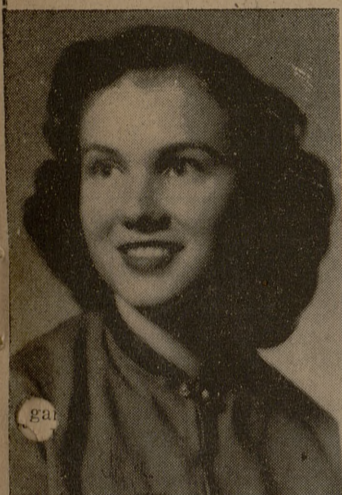
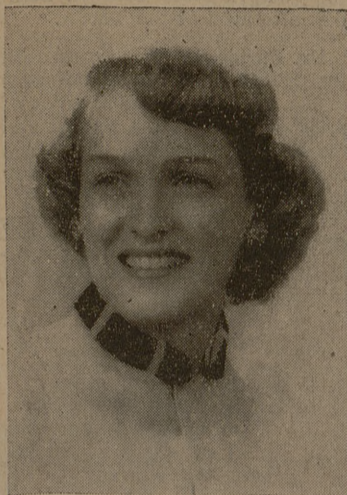


The Battalion

Sophomore Sweetheart Finalists



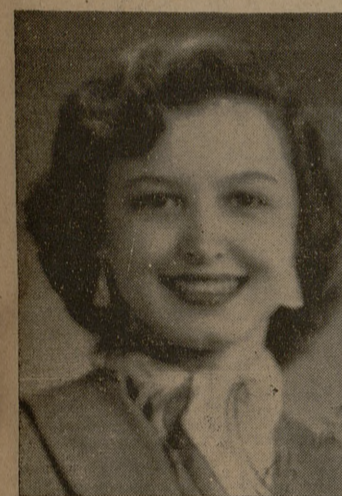
Margaret White



Shirley Tyra



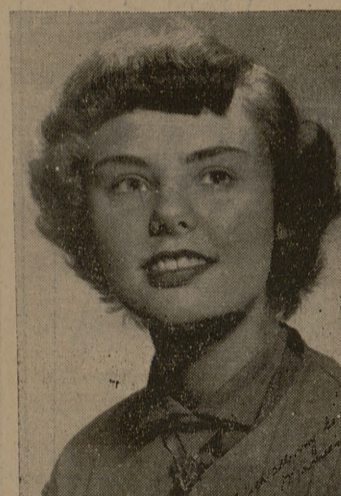
Kay Crider



June Kelly



Virginia Lee Ballard



Marian Williams

Sweetheart Selection Planned

Sophomore Dance Saturday

By IDE TROTTER
Battalion Staff Writer

The weekend sophomores have been looking forward to has finally arrived.

The Sophomore Ball will get under way in Sbisa Hall Saturday night at 8:30 with the Aggieband Orchestra furnishing the music. Enthusiasm should reach a peak with the presentation of the Sophomore Sweetheart during the final intermission.

Six final contenders for the hon-

or have been selected by the Sweetheart Committee from pictures turned in by their dates.

Vieng for the Sweetheart crown will be June Kelly, an Edinburg High School student, escorted by Don Cameron of E Squadron.

Finalist Shirley Tyra, a blonde 17 year old senior at Dallas Sunset High School is the date of Al Abdullah of A Armor.

TU Freshman

Marian Williams, blonde, grey eyed, TU freshman from Galveston, is another of the competitors. Phill Jacobs of I Squadron entered her in the contest.

Arlington Heights High School can claim finalist Kay Crider. The Ft. Worth lass is the date of Bart Bradford of C Field Artillery.

Virginia Lee Ballard will be escorted to the affair by Kenneth Duke, A Armor. She is a senior at Adamson High School in Dallas.

Rounding out the list of contenders is Margaret White of Ell-

aville. North Texas State College student, she was entered by Leo Draper of E Field Artillery.

At the first intermission these finalists will be presented to the judging panel composed of Col. E. W. Napier, PAS&T; Col. Shelly P. Meyers, Jr., PMS&T; and Pete Hardesty, business manager of student activities, who will select the sweetheart.

Tickets go off sale in the dorms today but may be obtained at Sbisa Hall Saturday night.

Collins Praises ROTC Program

Gen. J. Lawton Collins, Army chief of staff, has highly praised the ROTC program at A&M, stating that this institution has given the much needed support which added greatly to the growing strength of the ROTC in the United States.

In a letter to President M. T. Harrington, General Collins emphasized the importance of the "citizen-soldier" as the backbone of the Army and of our democracy.

Real Contribution

The letter stated, in part, "... I feel it is particularly appropriate that we express our heartfelt gratitude to you for the very real contribution you have made to the growing strength of our nation. The much needed support which your fine institution has given our ROTC program has added greatly to that strength, and you may be sure we are looking forward to your continued support in the future.

"The response of the A&M College of Texas proves again that our time-honored reliance on the citizen-soldier is well-founded.

"The citizen-soldier is the backbone of the Army of our democracy, and we who are its leaders have the tremendous responsibility of providing the best possible leadership—leadership which we feel must be based on a respect for the rights and dignity of the individual.

"This concept requires extraordinary qualities, of course, in all our officers, but more specifically (See GEN. COLLINS, Page 4)

Ross Volunteers Leave Saturday For Mardi Gras

The Ross Volunteer Company embarks Saturday for New Orleans and the Mardi Gras celebrations, where the 125 white-uniformed cadets will take part in the annual pre-Lenten festivities.

The Company has been appointed Texas' official representative to the celebration by Gov. Allan Shivers. The group will be honor escort for King Rex in the King Rex Parade Feb. 26. A letter from the New Orleans Rex Organization to RV commander Dick Ingels extended the invitation.

The Rex Parade, which is only one of ten similar events on the gigantic Mardi Gras program, is the final procession of the nationally known spectacle. It is the main parade of the Mardi Gras, Ingels said.

The honor guard will escort the float on which King Rex will ride. A police escort will see that they reach the parade assembly area on time.

The RV's will be seen executing marching manual of arms routines and singing cadences. They will surround the king's float as they go through these maneuvers, Ingels added.

Plans Entertainment

The A&M New Orleans Club is planning entertainment for the RV's while they are in the Crescent City. John Cuthrell, president of the former student in the Louisiana city, said that they would try to secure permission to as many of the big events of the Mardi Gras for the company as possible.

"We have definitely been told we will be guests at the King Rex Ball Tuesday night following the parade," Ingels explained.

Funds Allowed

President M. T. Harrington has promised the Ross Volunteers \$300 to defray the cost of the trip. The organization's members will travel to New Orleans in private cars.

The RV's will be quartered in housing areas at the Port of Embarkation. They will be served meals at the officer's mess there.

Officers of the company include the following: Ingels commander; Roy Striekert, platoon leader; James Rogers, platoon leader; Voris Burch, platoon leader; Lynn Stewart, executive officer; Jesse Fletcher, first sergeant, and Jim Anderson, secretary.

Kruger Is Sgt-Major

By JOEL AUSTIN
Battalion Associate Editor

Weldon Kruger, junior petroleum engineering major from Austin, was named Corps Sergeant-Major today by Commandant, Col. Joe E. Davis.

Kruger will assume the duties of top junior cadet non-commissioned officer in the cadet corps immediately.

He is the second consecutive Air Force sergeant-major to be named; he follows Eric Carlson, present colonel of the corps, who was appointed to the position last year.

Selection of the sergeant-major was made after more than a week of interviewing prospects for the office. Representatives from the commandant, PMS&T, P A S & T, and two top corps officers were on a selection panel which narrowed the list of candidates to only three.

Finally Named

Kruger was finally named early today by the commandant.

The new sergeant-major said, "I consider it a great honor to receive the position that has been given me; I only hope I can fulfill the duties it requires."

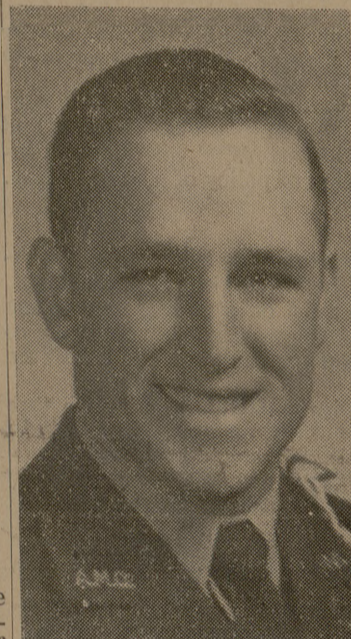
The Austin junior enjoys a phenomenal grade point ratio of 3.02—that's better than an A average.

Colonel of the Corps Eric Carlson said he believes Kruger will do a fine job in the position of sergeant-major. He reminded, however, "Being sergeant-major of the corps doesn't necessarily mean that Kruger will be colonel of the corps next year. Every junior is potentially in line for that job until the final selection is made."

"Selection Was Big Job"

Carlson added that naming Kruger to the post was indeed a job. "There were too many fine jun-

iors in the corps to pick from." Kruger is the Second Air Force Wing liaison to the Corps Staff. (See KRUGER, Page 2)



Weldon Kruger
Corps Sergeant-Major

82nd Airborne In Bivouac Near Airport

The 352nd Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Infantry Division set up its final bivouac of a two week move near Easterwood Airport last night.

A 150 to 175 mile a day pace has carried the regiment from Fort Bragg, N.C., to College Station on its trip to Fort Hood to take part in the gigantic "Operation Longhorn" maneuvers.

Three jumps are tentatively planned for the 82nd Airborne during the maneuvers. They will stay at Fort Hood approximately two months.

During the migration the men have slept in pup tents. Each company has its own mess set up and hot meals have been served during the trip.

There are approximately 1,500 vehicles in the regiment. On the road the convoy is broken up into march units of approximately one company each which travel five minutes apart. Radio communication is maintained between the march units at all time to preserve the interval.

During the rains last night permission was obtained to move the vehicles to farm roads and the airport road near the bivouac area so there would be no vehicles bogged down this morning when the convoy moved on.

Two Cadets Picked For Trip to USMA

Two A&M cadets have been selected to attend the U. S. Military Academy sesquicentennial activities, March 27-30, at West Point, N. Y. Col. Shelly P. Meyers, PMS&T, has announced.

Students chosen for the honor are cadet colonels Grady Smallwood, senior agricultural education major from Millsap, and J. W. "Doggie" Dalston, senior economics major from Dallas.

Selected by Harrington

A&M President M. T. Harrington selected Smallwood and Dalston on the basis of academic achievements, activities, abilities, and the recommendation of the PMS&T and Col. Joe Davis, commandant.

The plan is for two chosen repre-

sentatives from each of the 55 selected senior military schools in the nation to journey to the Military Academy and take part in its 150th anniversary observances, Col. Myers said.

For a period of four days Smallwood and Dalston, along with other ROTC students, will obtain an accurate idea of cadet life at West Point. They will attend cadet mess, march to classes, sleep in cadet dorms, and conform to all regulations and routines of the academy, Col. Meyers emphasized.

All visiting ROTC personnel will wear their own school uniforms.

Travel arrangements by the U. S. Army will allow Smallwood and Dalston two days and a night in New York City.

Rue Pinalle Again Scheduled in MSC

Cafe Rue Pinalle opens its doors in the bowling area of the MSC at 8:30 this evening, prepared to present its second night of fun and entertainment characteristic of a French nightclub.

The first opening of the Pinalle last Friday was extremely successful, said Miss Betty Bolander, MSC program consultant. All reservations for tables were filled, and many requests for tickets had to be refused, she said.

Quartet to Sing

A&M's Singing Cadet Quartet is a scheduled feature of this ev-

enings floor show entertainment. The Quartet, made up of Ken Wiggins, Harold Hughes, Dale Walton, and Tommy Savage has performed at all Singing Cadet appearances and made numerous performances alone.

Another floor show attraction will be Misses Sandra and Sylvia Kelley of Bryan, who will sing a selection of popular numbers. Sandra and Sylvia have appeared in many civic programs in Bryan and neighboring cities as a musical team.

Other entertainment for the evening will be Latin American numbers by Martha Jane Konecny and Gus Leon-Ortega.

Large Crowd Expected

A large crowd is expected by the Cafe tonight due to the large number of girls that will arrive today as dates for the Sophomore Ball scheduled for tomorrow, Miss Bolander said.

Anyone wishing to obtain table reservations can do so by contacting Elaine Lester in the bowling area of the MSC, she said.

The Cafe is presently in need of workers to help with the two hour job of setting up the decorations which convert the recreation room into Cafe Rue Pinalle. A free pass to the Pinalle will be given to men who help with the work said Boyce Holmes. He may be contacted in the MSC bowling alley area anytime after 1 p. m. on Friday.

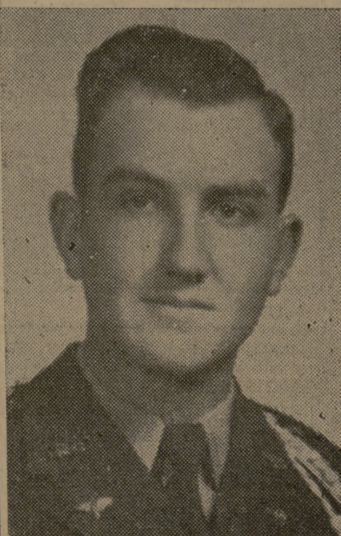
Groneman Heads Handbook Group

The executive committee of the American Vocational Association has announced the appointment of Dr. Chris H. Groneman, head of the Industrial Education Department, as chairman of the editing committee to revise a handbook for industrial arts education teachers.

The handbook has been distributed for the past fifteen years by the American Vocational Association.

This publication serves as the guide to curriculum content for industrial arts programs in the junior and senior high schools and colleges throughout the nation.

Who's Who at A&M



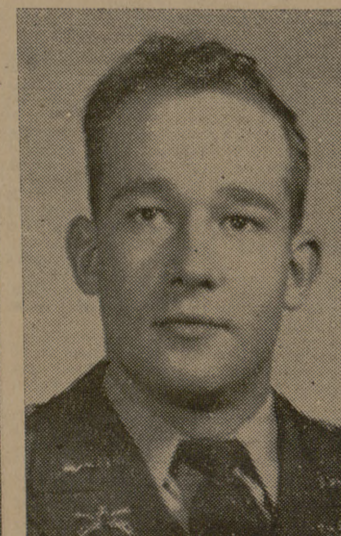
Gene Steed
Junior AH major from Groom—student senator, sergeant major of second Air Force Wing, Battalion staff member.



J. W. "Doggie" Dalston
Senior economics major from Dallas—cadet colonel, commanding infantry regiment; senior class president, student life committee.



Bobby Dunn
Senior petroleum-geology major from Waco—student senator; cadet colonel, corps adjutant; executive council, Former Student's Association.



Dick Ingels
Senior business major from Dallas—commander, RV's; cadet lieutenant colonel, armor battalion commander; senior court member.

Religious Leaders Laud RE Program

A&M's Religious Emphasis Week has left a definite impression on many of the outstanding religious leaders who were on the campus to conduct services this week.

Dr. William E. Denham, Jr., main speaker for RE Week morning services, said, "My impressions are most delightful.

Pleased by Attendance

"I was very pleased by the attendance at the morning services, this illustrates a basic interest in religious matters and shows the preparation made by the students, the YMCA, and the faculty," Dr. Denham pointed out.

The Houston Baptist minister was very favorably affected by

the way Aggies have conducted themselves during the time he was on the campus. "This is only my second visit to A&M," he said, "but it seems to me that you have men of a very high caliber here."

Chaplain Kregel Comments

Lt. Col. Herman J. Kregel, post chaplain at the United States Military Academy at West Point for four years said, "I came here prejudiced in favor of A&M and I have not changed."

"This Religious Emphasis Week you have put on here is the best program of its type that I have seen at any college," he volunteered. When asked what impressed him most during his stay, Chaplain Kregel named RE Week itself. "This Religious Emphasis Week in a state supported school has impressed me very much," he pointed out, "The overall religious tone seems higher than at many church colleges."

"The mere fact that a whole week is given over to RE Week and everybody goes into it wholeheartedly is outstanding," Colonel Kregel emphasized.

Reluctant to Make Comparison

He was reluctant to make any kind of a comparison between A&M and the Military Academy. (See RE WEEK, Page 2)

Senate Election Has 4 Entries

Only four candidates, one from each dorm, have filed applications for the coming Student Senate special election.

The election set for Tuesday of next week is but a mere formality as each man is unopposed.

Running for the different offices are: Vernon Robert for Dorm 16, Ide Trotter for Dorm 8, John Davis for Puryear, and Eric Holland for Dorm 7.