



The Battalion

Weather
 Thursday — Cloudy, occasional light rain, winds Easterly 10-15 m.p.h., changing late Thursday to partly cloudy, winds Northerly 20-30. High 42, low 34.
 Friday — Partly cloudy, winds Northerly, 15-25 m.p.h. High 66, low 38.

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A&M Zoo Began In 1920, Lasted Till Bizzell Left

By DAVE MAYES
 Battalion Staff Writer
 Back in the 1920's, when an Aggie said he was majoring in "zoo-ology," he probably meant he had a job feeding the ostrich at the A&M College Zoo.

W. B. Brizzell in 1920. A 1920 issue of the "Alumni Quarterly," forerunner to the "Texas Aggie," reported: "President Bizzell is very enthusiastic in the promotion of plans to make this the best collection of rare animals in this section of the country..."

pleasure of College people and visitors, and also for educational purposes in connection with the regular College work."

David B. Cofer, 82, A&M architect emeritus, recalled that the zoo contained a variety of animals including armadillos, monkeys, elk, buffaloes, racoons, deer, a cougar, a lion and an ostrich.

"While I was an English professor and lived on the campus," he said, "I used to take my two young children to feed the animals every afternoon."

"THE TOWNSPEOPLE, who had probably never been to any of the big city zoos, used to greatly enjoy bringing their youngsters to the one at A&M, especially on Sundays," he recalled.

The zoo's estimated 15 cages consisted of iron bars sunk in concrete floors.

"But the zoo's lion was so old, he could never have bothered anyone if he got out," Cofer said.

Donations to the zoo came from everywhere. Three elk were sent from the superintendent of Yellowstone National Park, Wyo. A black bear was given by the City Park Commission of McMinnville, Ore.

THE "ALUMNI Quarterly" urged: "... friends of the College... to assist the authorities in building up the zoo. The College will be glad to pay all expenses connected with shipment of specimens..."

Cofer said toward the end of Bizzell's term as president, interest in the zoo began to flag.

"The students never did pay too much attention to it," he said, "because they were too busy with their schoolwork."

Many people felt Bizzell was spending too much money on the zoo," Cofer recalled.

"When he left in August 1925, the idea of zoo, for the most part, went with him."

Ags Beat Arkansas, Take Tie For Lead

A&M, Baylor, Texas Share 7-4 Records

By GARY SHERER
 Battalion Sports Editor

A guitar has six tightly-strung strings. Tuesday night, the Aggies were as tight as a guitar. When a guitar is loosely strung, it creates bad music. When a basketball team that is tight, loosens up, the reverse happens—good play.

That's what happened to the Aggies as they loosened up enough to top Arkansas 71-67 before 6,000 noisy G. Rollie White Coliseum fans.

THE WIN, coupled with Baylor's loss to Southern Methodist, put the Aggies into a first-place tie (7-4) with the Bears and Texas (who beat Texas Tech) in the unpredictable Southwest Conference scramble.

IT WAS the fifth straight win for the Aggies, who are now 13-8 on the season. The losing Razorbacks now have the reverse of the Maroon and White at 8-13 and 5-6 in the SWC.

The Aggies didn't score until two minutes were gone in the game. Then, 11 minutes later, they took over the lead at 16-14 and Arkansas was behind for good.

However, the Aggies could not pull away, and their biggest lead, 8 points, came with a minute and a half to play in the first half, at 35-27. The Razorbacks then shaved it down to four, and the halftime score read 35-31.

THE SECOND half followed a pattern of the Aggies trying to null into a bigger lead and the Razorbacks coming back but never catching up.

Once again, as seems to be the rule in SWC games, the game was won at the foul line. The Aggies went to the line 27 times and converted 21 of them. The Hogs, much to the disgust of their coach, Duddy Waller, took only 11 trips to the free line, marking seven.

That 14-point margin in fouls made up for the Aggies' five-field-goal shortage and their 36-37 rebound deficit. The Razorbacks outshot the Aggies from the floor in the second half, but it wasn't enough to make up for their poor marksmanship in the first twenty minutes. Arkansas finished at 44.8 on 30 for 67 which included a 40.6 mark before intermission.

THE AGGIES stayed consistent enough, at 25 of 51 for 49.0, with halves of 52.0 and 46.2.

Sonny Benefield was high for the Aggies with 19 points, although he sat out the last eight minutes of the first half. Benefield got double-figure support from Johnny Underwood, Ronnie Peret and Mike Heitmann at 14, 14 and 11, respectively.

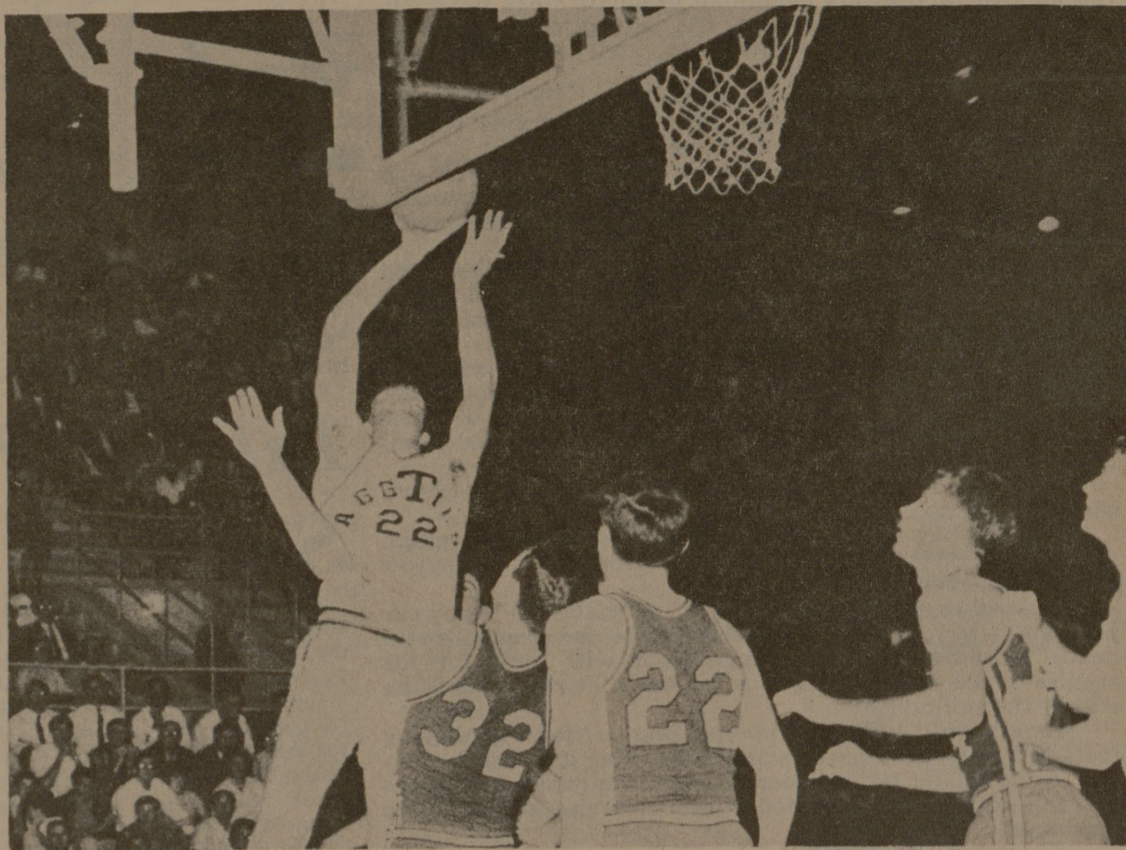
Arkansas was led by 5-11 junior Benton Cone, who matched Benefield's total, and James Eldridge, 6-5 sophomore, who added 16.

After Tuesday night's action, a race that saw Baylor in a two-game lead two weeks ago, now has evolved into a three-way deadlock. Texas Christian, who lost to Rice last night, is a close second at 6-5 for the year.

THE SECOND-PLACE Frogs now take on the role of the team that says "who ends up where" as their remaining games are with the three leaders.

Saturday afternoon the Aggies will be in Fort Worth for a 1:15 regional TV game with the Frogs. The same day, Baylor will be at Tech while Texas will visit Dallas and the surging SMU Mustangs.

University National Bank
 "On the side of Texas A&M"
 —Adv.



HEITMANN SCORES
 Aggie Forward Mike Heitmann pushes in two of his 11 points against Arkansas during third-quarter play. Defenders are Jacky Kimbrell (32), Benton Cone (22) and Gary Stephens (24). (Photo by Mike Wright)

Junior Council Announces Plans For 'San Franciscan Night' Ball

Planning for the Junior Ball March 16 in Sbis Hall, is near completion, according to Junior Class President Danny Ruiz.

The Ball will last from 8 p.m. to midnight, and will feature a psychedelic light show and music by the Countdown 5.

March 7 is the deadline for getting sweetheart applications in to the Student Program Office in the Memorial Student Center. Applications may be picked up there and should be returned with a suitable picture by noon March 7.

Tickets for the ball will cost \$3 per couple and are also available in the Program Office.

Uniform for Corps members will be midnights with ascots, and civilians are to wear coats and ties.

"Suitable dress for dates will be either semi-formal or something following the Ball theme, 'San Franciscan Night,'" Ruiz said.

Ruiz praised the cooperation

of the Junior Council in preparing the ball, and cited in particular committee chairman Walt Dabney, Bruce Baxter, Charlie Schwab and Corbit Magby.

"The Council netted more than \$1,200 from the sale of sweat-shirts to finance the ball," Ruiz said. "This means ticket sale funds will be clear profit for other junior activities."

The Junior Council is open to any junior who wishes to attend the meetings, Ruiz noted. The next meeting, set Thursday night at 7:30 in Room 2-D of the MSC, will include preparations for the ball.

The Council will select the seven finalists in the sweetheart contest March 7.

Ruiz explained that there are no plans for the traditional Junior Banquet this year because previous banquets had left fund deficits.

"The Council did not feel there is enough support for a banquet to plan one," Ruiz added.

Ross Volunteers Preparing For Mardi Gras Appearance

The Ross Volunteers' annual trek to the Mardi Gras hits the road this weekend.

The 105-cadet elite honor military unit will be in New Orleans three days, march in the colorful King Rex Parade, participate in a southern tradition ball and dine with the New Orleans A&M Club.

RV Commander Francis J. Bourgeois will head the company's two official Mardi Gras appearances and organize quarters aboard the U.S.S. Guadalcanal, an aircraft carrier, on which students will stay.

RV advisor Malon Southerland of the commandant's office said the vessel will be berthed at New Orleans with the sole purpose of providing students overnight facilities.

The RVs will march as honor guard for King Rex in the three-hour parade Tuesday morning. Central figure in the city's annual Mardi Gras celebration, King Rex will be in a prominent position in the parade.

The entire RV company, including seniors and juniors from A&M's Corps of Cadets, received invitations to the lavish Rex Ball Tuesday evening.

New Orleans Aggies host the drill company at dinner Monday.

Patrick G. Rehmet of Alice is executive officer to Bourgeois, who holds Volunteer rank of captain. James H. Lehman of Bellaire is administrative officer and Scott H. Robert of Austin is operations officer.

Platoon leaders are James R. Thompson of Alice; Carl V. Feducia, Shreveport, and John R. Baldrige Jr., Bossier City, La.

Air Force Maj. Deward Johnson and Southerland will accompany the unit.

Dinner Dance Club Set First Fete Thursday In MSC

A costume party at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Memorial Student Center Assembly Room will launch spring semester activities for the Texas A&M Faculty-Staff Dinner Dance Club, announced Mrs. Anne Elmquist, committee chairman.

The program includes both dinner and dancing, with music furnished by the Aggieband Combo.

No particular theme has been established for the costumes, although Mrs. Elmquist pointed out Thursday is George Washington's birthday.

A prize will be awarded for the best costume, she added.

First Bank & Trust now pays 5% per annum on savings certificates. —Adv.



DISTINGUISHED STUDENTS

Joe Mahoney, center, Squadron 11 senior, is congratulated by Fourth Group Commander Tony Groves on being awarded the Distinguished Student ribbon. Group Scholastic Officer Eddie Travis is at left. Some 36 Fourth Group cadets, who posted a 2.25 or better grade point ratio last semester, were recognized in the Tuesday ceremonies. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Communists Reported Hoping To Level Saigon This Month

By EDWIN Q. WHITE
 Associated Press Writer

SAIGON (AP)—The Communist high command, thwarted in efforts in its opening offensive to seize Saigon, is reported to have called for leveling of South Vietnam's capital in second wave attacks before the month is out.

Rumors raced through Saigon of an impending Viet Cong assault in the early morning hours Wednesday as artillery barrages and air strikes rumbled in outlying areas. Flares lighted the sky and explosions could be heard clearly in the heart of the city.

Private sources said they heard that up to two battalions of Viet Cong—perhaps 800 men—were in action west of the city. But military authorities said they had no word of any significant incidents there or elsewhere in the immediate area of the capital.

SAIGON POLICE and allied troops were already on full alert for developments in the second wave, which dwindled after its opening with rocket and mortar attacks on 47 centers and a few ground assaults across the country Sunday.

Intelligence advises reaching the U. S. mission said Viet Cong of Kien Hoa Province, in the Mekong Delta, had been told the second wave would run to the end of February, ordered them to supply maximum reinforcements

for a new battle for Saigon, and said that the aim was to destroy the city.

THE COMMUNISTS were estimated to have 10,000 to 15,000 men within a day's march of Saigon, including units of the 7th North Vietnamese Division and the 5th and 9th Viet Cong divisions. Far more allied troops are close at hand.

Communist crews kept up their widely spaced shelling of Saigon's Tan Son Nhut air base, losing four rounds of rocket or mortar fire Tuesday. U. S. military spokesmen said one round exploded between two runways, causing neither damage nor casualties, and the others fell just outside the perimeter.

Tan Tvon Hut, one of the busiest airports in the world, handles both military and commercial traffic for the South Vietnamese capital. The base has been attacked several times in the course of the war, but has become a prime target since the Viet Cong launched their lunar new year offensive at the end of January.

THE SOUTH Vietnamese command reported government planes bombed several enemy anti-aircraft guns spotted 2½ miles south of the base, but had no immediate information on the results. Ground troops were to sweep the area at daybreak.

Far to the north, the fighting

for Hue entered its 22nd day. Though under heavy allied pressure, Communist troops still held out in rock piles that once were walls and buildings of the Citadel.

U. S. Marines and South Vietnamese troops inched ahead Tuesday toward Red pockets on the south side of the big compound, which flanks the Perfume River. Though they had artillery support, heavy clouds precluded the use of fighter-bombers.

"We just slugged along," a Marine said.

ADS Initiates 10 Into A&M Chapter

Alpha Delta Sigma, national advertising fraternity, inducted 10 pledges into the A&M chapter Tuesday night.

Those initiated were Bruce Shulter, Jim Black, Craig Escalante, Jim McCalip, Bill Dinger, John James, Tim Searson, Mitchell Friedman, Wayne Schmidt and James Raatz. Schmidt and Raatz are professional members.

Gamma Alpha Chi, national advertising sorority, initiated Jane Mills, Nancy Manning, Elizabeth Lyne and Nancy Grossenbacher into the local chapter.

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THE PRESIDENT MISSES A BIRDIE

President Johnson lags a putt toward the hole on 18th green in Palm Springs, Calif., as Gen. Eisenhower watches, left. Mr. Johnson made a par 3, as he missed birdie when putt didn't drop. It was first time public has been permitted to see Mr. Johnson's golf swing. (AP Wirephoto)