

# Aggie Silver Taps Echos Through Darkened Campus

COLLEGE STATION — Students file out of their dormitories and slowly head for the heart of the campus. All lights are out and the only sound is that of a marching honor guard.

It's 10:30 p.m. Silence is broken by the first of three volleys of rifle fire. Taps is played three times, with the last note prompting students to return to their rooms. Not a word has been spoken.

Texas A&M University has thus paid final respects to one of its own with observance of Silver Taps.

The unique ceremony is one of numerous traditions which still prevail at Aggieland, though the university has undergone major transformations in recent years, mushrooming in size and expanding in scope far beyond its traditional concept.

Some Aggies—including "Mr. Aggie," the late P. L. (Pinkie) Downs—have long maintained Silver Taps is the school's greatest tradition, even ranking ahead of the annual spring Muster which is observed wherever Aggies gather throughout the world.

No one knows how or when Silver Taps originated. A&M Archivist Ernest Langford, however, has documents on file which indicate the ceremony was being

observed before the turn of the century.

The ceremony was apparently first held in front of the Old Main Building, the original campus structure which burned in 1912. For the past 47 years, it has always been in front of the stately Academic Building, and "Sully," a large bronze statue of Lawrence Sullivan Ross, a 19th Century governor of Texas and president of Texas A&M.

Silver Taps includes the traditional bugle salute to a fallen comrade, played in a stirring harmonic arrangement by four members of the Aggie Band stationed in the Academic Building dome. The beauty of the simple taps is enhanced by an "echo" of the passages phrases, supported by one bugler playing at a softer level.

When university officials learn that a student has died, the U. S. flag is lowered to half-mast on the tallest pole in the state, serving notice that Silver Taps will be held that night.

With A&M's largest enrollment, chances are that only a few in the multitude personally knew the student they came to honor. But he was an Aggie, and that's reason enough for all to be present.

Silver Taps has only been held in honor of one person who was not a student at time of death.

The exception was the late Mr. Downs, a member of A&M's Class of '06 who devoted his life to the university and was official greeter when he died March 21.

The dramatic moving Silver Taps ceremony has inspired several poems, one of which concludes:

Stand at attention, Aggies!  
Once more we honor them,  
The Silver Taps Battalion of Texas A&M.

## 10-Ft. Subway Cars

CARBONDALE, ILL. (AP)—An engineering professor at Southern Illinois University has an assignment to brainstorm an idea—travel underground.

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is trying to come up with a vehicle that will split rock to tunnel along its own roadway deep inside the earth.

Prof. Edred Hough is trying to determine if it is possible for man to travel like a mole. The corps granted him \$40,000 to explore his theories.

His working hypothesis is that a machine some 10 feet long could be designed. It would use a self-contained hydraulic fracturing unit.

## A&M's Ham Radio Keeping Silent

Texas A&M's ham radio station, W5AC, has had light traffic with South Texas after Hurricane Beulah smashed the region's communication capabilities.

Ted Wittliff of Taylor said the Memorial Student Center radio committee which he chairs has had operators on duty most of the time since Beulah hit land south of Brownsville.

He added that W5AC has handled a few messages and indicated several factors have put the station primarily on listening status.

"The hurricane knocked most South Texas hams off the air," Wittliff pointed out. "Rigs still operating have been overloaded with outgoing messages. Our geographic location hasn't required net participation. And with all the emergency transmissions, it's best if a ham stays quiet and doesn't clutter things."

Wittliff said students wishing to send messages to South Texas may use forms supplied near the MSC bowling lanes. He noted, however, that mail and telephone service is being returned to the region.

The committee holds its 1967-68 organizational meeting Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 2A of the MSC.

"Anyone interested in ham radio operation is invited," Wittliff said.

## THE BATTALION

Tuesday, September 26, 1967

College Station, Texas

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## Campus Briefs

### Faculty-Staff Dinner Dance Ticket Sales End

COLLEGE STATION — Tuesday is the deadline for obtaining tickets for Texas A&M's first 1967-68 faculty-staff dinner dance, reminds Mrs. Anne Elmquist, committee chairman for the Faculty-Staff Dinner Dance Club.

The dinner dance is planned for 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Memorial Student Center ballroom.

Mrs. Elmquist said all new faculty-staff are invited to attend the first of the four programs as the guests of A&M President Earl Rudder.

The newcomers received written invitations but must exchange them for tickets at the MSC reservations desk by Tuesday, Mrs. Elmquist stressed.

Season tickets, as well as single tickets for the opening dinner dance, also may be purchased through Tuesday at the MSC or from Dr. Russell Kohel in the Soil and Crop Sciences Department.

The season tickets are \$13 per person and individual tickets, \$3.75. New members may purchase season tickets for the subsequent programs for \$11.

Other dinner dances will be held Nov. 16, Feb. 22 and April 22 in the MSC Assembly Room.

Music for all four programs will be furnished by the Aggieland Combo.

college professors and state education officials.

"The conference will encourage evaluation and furtherance of health education programs in Texas," noted Landiss, who will preside over a Saturday morning assembly. The conference will include a series of panel discussions featuring prominent members of the field.

Landiss is president-elect of the 2,800-member Texas Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

### Capt. Ruud Gives Algebra Treatise

Capt. Paul G. Ruud of Texas A&M presented a paper at an Oxford University conference in England.

His treatise on representations of groups of a certain order was presented at a conference on computational problems in abstract algebra. Mathematical representatives at the five-day September conference were from the U. S., Canada, England, Scotland, Germany and Australia.

Captain Ruud, of Pelican Rapids, Minn., is a graduate student in statistics through the Air Force Institute of Technology. He and his wife reside at 505 Helena, Bryan.

Wortham said Schleh also will meet with associate engineering deans and department heads Thursday evening.

The speaker, from Palo Alto, Calif., is known as the "father of the results approach" to management. Under the system, managers give results wanted rather than outlining duties.

### Final Rites Held For Mrs. Vezey, 79

Funeral services for Mrs. Myrtle Hester Vezey, 79, of 600 Gurnsey, College Station, were held Tuesday afternoon at Hillier Funeral Home in Bryan.

Mrs. Vezey, wife of Dr. E. E. Vezey, retired physics professor at Texas A&M, died Monday in a local nursing home.

The Rev. Walter Allen, associate pastor of First Christian Church, Bryan, officiated.

### Management Skills Seminar Scheduled

Texas A&M University's Engineering Extension Service will conduct a general course in supervision here Oct. 16-20.

W. B. Mansfield, chief instructor of supervisory development, said the seminar is designed to assist personnel at all levels of management. Approximately 25 persons are expected to attend.

Topics include attitudes and their influence on production, psychological factors in learning, levels of employee performance, elements of effective training procedures, employee motivation and the scope of communications in the work world.

Instructors, in addition to Mansfield, include Harry Cagle and T. J. Bole.

### Lectures Schedule For IE Department

Industrial consultant Edward C. Schleh will speak on "Management by Results" in two Industrial Engineering Department lectures at Texas A&M Thursday.

The head of E. C. Schleh Associates, business analysts, will address department students and faculty at 2 p.m. in the Architecture auditorium, Dr. A. W. Wortham announced.

## Beef Specialist Discusses Pricing

A Texas A&M agricultural economist said here Friday there are "conflicting values" in specification buying and pricing of animals and carcasses.

He spoke of "inverse relationships," such as a higher grade animal receiving a higher price and a higher weight animal getting a lower price.

Dr. Edward Uvacek discussed the conflicts in a talk titled "The Future Feeder Animal" during the annual Livestock and Meat Marketing Institute.

He said market demands for the future retail counter, the anticipated demands of packers and the cattle types wanted, will hinge on the type of feeder animals that will be required to produce acceptable slaughter cattle and beef retail cuts in the 1970's and 1980's.

Uvacek, Extension Service livestock marketing specialist in the A&M Agricultural Economics and Sociology Department, described various market classifications which lead to the conflicts. These include classifications on weight, grade, and now the latest category known as cutability grade or yield grade.

Cutability indicates the proportion of trimmed retail cuts yielded by a carcass.

It would be easy, Uvacek said, if the chain store meat buyer could order a certain weight and grade carcass. The supplier then could simply figure out the type of feeder animal that would produce slaughter cattle to fit the buyer's needs.

"Now this sounds simple, but let me point out that there are some severe conflicting values, both in these specifications and in the pricing system that complicate the entire picture," he said.

First, there is a direct relationship between the federal grade of the animal or carcass, the economist explained. The higher the weight, the higher the grade.

Yet, in pricing, the higher grade animal receives the higher price, but the higher weight animal receives the lower price.

"As a consequence, we have an

adverse relationship in the prices of these two factors even though they both move in the same direction when the animal is in the feedlot," Uvacek said.

And then there is cutability, which is inversely related to carcass grade. When there is a move up from Good to Choice to Prime beef, there is generally a move down in cutability, the speaker pointed out.

"Yet, the higher the cutability, the higher the price. But we have already seen that the higher the grade, the higher the price," Uvacek said. "So, again we have an inverse relationship in the price level because of these two characteristics of cutability and the federal grade."

The marketing specialist described still another set of conflicting factors:

Traditionally, cattle buyers look for a high dressing percentage on cattle. The higher the dressing percentage, the higher the price paid. But cutability, or carcass yield, is inversely related to an animal's dressing percentage.

"So, again we have price levels moving in opposite directions. The higher cutability brings an increased price, but the lower dressing percentage reduces the price," Uvacek said.

Between 200 and 300 persons in the livestock and meat marketing industry attended the session, which began Thursday and ended Friday afternoon (Sept. 21-22). The Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station were sponsors, and the A&M Agricultural Economics and Sociology Department conducted the event.

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### Veterinary Profs Schedule Activities

A heavy slate of activities faces a quintet of faculty members of Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine during the next 10 days.

Dean Alvin A. Price will be in Corpus Christi Tuesday to address the Coastal Bend Veterinary Medical Association.

The following day Dr. D. R. Howard, medicine and surgery instructor, will give a program, "Canine Hip and Stifle Surgery," to the Shreveport, La., Veterinary Medical Association.

Dr. R. W. Moore, associate professor of veterinary microbiology, will attend a veterinary short course at Purdue University. He also will participate in a program on equine infectious anemia and swine arthritis.

Dr. M. F. Young, assistant professor of veterinary medicine and surgery, will attend a swine seminar Oct. 2-3 in Chicago.

On Oct. 4-5, Dr. D. O. Wiersig, associate professor of physiology and pharmacology, will present a paper during the Midwest Inter-professional Seminar on Diseases Common to Animals and Man. Seminar host is the University of Missouri at Columbia.

### Landiss And Merki To Attend Confab

Two Health and Physical Education Department professors of Texas A&M will participate in a health education conference in Dallas this weekend.

Attending will be Dr. Carl W. Landiss, department head, and Dr. Donald J. Merki, assistant professor of health education.

Sponsored by the Federal Food and Drug Administration, Texas Education Agency and Texas Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, the conference will present new educational concepts and materials to teachers, principals, school nurses,

### FRESHMAN PICTURE SCHEDULE FOR 1968 AGGIELAND CORPS FRESHMEN:

Corps freshmen will have their Yearbook Portrait Schedule: portraits made for the Aggieland '68 according to this schedule at University Studio at North Gate in class "A" winter uniforms. Fish should bring poplin shirts, black ties, and brigade or wing shields.

Those freshmen who paid for their yearbook picture at registration should bring their FEE SLIP. Those who did not, may pay their \$1.50 at the University Studio.

Sept.	25 & 26	A-1 & B-1
	26 & 27	C-1 & D-1
	27 & 28	E-1 & F-1
	28 & 29	G-1 & H-1
Oct.	2 & 3	A-2 & B-2
	3 & 4	C-2 & D-2
	4 & 5	E-2 & F-2
	5 & 6	G-2 & H-2
	6 & 9	Maroon Band
	9 & 10	White Band
	10 & 11	Sq. 1 & 2
	11 & 12	3 & 4
	12 & 13	5 & 6
	13 & 16	7 & 8
	16 & 17	9 & 10
	17 & 18	11 & 12
	18 & 19	13 & 14
Civilian Freshmen: and Co-Eds:		
Sept.	25 thru 29	A-D
Oct.	2 thru 6	E-M
	9 thru 13	N-S
	16 thru 20	T-Z and Make-ups

## BATTALION CLASSIFIED

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**AN OPEN LETTER!**

Hello Aggies—

Welcome back home Aggies! We have missed you.

Well another school year is beginning and it is our hope you do well in all of your endeavors and that you accomplish all of your undertakings.

When you find time for recreation we hope you will visit us and renew old acquaintances. You know we are open 7 days a week 'til midnight and you'll always find some of your friends here.

We've added a brand new 5x10 Carom table to our center and this now gives us 2 - 5x10 pocket tables, 2 - 5x10 snooker tables, 2 - 4 1/2 x 9 ft. pocket tables, 14 - 4x8 pocket tables, 9 of the latest pin ball machines, Toosball table (the new sensation form coast to coast and a new bumper table. We also have a new supply of jointed cue sticks from \$9.95 to \$95.00.

Let's all join forces and pull a little harder and help put the Aggies back to NUMBER ONE in 1967. It can be done!

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