



The Battalions



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Judge To Rule On Sirhan Move To Set Aside Innocent Plea

Princeton Poet To Speak In Lecture Series Here

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Defense motions to set aside Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's indictment and his plea of innocent come before Judge Herbert V. Walker today as his trial resumes on charges of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The case of the People vs. Sirhan opened formally Tuesday. Within minutes, one of Sirhan's attorneys asked for a closed session in Walker's chambers to discuss motions. After an hour in chambers, four motions were introduced in open court and Walker—after ruling against two—directed the defense to submit written requests today on the others.

SIRHAN, 24, a Jordanian who came to this country as a boy, was neatly dressed in a gray suit; white, buttoned-down shirt and blue tie. He waved to his attorneys as he entered the heavily guarded, 75-seat courtroom. He sat next to them at the left end of the long counsel table but made no public statements.

The motion to withdraw the plea of innocent is a legal technicality. Under California law, an indictment can not be quashed while a plea stands. After a plea is withdrawn, and if another indictment is returned, the original plea may be re-entered.

THE MOTION attacking Sirhan's indictment is based on a contention the grand jury which indicted him was not composed of a proper cross-section of the community, said Russell Parsons, one of three defense lawyers. Parsons said such juries frequently exclude women, members of minority groups and people of various professions.

Sirhan is charged with shooting Kennedy to death and wounding five bystanders just after the New York senator proclaimed victory in California's Democratic presidential primary. Bystanders seized Sirhan after shots rang out as Kennedy walked through a crowded kitchen area of the Ambassador Hotel, site of the victory rally.

ANOTHER of the defense attorneys, Grant B. Cooper, told newsmen after Tuesday's court session that "it would be silly to deny he did it." The defense also asked Walker for a 30-day delay to prepare the motion on Sirhan's plea and the jury list and requested two juries—one to decide Sirhan's guilt or innocence, the other to set the penalty if he is convicted. Walker ruled against both.

Seats in the tiny courtroom were divided about evenly between security officers and newsmen, with only five members of the general public admitted. Sirhan's mother, Mary, 55, and brother, Munir, 21, sat in a back row.

Demo Congress Set To Offer 'Alternatives'

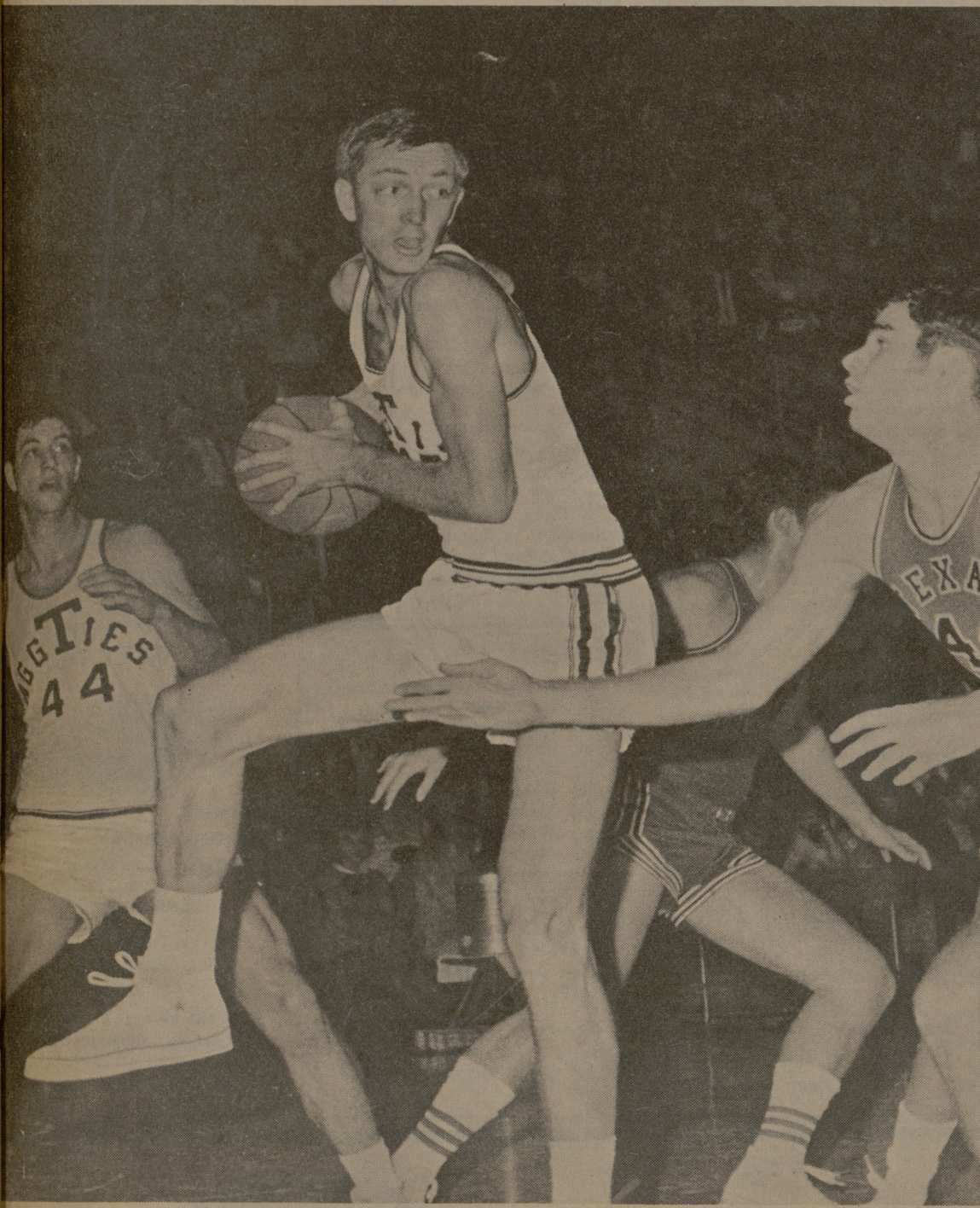
WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic congressional leaders — while not reneging on pledges of cooperation to Richard M. Nixon — are making preparations that could mean a short honeymoon for the new president.

The House Education and Labor Committee drew unmistakable battle lines in three areas Tuesday with introduction of a whopping \$14-billion school construction bill and measures to continue President Johnson's antipoverty and school aid programs.

On the Senate side, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana announced he is broadening the scope of the Democratic Policy Committee as a step toward offering parts alternatives to Nixon programs.

Indications so far from Nixon cabinet members and Republican congressional leaders have been that the new GOP administration would concentrate after Jan. 20 on trying wherever possible to improve already existing programs while careful studies are made of any new legislation.

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HEAVY TRAFFIC

Aggie Senior forward Harry Bostic protects the ball from Texas Tech's Mike Oakes and goes up for two of his 21 points as Ronnie Peret (44) looks on. Bostic led all scorers in the Aggies' initial conference win, 85-84, last night in G. Rollie White. (Photo by Mike Wright)

Poet Theodore Weiss will be here this week for a round of activities highlighted by the second 1968-69 University Lecture Series presentation at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Memorial Student Center ballroom.

Weiss, a Danforth visiting lecturer, is professor of writing at Princeton. He also is editor of "The Quarterly Review of Literature," author of six poetry books and numerous poems and articles published in most of the major literary magazines.

Dr. Edwin Doran, University Lecture Series chairman, said the

program is open to the general public free of charge.

WEISS WILL arrive Thursday morning and visit with English students and faculty members prior to conducting an informal discussion on "Beginning Poets, Amateurs vs. Professionals" at 2:30 p.m. in Room 2C of the MSC.

Dr. Horace R. Byers, academic vice president, will host a dinner honoring the poet in the MSC Birch Room prior to the University Lecture Series presentation

entitled "Poetry Now: Tradition and Breakthrough."

Weiss will spend Friday with members of the Philosophy Department, serving as guest lecturer for two classes dealing with philosophy of religion.

Weiss' latest book is "The Last Day and the First" published by MacMillan. He is working on a Shakespeare book to be published by Chatto and Windus of London.

HE RECEIVED a grant from the National Foundation of Arts and Letters in 1967 and a Ford Foundation fellowship for poetry and Greek literature in 1953-54. Selections of his poetry have been recorded for the Library of Congress, Harvard and Yale. He conducted a lecture on his own work for the Voice of America.

A native of Pennsylvania, Weiss attended Muhlenberg College and Columbia. He previously taught at the University of Maryland, University of North Carolina, Yale, Bard College and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Danforth lecturers program was initiated in 1957 by the arts program of the Association of American Colleges and is supported by a grant from the Danforth Foundation, Dr. Doran noted.



THEODORE WEISS

Accountant, 65, Will Retire After 42 Years

The German community of Schulenburg in Fayette County is many years in the past for an A&M accountant who soon retires after 42 years of campus life.

Herbert C. Hertel was a young man of 23 when he left his Schulenburg home to seek employment outside of his native community.

He found it at a growing A&M College as a payroll clerk.

"It has really grown up since I came here," said Hertel, who recalled he had been teaching, but "wanted in the business line."

He received his teacher's certificate from Blinn College in Brenham, operated then by the Methodist Conference. He taught in "several rural schools" in Fayette and Washington Counties before coming to A&M.

He married his sweetheart, Hilda, in 1928, two years after settling down on campus to a life that would eventually take him through nearly half a century of progress by A&M.

Hertel, who turned 65 in October, raised a son, Charles. A graduate of West Point, Major Hertel is presently associated with the University of Massachusetts.

The retiring Hertel studied accounting through the Chicago Extension University and today serves as accountant in the busy Fiscal Department. It is the only department in which he has worked.

Hertel officially retires Jan. 31, but will continue working in a part-time capacity.

"I have plenty to take care of at home and I really don't know what I'll do next," he added.

WEATHER

Thursday — Partly cloudy to cloudy. Wind Northerly 15 to 25 mph. High 42, low 38. Friday — Partly cloudy. Wind Easterly 10 to 15 mph. High 47, low 26.

Fish 'Peeled Head' Haircuts Outlawed In Corps Of Cadets

By DAVID MIDDLEBROOKE Battalion Staff Writer

The Corps of Cadets, in its first major policy change since paddle boards were done away with in the early '60's, has revised its haircut policy to eliminate the "peeled head" style of the fish.

The policy change was announced by Hector Gutierrez, Corps commander, yesterday. He said that it would take effect immediately.

"There are really two basic changes," Gutierrez said. "The first is that there will be only two styles of haircuts: one for the freshmen and sophomores, and one for the juniors and seniors."

"The second change," he continued, "is the elimination of the 'white sidewall.' The fish and sophomores will have short hair, but long enough to be combed over and laid down. The sides will be tapered."

The current fish haircut has been around since 1959, according to Gutierrez. Since then, it has almost become the trademark of a Corps freshman.

Gutierrez noted that many factors entered into the change. Many former students were not happy with the fish haircut, and many people, in the Corps and out, felt that times had changed.

"The main factor in bringing out the change, however," Gutierrez emphasized, "was the realization by the Corps itself that the change had to be made."

"We have been considering this ever since the semester began."

Soph Sweetheart Applications Ready

Sophomores may pick up applications for Sophomore Class Sweetheart nominees in the Student Programs Office at the Memorial Student Center, according to Gary Martin, sophomore class president.

All applications must be returned with a photograph by Jan. 24.

We aired many pro's and con's and finally made the decision.

"As far as the haircut identifying an Aggie," he commented, "I would hope that the haircut does not make the Aggie."

Gutierrez went on to emphasize that this change is being implemented by this year's Corps Staff, and that the policy could be changed next year if the commander then decided to.

"I feel that it is here to stay for a while," he said. "Possibly a future commander might decide on a period, maybe a month, when fish would have a special haircut, then go back to the style in this new policy."

The change was made by the Corps Staff cadets themselves. A&M President Earl Rudder and the commandant's office did not know of the change until informed by Gutierrez yesterday.

Brazos Bowmen Plan First Meet

The newly-formed A&M archery club, the Brazos Bowmen, will hold its first archery shooting meet at 2 p.m. Sunday at the club's range across from Country Kitchen restaurant on Farm Road 60.

Events at the meet will feature target shooting by club members. A shooting exhibition will also be given by Mike Palmer, national champion bow hunter and junior architecture major at A&M, according to John Bendele, club reporter. The public is invited to the meet, Bendele noted.

Officers of the club are Jim Ross, president; Bob Dressler, vice president; Palmer, secretary-treasurer; and Bendele.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact one of the officers, Bendele noted.

Lessons for beginners will be taught beginning Feb. 8 by Palmer. Anyone interested in taking lessons should contact Palmer to arrange a time schedule.

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after the policy change had been announced to the Corps.

"A lot of work and thought has gone into this decision," commented Pat Rhodes, first wing commander, "and I feel it is in the best interests of the Corps."

"We took a poll of the fish, and 47 per cent felt the haircut needed to be changed."

Both Rhodes and second brigade commander Danny Ruiz felt that the change could be a retention factor among the freshmen.

"Some freshmen don't want to come here just because of the haircut," Ruiz noted. "I feel that it is one of the best moves the Corps has made. Its real effect will not be realized for two or three years, when people have had a chance to evaluate the results and think about it some more."

Gutierrez himself thinks it is a big change, one he is certain will be for the best.

"I think I have the backing of all my commanders, and I am confident it will work out," he concluded.



CHAMPIONSHIP FORM

Mike Palmer, junior architecture major, and national bow hunter champion demonstrates the form that won him the 1968 championship. Palmer will compete for the A&M Archery Club and teach archery to beginners starting Feb. 9.

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