

Governor Lauds Aggies for Safety, Warns of Accidents During Holidays

THE BATTALION

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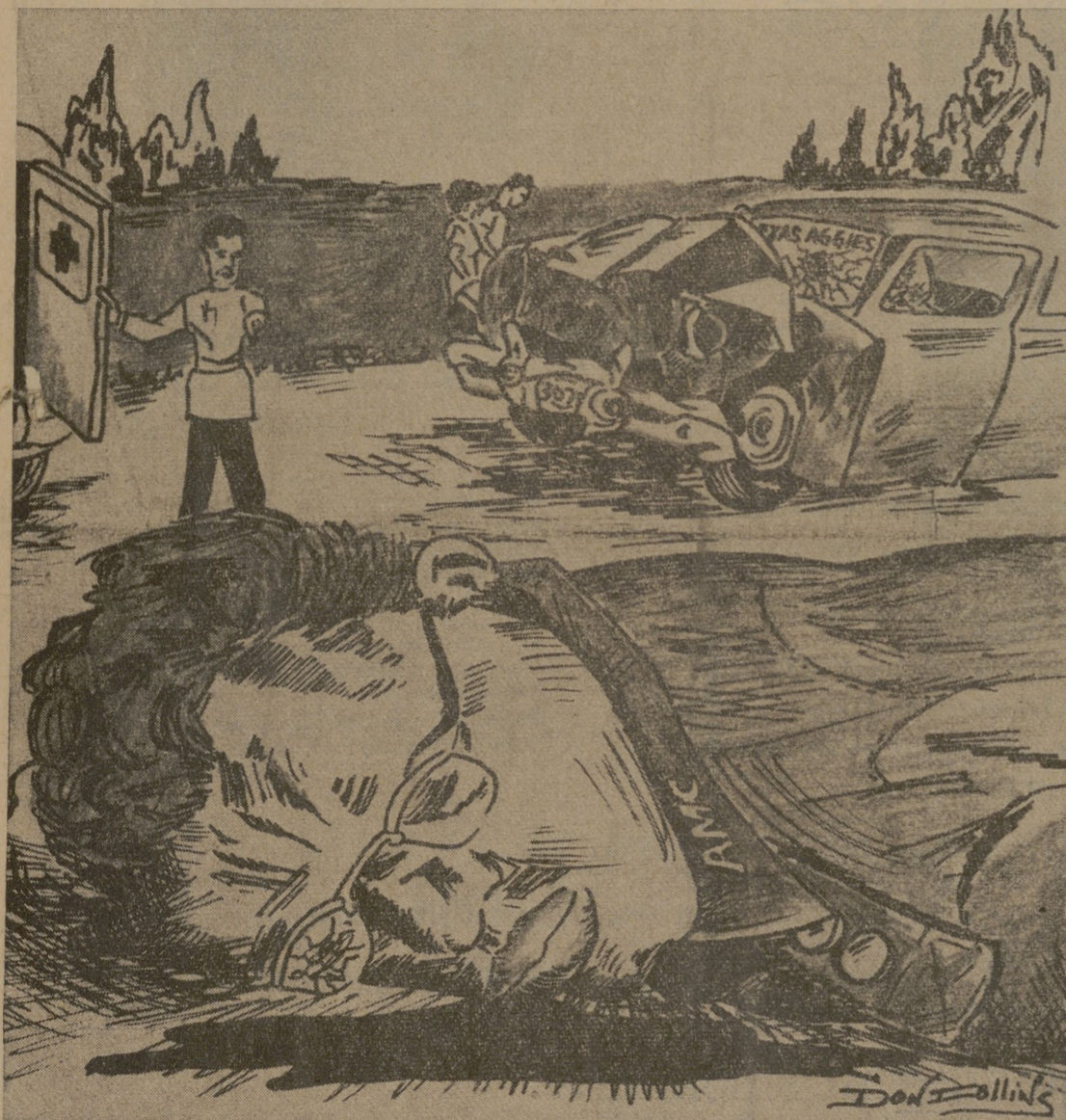
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COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1957

Price Five Cents

Campus Police Chief Predicts Death Will Mar Christmas For Aggieland

A Promising Career Ends



Silver Taps Notice

JOHN Q. AGGIE
 Age—21 "E" Seniors
 Died—Auto Accident near Anytown
 Home—Anywhere, Texas Funeral—10 a. m. Wednesday, Jan. 7
 Silver Taps tonight at 10:30 p. m.
 Editor's Note: John Q. Aggie is a fictitious name—but any student's name could fit. Don't let it be yours!

Ags Face High Odds On Trip Homeward

By JOHNNY JOHNSON
 It'll be an unusual holiday if some Aggie doesn't get killed in an automobile accident, and the toll may run as high as three or four, Fred Hickman, Campus Security chief, grimly predicted yesterday.
 If this prediction holds true—and past records indicate it might—a Silver Taps will greet returning Aggies on Jan. 6.

Col. Homer Garrison, Jr., head of the Texas Department of Public Safety, has forecast that 113 Texans will be killed during the 11-day period from 6 p.m. Saturday through midnight, Jan. 1.

Authorities agree on the two main causes of highway fatalities, alcohol and speeding. Out of the eight accidents in Brazos County during the year which killed 11 persons, all but one were attributed to these two factors, according to O. L. Luther of the Texas Highway Patrol.

At the present, Brazos County is below last year's record of 15 persons killed through this date. Bryan has a total of seven traffic deaths in 598 accidents thus far, while College Station has recorded none in 78 mishaps.

At A&M, Corps freshman William Sidney Rogers is the lone traffic fatality of the current school year. Rogers was killed Oct. 29 in a two-car collision on Texas Avenue, in which another man also died.

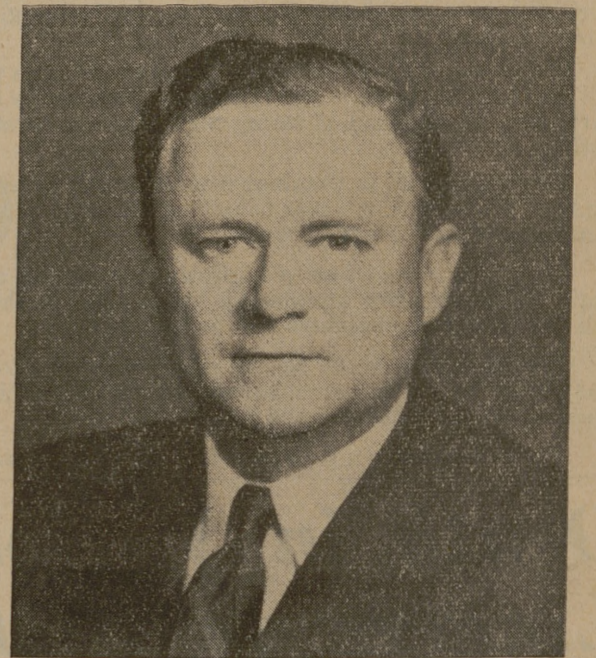
For Aggies who like to figure things in odds, each one faces one chance in 7,000 of meeting death over the holidays. The average Texan's odds are only one in 70,000.

Hickman offered this bit of prophecy to Aggies: "Start early, get there later, and come back able to get an education."
 Last Christmas, no Aggies were killed in automobile accidents.

President Urges Safety

I hope all Aggies will be very careful and observe the rules of safety in driving home for the holidays. An accident can take away the pleasure and happiness of the holiday season.

Merry Christmas to each and everyone!
 M. T. Harrington
 President



Price Daniel, Governor of Texas

Last year in December, 252 persons were killed in traffic accidents on Texas streets and highways. Of this number, 108 were killed during the Christmas holiday period.

Texas A&M College, however, had the enviable record of not a single traffic fatality involving one of its students. This safety record is a tribute to the good judgment of the student body and the fine safety campaign sponsored each year by The Battalion.

This year, the Department of Public Safety predicts that 113 persons will be killed in traffic accidents over the Christmas holidays. State and local officials have mapped an all-out campaign to reduce this slaughter, and as Governor and Chairman of the Texas Traffic Safety Council, I appreciate the wonderful cooperation of Texas A&M students and faculty members.

I earnestly hope that A&M repeats its fine record of the last Christmas season. It can be done if every person associated with the college will resolve to drive carefully and return safely to school in January.

Sincerely yours,
 Price Daniel
 Governor of Texas

Class of '61 Picks Murphy President

Clint Murphy edged out Billy Thompson, 222-220, for president of the class of '61 in run-off voting held Wednesday.

Other officers elected were Paul Martin, vice president; Robert Bower, secretary-treasurer; and Tilman Reeves, social secretary.

Murphy is a Squadron 15 aeronautical engineering major from Abilene. Martin, from Tulsa, Okla.,

is an engineering major in A Quartermaster. Bower, petroleum engineering major from Houston, is in A AAA. Reeves is a Dallas petroleum engineering major in B-AAA.

The four officers, along with the election commission and Student Senate members elected earlier, will guide the class of '61 for the school year.

Main function of the class will be the Fish Ball to be held in the spring.

Weather Today

Weather in the College Station area will be cloudy, rainy and windy today, with a maximum temperature of 65 degrees and a low tonight of 50.

Rainfall during the 24-hour period ending at 8 this morning totaled .03 inch. Yesterday's high temperature reading was 76 degrees at 3:45 p. m. This morning the mercury dropped to a low of 65 degrees at 5:30.

The 8 a. m. temperature was 66 degrees and the relative humidity, 95 per cent.

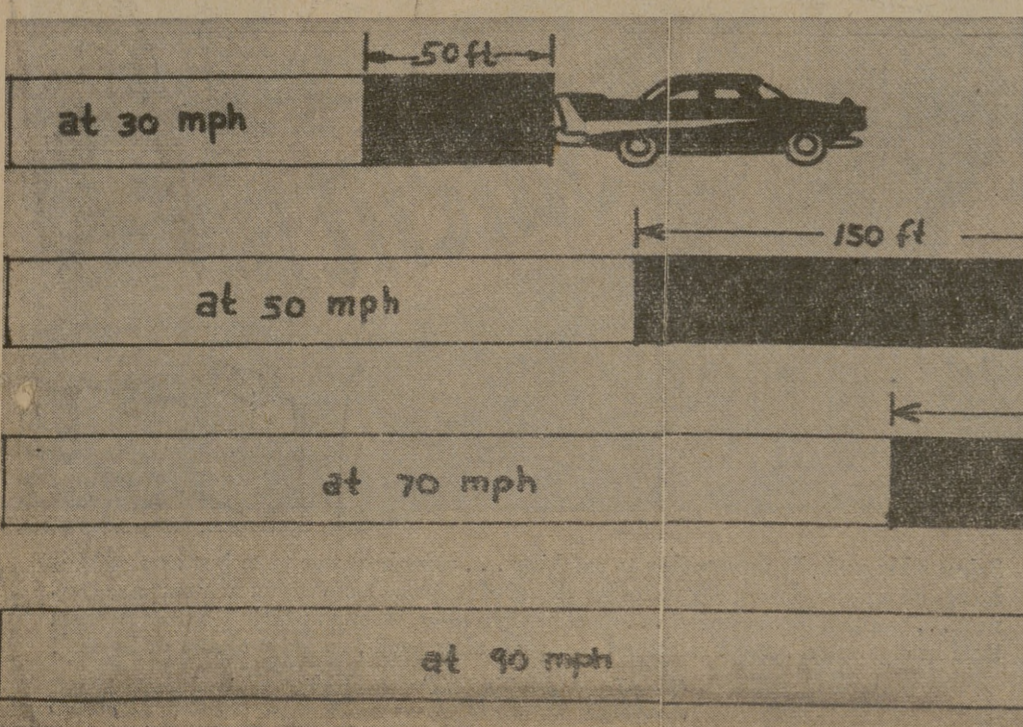
Christmas Story To Be Narrated

The Aggie Band, Aggie Players, and Singing Cadets will combine their talents for the second annual all college Christmas party tonight at 7:30 in C. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Aggie Players will narrate the Christmas story.

The band and the Singing Cadets will furnish music for the program sponsored by the Student Senate.

Power Brakes vs. Fast Cars — A Gamble for Life



By FRED MEURER
 If there was only one car traveling on a highway, the single driver could open up his 275 horsepower without too much worry.
 If that car was the only object on the highway, he could open up

all the way with hardly a worry at all.
 Unfortunately these situations of fantasy never exist. There's always another driver sharing the road somewhere. There's also the danger of some elderly person

crossing the highway after checking his roadside mailbox around the curve just ahead. A stray cow or horse may even be lingering in the middle of the road.
 Any of these situations present danger for a speeding motorist.

As can be seen by the chart, it takes some time to stop a fast-moving auto. At 90 m.p.h. brakes can't stop a car before 325 feet of road whiz by. That's longer than a football gridiron.

There's more to stopping a car than just applying the power

brake. The driver must first recognize the danger and send a warning to his brain. Only then does he jam on the brake. And only then does the mechanical action begin slowing down the car.

At the maximum speed limit of 60 m.p.h., an automobile covers 88 feet per second. That doesn't leave much time to stop if sudden danger lurks ahead.

Every driver should remember that he isn't the only one on the road. Someone once remarked: "The only safe way to drive is to think of the driver ahead as the biggest fool in the world."

Fellow travelers on the highway may think that of you, Aggie. Don't go out of your way to prove it to them.