

Welcome To Texas A&M, Freshmen

Freshman Edition

Section 1



Hello, new students! This is your edition of The Battalion, and we hope that it will be helpful to you. In it you will find information about the many different sides of student life at A&M. In this section is general material about the college as a whole. Sections two and three are devoted mostly to the non-academic side of the college. Sports are featured in section four, and although the emphasis is naturally on football, you will find material there on the whole athletic program.

Again we say—Welcome! We're glad to have you on the campus, and we hope that you will enjoy your years at Texas A&M.

The Batt Staff

The Battalion

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A&M Greets Class Of '59

Orientation Week To Begin Sept. 9

Once again A&M College is preparing to greet a new freshman class—this year, the Class of 1959, which will begin its college career 2,000 strong.

Freshman Week begins Friday, Sept. 9. Until registration a week later the "fish" will be put through a busy round of tests, speeches and waiting in lines.

Arriving with the freshmen will be a group of upperclassmen—cadet officers and civilian student leaders, who will help the freshmen to adjust to their new life at A&M. Here, in brief, is the schedule for Freshman Week:

Friday, September 9

From 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. students will pay their fees and get their housing assignments. At 7 p.m. all new students will attend a general assembly at the Grove. The program will include group singing of Aggie songs and a yell practice, led by Paul Holliday, head yell leader.

Saturday Tests Will Help You Pick Courses

Saturday, September 10

Saturday will be devoted to psychological and placement tests. Students who have already participated in the testing program will meet in Guion Hall. That night there will be another general assembly, this one presided over by J. Gordon Gay, secretary of the YMCA. Local ministers will be introduced to the students, who will be taken to the churches of their choice for informal get-togethers.

Saturday, the day after you get here, you will be given a seemingly endless series of tests, and you will probably wonder what it's all about. These tests are ability and achievement tests, given by the Basic Division, and their purpose is to let the Basic Division learn a little about you.

Sunday, September 11

The main event Sunday will be the informal reception held in the Memorial Student Center from 2 to 4 p. m. Students will be introduced to officials of the college, members of the MSC directorate and council and local girls of College Station and Bryan.

Uniforms will be issued throughout the afternoon. Students are urged to attend both morning and evening services at the churches of their choice.

Monday, September 12

All students will assemble in Guion Hall at 8 a. m. for a general assembly. At 8:45 civilian students will move out of Guion and assemble in the Student Center for a separate meeting, which will last until 11:50. At 9:50 the meeting of cadets will dismiss, and cadets not living in dormitories will meet in the Student Center, while other cadets attend unit meetings in the dormitory area.

During the afternoon civilian and military students will meet again separately. At 7 p. m. they will consolidate for a general assembly, when they will be addressed by Dr. David H. Morgan, president, and Dr. J. P. Abbott, dean of the college.

Tuesday, September 13

All students will assemble at 8 a. m. for a general assembly, at which they will learn something about the work of the Basic Division. At 10 a. m. unit meetings will be held for cadets, and civilian students will meet separately.

At 1 p. m. unit commanders will speak to their units about the uniform, study habits and course of study. At 3 p. m. civilian students will hear a program on A&M's customs and traditions.

The general assembly at 7 p. m. will offer information about the college's extra-curricular activities. (See FRESHMAN, Page 2)

New Students Can Choose Military or Civilian Status

All students entering Texas A&M have their choice of being military or civilian students.

Military students, those in the ROTC program, will live in the corps of cadets by military units and wear the uniform all the time. All classes will be housed together. Until last year, freshmen were housed in a separate area.

Civilian students, those who are not taking ROTC will live in civilian dormitories. A student activity program similar to the corps of cadets has been planned for civilian students, including the Civilian Students Council.

This new military-optional ruling was established last year by the A&M System Board of Directors to allow a Texas boy to take a course at A&M without having to take ROTC.

Before, all students had to take military their first two years, unless they were veterans or were physically disabled.

If a student takes military, he will take basic ROTC for the first two years, and then will be eligible for an advanced contract.

To get an advanced contract, a student has to elect it, be acceptable to the training officers, and have a satisfactory academic record.

Students in the advanced contract program are paid 90 cents a day for the two-year advanced contract period, and are eligible for a

commission at graduation.

A&M offers military training in all army branches and the air force.

Both civilian and military students are eligible for a draft deferment, if their grades are good. Civilian students get a scholastic deferment, and military students get a ROTC deferment.

If the grades of either a civilian or military student do not stay above passing, he is not eligible for deferment.

President's Welcome

Welcome to Aggieland, the Land-Grant College of Texas which for 79 years has been offering to the sons of Texas a thorough, liberal, and practical education at the lowest possible cost. You will find available here rich and varied educational, spiritual, and social experiences that will assist you in developing into a well-rounded individual competent to serve the state, the nation, and the world in forwarding the ideals of democracy and the dignity of humanity.

The opportunity for your development lies before you. Your success in realizing that opportunity depends on you. The faculty and staff are willing and eager to assist you, but the extent of your success depends upon the time and effort, as well as ability, which you are prepared to devote to your education. It is our hope that your years on this beloved campus will be challenging, profitable, and enriching.

Sincerely,
David H. Morgan
President of the College

One of Nine

A&M Just Part Of Huge System

Texas A&M is the biggest part of a complex educational institution called the Texas A&M System.

Headed by Chancellor M. T. Harrington, the A&M System is composed of A&M, Prairie View A&M, Tarleton Junior College, Arlington State College, the Agricultural Extension Service, the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Engineering Extension Service, the Engineering Experiment Station and the Texas Forest Service.

Each of the colleges or departments in the system is headed by its own president or chief.

Over everybody is the A&M System Board of Directors, appointed by the Governor. Present members of the board are W. T. Doherty, chairman, Harold Dunn, R. H. Finney Jr., H. L. Winfield, J. W. Witherspoon, Bob Allen, H. B. Zachry, Price Campbell and L. H. Ridout Jr.

Housing Office To Meet Trains

Those students who arrive on the campus by train and bus will not wait around and wonder how they're going to get to a dormitory.

Cars from the housing office, headed by Harry Boyer, will meet all trains and most of the buses coming into College Station Friday Sept. 10.

Fish Elect Officers During First Term

Each class at A&M elects its own class officers to speak for the class and to handle plans for the class's dance and other functions.

Officers for the freshman class will be elected sometime during the first term, after everyone has got to know his classmates.

Salesmen Try to Gyp Unwary Fish

Freshmen are the logical prey of a class of super-salesmen who believe that freshmen will buy anything—even the radiators in their rooms.

The college has a system of licensing persons to sell in the dormitories. Anyone who has a license is honest and is selling good merchandise. Anyone who doesn't should be suspected. He ought to have a license.

If a salesman comes to your room with a "good deal," ask to see his authorization. If he doesn't have one, report him to your unit first sergeant or house master.

You are not obligated to buy just because an upperclassman is selling.

Lost Articles Kept In Two Places

There are two lost and found offices on the campus.

One is operated by the Campus Security Office, which is located on the first floor of Goodwin Hall.

The other, less well-known, is in the Memorial Student Center. Articles are turned in to the main desk and may be redeemed there.



Dr. David H. Morgan
President of Texas A&M College

Reception at MSC Honors Freshmen

The Memorial Student Center will sponsor an open house for new students from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, to acquaint freshmen with their student center.

The open house includes an informal reception in the ballroom honoring all new students, who will be introduced to President and Mrs. David H. Morgan and Dr. and Mrs. Robert B. Kamm. Kamm is Dean of Student Personnel Services.

Students will also meet Chancellor and Mrs. M. T. Harrington, MSC Council members, all deans, and heads of the various departments of the college, such as Student Activities, Student Affairs, Basic Division, Office of the Commandant, MSC, Registrar's Office, Dining Halls, Y M C A, Exchange Store, Athletic Department and Student Publications.

All the committees of the MSC will have booths and displays in the ballroom with leaders there to welcome students and explain the committees to them. Students who wish to sign up for work with these groups may so.

Also on hand to greet the students will be many girls from College Station and Bryan, who will meet the students, introduce them to the college officials present, and direct them to the booths of committees in which they are interested.

Edmond Saad, a junior student at A&M, is in charge of all arrangements. Assisting him will be two faculty wives, Mrs. Fred Smith and Mrs. Ide P. Trotter, and 14 local girls who will act as senior hostesses. They are Misses Ann Hickerson, Avon Burkhalter, Texann Esten, Rosemary Lenert, Carolyn Cobb, Pat Stewart, Jo Ann Ryan, Patsy Taylor, Carolyn Landiss, Jean Puddy, Mae Martin Bryant, Janet Folweiler, Jo Ann Nolen and Kerstin Ekfelt.

Besides attending the reception, students can take this opportunity to look over the facilities of the MSC. The dark room, art galleries,

craft shop, record room, piano room, Ham Club room, browsing library, directorate offices and game room will be open all afternoon.

The Bowling Committee is sponsoring a tournament for all those who would like to participate, and there will be checkers and chess tournaments in the game room.

The Capers Combo will play all afternoon in the fountain room. Miss Sandra Sevier of Crockett will provide organ music in the main lounge.

Hospital Provides Medical Care

The College Hospital is located on the campus and is under the direction and supervision of the college physician and a staff of technicians and nurses.

Sick calls are held daily between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday. Of course, emergencies are taken care of at any time, and doctors and nurses are always available to render the necessary service.

All students who live in college housing are required to pay a medical fee, \$5.50 for the first semester and \$5 the second term.

Don't Come To School Early

Don't come to school early. The dormitories will not be open before the set date, and the dining halls will not serve meals.

So come sometime on Friday, Sept. 9.

The earlier you get here that day, the better, for there are always lines to stand in. You might get to be first in some of them.

The largest crowd to see any opener was 58,466, when the Ags played UCLA at Los Angeles in 1951.