



Stop The Presses

By LANI PRESSWOOD
Debate is being widely carried on nowadays in newspaper circles over the issue of "trial by the press."

This is the label which has been applied to the practice some newspapers employ of producing a great deal of pre-trial publicity in certain criminal cases. The way a newspaper handles a case naturally has an effect on prospective jurors, and this fact is causing great concern at present.

So great that legislation has and is being pushed for which would deny to the press access to certain channels which they have up to now taken for granted. Proposals range from keeping the press away from witnesses before the trial to potential statutes which would bar newspapermen from the offices of district attorneys and policemen.

The legal faction has provided most of the support for the proposed action thus far, which is not hard to figure. The less publicity given to courtroom and pre-courtroom proceedings, the freer they are to handle the situation like they want to.

You just do things differently when you know the public is watching. And the public is definitely aware at present of the circumstances surrounding major trials, and in fact the mass media is the institution which decides for the public what is and is not major.

So the majority of the populace is being served. But whose right is it to a fair trial—the defendant's or the public's? Abuses of their privilege to report the news has made the objection of the lawyers a valid one, to a certain extent. Papers which practice sensationalism in covering crime news do exist and it's easy to see how a regular reader of one of these publications could walk into the jury box with prejudice.

Of course the flagrant offenders are easy to spot but many papers print seemingly objective stories in which only a careful eye can catch the slant.

And though nothing could be more objective, the introduction of television cameras into courtrooms was a clear blow at the right of fair trial. Anything which could alter the outcome of a trial—and the knowledge by every person in the room that they were being scrutinized by thousands, perhaps millions of viewers could definitely influence their actions—should be dismissed as being of secondary importance unless it brings in new facts. And the introductions of new facts into the case is hardly the reason for television trial coverage.

The cry for reform is not without justification. The defendant's case is often weakened by pre-trial publicity and this just isn't the way it's supposed to be.

But the enactment of the curbs thus far proposed would infringe upon into another basic right—freedom of the press. And any law which curbs this freedom is a bad law.

It will be a much better situation for everybody if the newspapers are allowed to independently re-examine their trial coverage policies and clean their own houses.

Friday Is Deadline For GRE Filing

Seniors graduating in August were cautioned that 5 p.m. Friday is the registration deadline for the Graduate Record Examination. The notice from the Office of the Registrar and Counseling and Testing Center said the first step is to report to the registrar's office.

The testing dates are Aug. 13-14.

Graduate students wishing to take the test at that time also have a 5 p.m. Friday deadline. They should check with the Office of the Dean of the Graduate College.



SEAFRONT COED

Phyllis Johnson, finalist in the "Miss USA" pageant, is studying marine biology this summer at Texas A&M's Marine Laboratory in Galveston. A senior liberal arts student at the University of Texas, she is university sweetheart and a cheerleader.

Galveston Branch Sporting Beauty

Even the saltiest opponent to coeds at Texas A&M has difficulty objecting to the addition of a Miss U. S. A. finalist to the Marine Laboratory classes at Galveston.

Phyllis Johnson, 35-23-37, was chosen Miss Texas in 1965 and represented the state in the national contest at Miami, Fla.

A senior liberal arts student at the University of Texas, the Galveston lass is studying marine biology under Dr. Sewell Hopkins, called one of the top men in the field in the nation by laboratory director Dr. Sammy Ray. "It's an interesting course," Miss Johnson commented, "I have to do a lot of studying because there is so much to cover in such a short time."

The popular coed takes a lot of kidding from Aggies attending classes on the island campus, especially since she's current sweetheart of the University of Texas.

Most of the ribbing is about football, she admits.

A&M Awarded \$190,000 For Freeway Study

Some hazards of entering freeways may be eliminated by a \$190,000 study by Texas A&M highway researchers.

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Public Roads, will finance the endeavor.

Time-lapse photography from helicopters and airplanes hovering over major freeways will provide data for analysis, according to Dr. Charles Pinnell, head of the Texas Transportation Institute's Highway Design and Traffic Engineering Department. This work on freeway merging will require eighteen months, Dr. Pinnell indicated.

TTI research crews under the supervision of Dr. Donald R. Drew and Dr. Joseph A. Wattleworth will study freeway entrance ramps to determine factors affecting drivers' decisions.

The project leaders plan to develop a mathematical model from field research. Time-lapse photography at intervals of one-tenth of a second will be employed in the flights over 15 or 20 of the nation's largest freeways. Over one hundred hours of air observation of one million vehicles is planned.

Films will be reviewed at TTI offices in College Station and Houston. Frame by frame analysis of the pictures will reveal location of vehicles, speed and acceleration. A battery of programs for A&M's IBM 7094 digital computer will compile the data.

"We see three major applications from the project," Dr. Pinnell said. "These are improved design for ramps, improved metering of traffic and more useful ramp signals."

Wednesday Accident Claims A&M Student

Jessie Forman, a 23-year-old architecture major at Texas A&M, died Wednesday evening from an injury suffered in a game of touch football.

The accident occurred around 6:30 p.m. near the front of the college hospital.

Forman was apparently blocking for a runner and was hit in the stomach by a knee or head when two men collided with him almost simultaneously. The blow left him unconscious and attempts at artificial respiration were made by some on the scene of the accident.

He was carried to the college hospital on a stretcher and was taken from there to a local hospital. The exact time and cause of death were not yet determined. Forman never regained consciousness after the injury had been incurred.

An inquest will be held by Justice of the Peace B.H. Dewey. Funeral arrangements are pending at Callaway Jones Funeral Home.

Forman's parents reside at 203 Larkspur Street in Victoria. Forman had served in the Navy and had attended Victoria Junior College before first enrolling at A&M this summer.

He had an older brother, James, who is a senior animal husbandry major at A&M. The brother is not attending summer school here.

Forman was described by friends as being in excellent health.

'Bye-Bye Birdie' Begins 3-Night Stand Tonight

Texas A&M's annual summer community musical, "Bye-Bye Birdie" opens a three-night stand Thursday in Guion Hall at 8:15 p.m.

The show is being co-directed by Bob Boone and Billie Jean Barron and features modern "kids" doing modern dancing, including the frog, monkey and watusi.

"It's a great show, a lot of fun," reports Boone. "We've had some technical problems with it but I'm not worried about the cast—they're way above average. And I can't praise the teenagers enough, they've been hardworking and very enthusiastic."

The story revolves around an Elvis Presley type singer, Conrad Birdie, played by Joe Powell, whose manager thinks up a final publicity gimmick before his star is inducted into the Army. It's decided that Conrad will go to Sweet Apple, Ohio, where he will give "One Last Kiss" to a lucky girl.

Hugo Peabody clobbers Conrad on Ed Sullivan's TV show and naturally the show is blacked out. In the end, Conrad goes to work for Uncle Sam, Albert and Rose get together again, Hugo and Kim are engaged, and the-

retically, everybody lives happily ever after.

Betty Sholley is the choreographer and Cynthia Smith is lighting director for the show.

The cast includes Guich (Bill) Kooch as Albert Peterson, Sally Wynn as Rose Alvarez, Shirley Ellis, Mary Margaret Gibbs, Lunette Varisco, Marcia Mallard, Sherry Holland, Dianna Weirus and Randy Wilson as teenagers, Nancy Hewitt as Ursula Merkle, Donna Files as Kim MacAfee,

Fenelle Edwin as Mrs. MacAfee, Warner Dahlberg as Mr. MacAfee, Jerry Holbert as Hugo Peabody, Ricky Boone as Randolph MacAfee, Elnora Fugitt as Mrs. Merkle, and Donna Goodwin as Gloria Rasputin.

The chorus includes Wally Williams, Lynn Moore, Ruth Ellen Calhoun, Celia Goode, Mary Beth Calhoun, Sharon Skreवानek, Jody Sherburn, Reggy Geppert, Gordon Hill, David Landmann and Rick Landmann.

Professor Returns From Russian Trip

"The Russians could increase morale tremendously if they would distribute 100 million women's hats."

Dr. John A. McIntyre, a member of the Cyclotron Institute staff at Texas A&M was discussing his recent trip to the USSR as an invited guest of Russian scientists.

McIntyre will lecture at 8 p.m. Thursday on his recent trip in Room 113, Biological Sciences

Building. "Reflections on a Scientist's Visit to Russia" is Dr. McIntyre's topic.

"My wife and I didn't see a single woman's hat during the 10 days we were in Russia," the professor of physics noted.

The visitors saw plenty of other things, however. Among them were Russia's highest officials — Kosygin, Brezhnev and Mikoyan with visiting Yugoslavian leader Marshall Tito. They were unexpected guests at the ballet, "Swan Lake," attended by the McIntyres in Moscow.

"We were lucky enough to buy some second row tickets from a woman who could not attend," McIntyre recalled, "Before the ballet the orchestra played some special music. Everybody stood up as the Russian delegation marched in, and I even took some photographs of them."

McIntyre called the ballet a "wonderful thing" and was impressed with the huge pile of flowers thrown on the stage by admiring fans.

"Everything in Russia is done on a big scale," McIntyre chuckled, "The Russians remind me of Texans. They are dynamic people."

Survey Reveals Good Support For A&M Consolidated Schools

"Strong public support" for the A&M Consolidated Independent School District is revealed in an extensive survey just completed by a Texas A&M graduate class in education. And the support extends into the pocketbook.

Two-thirds of the property owners interviewed for the survey of one out of seven family units throughout the district favor the recent tax increase to provide needed school buildings. Seventy per cent of urban property owners said "yes." Thirty per cent of rural property owners said "yes." And more than half the property owners with no children of school age favor the increase.

Participants in the six-week Institute for Beginning School Administrators made the survey.

It was only a portion of the intensive educational experience for 13 graduate students. Dr. Robert S. Randall of the A&M faculty directed the institute.

"The survey was a good example of the way in which a university and a public school system can work cooperatively," Dr. Randall said. He cited the "valuable experience" acquired by Institute participants who are teachers across Texas.

The consolidated schools received a comprehensive survey of public attitudes on six broad questions. Questions concerned everything from recent tax action to the amount of homework assigned.

A total of 348 families throughout the district was interviewed. Some persons were contacted in

the morning, others in the late afternoon.

"The sample of 348 families is about three times as many as we needed in order to check our accuracy," Dr. Randall said. "We're confident that the results are accurate within 2 per cent."

"Surprising" to Dr. Randall was the unanimity of opinion between men and women.

Almost 70 per cent of those interviewed own property within the school district. Almost exactly half have children of school age.

Almost three-fourths of those contacted were "aware of plans to introduce the 'new math' into the elementary schools this September. And 64 per cent said they approved of these plans.

Aggie Bonfire Procedure Will Be Overhauled

Complete reorganization of the construction and safety procedures of the annual Aggie Bonfire will take place this fall.

Entitled "Operation Blaze," the new plan, patterned along the lines of an Army Operations Order, has been in the planning stages since last December, says 1965-66 yell leader Tommy Stone.

Prior to the first log cutting beginning Nov. 20, complete pre-planning and reorganization will have taken place, providing the first really new bonfire construction plan since it was originated many years ago.

Head yell leader Joe Bush will supervise the bonfire construction. He will issue orders to already appointed team chiefs to head designated units, the names of which are secret. Each of these units will perform certain operations vital to the bonfire construction.

Safety will receive heavy emphasis. The first aid chief will co-ordinate with University or Bryan facilities to provide rapid medical aid and evacuation for seriously injured persons.

In addition, fast and efficient communication systems will be utilized, said Stone.

Due to secrecy of the new plan, much more information in detail will be made public in the fall.

New Vapor Lamps Will Be Installed On A&M Campus

By CURTIS FLATT

New mercury vapor lamps are to be installed on the Texas A&M campus by the Building and Utilities Department.

According to Walter H. Parsons Jr., superintendent of the department, the main reason for installing the new lamps is to eliminate dark areas on the campus at night. "The mercury vapor lamps will give a better spread of light than the present incandescent lamp," Parsons commented.

Asst. Supt. for Maintenance Vergil B. Clark of the B&U Department said that four mercury vapor lamps will be installed on the campus before September 1. Two vapor lamps will be mounted on aluminum standards between Nagle Hall and the Physics Building. Two additional lamps will be installed on present standards west of the Dormitory 12 area.

The mercury vapor lamp chosen to replace the present style lamp is manufactured by the General Electric Co. Clark said the lamp resembles a Chinese coolie hat and is beige in color.



OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

David Soileau, left, of St. Martinville, La. and Judy Frandolig of San Antonio are among six undergraduate research participants in oceanography at Texas A&M. David and Judy are pictured examining biological growth on samples taken from

the Gulf of Mexico. They are among six participants who will be aboard the Research Vessel Alaminos for a July 26-Aug. 4 cruise. The six include two coeds. (Story on page 5).