



## End Silver Taps?—Senior Sees Auto Safety As Key

Texas Aggies would like to end the traditional Silver Taps for comrades killed in traffic accidents.

In the last 13 years, Silver Taps ceremonies have honored 40 of A&M's dead in traffic mishaps.

SENIOR LARRY Graviss of San Antonio feels something can be done about road accidents claiming the lives of so many Aggies.

Silver Taps is a 21-gun salute followed by Corps buglers blowing Silver Taps in honor of a fallen comrade. It's played during a complete blackout on the campus, with students—Corps and civilians—silently gathered in front of the Academic Building.

Graviss, a tall, sincere-speaking cadet lieutenant colonel and Corps operations officer, is behind a move to accomplish such an end.

NO ONE is prompting him, except the memories of those he feels have needlessly died in traffic accidents.

Three members of the Corps



LARRY GRAVISS

were killed Nov. 9 in a head-on car-truck collision. The cadets—one of them a senior and buddy of Graviss—were part of the 3,000-man Corps mustering in Dallas for the A&M-SMU football game.

Graviss has been busy at work compiling records on deaths of students.

WITH CHRISTMAS fast approaching, he has taken a close look at traffic deaths during the holidays.

"Seven students have been lost in the past 13 years during the Christmas season," he said. A total of 40 students have died since 1955.

The largest number were killed in 1967 when eight died. In 1965 five students met death and four in 1963.

OF THOSE KILLED, 10 died on scheduled Corps trips, seven during Christmas holidays and 23 others at various times of the year.

Air Force cadets, required to do all traffic violations when

entering the program, revealed "228 of 518 violations were for speeding," said Graviss. "This is approximately 50 per cent of the violations."

Graviss pointed out steps are being taken to reduce "any need for speeding" while at A&M.

FRESHMAN and sophomore cadets, required to be back on campus by 8:30 on Sunday nights and at the first class following holidays, may now call their units if they are delayed in returning.

"If he calls saying he's going to be late, then it's okay," noted Graviss. It is a step to reduce speeding.

Better than 50 per cent of the resident students have cars on campus, creating a greater traffic safety problem, he noted.

GRAVISS HAS several ideas to help promote a strong safety program among students, especially cadets since they perform a "mass exodus" on Corps trips. These include:

- Passes for freshmen and sophomores would have pre-printed safety checks.

- Designation of a safety officer with each unit, possibly the executive officer.

- Operation orders for Corps trips could have road stops mapped, including all-night restaurants.

- And, large signs on campus reminding students of number of days since the last Silver Taps.

GRAVISS, son of retired Air Force Col. and Mrs. G. R. Graviss of San Antonio, is seeking more answers from the military.

"You can't beat the military," he said. "It's organized."

He plans trips soon to Randolph Air Force Base and Fort Sam Houston to discuss safety programs.

At present, Graviss has succeeded in getting "a lot of people talking about it."

SAFETY EMPHASIS has already spilled over into campus activities with fewer accidents reported during the traditional bonfire days before Thanksgiving holidays. Graviss assisted with safety procedures, working with the first aid committee.

Graviss likes the administration's policy to start classes at 10 a.m., Jan. 6 following the long holiday.

"It will keep students from driving at night. It's a great safety factor," he concluded.

## Dispute Over Shape Of Table Continues To Thwart Talks

By LEWIS GULICK

PARIS (AP) — The Saigon government's negotiators in Paris say they will yield no further in the dispute over the shape of the table for the Vietnam peace talks.

The South Vietnamese delegation "has gone far enough" and "cannot diverge from the formula of a two-sided conference," delegation officials said.

SAIGON'S VIEW on the procedural dispute holding up the peace parley was conveyed again to the Americans Monday night at a dinner session of the top allied negotiators: U. S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman and his deputy, Cyrus R. Vance; South Vietnam's Vice President Nguyen Cao Ky and Ambassador Pham Dang Lam.

Earlier Monday Ky issued a sharp denial of U. S. Defense Secretary Clark M. Clifford's implication that Saigon was much to blame for the continuing delay in the start of the conference. He said ever since Clifford succeeded Robert S. McNamara, "Secretary Clifford has shown a gift for saying the wrong thing at the wrong time."

THE NEW chief of the Viet Cong delegation, Tran Bau Kiem, censured both the United States and South Vietnam equally upon his arrival from Hanoi Monday. Preparations for the meeting are "being dragged out by the delaying tactics of the United States and the Saigon administration," he told 300 cheering welcomees at the airport. Kiem is considered the foreign minister of the Viet Cong's National Liberation Front.

The shape of the table at which the negotiators will sit is the focal issue in the quarrel over arrangements for the conference because the shape will symbolize the status of the NLF at the talks.

THE COMMUNISTS say the NLF is the authentic representa-

tive of the South Vietnamese people and rates a full position at a four-sided conference. Washington and Saigon do not recognize the NLF except as outlaws and hence claim the parley is two-sided—between the allies and their Communist opponents.

Hanoi negotiators started with a proposal for a square table. Their latest offer is an undivided round table. U. S. negotiators have gone from a long rectangular table to a divided doughnut shape, their most recent compromise proposal.

## Duncan, Sbis, Dorms To Close For Christmas

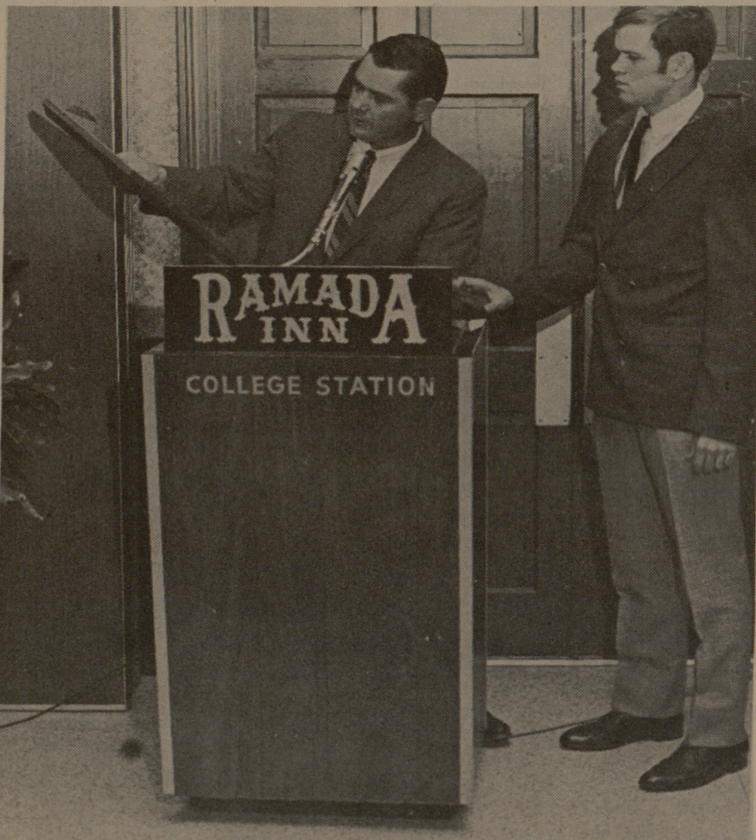
Residence halls and dining halls will be secured Friday for the Christmas holidays, Alan Madeley, housing manager, announced.

Dormitories will close at 6 p.m. and dining halls, after the dinner meal. Residence halls will open at 1 p.m. Jan. 5; and Duncan and Sbis will reopen Jan. 6, Madeley noted.

Only Schumacher and Hotard Halls will remain open, Madeley said. Students remaining on campus should contact a resident of Hotard for permission to use his room. Schumacher will be available only for students who are residents of the hall.

Students who wish to live in Hotard must turn in to the housing office written permission from all room occupants by Friday, Madeley noted.

Students who are residents of the two halls and wish to remain on campus for the holidays must register with the housing office by 5 p.m. Friday. Nothing will be charged to those who remain.



PRESENTS CHARTER

Ed Cooper, director of civilian student activities, presents Andy Scott, Walton Hall president, with the charter for the first civilian dormitory club in ceremonies at the Ramada Inn. Name of the new social club is the "Walton Warriors." (Photo by Mike Wright)

## New Loans Provide Up To \$1,500 Yearly

A federally insured student loan program for up to \$1,500 a year and \$7,500 over a college career has been announced by Robert M. Logan of the student financial aid office.

Loans at not more than seven per cent interest are possible at the institution of the borrower's choice.

"APPLICATIONS may be submitted to any participating hometown bank, savings and loan association or credit union," Logan said.

The program has several distinct advantages, he adds. Re-

payment can be over a period of five to 10 years, beginning nine months after the borrower ceases to be a student on at least a half-time basis.

For qualified students, the federal government will pay interest charges during the in-school period. The qualification is an adjusted family income of less than \$15,000 a year.

"PRINCIPAL payments need not be made while the borrower is an armed forces member, Peace Corps or VISTA volunteer or pursuing a fulltime course of study at an eligible school," Logan went on.

"The nice part for a qualified student who knows he is going on active military duty is that while he's in the service and the government is paying interest, he can be paying out the principal," he said.

A&M student eligibility requires enrollment and good standing or acceptance for enrollment, a minimum of six semester hours or more workload and U. S. citizenship. Students on conduct probation are not eligible.

Federal loan applications and instructions are available at the Student Financial Aid Office in the YMCA.

## Delegates Praise Coordination, Deplore Subjectivity Of SCONA

Delegates to A&M's recent Fourteenth Student Conference on National Affairs praised the forum's smooth coordination and efficiency but criticized its lack of objectivity, according to Don McCrory, SCONA XIV chairman.

"Some students were disappointed that the conference speakers all seemed to support the (Johnson) administration's point of view," McCrory told the Memorial Student Center Council and Directorate.

He noted that it was not SCONA's intention to present but one side of its topic, "The Limits and Responsibilities of U. S. Power," but that some speakers tended to emphasize pro-administration points and not others.

In other business, Council President Benjamin Sims reported that the Town Hall committee was still losing \$3,924 despite the response for Sam and Dave and

the Union Gap which drew a combined audience of 10,000 people.

Sims also noted that the Travel committee is still accepting applications for four student exchange programs: the Experi-

Paul Eggers, a 1968 Republican gubernatorial candidate scheduled to speak here at noon today, was forced to cancel his visit here, announced Ronald Hinds, chairman of A&M's Political Forum.

Hinds said the Political Forum will attempt to reschedule Eggers next semester. His topic was to have been "The Future of the Republican Party in Texas."

ment in International Living, Operations Crossroads Africa, the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience and Jobs International.

Travel will also begin interviewing students in January for loans to finance summer overseas trips, Sims noted.

## Laundry Group To Meet Thursday

The Student Laundry Committee will discuss laundry operating procedures with university officials at noon Thursday in the Sbis Cash Cafeteria.

Any student desiring to offer suggestions about the laundry operations and policies is invited to contact one of the following committee members:

Arthur P. Callahan, dorm 2, room 118, 5-2750; David George, Fowler Hall, room 211, 5-2108; Ernest Godsey, Hughes Hall, room 422, 5-3809.

David Middlebrooke, Hotard Hall, room 411, 846-9944; John R. Oliver, dorm 6, room 203, 5-7259; and Albert Reinert, dorm 2, room 123, 5-2050.

Bryan Building & Loan Association, Your Savings Center, since 1919. —Adv.

## Fruit Drive To Be At Christmas Meal

Enough apples, oranges and bananas for 400 needy Bryan Boys Club members is the goal of the Student Senate's Fruit Drive scheduled to coincide with the annual Christmas dinners Wednesday in Sbis and Duncan Dining Halls.

Baskets will be placed at the exits of both halls to receive fruit donated by the students.

"For many of the boys, the gifts will be the only Christmas gifts they'll receive," David Madrox, Senate vice president, said.

## 'Apu' Is Fall Film Finale

"The World of Apu," final fall film presentation of the Memorial Student Center Contemporary Arts Committee, will be screened Wednesday.

The 8 p.m. film series presentation will be shown in the MSC Ballroom, announced chairman Mark Schumann of Dallas. "The World of Apu" is a film from

India, directed by Satyjit Ray with music by Ravi Shankar.

Schumann said tickets for next semester's series will be on sale at the door. Nine films scheduled for the spring festival include "Rashomon," "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg," "Knife in the Water" and "The Virgin Spring," among other foreign and domestic movie classics.

## At Senate's Idea Exchange

## Delegates Explore Faculty-Student Gap

By DAVID MIDDLEBROOKE  
Battalion Staff Writer

The relative "distance between students and faculty" at A&M was a key point brought out in the Student Senate's second Student Idea Exchange Conference here last weekend, according to Bill Carter, Senate president.

"On nearly all other campuses, a joint student-faculty group decides on issues that directly affect the students," Carter said.

Another major difference Carter noted was in handling of campus elections. At Baylor University, where "50 to 60" elections per year are run by a small group of election commissioners, a computer system is used to tally votes.

"I'm sure that we'll be looking to them (computers) in the future for elections," Carter said.

DELEGATES FROM six Southwest Conference schools gathered here Friday and Saturday for the meeting. Rice University was unable to send a delegation because of final examinations, Carter said. Delegates from the University of Texas at Austin failed to attend the conference, although according to Carter, Texas Student Body President Rostam Kamboussi had told him last week that a delegation would be present.

Another new idea discussed, Carter said, was one being considered by the University of Arkansas.

"People there are thinking of a university senate" composed of about one-third each students, faculty, and administration," he explained. "This would be the university's main governing body."

ANOTHER POINT brought out was that at every other school, the student government leaders receive some sort of compensation. The compensation was either cash or a reduction in fees.

"Students from the other schools were actually surprised that A&M leaders didn't get something for their efforts," said Tom Fitzhugh, a recorder at the conference.

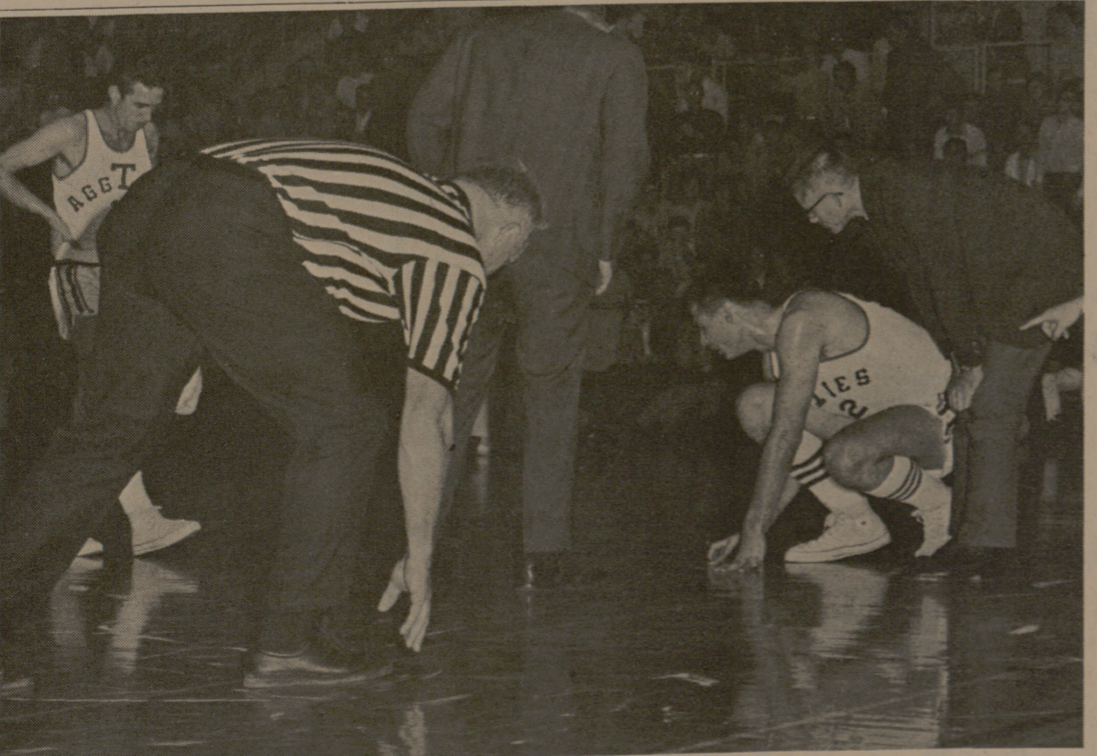
Arkansas also has something unusual in student-administration relations, Fitzhugh said. On a regular basis, members of the state legislature are invited to the university to visit and see what is happening.

IN ADDITION, noted Fitzhugh, they also meet students and student leaders specifically to hear complaints the students have. This enables the legislators to re-

turn to their offices with a fair knowledge of how things really are at the school.

"An enormous amount of communication took place," said Carter. "I will be coming out with more of the ideas I received later."

"I feel the conference was very successful. It accomplished just what we had hoped: an exchange of ideas," he concluded.



THE GREAT SEARCH

The game between A&M and Stephen F. Austin Monday night in G. Rollie White was held up several minutes in the second half as officials, players and coaches joined in a search for Steve Niles' missing contact. Aggie assistant coach Johnny Underwood won the search but SFA won the game, 75-74. Story on page 4. (Photo by Mike Wright)

## Professor's Wife Becomes Only Female B-CS Lawyer

AUSTIN — Mrs. Thelma van Overbeek, wife of Dr. Johannes van Overbeek of Texas A&M, was sworn in as an attorney at law Monday before the Texas Supreme Court.

The mother of six children plans to practice law in Bryan College Station, giving her the distinction of being the only woman attorney currently practicing in the area.

Mrs. van Overbeek, a native of San Francisco, was awarded a Juris Doctor degree last year from the McGeorge School of Law at University of the Pacific in Sacramento, Calif. She received her B.S. degree from the University of California.

She began studying for her law degree after the last of her children started school. The three youngest children now attend Lamar Junior High and Stephen F. Austin High School in Bryan.

The van Overbeeks came to Texas last year when Dr. van Overbeek was appointed director of the Institute of Life Science and head of the Biology Department at Texas A&M. He was formerly chief plant physiologist for Shell Development Company at Modesto, Calif.

The family resides at 3615 Sunnyside Lane in Bryan.

A. W. Davis, president of the Brazos County Bar Association, said he only knows of two other women ever practicing law in Bryan-College Station. One of them was Mrs. Iola Barron Wilcox, daughter of former Judge W. S. Barron. Mrs. Wilcox and her husband recently moved from the city. The other woman attorney was the wife of a Texas A&M doctoral candidate, who also moved when her husband received his degree last year.

## WEATHER

Tuesday—Cloudy. Winds North Tuesday — Cloudy. Winds North 10 to 15 mph. High 57, low 38.

University National Bank  
"On the side of Texas A&M."  
—Adv.