

Muster: Living tradition

By MARY ALICE WOODHAMS

Tomorrow at 5:30 p.m., students will gather here at G. Rollie White Coliseum in the annual tradition of Muster, to honor Aggies who have died during the past year. Muster is held on San Jacinto Day anywhere in the world where two or more Aggies meet to remember those who have passed away. This year, more than 350 gatherings will occur from Indonesia to Germany, but the largest Muster is always held at A&M.

Charles G. Scruggs, vice-president and editorial director of Progressive Farmer Magazine and an A&M graduate, will be the main speaker at the ceremonies.

Auld Lang Syne, sung by the Singing Cadets, a 21-gun salute fired by the Ross Volunteers, the "roll call for the absent" and Silver Taps characterize the campus Muster. When the names of the honored dead are called from the Muster Roll, a friend of the deceased answers "Here". This year's campus Muster honors 43 students, former students and professors of A&M, said Muster chairman Fred McClure.

Several speakers from the campus will visit cities throughout Texas for the Centennial Muster, including Dr. Jack K. Williams, Drs. Tom and Carolyn Adair, Col. Thomas Parsons, Congressman Olin E. Teague, Dr. John Koldus, and Roger Miller. Muster was first recalled in 1883, when Aggies met on June 26 to "live over again our college days, the victories and defeats won and lost upon drill ground and classroom. Let every alumni answer at roll call," wrote the former students, then known as ex-cadets. These early meetings were parties and banquets relating to the commencement activities.

By the late 1890's, the Corps made annual visits to the San Jacinto battlefield near Houston to participate in sham battles and maneuvers, followed by a parade on Houston's Main Street.

In the early 1900s, a Track and Field Day, a series of competitive athletic events similar to intramurals, was held every April 21. When the events were called off in 1903, a "determined student body, 300 strong, marched in orderly military precision to the home of President Davis F. Houston to insist upon some observance of the anniversary of the battle that won Texas' Independence." April 21 marks the day Sam Houston's small band of volunteers defeated Santa Anna's troops, freeing Texas from Mexican rule in 1836.

During World War I, groups of Aggies met in foxholes all over Europe, and at Army posts in America but no musters were held on campus.

In 1923, the former students provided Aggies with an opportunity to "meet old

friends again and live over the old days at College Station" by planning a state and nationwide rally of former students. WTAW radio station broadcast a program consisting of a medley of A&M songs, greetings from the Brazos Country A&M Club, words from athletic coach D.X. Bible, and Aggie yells by the cadets.

"If there is an A&M man in one hundred miles of you, you are expected to get together, eat a little, and live over the days you spent at the A&M College of Texas," urged the March, 1923 Texas Aggie.

By 1929 meetings had become international, and the roll call of the absent members came into practice.

In 1942, A&M Muster gained national recognition when it was held at Corregidor Island in the Philippines. Fifteen days before the fall of the island, 25 men, led by General George Moore, 08, "mustered in the dim-recesses of the Rock and answered 'here' for their dead classmates."

Wartime brought Aggies together in almost every area of the world, and two men were reported to have held Muster in a submarine.

In 1943, E.E. McQuillen, then director of the Association of Former Students, sent out "muster packets" to Aggies throughout the country. Filled with information on A&M heritage and the tradition of Muster,

these packets also listed the names of the area's deceased Aggies.

The first campus Muster was held in 1946 at Kyle Field — the "Homecoming Muster" for A&M veterans at which General Eisenhower spoke.

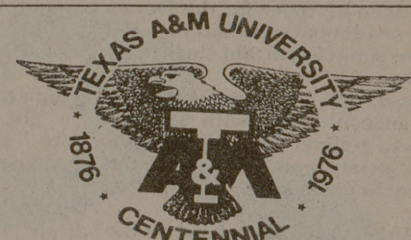
Campus Muster was held on the steps of the MSC, in Kyle Field, on the Administration lawn, and more recently in G. Rollie White. Occasionally, as in 1962, campus Muster was eliminated due to Easter holidays, but the tradition has endured since 1946.

This year's Muster was originally planned for the Administration lawn, but due to bad weather it will be held in the Coliseum.



Dressed in style

The Corps of Cadets were fortunate to have lovely ladies pin flowers upon their uniforms. The flower pinning ceremony was the first event of Sunday's activities. (See related stories, more photos, Page 4.)



The Battalion

Vol. 68 No. 109

College Station, Texas

Tuesday, April 20, 1976

Nelson B. Hunt pleads no contest

Associated Press

DALLAS — Federal charges of obstruction of justice were dismissed Monday against four men, including two sons of the late Dallas oil billionaire H. L. Hunt. In exchange, three of the men pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor action.

The plea bargain was worked out between defense attorneys and prosecutors in the cases of Nelson Bunker Hunt, W. Herbert Hunt and prominent Dallas lawyer Charles Tessler and B. H. Timmins.

In exchange for dismissal of the obstruction of justice charges, Nelson Bunker Hunt, Tessler and Timmins pleaded no contest to a federal information accusing them of what amounted to misdemeanor contempt of court in their dealings with a federal grand jury.

W. Herbert Hunt was cleared of all charges in the bargaining.

Index

Parents' Day at A&M was also Awards Day at the University. Stories, Photos Page 4.

Texas A&M men finished second in the Baylor track meet despite four firsts. Page 8.

Three basketball players share 'Most Valuable Player' award. Page 9.

Rock-music lovers got their money's worth, says Paul Mueller in his review. Page 5.

Weather

Fair and mild today with a high in the upper 70s. Low tonight in the mid-50s. Continued fair and mild tomorrow with a high in the upper 70s. No rain is predicted. Rainfall in the last 24 hours in the College Station area measured .76 inches.

Eighteen tornadoes were sighted across the state last night and this morning. One injured 11 persons and destroyed three homes outside Brownwood.

Former lover blamed

Hearst's credibility challenged

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — A prosecutor, challenging Patricia Hearst's credibility as an informer, says the secret bank robbery story she told authorities was motivated by loyalty to her underground lover, Steven Soliah.

Asst. U.S. Atty. Richard Nichols, opposing Soliah's request to open Miss Hearst's

revelations to public view, indicated Monday that authorities believed the convict-heiress has lied about the robbery.

Soliah is the only person charged in the April 21, 1975, robbery of a Crocker National Bank branch in suburban Carmichael in which a woman customer was slain by a shotgun blast.

"There is rational reason for disbelieving

a woman who wants to look out for her boyfriend, and that's what it comes down to," said Nichols.

Miss Hearst's truthfulness is at the center of a dispute in which a major decision was due today. U.S. District Court Judge Philip Wilkins said he would decide whether to hold a full-fledged hearing demanded by Soliah's defense.

The hearing, eliciting testimony from prosecutors and FBI agents, would investigate details Miss Hearst confided about the Carmichael robbery. The government argued that the story is irrelevant because it probably is not true.

"There is certainly an element of self-servingness and protectiveness to one's friend in any statement Miss Hearst might have made," Nichols said.

Soliah's attorney, Sheldon Otis, said he could prove at a hearing that prosecutors ignored Miss Hearst's scenario of the bank

robbery because it differed with the recollections of two eyewitnesses.

"Miss Hearst told them that Steven Soliah was not in the bank when it was robbed," Otis declared. The two eyewitnesses have placed the 27-year-old house painter inside the bank.

In the first open court discussion of Miss Hearst's secret talks with prosecutors, Otis said he knew that U.S. Atty. Dwayne Keyes and others had listened to Miss Hearst in meetings at the San Francisco federal building between March 4 and April 12, during and after her own bank robbery trial. She was convicted March 20 and is under temporary sentence awaiting 90 days of psychological tests.

The attorney made no mention of summoning Miss Hearst. She is confined to a Redwood City hospital for treatment of a collapsed lung.

Mexico to investigate Howard Hughes' aide

Associated Press

ACAPULCO, Mexico — The Mexican attorney general's office has appealed to a high court the case of Clarence Albert Waldron, a private secretary of Howard Hughes accused of forging Hughes' signature on his Mexican tourist card.

Waldron, 41, Sun Valley, Calif., was cleared of the charge last Tuesday by Federal District Court Judge Antonio Uribe, who ruled there was insufficient evidence to support the accusation. Waldron left for the United States shortly after he was released from the Acapulco jail.

Federal prosecutor Manuel Rodriguez Delgado, in charge of the attorney general's judicial police office here, said the case had been appealed.

Rodriguez Delgado also said the judicial police investigation of Waldron and of Hughes' stay in Acapulco would be reopened to determine whether to bring

other charges against Hughes' aides, possibly involving smuggling and bribery.

"We have a storage room of foreign goods which were illegally introduced into the country by this group," Rodriguez Delgado said.

He added that among the goods seized by police from the 20th floor of the Acapulco Princess Hotel where Hughes lived from Feb. 11 to April 5 are "three or four filing cabinets and a desk."

"I don't know if there are documents inside them," Rodriguez Delgado said. "They are locked, and we have sealed them. We don't intend to open them until they are returned."

Commenting on speculation in the local press that Hughes' missing will could be inside, Rodriguez Delgado said, "I think it is infantile to believe the will of Mr. Hughes would be found inside. No one has claimed the goods up to now."

Two-car, head-on collision kills parents, sister survives

The parents of two Texas A&M students were killed in a two-car, head-on collision Sunday evening on HWY 21, approximately two miles west of Bryan. Harold R. McGilvray, 65, of 6815 N. Vandiver, San Antonio and his wife, Neta, were returning home with their daughter, Brenda Kay, 13, after having spent Parents Day at A&M.

This morning Brenda McGilvray was listed in satisfactory condition, and is in intensive care in St. Joseph Hospital with a broken leg and arm.

James Francis Hickman of Bishop, Texas, the driver of the other car, was transferred from St. Joseph Hospital to Methodist Hospital in Houston Monday

morning and was reported in fair condition this morning. He has a broken leg and possible head injuries and internal bleeding, authorities said.

Hickman, a mechanical engineering major, apparently lost control of his car at approximately 5:50 p.m. on wet pavement as he attempted to pass some construction work on HWY 21. He swerved across the median, hitting the McGilvray car in the westbound lane.

McGilvray has two sons enrolled at A&M. Lester Keith McGilvray is a sophomore psychology student and Richard H. McGilvray is a senior in environmental design.

Ford trails Reagan in delegate battle

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Ford is trailing Ronald Reagan in their contest for Texas' delegates to the Republican National Convention, former Texas Gov. John Connally says.

Listings ready

Fall pre-registration schedules are now available in the registrar's office in the Coke building. Pre-registration for the fall semester 1976, will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, April 26 and end at 5:00 p.m. April 30.

Only students that are currently enrolled for the present spring semester will be allowed to pre-register during this time.

Students can secure their card packets at the office of their department head. Identification cards will be required for students to receive their card packets.

Each student (undergraduate or graduate) will report to the head of his major department to begin pre-registration. Students will also be able to request a specific instructor or time preference for each course requested.

No fees for the fall semester will be collected during pre-registration. A fee statement will be mailed to the student's permanent mailing address by the Fiscal Department on or about July 15.

But Connally told reporters at a GOP fund-raiser in Austin last night that the vote could swing either way in the closing days before Texas' May 1 primary.

If 10 per cent of Texas' Republicans change their minds in the last three days, it could alter the outcome, Connally predicted. He also promised to tell Texans before May 1 why he has remained neutral. His influence, Connally said, has been grossly exaggerated.

Local and state GOP officials honored Connally at a \$50-a-plate dinner. The former Democrat told the crowd of 500 that he felt like former President Nixon must have felt when he got off the plane recently in Peking — "It's nice to be back among friends."

President Ford told a group of newspaper editors in the White House yesterday that Reagan was absolutely irresponsible for advocating an end to the current Panama Canal negotiations.

There was no immediate response from Reagan, who did not campaign Monday. Reagan, who has been hammering away against Ford's defense policies, has charged that the negotiations will lead to a surrender of America's control over the Canal Zone.

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Harry Jackson of Washington told suppor-

(See Ford, Page 5.)

Panel suggests frat house ordinance

By JIM CRAWLEY

An ordinance requiring social fraternities and sororities to get special permission from College Station before building fraternity houses was recommended by the College Station Planning and Zoning Commission last night.

The recommended ordinance will be submitted to the City Council at this Thursday night's meeting.

Under the proposed ordinance, each fraternity or sorority house would have to be located in a certain zone classification

and would be required to have a "conditional permit." Before granting the permit, the city would hold a public hearing.

The present zoning ordinance allows the houses in three types of zoning areas: R-3, R-6 and R-7. The R-3, 6 and 7 zoning areas are different densities of apartments, ranging from high to low density.

The recommended change allows the houses only in the C-1, R-3 and R-6 zoning areas.

The seven-member panel was told by Al Mayo, city planner, that several courts

RHA casino turns students into gamblers

By DEBBY KRENEK

What does it feel like to be a millionaire?

If you went to the fourth annual Residence Hall Association's Casino Friday night, chances are you found out—for a little while anyway.

For four hours, the MSC ballroom was transformed into a miniature Las Vegas, complete with roulette wheels, crap tables, blackjack, chuck-a-luck and a wheel of fortune. A chuck-a-luck is a wire cage for rolling dice.

Each player's \$2 was immediately transformed into \$2,000 in play-money upon entering Casino, and customers were allowed three hours

(See Millions, Page 5.)



Millions of dollars were won and lost Friday night at the Memorial Student Center and no one seemed upset. RHA's Casino gave students a chance to try their luck at blackjack, craps, roulette and other games.

Staff photos by Jim Hendrickson

