

# Sully's role in the Civil War

The first 100 years

By DON MIDDLETON  
and  
JOHN ADAMS

May, 1861. The War Between the States was growing in intensity daily. In Texas, the call for volunteers went out. By September, volunteers had begun assembling at Camp Barton near Dallas. Among the recruits was 23-year-old Lawrence Sullivan Ross, who enlisted as a private in Company B of McLennan county under the command of his brother, Capt. P. F. Ross.

Ross left his bride of five months, Elizabeth Tinsley, and his farm in the Brazos Valley to fight with the Sixth Regiment of the Texas Cavalry, made up of about 1,150 men. On the seventh of September, elections were held to fill empty regimental positions. Ross was elected a major and placed in command of the 1st Division.

Before departing with the Regiment to Missouri, Ross wrote his wife a letter expressing his belief that the war would not last and that he would probably be gone three or four months. It would be four years before Ross returned to Texas.

The Texans joined forces with Gen. Ben McCulloch near Springfield, Missouri. While in the area, Ross conducted several scouting expeditions behind enemy lines to assess the strength of the Union forces.

Returning from one foray to the Union encampments, Ross fell into company with a Union officer who was riding to Confederate headquarters under the white flag of truce.

The Federal officer told Ross that it was a mystery to the army at Springfield how he had managed to

get in and out of their lines without being discovered.

The next day, aware that he would now be under close scrutiny, Ross had his men make camp, build fires and unsaddle their horses. When night fell, the Confederates slipped away from their camp quietly, leaving the Union troops to close in on and capture an empty encampment.

Ross later wrote his wife, "I had quite a hearty laugh at the expense of this officer and told him that if he didn't keep out more vigilant sentinels and pickets, the Texans would be inside of his lines and encampments all the time."

After successful engagements with the enemy in Missouri, Arkansas and Mississippi, the Texans joined the command of Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard in Corinth, Mississippi in May 1862. The Confederate forces there numbered at least 30,000.

Between June and August of that year the armies in Mississippi trained and reorganized. The reorganization included the promotion of Ross from major to colonel of the Texas regiment.

The rest of the year saw the Army of the West, including the Texas Cavalry, engaging the enemy almost continuously. During October the army suffered a series of crushing defeats under Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn.

In November the Army reorganized and Lt. Gen. J. C. Pemberton replaced Van Dorn as supreme commander. Col. Ross again was promoted, this time to the rank of brigadier general in command of Third, Sixth, Ninth and Twenty-



Brigadier General Lawrence Sullivan Ross

Seventh Texas Cavalry Regiments. These units formed what came to be known as the "Ross Brigade," even though the command of the brigade changed periodically until the end of the war.

The Ross Brigade fought gallantly against larger and better-equipped Union forces in Mississippi, Geor-

gia, Alabama and Tennessee.

By September 1864, Gen. Ross and his troops were physically and mentally exhausted. Like the rest of the Confederate forces, their supplies were low, food was hard to find, and clothing and equipment were in poor shape.

Early in the spring of 1865, the Ross brigade surrendered near Jackson, Mississippi.

With hostilities at an end, Gen. Ross and his men returned to Texas. In four years Ross had risen from the rank of private to brigadier general, fought in 135 engagements, captured 30 stands of colors and had seven horses shot out from under him.

Ross returned to Texas to take a major role in the reconstruction process. Ross served as sheriff of McLennan County, governor of the state from 1887 to 1891 and, upon his retirement as governor, became President of A&M College.

## Rodriguez coverage slammed

# Writer 'lacks knowledge

### Listen Up

Doesn't the reviewer think these added musicians have an effect as to the difference in sound? I also wonder when he has listened to Bob Wills live or heard the Commander under the same acoustical conditions of G. Rollie? (It was built for sports events, not concerts.)

Some of the remarks about Johnny Rodriguez were lacking in intelligence. First, equipment men, among other things, are paid to tune guitars so the stars won't have to when they get on stage. Secondly, for someone who "probably wouldn't have known" how to tune his own guitar, Johnny R. played a rather competent lead on

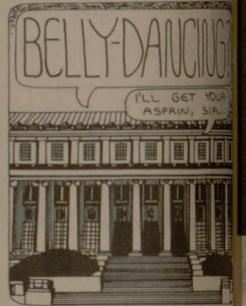
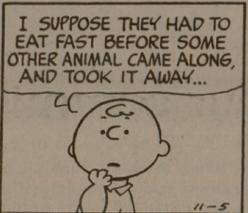
the two rock songs. I realize the viewer can't please everyone no matter what he says but he should be able to speak out of knowledge instead of a lack of it. I thought it the best, most well received concert this year.

Robert Humphreys

### Consolidation

I am opposed to the idea of consolidating Bryan and College Station into one city. One of the things I have grown to like about College Station since I have been at A&M is its small size and friendly atmosphere, both of which would be lost in this consolidation were it to take place. Contrary to some people's beliefs, bigger is not always better.

Paul Meier



**Sue Aukema at Dena's Hair Fashion**  
specializes in layer cutting frosting & Men's & Women's Hair Styling.  
106 Carson 822-6034 779-0676

**ALLEN Oldsmobile Cadillac**  
SALES - SERVICE  
"Where satisfaction is standard equipment"  
2401 Texas Ave. 823-8002

**The Turquoise Shop**  
MANOR EAST MALL (Permanent Location)  
PRICES FROM \$6.00 — UP  
10% AGGIE DISCOUNT WITH I.D. CARD  
OPEN 11:00 A.M. DAILY

**ARE YOU THE QUILTING ON WELLS' PART?**  
Goodtime Gparties FOR A ROCKING-GOOD TIME!!

- MONDAY - MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL ON THE WORLD'S LARGEST T.V.
- WEDNESDAY - LADIES NIGHT 1/2 PRICE ON EVERY THING
- THURSDAY - TRIVIA NIGHT - FREE DRINKS FOR TRIVIA BUFFS

★ NO COVER CHARGE ANYTIME ★  
DANCING ALL NIGHTS BUT MONDAY  
HOURS: MON., TUES., WED., THURS., FRI. 4:30 - 12:00 p.m.  
SAT. 12:00 NOON - 1:00 a.m.  
SUN. 12:00 NOON - 12:00 a.m.

807 TEXAS AVE. 846-9513

**THE GREATEST SANDWICH**

The greatest sandwiches in the Southwest are served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day Monday through Friday on floor 11M, Conference Tower. The greatness of these sandwiches is no accident. There are several types of meats and you can select your choice and mix or match any three pieces for your sandwich on the bread of your choice.

Two of the several types of bread are sour dough and baked fresh daily in our Duncan bakery. Further, these breads are prepared without shortening for the diet conscious guest. For the greatest taste tempting delight just make your sandwich exactly like you want it and pop it into one of the handy micro-wave ovens. This wonderful sandwich and a bowl of soup for only \$1.50 plus tax will place you on cloud 11M.

We agree this is a bit of a long story, but it is difficult to stop talking about our tasty sandwiches.

Open Sunday 11:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. for regular meal only.

"QUALITY FIRST"

**SENIORS-GRADS PEACE CORPS-VISTA**  
1976 JOB OPPORTUNITIES  
LAST DAY  
THURSDAY-NOVEMBER 6  
APPLY NOW  
STUDENT CENTER

The Shamrock Hilton has clipped its rates to Aggies for the Rice game.

# CHIG' GAR ROO' GAR REM!

Ruf stuff, Tuf stuff, Texas A & M. There'll be a lot of bootin', hootin' and hollerin' in Houston November 15, when the Aggies meet the Rice Owls. And the Shamrock Hilton's the place for all good Aggies to stay, for a wild and wooly good time. Even the team stays with us!

We've clipped our rates (without penalty) for students and faculty in honor of the game, with single rooms only \$17 and doubles only \$25. The Shamrock's within cheerin' distance of Rice Stadium, and sports a field of entertainment spots right in the lobby, like the Speakeasy our gaming parlour & bar, for after victory cry.

Do call us for clipping, and make your reservations today. (713) 668-9211.

**The Shamrock Hilton**  
6900 Main at Holcombe Houston, Texas 77001

**SLOUCH** Jim Earle

# The Battalion

Opinions expressed in The Battalion are those of the editor or of the writer of the article and are not necessarily those of the university administration or the Board of Regents. The Battalion is a non-profit, self-supporting enterprise operated by students as a university and community newspaper. Editorial policy is determined by the editor.

### LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed, show the address of the writer and list a telephone number for verification.

Address correspondence to Listen Up, The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

Members of the Student Publications Board are: Bob G. Rogers, Chairman; Dr. Gary Halter; Dr. John Hanna; Roger P. Miller; Dr. Clinton A. Phillips; Jeff Dunn; Tom Dawsey and Jerri Ward.  
Director of Student Publications: Gael L. Cooper.

Represented nationally by National Educational Advertising Services, Inc., New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Battalion, a student newspaper at Texas A&M, is published in College Station, Texas, daily except Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and holiday periods. September through May, and once a week during summer school.

Mail subscriptions are \$5.00 per semester, \$9.50 per school year; \$10.50 per full year. All subscriptions subject to 5% sales tax. Advertising rate furnished on request. Address: The Battalion, Room 217, Services Building, College Station, Texas 77843.

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for reproduction of all news dispatched credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of reproduction of all other matter herein are also reserved. Copyright © 1975, The Battalion. Second-Class postage paid at College Station, Texas.

### MEMBER

The Associated Press, Texas Press Association  
Editor: James Breedlove  
Assistant Editor: Roxie Hearn  
Production Manager: T. C. Gallucci  
City Editor: Steve Gray  
Campus Editor: Sandy Russo  
Sports Editor: Paul McGrath  
Photography Director: Jack Holm

**COURTÉA HAIR DESIGNERS**  
A FULL SERVICE SHOP FOR THE DISCRIMINATING MAN  
RADIAL CUTS

SEBRING CERTIFIED  
We use & recommend all Sebring products.

**DORTHY DUNN**  
Owner

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT  
**823-7217**

508 OLD COLLEGE RD. - NEXT TO TRIANGLE BOWLING - BRYAN