

The Battalion

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Miller inaugurated; strategy revealed

By LIZ NEULIN
Battalion Staff

President Jarvis Ernest Miller mapped out his strategy for steering Texas A&M University and stated his determination to look out for the university's best interests, even if it means opposing President Jimmy Carter.

Miller spoke at his inauguration as the 18th president of Texas A&M University Tuesday morning in G. Rollie White Coliseum. Representatives of the university, state, nation and world congratulated Miller and wished for his success.

Miller and his wife, Mrs. H. Wells, chairman of Texas A&M Board of Regents, congratulated Miller with the full authority of president and symbolized this action by placing a gold medallion around Miller's neck.

Miller received a standing ovation from approximately 8500 people in the coliseum. In his 25-minute inaugural address, Miller pledged "diligence and dedication to serving national goals" and promised "we will not be silent when we believe we are

Miller directed some of his remarks to President Carter and Texas A&M's consistent stand on energy as an example of the university's determination.

"In this sense, we will be your loyal opposition, seeking the best well-being of our great nation and Texas," Miller said. "State and federal policy-makers have weakened strong institutions and fostered the development of wasteful competition, Miller said, because they "often do not recognize the unique abilities" of land grant institutions. "So," Miller said, "a reassessment of the role of the land-grant institutions is in order." He said these colleges must lead in seeking new ways to communicate effectively, operate efficiently and cooperate more actively with other institutions of higher learning.

Miller said accountability and responsibility are the new challenges facing the faculty and university. He said higher education was given high priority in state budgets in the past and that support has recently been extensive.

With the pressure of inflation and the growing demand for government services, higher education... is facing closer

scrutiny," he said. "Public demands for accountability and responsibility can best be met with innovative, responsive programs to insure that wise use is made of all resources and that people are served effectively, responsibly and with concern." Demands for accountability must not be allowed to disrupt the system of study which, he said, has characterized great scholarly institutions and provided new ideas.

Miller said one of the major problems at A&M is the "absence of enough unstructured activity to facilitate generating new ideas." He said increased attention must be given to targeted basic research which is vital to achieving desired goals.

"This administration," Miller said, "will resist encroachment into its responsibilities from outside groups and from government, particularly the federal government.

"Punitive, restrictive measures from Washington, often out of phase with reality, in the long run do a disservice to intended beneficiaries and divert scarce resources from priority areas," he added.

"This administration will resist encroachment into its responsibilities from outside groups and from government, particularly the federal government. Punitive, restrictive measures from Washington, often out of phase from reality, in the long run do a disservice to intended beneficiaries and divert scarce resources from priority areas."

Miller said the installation of a new president spotlights the challenge to universities of how to reconcile tradition with innovation. Change, he said, is one of the principal factors affecting the university and has become impossible to anticipate. "Perhaps this lack of ability to predict the courses of the future is best illustrated in the case of the food and energy crises, where less than 10 years ago, a group of well-known scholars attempted to predict developments to the year 2000. It is interesting to note that no mention was made of either the food or energy problems," Miller said.

"The contemporary world is also characterized by all forms of violence, much senseless and pointless," he said. "This violence appears to have implications profound for the future of our society as we know it," Miller added.

"Emotion, rather than reason, tends to prevail," said Miller, in the areas of environmental quality, energy, economic policy and business ethics. Miller added another trend in society is toward conformity and security to avoid risk and uncertainty. He said A&M will not bow silently to this pressure.

"Our aim is responsive evolutionary change, both in terms of traditional programs as well as in new thrusts," Miller said. He said his emphasis will be on enriching and upgrading current programs but added there are "vast new areas to be developed." He cited new programs in graduate and adult education as examples.

"In traditional undergraduate programs, we will seek ways of enriching the educational experience of students through concern for development of the total person," Miller said.

"We will seek more effective working relationships with the private sector and with federal and state agencies," he said. "Exchanges of personnel and faculty will be sought to provide program enrichment, both in teaching and research," he added.

Miller said the university will seek to develop and expand research activity, particularly in business, management, education and health. He said human nutrition is a global problem and one that "cries for assistance" from A&M. He also predicted A&M "should be able to develop and implement significant new, innovative health care programs in this state."

"We pledge strong and aggressive programs aimed at development and wise use of our natural resources — soil, water, marine and energy. But above all, we will concentrate our efforts on contributing to the well-being of our most precious resource — our human resource."

Miller promised former students he would "emphasize those strong, positive traditions of A&M which have made A&M graduates unique and distinctive, while adapting to changing circumstances and needs."

Gov. Dolph Briscoe congratulated the regents on finding the

"very best person" for the presidency.

"In Dr. Miller, the regents have once again turned to a son of A&M and to one who has brought great distinction to himself and this university by the merit of his actions from the time he received his undergraduate degree here in 1950 to the present," the governor said.

"We pledge strong and aggressive programs aimed at development and wise use of our natural resources — soil, water, marine and energy. But above all, we will concentrate our efforts on contributing to the well-being of our most precious resource — our human resource."

Briscoe noted Tuesday was the 101st anniversary of the official opening of Texas A&M College, the state's first public institution of higher learning.

He quoted Gov. Richard Coke, who participated in that event: "In time these halls will become classic and strong men of Texas will, after we have been gathered to our fathers, meet in these halls and chant the praises of their alma mater."

As some in the crowd whooped, Briscoe concluded, "Over the years, the spirit of Aggieland has proved Gov. Coke's prediction to be most accurate."

Briscoe said, "One reason for A&M's greatness can be found in the bold and imaginative concept on which it is based — the concept of an institution devoted to teaching, research and extension service."

University of Texas President Lorene Rogers represented 225 colleges and universities in greeting President Miller. She said a college president is expected to be many things, including a "devotee of opera and football, equally." A sense of humor, Rogers said, is vital. She also passed along some advice given to her when she assumed presidency last year. "When the going gets tough, hang in there," she said.

A representative of the Coordinating Board of the Texas Col-

(See Miller, page 4)



Battalion photos by Jim Crawley

Clyde H. Wells, chairman of the Texas A&M Board of Regents, places a gold medallion around

the neck of Jarvis E. Miller, investing him with the full authority of the presidency.

Variety of people, clothing, food present at inaugural luncheon

By KIM TYSON
Battalion Staff

One thousand pounds of beef, 3,500 apples, 15 gallons of jalapeno peppers, 10 gallons of tea and 150 loaves of bread, served with 2,200 people equals the barbeque luncheon following the inauguration of Texas A&M University's 18th president Tuesday.

Aggies and non-Aggies from Corpus Christi to El Paso attended. Dignitaries from Gov. Dolph Briscoe to the State Comptroller Queen walked around the blue and orange tent drinking tea from paper cups. The tent was located at one end of the Texas A&M main drill field.

Attire ranged from suits and dresses to jeans and checkered shirts of the 3C (3rd Corps Cadets) workers.

At each end of the serving tables were power arrangements representing colleges of the university and made by students in a decorative class. A cow skull and barbed wire adorned the Colleges of Agriculture

and Veterinary Science floral display, while a calculator and T-square were used on the business and architecture centerpiece.

Gov. Briscoe shook hands and smiled with new President Jarvis Miller as a cool breeze whipped through the tent. Sitting at the main table were Miller, Briscoe, their wives, State Senator Bill Presnal, members of the Board of Regents and other honored guests.

Because the crowded tent had seating for only half the guests, people kept moving and talking.

"It's a great affair," Briscoe said. "There's been a tremendous turnout. It gives him (Miller) the support of ex-students and students of this great state."

Following the luncheon, the Corps of Cadets was reviewed by Miller, Briscoe and three Corps leaders, Col. James Woodall, Col. Kenneth Durham, and Col. M. H. Ivins.

As the Aggie Band played the "Ballad of the Green Berets," a Corps unit passed by and the seniors flipped their white-gloved

hands in salute. Col. Woodall briskly returned their salute.

Miller's wife and four daughters, wearing corsages, smiled from the red, white and blue draped grandstand.

Briscoe and Miller squinted in the bright sunshine to watch the Corps march past.

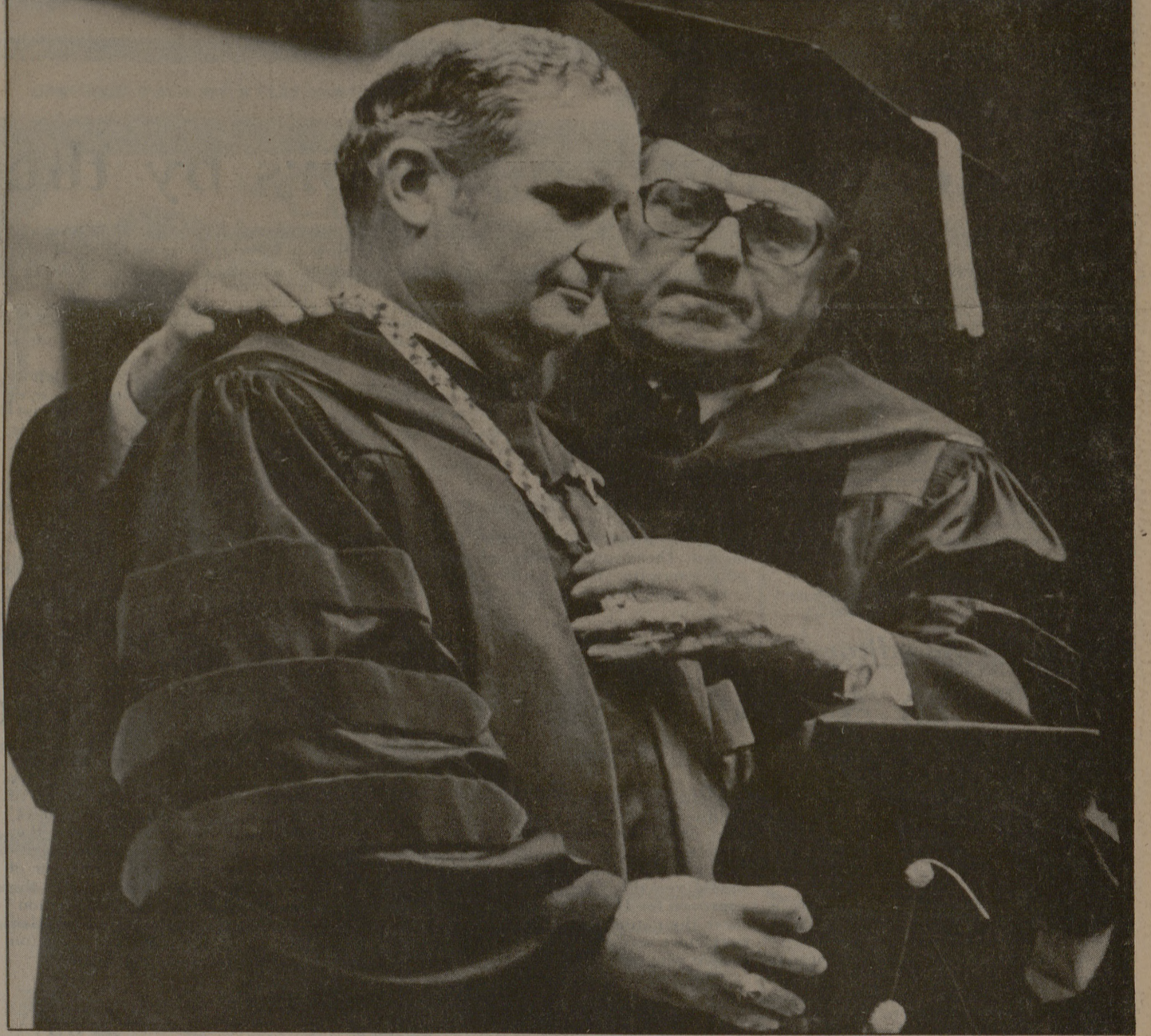
Students and visitors filled the grandstands, while others lined the field to poke out their cameras trying to get pictures of those on the reviewing stand.

Newsmen from Houston television channels 2 and 11 and a horde of cameramen from around the state recorded the event.

The review was typical: the Corps staff first in line, followed by the Aggie Band, then each company with the Parson's Mounted Cavalry finishing.

"It's been a great day," said Alma Miller. "We're so thrilled to have so many friends and relatives come."

We feel this support, we need the support.



Police agencies get grant

By GARY WELCH

Law enforcement agencies in the Brazos County area are benefiting from more than \$85,000 in grants approved last June by Gov. Dolph Briscoe. The grants, obtained through the Criminal Justice Division of the governor's office, satisfy two areas of need pointed out recently by the Brazos Valley Development Council.

Claude Stewart, director of criminal justice programs for the BVDC, said recently

the grants consist of \$6,655 for 1978 police officer training and \$79,244 for high speed telecommunications equipment for a seven county area including Leon, Grimes, Washington, Robertson, Madison, Burleson and Brazos counties.

Stewart said the officer training grant is used every year to finance officer training at the Law Enforcement and Security Training Division of the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service.

"The money is used for a 240-hour certification course for police officers," Stewart said. "State law requires that an officer complete this course within his first six months as a police officer."

Some 20- and 40-hour specialty courses are also financed by this grant, he added.

Stewart said the communications grant is being used to upgrade law enforcement teletype systems in the same seven county area.

The Brenham police department is receiving its first teletype, Stewart said, and the Hearne, Navasota, Bryan and College Station police departments are being upgraded from slower teletypes, as are the Leon, Washington, Burleson and Madison county sheriff's offices.

"The new teletypes will be high speed printers with cathode ray (television screen) displays," he said. "All messages sent or received are shown on the screen."

Each teletype is hooked into crime in-

formation computers in Austin and at the national level, Stewart said. They can be used to check criminal records and license plate numbers, to track stolen property and to exchange and disseminate information.

"For example, if a car looks suspicious, as if it might be stolen, an officer can call in a license plate check to the dispatcher, who can query Austin and have an answer in seconds," Stewart said.

Also, an officer can simply check a person's driver's license and by using the same system can have that person's complete driving record, including any warrants issued against him, he said.

Stewart said all the new teletype systems are now in operation except those in the Brenham and Navasota police departments and the Washington County sheriff's office. But those systems should be in operation by Thursday, he added.

The grants are made in areas identified by the BVDC's yearly law enforcement and criminal justice plan, Stewart said. The plan names programs to be carried out to improve law enforcement efficiency in this area.

Local governments then make applications to the Criminal Justice Division of the governor's office, Stewart added, which approves those grants deemed necessary to improve efficiency.

Confession 'forced' man says

By SCOTT PERKINS

The man accused of capital murder in the January shooting death of a Texas A&M University graduate student testified Tuesday that a College Station police detective forced him to sign a "confession" to the crime.

Walter Joe Coleman, the 18-year-old man facing trial on the murder charge, told the court in a pre-trial hearing that he was afraid of being beaten by the detective, Bobby Yeager, if he failed to make a statement admitting that he killed Larry Baugh.

Coleman said Yeager had previously be-

aten and threatened him during questioning involving a 1976 burglary.

"I knew what I could expect of him if I didn't talk to him," Coleman said.

Coleman said the alleged incident took place in an office with no one else present. He said Yeager lost his temper with him when he denied being involved in the burglary, slapped him, and "grabbed me by my shirt, and threatened me with a pen."

Coleman said that Yeager had held the pen under his throat.

Yeager, when asked during his testimony if he had put any object to Coleman's throat, replied, "I sure did not."

Yeager said Coleman had agreed to cooperate on his own.

Coleman had also told the court that he had seen another suspect in the burglary, Steven Dent, with a bloody nose after Dent had been questioned by Yeager.

Yeager denied hitting Dent. He said when he returned to his office where Dent was being held, he found Dent behind the desk. Yeager said he thought Dent might be trying to get into his desk, and he used a "body block" to knock Dent over the desk. He said Dent didn't have any injuries as a result of the scuffle.

Yeager was also the detective who ques-

tioned Coleman about the shooting of Larry Baugh, and later arrested him.

Coleman said the 1976 incident with Yeager, combined with his fear of the detective, caused him to make and sign the statement in which he confessed to shooting Baugh. When asked if the statement he made was a "free and voluntary act", Coleman said it was not.

The pre-trial hearing involved a motion by the defense to suppress evidence from being entered in the trial, specifically the "confession." District Judge W. C. Davis, was expected to rule on the motion today.