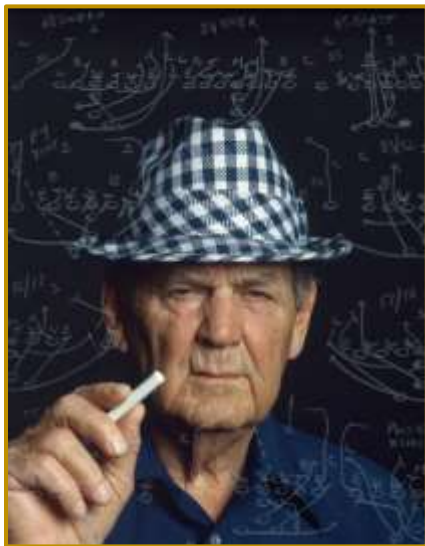
Years ago, Woody Hayes and Paul (Bear) Bryant were both speaking at the same clinic.

At the time, these two men represented some of the greatest expertise in the arena of collegiate football. Hayes was the successful head coach at Ohio State University, and Bryant led Alabama's Crimson Tide.

After these living legends had addressed the gathering, the floor was opened for questions. A high-school coach asked, "What is the highest priority for recruiting young men to come play at your university?"

The inquisitive coach speculated it must be speed, strength, size or intelligence, but all of those answers were wrong. Hayes and Bryant had already proven themselves with multiple national titles, so their answer to this one question was worth the whole clinic.

The two coaches looked at each other as though they knew the question was coming. Bryant then gave an answer that surprised everyone.



He said, "What I want to know is how does this young man feel about his momma and his daddy. Because if he respects and honors his momma and daddy, then he will respect others and will become an effective part of a winning team."

Respect is an essential part of life. When we respect someone, we recognize his or her value. If we disrespect a person, the conclusion of our feeling is that the individual is not valuable or worthy.

Respecting others is a silent way of expressing our feeling for them. It's an unspoken method of communication that builds unshaken and strong relations between people respecting each other.

That allows a team – be it in sports, business, education, hospitality or health care – to operate at maximum effectiveness and efficiency.

(more)

Mutual respect is instantly obvious in the highest performing facilities of Life Care and Century Park. Each associate is eager to give credit to co-workers for accomplishment of goals ... and then some!

Bear Bryant and Woody Hayes understood the power of respect in team dynamics. The Bible, too, proclaims its value:

*We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter