

Annual Aggie Rodeo Begins In AH Pavilion Tonight At 8

BY BILL BILLINGSLEY

The twenty-first annual Aggie rodeo will rip out of the chutes at the AH Pavilion tonight at 8. Over half-a-hundred of A&M's collegiate cowhands will take part in that show and the two Saturday shows which follow at 2:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Sponsored each year by the Saddle and Sirlion Club, the rodeo profits will be used to send A&M stock judging teams to competitions in Fort Worth, Oklahoma City, Chicago, and Kansas City.

As in the past, this year's rodeo will feature five main events. Bull riding, with 17 entries; bareback bronc riding, with 20 contestants; calf roping with 19 ropers; bull dogging with 8 wrestlers; and ribbon roping with 16, two-man teams entered make up the program list.

Eager Doggers
Each year the Aggie rodeo is one of the few collegiate shows to include the steer wrestling event on its program. Most university area directors consider bulldogging too rough an event for their student contestants. The Aggie cowhands, however, literally eat the event up.

Boostered by the nucleus of last year's national-competition rodeo team, the entry list of this year's rodeo will include some of the top money winners in shows across the state and nation.

The program features such names as Maxie Overstreet, a bull dogging money winner in last year's Houston Fat Stock Show rodeo; Bubba Day, last year A&M's top all-around cowboy; top bull rider Bob Shrode; ropers Bill Hogg, Prince Wood, Charlie Wampler and Wally Cardwell; and bareback riders Charlie Rankin and Bob Gammon.

\$800 in Prizes
These are but a few of the leading college rodeo performers who will go after the \$800 worth of prizes offered the top cowhands.

Stock for this year's show is being furnished, at cost, by Dr. Darnell B. Spott, class of '38, from Killen, Texas. All stock are professional rodeo animals and, along with the clown, make up the only strictly professional portion of tonight's show.

This year's clown and bull fighter is Dr. Hershell Dorman, also in the class of '38 of Fort Worth. Tickets are \$1.80 for reserve seats, \$1.20 for general admission and \$1.00 for children under twelve. They may be bought from J. H. Sullivan, 47 Milner or any "AH" major on the campus.

Judges of this year's show are Tommie Johnson, '48, of A u g a Dulme and Ray Davis, '50, from Wichita Falls. Time keepers are Tom Shelton, Tilden; Bill Caruthers, Chystal City; and Tabor Shelton, Tilden.
Special events this year are a cutting horse contest and a sheep dog exhibition. Some of the state's top cutting horses will be entered in the contest, according to arena director Prince Wood.
(See RODEO, Page 6)

Air Force Team To Test Career Minded Aggies

An Air Force officer team from Brooks Field will arrive on the campus Monday, October 31, to interview students interested in careers as flying officers in the U. S. A. F.

The team will be located in the YMCA, and all interested students will be given examinations necessary to qualify them for training as pilots or navigators.

To be eligible for Cadet training, a student must be an unmarried citizen between the age of 20 and 26½ must have completed two years of college, and must pass the qualifying physical and moral examinations.

Under a new plan put into operation this year, applicants that will graduate in June can be examined now to see if they qualify. If so, their papers will be held until graduation and commissioning, then proper orders will be issued for pilot or navigator training.

In-grade training is available to married men. Sophomores and Juniors may also take the test, but they will not be accepted unless they show that they will be unable to remain in school.

The visit to A&M is part of a nationwide program being conducted by the Air Force to build up an officer corps composed largely of college students.

Kern Will Install Phi Kappa Phi's

Doctor Frank J. Kern, national president of Phi Kappa Phi, will install the local chapter here Monday evening, October 31.

Dr. Kern is head of the graduate school at Penn State. Besides being national president of Phi Kappa Phi, he is a member of Alpha Zeta, Gamma Sigma Delta, Phi Eta Sigma, and Sigma Xi. He was elected to Who's Who in America.

A botanist, Dr. Kern has been specializing in research concerning plant roots and fungus diseases in plants.

Newsmen Here Saturday For Panel Session

Tomorrow the Texas Newspaper Clinic, sponsored by the A&M Journalism Department, will start, Donald D. Burchard, head of the journalism department announced today.

The clinic will start at 8 a. m. Saturday, with registration of the visiting journalists. The programs will start at 8:50 a. m. with a discussion of "Does Your Job Department Cost You Money?" This discussion will be moderated by D. E. Newsom of the A&M journalism department.

Otis Miller, also of the A&M Journalism department, will preside over the second session. The main topic of this period is "Agricultural Promotion That Pays." "How to Promote a Worthwhile Special Event," and "Selling Advertising That Pays," will fill out the morning discussions, Burchard said.

Henderson Shuffler, Director of Information and Publication, will give an address of welcome at the luncheon in Sbis Hall. Verne Swartzfager, pastor of the St. Andrews Church in Bryan, will make a talk entitled "Kids World."

The afternoon activities will include a mechanical conference moderated by Newsom, and demonstration of the A&M Press.
At 6 p. m. the clinic will meet at the Fin Feather Club for dinner and a short radio quiz program.

This is the first time that A&M has sponsored a Newspaper conference, Burchard concluded.

Seniors Plan Meet To Choose Delegate

The senior class will elect its representative to A&M's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Committee Monday night at a class meeting, Bobby Byington, senior president, said today.

Each class, Byington said, has been requested by the Board of Directors to name a man to the committee. Its job will be to plan a year-long series of special events to celebrate A&M's 75th anniversary.

Byington said that he anticipated discussion of the Houston yell practice arrangements at the Monday meeting.

A committee to select graduation announcements will also be named.

All students who desire to place items for discussion on the agenda were asked by Byington to contact him before Monday.

The location of the senior meeting will be announced in Monday's Battalion. It will probably be in the assembly hall of the YMCA Chapel, Byington concluded.

Metzger Pistol Collection, Nation's Second Largest, Given A&M By Heirs

BY JOHN TAPLEY

The \$100,000 Carl Metzger Collection of rare military and civilian firearms has been given to A&M by the daughters of the late Carl Metzger.

The collection, which includes 587 pistols and 200 rifles, is one of the finest gun collections in the United States.

Col. H. L. Boatner, PMS&T and commandant, said "this is one of the finest pistol collections in the United States, and probably the finest private collection of Colt revolvers."

The collection consists of many ancient pistols. Included in it are weapons made in the 15th century and such pistols as

the Walker Colt, which was initially used in the Texas Revolution; Turkish Flintlock Horsemen's pistols; LeFerecheux Pinfire revolver 4 mm; many Derringer Butterfield pistols, General P. Briscoe's Colt-Patterson revolver made in 1836; a Colts-Whitneyville-Walker revolver and several Colts-Patterson revolvers.

Also contained in the collection are Moorish and Arabian Breast Dagger Revolvers; a Civil War Colt Sniper's rifle weighing 30 pounds; about 20 sets of European Duelling pistols; 2 Philippine bronze cannons made in the Spanish era of that country; a large group of the early flintlock pistols made at Harpers Ferry; a group of the early Kentucky rifles and many others too numerous to mention in detail.

A small part of the collection is temporarily housed in the Cadet Reception Center and the Cushing Library. It will be permanently housed in the Student Memorial Center now under construction. Only about 20 percent of the collection is on display in the gun room at one time.

Metzger, who died March 22, 1949, was engaged in the dairy business in Dallas until his retirement in 1939.

He started his collection as a boy and after retiring from active business, devoted the latter years of his life to the development of the collection that bears his name. The collection was presented to the college under the terms of Metzger's will by his daughters, Mrs. Harold G. Well and Mrs. Lee Segal, both of Dallas.

Starting with oriental matchlocks of the period of about 1420, the collection portrays the evolution of firearms from that time to the early part of the 20th century. Following the oriental matchlocks come wheel locks, invented in Nuremberg, Germany, about 1509; Snaphaunce pistols, the forerunner of the true flintlock and developed about 1535; Spanish Migulet pistols made about 1560, and the true flintlocks that can be traced

Other men in the electric meter business who will attend include Fred Holtz, chief engineer of the Sangamo Company, Springfield, Illinois; T. M. Wallis, General Electric Company; D. A. Young, Westinghouse Corporation; and L. F. Parachini of the Western Instrument Company.

President F. C. Bolton will deliver the address of welcome. Norman F. Rode, professor of the Electrical Engineering Department is in charge of arrangements.

So Each Man Can Speak . . .

(AN EDITORIAL)

On the editorial page of this issue of The Battalion we have given a complete report of a meeting held Wednesday afternoon in the Dean of Students office for the purpose of deciding whether or not there will be a yell practice in Houston.

At that meeting a group of students and faculty expressed their opinion that the student body would prefer a Saturday morning yell practice to having no yell practice at all. That opinion was based on a letter received from George Smith, chairman of the corps trip arrangements committee of the Houston A&M Club, requesting that we do not hold yell practice Friday night in Houston.

There are many students who disagree with the opinion expressed by the group which met Wednesday. It is their privilege to disagree. These students contend that, if given an opportunity to present their arguments for a midnight yell practice to the former students of Houston, they can obtain the support of those former students in their efforts to hold a midnight yell practice.

We do not know if the former students can be made to withdraw their request. But, since we are of the opinion that every student should be given a chance to have his say, we propose a plan which will give each man that chance.

The Battalion is willing to collect and forward to the Houston A&M Club any signed letter from any student giving his ideas, pro or con, for midnight yell practice. These letters will be sent to that group Monday evening. They will be delivered before the corps trip arrangements committee from A&M goes to Houston to make plans for the weekend.

This, we believe, is a fair and honest way to give every man an opportunity to voice his opinion in a manner in which it can be heard and considered by the proper authorities.

Now, when this has been done, we believe that all the students in this school should be willing to accept the decision of the Houston former students.

There can be no question that they will have our best interests in mind; and there can be no question that they will be in sympathy with any suggestion which we may make provided they are convinced that it is reasonable and workable suggestion.

But, whatever they decide, we urge every student to accept that decision, for only the full cooperation of us all can assure the success of any yell practice, whether it is at night or in the daytime.

This question is one which seriously affects the students, past and present; the corps; and the college. Our attitude as individuals and as a group can make or break this corps trip. It can make or break the good reputation which has been built for A&M. It's up to you.



Colonel R. L. Boatner, PMS&T, and Colonel of the Corps Doyle Avant inspect two of the more than 700 firearms of the Metzger Collection which have been donated to the college. The pistol held by Colonel Boatner is an Austrian Wheellock developed in about the year of 1500. The cross-bow held by Avant was made in Germany before the development of the modern pistol.

Bill Turley Named Prexy of Eco Club

William Turley, senior economics major from Houston, has been elected to head the Economics Club for the '49-50 school year.

The vice-president position was filled by Norris Yates of San Antonio while the secretary post went Donald Garrett also of San Antonio. Marvin Butler of the Economics Department was chosen to sponsor the club.

W. R. Horsley of the placement office spoke to the club on "Job Opportunities." "Other speakers will be engaged for future talks," announced club sponsor Butler.

Butler extended a welcome to all economic majors and minors to take advantage of the club's educational and social opportunities. "Social plans for the year will be discussed at the Nov. 8, meeting," Butler concluded.

Western Culture At Peak Here, Conductor Says

New York, Oct. 28. (AP)—"What the devil is that?" demanded the August British Orchestra conductor, Sir Thomas Beecham, when asked yesterday what he thought of bebop.

Sir Thomas, 70, arrived aboard the liner Queen Mary for a tour in this country.

Reporters, who knew all the things that bebop is not—neither jazz nor swink nor innocuous music—settled for his innocuous definition: "A recent development in modern American music."

Sir Thomas raised his brows and breezed on to some generalities.

In Texas, he declared, "western culture has arrived at its highest peak." (He will conduct orchestras in San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, and Houston.)

'Pink' Thanked By VA Patients

Patients of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Temple yesterday expressed their thanks to P. L. "Pinky" Downs Jr., assistant director of information, for the entertainment for them during the weekend of the A&M-Baylor game.

A letter from M. L. Harper, hospital, to "Pinky" said, "Words are not available to express the gratitude and appreciation of the patients of this hospital to you and the Texas A&M staff and faculty" for the entertainment provided over the weekend.

Harper continued, by saying "Outings of this nature play a very important part in the rehabilitation of those hospitalized here, and the treatment of these patients such as was demonstrated by you and your staff is to be highly commended."

"Pinky" has been in charge of making all arrangements for the care of hospitalized veterans who come to the college for football weekends.

Currently he is planning to welcome another group of the wounded men to the campus for the A&M-SMU game on November 5.

Harper, in his letter to "Pinky," stated that many of the patients who were unable to make the trip from Temple on October 22 were anxious to be members of the group planning to come down on November 5.

Statement

Glenn Kothman, head yell leader, made this statement to The Battalion this morning with the request it be published for the information and guidance of the student body.

"I was present at a meeting held Wednesday afternoon in Dean Penberthy's office where the question of midnight yell practice in Houston was discussed. It is my belief that we should have a midnight yell practice, but if the Houston A&M Club, after considering all sides of the question, requests us not to have yell practice Friday night, I am willing to accept their decision.

"The important thing about this whole question is that we should act together as a unit. If the Houston A&M Club wants our yell practice Saturday morning, then that is when we ought to have it."

Wee Words of Wisdom . . .

Education The Quick Way In Poor Man's Britannica

BY DAVE COSLETT

Lay down that 600-page volume. You can be educated in one short paragraph.

Take this for example. Did you know that the Aurora Borealis is a display of light in the high levels of the earth's atmosphere, associated with high sunspot activity and world-wide magnetic-electric storms?

Every few weeks the Associated Press sends out this and other earth shaking information on a legal-sized yellow sheet of paper called "News Fillers for AMs and PMs."

These little tid-bits of typewritten trivia are designed to keep page make-up men in a newspaper shop from going mad trying to figure out how to fill a half inch hole at the bottom of a newspaper column.

With a collection of these death-filers lying about, the hard-working make-up man has but to choose one that fills the holes.

The Battalion rarely uses fillers. Its daily pages are made up by students who are half nuts already, so the filler is of no practical value. But rather than neglect the education of our daily readers, we have decided to print a few of the more enlightening

ones here. Take this one for example "The goldenrod is the state flower of Nebraska." Pertinent information? Think of the many Aggie hay-fever sufferers that can be saved no little discomfort by having been forewarned about such a condition.

Or this—"North American waterfowl reached a peak in numbers in 1944, an estimated 125,000,000 birds." Consider the many hunters who, because of reading that, can dreamily wish that they could be back in 1944 with a straight-shooting gun.

Music lovers, attention—"The ukele was taken to the Hawaiian Islands by Portuguese immigrants." How long have you labored under an impression other than this.

Here's another—"Europe has seven midget principalities: Trieste, Andora, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Monaco, Vatican City and Luxembourg, the largest (999 square miles)." Just those 20 words may solve the housing problem for countless midgets.

AP also informs us "the ancient Greeks made small replicas of radishes out of gold." Chances are they were more digestible than their modern day counterparts in the College mess-halls.



The late Carl Metzger of Dallas was the founder and builder of the Metzger Collection of rare military and civilian firearms which was given to the college this week by his daughters, Mrs. Harold G. Well and Mrs. Lee Segal, both of Dallas. The collection, which is reported to be the third largest in the United States, is valued at more than \$100,000. Part of it is now on display in the Cadet Reception Center in Dormitory 12. The entire collection will be housed in a special room in the Memorial Student Center.