

Announcer's voice in Aggie tradition

By DAVID BOGGAN

Spring and the Texas A&M football team won't take the field until September. But when Aggie fans will be greeted by the familiar words from the Kyle Field: "Good afternoon football fans. Welcome to Kyle Field, home of the fighting Aggies."

Fans, however, know who is behind the unique voice. C. K. Esten, 69-year-old father and retired English professor, a Rhode Island native and Aggie graduate, taught English at A&M from 1946 until his recent retirement.

Esten has been announcing Aggie games since 1950, longer than any announcer in the South-West Conference. "I'm the dean of announcers of the Southwest Conference," he says.

A distinct, New England voice echoes across Kyle Field on Saturdays. Esten has brought Esten compliments. "Thank you, C. K. Esten, I'm glad you enjoy your unique voice as an announcer."

Esten regards his unique voice as an important part of his job. "I do many public speakers get nervous and it irritates me to no end," he says. "I have



Photo by Molly McMillan

taught speech for a good many years and that's one of the basic principles: be distinct, be brief, shut up and sit down."

Esten is dedicated to impartiality in the ball games he announces. "I don't take sides during a ball game," he says. "You can't tell from my voice whether I'm rooting for one side or the other."

However, he admits, "I'm loyal to this institution (A&M). I want to see these guys win. I'll support this ball club whether they win or whether they lose."

John Adams, spotter for Aggie football games, says of Esten, "He's a real pro. He knows his business." In his three years as spotter, only once, on a Bubba Bean run, has Adams seen Esten get excited enough to forget he was the announcer and jump out of his seat.

With Esten's sense of humor there is never a dull moment up there, Adams says. He says Esten kept an ABC announcer laughing the entire time during one of the televised A&M games.

Showing his sense of humor, Esten tells how he would intentionally mispronounce a player's name during roll call in his class to tease the player. During games, though, he made sure he pronounced the player's name correctly.

"You should pronounce a guy's

name the way he wants it pronounced," Esten says.

Esten and Lugene, his wife of 41 years, live in College Station and attend the First Baptist Church in Bryan. They have two daughters and four grandchildren. Getting married was "the smartest thing I ever did," Esten says. "She's the finest woman God ever made."

In the off season, Esten enjoys gardening, walking and traveling. He and his wife toured Western Europe two years ago. They plan a trip to the Holy Land this summer.

Despite these activities, Esten

On first try

New playwright is born

By SUE MUTZEL

Years have been spent writing plays in the past. Beau Sharbrough did it in a matter of hours.

"I got awfully excited," he said, adjusting his Lone Star cap. "I wrote it in one night."

Sharbrough, a senior at Texas A&M, sipped his beer in a local bar and talked about his new career as a playwright.

"Here Comes the Rain", a musical, is the first play he has written.

"It didn't form all at once," he said. "Several of the songs were written before the play was written."

Sharbrough didn't write the play for audience appeal. He wrote it because he wanted to see it.

"I'm not as concerned with the popular reception of the show as I am with seeing it myself," he said.

The Aggie Players production of "Here Comes the Rain" runs from March 31 to April 2 in the Rudder Forum.

"Two nights before it, I'm going to sit in the second row and just watch," he said. "After that we're

just going to go through the steps."

Being director of the play as well as playwright, Sharbrough is also in charge of sending the actors "through the steps".

"All the theater is storytelling," he said. "The director just externalizes the actors. It's my job to see that the story gets externalized in full."

Working with about 70 people on a show can be frustrating at times.

"I'll tell those people 'Don't tell me how hard it is—tell me how well you can do it,'" Sharbrough said. "I can't stand the word can't."

He said the production is going better than he had imagined possible.

A lot of the actors are rookies so they get real excited about it, he said. The veterans just like the show.

"Actors are like trained athletes," according to Sharbrough. They condition themselves, train and do the job, he said.

"Our department is as good at what it does as George Woodard

and Steve Jones are at what they do," he said.

Sharbrough said he thinks more people should go to theater productions.

"I think theater should get some of people's beer money," he said.

You shouldn't have to do vaudeville or Laurel and Hardy to attract people, according to Sharbrough. Shakespeare is the greatest example of that, he added.

There may not be any Laurel and Hardy in Sharbrough's play, but there is quite a bit of obscenity, he admitted.

"I only use it (cussing) to show intensity," he said. "My dad (a Baptist preacher) will probably walk out."

But people can come and learn something, be entertained and see some pretty girls, he said.

"In my own opinion, this is the biggest thing, excluding the Bicentennial, in ten years," said Sharbrough.

"If that's not worth a six-pack," he said, "I'll eat the program."

Champion A&M stud has prized UT name

BY JEANNE GRAHAM

It's the breeding season for livestock at Texas A&M University, and at the horse center on Jersey Street, "Eyes of Texas" are literally showing up in herds.

Eyes of Texas is the center's principle stallion, whose origin, embarrassingly enough, is obvious. "Eyes" was donated to A&M in 1969 by Louis Pearce Jr., a graduate of— you guessed it — The University of Texas.

Eyes of Texas, however, is no ordinary, give-away type horse. He is a son of Three Bars and a grandson of King, two of the most sought-after bloodlines in the quarter horse business. He is an American Quarter Horse Association Champion — a very high honor in the horse world. With his coal-black coat and beautiful conformation, he is an impressive animal.

"Of the five stallions standing at stud at the horse center, 'Eyes' is our most valuable," said Dr. Gary Potter, associate professor of Animal Science in charge of horses. About six of A&M's mares are bred to Eyes of Texas each year, along with eight to ten outside mares. In addition to breeding, he is used for class demonstrations and clinics.

kept him until he was seven years old. He had "Eyes" on the track long enough to get a register of merit, then he campaigned him in quarter horse shows, earning enough points in halter, reining, and cutting to get the AQHA Championship. Pearce then used him for his own breeding purposes. Eyes of Texas stood at stud for several years at a ranch in Utopia, Texas.

Louis Pearce, himself, is quite well-known in the horse and livestock business. He is on the board of Alamo Quarter Horse Breeder's Assn. and was previously president of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. However, having graduated from University of Texas, his business profession is not livestock, but rather industrial engines. He is a Longhorn to the core, and even drives an orange automobile.

So why would Louis Pearce donate this very valuable animal to Texas A&M? Without a livestock program at The University of Texas, it was just logical, said Pearce. The gift, though, was given with one stipulation. "This was my one chance to add a little class to that school on the Brazos," Pearce explained.

"And he has a wonderful disposition," Dr. Potter continued. "A child could handle him — even during the breeding season." Best yet, Eyes of Texas gives his personality and style to his offspring. "Two of the best fillies at the center are out of him," said Dr. Potter.

Louis Pearce bought Eyes of Texas when he was a yearling, and

used to play. Several of the songs are in this vein: "I'd be lost Without You" and "Panhandle Memory" are two of the best. Some south-of-the-border influence is apparent in a lively tribute called "Tequila" and in "Venezuela!"

There are several other songs that I won't go into here, but it's all good quality stuff and should bring some favorable attention to the band.

Denim record review First album good

BY PAUL MUELLER

Denim has been playing in Texas, and especially in Austin, for several years, but did not record an album until this year. I'll be honest — I didn't expect as much out of this album as I ended up getting. I was prepared for some fairly gutless country-style pop, but what I found instead was some fine writing and high-quality playing, things that aren't always present on a band's first album.

The band's leader is Bill Browder, who plays lead guitar and keyboards and sings most of the lead vocals. He also wrote most of the songs. The other musicians are David Moerbe, drums and vocals; Richard Mullen, guitar, pedal steel, and mandolin; Jerry Crow, bass; and Fred Krc, congas and percussion.

The basic sound of the album is soft country-rock, like the Eagles

used to play. Several of the songs are in this vein: "I'd be lost Without You" and "Panhandle Memory" are two of the best. Some south-of-the-border influence is apparent in a lively tribute called "Tequila" and in "Venezuela!"

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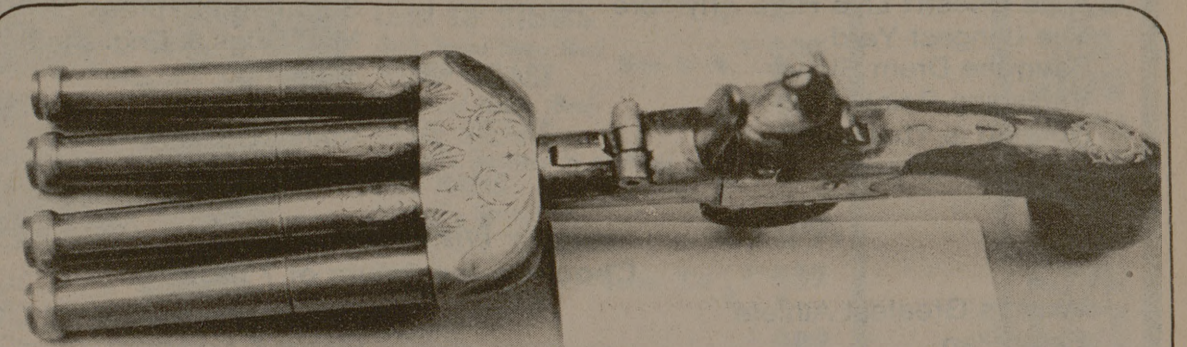


Photo by Molly McMillan

Some never fired

Rare gun display re-opens

By CHERIE HEDRICK

Through the fog of the river Seine he could see his adversary coming toward him. Although there would be man-to-man combat in the Paris underworld of 1789, one man had a better chance. His pin fire revolver also had a combination set of brass knuckles and knife.

This gun and hundreds of others can be seen on the third floor of the Memorial Student Center above the main desk.

After three years storage in a vault in Zachry Engineering Center, the Metzger-Sanders gun collection was reopened last autumn.

Reopening was made possible by James C. Stribling, a recreation and parks professor at Texas A&M. A student of firearms, he has drawn sketches of the guns to show their evolution.

The collection is worth \$1 mil-

lion, Stribling said. Some of the guns are very ornate, their barrels inlaid with ivory carved into hunting scenes.

Sizes range from a pistol having a 16-inch barrel to a handgun with no barrel at all.

The guns were made for a variety of reasons, Stribling said. For example, small guns weigh less and can be concealed or placed in a woman's purse easier.

Carl Metzger was a Texas dairy farmer and hunter who collected antique guns and delighted in showing them to his friends. Sam H. Sanders is a 1922 graduate of Texas A&M who donated his collection to the school in 1973.

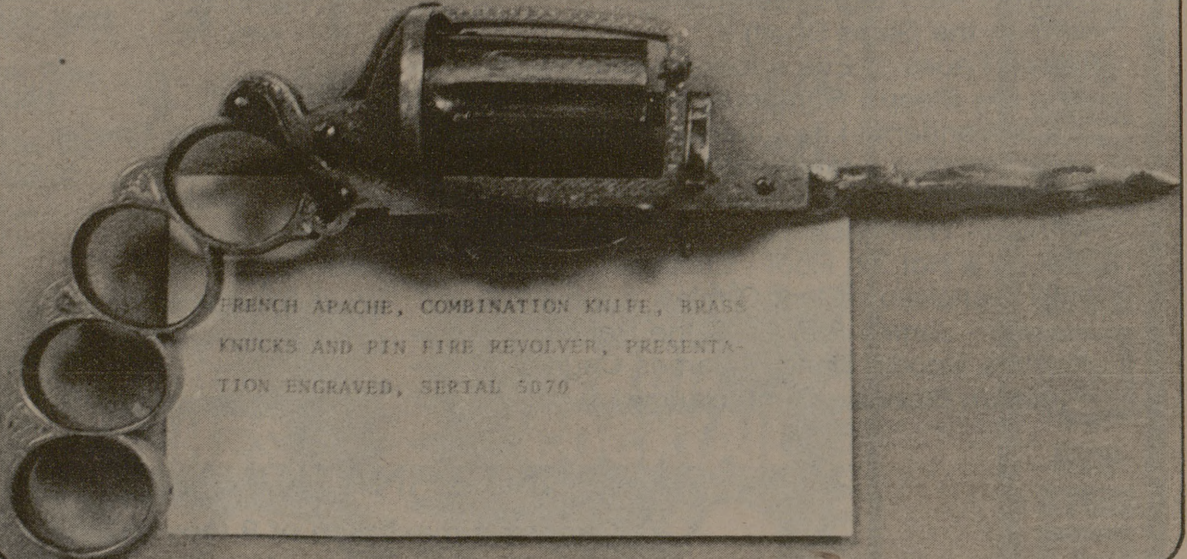
These guns are "not necessarily tools to perpetrate violence," Stribling said. Some are novelties, like the gun with a 18-inch long cutlass used primarily by sailors.

The oldest item in the collection is a Chinese hand cannon from the 14th century.

Also included are some guns made by Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton gin. The guns he manufactured have interchangeable parts.

The Sanders Collection includes the "most outstanding collection of Colts today," Stribling said. It contains 88 out of 92 commemorative issues. These mint condition pieces have never been fired, cocked or snapped. A 30-pound Colt sniper's rifle was the first to have a scope on it.

A large amount of literature that came with the collection is located in the University library. The collection can be seen from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily in the Memorial Student Center.



FRENCH APACHE, COMBINATION KNIFE, BRASS KNUCKLES AND PIN FIRE REVOLVER, PRESENTATION ENGRAVED, SERIAL 5070

Corps quiz file handy, available to everyone

BY MANDY DEVLIN

Where do you turn in the middle of the night before the big test for unanswered questions? Could run down the hall to see the instructor? Would you remember what the instructor said, or you could check out the Corps Quiz File (if you're lucky to have one), or you could go to the library and find every other copy of your class checking to see if the instructor is on file in the room. As you begin to do the Corps Quiz File pops into your mind.

Corps Quiz File isn't just for the Corps members; it is available to anyone who wants to use it.

The Corps Quiz File has gotten very popular this year, commented Corps Scholastic Officer Mike Cox. "We've had a ream of paper a day, and there is always a line on duty there to assist in finding quizzes or making them on the machine."

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He also asked that people who have old tests they would like to donate contact him or Humphrey.

KANM album playlist

- KANM ALBUM PLAYLIST HITS
- Michael Tucker Band Carolina Dreams
 - Mac Ramours
 - Jefferson Airplane
 - Buffett Changes in Latitudes, Changes initudes
 - Miller Band Fly Like an Eagle
 - Hotel California
 - The Silver Bullet Band Night
- NEW ALBUMS
- Doug Kershaw Flip, Flop and Fly
 - John Handy Carnival
 - Eric Kloss and Barry Miles Together
 - Elliott Randall Elliott Randall's New York
 - Bonnie Koloc At Her Best
 - Keith Jarrett Shades
 - Neil Diamond Love at the Greek
 - Flora Punam Nothing Will Be As It Was
 - Tomorrow
 - Tangerine Dream Stratosfear
 - Rich Mountain Tower Can't You Feel It?
 - Delbert McClinton Love Rustler
 - Sid Linard Juke Box Angel
 - Jelly A True Story
 - Orbie Green The Fox
 - Moe Bandy I'm Sorry for you, my friend
- FADERS
- Rod Stewart A Night on the Town
 - Starcastle Fountains of Light
 - Gary Wright The Light of Smiles
 - Manfred Mann's Earth Band The Roaring Silence
 - Boston Boston
 - Rufus Ask Rufus
 - Led Zeppelin The Song Remains the Same
 - George Harrison Thirty-three and a Third
 - Linda Ronstadt Greatest Hits

Student crafts Indian clothing

hunt, pursue, trap, or poison bald eagles and golden eagles. Furthermore, it is unlawful to possess any part of an eagle, its nest, or its eggs.

Helton, a member of the Texas Indian Hobbyist Association (TIHA), a recognized nationwide society for Indians and non-Indians, makes authentic looking Indian costumes and does bead and ribbon work. The costumes, bead and ribbon work resemble those worn by TIHA members during annual Indian dances held throughout the United States.

Helton started his hobby about five years ago and since then has gotten "fairly good at it." At least good enough to sell some of his beadwork.

Questioned about the biggest problem Indian hobbyists face Helton said, "The most important material we need (eagle feathers) is illegal to have."

Helton explained Indians highly admired the eagle because it is a wild bird, warlike and not a scavenger.

As a result, eagle feathers are one of the Indian's instruments of worship and meditation, a symbol for their reverence for life, and frequently found on their costumes.

Section 668-668d of the conservation law protecting eagles says, "...It is unlawful to kill, shoot at,

thin thread to work his beads into intricate and original designs.

Besides using his imagination for bead and ribbon work designs, Helton uses authentic Sioux or Woodland type patterns.

Each tribal group uses different color combinations or varying repetitive patterns. For example, the Sioux use their lucky numbers four and seven in complicated geometric designs.

Because beadwork is so time consuming and tedious, it often takes Helton about two months to finish one item.

Asked why people go into this hobby Helton responded, "Not very many people are in this to make money, most are in it because they enjoy it."

"My materials cost me virtually nothing and I figure my labor as roughly sixty cents an hour," commented Helton.

Helton is currently working on one of the "harder things to do." A beautiful piece of hand-sewn ribbonwork on bright red taffeta. The finished set with bound edges sells for \$90 or more.

Asked for his opinion of America's treatment toward the Indians Helton remarked, "We shafted the Indians pretty good by not making it any easier for them to adjust, but

the Indians live the way they want to now."

"The level of life on Indian Reservations is kind of low, but there are a lot of educational things around if they have the desire to better themselves," said Helton.

Helton noted that Indians prefer to be called Native Americans rather than Indians because they didn't come from India, they came from America and are proud of it.

Helton said, "Most older Indians are very proud of being World War II veterans and of having won a purple heart."

Asked if he was an admirer of Michael Murphey and the work the singer tries to accomplish through his music Helton said, "I like the stuff Michael Murphey has tried to do. He's more interested in the present Indians' problems. He's interested in their traditions, what's happening to them now and what will happen to them in the future."

During Christmas and summer break, Helton works at "Kiva", an Indian hobbyist store in Pasadena, his hometown. He does a lot of costume work for the store and helps other hobbyists make contacts for different goods and material.

After graduating from A&M, Helton would like to go back to Pasadena and teach Wildlife and Fisheries to high school students.