

One-time 'high priest' of LSD to appeal Texas sentence

LAREDO — U.S. District Court Judge Robert O'Connor said Tuesday he has set a \$5,000 personal recognizance appeal bond for Timothy Leary, 55, currently serving a 10-year sentence in a California prison.

Earlier in the day the U.S. Parole board had announced that Leary would be granted parole effective June 7. Leary was convicted in Texas in 1970 of transporting and facilitating the transportation of less than a half-ounce of marijuana which he had been illegally imported.

The board gave no reason for the decision.

Judge O'Connor said the Justice Department had stated it had no objection to the appeal bond. He said he set the bond Monday and mailed the documents to California.

Leary's attorneys had asked for the bond to free their client while he appeals the Texas sentence to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

Leary, once known as the "high priest" of LSD, was arrested in Laredo in 1966 and subsequently convicted on two counts of transporting marijuana and failing to pay a tax on it.

Merrill wants individual journalism

By SUSAN BROWN

Individuality is the most important trait of a journalist, according to Texas A&M Centennial professor John C. Merrill.

Merrill, journalism professor at the University of Missouri, spoke to A&M journalism classes during his visit last week. He was scheduled to speak to the philosophy club last Tuesday night, but ended up at T.J.'s when no members came. Merrill said, "There is a definite decline of interest in philosophy in the nation today."

Merrill told a reporting class that

journalists should avoid conformity at all costs. He emphasized this belief throughout his informal speech with his witty and surprising comments.

Merrill discussed five myths that may concern a journalist and infringe on his individual freedom.

Many journalists attempt to justify their work with the people's right-to-know concept, Merrill said. Although people may have a curiosity or a need to know, the people's right concept is contradictory to the idea of a free press. The journalist has the right to print or not print what he wants, he said.

The press is not the watchdog of the government, Merrill said.

"If this is true, then who owns the watchdog and what is it protecting?" he asked.

The concept of a watchdog does not make sense when applied to journalism, because the ownership of the press cannot be established, he said.

The third myth discussed by Merrill is the idea that the press and government have an adversary relationship. People rarely want the situation to be reversed, where the government fights back, Merrill said. However, there must be a double antagonism in an adversary relationship.

"It takes two to adversary," he said.

The public may feel that they have the right of access to the media. Merrill said this idea is also contradictory to the idea of a free press. The editor makes the decisions about his publication.

"If the editor cannot make the decision as to what he will or will not print, the decisions are taken out of

his hands and given to the courts," Merrill said.

Merrill said there is no such thing as objectivity in reporting.

"Reporting is always done by human beings. This human being is bound to make subjective judgments as to what stories to report and how he will report them," he said.

Merrill said a journalist may lose some of his freedom because of publishers and editors.

"A reporter is expected to fit into the corporate structure of a newspaper. A journalist's freedom is infringed upon more by his own institution rather than the government," Merrill said.

In a university situation, however, a person should be encouraged to experiment and to use his imagination and creativity, he said.

Merrill has recently completed a book, "Existential Journalism", which should be published by December. The term "existential journalism" refers to a new commitment to expanding the freedom of a journalist.

"With all the technological advances in newspaper production, loses the personal touch of editing and publishing," Merrill said.

A former associate professor of Texas A&M (1962-64), Merrill, columnist for The Eagle, Merrill said The Eagle is typical of small newspapers, not particularly good and not extremely bad.

"There are probably worse papers than The Eagle, but don't let where," he said.

Merrill concluded that the goal of a journalist in a free society is to be recognized by the individual. The press is given freedom, some power in the system will be responsible for reporting the facts and often not. The free society must be able to accept the responsible and respectable people, Merrill said.

"We must be willing to accept consequences (of living in a free society)," he said.

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The Biomedical Science majors must have course request forms for the Fall Semester 1976 approved by faculty advisors for use at preregistration (April 26-30, 1976). The Fall semester schedule of classes will be available by April 19. Contact your faculty advisor as soon as possible after April 18 and deliver your approved course request form to Room 332, Veterinary Medical Administration Bldg. (845-4941) prior to April 3. Return to the Biomedical Science office to complete preregistration during preregistration week.

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Name: French, David Matthew
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Dissertation: ACCIDENT FREQUENCY FORECAST FOR COMMERCIAL BARGE OPERATIONS ON THE WEST GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY
Date: April 23, 1976 at 1:30 p.m.
Place: Room 337-E in Zachry
George W. Kinze, Dean of the Graduate College

THE GRADUATE COLLEGE
Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree
Name: Aranda-Herrera, Enrique
Degree: Ph.D. in Entomology
Dissertation: COMPARATIVE STUDY OF METABOLIZING ENZYMES IN LARVAE AND ADULTS OF THE BOLLWORM, HELIOTHIS ZEA BODDIE, AND THE TOBACCO BOLLWORM, HELIOTHIS VIRESCENS (F.)
Date: April 28, 1976 at 9:00 a.m.
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Schwennsen named leader of Aggie band

Bill Schwennsen of Fort Worth and Jim Ramsey of Mexia and Jim Cummings of Houston last week were named 1976-77 drum majors for the Texas Aggie Band.

Schwennsen is head drum major. Ramsey and Cummings will be majors of the Artillery and Infantry Bands, respectively.

The trio will be responsible for the movement of the 300-member band in football halftime drills, pregame march-ins, reviews and parades.

They succeed Mic Combs of Brazoria, Lacy Gilliam of Houston and Clifford Simmang of Bryan.

Aggie Band drum majors are selected each spring from junior cadets through band hall and orchestra by a committee composed of band director Maj. Joe Haney, Lt. Joe McMullen, associate drum and band members. They are given final approval by University President Jack K. Williams.

As head drum major, Schwennsen will be a cadet lieutenant colonel part of the Aggie Band staff, head next year by Band Commander Robert Spiller of Eden. Ramsey and Cummings will wear the rank of cadet majors and serve on the Artillery and Infantry Band battalions, respectively.

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