

# Band Provides Pulse Of The Spirit Of Aggieland

Across Texas, high school and college band directors are taking closer and more critical looks at their present marching techniques and are apparently com-

ing to the realization that today's audiences are looking for a more streamlined approach to performances.

A leader and imitated march-

ing unit in this revolution is one which a California sports writer in a flight of imagination described as "reminiscent of the powerful Roman legions victori-

ously parading into the coliseum."

It is the world's largest military band, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band.

Band directors all over the country have been known to stop, stare and say aloud, "How I wish my band could do that."

THE CADETS' formula for success is, however, anything but a well-kept secret. The fact is that complete mastery of the Aggie technique is possible only in an organization like the A&M Band.

Without previous warning, how many bands could assemble their entire marching contingent in formation with instruments and music at any hour of the day or night? Not so many to be sure.

But a combination of obedience alertness and strict marching discipline combined with the fact that the Aggie Band lives together makes this possible in the 250-piece organization.

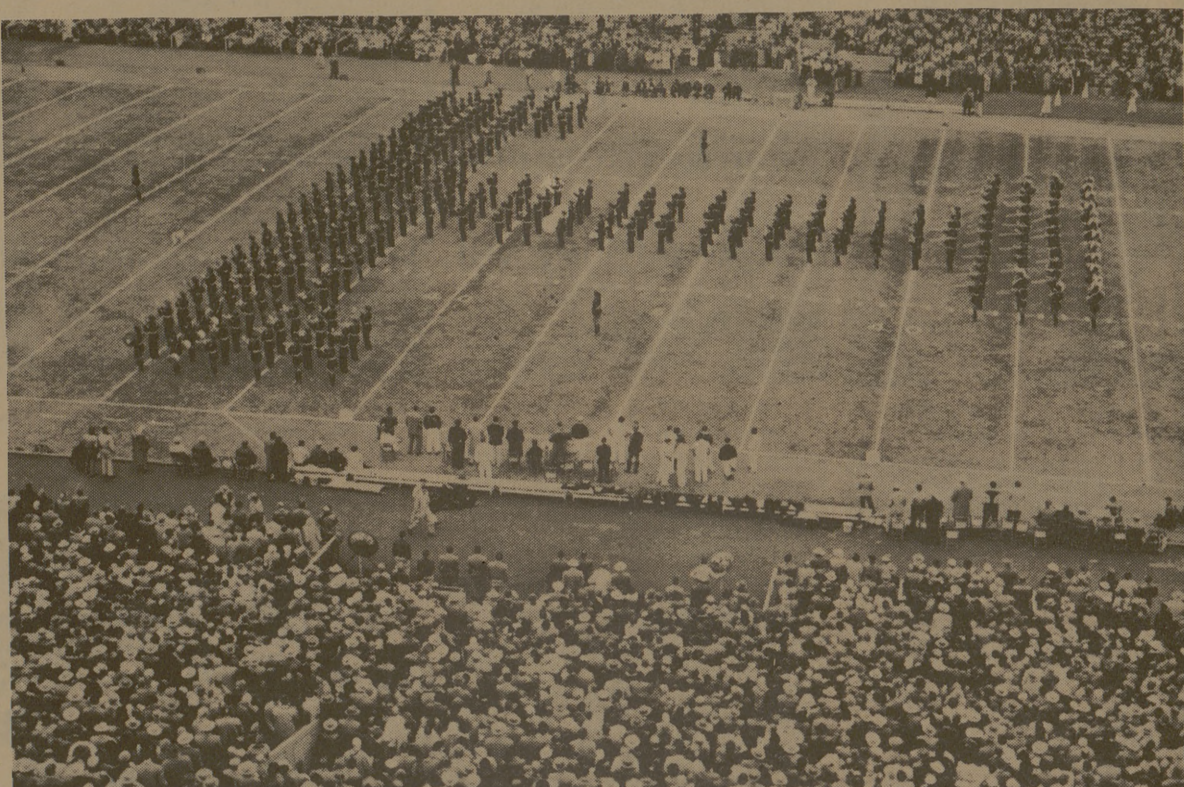
ONE OF THE remarkable facts about the band is that it exists at an institution where there is no school of music. No scouting program is carried out by the band's director, Lt. Col. E. V. Adams.

Practice, obedience and desire go into making the Cadets what they are. The band lives, works and plays together, enabling them to strive that much harder for those they know the best.

Adjoining the four-story dormitory which houses the band is an actual-size football field used exclusively to work out the precision drills.

SINCE ALL members of the band must also be members of the A&M Corps of Cadets, uniforms are not among problems the band encounters. Band members wear the only distinctive unit insignia on the campus, the band lyre.

The Band is divided into two company-sized outfits for convenience of Corps administration. The Maroon Band and the White Band take turns appearing at yell practices, basketball games and other affairs at which the entire band would be too bulky.



FIGHTIN' TEXAS AGGIE BAND  
... in their famous marching "T" formation during a halftime performance.



## LOUPOT Has Top Standing Among Merchants, Students

A small maroon and white building at the West edge of North Gate has a traditional standing both in the business atmosphere of the A&M College area as well as the personal life of its students.

Inside Loupot's Trading Post, the Aggies will find one of the best friends they can make while at A&M, J. E. Loupot, '32. He is not hard to spot, being a little more than thin, a little lacking in hair, and with an ever-present grin.

Old Army Lou, as many have come to know him, has many ties with A&M, dating back to 1928, when he entered A&M as a fish. After leaving A&M a few years later, he tried business in other parts of the state.

But after a few years, Loupot decided he could do more for the Aggies, and his alma mater, right here in College Station. So he returned and set up a small shop at North Gate.

Determined to make his future here, Loupot moved his business to its present location in a modest brick and stucco building across from the new dormitory area in 1942. Partially destroyed by fire in the fall of 1963, the building has subsequently been remodeled to provide even better service.

Since that day, Old Army Lou has done as much for the Aggies as its possible for a man of his means to do. A few examples will prove the point.

He sells books on the rental system. A student pays 95 cents to \$1.95 rent, plus a deposit on the book. When brought back to Lou at the end of the semester, the deposit is returned if the book is still on the current book list.

At times, when the need becomes evident, Lou has asked professors to give their time to tutoring students who need help, in order to keep the freshmen at A&M during their hardest year.

Lou considers the friendship of Aggies and the local community one of his best assets.

"This is nothing but good business," said Loupot. "If the Aggies like the way I do business, they will keep coming back. And they will tell their friends about it, too."

Loupot's is probably known best as a book store, where the customers don't have to pay new book prices, but can usually find used books at much better rates. However, all books are University approved.

Aside from the book business, Lou has a complete line of name-brand clothing, both for civilian students and Corps men. A complete line of accessories are also found at Lou's and he will not be beat on prices. He has the brass, belts, shoes, extra uniforms, school supplies, and room furnishings that the beginning Aggie needs.

The reason Lou can offer such low prices is obvious. There are no high overhead costs to pay, no set amount to be given to outside interests.

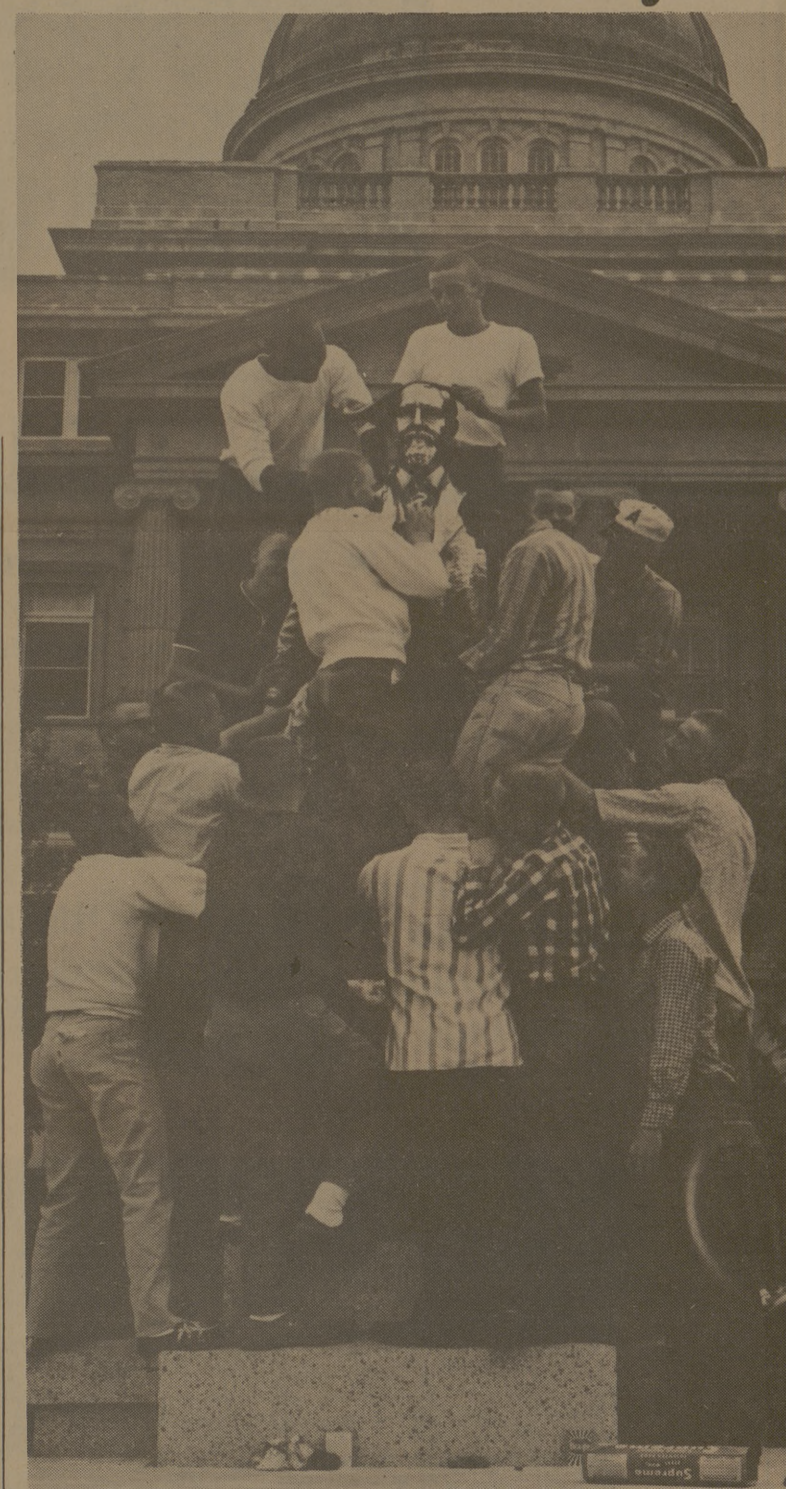
"I do business to give the Aggies the best value possible," Loupot said. "When an Aggie needs help, I will give it to him individually."

The tradition of Loupot will live as long as Aggies exist. For he has helped them, and they have in turn helped him. A mutual trust and a mutual interest such as this cannot help benefit past, present, and future Aggies.

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## A Shine For Sully

POLISHING SULLY  
Though they don't get the same amount of publicity, the great number of smaller, day-to-day traditions make Texas A&M one of the most unique schools in the world. A group of enthusiastic freshmen is shown here polishing the Statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, which stands in front of the Academic Building in the center of the campus, before a big weekend.



## The Chicken Shack

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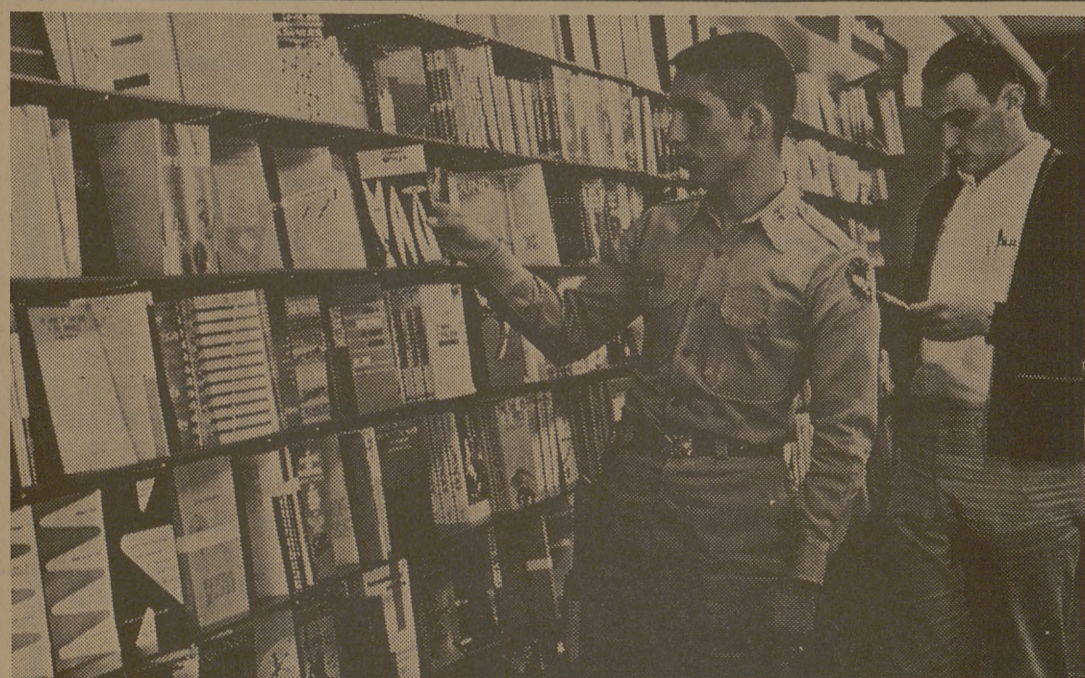
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