

Aggies to Tour Romania

Official invitation was extended to the Singing Cadets for a three-week tour in Romania by Romanian Ambassador Corneliu Bogdan, next May.

President Jack K. Williams approved the Eastern Europe trip and authorized the Singing Cadets to raise funds for it.

A Reader's Digest grant will help defray cost of the all-male glee club's extensive travel throughout Romania. The trip was arranged through the "Ambassadors for Friendship" program of the American Council of Nationalities Service.

The 21-day tour will involve nine major performances by the Singing Cadets in the major cities of Romania, according to Director Robert L. Boone. The 50-member group also expects to do numerous impromptu performances.

"You will find Romania to be a hospitable country of warm, friendly people who are eager to know you, and through you understand America better," Bogan said.

"Friendship" President Harry Morgan of New York recommended the Singing Cadets to the

Romanian Ambassador to the U.S.

Preparation has already begun for the trip, expected to depart New York by charter jet for Bucharest in mid-May.

Aggie-ex Bob Frymire of Dallas chairs a group to assist the Cadets and Boone in raising funds to support the trip. The Cadets plan projects to cover travel costs to New York, according to President James Randolph.

Boone said a repertoire including minstrel, pop and Western music and songs relating to ecology and other current topics are being prepared for the tour.

He indicated some of the selections will be used on the Singing Cadets' between-semester tour. The group will visit Alice, Harlingen, McAllen, Laredo, Del Rio and New Braunfels. Other single-performance dates are scheduled during the spring semester.

Veteran TV performers, the Singing Cadets carry a wealth of experience before critical audiences into the overseas venture. They sang in White House church services, made a national-release stereo single with Sergio Franchi and performed before network

TV cameras on the Mike Douglas and Ed Sullivan shows. They worked seven straight years on the Miss Teenage America Pageant.

Few performances by the Singing Cadets go without an invitation for a return engagement. Mail flows in after a tour.

President Nixon paid a compliment after the White House appearance: "Never have I heard so much praise for a singing group as I did from those going through the receiving line."

"I could have listened all day," the First Lady said.

The Battalion

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Batt Staff Gripes Aired, Editor's Ethics Questioned

A group of students-writers and managerial editors—hired by Mike Rice, Battalion editor, presented the Student Publications Board a list of grievances Tuesday concerning certain operational procedures of the Battalion. The group also asked that the SPB consider removing Rice from the editorship.

The Board recessed until Tuesday to make its decision.

Vickie Ashwill, representing the staff, read a prepared document to the board. In essence, it stated factors which led to the meeting. One of these was staff disintegration. "In this semester we have seen two managing editors, with a third scheduled to take over in January, three news editors, and two women editors, with that position presently unfilled," the statement read.

Another factor cited was a lack of communication which often resulted in confusion. "Symbolic of his refusal to communicate with his staff is a locked-up desk and a private office in his apartment

which has no phone. He spends most of his regular staff hours at his apartment with a borrowed typewriter because he claims there are too many distractions in the office."

A third factor cited was that Rice does not support his staff. "As editor, he is responsible to his staff and the paper but when confronted with a problem concerning the staff's work, he does not in any way back or support them. For example, film reviewer Julia Jones was humiliated in print which resulted in her resignation." His attitude towards his staff was said to be one of "That's the way it's going to be. Either you like it or you leave."

The staff also regarded his professional conduct as editor as questionable. "He uses pay as a weapon for negative reinforcement and at one time even went so far as to secretly create a kickback system. He has taken advantage of his position to cheat the University and the paper through various means." The document was signed by 18 out of 20 staff members. The two who did not sign are new to the staff and not familiar with the preceding conflicts, they said.

Dr. Tom W. Adair III, board member and assistant to the president, asked, "Is not being able to get along with the staff, grounds for removal? However, if charges of cheating and kickbacks are proved, these are

A Merry Heart Makes A Cheerful Countenance: But By Sorrow Of The Heart The Spirit Is Broken.

Degree Clearing Posted

All TAMU degree candidates for fall commencement should check the Registrar's Office clear list to be posted Thursday, Registrar Robert A. Lacey announced.

Lacey said the clear list will be posted in the foyer of the Richard Coke Building at 8 a. m. Thursday, Dec. 13.



DEBBIE WINKELMAN talks to her boy friend stationed with the Navy in Antarctica with help from radio committee equipment. (Photo by Gary Baldasari)

Say Hello Toll Free Over Globe

A long-distance phone call to mom need not cost a dime.

The Memorial Student Center Radio Committee offers, as a public service, phone patches and radiograms to almost anywhere in the world, said Steve Philpy of the Radio Committee.

A phone patch is a hook-up allowing a phone conversation to be handled via amateur radio. "It's basically the same system Bell Telephone uses but we use a much lower frequency. They use micro-waves," said Philpy.

A radiogram is like a telegram except it is transmitted by amateur radio rather than wire.

Philpy advised those interested in sending a radiogram or working a phone patch to contact the Radio Committee by calling 845-7245 any evening after 6 p. m.

Membership in the committee is open to all students, whether licensed or not. The dues, which are used mostly to pay for a picture in the AggieLand, are \$3.50 per semester, said Philpy.

Railroad Relocation Proposed At P&Z Commission Meeting

A plan to relocate the railroad tracks in Bryan and College Station was proposed Monday night by Manny M. Hamoudi, Andy L. Sikes and by Herbert S. Stevenson before the College Station Planning and Zoning Commission.

Stevenson, Hamoudi and Sikes worked on this proposed route for the rails as a project for Geology 441. Dr. C. C. Mathewson of the Geology Department asked Stevenson to present their proposal to the council of which Mathewson is a member.

The present rail system goes

through the central part of downtown Bryan and the west part of College Station. This creates excessive noise and vibration in nearby homes and businesses as well as causing safety problems at crossings and inhibiting area growth, said Stevenson.

Instead of spending the money on improving the existing tracks, Stevenson and his group propose moving the railway away from TAMU, business and heavily populated areas.

The proposed new route would diverge from the present one near

the south city limit of College Station. It will follow the west bypass into north Bryan.

The new route would be adjacent to Easterwood Airport for ease in making airplane connections. It would also pass by the Brazos Valley Industrial Park to provide service for industry.

Spurs connecting with Bryan and College Station are part of the new plan.

A new terminal will replace the old whistle stop we now have. It will be located near Easterwood Airport.

Corps Staff Juniors Propose Minerva Plan for Cadet Coeds

By MARY RUSSO

Women seeking commissions in any of the armed forces will be allowed to join the A&M Corps of Cadets next fall, subject to the approval of A&M President Jack Williams.

In a statement made by Corps Staff Juniors, the move was made "to extend the outstanding training which the Corps provides and which makes the difference between an Aggie officer and any other ROTC graduate."

The preliminary proposal was presented to Col. Tom Parsons through self-initiation of the Corps in anticipation of women being allowed to take ROTC here at A&M.

Entitled the Minerva Plan, the proposal outlines the procedure and objectives of integration of women into the Corps. Women could only join as freshmen and sophomores.

The girls will be organized into a detachment under the Corps Personnel Officer, who will perform the duties of organization, administration, training and leadership. This senior will be assisted by selected Corps juniors and sophomores, as he deems

necessary.

Under detachment status, the women commission candidates will find "all training opportunities and activities open to them, considering physical limitations and principles of good taste," said John Chappelle, Corps sergeant major.

"Being a detachment will allow for basic, intermediate and advanced training which will culminate in the fourth year with girls commanding their own unit," said Chappelle.

"In the five-year proposal, considerations have been made to minimize problems for both men and women, to maximize the speed and maintain the standards and goals of the Corps," Chappelle added.

The program has been presented to Corps Major Unit command juniors and there has been favorable reaction with several individuals expressing interest.

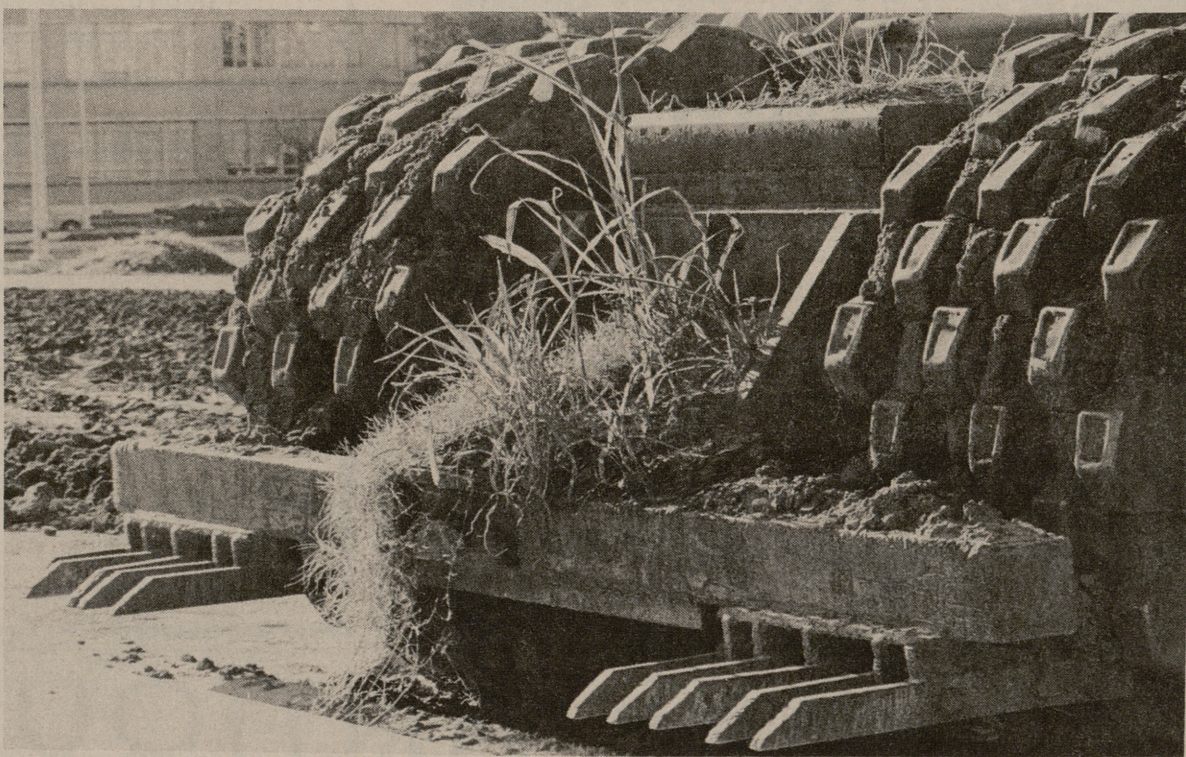
"Women in the Corps will make a positive contribution, but the success will hinge entirely on the attitude of the Corps as a whole and the women involved," Chappelle said.

"I'm certain that the present

Corps members will accept the girls. Also, the women who have expressed interest in such a program previously have exhibited positive feelings toward the plan," Chappelle said.

A detailed plan of how the women will be related to the Corps and the Corps to the women will be presented to the Commandant's Office Feb. 1, according to Chappelle.

"Considerable amount of thought, worry and man-hours have been dedicated to admittance of women in the Corps. The staff juniors, Steve Eberhard, Rickey Gray, Frederick Martin and Terry Rathert and myself, with additional input by Major Unit sergeant majors, worked for love of the Corps and to provide for its continuing greatness," said Chappelle.



Mobile Meadow

Senate To View Athletics

A resolution for Optional Athletic Fees will be a subject of debate of the Student Senate meeting tonight at 7:30 in Room 102 of the Zachry Engineering Center.

The proposal, introduced by John Nash (Law-Puryear), asks that the Student Service Fee Allotments Committee devise a feasible optional fee concept.

"If the optional athletic fee concept goes into effect it would lower the service fee that is currently given to the Athletic Department," Nash said.

The concept would also give students the choice of purchasing a season ticket or buying a ticket before each game.

Those who do not attend athletic events will not be required to pay for tickets they do not use, Nash said. But, if there is a larger number of students not interested in games then it will make the price more expensive for those who do attend.

The Senate will also discuss a revision of the absence policy of Senators as set up by the Senate Select Committee.

Kent State Inquiry Renewed

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department will take the renewed investigation of the 1970 Kent State University slayings before a federal grand jury in Ohio next week.

Asst. Atty. Gen. J. Stanley Pottinger announced Tuesday night that a grand jury will be convened in Cleveland Dec. 18 "to receive sworn testimony and act in its capacity as an investigative body."

Student Art Experiment Dancers to Relate 'Beowulf'

The Old English epic "Beowulf" will be performed tonight at eight in the Rudder Center Theater.

Nine dancers directed by choreographer John Steele will interpret the epic in modern dance as

five graduate English students give a reading in the original Old English dialect. Drums and acoustic guitars complement the performance.

Modern dance is not confined by any particular rules of style, but includes any moves or styles of dance the choreographer designs into a show. This show is, for the dancers, an opportunity to practice their avocation before an audience. The dancers explain their motivation as being simply devoted to modern dance.

The English students, on the other hand, are doing the reading for academic credit. As a project for a graduate level class on "Beowulf," the show substitutes for a paper which they would have otherwise had to write.

There is a feeling among the cast that this show may spark some kind of interest in part of the student body in a more extensive program of fine arts. Steele, for one, says that before TAMU

Last Batt

This is the last Battalion to be printed this week. Only one issue will be printed during exam week and will be distributed next Wednesday.

Text Trade Available

The end of the semester is the time to sell your books. And the Student Book Exchange is one place to do the selling.

The Exchange will be open through Wednesday from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily in Room B of the Student Programs Office in the MSC. It will be open Saturday from 8 a. m. to noon.

The Exchange will re-open the first week of next semester during the same hours. The second week of next semester students will receive checks for sales and books not sold will be returned. All money exchanges will be made with checks only.

When bringing in a book, a student should be prepared to name a price he is seeking for it. A list of the Texas A&M Book Store prices will be available.

At the same time students may purchase books for next semester. A list of what books are needed for which courses is also available.

Text Trade Available

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

Adv.