

College Station, Texas Wednesday, August 2, 1972

Traditions—force behind A&M

To understand A&M, you have to understand the forces that motivate it—traditions. They play a vital part of A&M life. Some are as old as the school itself.

The tradition that probably receives the most publicity is the Aggie Bonfire. It symbolizes every Aggie's burning desire to beat the hell out of Texas on Thanksgiving Day.

The Bonfire is considered to belong to the freshman class that builds it. The fish furnish most of the manpower, though seniors and juniors oversee cutting, trucking and stacking.

Numerous safety precautions are followed, including only juniors and seniors handling axes. Gloves and goggles are required for transportation.

A strict security and safety ring is maintained around the site at all times and only those who are working on the stacking area are allowed near the Bonfire. Work continues night and day, right up until the torch is thrown onto the stack.

Two of A&M's traditions honor those Aggies who are no longer living: Silver Taps and Aggie Muster.

Whenever a student dies, a Silver Taps ceremony is held for him. At 10:30 p.m., all lights in the area of the Academic Building are turned off. People come and stand by the flagpole in front of the building without saying a word.

The Ross Volunteer firing squad just as silently marches up and fires three seven-gun volleys. A group of trumpeters sounds Taps slowly three times. Then everyone quietly leaves.

Silver Taps is the final tribute paid to an Aggie by his fellow students. A notice is always posted on the flagpole in front of the Academic Building and the flag flown at half-staff the day of the ceremony.

Aggie Muster has been held as close to possible to April 21, San Jacinto Day, every year since 1903. It honors students and former students who have died since the last muster.

As the name of each departed Aggie is called a comrade answers "Here." Musters are held by Aggies all over the world.

The tradition of the 12th Man was born on Jan. 1, 1922. At a game with Centre College, the nation's top team, Coach D. X. Bible called in a player who had not suited up. King Gill came down on the field and stood ready throughout the game, which A&M won.

Although Gill did not play, he became a symbol of the Aggies' readiness to serve and the desire to support his team. Today the student body stands during all A&M football games while play is in progress.

Midnight Yell Practice is held the Friday before a home game and Thursday before an out-of-town game. Yell leaders tell a fable about the team which will be played. And, of course, yells are practiced.

One of A&M's most popular traditions is "Howdy." As students walk around the campus, they greet one another with a Howdy, even if they don't know each other.

First women's dormitory opens this fall at TAMU

Women will become residents of the A&M campus this fall with the completion of two wings of a new housing facility on the south side of campus.

Coeds will occupy at least one wing of the building, capable of accommodating 474 women. However, both wings could be given over to women if the need is great enough.

Freshmen and transferring upperclass women will be required to live in the new dorm as long as there is space. Coeds already rolled at A&M will be given first priority, although it will not be mandatory that they live there.

Freshmen girls will have a few. They will have to be in the dorm by midnight Sunday through Thursday and by 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Upperclass coeds may have self-limiting hours with parental permission.

Otherwise they must observe the same hours as freshmen.

These hours are similar to the hours maintained by the university during summer school.

With the new dormitory, enrollment of female students is expected to increase by 500. Coed enrollment for the spring semester was 1,767.

The cost of the new dorm will be \$585 per semester, including meals.

MSC Open House set for Aug. 25

Tours and complete information about campus activities and organizations will be given at the Memorial Student Center Open House scheduled for Aug. 25.

Times and other details will be announced during New Student Week.

Four girls will share a bathroom in a suite. The bathrooms will be equipped with showers.

The dorm will have washers and dryers for garments that cannot be sent to the university laundry. Girls will be charged a smaller laundry fee than the boys pay. It will cover the expense of laundering such items as sheets and towels.

There will be a commons area accessible to all residents of the dorm, both male and female. It will have four color television rooms and several reading rooms, as well as music and exercise rooms and a snack bar.

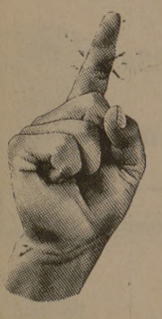
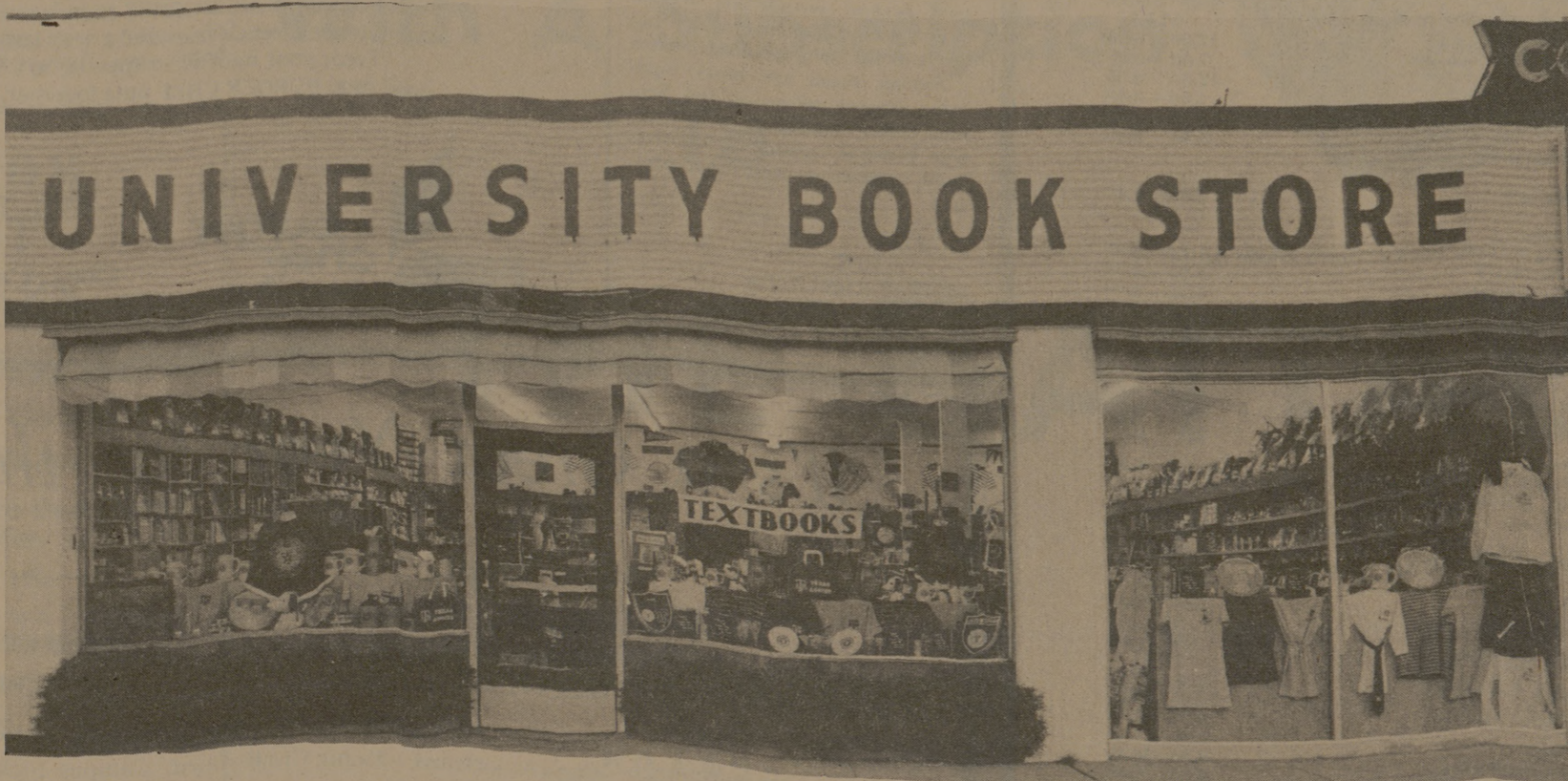
The cafeteria will be in the basement. It will accommodate 1,000 people.

The two wings of the building have been named after A&M graduates Carl C. (Polly) Krueger of San Antonio and J. Harold Dunn of Amarillo.



Don't forget to register for the FREE Set of FRESHMAN BOOKS to be given at a drawing Sunday August 27, 1972 at 3:00 p.m. No obligation. You do not have to be present to win.

Headquarters for Used Books Slide Rules and Engineering Equipment



- Souvenirs**
- Decals
 - Jewelry
 - T-Shirts
 - Pennants
 - Glassware
 - Ash Trays
 - Stationary
 - Aggie Caps
 - Aggie Mugs
 - Pet Animals
 - Nite Shirts
 - Windbreakers
 - Bumper Strips
 - Aggie Records
 - Hitch-hike Bags

UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE

"At the North Gate"

- Necessities**
- Clocks
 - Pencils
 - Staplers
 - Book Ends
 - Calendars
 - Brief Case
 - Ringbinders
 - Sewing Kits
 - Laundry Bags
 - Paper Punches
 - Wastebaskets
 - Fountain Pens
 - Shower Shoes
 - Spiral Notebooks
 - Pencil Sharpeners

409 University Drive

846-4818