

Civilian student weekend activities separate coeds from men, the hard way



Ags stand ready as 12th Man

The tradition of Aggies standing at football games is one that goes much deeper than just standing.

Every college or university has a certain number of loyal supporters among its student body. These members are devoted to their school—they love its ideals.

Texas A&M is no exception. It too has a group devoted to the school, but this group, however,

is not small. It includes an entire student body which upholds and applauds all the interests and events of the university.

This is the Twelfth Man tradition.

The tradition of the Twelfth Man was born on New Year's Day, 1922, when an underdog Aggie team was playing Centre College, then the nation's top team. As the hard-fought game wore on, and

the Aggies dug deeply into their limited reserves, Coach D. X. Bible remembered a squadman who wasn't suited up. King Gill was called from the pressbox where he was helping spot players for a sports editor suited up and stood ready throughout the rest of the game which A&M finally won.

Although Gill didn't play in the game, he had readily accepted the call to help his team. He came to

be thought of as the Twelfth Man because he stood ready for duty when the eleven men on the gridiron needed assistance.

That spirit of readiness for service, desire to support and enthusiasm for one body; a spirit that has grown vigorously through the years. All feel loyal to their school. All stand ready for duty when called. Like one student, all are the Twelfth Man.



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